



# OHLONE COLLEGE MONITOR

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## Ohlone tries to keep feet dry

By NICOLE JOHNSON  
Staff writer

Ever since Ohlone first opened its doors, water runoff down from the hills has been a problem, leaking and into buildings on campus.

This underground water intrusion problem has caused minimal damage though, according to Vice President of Business Mike Calegari. "There was carpeting redone in an office or two, ceiling tiles were damaged. Mostly things got wet and dried out." He did make note, though, that "this can be a serious problem over time, so it's better to correct it now."

The state is slated to give Ohlone \$12.2 million for construction and repair, pending the passing of the state budget.

Some construction has already been started, but will progress over several years. Calegari is hoping construction will disrupt campus activities as little as possible. Different routes may need to be established

to get to certain buildings. Nothing is set in stone yet, as the project is still in the planning stage.

Facilities, consultants, and contractors will be performing most of the work. Before construction can start, it must be approved by the state via the budget funding it. Their plan is to seal the exterior of the buildings affected most by the runoff, beginning in a year or two.

Ohlone has until 2011 to complete this project.

To prevent water from running into the buildings anymore than it has, the water coming down the hill will be diverted around the buildings using pipes. The water will then be re-injected back into a water table below the surface. The water will not be flushed down storm drains because it is too costly.

It was previously thought that the fountain by the stairs between the Building 1 second floor and the Quad might have to be removed due to water damage to Ohlone's records

vault, located beneath the fountain. According to Vice President of Student Services Ron Travenick, "[the fountain] was damaged last year. [But] it's been repaired. You can't see the damage now. It was mostly damaged from the two-week rainfall last year."

Travenick added, "the records vault is not in danger

of flooding and we are planning to make the walls impenetrable to water."

Walking around Building 1, ceilings may still be seen with water stains. "The Financial Aid office had to be relocated and wallboards were replaced," said Travenick. Necessary steps will be taken within the next few years to curtail the seepage, so expect more construction.



Photo by Nicole Johnson

**Ohlone's records vault was damaged by water seepage.**

## Circus! Circus! Circus!



Photo courtesy Sweet Can Circus

**Performers from the San Francisco circus group 'Sweet Can' weave a unique blend of musical and theatrical performance. Their show, 'Habitat,' will be presented Friday, Sept. 20 with shows at 2 and 8 p.m. in the Jackson Theater. Tickets are available at the box office.**

## Enrollment soars, but state money still scarce

By KATHY SUNG  
Staff writer

Ohlone is in the midst of experiencing one of its highest levels of enrollment in several years.

Though at one point Ohlone had enrollment up 18 percent from the previous year, after students finalize their schedules, adding and dropping classes, the figure is projected to be closer to a 10 percent increase in enrollment, with about 11,088 total students and 3,771 full time students.

Despite the record growth, Ohlone will not benefit financially from the influx of students as much as the increased enrollment would call for. The college receives money from the state based on the number of FTES (around \$4,000 per FTES); however, once a certain enrollment figure has been met, the state will not fund the college any further. In this case, the state cap for 2008 is 8,274 FTES, which is certain to be exceeded this year, meaning the college will lose money.

Vice President of Student De-

velopment Ron Travenick said that Ohlone "can absorb the influx for a year." However, a 10 percent increase sustained over several years would quickly overwhelm the college's peak capacity, he said.

Still, until the state passes a budget, the college will receive no funds from the state.

In the mean time, in order to conserve money, the college has implemented a hiring freeze on replacements for retiring faculty and staff. Should funds remain tight in the future, some classes could be

eliminated.

One possible factor in the sudden increase in enrollment is the new WebAdvisor "update my profile" option. This new feature allows students to update their profile directly online and apply without the process of turning in paperwork to Admissions and Records. With this elimination of wait time, the new system has allowed returning students to take advantage of the newly streamlined process and register for classes earlier.

Another contributing factor

was Ohlone's decision to shift the start of the semester back a week compared to previous terms. This combination of more time to enroll and a smoother process of enrolling helps out the students. Also implemented in Ohlone's new system is a smoother flow of waitlists. Rather than having staff manually enter students on the waitlist into the class, WebAdvisor automatically controls and update the waitlist. Every opening when a student drops out from a class will be replaced with a student on the waitlist.