

This is the last issue of the semester. We'll be back in the fall.

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# OHLONE COLLEGE MONITOR

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## BALANCING ACT



Photo by Japneet Kaur

Kay (a.k.a 'A-plus') defies gravity during Wednesday's Unity Week activities in the Jackson Theater.

## Students unite for food, discussion and dancing

By ANDREW LE  
Staff writer

Drawn by free food and provocative performances, students of Ohlone came together this week to explore their cultural diversity and solidarity.

Unity Week's Wednesday festivities included a Hip Hop Culture Panel & Performance entitled "Beyond B\*TC\*\*S & H\*S: Women For Change!" Organized by Ohlone Hip-Hop/Breakdance Instructor Sergio Suarez, the event sought to address the roles of females in the hip-hop community and various other issues.

The all-female panel consisted of a D.J., two dancers and a middle school teacher. The speakers began by contrasting the differences between the original hip-hop movement and the

modern-day equivalent. One speaker recounted her experience with the burgeoning hip-hop scene from when women such as Queen Latifah were still respected as artists before being relegated to the role of scantily-clad sex objects. This oppression of the artistic role of women, she argued, has resulted in a downward spiral in the treatment and respect of women not just in the hip-hop community, but in aspects of society as well.

To illustrate how degraded women are in today's society, the panel recounted personal experiences, including having to take on stereotypically masculine qualities in order to prove themselves. According to DJ Lady Fingaz, however, there are perks to femininity as well. "Being a woman gets your foot in the door," she said, "but once you're in, you have to

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## Treadway reflects on presidency

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The Monitor asked President Doug Treadway, who will retire in June, to reflect on his time at Ohlone.

By ANNA NEMCHUK  
Editor-in-chief

**A:** What are your fondest memories of Ohlone?

**T:** The most recent one is all of the doves flying out at Newark when we opened up the new campus there and they all flew up in the air and went back to Fremont.

It made me think of the rising aspirations of all the students and people here. I had a really good moment

just now, with six students - each from a different country - representing the International Club and talking about their experiences and their hopes for their futures. I think any time I get a chance to hear the students' own personal experiences - always makes me feel glad to be a part of it.

The time I went with the dancers to China and the time I went with the singers to Eastern Europe. When I went with a bunch of people on the bus to cheer on the basketball team in state finals. It seems like the most memorable experiences are those kinds of quality times where I'm not being an office official. I'm actually in some kind of activity with the students and we're all just being people together.

**A:** On the flip-side of that, is there anything you wish you'd done or done differently at Ohlone, now that you look back?

**T:** You know, it's not my nature to kind of use the rear view mirror much. The only disappointment I have is that we haven't developed the frontage property. It's a disappointment because we need the income from that to bring up to date the buildings here on the Fremont campus. So I'm really hopeful that the Board and the new president will pick up where I left off and get that job done.

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## Contractor calls parking structure too pricey

By JACQUE ORVIS  
Staff writer

The Ohlone Board of Trustees discussed the proposed parking garage, future budget, upcoming commencement ceremony and contract renewals at the meeting Wednesday, all in under 90 minutes. Student Trustee Ken Steadman gave credit to the MacBooks assigned to the members, saying that without them the meeting would have been longer.

Steadman also brought up technology's role in campus life after the board discussed campus experience improvement by building a parking garage. Steadman's concern was that, because of the internet, the majority of Ohlone students will be enrolled in online

courses. He encouraged the board not to "underestimate the power of the internet... before getting stuck paying for something [we] won't need in 10 years."

Brookburst Development Co. reported to the board that a new parking structure is not financially feasible, although the Master Plan of the structure has yet to be completed collectively with Ohlone. A possible parking facility for Ohlone was compared to current parking garages in neighboring colleges that essentially pay for themselves. The costs of a new parking garage would create a \$1.4 million deficit. Predictions state that the debt will most likely have to be paid for out of students' pockets in the form of higher parking rates. Staff and faculty notably do

not want to pay for parking, so the changes will only affect students.

After discussion of the parking garage, the board reviewed the Fall 2008 budget deficit, then moved on to the approval of Stegeman and Kaster's contract with Ohlone College. Stegeman and Kaster representative Don Eichelberger was said to be "invaluable... phenomenal" by board members, who recommend the contract be renewed for the 2008-'09 fiscal year.

The board agreed to renew the contract, but want to remove the project coordinator and hire in-house for the position. Stegeman and Kaster has been managing the bond program since September 2002 and, according to the community, "has been providing professional,

high quality bond program management services."

The trustees briefly mentioned May's 2008 commencement ceremony and future meeting agendas. Among them are the discussion of changing board titles "president" and "vice-president" to "chairperson" and "vice-chairperson." After the necessities of the meeting were met, Trustee Trisha Tahmasbi thanked Steadman for his commitment to the board as he introduced his successor, Lauren Baca, who will take his seat in June.

Typically, a board meeting at Ohlone would last around three hours with this extensive of an agenda, but with the new laptops, the agenda was completed in half the time, with less paper waste.