



Associated Collegiate Press /
National Scholastic Press Association

All American
1984 1985 1986
1987 1988 1989
1990 1991 1992

Regional Pacemaker
1988

Journalism Association
of Community Colleges
First in General Excellence,
Northern California

Fall 1994
General Excellence
Fall 2000
General Excellence
Fall 2004

Editor in chief: Anna Nemchuk
News editor: Omer Ahmed
Opinion editor:
Features editors:
Sports editor: Nick Zambrano
Photo editor: Rostislav Tsvetanov
Staff writers: Michael Aburas, Jessica Losee, Danelle Meyer,
Ad Staff:
Photographers:
Ad manager: Danelle Meyer,
Adviser: Bill Parks
Printer: F-P Press



Offices are located in Room 5310 on campus, 43600 Mission Blvd., Fremont 94539-5884. Call (510) 659-6075. Fax: (510) 659-6076. E-mail: monitor@ohlone.edu

Opinions expressed in the *MONITOR* are those of the respective authors and are not necessarily those of the staff, the college or the Associated Students of Ohlone College. Unsigned editorials reflect the majority view of staff members. Advertising material is printed herein for informational purposes and is not to be construed as an expression of endorsement or verification of such commercial ventures by the staff or college.

The *MONITOR* is funded by the district, by the Associated Students of Ohlone College, and through advertising revenue.

The *MONITOR* is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press, Journalism Association of Community Colleges, Community College Journalism Association, California Newspaper Publishers Association, College Media Advisers and Society of Newspaper Design.



OPINION

Beware the overload!

By **OMER AHMED**
News editor

This is a warning. A warning to all you eggheads and workaholics out there who have decided that the maximum 17.5 units allowed to students simply is not enough. I am here to communicate to you the dangers of the overload.

For those of you not aware, a student can go to the counseling office and request to be allowed to enroll for more units than is usually permitted - i.e. request an overload. A student with a 3.0 GPA can be cleared for 18.5 units, a ceiling of 21.5 is possible with a 3.2 and the sky's the limit for those with a 3.4 or above.

Sounds like a great deal and, at Ohlone's prices, it seems almost like grand theft academia. Come in quick like a hawk, work your bum off for a few months and fly away with extra units. I can quite honestly say that if you are willing to do the work, overloading seems like a good idea.

So much did I believe in overloading that last spring I sprung on the opportunity and enrolled for 26.5 units distributed over 10

classes. That's nine units over the usual maximum, about 75 percent more units than the average student's course load, easily more than twice the minimum for full-time enrollment and almost 4.5 times the minimum for half-time enrollment.

The first two weeks made me feel like the semester would be a breeze. My laboratory science course pretty much only involved me showing up as the grade was largely based on attendance. My three journalism classes were reviewing the same basic media concepts and my two literature classes provided short but interesting reading material. All was going according to plan. Even when the pace started picking up, I convinced myself that I could handle it. The only course I dropped was a 0.5 unit workout class bringing my total overload to 26 units.

However, things soon changed. One journalism course started off on hard news writing, the other commenced publication of the *Ohlone Monitor* in full force with me as Opinion editor and the third began studying social theories about the media. Additionally, my two English courses switched from short stories to novels and I could no longer ignore my three online classes.

Exhausted from late-night reading and/or long nights working on the *Monitor*, I used up all my allowed absences from my science course by oversleeping.

Time with friends was kept to a minimum as the weekends were exclusively for sleep and catching up with online classes. Eating, sleeping and bathing were often skipped so that I could make it to school on time or finish writing some paper. By the second month I was 10 pounds lighter, often sick, had bags under my eyes, a small beard and usually lumbered about half-asleep with a distinct odor flowing close behind.

By the time I had realized what I had done, it was too late to drop unless I wanted a face-full of Ws on my transcript. So this continued, with spring break being the only respite, an oasis of bathing and sleep, until finals.

Finals, quite simply, were hell. I was completely behind in the novels for my lit classes, I still had to attend the science lab every day despite already having finished all the actual work for that course, still had to do two months of journalism assignments and study for tests. To get through the concluding week, I

Continued on Page 4

LETTER

Recruiters just doing job

EDITOR:

I just finished reading your opinion article (May 3 issue, the final issue of spring semester) entitled Campus Military Recruitment: Fall Back, Soldiers.

I understand some people feel angry with military recruiters on campus. I would like to express my opinion to you now, and hope that you will consider adding it to your next paper.

I am a student at Ohlone College working toward my AA in American Sign Language. I recently joined the Army Reserves myself. I actually leave for Basic Combat training in nine days, May 26. I willingly signed up for the service on my own. Educational benefits were not my motive. I want to do something for our country instead of sitting back and complaining about the way the government is.

I know some of the recruiters that come on to campus. They either set up table and wait for people to approach them, or they walk around and answer questions. I have personally never seen anyone who is being harassed or pressured to talk to a recruiter. If someone did not want to talk to them, they can simply say no thank you and they will leave that individual alone. They are merely a presence on campus. I believe the reason they are allowed in the Quad rather than the free speech area is because they are compared to universities rather than solicitors. The service is an alternative to getting the trained skills you need in the field you want to work in.

I know if they read this article they would probably agree. I am not trying to argue with the editor-in-chief's opinion, but rather to let you know, they really are not doing anything for you to be bothered by. I hope you will reconsider their existence on campus, and maybe even thank them for doing a duty that does not fit your lifestyle.

I hope I have broadened your mind just a modest amount. The military is not for everyone, but recruiters should not be banned or subjected to the bottom of the stairs just for the sake of their presence disturbing people.

SPC JESSICA MAYER
Ohlone student

Campus Comment >>>

How would you improve Ohlone College?



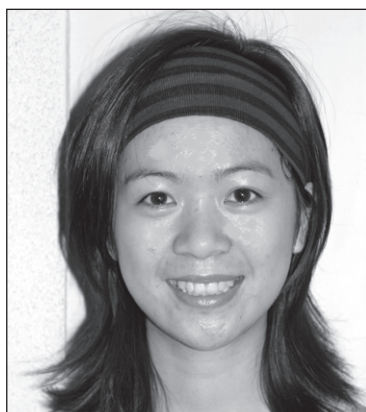
GEOFFREY HIRSCH
Math Teacher

◆ "An extra building to house my tie collection." (Hirsch is known for his "expressive" ties.)



GENIX ZHAN
Business

◆ "I think we need to improve the Web-Advisor system."



ATI CHENI
Business

◆ "I would make the books in the Bookstore cheaper."



JAVIER CAZARES
Business/psychology

◆ "Maybe more classes. Sometimes you need a certain class and it's already full."



JOSHUA SESSIONS
American Sign Language

◆ "Maybe a map." (It was his first day on the Ohlone campus.)