



## Weighing Anchor

By ERIC DORMAN  
News editor

## Hasta la Vista, baby

Vice President Dan Quayle once pointed out, "The question is whether we're going to go forward into the future, or past to the back." Though the circumstances surrounding this eloquent statement are now in the past, this question could have been addressed to Bill Gates concerning the failure that is Windows Vista.

More than a year after Microsoft launched Vista, it's becoming increasingly clear that "upgrading" to the newer operating system is really a ticket "past to the back." On Monday, Microsoft itself admitted that Vista's hardware requirements are so great that it will be Windows XP, not Vista, that will run on small, low-cost laptops through 2010.

There is no question that Vista is far slower than XP—according to testing by Computer Reseller News, Vista takes almost twice as long to restart and requires far more system resources to run optimally than XP. This in itself is understandable, since newer operating systems almost always require more resources to run, but this sacrificed performance comes with little or no benefits; some cosmetic user interface upgrades and an unsatisfactory security system is all that separates the system from the older and far more stable operating system.

And as if Vista needed another nail in the coffin of its consumer dissatisfaction, for the first time users have been "downgrading" their brand-new Vista-running computers to XP. As of June 30, this will be the only recourse for those who prefer XP, as users will no longer be able to purchase new computers with XP preinstalled.

Does Microsoft have the right to create a new, inferior operating system and discontinue selling the old one? Absolutely. But they should also suffer the consequences of selling their shabby product. Instead, Microsoft is reporting record profits, and its 92 percent share in the world operating system market has not budged a percentage point.

This lack of financial repercussions from a bug-ridden and bloated software release is telling of the stranglehold Microsoft exerts on the world software market. Ideally, users looking for an inexpensive, fast and reliable computer would be able to find one easily; as it is, buyers are faced with the choice of buying a slow and unstable PC running Vista, an expensive Mac or a "downgrade" to XP. It's no wonder that so many users are choosing to step "past to the back."

Advances are necessary and inevitable, especially in a market as large as that of the personal computer. "Upgrades" that really send us backward in terms of computer performance and stability are unacceptable.

# Ohlone to host Zhejiang dancers

By SANDEEP ABRAHAM  
Features editor

With the snap and rhythm of American hip-hop and the unmistakable spunk of Chinese pop expressed in the swoops and dips of their limbs, the delegation of dancers from China's Zhejiang Academy of Arts spoke to Ohlone's students in the only language they both understood: dance.

Both troupes met in Instructor Janel Tomblin-Brown's Dance Rehearsal class on Tuesday, April 8 in a scene vaguely reminiscent of movies like "Step Up" and "Save the Last Dance," but with a more diplomatic atmosphere. Even the Academy's website refers to the visiting students as one of its international "delegations," implying an underlying semi-political desire to foster relations not just with Ohlone, but with the United States in general.

As part of an exchange program, Ohlone will host dancers until April 16 - their visit will climax in per-



Photo by Sandeep Abraham

**Zhejiang Academy of Arts Vice President Zhang Hongyan presents Ohlone with gifts through President Doug Treadway as a symbolic gesture of good will.**

formances in the Smith Center on April 11, 12 and 13. Ohlone's own dance students visited the academy in the city of Hangzhou last semester

and Ohlone is reciprocating this semester, thanks to the organization and hospitality of Professors Jasper Gong and Xisheng Fang of

Ohlone.

The visiting students have been enamored of Ohlone, noting that it is smaller than their campus, but with more wide-open spaces. Ohlone student Sandra Wang has been one of their guides to the campus, making sure little is lost in translation and observation.

One of the visit's chief organizers, Professor Li Renliu of Zhejiang, through translation by one of Zhejiang's English professors, Mary Guo Huaping, commented that they and the students had found Ohlone "very beautiful, rich and hardworking" and that they appreciated the advanced equipment with which they were supplied.

The weekend shows will feature traditional Chinese dances, songs and Shaoxing opera.

The Friday show will begin at 7:30 p.m. Saturday will feature two shows, one at 2 p.m. and the other at 7:30 p.m. and the Sunday show will begin at 2 p.m. Tickets will be \$25 each, with group discounts available.

## Students attend Tibetan protest

By TSETEN DOLKAR  
Staff writer

Hundreds of Tibetans and Tibet supporters protested and marched in San Francisco on April 8, one day before the San Francisco Olympics Torch Relay. Also present were Falun Gong practitioners, Human Rights campaigners and other groups to criticize the city for hosting the torch run.

The protest began at the UN Plaza with speeches by San Francisco

Board of Supervisor Chris Daly and prominent Tibetan writers and politicians. The group then marched to nearby City Hall where they chanted for an hour, calling for a "Free Tibet" and "No torch through Tibet."

The protesters continued their day with a march to the Chinese Consulate.

Students for a Free Tibet (SFT) Executive Director Lhadon Tethong, a local Burmese Association President and a local Taiwanese Love Association's president de-

livered speeches.

Protesters headed back to the UN Plaza where, after a short break, the protest transitioned into a rally with a candlelight vigil and a mini-concert by Bay Area Tibetan group Chaksampa. Two of the evening's more popular speakers were Hollywood actor and longtime Tibet supporter Richard Gere and Archbishop Emeritus of Cape Town Desmond Tutu. The two delivered heartfelt speeches to the crowd. Tutu led the group into chanting "Don't

Go!" asking President Bush and other world leaders to boycott the opening ceremony. Gere read a letter from the Dalai Lama, in which he emphasizes and advises the Tibetan people and all supporters to protest nonviolently, and to "not allow [their] most precious and deeply held values to be compromised" even when provoked by intimidating circumstances.

The day ended with hopes for a successful and peaceful protest the next day.

## Board President Yee writes first book

By CHEN LIN  
Staff writer

Though Ohlone Board of Trustees President Garrett Yee wrote his new memoir, "Greetings from Iraq!" while a lieutenant colonel in the current Iraq War, it is not written as a war memoir. The book is, instead, a collection of letters and journal entries that Yee wrote for his family.

In contrast to many soldiers'

memoirs, the work does not convey the grit of war, or its bloody excesses but is an original perspective from the point of view of the white collar soldier.

Yee's duties in Iraq were largely non-combatative. His stories describe a broad range of experience -- from meeting the Governor of Kirkuk, to exploring the landscape of Afghanistan, to missing his daughter's birthday. The book also has dozens of pictures he took while in Iraq,

which he sent home regularly. The photos, according to his family members, "don't look the same as on TV," but "Iraq is a big place," commented Yee. Some are exotic, others are surreal, like one of Yee, decked out in seemingly the most advanced body armor civilization can afford, posing next to the ruins of Tal Afar.

Yee will host an author talk in the Fremont Main Library this Saturday, April 19 at 10 a.m.



Garrett Yee, author

## Ohlone College SUMMERFEST

Announces

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1:00pm

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# Canines grant sight beyond sight

By **KATHY SUNG**  
Staff writer

Thomas Matthews began training man's best friend to become the best friend of a blind person in February 2007. He joined a program called Guide Dogs for the Blind at the suggestion of his mother. So far, Matthews has trained one guide dog and is beginning to raise a second one.

According to the program's website, the process begins with an interview with the prospective dog trainers in their home. The trainers must meet certain requirements before a puppy will be given over to their care. The main caregiver must be at least nine years of age, provide the puppy with a place to sleep inside and agree to leash him in non-secure areas.

The dog must be trained to listen to commands such as sit and stay and learn to be even better toilet trained than other puppies. A trainer is in charge of teaching "them to not beg for food, eat things on the floor or get distracted by anything and everything". Most puppies stay for 14

to 16 weeks with their trainers.

Matthews, after training Biscotti, switched to Rusa in February. Biscotti will now go through more intensive training including learning how to stop at a curb and in front of stairs and avoiding obstacles. Matthews believes one of the most important things the guide dogs learn is to disobey an owner's command when there might be danger to the blind person.

The kennel chooses the dogs' names. Usually, there's a person with a long list of names and every dog is systematically assigned a name. Matthews commented that his previous dog, Biscotti was better behaved. After his experience in raising and training dogs, he said he is surprised that owners allow their dogs to be so badly behaved because after going through the program, he realized that "you can pretty much change any problem for a dog."

Some memorable moments Matthews related involving his dogs include a time when he was walking into a track meet and a person jumped at him and told him



Photo courtesy of Thomas Matthews

## Thomas Matthews sits with a 'student.'

to go away. He had to go back to the meet without the dog in order to be admitted. According to California state law, serving dogs are allowed anywhere except on escalators. However, when it comes to guide dogs in training, the decision

is generally up to the shop owners or school.

Another memory involved a friend of Matthews who decided to close his eyes and simply follow Biscotti around. His friend followed the puppy around in circles. Unlike some people assume, the dogs don't know where to go or how to read road signs. They just follow their owners around, protecting them from dangers such as cars and sudden changes in elevation.

Matthews believes training guide is an important thing to do. "When people are blind, it's really hard to do things. People are so visually oriented, it's really hard. Cars, things like that... dogs allow them to get out and do things. It really changes someone's life". These dogs go out to all countries in the world. At one of the graduations for guide dogs Matthews attended, one of the dogs was assigned to an owner in Japan. These dogs completely change the lives of their owners.

For more information on how to help out and start raising a guide dog puppy, go to [www.guidedogs.com](http://www.guidedogs.com).



## Devil's Advocate

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

## Just say it.

I'm Russian. We're a blunt people. When the soup sucks, my father does not hesitate to inform my mother. In response, my mother does not hesitate to beat my father over the head with the soup tureen.

Though I have now spent more than 15 years in California and love it dearly, I still periodically run into culture shock.

Like the time in third grade, when I told a classmate that I thought the PE teacher was a poophead. (He made us run 3 miles. Man was a sadist.) She tattled on me. I was aghast. Tattling? To adults? That could get you KILLED in Russia. Literally. There's a wonderful 1983 Russian movie, "The Scarecrow" about a young girl who pretends that she was the one to rat out something instead of a boy she likes and is cruelly shunned by her classmates. Hardcore shunned. They burn an effigy of her at the stake. Yet Americans encourage tattling. Strange.

Toddler bikinis. If you even put underwear on a child under the age of six in Russia, you'd be laughed off the beach. In the US, barring nudist beaches, a newborn without swaddling is considered obscene.

Smiling. Everybody smiles. You hate, you love, you're constipated - you smile. In St. Petersburg, you smile if you mean it. If you're not happy, you don't act it.

So when, at one of my jobs, there appeared out of thin air a memo that my boss had stepped down and relocated to a menial job in a different branch of the same company, I wanted answers. This man is one of the most accomplished leaders I know. Friendly, outgoing, a fervent student of human nature, he was the last person I would ever imagine abandoning his job - or being forced to. I wanted answers, damnit. From him, from his boss, from the other bosses, from my coworkers.

They are not forthcoming. Memos, however, are. Countless, tired, grammatically-deficient, empty memos. They mean nothing, they say nothing. They're driving me crazy. Nobody will say what happened.

This man, who has been a key part of my life for the past few years, has simply disappeared and no one feels the need to explain why.

Is this, ladies and gentlemen, the American policy of privacy, corporate hanky-panky or just plain screw-the-employees business practices?

Am I too idealistic to think we are owed explanations? I think not. 'Cause, really, there's something to say for Russian bluntness here. "He was fired because he stink. Now you get back to work before you fired, too. Idiots." Fair enough. After all, in Russia, job fire you.

# KaLiZay, a starlet in the making

By **MAX STEPHENS**  
Staff writer

Ten years of music experience, a full-time student and mom and Lila Salinas, stage name KaLiZay, still finds time to perform her music.

KaLiZay's name comes from two parts. Kali, for California, and Zay, for her son Isaiah. A singer, composer and solo artist, KaLiZay found music as her own way of expression growing up.

While other people expressed themselves through tagging and other illegal activities, Salinas decided to write her own music. She performs in English, Spanish and French.

She is the first person in her family to go to college and work with music. Not all of her family backs her music, but that doesn't stop her.

Today, KaLiZay lives in San Jose and recently played in one of Ohlone's Rock the Hill concert.

She is hoping to win so that she can make more of a name for herself by getting a music video out.

This year, she has focused on promoting her music and has been playing mostly in the South and East Bay, with plans to move around the Bay and beyond.

Stylizing in Reggaeton, house, rock and pop, KaLiZay said she is looking for her own niche. She is also hoping to become the first artist to hit with Reggaeton music in the Bay Area.

KaLiZay said she wants to see more of a Latin music scene in the Bay Area, which houses a large Latino population.

To help promote herself this summer, she will release four different singles to several local radio

stations: Live 105, 104.9, 106.1 and La Kalle (105.7). She has released her song "Chiko BayBee" on her MySpace at [www.myspace.com/kalizay](http://www.myspace.com/kalizay).

She has also listed her upcoming performances on the page and will be playing at many Bay Area venues in the near future.

She has considered using iTunes as a means of distribution for her music, but is currently busy mastering more songs, which should be out by next month.

This summer she turns 21 and will be able to play in more 21 and over clubs to help with promoting her summer releases.

KaLiZay's next performance at Ohlone will be on RaZa Day on April 18. However, her next performance for a general audience will be on May 10 at Hunters in San Jose.



Photo by Japneet Kaur

## Lila shows her vocal range at Rock the Hill.

# Student scores \$500 on 'Price is Right'

By **RYAN RICHMOND**  
Staff writer

If you tune in to "The Price is Right" on CBS April 24, the contestant who guesses the price of the poker table will be Tomas Ortega, the Ohlone student who ended up winning \$500.

Ortega, 20, a broadcasting major, went to Hollywood on March 23

with three friends. "We were going to Magic Mountain, and we said we might as well try to get on 'The Price is Right.'"

The next morning, they got up at 5 a.m. and went to the CBS studios on Fairfax and Hollywood Boulevard. They had to stand in line for two and a half hours to get "priority numbers," then come back at 12:30 p.m. to wait in line again until 4 p.m.

to get into the studio.

"When we got inside, I was acting kind of crazy, and that probably got me on the show," he said.

After he won the poker table, Ortega said he almost won a Chevy HHR. Ortega said the car was worth \$18,210, but he guessed \$18,995.

Ortega said after his part of the contest was over, he was arguing with members of the City College

of San Francisco softball team about which team was best, theirs or the Ohlone team. "I was doing something stupid, but I heard from a friend later that Drew Carey (the host of the program) told me to 'shut up.' I didn't hear it, though."

Will he do it again? Ortega said the rules say he isn't eligible until 10 years from now. Will he do it then? Ortega said "Maybe."

# Ohlone Latinas learn leadership lessons

By **ESMERALDA LEON**  
Correspondent

"The more you struggle in life, the more you appreciate your accomplishments," said Erica Castillas, a student from Ohlone, explaining her experience at the 21st annual Latina Leadership Conference held recently in San Jose.

Every year the Latina Leadership Conference organizes workshops and presenters to inform Latinas of

all ages on how to start reforming the balance in their lives, the community and the world. They provide food and music as well.

"Before I went to the Latina Leadership Conference, I was thinking about dropping out of school," she said. "Paying for my units and school supplies is becoming too expensive for me," she said. Castillas hopes to become a registered nurse.

Judge Katherine Lucero was one

of the many speakers at the 21st annual conference. "She inspired me to keep my mind on positive thoughts. I feel more confident about myself," said Castillas. "I realized that I'm not alone in my struggles; now I see my struggles as investments. I know they will pay off."

Lucero opined that if there was a secret to the strength of a Latina leader, it would consist of three ingredients: heart, discipline and credentials. "You have to have

perseverance, hope, faith, if you know you're doing the right thing, you can keep going," said Lucero as she closed her speech.

To maintain a hopeful sense of the future was the message of all the speakers. Latinas came together to share their struggles.

"It exceeded my expectations," said Ana Rodriguez, another student from Ohlone, "The workshop helped me to deal with my stress in a positive manner."