Students install a brighter future

By ASHLEY LAM
Editor-in-chief

Ohlone College’s solar class lit up low-income houses late September.

Students volunteered on Sept. 28 and 27. Their day started off with a safety meeting, before the class broke into groups to begin installing the solar panels, said Chris Moreno, student sustainability coordinator.

The solar team volunteered for a two-day installation in Castroville that started at 8 a.m. and ended at 5 p.m.

Nine Ohlone students experienced how to install solar panels while simultaneously helping the local community.

“We got a chance to work on almost everything,” said Moreno.

“GRID Alternatives is a fun way to allow the student to see how it’s done in the field,” said Professor James Collins, who teaches the solar class at Ohlone.

Moreno said that volunteering is very important because it helps people both gain experience while helping out the community.

“GRID Alternatives is great because you’re able to gain the experience you need to start a career in solar installation and design. Even for people who aren’t interested in a solar career will learn a lot,” said Moreno.

The Ohlone solar class team drilled holes in the roof for the mounts and flashings, cut, drilled and spliced rails, assembled parts and attachments such as fast jacks and rail splines.

They also bent and cut electrical conduit, sealed roof flashings and holes with sealant, fed wires through conduit, wired a junction box, mounted microinverters, lifted solar modules to the roof crew, mounted the solar modules and connected them to the micro-inverters, said Moreno.

“It was very enthusiastic and laid back. Since most of the volunteers had no experience, we were able to take our time, learn and enjoy the experience and still get work done. All of the volunteers were excited to learn and gain more experience,” said Moreno.

New records system at the health center marks healthy new direction

By MARBA MARIE MAGSAKAY
Features editor

Ohlone College’s Student Health Center integrated a new electronic medical record system called Epic.

“We are currently using a different electronic medical record system, but are switching over to Epic,” said Jessica Lopez, Ohlone College medical assistant.

According to the Epic Fact Sheet by Epic representative Barth Hernandez, “Epic provides software to healthcare organizations so they can take better care of patients by improving outcomes, enhancing the patient’s experience and supporting research.”

“We are the information backbone for some of the most respected healthcare organizations,” said Hernandez.

With this new integration, the Ohlone Health Center staff will withdraw from its duties for a few days. The Health Center will be closed Oct. 10, Oct. 11 and Oct. 17.

Although students face a few days without the health center, the new electronic medical record system will be useful for future references.

Sally Bratton, Ohlone College health center director and nurse practitioner, described Epic as a system that is shared and used by Kaiser Permanente, Palo Alto Medical Foundation and Washington Medical Foundation.

The students’ records are inputted in the Epic system. Only authorized personnel can open those medical records to another hospital or if the doctor will put him or her on medication they are allergic to whenever.

According to the Epic Fact Sheet, “All applications are built on a single database so they work together to support patient care throughout hospitals, clinics and physician offices. Our applications make the appropriate patient information instantly available.”

Ohlone College Student Health Center is integrating Epic because “we are connected to the Washington Medical Foundation,” said Lopez. “All of Washington Hospital will have the same system and same records.”

The Ohlone Student Health Center staff attended a training session on Practice Management for the Epic system.

For more information, contact the Student Health Center at studenthealth@ohlone.edu.

Students help a Castroville family install solar panels.

New electronic medical record system at the health center marks healthy new direction

By HEATHER HEGEMAN
Opinions editor

Ohlone College’s Student Health Center is integrating Epic, a database which will provide patient history.

Epic provides software to healthcare organizations to make the appropriate patient information instantly available. Only authorized personnel can open those medical records to another hospital or if the doctor will put him or her on medication they are allergic to whenever.

While many students have trouble managing school and a part-time job, Aziz Akbari said he hopes to begin managing a city of 213,000 people in addition to his college workload.

On Nov. 6, Akbari will be running for mayor of Fremont. If elected, he will be Fremont’s first mayor of South Asian decent and at 18, its youngest.

To Akbari, age is just a number. When Akbari was 8 years old, he went to his first city council meeting. That fostered in him a fascination with local politics. He followed local politics from then on, watching city council meetings on television when he could not be there in person.

At the age of 14, Akbari worked for the campaign of Rep. Pete Stark. He has been passionate about local politics for years and that passion has turned into a vision for a better Fremont, a vision that Akbari hopes to see become reality if he is elected mayor.

For now, Akbari is a regular 18-year-old. He is in his sophomore year at USC and is majoring in computer science and pre-law. He flies home on the weekends to work on his campaign, splitting his time during the week among classes, a campus job, serving on a community service club board and enjoying time with friends.

With this type of schedule, a social life seems impossible, but Akbari maintains that running for mayor has only helped him build friendships.

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Obama speaks softly and carries a big stick

By HEATHER HEGERMAN
Opinions editor

President Barak Obama is a eloquent speaker, which conservative political blogs call “the silver-tongued serpent.” Even members of the GOP agree, Obama is superb behind the podium. So where did this eloquence go during the first presidential debate?

The president seemed distracted, agitated and barely able or unwilling to concentrate on the debate. Obama did not display any of his usual verbal prowess during the first debate, but he was not completely absent mentally.

“The president did a very good job in laying out his concrete plan for restoring the middle class,” said Vice President Joe Biden.

Biden is not a completely unbiased judge of the president’s performance, but he makes a good point.

Obama has been consistent in his words and plans from the very beginning of this election cycle.

In the debate, the last leg of the campaign, Obama showed consistency by sticking to his original plan.

In contrast, consistency had been missing from the Romney campaign.

Going into the campaign, he changed tactics and viewpoints yet again.

Obama brings Romney’s shaky platform foundation to the forefront as he delivered a huge debate hit.

Tax policy and reform were huge on the minds of the constituents going into the debate.

Obama was able to summarize his entire attack on his opponent in a few short words: “This big tax plan is never mind.”

Obama next concise hit against Romney was the rhetorical question “Does anyone think the problem is we have too much regulation of Wall Street?”

With this question Obama made sure that Bain Capital stayed fresh in the voters’ minds and still keep the message short and meaningful.

Romney’s solid blows stun opponent

By JASON WARDOFF
Staff writer

The 2012 presidential election will be held Nov. 6 between the top two candidates: Republican Mitt Romney and current U.S. President Barack Obama, the Democratic representative.

Following the last presidential debate, a live poll survey was taken of the people who viewed it live on TV on Oct. 3.

The survey’s results showed a whopping 67 percent favoring Obama over Romney, who had 24 percent still favoring the Democrat.

The survey on such topics such as each candidate’s innate ability to solve the public debt, how they would each do as president and each candidate’s likability after the debate.

For the majority of the surveys taken, Romney climbed in national as well as state polls.

During the debate, Romney discussed such topics as his vision to restructure the economy by making the United States totally self-sufficient.

In areas of energy, economic circulation of wealth and the expansion of the middle-class opportunity as well as small businesses, Romney also began to attack the system of Obamacare as well as Obama himself along with every one of his strategies, leaving the president speechless.

Romney made such claims as how ‘unimportant’ new tax cuts, insignificant budgets and borrowing would be if it all just adds to the same budget, all while subtracting so very little.

Romney said he believes that if he can level the playing field for American businesses by having them compete within the nation, they would have greater opportunity to succeed.

This is what would enlarge and strengthen the middle-class, flowing wealth and income throughout the nation’s economy as a whole.

Another step in Romney’s plan to stabilize the economy is to establish an advancement system for education – for class workers to get their higher degree in education and then their new job.

With all of this being completed, the government will reduce spending and begin collecting the sum of income instead of outcome.

With a stabilized economy, workers will want to find work, entrepreneurs will want to start business and get them up and running.

While the country benefits from itself instead of foreign countries taking too much of our wealth.

America faces exceptional challenges. Romney is an exceptional man with unique qualifications.

He can lead our country through perilous times, restoring our strength at home and abroad.

Romney led an entire company successfully as CEO for more than a decade.

He has shown himself capable of being an effective leader.

At times such as these, he is more than qualified for the role as president of the U.S.

Obama may have kept his words economical, but plenty was said about both candidates over social media.

Obama supporters were present and accounted for on Facebook and Twitter.

According to Joe Garofoli of the San Francisco Chronicle, of the 5.9 million debate opinions posted on Twitter from the beginning to the morning after the debate, 35 percent favored Obama compared to the 22 percent for Romney.

Facebook showed similar results as it became narrower gap leaving Obama favored 40 percent to Romney’s 36 percent. Obama has the only form of social media that favored Romney.

In the 2008 election in which Obama ran his first term, we witnessed a change in the role of social media.

As these media outlets become mainstream, they are likely to have a greater impact.

While many are disappointed by the president’s performance during the debate, the Twitter and Facebook responses show that it was not as bad for his term as predicted.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Heather Hegeman in her editorial on candidate Mitt Romney omitted some important details; one of them being that Mr. Romney gave more than $7 million to charity over two years.

In 2011, the Romneys donated 29 percent of their income to charity.

This is a refreshing change for many years, those in power have decided to be charitable with other people’s money in the form of taxing the middle-class to subsidize social programs that have failed.

One thing neither candidate addresses is how to end intergenerational poverty, a problem that has actually become more pervasive since the beginning of Johnson’s “Great Society” programs.

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Who do you think is the winner of the presidential debate?

Jon Quo JAPANESE STUDIES

“Obama. More people can relate to Obama.”

Angelica Falkman BIOTECH

“Romney. He will make America a better place and offer a lot of jobs.”

Daniel Erickson NURSING

“Obama: Nobody trusts Romney.”

Parisa Aohadi ENGINEERING

“Obama. No Republican ever gonna win.”

Hongquan Xiao UNDECIDED

“Romney. Many Americans agree with his tax plan.”

CAMERON LOPEZ / MONITOR

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Professor profile: Darren Bardell

By ASHLEY LAM

Professor Darren has been teaching teaching history and political science at Ohlone for almost eight years now. He said he had always known that he wanted to work as a community college and Ohlone ended up appealing towards him the most.

Bardell said this passion started in his early high school days.

Q: What was your favorite subject in high school?
A: In high school, I liked history, but in college I liked sociology as well as English literature. When I had to pick a major, I had to pick something that I had a major strength in and that was history.

Q: What was your least favorite subject?
A: I struggled the most with physics and chemistry. In high school I didn’t like Spanish either, but I love it now.

Q: What type of hobbies do you have?
A: I love to play lacrosse, more as a hobby now. I also surf for fun. I used to do it everyday, but now that I am married with a child I don’t get to do that very often.

Q: What is your biggest pet peeve?
A: I think my biggest pet peeve in the classroom would be selfishness. I think students’ behavior reflects selfishness, like if they are late or distracting to other students. With students who aren’t concerned about other students, their behavior can be hugely disruptive.

Q: If you weren’t a professor, what would you be doing?
A: I would be flying fighter jets in the Navy, with the Blue Angels. My fantasy job would be to fly a fighter jet and be an aviator.

Continued from Page 1

Akbari runs for Fremont mayor

Continued from Page 1

not destroyed them.

“My friends are outstanding. Every day they check up on me, make sure I am eating properly and getting enough sleep,” said Akbari.

Akbari’s parents and sister have also provided him with the essential support system. Any 18-year-old would need with or without the bid for public office.

Akbari is not just any 18-year-old. He does not think what he is doing is extraordinary.

In a phone interview Akbari said that many young people seem to be doing amazing things, such as research for the university or getting involved in local politics.

Everyone is getting into their niche fields and discovering insights. For Akbari, the road to the mayoral office is essentially the path to self-discovery.

If elected, Akbari will delay the remainder of his sophomore year until next fall to allow him time to adjust to his new job demands. Then he will access the workload he can handle and enroll accordingly.

Akbari said he is confident that he is what Fremont needs. Fremont is his hometown, he has grown up in the Fremont school system, followed the politics and more recently seen the impact of the recession.

The other four mayoral candidates have all held seats on the city council, he said. “They have had their chance to affect change and no progress has been made,” said Akbari.

Akbari’s platform is simple with four key points: increase shopping and dining, draw major tech companies into Fremont’s vacant business buildings, strengthen schools and preserve historical heritage.

He said he has full confidence in his ability to enter the office of mayor with a clear and effective plan for improving Fremont.

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Solar panels brighten future

Continued from Page 1

Collins said his experience was meaningful inside and outside of the classroom. “It is very important for students to gain experience before applying for jobs. It’s not enough to have taken a class but to have hands on knowledge is far more important,” said Collins.

Moreno said he thought this was a positive experience for the students who went and something other students can learn from.

“I think students were able to take what they learned and apply it. A lot of people do better when they have hands on experience,” said Moreno.

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.
Ancient Halloween survives with American twist

By MARRA-MARIE MAGSAKAY
Features editor

No matter the age, many Americans anticipate special holiday in October – Halloween. It is an excuse for kids to dress up in their favorite characters and eat bags of candy. Young adults get the chance to pretend to be the alter ego or dress up as their favorite character from film or television shows. However, this commercialized holiday is not original; it is based on an ancient Catholic festival called All Hallows’ Eve.

In 1000 A.D., the Roman Empire conquered the Celtic’s Territory, leading to a combination of festivals from both cultures. One festival, Ferola, was celebrated in late October as the Romans honor the passing of the dead. Another festival was a day to honor Pomona, the Roman goddess of fruit and trees. The goddess is symbolized as an apple, leading many historians to believe that bobbing for apples originated from her.

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In 1895, the first Halloween Parade was held in America. The parade featured floats, costumes, and bands, with the theme of the children’s magazines “Jack and Jill” and “Children’s Activities.”

Today, Halloween is a major international event, celebrated in countries around the world. It is an excuse for kids to dress up in their favorite costumes and eat bags of candy. Young adults get the chance to pretend to be the alter ego or dress up as their favorite character from film or television shows. However, this commercialized holiday is not original; it is based on an ancient Catholic festival called All Hallows’ Eve.

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High school drama strikes back uncensored

By JOE W. NICHOLS

The Ohlone Theater Department is gearing up for its annual fall production, "Dog Sees God," a parody by Bert Royal that follows the "Peanuts" cast through the pitfalls of high school.

It takes a comedic look at issues that many high school students deal with on a daily basis. Those issues include sexual relationships, teen violence, eating disorders and identity.

"It's relevant to what's happening in our schools today," said Director Michael Navarra. "The theater department presented me with three plays when they asked me to direct. 'Dog Sees Dog' is one of them.

Navarra brings years of experience to the show bringing the double-casted show to life. It sheds light on several issues faced by high school students today. It also sheds light on homophobia and bullying, both that are on the epidemic scale in our schools.

The warning on the play posters says, "Sex Drugs Language Violence, The Truth Uncensored."

"There are some people who will be offended by the play and I respect that," said Navarra.

The double casting allows for a wider range of character choices, according to Navarra, but it also represents its own set of challenges.

"We have a strong theater program and we wanted to offer as many roles as possible to our students, so we double cast the play. That means we had to cut our rehearsal time in half," said Navarra.

"In order to tackle this challenge we created a system where my two excellent assistant directors, Wesley Rou and Bryan La, would rehearse each cast on alternate nights."

The play will be touring area high schools. The show will close at the Smith Center with six performances over three weekends in the NUMMI Black Box Theater.

The Smith Center shows are Nov. 2, 3, 8 and 9 and 10 and 15, 16 and 17. The Nov. 10 performance will be interpreted for ASL. Tickets are $12 for general admission.

African American club aims to improve student life

By CAMERON LOPEZ

The African American Student Alliance walked away from Club Days last month proudly holding 30 sign-ups for potential new members.

With their participation in the Music Club’s "Tomorrow’s Star" open mic event, their up-and-coming school supply drive and even teaming up with Phi Theta Kappa to create the new "Book Loan Program" as well as plans for their future event to raise awareness for voter registration, it’s easy to see why a club like the AASA wouldn’t have any problem getting anybody to come and find out about one of Ohlone College’s most ambitious and motivated clubs.

The AASA aims to deal with different issues in society by providing a place where people can learn to deal with issues like racism, sexism or homophobia.

One of their main goals is to educate people and to keep them in school, said AASA former president Kimberly Randell.

"Because if certain things pass, it would really affect us in a negative way."

A set date for this event is to be announced. The club also offers tutoring, seminars about African American history and workshops on how to improve public speaking skills and how to build an effective business.

For more information about the club, contact club advisor Sandy Bennett at sbennett@ohlone.edu.

Ohlone college presents autumn nights of classical entertainment

By CAMERON LOPEZ

Coming later this weekend, Ohlone College Smith Center will host two concerts featuring the California Wind Orchestra and the Mission Peak Brass Band.

Former San Jose Symphony tubist Tony Clements will direct both ensembles.

The wind orchestra will be performing Gustav Holst’s orchestral suite "The Planets" and percussion ensemble will be performing Cimrov’s "Ragtime for Horns" and will be featuring a spotlight on the tenor horn section.

The orchestra also will perform Ynghun Williams’ "English Folk Song Suite" and Powell’s "Chicken Run" (from the movie of the same name) and more.

The California Wind Orchestra will perform Oct. 14 at 5 p.m. and the Mission Peak Brass Band will play Oct. 19 at 8 p.m.

Tickets are available on the Ohlone College website for $10 and at the door for $15.
Ohlone celebrates indigenous people

By FRANKIE ADDIEGO
Correspondent

The Ohlone College Speech and Chicano Studies Departments will hold a celebration of the 20th annual Indigenous Peoples’ Day from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday in the Jackson Theater.

The event, titled “Re-Affirming Indigenous Knowledge: 510 Years After Columbus,” will include guest speaker and live music performances with a theme of Native American history.

The event was conceived as an alternative to Columbus Day, observed Oct. 11.

While Columbus Day has been a federal holiday since 1937 and as far back as 1906 in some states, some activists say they believe the holiday overshadows some of the darker aspects of Columbus’ voyage.

There will be a celebration event in Berkeley on Oct. 13 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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While Columbus Day has been a federal holiday since 1937 and as far back as 1906 in some states, some activists say they believe the holiday overshadows some of the darker aspects of Columbus’ voyage.

There will be a celebration event in Berkeley on Oct. 13 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
“Water polo stats rise as season progresses”

By LOUIS LAVENTURE
Sports editor

Women’s Water Polo

The Lady Renegades improved to 2-1 in conference and 6-10 overall this season with only five games remaining on the schedule.

Ohlone defeated DeAnza College 14-3 on Oct. 3, led by top scorer Vicki Bantz. Goalkeeper Rachel Whitaker was great in the net for the Lady Renegades, only allowing three goals in the victory.

Ohlone helped its playoff chances Wednesday with an important division win over West Valley College 8-5.

Bantz continued to score for the Lady Renegades as she found the back of the net three times against the Vikings.

“I played softball so I have strong legs, which is where most of my power comes from,” Bantz said. “I just use my legs to propel myself up and shoot it hard.”

The Lady Renegades controlled the ball for the first two quarters — something that Coach Don French emphasizes at practice.

“We do like to control the ball and it is something we work on to get better at,” French said. “We emphasize it in practice, so were ready to play the same way in the game.”

Both teams played at a really fast pace with a lot of turnovers early. Playing too fast is something French wants his team to improve.

“We don’t want to be in a rush and force bad passes,” French said. “We want our players to use their eyes and be patient because it may not be the first option. It could be the second or third even that is the best pass.”

The Lady Renegades are on the road for the rest of the regular season. Their next game will be in the Cross Over Tournament on Friday and Saturday in San Mateo.

Men’s Water Polo

Ohlone defeated DeAnza College in Fremont Oct. 3, squeezing out an 11-9 victory over the Dons. The win gave them a perfect 3-0 conference record and a 7-6 overall record.

The Renegades suffered their first conference loss of the season to West Valley College at home, leaving them at 7-7 overall and 3-1 in conference.

The loss was also the last home game for the men, as they will be on the road for the duration of the season.

French was not discouraged by the loss.

“The boys played OK,” French said. “Just not where we need to be and we will get better.”

West Valley’s Vikings came out on fire scoring early and often en route to a 20-5 victory for the visitors.

The men will be heading to San Luis Obispo this weekend to take part in the Cuesta Tournament on Friday and Saturday.

With the conference championships less than three weeks away, the Renegades will have a tough challenge to get ready for playoffs.

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Renegade Revealed: Captain Celia Ochoa

By LOUIS LAVENTURE
Sports editor

A team captain and a vocal and emotional leader, Celia Ochoa is a major factor in the great start for the Ohlone College women’s soccer team.

From Pleasanton, the sophomore Ochoa has played the sport since the tender age of 4. She is also interested in soccer team.

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“Celia has come so far and has improved so much since last year,” Heslin said. “She is a quick player who can hit a ball with both feet and her confidence in her abilities has grown.”

Team captain Ochoa and the Ohlone when they return home on Tuesday to take on Monterey Peninsula College at 4 p.m. at Central Park.

Renegade Revealed: Captain Celia Ochoa

By LOUIS LAVENTURE
Sports editor

Ohlone rallied back from a 2-0 deficit Wednesday to beat conference rival Chabot College 3-2 at Eddie Gymnasium.

The Lady Renegades struggled in the first two sets of the match which allowed the Gladiators to jump out to a two-set to none lead. The momentum began to shift to the visitor that was felt by the crowd as well as the players.

“We never freak out but we do feel the momentum,” Olivia Downing said. “It was pretty tense out there but we are good enough to figure it out and we did.”

The Gladiators had everything go their way for the first two sets before Ohlone was able to take over. The Lady Renegades won the third set to stay alive in the match 27-25. Selina Samorano, Jennifer Covey and Brittany Crew factored huge in the victory for Ohlone. All three kept several tough balls alive and displayed tremendous power on strong kills.

Lindsey Calabrese had several digs for Ohlone and Jacqueline Class was all over the floor in the victory for the Lady Renegades.

“Celia has come so far and has improved so much since last year,” Heslin said. “She is a quick player who can hit a ball with both feet and her confidence in her abilities has grown.”

The win improved Ohlone to an impressive 12-2 overall and a perfect 2-0 in conference play.

It was a total team effort by Ohlone that also had impressive efforts from Emily Marden, Elise Moncion, Marcella Chinn and Taylor Presley.

Playoffs start in a month division with several good teams. Ohlone still has 10 remaining games to ensure them a coveted playoff spot.

The next test for the Lady Renegades will be on Friday when they travel to Gilroy to take on Gavilan College at 6:30 p.m.

The Lady Renegades next home game is on Oct. 19 against the West Valley College Vikings in another tough conference game.

Team effort leads to strong volleyball win

By LOUIS LAVENTURE
Sports editor

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