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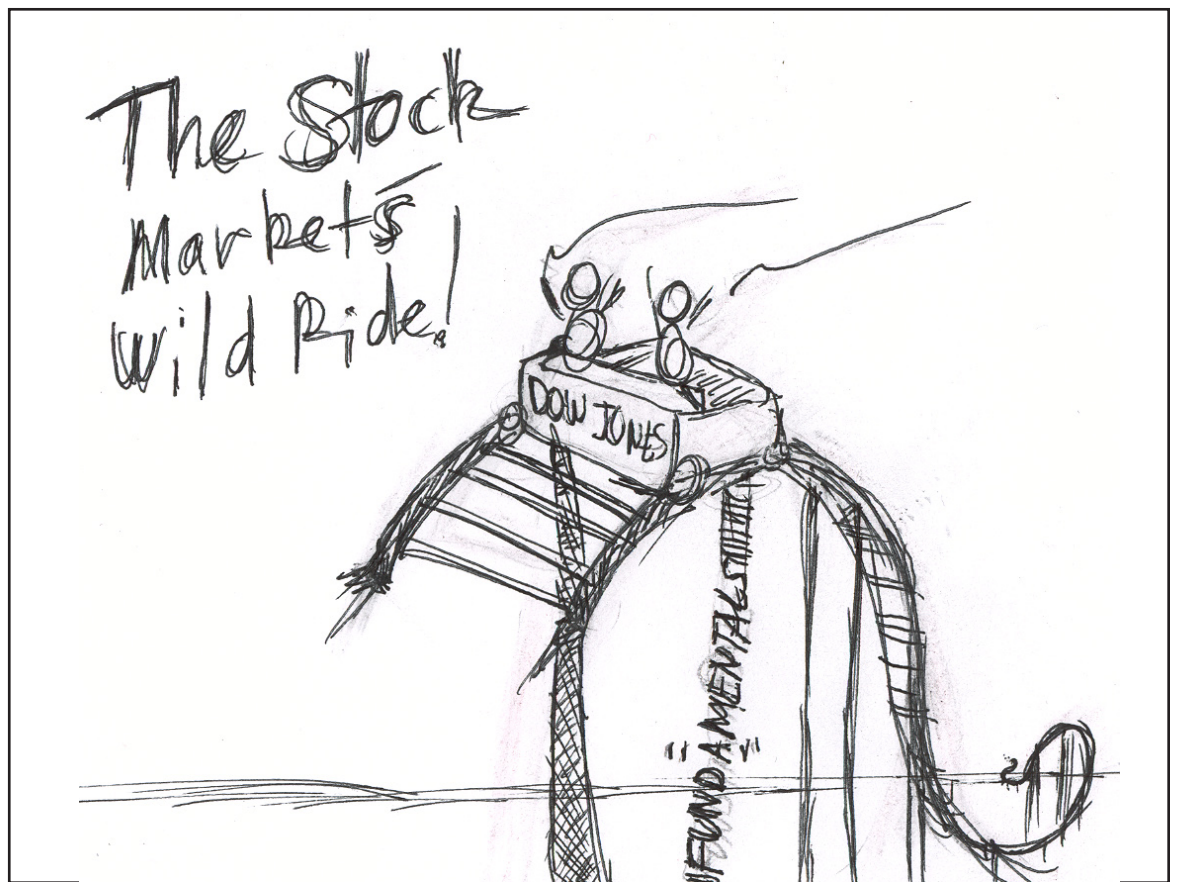


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## OPINION

# All students have it tough

DEAR EDITOR:

In reply to the opinion piece "International students face challenges at Ohlone" in the Oct. 16 edition of the *Monitor*:

I think there are more similarities than differences between local and international students.

I am a 33-year-old student balancing work, school, and finances. I commute between 3 and 5 times a week from Richmond to Fremont; sometimes I have to get up very early in order to catch public transportation. (If we are familiar with AC Transit in the Bay Area, some bus lines are a bit flaky...and some operators aren't the nicest of people.)

As an adult, no matter where you come from, one has to figure

out how to make ends meet. Fortunately, I have had friends at Ohlone (students and staff) whom have helped me along.

Should we lower tuition for international students? Well, for out-of-state students who live in the U.S., the tuition isn't exactly low. For example, if I—a California native—wanted to attend Florida State University or New York University, I would have to pay far more than the local student. The same would probably be true if I were to study outside the U.S.

Should special transportation be set aside for international students? Well, you'll have non-international students who want to be acknowledged too.

Should cheap housing be set aside for international students?

Well, we're in the Bay Area; and a lot of people are having trouble finding homes or rooms to rent. It's not only a matter of price, but finding the right type of people to settle in with.

What about language barriers? Again, we're in the Bay Area where there are many people from various parts of the world. We should all try to understand and appreciate different cultures and languages; unfortunately in the real world, not everyone does that.

I would say this: have individuals (staff and/or students) available, so if local or international students have language, housing, or transportation issues, some help can be administered.

—Joel Kirk  
Student

# No day for Milk

DEAR EDITOR,

In response to the Gay/Straight Alliance's comments in the Oct. 16 issue of the *Monitor*, I would like to say that I highly commend Gov. Schwarzenegger for vetoing the creation of Harvey Milk Day. Milk was an activist for a specific group of people, and as such does not warrant the same level of honor given to national heroes such as George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who are almost universally revered.

Furthermore, even if he is considered a hero by some, a great portion of Californians would not agree. Even Equality California admits that only "thousands...regard Milk as a national hero," while California has a population of more than 36.5 million. Forcing teachers and students who may not agree with Milk and his agenda to teach and be taught about him in public schools is inappropriate. Expecting people to be tolerant, yes. Forcing people to honor him, no.

—Aaron Hsu  
Student

# To be green, look beyond supermarket shelves

By SUCHI GUPTA  
Staff writer

"Go Green" seems to be the tagline for today's advertising, marketing, technology and even presidential campaigns. With a lot of emphasis on global warming and trying to find alternatives to using natural resources, a significant question is how much we have truly allowed ourselves to believe that we are experiencing global warming

and are taking concrete steps for it. Are we being caught in a loop by these advertising agencies who are using "green" as a publicity stunt, or are we making constructive efforts in conserving energy and correcting human activity that is causing a decline of natural resources?

The facts are out. There is no doubt that human activity over the past century has expedited global warming. The world population is projected to reach 9 billion by 2050. Increase in population means increased use of natural resources,

further resulting in continued practices that will cause emissions of greenhouse gases. In an article in the *New York Times*, Andrew C. Revkin writes, "Carbon dioxide levels are 25 percent higher now than they were in 1860, and the atmosphere's burden of greenhouse gases is expected to keep growing. By the middle of the next century the resulting warming could boost global mean temperatures from three to nine degrees Fahrenheit."

Over the past few years there seems to be more awareness in using

"green" products. If we walk down the aisle of a supermarket store, we seem to be walking through a sea of green: we can buy everything from organic food items to recycled products to organic linens to even green paper and its products.

This wide array of products can be misleading in what is the true purpose of going green. Using organic and recycled products is one of the steps toward going green, but not the entire process. We need to take steps at the root level to make a difference in using natural resources.

Statistics show a single aluminum recycled can provides enough energy to light a bulb for four hours, while conserving a ton of recycled paper can save 7,000 gallons of water. These changes done at the basic level will dramatically help to reduce global warming.

The imperative question is, can we live with the fact that our posterity may live in a less healthy world? If the answer is no, then we need to make "go green" more than a tagline and take steps to truly "go green" in our daily lives.

## CAMPUS COMMENT >>

# Could machines ever take over the world?



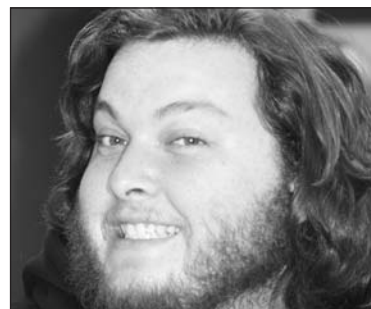
**Sarah Googe**  
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS  
"They could, but it would take people to program them first."



**Nova Syfu**  
DENTAL HYGIENE  
"It's happening now; my uncle got laid off because a machine replaced him."



**Shamir Ejaz**  
MULTIMEDIA GRAPHICS  
"Probably not; they're made by people."



**Jason Barnes**  
SOCIAL SCIENCE  
"No, I don't. They're incapable of higher thought process."



**Alexander Rhone**  
ECONOMICS  
"No, because humans are the supremely intelligent species."