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# MOHLONE COLLEGE MONITOR

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## Speaker traces source of African misery, poverty

By AMAN MEHRZAI  
Editor-in-Chief

Capturing the crowd's attention by starting the World Forum with a question, Mutombo M'Panya asked, "If you were to ask common Americans, what comes to mind when talking about Africa? What would they say? What would you say?" One man anxiously replied from the gym bleachers, "AIDS." A woman not far from him cried out, "genocide," with another man yelling out almost simultaneously from the other side of the bleachers, "poverty."

M'Panya acknowledged that these were actually the most common depictions of the Dark Continent. "In general," said M'Panya, "most people don't have a positive

view of Africa...but hunger is one of the biggest things that plagues the African people."

M'Panya explained that the African people were going hungry, despite the fact that in the past 45 years, the continent more than doubled their food production. For the next hour, M'Panya explained details of why Africa suffers, inclusive of an informative and historical analysis, thereof. Students and faculty stayed over an hour after the talk to further ask and listen to questions posed by the crowd.

M'Panya educated the crowd in the diversity of the continent, despite what people commonly think. "Africa has some of the most diverse genetic, cultural, and linguistic differences in the world, more

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## Police in court over student assault charge

By OMER AHMED  
Staff writer

Ohlone Student Steve Rodriguez's request to disregard evidence and testimony of the Campus Police over a March 16 incident was denied during a criminal court hearing before Judge Donald Squires Monday in Fremont Hall of Justice. However, Squires scheduled another hearing Jan. 5 to continue the case.

According to police and court documents, campus police were first alerted to possible problems with Rodriguez when an ex-girlfriend of his contacted officers on March 15. She told the police that Rodriguez was bothering her and she didn't want to be disturbed.

In response to this, Ohlone police officers Stewart Dawson and Ben Peralta went to the weight room in Building 9 the next day to meet with Rodriguez to council him.

The officers asked Rodriguez to exit the room because it was too noisy and sat him outside Building 9 on the concrete steps. On the steps, the police talked with Rodriguez and, despite being hearing impaired, he seemed to understand. Rodriguez denied that he had attempted to contact

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## Teen sex, the European way

By JOYCE LEUNG  
Features editor

Is teen sex different across the Atlantic? An interesting question, one that will be addressed by Psychology Instructor Tom McMahon today at 3 p.m. in Room 2133.

McMahon recently spent 18 days in Europe meeting with experts and policy makers on the subject of teen sexual health.

McMahon said that experience led him to reflect on America's teen population, who hold the worst record for teen pregnancies (900,000 per year), teen sexually transmitted diseases (3,500,000 per year) and teen abortions of all industrialized nations.

Many European countries have the lowest statistics.

"We can do better for our teens," commented McMahon. "Come

## Laramie Project opens Friday



Photo by Daniel Kwan

Charles Olson portrays a police sergeant and Aubrey Nolan is a reporter in the Ohlone production of The Laramie Project, which opens Friday and continues Saturday and Sunday, plus next weekend. See story and more photos on Page 6.

## Ohlone students to protest Powell during DeAnza visit

By AMAN MEHRZAI  
Editor-in-Chief

Students from Ohlone College will be attending a demonstration and vigil to protest the appearance of former Secretary of State Colin Powell at De Anza College on Nov. 9 through 11.

Powell, who will be speaking as a part of De Anza's Celebrity Fo-

rum presentation, will be greeted by protesters from throughout the Bay Area who will conduct "joint speak-outs, rallies, a peace camp, and acts of civil disobedience," according to the De Anza Students for Justice Club. The events will start at 5p.m. on Thursday and continue at noon Friday and last throughout Powell's visit.

De Anza's MECHA hopes to

reach out to Ohlone's MECHA to gain support. "Some people think Powell is okay since he's backed out of the Bush administration. But many fail to see that he still supports the war in Iraq and Afghanistan, the occupation of Palestine, and was responsible for war crimes in Haiti and past Vietnam, not to mention his controversial stance

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## Blood drive beats goal

By KRISTA MARTINEZ  
Features editor

The Ohlone college sponsored blood drive, done by the Red Cross, was successful in every way possible.

Those who organized the drive were hoping at best to receive 46 pints in donations and were surprised, pleasantly, to find the total amount of blood donated reached 50 pints.

Dracula, the original phlebotomist, himself made an appearance at the drive, though efforts from him to obtain blood bags for personal use were thwarted.