



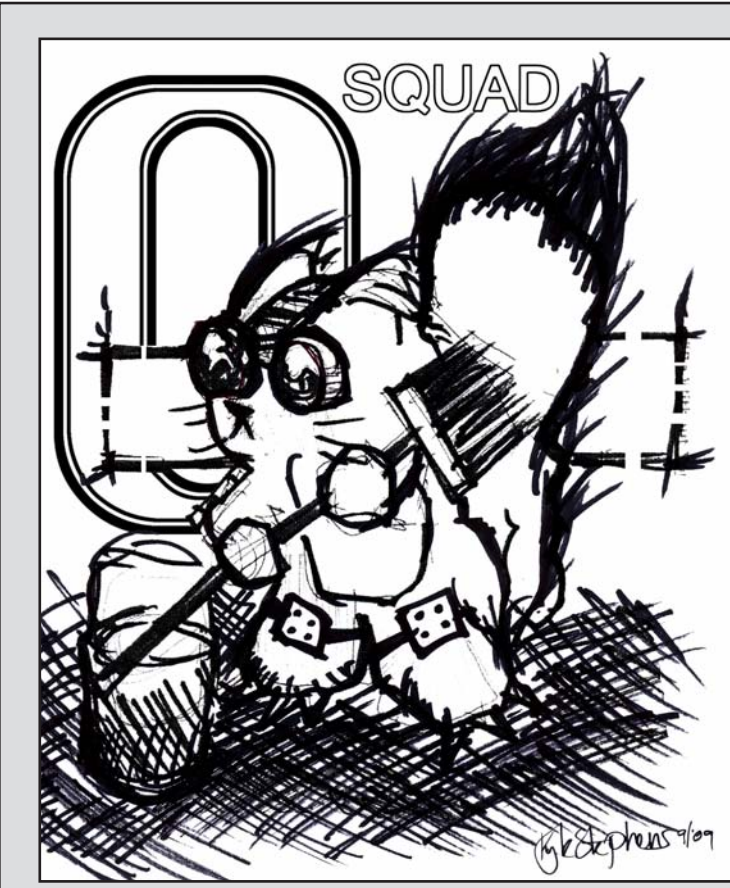
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Ohlone College has recently begun a campaign to protect its staff and students while improving the school's cleanliness, tapping into two of its most plentiful available natural resources: squirrels, and the sun.

Beginning Wednesday, squads of solar-powered ninja squirrels will be sanitizing the school against the onslaught of Swine Flu.

A designated mammal wrangler staff member who wished to remain anonymous said, "Our ability to naturally fight a virus whose origins are also in nature is a huge step toward becoming a greener campus."

Employing cybro-biocidal measures like this are the wave of the future.

OPINION

Community, not just a new NBC television show

By MANIKA CASTERLINE
Opinions editor

How do we get to the point where Ohlone College has to come up with \$700,000 within the next few weeks? The only solution being discussed in meetings is layoffs, salary cuts, and furlough. And why do we as students... as faculty... as administrators... as a community continue to remain silent while this institution's financial situation is tearing down who it is that we are as a college and a community?

In name and principle, Ohlone College is not just a community college. It is a "community." One would hope that it operates under the ideology that we are all in this together. We should all take responsibility on whether we succeed or fail.

So far, the only members of the so called "community" who have been pick-pocketed by the financial

crisis are the students.

Prior to the beginning of fall semester, California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger raised the cost of tuition per unit from \$20 to \$26 across the board. This change in policy meant that students who had already been forewarned to pay when registering for sections had to eventually hand over more of their hard-earned money. And Ohlone parking permits also received an incremental hike. The thing with these revenue generating measures is that they fail to even make a significant dent in the finances of the college as a whole. They are just a small piece of the equation.

The idea of layoffs is drastic, especially when the states, unemployment rate is around 12 percent. And layoffs put an additional burden on those who remain. More than 100 courses were cut from the curriculum this semester and current classes are running at their

maximum capacity. Everyone on campus is suffering from this strain on resources. And it will only be exacerbated if members of our "community" are given the pink slip.

At the second budget forum on Sept. 29, it became clear that the public discourse is evolving. Ohlone President Gari Browning said, "furloughs and wage reductions should be considered and layoffs should not be used unless necessary." And the V.P of Academic Affairs, Jim Wright went on to illustrate that salaries ought to be slashed across all sectors of Ohlone. These statements were issued in order to calm this community's nerves since salaries and benefits account for 85 percent of Ohlone's overall income.

The idea of salary cuts is imminent for all forms of Ohlone staff, but we are not seeing leadership by example and that is simply

unacceptable if we want to define ourselves as a community. If there were not salary cuts for everyone it would expose a character flaw within our moral compass as a community.

The solution that Ohlone's top salary earners don't dare to mention is a massive salary cut, for themselves. Financial sacrifices have been set on the students and teachers alone.

If salary cuts happen they should be implemented gradually to everyone that the college employs. Salary cuts ought to be higher for those at the top echelon of the income scale while those in the middle should have an average cut. A salary cut for those who are already paid the least needs to be the smallest in terms of the percentage cut.

While dealing with this crisis we are not acknowledging what this crisis means to our professors.

Our teachers on any given day

see us far more than our even our parents do. And yet they don't receive the proper amount of respect vocally or monetarily for the services that they provide.

If you consider yourself part of this "community", own up to the fact that teachers are the driving force of this campus. And that anyone who has ever accomplished anything in this world did so because they had a teacher that truly inspired them to think outside the realm of possibility. They are fighting for us. So, why is it acceptable for their salaries and benefits to be cut?

We ought to be more proactive regarding the situation that Ohlone college is currently facing. We need to engage in the discussion as opposed to staying silent while someone else dictates our academic future and builds more obstacles for us in both the short and long term. We are not simply a college. We're a community.

Right to bear arms isn't just for Michelle Obama

By KATHRYN DIXON
Staff writer

The U.S. Supreme Court in the case District of Columbia v. Heller decided in June 2008, that an individual has the right to possess a firearm for private use. It is a landmark case because it's the first case

that decided the right to keep and bear arms as a right of individuals instead of just a right that applies to state-regulated militias.

The Court upheld the second amendment by interpreting the clause, "the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed" as to the right of people to carry personal weapons for self

defense.

The key words of the Supreme Court, "sensitive places such as schools and government buildings" and "qualifications on the commercial sale of arms" are important to the Ohlone College community.

Looking at these key words, states, counties and municipalities are reviewing their gun laws - to

allow persons to have guns for self-defense yet to forbid their use in "sensitive places."

Russ and Sally Nordyke operated a gun show on the Alameda County fairgrounds. On July 4 1998, a 23-year-old Richmond man began shooting at the fairgrounds, causing a stampede, which injured 16 people. He did not obtain the

gun from the Nordyke's and was not involved with their gun show. In reaction to the shooting at the Alameda County fairgrounds, the county banned gun sales on county property. And the Nordyke's filed a lawsuit to be able to continue their show at the fair.

On Sept. 24, the 9th Circuit
Continued on Page 3

CAMPUS COMMENT >>>

What do think about Ohlones financial crisis?



Karalyn Westholter

"It's unfair to the people that couldn't get in."



Leyla Afghanyar

"I don't like it because it's very expensive."



Martin Ngo

"Don't fire teachers. Spend the money on the teachers."



Ramsy Javier

"More people need financial aid."



Samantha Ho

"They should accept more people so they can get more money."