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# ohlone college monitor

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## Ohlone College Foundation burglarized

By ISABELLA OHLMEYER  
Staff writer

An individual broke into the secluded Building 27 during the wee morning hours on March 5.

The suspect pushed open a mounted air conditioner in the back of the building and

crawled through a hole in order to get in.

Chief of Police Osawa stated, "We try our best to keep Ohlone as a safe campus, but if someone really wants to break into a building, they will do anything they can to get in."

The person broke in between the hours of 2-3 a.m.

and no one else was in the building when the incident occurred.

Several items were stolen and the dollar amount lost for those items ranged from \$800 to \$1,000.

"It appears that the suspect was wearing gloves because there was no trace of finger-

prints whatsoever," Osawa said.

Building 27 is located at the very top of the hill and is not visually open to the public.

The front door is also locked during normal operating hours.

Building 27 is where the Ohlone College Foundation

Board meets.

Ohlone students are eligible to be employed at the front reception desk.

If anyone knows any information about potential suspects or hears information among students about suspects, contact Campus Security.

## Five Play Improv group



Photo courtesy Made Up Theater

Four members out of the five members of the Five Play Improv Group are Ohlone College alums. Bobby August, Sean Taylor, Dustin Seidler, Steve Seidler have all attended Ohlone while Ben Stephens was a student at De Anza College. *Story on Page 5*

## Deaf program receives most state funding

By KATHRYN DIXON  
Staff writer

Ohlone College will receive \$908,029 in state funding for its Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) programs, the highest allocation among the 121 community colleges.

Director of Disabled Students Programs and Services Ann Burdett said the college applied for \$1.5 million, of which about 20 percent or \$300,000 is required by law to be supplied by college's own budget.

According to the Chancellor Jack Scott's announcement in February, the next highest recipients of DHH funds in 2011 are American River

College in Sacramento with \$348,968 and in Mount San Antonio College in Los Angeles with \$346,685.

Ohlone College provides DHH services to about 180 students and has the largest number of DHH students and the most comprehensive DHH program in the state. It employs 16 full-time staff interpreters, two full-time captioners and up to 30 independent contractor interpreters.

Ohlone College has more deaf students than any other college in the state because Fremont is the home of the California School for the Deaf. The School for the Deaf teaches deaf and hard of

*Continued online*

## Soroptimist Women's Opportunity awards program grants Ohlone student scholarship

By ISABELLA OHLMEYER  
Staff writer

Second year Ohlone College student Reashaun Jefferson will receive a \$3,000-5,000 scholarship from the Soroptimist Women's Opportunity Award Program on March 21 at the Papillion Restaurant on Mission Blvd.

Jefferson's life journey thus far has not been an easy path. According to ASOC advisor and Director of EOPS, Debbie Trigg, "has known Jefferson for two years now and I first

met her as an EOPS student."

"I watched her walk through challenges brilliantly and I believe she was very worthy of a scholarship," Trigg continued.

Jefferson grew up in the high crime area of West Oakland and is a single mom supporting two children.

She lost her mother to breast cancer and her grandmother due to old age at the age of 16.

At 17, she had her first daughter and still maintained a 3.0 overall grade point average in high school. After high

school, she moved in with her uncle who has six children of his own.

Jefferson paid rent every month at her uncle's house, and solely supported her children in every way she knew how.

In 2006, she became a certified pharmacy technician but was unable to get a job in that field so she worked as a waitress to help pay her rent each month.

Jefferson said, "Although I had many accomplishments in my education, I witnessed

many things in my life that have traumatized me, such as homicides, shootings, rampages and domestic violence."

In 2009, Jefferson was pregnant with her second child and maintained an overall 3.8 grade point average at Ohlone College, which she currently continues to obtain.

Jefferson's goal is to become a therapist to kids because, "I have been through and seen all the negativity in my life, and I do not want a child to be raised in that

atmosphere or go the wrong path in life."

The exact dollar amount of the scholarship is still unknown to Jefferson and she will be aware of the amount during the award ceremony.

The applicants must be women who provide the primary financial support of their families.

Jefferson said that, "I had never applied for a scholarship before and I applied for this one because I knew I fit the guidelines."

*Continued on Page 4*



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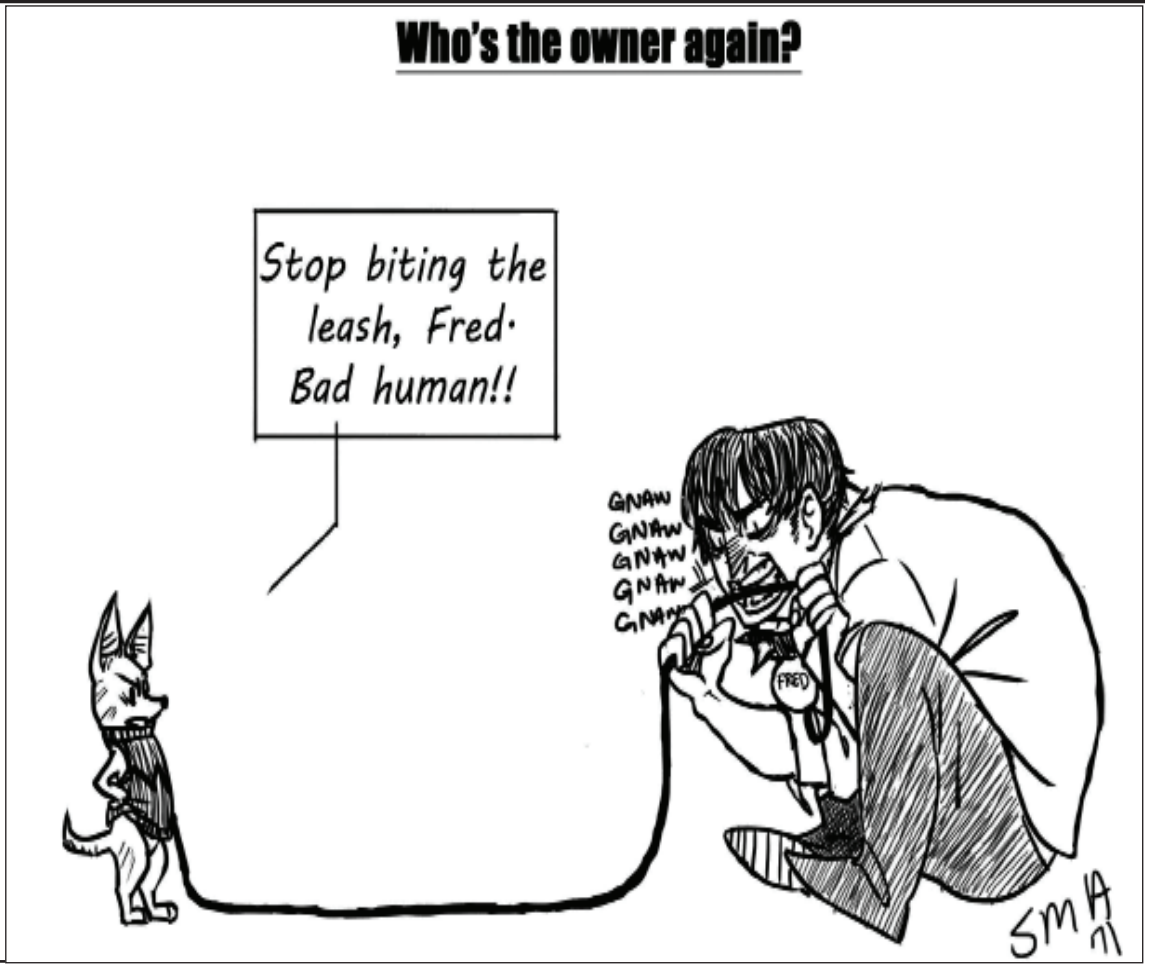
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## OPINIONS



# Man's best friend: idea taken way too far?

By **DEREK STEVENS**  
Staff writer

In America, it's not uncommon to fall in love with a pet.

People find themselves adopting animals as part of their individual lives or families. Pets have the ability to provide unrequited and consistent companionship to their owners.

Over the years our perceptions of how to raise and take care of our pets have changed, because more people have the ability to own them.

At this point in time, about two-thirds of our population own some type of animal.

With more people having access to pets comes an even wider base of enthusiasm towards these animals. This passion for animals has turned

into an obsession for many people.

The way we treat and take care of pets has changed in the sense that people are more inclined to treat their pets as if they were actual human beings when they are not.

It's no doubt that pets are superb outlets for affection and can help many cope with their daily lives.

For some, the bond between human and animal can become rather strange and potentially harmful by my own personal standards.

There's nothing wrong with loving your pet, but there is a fine line between healthy affection and obsession.

In a state of pet obsession, some people will place their animals on a pedestal with no regard to their own, other's

or even their own pet's well being.

Animal hoarding is an excellent example of pet obsession that encompasses all three disregards.

If you ever want to feel grateful for your living conditions, watch an episode of "Animal Hoarders" on Animal Planet.

People will surround themselves with ridiculous amounts of animals, turning their homes into feces ridden and ammonia filled prisons that not only endanger the owner, but their family, neighbors and even their own pets that they love so much.

Most of these individuals, for varying reasons are not capable of taking care of these animals and find themselves allowing the animals to take-

over their homes and lives.

On the less extreme end of the spectrum, we also find people who excessively pamper their pets with expensive things.

This can involve the pet owner spending massive amounts of money on the pet, buying them everything from clothes to prosthetic testicles to a stay at a pet hotel.

Pet owners can get dental work done on their pets. For some, their pets have become a financial obligation out of their emotional love for them.

Often these people will spend more money on their pets than themselves or others in their lives.

I question myself, why do some go out of their way for animals to such extremes?

I mainly place blame on

a lack of meaningful human interaction in these people's lives.

For a good portion of the population, pets have provided people more substantial affection and friendship than any human has ever provided or given them. It is possible that this establishes a lingering obsession for the animal.

I won't forget to mention those who have been through traumatic circumstances in life.

Being a dog lover myself, I understand the passion that an animal can provide through hard times.

I just believe that there is a point where we all need to draw the line though; we shouldn't confuse the love for our pets with substantial human love and interaction.

# Celebrity Charlie Sheen falls off his rocker

By **HASSINA OBAIDY**  
Opinions editor

"Winning!" Charlie Sheen, are you really "winning" with your two "goddesses"

by your side and your kids practically taken away?

By goddesses I mean his bikini model and porn star girlfriends who live in his house and "take care" of his two youngest sons.

These days, celebrities have been taking the wrong turn in their lives.

Even with the luxury and fame many people dream of, they ruin their life by doing drugs, getting arrested and

hiring prostitutes because apparently they feel "lonely."

Sheen seems to be on drugs all the time. During his interviews, he constantly stutters and twitches.

However, it's not our place to judge what he's doing in his personal life. Hollywood should focus on his career rather than his two goddesses and what other shenanigans he's getting into.

## CAMPUS COMMENT >>>

# Are pets being too pampered by pet owners?



**Dianne Karla Caoile**  
UNDECIDED  
"No. They have lives too and they deserve it."



**Bibek Acharya**  
COMPUTER ENGINEER  
"The pets are our pets because they are close to us."



**Jihye Chae**  
ENGLISH LITERATURE  
"No because I love my pet and it's my family."



**Tinh Truong**  
UNDECIDED  
"I don't think it's right because I don't like them."



**Nancy Liu**  
PSYCHOLOGY  
"No. They're cute and you love them. They make you happy."

# Speaker presents effects of CSU budget cuts

By TINA KARIMI  
News editor

Performance artist and teacher Vincent Chandler gave a beat ethnography presentation illustrating the effects of budget cuts on the California State University system on March 4.

Chandler visited all 23 CSU campuses and conducted over 80 interviews with graduate and undergraduate students, parents, professors, adjunct instructors, staff and one state senator, Leland Yee.

"I am interested in why people do the things they do, and how they deal with adversity," Chandler said.

His presentation consisted of snippets from some of the most interesting and poignant of the interviews he conducted.

The project focused on the experiences of people directly affected by the cuts, rather than emphasizing facts and figures.

"I'm not giving you any answers today," he said. "I'm asking questions."

The project came about, Chandler said, after he graduated from San Francisco State University with a master's degree in Communication Studies, but could not find work.

"I was starting to lose so-

cial capital," Chandler said, noting that he had to cut expenses, cancel his health insurance and even sell his belongings to stay afloat.

This experience led to Chandler's desire to see how the state of the economy and the budget cuts to education affected students at the CSU, the nation's largest public university system. Reduced lifestyles, said Chandler, may have been a new experience to him and his friends, but not to CSU students who often had to simultaneously work and attend school.

A common thread running through the interviews was frustration with the CSU system's failure to place priority on the needs of students. Student Alyssa Lofgren Curran (as quoted by Chandler) said her campus was building new auditoriums in a



Photo by Thao Do  
**Vincent Chandler speaks to Ohlone about the experiences of students, parents, faculty and staff who are dealing with the current budget cuts to the California State University system.**

time of great financial pressure, when classes are being cut and students are struggling to graduate.

"If I can't pay my rent, I'm not going to buy a Gucci purse," Curran said.

Others expressed disillusionment with the educa-

tional system itself.

Grace (last name withheld), a graduate student who was studying to become a teacher for the deaf, spoke of her dissatisfaction with the growing trend of teaching classes online in order to save money.

"I need to see my colleagues," she said, pointing out that American Sign Language, a visual communication system, is taught most effectively in person.

Grace said that the gaps in the quality of education would inevitably impact her future students, making her occasionally consider giving up her goal of teaching.

Miguel Zapata, an undergraduate student, commented on the "inhumanity"

of the system.

He spoke of his recurring nightmares of being confronted for being an undocumented immigrant. "No one should have dreams like this," Zapata said.

Chandler's solution to the problems caused by the budget cuts was "participation, whenever possible."

He emphasized the importance of unity between faculty, staff, parents and students, stating that isolated protests "are not going to do it."

"We need you," Chandler said. "Tell your story; make them listen."

Chandler received both his bachelor's and master's degrees in Communication Studies from San Francisco State University after transferring from community college.

The Ohlone event was his first time presenting the project.

He plans to take it to other campuses including San Jose State University, San Francisco State University and California State University, Northridge.

Chandler was the latest speaker from the Speech and Communication department's speech seminars.

# Human chain event raises funds for students

By CAMERON TAPP  
Staff writer

Anyone traveling along Fremont Boulevard on April 17 will encounter a chain of people, joined at the hands and stretching endlessly into the distance.

This group of individuals will undoubtedly be participants in "Hands Across California," an advocacy campaign for community colleges and community college students.

"Hands Across California" is a human-chain event inspired in large part by a similar 1986 event titled

"Hands Across America."

During that event, people created a human chain that stretched across the United States.

Some of the 6.5 million participating individuals donated \$10 to reserve a spot in line.

The 1986 event managed to raise tens of millions of dollars this way.

At the same time, Hands Across America was responsible for bringing awareness and media attention to homelessness and hunger in the United States.

Headed by the Foundation for California Community Colleges, "Hands Across

California" aims for a similar goal.

Instead of raising awareness about homelessness and hunger like its predecessor, "Hands Across America," this campaign is designed, according to the organization's website, to call bring awareness to the country's biggest higher education system.

The Hands Across California event will also create a \$100 million scholarship fund meant to benefit community college students.

The fund will serve community college students for years to come.

By extending a human

chain of over 1.5 million people that surrounds all of California's 112 community colleges, "Hands Across California" hopes to address and aid the costs of attending community college.

The organization claims that although community college student fees are the lowest in the United States, the costs associated with attendance can exacerbate poverty.

Although Ohlone is not involved in the campaign, numerous faculty members are aware of it.

Notably, Mathematics Professor Jeff O'Connell

discussed "Hands Across California" before the Ohlone faculty during a Faculty Senate meeting.

Although he has not yet joined the campaign, O'Connell noted his approval of the campaign.

"The premise is that it [Hands Across California] is trying to draw awareness to community colleges in general," O'Connell said, "and then specifically community college funding."

The campaign awareness found in the Ohlone faculty does not seem present in many Ohlone students.

*Continued on Page 6*

# Over \$100,000 in scholarships available

By TINA KARIMI  
News editor

The Ohlone College foundation will be awarding over \$100,000 in scholarship money this semester.

There are about 30 scholarships being offered; a full listing can be found on the Ohlone website.

All scholarship applications can be completed online and are due by March 31 at 5 p.m.

Ohlone uses the online STARS (Scholarship Tracking and Review System) program to process applications.

The STARS program allows students to enter their essays, transcripts, letters of recommendation and personal information in order to be matched up with a scholarship that suits their qualifications.

Unit, financial aid and GPA requirements vary from scholarship to scholarship, although most scholarships

apply to a wide range of students.

Other scholarships, however, are more specific in their stipulations regarding possible applicants.

The EOPS Single Parent Award, for example, specifies that all applicants must be single mothers or EOPS/care students.

The Toyota scholarship requires that applicants be former employees of the Fremont NUMMI plant or

family members of former employees.

It is likely that fewer people will apply to these highly specialized scholarships, improving one's chances of receiving the award.

The Ohlone College Foundation scholarship, on the other hand, is open to all applicants who have completed at least 12 units with a GPA of 2.5 or above.

The requirements are the same for the Ohlone College

Foundation FAFSA scholarship, aside from the fact that students must complete the online FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

Students must be attending Ohlone College or a four-year institution next semester in order to be eligible to win one of the scholarships the foundation is currently offering.

All scholarship money won during this semester will be awarded to students during the Fall 2011 term.



**The thing is...**  
By ANH  
HUYNH  
Columnist

## An ode to science

According to the 2010 Gallup poll, four in ten Americans believe in Creationism. Unsurprisingly, those with less education are more likely to believe in it.

Yet, 37 percent of college graduates still abide by the theory that God created the present form of humans 10,000 years ago.

This might explain the concern that today's college graduates lack critical thinking abilities. However, whether we believe in science or not, facts remain facts and opinions are futile to argued with.

This might also explain why Darwin waited 20 years to publish his theory on evolution. Perhaps, only God knows how many other scientists have been stifled and silenced all in the name of God.

Last week, my Environmental Biology class went on a field trip to the Academy of Sciences in San Francisco. Located in Golden Gate Park, the Academy sits right across from the uber chic post-modern DeYoung museum.

Similar to the Ohlone Newark campus, the facility is a haven for sustainability. The infrastructure is composed of mostly recycled steel and insulated with denim scraps from the apparel industry.

There's a living roof filled with plants to retain rainwater for usage. The Academy generates some of their own energy via solar panels on the roof.

Through the entrances, turn left to go into outer space at the Planetarium. Thanks to the combination of scientific data with the best technology in visual effects, I was able to travel from the cellular level of a leaf to the bottom of a primordial ocean and to the vast space of the universe.

Prefer to stay on land? Check out the indoor rainforest complete with unique plants and a variety of birds and butterflies flying around you.

To exit, take the elevator all the way down to the aquarium. From the albino alligator to glowing moon jellyfishes, from lizards to boas, from big fishes to micro shrimps, your imagination will be humbled by the creativity of nature.

Everywhere I turned, I learned something new...

Continued online at  
[ohlonemonitoronline.com](http://ohlonemonitoronline.com)

# Katie O'Brien runs for Miss Oakland

By ERIKA AGUIRRE  
Staff Writer

In 1924, Oakland started the Miss Oakland beauty pageant. The tradition has continued, now awarding the winners scholarship money.

On Dec. 5, 2010 Ohlone student Katie O'Brien competed as a candidate for Miss Oakland 2011. It was held at the Koffman Auditorium.

Ladies were competing for a scholarship and the responsibility to represent Oakland and it's residents.

Miss Oakland was not her first pageant. She's been doing pageants since she was fifteen and she started with Miss Alameda and became Miss Alameda County 2009.

After that, she competed for Miss California and if she had won that, she would have competed for Miss America. She also competed for National American Miss for two consecutive years.

O'Brien said her interest in joining these pageants was "The scholarship money. I

haven't paid a single cent for my schooling because of these scholarships. It also funded my New York trip with [Professor] Marc Nelson."

She says another reason for participating in pageants is the support group she gets from her family and friends.

O'Brien said that her grandparents were a hundred percent behind her and it was funny how her mother reacted to her participating.

"You're going to do pageants?" her mother said, "Why are you going to do pageants? It's demeaning!"

O'Brien defense was that it is not demeaning at all;

it is more empowering than demeaning.

"[Pageants] It helped me grow and become more confident and it also helped me develop my talent in singing."

O'Brien takes a Jazz class here at Ohlone College to hone more of her singing and her mad "tambourine skills."

She explained that pageants are not all about winning and competing against other individuals; it is also about making friends, gaining experience and knowledge, socializing with different kinds of people and definitely trying to make a difference in one's

life and maybe others as well.

She was dressing room buddies with the winner of Miss Oakland 2011, Nanxi Xiu. O'Brien said that Xiu was a very nice person and a good friend.

O'Brien had some unforgettable moments during the pageant. Right before the evening wear portion of the pageant, she was informed of the death of her former high school friend.

She was utterly shocked and really sad that it happened but she still put a smile on her face for the audience because the show must go on. The pain was there but nobody noticed or felt it but her.

On the other hand, the good highlight of the pageant was that she reunited with her close friend, Shelby Sinkler, a senior at Irvington High.

O'Brien is currently competing in two online pageants, which are Miss February Sweetheart and Miss California Cyber Beauty USA, and a live pageant called The Rose of Trealee, which is an Irish pageant.



Photo courtesy of Katie O'Brien

**O'Brien regularly competes in pageants for scholarships.**

## Scholarship awarded to Ohlone student

Continued from Page 1

She first heard about the scholarship opportunity in an email from EOPS/ Care Coordinator Sandy Bennett.

In the application, Jefferson had to state her daily method of transportation and the cost of food, gas and child care she pays per year, as well as a personal statement.

She soon came to realization that the deadline to submit the application and personal statement had passed, so she quickly took initiative and contacted Debbie Durham, one of the leaders of the Scholarship program.

Jefferson mentioned to her that she "meets all of the qualifications and I am very interested in the scholarship."

She did not think she was going to even be considered for the scholarship due to the passed deadline, until she received an optimistic phone call two days later from Durham.

Durham told Jefferson that she "really liked her application and personal statement."

She wanted hard copies of both as well as Jefferson to get four letters of recommendation from four separate individuals.

Jefferson, without hesitation, knew she could go to Sandy Bennett to write one of the letters of recommendation.

She also was able to receive typed recommendations from Director of EOPS and Advisor of ASOC Debbie Trigg, Professional Development

Coordinator Janice Fonteno, Dr. Jones and her grandmother Patricia Jackson.

After she turned in the four letters of recommendation, Durham told her that the board of the scholarship program also wanted to enter Jefferson in as a finalist for a \$10,000 Scholarship. Only three finalists can win \$10,000 each.

Jefferson felt "honored" to be not only chosen as the only Ohlone College student receiving the \$3,000-5,000 scholarship, but also as a finalist for a \$10,000 award.

Only 28 people from 19 different countries are eligible to be considered for the \$10,000 award and 28 for the 3,000-5,000 women's opportunity award.

According to the program's website, "since the Women's Opportunity Awards program began in 1972, about \$25 million has been disbursed to help tens of thousands of women achieve their dreams of a better life for themselves and their families."

It continued, "Soroptimist means "best for women" and that's what we strive to be—an organization of women at their best helping other women to be their best. As a volunteer organization of business and professional women we feel uniquely qualified to help women and girls live their dreams."

Studies show that of the more than 110 million children not in school, approximately 60 percent are girls.

Love/Avon Army of Women, Jannett Montgomery Scott, and PINK are just a few of the organizations partnered with Soroptimist in uniting women worldwide and raising as much money as they can for a good cause.

Jefferson, along with many others, proudly volunteered her time in regards to raising money for Soroptimist on Feb. 17.

She said, "I went to The Grocery Outlet in Fremont and worked at a hot dog stand to raise money for Soroptimists."

Appreciative of her hard work and kind heart, the program coordinators gave her a \$50 Grocery Outlet gift card.

She will find out if she won the \$10,000 scholarship in June.

## Spanish class puts on fashion show



Photo courtesy of Deborah Lemon

**Assistant Professor, Deborah Lemon, has been teaching Spanish at Ohlone for eight years. Every semester, she has her students do three projects to help the students learn the language. Above is one of her classes in a fashion show.**

# Former Ohlone students open improv theater

By ISABELLA OHLMEYER  
Staff Writer

Former Ohlone College students Bobby August, Sean Taylor, Dustin Seidler, Steve Seidler and former De Anza college student Ben Stephens frequently perform their improvisation and sketch shows in their improvisation group titled Five Play Improv at Made Up Theatre in Fremont.

A recent addition to the team is musical director Tony Smith, who accompanies the group with music to add an even more artistic approach to the scenes performed in the shows.

August is no stranger to the stage having performed in Ohlone College's past Fall productions including the role of Romeo in "Romeo and Juliet," Don Pedro in "Much Ado About Nothing," Howie in "Rabbit Hole" and recently Hook in "Time Machine."

Taylor, Dustin Seidler and Steve Seidler all took general education courses at Ohlone College and Ben Stephens took general education courses at DeAnza College.

The five of them performed with an improv group in San Jose called Comedy Sportz for several years, which is where they originally met.

August said, "We absolutely loved performing together and we found that we worked extremely well as a group both on and off the stage."

They soon began to work hard to study many different forms and styles of improvisation.

The group took yearly trips together to the improv capital of the world, Chicago, where they immersed themselves in studying improv and watching shows.

The five of them took classes at the world famous Second City and Annoyance Theatres and watched as many improvisation shows as they could.

This experience helped them bond even more and become great friends. All of them except Taylor even rented a house together and the five of them would meet and rehearse twice a week in their living room.

In Jan. 2010, they left the improv group in San Jose to form their own group: Five Play Improv.

August said, "The Five Play Improv cast explores the fun, exciting and silly nature of human relationships in a fast paced and unforgettable show of sketches and completely improvised scenes and stories."

For months, the group performed anywhere and everywhere they could and quickly generated a large fan base. They soon had sell out shows at Pan Theater, Las Positas College, Ohlone College, Lincoln High School, and the 2010 San Francisco Improv Festival.

In the summer of 2010, Five Play Improv decided to take the next step and form their own theatre company, Made Up Theatre.

They found a space for rent in Fremont and it took months of hard work for them to convert it into a black box theatre.

The group did three fundraiser preview shows at the new space one in Oct., Nov. and Dec. where they interviewed and surveyed audience members on what types of shows they would like.

Then, on Jan. 21, they had two Grand Opening shows which were pre-sold out for

weeks.

The group also started improvisation classes at Made Up Theatre for those in the community that want to learn improvisation.

August explained, "We have a very special chemistry on stage and we have so much fun doing what we do. I think the audience appreciates us even more because they can see how much fun we are having. It's no accident that we called ourselves Five Play—it's the five of us on stage playing together."

Made Up Theatre is available to perform for: Grad Nights and School Functions, Corporate Events, Fundraisers, Church & Synagogue Events, Private Parties and Team Building.

Their upcoming performance is on March 19 at



Photo courtesy of Made Up Theater

## Five Play Improv performs at Las Positas College.

8 p.m. in Fremont at Made Up Theatre in Fremont. Tickets are \$10, and more information can be found at their website: [www.madeup-theatre.com](http://www.madeup-theatre.com).

# Orchestras perform

By KAYLA QUOCK  
Staff Writer

On Sunday, March 13, the Ohlone Wind Orchestra and the Ohlone Symphony Orchestra are going to perform.

The Wind Orchestra is scheduled to play at 2 p.m. and the Symphony Orchestra to follow at 5 p.m.

According to Tony Clements, adjunct faculty and Director of the Ohlone Wind Orchestra since 2001, it is said to be one of the nation's leading wind bands is made up of both professional and semiprofessional.

Ohlone Symphony Orchestra will be conducted and musically directed by Larry Osborne, who was appointed the position of conductor in 2003.

The orchestra will be playing various pieces which include William Boyce's Symphony No. 5 in D and Beethoven's Symphony No. 3 in E flat ("Eroica").

It is also advertised (on the Symphony Orchestra's website) that the orchestra has "openings for college or experienced players who play violin, viola, cello, or trumpets".

The performance will both be in Jackson Theatre, Smith Center. To see the Ohlone Wind Orchestra, tickets are running \$15 for general admission and \$10 for Ohlone staff/students and seniors.

Tickets for the Ohlone Symphony Orchestra show tickets are priced at \$10 for general admission and \$5 for Ohlone staff/students and seniors.

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# Human chain event benefits students

Continued from Page 3

In spite of the fact that this enormous human chain will cut straight through Fremont, and despite the fact that this campaign is designed specifically for the benefit of community college students, there exists a lack of awareness about the whole campaign among students.

Anyone may register at the campaign's website.

There is no cost to reserve a spot in line.

Most participants have, however, set up sponsor pages in order to gain money for the scholarship fund.

The human chain event will take place on Sunday, April 17.

The human chain will stretch past Mission College, extending through the city of Milpitas, before making its

way through Warm Springs Boulevard and through the Auto Mall Parkway.

The chain will then continue to extend along Fremont Boulevard and eventually head past Chabot College and from there to places unknown.

According to the campaign, the completed chain will stretch from San Diego and Central Valley.

The chain will then wind

past Sacramento, then proceed to San Francisco.

It will head down the coastline through Los Angeles and Orange County.

The route will then return to San Diego, completing the chain of hands extending across the state.

Full maps of the human chain route are also available on the Hands Across California campaign's web page.



The "B" Side

By MANIKA CASTERLINE  
Editor-in-Chief

## B is for...

With the announcement that Borders would close 200 locations nationwide after filing Chapter 11 bankruptcy, the rational question to ask was, how would this affect me?

At first, I didn't realize the full extent of how much it would. The only remaining nearby store that will not be closing is the one that's in Milpitas.

The Fremont one being shut down though is the one that cuts the deepest considering that that particular venue was my respite when I needed the perfect place to study. It was where I would sip endless lattes as I pored over notes for exams, wrote papers for class or worked on compiling an article for the *Monitor*.

Books as much as newspapers have always played a significant role throughout my life. As a child, I recall going to the library every week for story time and then getting root beer floats at A&W with my dad afterward.

I was rejected from an elementary school, in the spring prior to first grade, for not knowing how to read. As my mother patiently taught me how, there was one lesson that stuck aside from the fact the "blue" is not pronounced "boo".

She said that once I learned how to read there would be endless possibilities of worlds that would be open to me.

Once I did learn the fundamentals of reading and got into first grade, there was no stopping me.

I hopped alongside Peter Rabbit when he stole a carrot from Mr. McGregor's garden and fell into Wonderland with Alice. I saw the perils of the Civil War through the eyes of Ms. Scarlet O'Hara and fell in love with the leading male figure of Jane Austen's "Emma," Mr. Darcy.

The power of the words comes with their ability to touch the heart and soul of whomever reads them as well as inspire. Literature historically has been censored just like any other form of mass media because words do have the ability to shape public opinion.

While I am beginning to feel a great deal of remorse for the slightest consideration I took of purchasing an Amazon Kindle, that doesn't mean that books will no longer hold a dear place in my heart.

# ASOC has elected a new treasurer

By ISABELLA OHLMEYER  
Staff writer

Ohlone College student June Yu was elected as the new Associated Students of Ohlone College (ASOC) treasurer on March 1.

The position was open due to the fact that previous Treasurer Frank Lan resigned and could no longer complete his duties.

The reason Lan quit was not disclosed and the council voted to accept his resignation after ASOC President Evelyn Choy said that he wrote a formal letter of resignation.

Yu ran against ASOC veteran Jason Trinidad and new member Nabeel Naqui.

Prior to the election proceedings for the position

of treasurer in the March 1 meeting, the candidates were required to apply a week before, answer questions about their qualifications and why they wanted the position.

According to Yu, the main duties of the treasurer include, "chaining the Budget Committee, keeping accurate financial reports of the financial condition of the ASOC."

Yu continued, "The treasurer does the reimbursements for clubs, departments and is the authorized signer of all ASOC budget accounts."

She said she applied because she believed, "this position coincided with my major, business economics and I knew that it would be a great learning experience for me to actually be able to

apply the things that I learn in theory in my accounting classes."

Being the secretary of the Budget Committee in the Fall 2010 semester, Yu had the chance to see what previous Treasurer Frank Lan did, how he ran the meeting and the duties he had to fulfill in his position.

The job seemed like a perfect fit for her.

By working closely with Lan in the Budget Committee last semester, she learned more about the ASOC Funding Policy and criteria behind money requests.

She hopes to learn what she used as a senator in the past semesters and thoroughly apply it to the current semester's Budget Committee.

# Budget discussions take center stage

By NAWID AHRARY  
Staff writer

Discussion of budget related matters took priority during this week's Faculty Senate and College Council meetings.

In January, in an effort to help solve the California budget crisis, Governor Jerry Brown released his budget plan. The plan includes \$12

billion in tax extensions and \$12.5 billion in spending cuts to balance California's \$28 billion budget deficit.

The UC, CSU and community college programs will face a \$1.4 billion budget cut. \$400 million is being cut from community colleges.

However, because of the \$10 tuition increase that California's House and Senate voted in, the \$400 million in

cuts is reduced to \$290 million. Statewide tuition will be raised across community colleges from \$26 to \$36 starting fall of 2011.

It will cost \$432 to take 12 units of class in the fall. If the tax extensions do not pass, then repercussions could be far worse. Faculty Senate and College Council member Jeff O'Connell speculated that without the tax extensions, the

deficit would "change the mission of community colleges."

The Legislative Analyst's Office of California has proposed further cuts to community colleges should the taxes not be extended.

The proposed cuts limit taxpayer subsidized credits to students to 90 units (\$250 million in savings) and would raise the cost per unit to \$66.

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# Swimming looking at another promising season

By KEVIN YIN  
Sports writer

Armed with an effective mix of veterans and rookies, the Ohlone College men's swim and dive team appears primed for another strong campaign.

Aided by a deep roster and admirable chemistry, the men's team finished second in the Coast Conference at the conference championships and put nine swimmers into the state championships in individual and relay events.

This year's unit is not as deep as its predecessor, but it may be more talented at the top.

"I think we're a little stronger in our top five guys this year, but last year we were 18 deep whereas this year we're only 13 deep," Ohlone head coach Gene Kendall said. "We don't have that end of the bench strength that we had last year, but we're a little better at the front."

Notable among those returning from last year's team are sophomores Jason Corbett, Matt Kerner and A.J. Griffeth, all three of whom qualified for individual events at the state championships last year.

What may allow this year's team to surpass last year's is the addition of a pair of tal-

ented freshmen in Justin Cox and Weng Cheang.

"We have a strong mix of returners and newcomers," Kendall said. "Jason is probably our best swimmer, Matt's back, A.J.'s back, and we have a new guy, Justin Cox, who so far has been our fastest 50 freestyler."

Kendall is particularly excited about Cheang's potential. Cheang is from China, and his unexpected presence has been a boon for Kendall's squad.

"I didn't even know he was going to be on our team. He just showed up the first day, and he's really, really good,"

Kendall said. "He's really going to help us out, especially in relays."

The early results for the 2011 unit are encouraging. At the tri-meet against San Mateo and Cabrillo on March 4 the men's squad took first place.

They also won the 200 free relay at the Nor Cal Relays to open the season on February 5.

Kendall believes the team's high level of talent at the top will give this unit a chance to excel at the state championships this year.

"I think we have the potential to make the top five, six or seven teams in the state on

the men's side. I think we're going to score better than any other team in our conference at state, although I don't see us winning the conference [championships] because I don't think we have the depth."

Much like last year, the expectations for the women's squad are significantly more modest than the men's.

Kendall singled out sophomore Ashley McBride, who swam at the state championships last year, as "easily our best swimmer," and said she expects that McBride will qualify for the state championships this year as well.

## March

10 - Men's Baseball vs Canada (Home) at 2 p.m.

10 - Women's Softball vs De Anza (Away) at 3 p.m.

10 - GSA Meeting in SC-116 at 4 p.m.

10 - Respiratory Therapist Info. Meeting in NC-2222 at 6 p.m.

10 - Student Repertory Company Bill I in NUMMI Theatre at 8 p.m.

11 - Men's and Women's Swim/Dive meet, Cuesta Invitational.

11 - Science Seminar: Card Counting by Jeff O'Connell in Room 3201 at 12 p.m.

11 - Men's Basketball - CCCAA Championship.

11 - Speech Seminar: Trip to Egypt in Room 2133 at 1 p.m.

11 - Student Repertory Company Bill I in NUMMI Theatre at 8 p.m.

12 - Women's Basketball CCCAA Championship

12 - Women's Softball March Madness Tournament.

12 - Ohlone College Flea Market at 8 a.m.

12 - Men's Baseball vs Hartnell (Home) at 1 p.m.

13 - Ohlone Wind Orchestra in Jackson Theatre at 2 p.m.

13 - Ohlone Symphony Orchestra at 5 p.m.

15 - HIV Testing Clinic in Room 7302 at 11 a.m.

15 - LD / SOS Academic Support Meeting in Room 7207 at 2 p.m.

15 - Men's Baseball vs Chabot College (Away) at 2:30 p.m.

15 - ICC Meeting at 2:30 p.m.

15 - ASOC Meeting in Room 7101 at 4 p.m.

16 - Ohlone Newark Dream House Project in NC-1100 at 12:30 p.m.

17 - St. Patrick's Day Party (Campus Activities) in the Cafeteria at 12 p.m.

17 - Men's and Women's Swim/Dive meet with American River, Chabot, Laspositas (Away) at 2 p.m.

17 - Men's Baseball vs Skyline (Home) at 2:30 p.m.

17 - Women's Softball vs Cabrillo (Away) at 3 p.m.

17 - GSA Meeting in SC-116 at 4 p.m.

17 - Dr. Eugenie Scott, "Evolution vs. Creationism" (Psychology Club Speaker Series) in the Jackson Theatre at 7 p.m.

18 - 17th Annual High School Theatre Festival.



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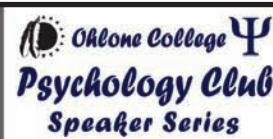
**CSU East Bay Transfer Advising**  
3/14 & 3/29, 9am-3pm, Transfer Center

**Transfer Options in Nursing Workshop**  
3/30, 11:45am-12:45pm, Room 8113

**UC Berkeley Transfer Advising**  
3/17 & 3/31, 10am-2:30pm, Transfer Center

**UC Davis Info Session**  
3/15, 12-1pm, Room 7101

**UC Davis Transfer Advising**  
3/15, 9:30am-11:45am, Transfer Center



## Dr. Eugenie Scott

Physical Anthropologist and  
Executive Director, National Center  
for Science Education

### Evolution vs. Creationism



Thursday, March 17 • 7:00 PM

TICKETS: \$10

- What are evolution and creationism, and why are they controversial to some people?
- What is the evidence that animals evolved from earlier life forms?
- What's the harm in teaching creationism in public school science classes?
- What are the legal and educational bases for teaching evolution?



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# Softball team rolling into March Madness

By KYLE NORDEEN  
Sports editor

An 11-3-1 record sounds pretty good, right? One would imagine that a .733 winning percentage means that a team has been playing at a pretty high level over those 15 games, but softball head coach Donna Runyon knows that there is still plenty for her team to build on.

After a hard-fought nine-inning victory over Mission College on March 1st, the Lady Renegades suffered a bitter 3-2 defeat against Chabot on March 3.

The Ohlone bats were quiet until late in the game when a late rally saw them score was runs in the bottom of the 7th.

Shelby Fowler hit a two-out triple down the left-field line to make the score 3-2 and represented the tying run, but she was stranded on third and Ohlone were left thinking about what could've been.

"We didn't play up to our ability," said Coach Runyon. "If you give us one more inning, I think we would've won."

Starting pitcher Jessica Varady threw seven strong

innings, allowing only seven hits and two earned runs, but fatigue may have been setting in after throwing all nine innings just two days before.

"A little bit," said Varady on how fatigue affected her performance. "But the coaching staff is doing a great job making sure I get the proper days off and training I need."

Varady is the team's workhorse when it comes to pitching. She posted a record of 25-8 and racked up 208 innings last season for the Renegades, which puts her in the top for the entire division in Northern California.

In those 208 innings, she racked up an impressive 147 K's, a 2.22 ERA, and 13 shut-outs. Varady is posting even more dominant numbers this season.

She is now sitting at 9-2 with a 1.04 ERA. She has improved here K/9 ratio having amassed 72 K's in her 67 innings and has been nothing short of unhittable when she is on her game. Her workload last season has been priceless in preparing her for the 2011 campaign.

"It definitely helped with

what was expected of me," said Varady.

"All of the work last season and the private training over the summer has been so helpful for myself and the rest of the team."

The softball team currently sits at #9 in the Coach's Poll in the state-wide rankings, and has been putting in some of its more impressive performances of the season as of late.

"We hit a little glitch early in the season," said Runyon. "It's better to hit it earlier than later, but I'm sure we won't hit another one they rest of the way. We always believe we learn lessons from losses and we can only get better from them."

The softball team has definitely played better since their loss having posted a pair of victories over Consumnes River College on March 5, winning by a combined total of 18-4 in both games.

Consumnes River was fifth in the coach's Nor-Cal poll before Ohlone overwhelmed them this past weekend.

"We got back to who we are," said Runyon. "We're a hitting team, and we showed that this weekend."



Photo by Kyle Nordeen

## Jessica Varady has been pivotal in Ohlone's strong start in 2011

The Lady Renegades are hitting their stride entering the March Madness Softball Tournament which Ohlone has hosted every season for the past 19 years.

The tournament features 16 teams separated into four pools of four teams. Each team will play the other three teams in their pool on Saturday, with the top two teams advancing to Sunday's Gold Division, while the bottom two seeds advance to the Silver Division. From there, each bracket is single elimination format resulting in

one winner for each bracket.

Ohlone will be facing some top competition with Fresno, Shasta, Feather River, and Siskiyou in the field of 16, and all of which are in the Top-20 in the state-wide rankings.

"We will have quality competition in this tournament," said Runyon. "We haven't won it all since 2005, but we are consistently in the semifinals and finals games."

The first games begin at 9:00 am on Saturday and will be played at Central Park Sports Complex.

# Baseball team falls flat against Mission

By KYLE NORDEEN  
Sports editor

Coming off of a close loss against Cabrillo on March 3, the Renegades had four days off to prepare for their home game against Mission College. Those four days off may have been their demise.

The Renegades seemed to lack a sense of urgency and it came back to bite them in the end when they let victory slip through their fingers by losing 4-2 against Mission.

"We just came out a little flat today," said head coach Julian Russell.

"They wanted it more than we did, and we just got beat. It's not something that's going to be a common occurrence."

The Renegades held a 2-0 lead after seven innings and seemed to be cruising to a comfortable win.

Starting pitcher Alike Prutt had cruised through his six innings of work before Ryan Devencenzi was brought in for some relief work.

Devencenzi threw a perfect seventh inning and got one out in the top of the eighth before things started to go awry.

Mission infielder David Garcia hit a double to deep left-center before Devencenzi issued a four-pitch walk, leaving runners on first and second

with one out.

Devencenzi then induced a deep flyout to center, and looked to get out of the inning without any damage, but then

Arata walked the first batter he faced on four pitches to load the bases, then threw a wild pitch on a 2-2 count to Mission outfielder Ruben

the momentum.

Fast forward to the bottom of the ninth, and things start to get interesting for Ohlone.

Third baseman Mark Mer-

Mission shortstop mishandled the feed and both runners were safe.

A ball in the dirt to Ohlone catcher Joel Thys allowed both runners to move up, giving Ohlone runners at second and third.

Thys followed with a sacrifice fly to left, allowing Mercer to score and cut the lead to 4-3.

Shortstop Matt Chaidez was hit by a pitch in his at-bat, giving Ohlone runners on first and second with one out, but Matt Owen and Sean Yoshikawa followed with a pair of flyouts to end the game and Ohlone's comeback effort.

"I never question their ability to fight and come back in a game," said Russell.

"They need to come out with that fire and that fight from the first through the ninth, not just the eighth and ninth innings."

Losses like these provide valuable lessons to learn from and coach Russell knows these things can happen during a long season.

"You just got to stay positive and learn from your mistakes and work on them the next day and keep going. That's baseball. You keep battling and you keep trying to improve on a daily basis."

Ohlone will try to bounce back at home against Canada on Thursday at 2:00 pm.



Photo by Kyle Nordeen

## Christian Weeber slides head first into home during Ohlone's 4-3 loss to Mission College on Tuesday.

a hard single down the third base line put Mission on the board, 2-1.

Brandon Arata was brought in to try and finish out the eighth, inheriting runners on first and second with two outs.

Zendejas which allowed the runner to score from third, tying the game.

Zendejas, then with a 3-2 count, lined a double down the right field line, giving Mission a 4-2 lead and all of

cer led off the inning with an infield single.

Outfielder Richard Bermudez then followed with a soft grounder to the second base-men which should've been an easy double play, but the