

## Cool winter stuff

While the rest of Ohlone goes into its annual winter hibernation, the Smith Center will continue scheduling events that have been greeted with enthusiasm and praise. They've packed their calendar with plays, ballets and visiting performers.

The first performance begins on Dec. 6 and carries on to Dec. 8 as Ohlone presents its annual Winter Dance Showcase with curtain at 8 p.m. The Dec. 8, performance is almost sold out, so advance purchase is recommended.

But before the dancers take the stage on Friday, spectators can enjoy the melodic sounds of the Jazz/Rock combo at 7 p.m.

The following Sunday, Dec. 9, at 2 p.m., the Ohlone Chamber Orchestra will perform their Orchestral Spot-

light.

The following weekend, the Berkeley City Ballet will perform "The Nutcracker" at 7 p.m. on Friday, 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. on Saturday and again at 1 p.m. on Sunday.

Ohlone Chamber Singers will perform in their 22nd annual Christmas at the Mission Performance, which will take place at Mission San Jose in Fremont on Dec. 15 and 16 at 8 p.m. and 4 p.m., respectively.

But in January the, stage will again change hands as Star Struck Theater begins their performance of "Honk!" on Jan. 11.

Smith Center Presents will bring a foreign act to the stage on Jan. 24 at 8 p.m. when the Italian Saxophone Quartet takes the stage just before the spring semester begins.



## NUMMI students

By **ANDREW CAVETTE**  
Staff writer

If Tseten Dolkar looks like she hasn't had much sleep, she can be forgiven. A student at Ohlone College, Dolkar also works full-time at the NUMMI automobile plant in Fremont.

"It is absolutely crazy," Dolkar said, "I don't recommend it to anyone who needs to get a lot of sleep and cannot sacrifice their weekends because you have to be really well-planned with your schedule."

Dolkar is now in her second year at Ohlone and though she did have to drop one class, she said, "I'm so grateful to be in school right now. When I'm at work, I'm thinking about school."

Dolkar is not the only student to balance a full workload at Ohlone while working at the auto plant. In fact, Ohlone has a long-standing history of collaboration with the NUMMI plant. The NUMMI Theater in the Smith Center is named after the plant.

President Doug Treadway recently visited NUMMI to speak with them about contributing to the capitol campaign for the Newark center. According to Treadway, Ohlone once offered enough courses at the plant for workers to get an associate degree. Ohlone would send professors to the NUMMI plant to teach the courses onsite. The program ended two years ago due to budget constraints.

Dolkar is currently a temporary worker at the plant. Like many of her coworkers she is contracted for a six-month stint before NUMMI decides if they want to hire her more

permanently. She said she enjoys working at the plant, but is also keenly aware of the time constraints it puts on her life.

Dolkar said, "You have to prioritize. You learn along the way the things that are really important: school, work and your health. You are managing your time, no one is telling you what to do [with your own schedule]. If you slack off at school you suffer grade wise. If you slack off at work they might not call you back."

There was a period last year when Dolkar got out of class at 3:20 p.m. and had to be working on the line at 4:30, which meant she often had to be at the plant by 4 p.m. in order to be ready to work. She said the timing was difficult.

In Dolkar's experience the Human Resources Department at NUMMI has been very helpful in accommodating her school schedule.

She said, "Everyone is really supportive. Everyone who knows I'm going to school asks me constantly about how I'm doing [in my classes]. Because I'm going to school, HR is willing to work with me on minimizing my [work] hours. It's a huge plant, but after all it is made up of people."

Dolkar said she is going to college so that she will not need to work at the plant forever. She often reminds herself "It's either school or this. I'm lucky; for some people they have no other options. Go to school, get your degree because if you don't go to school, this is what you're going to be doing for the rest of your life... until time gives up or your body gives up."



**Devil's Advocate**

By **ANNA NEMCHUK**  
Editor-in-chief

## One happy addict

As another semester comes to a close, I'm struck with this awful, sinking feeling - whatever shall I do now?

Sure, I have work and friends and family and books...but the almost two months until spring look awfully bleak from here.

Could it be? Am I truly addicted to this school?

Let's consider: I plan my work schedule around classes, (kudos to my wonderful, obliging boss) almost my entire social circle attended Ohlone at some point, I've memorized alternate routes to the cleanest bathrooms, I consider [ratemyprofessor.com](http://ratemyprofessor.com) a legitimate news site, my parents won't even talk to me on Wednesdays, (deadline night) I've brought cats, grandparents and dates on campus, I've answered my cell "Monitor, editor speaking," campus security knows my car and regularly waves, I could have bought a motorcycle with funds spent on parking tickets, the thought of transferring leaves me with a not-entirely-unpleasant, nauseous sensation akin to contemplating a three-foot high chocolate cake and I take classes based on whether the professor is likely to die or retire soon.

Jan. 28, huh? Where's that needle?

## Bliss Dance performs

By **ELISE LEON**  
Staff writer

The Bliss Dance Company performed *Labeled* on Nov. 29 to Dec. 1 at the Smith Center.

The background for the performers varies. Some are students at Ohlone as well as other schools, while some are professionals that work, and some of them have degrees.

"The performers rehearsed every

Sunday," stated Cassie Begley, the artistic director of the company, "working on the show for about seven months."

The music used in the performances ranged from Enya to Bjork. The performance *Labeled* has to do with the way society associates with women's figures and stereotypes.

Individuals who are interested in participating in the Bliss Dance Company, please contact Cassie Begley at [info@blissdance.com](mailto:info@blissdance.com).



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