



## SUNNY CYNICISM

By SANDEEP  
ABRAHAM  
Features editor

## Do NOT Google!

2girls1cup. Eight girls bring girl home and beat her up. Goats. Tubgirl. Fishbaby. For the love of all things sacred, do NOT Google these. You will regret it with every retina in your eyeballs. These are just a few of the things on the internet that have come to define our generation – generation-YouTube. Why have shock videos become such a hit over the last few years? We know they're disgusting, they make us cringe, and yet we still can't get enough.

There's nothing noble attached to these videos either, not a hint of anything even marginally good. Believe me, I've looked. From YouTube comments, it's obvious people don't watch these videos for the same competitive edge that boxing offers, even if both potentially offer the same amount of gore and grotesquery. I mean, seriously, how much of a contest is it watching eight girls violently thrash the living daylights out of another girl just so they could put it on YouTube? (The video's been discontinued by the way, in case you were interested – which you probably were.)

I have gone to parties where sometime during the course of the night, an awkward silence settles over the crowd and a light bulb will go on over someone's head and he or she will very cheerily ask, "Hey, who hasn't seen 2girls1cup yet?" And everyone suddenly perks up and looks around the room for the few well-adjusted individuals left untainted.

For those who don't know, 2girls1cup is a disturbingly popular video involving two girls, obviously, a cup, bodily functions and sex fetishes. John Mayer did a parody of it with a friend titled 2guys1cup, which featured him and a friend in a frozen yogurt shop. So you get the picture.

These videos desensitize us to the point that people actually watch movies like "Hostel" and "Saw" with as much jovial alacrity as our parents watched shows like "The Jeffersons." Is this our new culture, the new marker of urban America? In fact, this isn't even desensitization anymore. People have actually embraced it and come to enjoy it – the more depraved, the better. And I understand this doesn't apply to the majority of Americans, but it is a trend I've noticed among younger and younger urban tech-savvy people. You know, our future.

Don't ask how or why I've come to know about these videos and memes. It involves a violent maiming of my innocence through unexplainable curiosity and a lot of regrettable dares, which is exactly why I plead with you to not give in to the internet.

Get off your computer, take a walk in the park with your significant other. Whatever you do, do NOT Google those videos.



Photo by Eric Dorman

**Health professional Bettina Bepler spoke on suicide prevention last Wednesday.**

## Chance to sing and win this weekend

By KATHY SUNG  
Staff writer

The International Student Club and the Chinese Student Association will be hosting the 2008 Sing Xuan Feng Singing Competition Preliminary Round this Sunday, April 20 from 7 to 10 p.m. in the Smith Center's Jackson Theatre. This is the first year that Ohlone has ever taken part in the competition.

The competition is co-sponsored by the Chinese Consumer Yellow Pages. They have also helped to sponsor seven other competitions at Bay Area colleges. The top three singers from each college will compete in the Final Round located in San Mateo and hosted by the Chinese Consumer Yellow Pages at the Asian American Expo

## Show to display student artwork

By TSETEN DOLKAR  
Staff writer

The annual Fine Art and Design Show will begin on April 23 at the Louie-Meager Art Gallery in the Smith Center. Students submitted artwork for the competition in the areas of drawing, collage, painting, ceramics, glass arts, sculpture, graphics, computer works, interior design and photography.

Unlike previous years' shows, this year's jury included the Fine Arts Department's adjunct faculty, due in part to complaints from past students, who wanted the jury to be more inclusive of the entire faculty. The jury has already selected three winners from each category. However, whether that information will be made available to students before the Reception and Awards Ceremony on May 6 is still in discussion.

Department of Art and Art History's Instructor Kenny Mencher

in October.

Auditions have already been held on April 5 and 6 on the Ohlone College Newark campus. The contestants at the auditions numbered 35; 13 were selected to compete onstage.

Students selected to compete include: Cynthia Chan, Kimi Chen, Melody Chen, Eric Choi, Jon Fung, Tatyana Hamady, Scott Holcom, Robin Jung, Shadow Li, Sunny Liu, Vanessa Magat, Chiman Tran and Lehu Zhang.

According to Karen Chan, president of the Chinese Student Association, "Winners will be showered with prizes: Cash prizes of \$300, \$500 and \$1000. The champion will get a round air ticket from SFO to TPE for a studio session and interview with a Taiwan

wants the student body to appreciate the show for what it is, and not pay too much heed to who won and who lost. Mencher said "losing doesn't matter" and emphasized that "rejection teaches [you] more than getting rewarded." Mencher would like prospective art students to come to the show and understand the expectations at a two-year college level.

The Associated Students of Ohlone College (ASOC) Vice President and Inter-Club Council Chair Jackie McCulley remarked that the show "gives opportunity for students to show off their talents." ASOC contributed \$1,500 to the greater \$4,000 prize money to be handed out through more than 40 awards. Other contributors include the Olive Hyde Art Guild, East Bay Clay, Leslie's Ceramics and President's Circle.

The show will run until May 14 and the Reception and Awards Ceremony begins at 6:30 p.m.

## Woman offers tips for suicide prevention

By MAX STEPHENS  
Staff writer

The Psychology Club hosted "Suicide Prevention Strategies," a talk by Bettina Bepler of Crisis Support Services of Alameda last Wednesday.

There was such a large gathering of Psychology and other students for this talk that the event was moved from Room 4101a to the bigger 3101. All chairs were taken, and more students gathered around the edge of the room to sit in on the talk.

Starting at 2:30 p.m., the talk was scheduled to run for an hour and forty-five minutes, and in that time Bepler talked to the audience about the statistics on suicide in youth, adults and, most important for the local population, college students. Bepler also talked about myths concerning suicide, as well as what goes on in the mind of someone who is suicidal. This informative

talk runs parallel to the increase of suicides that happens around the spring months, where those at risk for suicide have more energy to go through with a suicide plan. Along with identifying someone who may be at risk to suicide, Bepler also talked about what can be done to talk to someone who may be at risk.

Bepler works for the Crisis Support Services of Alameda (CSS), which started over 35 years ago and has grown to a certified agency by the American Association of Suicidology. They offer such services as: 24 Hour Crisis Line, Grief Counseling, Senior Counseling, Community Education and Counseling Services. Bepler said the Crisis Line is open for anyone who might be at risk or worried about someone who they think is at risk for suicide.

More information can be found about Crisis Support Services can be found at [www.crisissupport.org/](http://www.crisissupport.org/) The 24 Hour Crisis line is (800) 309-2131.

record company. The champion will also have the once in a lifetime experience to perform onstage with a guest singer from Taiwan."

Chan added, "The Chinese Club decided to organize and be one of the participating college because we think this is a great opportunity to work with other colleges and have a singing competition together."

Tatyana Hamady, the ASOC president will also be competing in this event.

This Sunday's show will include a Jazz dance from the Bliss Company, a band performance by Mzao and a band performance by Frances and Hip Hop.

There will be a drawing to win a free gift.

Tickets are available for \$5 for Ohlone students with an ID and \$7

for non-Ohlone students. People buying 10 tickets or more will get 10 percent off.

Judges will be judging based on a point system with 10 categories and 10 points for each category. They will be judging on vocal quality, technique, emotion/mood, rhythm, style, presentation, appearance and potential. The judges for this competition will be Benjamin Chen, the representative from the Chinese Consumer Yellow Pages, Frances Fon, transfer center specialist, Khuu Tu, instructor of Star Valley Children Choir and Dennis Keller, an Ohlone music professor.

Tickets can be purchased in the Jackson Theater ticket office Tuesday to Thursday from noon to 7 p.m. and Friday to Saturday from noon to 5 p.m.

## Earth Week planned

By KYLE STEPHENS  
Staff writer

A multitudinous plethora of events await Ohlone next week for Earth Week. A tentative list of events is as follows:

Next Monday will feature judging for the LIFE Club Environmental Art Contest, open to all students, in the lobby of Hyman Hall. In the Palm Bosque, free drinks will be available to those who bring their own cup, to promote that conservation behavior. An environmental debate and board games will also be happening in the Palm Bosque. All around campus, trees and other plants will be planted as part of Gardening Day.

Tuesday, April 22, will continue the free-drink-with-cup program - it will also be Energy Awareness Day, featuring information, prizes and vendors. More judging for the Environmental Art Contest will be carried out on this day, as well.

Wednesday, April 23 will have a campus-wide cleanup, a clothing drive and e-waste recycling event at the Palm Bosque. The Environmental Art Contest will come to a conclusion in Hyman Hall this day, and a tour of the Ohlone Oak Grove behind Building 27 will be headed by Ohlone Biology Instructor Jeff Watanabe.

Thursday, April 24 will see the Environmental Art Contest entries on display in Hyman Hall, and a special Earth Week Edition of Rock the Hill, with a guest appearance from former American Idol contestant Frenchie Davis.

## Students explore rhymes and reasons

By **RACHAEL FUNK**  
Staff writer

In honor of National Poetry Month, a published poet will be visiting the campus. Cathie Sandstrom, author of "So Luminous the Wildflowers," will be reading her poetry Friday from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Fremont campus library.

English Instructor Robert Mitchell, who teaches poetry classes at Ohlone, is directing the event. "People are always surprised at how lively and exciting it is... hearing poetry read out loud is a different experience than reading it silently."

This year marks the 7th annual poetry event that Ohlone has hosted. This year, it is a four-day event, hosted in the Fremont campus

library. The week started with two poetry readings from the English 113 class on Monday. Wednesday's theme was Poetry Music.

A group of about 30 people gathered to listen to the poems read by students.

With songs like "My Way" from Frank Sinatra and "Tequila" from The Champs playing in the background, the poets would read material that they wrote or a piece that spoke to them.

Thursday's event, from 1 to 3 p.m. will be open to anyone who wants to read their own or another author's poetry.

This portion of the event is usually the best attended. Mitchell said that last year, so many people wanted to read that they ran out of time. Refreshments will be served.



Photo by Japneet Kaur

**Angelica Boyd reads poetry as part of a four-day poetry event in honor of Poetry Month.**



**Devil's Advocate**

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

## Learn. Work, too.

I like to work. I like to go to school. But I do not like doing either one of these things without the other.

Whether because of the proportion of adult students, the tendency of those less affluent to attend one or perhaps a lessened workload due to a lack of time constraints, a community college like Ohlone tends to house more than its fair share of working students.

But why work? Moreover, why work at anything other than a McJob?

A friend of mine lives with her mother, who is a bit of a tyrannical figure. This friend does not work. She goes to school full-time and does chores around the house. All the chores. She chauffers her mum around. She must be home before dark or field frantic, pissy phone calls. In her mid-twenties, she's still treated like a five-year-old.

Explain to me just how mopping floors will prepare you for a career, other than as a janitor? (Who, by the way, also probably went to school for that.)

Finding, applying for, winning and performing an actual job, however, is a bit more rigorous. It requires discipline, intelligence, perseverance, time management, people and communication skills and responsibility; i.e. all the qualities you'd like your child to possess in life. If you're going to school at the same time, all those attributes are sharpened.

You learn to juggle the expectations of teachers and managers and how they differ. You learn that you can be late to class without anyone having heart palpitations but that dressing when late to work should be down to "Am I legally decent?" because there are 25 other people depending on you, daily.

There's a certain relief in being able to go between an academic and a professional setting. You don't get too sick of either. Also, the less time you have, the more wisely you tend to spend it.

School and work, far from contradictory, are the perfect foils for each other.

## 'Last comic standing' brings crowd to feet

By **CHEN LIN**  
Staff writer

Among the comedians who performed at Comedy Night last Friday was Justin McClure, a past competitor on the American Idol-style reality television show "Last Comic Standing." McClure, the headliner, performed for 30 minutes to raucous approval.

Comedy Night, hosted by the Ohlone forensics team, featured an unusually high attendance for a paid event and attracted even people who did not attend Ohlone.

The Emcee was Forensics team member Sammy Obeid, a professional comedian and a consistent first place finisher in After Dinner Speaking, a kind of 10-minute co-

medic monologue.

Obeid was responsible for inviting most of the comedians who attended, many of whom are his friends from the San Jose Improv.

After the show, comedian Brandon Lynch reflected on his performance.

"I'd give it four stars out of five," said Lynch. "And write that I brought two of those stars."

Lynch's only complaint was the lack of refreshments, which had been promised in a press release. He also shared details about himself, and how he prepares for his performances.

"I take a deep breath," said Lynch. "I like to clear my mind."

Another comedian, "Big Al" Gonzalez, was a student at Ohlone

in the 90s, and participated heavily in the Theatre program under Craig Jackson.

"Sammy specifically invited me - I went to school here," said Gonzalez.

Incidentally, he also competed in forensics at James Logan High as a member of that school's first squad.

"I engaged in Forensics to the fullest," said Gonzalez. "It was the first class that ever showed me I had a voice."

The money raised from Comedy Night will go to purchasing food for team members at the Phi Rho Pi national tournament in Chicago, where they will be this entire week.

Before leaving, team members reported feeling optimistic about

the competition.

"I feel like dancing," said David Taube, last year's Gold medalist in Parliamentary Debate.

"I'm enthusiastic, because we now have money to buy food," said Obeid.

Taube and his debate partner, Emily Burkett, finished in first place last year at Phi Rho Pi, and have consistently broken into finals for multiple event at other tournaments since.

In addition, Obeid and his partner, Athena Bringhurst, took Bronze last year. Mike Sagun, the last team member attending, broke into finals at his second tournament but has never competed at nationals.

The team will be returning from Chicago next week.

## Math Club prepares for battle of brains

By **KYLE STEPHENS**  
Staff writer

Hor Ka Fung, a member of Ohlone's Math Club, came in third in the College Calculus section of last Saturday's 40th Annual Monterey Athletics.

Team members Terence Lee and David Qiu received honorable mentions, also for College Calculus.

Other members of the team include Greg Monson, Mark Abubekrov, Hai Nguyen, with reserve teammates Alekh Jha and Jun Fang.

Ohlone College is ranked third in the Western Region and fourth in the nation.

Jun Fang of the Ohlone College Math Club is tied for fifth place in the West Region Individual Stand-

ings.

"Mathletics is a math contest held annually to encourage excellence in math and recognize the achievement of individual students and the schools they represent."

For more information, visit the Mathletics website at [http://programs.monterey.k12.ca.us/curriculum\\_instruction/math\\_curriculum/mathcurriculum/mathletics/index.htm](http://programs.monterey.k12.ca.us/curriculum_instruction/math_curriculum/mathcurriculum/mathletics/index.htm).

The competition extends from 6th grade math to calculus BC, equivalent to Calculus 101B at the college level.

This allows for both college and high school students to participate.

More recently, Ohlone College proctored the AMATYC (American Mathematical Association of Two-

Year Colleges) test.

Two competitors from Ohlone are in the top 20 nationwide, with Terence Lee tied with a student from Evergreen Valley College in 10th, and Jun Fang at 15th.

These figures are out of the 2,656 who took the test, though because the test is available to all two-year college students in the United States, the actual number is technically much higher.

Ohlone's team is currently a leading force in the competition.

As Math Instructor Geoffrey Hirsch pointed out, for both rounds offered, overall Ohlone would rank first by a significant margin in any regional division other than the West coast, and in the West it stands at seventh.

For a full list of regional and

national rankings, go to "Reports" at the AMATYC rankings site, [www.sml.csmd.edu](http://www.sml.csmd.edu).

The AMATYC organization is "the only organization exclusively devoted to providing a national forum for the improvement of mathematics instruction in the first two years of college."

For more information on the organization, visit their website at [www.amatyc.org](http://www.amatyc.org).

The test itself is on pre-calculus alone, but questions on the AMATYC are said to be especially challenging, unlike anything one would find in a typical pre-calculus textbook for high school and college students.

Creativity and understanding on concepts are what the test is about.

## Student threatens classmates

Continued from Page 1

threat when deciding whether to involve the authorities under the Tarasoff decision.

An unidentified witness spoke with Murphy, confessing that the student had spoken of his feelings of alienation a few weeks ago, and the witness had tried to comfort him. The witness added that he felt the student's "statements were very odd and apologized to [Murphy and the identified classmate] for not bringing it to our attention sooner."

Another witness stated that she

had spoken to the student April 4, when he "told her he felt out of place, that people in the class gave him dirty looks."

A witness further described the student as "a special needs person, who had problems understanding what job needed to be done." The witness then stated "he would secure all the rooms the students were in for their safety."

Upon contacting the reporting doctor at approximately 3:13 p.m., Murphy learned the student was in the Oakland Children's Hospital

Emergency Room "awaiting transport to an unknown location."

Vice-Principal Ron Travenick sent out an email to faculty and staff, though not students, informing them of this event Thursday, April 10 at 5:20 p.m. He noted that the student was being held for observation and "has been suspended and forbidden entry to College property." Travenick is working with the student's family on this incident.

Contributing to the story were: *Eric Dorman, News editor and Andrew Cavette, Opinions editor.*

## Scottish to gather

By **JOE NICHOLS**  
Staff writer

The East Bay Scottish Association will host its annual Tartan Day Scottish Faire on April 19 at the Ardenwood Historical Farm from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The faire will include everything from bagpipe bands, historical re-enactments, authentic Scottish food and dance, as well as many jeweler and other craft booths. Tartan Day is a celebration of Scottish Independence from Britain, which stemmed from the Treaty of Northampton in 1323.

Tartan day is the only day that William Wallace's sword, a Scottish national treasure, is allowed to leave the country.