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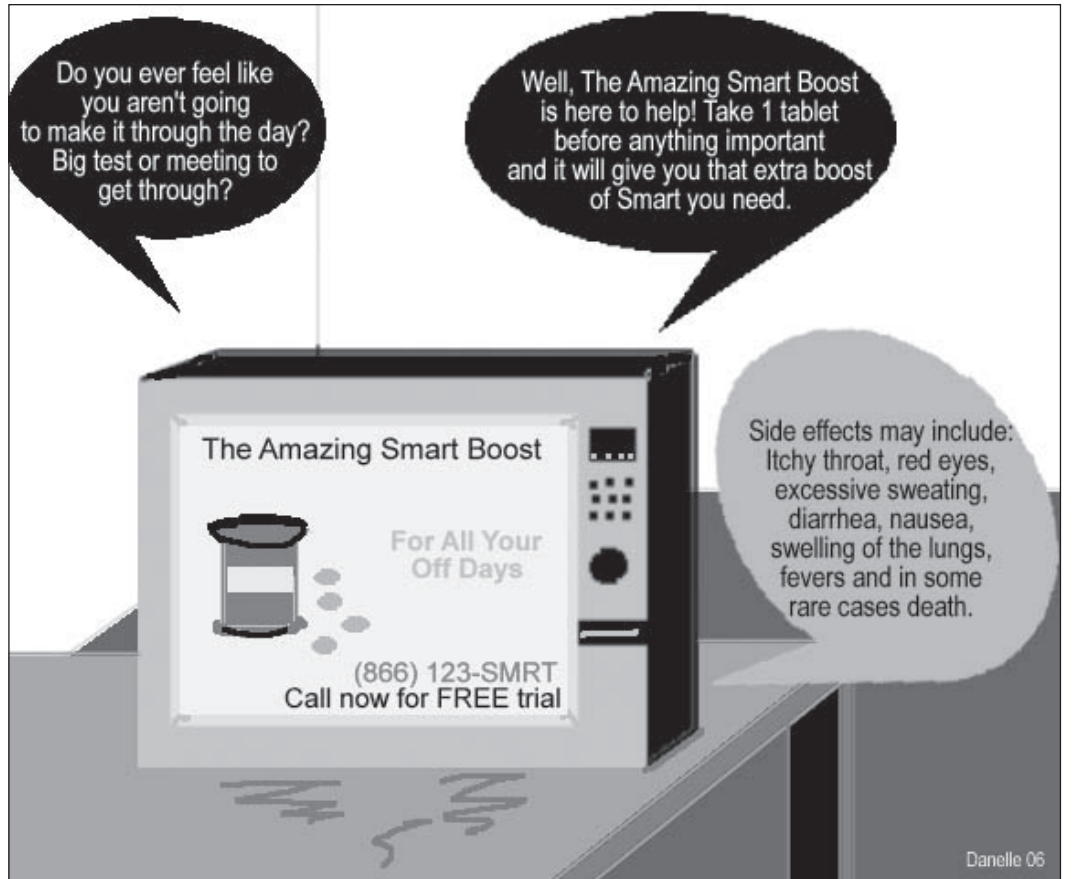


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EDITORIAL

Monitor staff supports President Doug Treadway

By ANNA NEMCHUK
Editor-in-chief

Due to recent controversy between the Ohlone president and the Board of Trustees, the *Monitor* editorial staff would like to take this

chance to speak out in support of President Doug Treadway.

In a time of internationally shifting alliances and reluctance for individualistic responsibility for personal political views, we believe that Treadway has proven a true leader - a president willing to

state his beliefs, support them with rational reasons and take action to bring them into reality.

Whether speaking out against war in his college address and encouraging World Forums as an alternative means of communication, thrusting Ohlone to the fore-

front of conservationism with new environmental policies at both the Fremont and Newark campuses or exploring innovative ways to procure funding for the college through property leases, never mind solidifying Ohlone's identity as a haven for culture and learning,

Treadway has firmly taken the reins of this community college and led it to a brighter future.

We'd like to deeply and humbly thank him for that and respectively express the hope that Ohlone's future will be graced with his presence for a long time to come.

OPINION

Learn a new language, meet new people

By MATTHEW SO
Opinions editor

When you take a second language, you'll probably choose a language that you are fluent in or have some background speaking already. Why? Because people are more comfortable with systems they are accustomed to or are familiar with. New languages, with their own systems of learning, rhythms of speech, and patterns of dialogue are whole new worlds of

understanding, a huge step into an unfamiliar realm of communication and understanding. But in learning new languages, does it also affect your attitude toward other things, such as other people and different backgrounds? I think so.

I walked to the bus stop on a Monday afternoon. At the bus stop were two deaf parents struggling to keep their 6-year-old kid from running out into the street. Now I don't know sign language, and didn't really want to offer any assistance, to

avoid an awkward confrontation or anything. I just kind of stood off to one side of the bus stop, listening to my iPod, pretending to be unaware of the commotion. I figured I was being polite, not noticing aloud how their child was misbehaving and all. And by not fumbling for a conversation that would be a bit one-sided, with their speaking sign language and my not.

Getting on the bus, I noticed a girl smiling first at the commotion boarding the bus behind me, then

looking at me and my subtle, yet pained expression. I swear, even the bus driver looked a little miffed at the anticipation of driving that kid around for the next who-knows-how-many blocks. But as soon as they were seated, the girl immediately engaged them in conversation. In the next five minutes, she seemed to figure out why the kid wouldn't calm down. And after another five minutes, the kid was signing to her frantically, in all smiles. Now he was conversing incessantly in his

language of hand signs and gestures. But there was no more commotion. Everyone in the bus seemed to be smiling. The bus driver let more passengers on than her capacity allowed. I was trying to make sense of what the girl was saying - or signing, rather. I remember thinking, as soon as the girl had engaged the parents in conversation, "Even if I could sign the language, I'd never talk to them out of the blue." I'm not so sure now.

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Television pundits take themselves too seriously

By CHEN LIN
Online editor

Are yours the actions of a true American? Keith Olbermann, host of MSNBC's *Countdown*, ex-ESPN sportscaster and arch-nemesis to FOX's Bill O'Reilly, can tell you.

Responding to President Clinton's

claim in a FOX News interview that "at least I tried" when it came to capturing Osama bin Laden, Olbermann on Monday lampooned Bush for failing to do the same, asking "are yours the actions of a true American?"

Olbermann thinks of himself as a modern-day Edward R. Murrow. He ends every episode of *Countdown* with "good night and good luck," echoing the signature phrase of that legendary

newscaster. He alludes to an episode of Murrow's *See it Now* attacking Senator Joseph McCarthy that helped to end the Senator's communist witchhunt.

For one, Murrow's editorial was original; he was the only TV journalist to risk the Senator's reprisal, and he did it in spite of his producers' reservations. Olbermann's editorial, on the other hand, was not original. What's worse - Olbermann does the same so often.

With just as much emotion as he put into lambasting Bush on Monday, Olbermann has more than once attacked fellow pundit Bill O'Reilly, going so far as to name him Worst Person In The World. O'Reilly may deserve it, but attacking other pundits doesn't reflect any news of value.

Why then, this focus on Olbermann? For three reasons. One, because the left loses its moral high ground every

time it throws aside objectivity for partisan advocacy. Secondly, because Olbermann is just as inflammatory to the right as conservative pundits are to the left. Olbermann's editorializing is evidence to conservatives that all media not owned by Rupert Murdoch has a liberal slant. Finally, because most of his audience is liberal like him, Olbermann will have practically

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CAMPUS COMMENT >>>

Does musical taste directly affect our attire?



KATHRYN CASEY
American Sign Language

"I definitely think so. I'm one of those people!"



ALICIA FLORENCE
Undecided

"No. I don't think it affects what people wear."



GUY FRESHWATER
Business Administration

"No! No way!"



CHRIST STROUD
Kinesiology

"I believe attire is one of many ways we express our musical tastes."



ALEXIS WOODS
Undecided

"Yes! It does! Most of the time!"