

Campus Greens attempts to rid college of Odwalla

By Mary Yurgil
News Editor

The Campus Greens have been extremely active throughout the past year in implementing change at the college.

The organization's mission is to raise awareness about social, racial, economic and environmental problems at the college, in the community, and around the world.

Last year the group focused on removing all Coke products from campus.

Accusations against Coke center around the belief that union leaders and organizers working at the Coca-Cola bottling plants in Columbia, South America are being kidnapped, tortured and murdered.

It is alleged that Coke has hired paramilitaries to commit these acts on

those leaders who are working for better pay and benefits at the plants.

Students in the Campus Greens set up information tables outside of the cafeteria during the Spring 2004 quarter in order to get students on campus informed about what is happening and earn their support in keeping Coke off campus.

The organization obtained signatures and comment cards from fellow students and presented them to the Student Leadership Council (SLC).

After the Campus Greens informed the SLC about their request to keep Coke off campus, the SLC signed a resolution opposing any sales of Coke products on campus.

In the resolution, the SLC states that until the killings stop and situations improve in the bottling plants, the college will publicly cut their con-

nections from Coke.

Tony Massih, member of Campus Greens and the Dining Services Committee, organized a presentation to the Dining Services where he introduced to them what was happening in Columbia and the importance of keeping Coke off campus.

The committee agreed with Massih that the allegations against Coke could not be tolerated and accepted the SLC's resolution.

Currently, the college's dining services is watching to see how Naked Juice, the non-soda provider on campus, is contributing to the college.

If the campus finds that they are not making enough money by carrying Naked Juice, the college will bring back Odwalla.

Odwalla was bought out by Coke in 2001.

Although the college has a contract

with Pepsi, products that Pepsi does not offer can be brought in from competitors.

"The administration knows what Coke is doing in Columbia," Keith Yearman, professor and Campus Greens advisor said. "We will continue to keep pressure on the administration and let them know there is no sign of us letting up."

If the college brings Odwalla back onto campus, Massih and Yearman have both stated that they will do everything they can to show the administration how serious they are about coke remaining off campus.

"We need to put human life ahead of corporate profit," Yearman said.

Massih agreed, stating that the campus needs to stay focused on the issues and what is really happening outside of the nation's border.