

Campus has wireless Internet network

By **MICHAEL ABURAS**
Staff writer

Guess what! I've got a fever and the only cure is more wireless. It's time to cut the cord because Ohlone's campus now has wireless Internet access.

Anyone with a laptop equipped with a wireless card can access the school's wireless network. There are no passwords required because it's an open network. All of Ohlone's web-based resources such as WebAdvisor and the campus directory are available. In addition, all online library resources are accessible as well, including HANS and Ebsco host. The coverage is outdoors from Building one, up to the pond. Buildings eight, six, four and two have relays mounted on the roof creating the network. There is no coverage from Building one to Hyman Hall. Currently the library, Hyman Hall (first and second floor) and rooms 1402 and 1406 are the indoor areas on campus with full coverage. Students who have been able to log on in the cafeteria or classrooms have done so because of spillover from the outdoor signal. However, Ralph Kindred, associate vice president of information technology (IT), has said that one of the technology initiatives of the school is to provide wireless access for all classrooms on campus.

Wireless for faculty in Hyman Hall has been in use for about a year. In 2004, Douglas Burns, director of IT at the time, went



Ahmed Hashmi

to the college and said it needed to create a wireless network for Hyman Hall. After Burns was granted funding for the project, a wireless infrastructure was set up in Hyman Hall.

Once it was set up, the school purchased 30 laptops to push teachers to come up with new and innovative ways to use wireless in their classes. Through the Mobile Computing Learning Community (MCLC), a beta testing group of 25 students was created. The purpose of the beta group was to log onto the Internet, give feedback and fill out a trouble shooting ticket if there were any problems.

Last semester, the MCLC provided computers used for an experimental PC pilot Program for the nursing department. Initially, Nursing Instructor Carrie Dameron and Instructor of Computer Studies Richard Grotegut composed

a Hewlett Packard grant for PC tablets that was not approved. The college saved the day through the MCLC, and provided Dameron's nursing program with tablet PCs that were chosen for their wireless capabilities. Nursing students were assigned tablets and held responsible for the \$1,400 piece of equipment. The tablet PC was aptly named. It has the ability to rotate its screen down and over the keyboard, becoming a tablet. When using this feature, a nursing student could take down a patient's information and save it for later applications, or, using the wireless capability, send information to other students. The tablet PC involvement with the nursing program has been discontinued. The hospital felt it would interfere with the hospital equipment used to monitor patients.

In addition, the hospital did not have a place for students to store them. According to Dameron, once the nursing department moves to the Newark campus, she will look at requiring students to have laptops. She will, however, also consider how affordable it is for students.

Presently, in Hyman Hall, there are 60 tablet PCs. It has removed 30 work stations in room 118 and replaced them with 30 tablet PCs. Another 30 are stored in a cabinet for use upstairs. Both sets are available to faculty who come up with experimental projects that require wireless access.

The reason students have

wireless access on campus this year is because of the largesse of the general manager of Broad-site Wireless, Ahmed Hashmi. Hashmi donated about \$20,000 worth of wireless equipment to the school. Hashmi's daughter attended Ohlone in 1996-97. Hashmi said his generous donations were a result of his daughter's wonderful experience at Ohlone, the fact that "because of so many different cultures, (Ohlone) serves the community diligently," "and faith in the Quran says you must give back to the community."

On Wednesday, the outdoor access was performing a little sluggishly. The library and Hyman Hall had excellent reception and the Internet worked efficiently in those buildings.

However, in the cafeteria it was almost impossible to surf the net. The Ohlone home page refused to load. These last two days, students may have seen Hashmi and his team, summoned from their vacation in Taiwan to work on fine-tuning the campus's network. Hashmi's company will also maintain the network at no charge to the school.

The team and Ohlone's IT department are working assiduously on maintaining a reliable network for students.

There has been positive feed-

back from both teachers and students. English Instructor Tracy Virgil, who teaches English 101C online, believes that more of her students may do their homework because of wireless access. In addition, Virgil said it creates more office hours without officially having to be in her office. Conversely, Virgil is concerned that wireless may not benefit students who cannot afford a laptop. Librarian Kathy (KG) Greenstein said "It's mobility and flexibility, little brother." Student and member of the beta testing group Abniner Mundra said, "I think it's essential for a campus to have wireless because it caters to different types of students." Student Ho Phang thinks it's great that he can go into a library conference room, which does not have computers, and use his laptop.

Dennis Driver, the IT computer lab coordinator for the first floor of Hyman Hall, said, "Ohlone College is working hard to provide what (author) Mark Prinsky calls "digital natives," a learning where technology is a cornerstone."

The wireless network is up and running well. But the "digital natives" who need assistance or more information can call the help desk at (510) 659-7333 or contact the IT help service at <http://help.ohlone.edu>

Transfer Day Sept. 19 will help students pick colleges

By **FRANKIE ADDIEGO**
Staff writer

Transfer Day will provide an opportunity for students to get information from 40 colleges and universities about transferring policies. "People think that it's just for those who are ready to transfer from Ohlone," said Ohlone College's Diane Berkland, "it's best to attend this event when you're just beginning."

Ohlone will hold an Information Fair in the Lobby of Building 1 Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admissions counselors will be there to inform students about their campuses or answer questions about academic programs, admissions, and enrollment. There will

be free campus-specific handouts, brochures and giveaways.

CSUs from as near as Hayward (UC East Bay) to as far away as Fresno as well as more prestigious UC's such as Berkeley and San Diego will be at the event. Also handing out information will be independent academies such as Menlo College and Robert Ross University of Nursing.

Also on hand during Transfer Day will be Alliant University. This private university has attempted to build a curriculum where students are able to take courses from Alliant while still attending Ohlone. This, however, has yet to happen.

Following that, there will be a University Panel in Room 7102 from 2 to 3 p.m. where financial

aid as well as UC, CSU, and Private system representatives will give presentations. There will be a chance to ask system-wide questions about general admissions, programs, tips, processes, deadlines and more. "Those who will benefit the most from this," said Berkland, "will be those who are new to Ohlone."

For more information and resources, students can visit www.ohlone.edu/org/transferday and can find a list of questions to ask themselves when looking for the right college as well as more information regarding Transfer Day.

Transfer Day is expected to take place despite construction work being done around the ground level of Building 1.

Midterm elections

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those who are fed up with what the majority party has done since obtaining power in 2000. For congressional control, the Democrats need to obtain six Senate seats and 15 in the House. California is not considered a highly contested state when it comes to incumbent Sen. Dianne Feinstein against Republican Dick Mountjoy and Green party candidate Todd Chretien. However, Democratic gubernatorial challeng-

er Phil Angelides is pulling out party favorites like Sen. John Edwards to make campaign appearances, in hopes of exterminating the Terminator also known as our Governor. According to the AP, there is a 71 percent negative approval rating regarding the direction in which the country is being dragged, and analysts predict that Democrats will take control of either the House or the Senate. Who will you give the authority to govern?

Stark story mistaken

In the Sept. 7 issue of the *Monitor*, an article titled "Pete Stark to speak at Ohlone" contained incorrect information. The reporter who wrote the article drew some of her information from an out-of-date press release. Pete Stark will not be speaking at the Early Childhood Studies Conference as he had last year. He has been scheduled to appear at the Fremont Senior Center the day of the conference, which will be held on Saturday, Sept. 30 in Ohlone's Kidango Child Development Center.

The keynote speaker will be Cheryl Jackson-Williams. Participation in the conference will cost \$20.

New baseball stadium planned on Newark campus

By **MORGAN BRINLEE**
Staff writer

For the Ohlone Renegades baseball team the idea of playing home games to a stadium full of people has always been merely a dream. Now it seems that dream might finally become true.

Plans to build a stadium on the Newark campus are being discussed by Ohlone President Doug Treadway, Executive Director of Asset and Enterprise Management Services David Smith, and the Ohlone College Board of Trustees. Both Treadway

and Smith feel it would be more cost effective to move the baseball field to the Newark campus rather than rebuild one on the main Fremont campus. "It's a comparison of the cost of building one on a hillside vs. on flat ground," Smith said.

The idea of leasing out the future stadium to Golden Baseball League is also being discussed. Shortly after joining the Ohlone College faculty Smith who is also the Mayor of Newark received a letter from Dave Kavel, CEO and Founder of Golden Baseball League that said the league was looking for sites to

house future teams.

If the Ohlone Board agrees to lease out the future Ohlone stadium more seating and amenities would need to be included in the stadium's building plans. "This is a work in progress and I think that both parties are willing participants at this point and we are just trying to see if we can work out the details," said Smith, "no contracts have been signed."

In order for work to start on the stadium, negotiations for the Fremont campus frontage property must come to a conclusion. "For the

Ohlone Renegades to have a new baseball field to play on the Fremont frontage development must come through. That is where the money will come from," said Smith.

The board will vote Sept. 27 about whether or not to pursue a lease with the Golden Baseball League. However, plans to pursue the modification to Newark campus to include a baseball field and stadium were approved by the board at the May 24 meeting. The Golden Baseball League would lease the stadium during the summer, providing a source of income

for Ohlone as well as the city of Newark. The stadium would also serve as the home of the Ohlone College Renegades and there is talk of it being used as a venue for other events as well. "It gives the college a venue to do other things as well that we haven't even thought about," said Smith.

The stadium would take up approximately seven acres of the 81-acre Newark site. "What they [Golden Baseball League] need in order to do business is a park that seats probably 3,000 people and lights for a night game."