

Students film safe sex video

By **CHRISTA MEIER**
Photo editor

The group True Old School, also known as T.O.S., has created a positive public service announcement titled "Bad Habits, Safe Sex."

The announcement, in the form of a rap video directed by student Ivy Brawner, has its goal the promoting of safe sex and underlining important information about HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases.

Brawner's hope is that by doing this rap video, he might be able to change at least one person's sexual habits for the better and

assist in spreading the word about safe sex.

Brawner came up with the idea for a music video to allow students at Ohlone a chance to showcase their talents while demonstrating what they know about safe sex.

The video segment was shot Friday behind the Smith Center. Between 60 and 70 people ended up participating in the filming as characters and extras. The set was constructed as an alley, with people lined up waiting to get into the fictional "Club Life."

Some characters were clothed in normal day clothes while others were dressed in outfits appropriate

for clubbing. Brawner's character was the center of attention. He led himself through the crowd of people and straight to the door of the club, all while rapping about safe sex.

After the final edit, a commercial will be sent to Black Entertainment Television, for the "wrap it up" segment. According to Brawner, the video's makers have also found a lead on how to get their segment to the Magic Johnson Foundation.

Brawner said the final editing should take no more than two to three weeks before airing.

As of now, TOS is in the process of shooting the first video for their album.



Photo by Christa Meier

Ivy Brawner and beatboxer 'Maja' being filmed with extras for 'Bad Habits, Safe Sex.'

Ohlone to get three dozen new Macs

By **NOAH LEVIN**
Staff writer

Ohlone's Board of Trustees recently approved the purchase of almost three dozen new Apple computers for the campus. The computers were chosen for being

the most cost effective of the options and best meeting the needs of those who requested the new machines.

The Innovation and Technology Center and various faculty members brought the request for new computers before the board.

Faculty members didn't specifically ask for Apple computers, however, but rather called for computers with specific features.

This was not part of a move to unify the computer technology on campus, as the Vice President of Information Technology Ralph

Kindred pointed out, "[Ohlone] has not adopted a single technology strategy or a single vendor platform."

A total of 33 computers were approved for final purchase by the board. The computers will cost \$77,896.89 and be deployed in the

spring 2007 semester to various faculty members and computer labs.

According to a Board of Trustees information packet, part of the reason for acquiring the new computers was to meet the need of Title III project and Local Bond Initiatives.

Salinas teachers strike ends

By **ERIC DORMAN**
Staff writer

A week after a five-day teachers' strike ended at a Salinas community college, Ohlone College President Doug Treadway expressed doubt that such an event would ever take place at Ohlone.

"Not impossible, but very unlikely," said Treadway. "I can't see anything like this ever happening at Ohlone."

"We have a wonderful working culture here at Ohlone," added college Union Negotiator Bennett Oppenheim, who further noted that though at times in his 25-year career he has been pressed to strike, the college has never done so, nor has any plans to.

About 150 full- and part-time instructors at Hartnell Community College began the strike on Oct. 18, protesting a new faculty contract that, if approved, would be effective retroactively for the 2004-'05 school year, according to Inside Higher Ed. The teachers had been working several years without a contract and said that the new contract paid them unfairly.

The strike lasted five days, during which not a single class was cancelled. The administration was able to plug the holes, despite the fact that only about 100 full-time faculty remained.

The strike finally ended on the Tuesday, Oct. 24 when both sides reached an agreement on the contract, which included small raises

for the three years the teachers had been without a contract and further raises for the upcoming school year.

The wages Hartnell pays its teachers, between \$40,000 and \$90,000 a year, depending on education and classes taught is not far off from the amount Ohlone pays its instructors and professors, whose yearly salaries range between \$50,000 and \$100,000, similarly depending on level of education and classes taught, said Oppenheim. The Ohlone faculty, however, have been relatively content with their wages through the years.

Though Oppenheim said he was not aware of the exact reasons behind the Hartnell strike, he cautioned that strikes should be used

only as a last resort.

"I have always believed that the strongest negotiating tools are persuasiveness and patience," said Oppenheim. "They should be completely exhausted before anything more drastic is considered...I would bend over backward to avoid a strike."

Treadway also noted that while Hartnell was three years behind in giving its teachers a contract, Ohlone is one year, so teachers know what their contract will be ahead of time.

Even two weeks after the fact, tensions remain strained at Hartnell, according to *The Monterey Herald*. There is still a lot of trust to be restored between teachers and administrators.

Correction

In an article titled "Teachers defend their rights with petition" by staff writer Frankie Adiego, the web address where the faculty petition is available for viewing online was incorrect.

The petition can be accessed at <http://www.xanga.com/constitution1787> and will be on "The Monitor" website when it goes online.

Additionally, the headline would have been more accurate if it said teachers defended "constitutional rights."

A century is too long to keep anything private

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When a "Reader-friendly Edition" was set for publication, the estate almost blocked the book in the U.S. and Britain because it modified the copyrighted material and added material from copyrighted Joyce manuscripts. In addition, the estate has constantly blocked film and theatrical productions that were not felt to be "appropriate." Most ridiculously, the Joyce estate threatened to sue if there were any

public readings of the novel during festival for the 100th anniversary of Bloomsday, the day on which the novel begins in 1904.

All this work toward "protecting" the interest of copyrighted Joyce work is occurring 65 years after the author's death and the restriction imposed by the Joyce estate will likely continue till 2011 when most of Joyce's copyrights finally expire. The only beneficiary of the Joyce estate is the author's

grandson Stephen Joyce and his over-zealous but legal control over the estate deprives us all of new ways to enjoy his grandfather's works. Classes are taught about James Joyce, modern works make allusions to him and books are written about his life. His works are part of the overall culture and should be owned by the public as should all of our cultural heritage.

Patents only last for 20 years. This is much more reasonable than

the often century-long period for copyrights. Within 20 years, creators have enough time to make a profit on most intellectual property. Even when rights expire, it is still possible to make money. Printing the works of Homer and Shakespeare is still profitable, to say nothing of revised version of modern works. 60 years after Ray Bradbury's "The Martian Chronicles" were published there is still a market for "The Martian Chronicles: The

Definitive Edition."

Considering that it is very possible to make money with the 20-year copyright limit, one must wonder who the current copyright laws actually serve? The original artist/creators are long dead by the time the rights expire, as are their hires in many cases. The only ones left to hoard the rights are the corporations and the works of our culture should not be left in their hands. Culture should be free to uses.

Patents for fun and profit, not greed and profit

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high cost, bypassing those who need it most, is not a valid use of ownership law because it goes against the prime cause for human society's existence - the greater good.

The same, though certainly not on the same scale, could be argued over the current hot topic of music piracy - more people are being hurt, by having to deal with constant lawsuits and having their computers infected with Sony-BMG's XCP software, (Packaged on CDs, all of which the company refuses to disclose, and designed to

modify your entire system to block not only illegal downloading, but perfectly legitimate operations, as well as slowing down system processes and increasing instances of computer crashes for more information, check out www.eff.org/deeplinks/archives/004144.php) than are being helped.

No one is particularly sympathetic to the record companies' woes, partly because big business does not breed loyalty, such being one of the woes of a capitalist system, partly because the very viciousness they've displayed in

attacking downloaders has appalled people, the attempted punishments being wildly disproportionate to the crimes, but mostly because the intellectual and artistic rights the big names are trying so valiantly to protect AREN'T theirs.

They're the artists'. It's that simple.

Someone writes the lyrics, sings a song, makes a recording - it's their imagination that's on the line, not the record executive with five yachts who couldn't hit a note with a sledgehammer.

The fact that artists sign contracts

to give up their intellectual rights is immaterial - at this point in time, the record industry has them cornered.

A promise made under duress should not hold up in court. A woman promising not to name her rapist with a gun to her head cannot be prosecuted for later attempting to jail him, and, while the metaphor is perhaps a bit extreme, the point is that the artists, the true creators, aren't the ones suffering.

Though copyright laws have been perverted ten ways from Sunday, they should be protecting

people's work from being stolen and ruining them financially, not for the express purpose of acquiring that sixth yacht.

Though, of course, it's all a matter of degree. Here we come back to grayscale - no black or white in evidence.

Having said all this, trademarks and copyrights and patents are a good and useful thing and they should serve to both bring spiritual as well as monetary fulfillment to the holders.

Fulfillment of the authors, not gorging of the middlemen.