



# MONITOR

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## Cox, Bonaccorsi take seats on Board

By **REBECCA SOLTAU**  
Staff writer

In a closely contested race Tuesday, Teresa Cox beat out 10-year incumbent Bob Brunton for Seat 4 of the College Board of Trustees, with 53 percent of the vote. Greg Bonaccorsi also won Seat 6 with a whopping 70 percent majority.

Incumbent Nick Nardolillo ran unopposed.

In a phone interview Wednesday, Cox went over again what her goals and plans are now that she is secure in her position on the Board. "Well, my top priority right now is to resolve the accreditation issue that the college faces and to restore Ohlone's reputation. I would also like to ensure that I will be able

to work closely with other Board members and the administration of the college throughout my time on the Board."

Cox, Chair of the Economic Development Commission for the City of Fremont and a high tech executive and working mother, also plans to focus on creating more jobs in the Fremont area and to generally improve the quality of life. "I think that should Ohlone College provide green technology courses, it will attract more technology-based businesses to the area and provide a great many jobs to the people who need it."

Brunton, a business owner and 10-year veteran on the Board, received only 46 percent of the vote.

Brunton was removed as Board president in 2006, the second time he was voted out of the position by fellow Board members. Brunton is the only Board member ever to be removed from the rotating position of president.

Brunton did not return calls from the *Monitor*.

In an interview on Wednesday afternoon, Bonaccorsi also discussed his future priorities with the Board of Trustees. "It's no surprise that we'll have to deal with the accreditation problem first, but after we have that settled, I would like to increase the capacity of our college to be a gateway to both higher education and career and vocational training."

Bonaccorsi is a science and math



**Teresa Cox**

teacher at Hopkins Junior High in the Fremont Unified School District and has also been elected President of the Fremont Unified District Teachers Association from 2000 to 2005. Because of this, Bonaccorsi believes that he will bring



**Greg Bonaccorsi**

something special to the Board of Trustees. "My experience as an educator in the Fremont District is a great asset that I could use in my position."

His opponent, David Sheen,  
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Photos by Japneet Kaur

**Math Instructor Geoff Hirsch - along with other faculty and staff - was fair game for pie-wielding students willing to donate \$2 to charity at the Make-A-Wish Club's 'Pie The Professor' event Tuesday in the cafeteria.**

## Teachers face creamy onslaught

By **REBECCA SOLTAU**  
Staff writer

For five whipped cream-filled hours Tuesday, the Make-A-Wish Club at Ohlone College hosted a "Pie The Professor" event in the cafeteria, where students could throw whipped cream "pies" at various staff members for a donation of two dollars to charity.

The staff members, which included professors, coaches, counselors and even Mitch Millich the "coffee cart guy" switched off every half hour to be pelted by the sticky pastries.

One faculty member, Sociology Instructor Bennett Openheim, was so impressed by the students' throwing arms that he opted to pay \$40 and pass on the pie-throwing.

The goal on Tuesday was to raise at least \$150 to give to the Make-A-Wish Foundation, which uses the monetary

donations it receives to grant various "wishes" of children with life-threatening illnesses. "It's a really great cause, and I'm proud to take a little whipped cream in my hair if it helps out," said Counselor Anthony Bonanno.

While the amount of takers was slow at first, more and more people entering the cafeteria couldn't help but take notice and take revenge on their professors. "How can I possibly miss this? I will gladly give up a bottle of soda if I can throw a pie at a staff member," said Kelsey Bloom, a student who promptly gave Counselor Stephanie Ramos a pie in the kisser.

"I don't know if I would ever do the pie thing again, but I'll do what I can for this really great organization," said Ramos after clearing her eyes of whipped cream.

The Make-A-Wish Club will possibly hold another "Pie The Professor" event in December, depending on the profit the club made at Tuesday's event.

## Election hits close to home

By **REBECCA SOLTAU**  
Staff writer

Barack Obama's victory Tuesday is a great step forward in American politics, but the next president of the United States will have a tall order facing him when he takes office, said Political Science Professor Alan Kirshner.

Dr. Kirshner has great hopes for the president-elect, but he warned that Obama won't have an easy task ahead. "I'm very confident that he will be successful, but the economy is no easy fix. He will have to prove himself to the entire country, regardless of how many voted for him."

There are no easy answers on foreign policy, either, said Kirshner. "The debacle in the Middle East is so complex... it will take long hours in meeting rooms with a multitude of military experts for him to even begin to try and resolve anything."

Kirshner has followed nearly every election in the last 20 years extremely closely, so it goes without saying that he paid attention to this year's historic race between Sen. Obama of Illinois and Sen. John McCain of Arizona.

As a person who witnessed the pain and ultimate victory of the Civil Rights Movement in the 1960's, Kirshner had a very strong reaction to Obama becoming president-elect. "Well, when I saw his speech after it was announced, I was watching the faces in the crowd and I saw Rev. Jesse Jackson, and he was sobbing. I've never seen that man cry, not even when Dr. [Martin Luther] King died. I was just completely overwhelmed with the gravity of the election."

Within California, Dr. Kirshner expressed his disappointment in the passing of Proposition 8. "I'm very let down by the fact that voters in this state didn't see Prop. 8 as more of an 'equality for all' issue rather than a 'protect marriage' issue. However, I'm confident that it will be resolved in the near future judging from how close the numbers were."

He expressed his opinion that the gay marriage debate will be ingrained in every election until the debate is finished. "The gay and lesbian community, along with their supporters, will be a thorn in the public's side until true equality is reached."

Despite his disappointment in the Californian results, Dr. Kirshner is secure in his hopes for the country's direction. "There's nowhere to go but up from here. This is truly an era of change and growth, and hopefully the American people can come together under that idea."