



Another year of deficits?

By **KATHRYN DIXON**
staff writer

The \$47 million budget passed by the Ohlone College's Board of Trustees on Oct. 14 for fiscal year 2009-'10, ending June 30 will become balanced if the faculty and other employees agree to take pay cuts to absorb a \$700,000 deficit by Oct. 31. If they do not, the college may be forced to do layoffs.

This was the first topic discussed by President Dr. Gari Browning at the College Council meeting on Monday.

Three unions are still engaged in confidential negotiations with management regarding the pay cuts, which are anticipated to be up to 4 percent per employee across the board.

Layoffs would be a stinging painful experience, still vividly recalled by those who worked for Ohlone seven years ago when a budget shortfall forced layoffs. Management has already agreed to absorb its proportionate share of the \$700,000 deficit by taking five furlough days next semester.

The additional bad news is that Ohlone faces a potential \$1.2 million deficit in the 2010-'11 budget. Joanne Schultz, dean of business services, reported at Monday's meeting that during the next fiscal year ending June 2011, Ohlone will need \$200,000 to pay for salaries previously covered by a Title II grant, \$130,000 for salaries covered by the bond, \$176,126 to backfill federal stimulus funds which will not be renewed, \$450,000 to pay for step up and column salary increases (normal pay increases for faculty and other employees built into the system) and \$100,000 to pay Alameda County for the Board of Trustees election. Ohlone will also lose Washington Hospital funding and face other reductions to revenue.

To deal with this new deficit and to continue to implement the current budget, the president appointed a "Prioritization Committee" and a "Budget Committee" consisting of staff with expertise in these matters and participants who constitute a cross-section of various campus groups including students.

How did Ohlone get into this budget crisis?

In September 2009, Ohlone faced a \$2,850,000 budget deficit because
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The two faces of Nick Hooks



The affable student at the left and the scary fellow holding the rubber chicken at the right are the same person: Nick Hooks, who earns some extra Halloween money by posing as a spooky clown and scaring the wits out of Great America visitors. See Page 4.

Shairon Zingsheim takes over in Human Resources

By **THERESA GUTIERREZ**
Staff writer

An open-door, friendly, customer service environment is one of the things that Shairon Zingsheim envisions for Ohlone's Human Resources Department.

Shairon is one of the new faces we have on staff and started on Sept. 28 as the new Associate Vice President, Human Resources and Training.

She joins the staff having previous experience at Gavilan College in

Gilroy and is replacing the last permanent Dean of Human Resources, Lyle Engeldinger, who left Ohlone in September 2008.

As of July 2008, there have been a tremendous amount of changes within Ohlone's structure and school board. Although Shairon's driving force is to provide a higher level of customer service, she said her first goal is to try and stabilize the human resources organization before trying to take on new initiatives.

Unfortunately, as with a majority

of the other departments, the budget cuts have directly affected the Human Resources department as well. Shairon's goal is to have a Human Resources department that is based on customer service delivery and that invites students to come seek help and guidance.

She said in the past, she feels that students have perceived the human resource department as having closed doors and being unapproachable, that will hopefully change very soon. Regrettably, the department is

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Costume contset at Ohlone

By **HYDER ALIKHAN**
Staff writer

The ASOC organized a great Halloween event yesterday in the cafeteria. There were games and competitions where they handed out, trophies, pumpkin pies, candy and cup cakes.

There were many activities and from those there was a costume contest.

The costume contset had four categories and the winner of each category received a trophy and a gift card. Those categories were most creative, funniest, scariest and best overall costume.

Jacky Martins won most creative with a getup that turned her, literally, into the Monitor. She wore a TV monitor made out of a cardboard box and a hat made out of a folded Ohlone Monitor.

Marra Magsakay and Rodolto Rose were Disney characters Mickey and Minnie Mouse. They won for the funniest costumes.

Martin Ngo was a death god and won for having the scariest costume. He even wore red contact lenses.

Tara Ingraham and Chance Meyer won for having the best costume overall. They both were from a Bioshock X-box 360 video game. Chance had a trash can taped to himself and wore a Styrofoam cardboard and spray painted it. Tara wore a pretty blue dress frock with jeans.

Cars go nose-to-nose



A Honda and a Subaru Forester demonstrated what happens when two cars meet head-on about 1:30 p.m. Friday on Anza Road. A third vehicle was also involved. There were no injuries.