

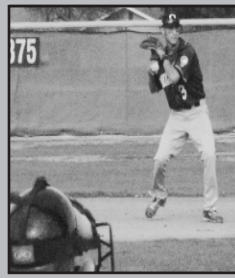
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are coming
to sing.**

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not at all like
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OHLONE COLLEGE MONITOR

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Renegades playoff-bound



Photo by Tara Lynn Lanning

Seven-foot sophomore center Frank Monge and the Renegades denied Cañada points in their 69-26 blowout of the Colts. The game was their last home game of the regular season. See story, Page 8.

AC Transit may raise bus fares for all

By ANKITA CHHABRA
Staff writer

“As someone who rides the bus every day, I think it’s terrible that people like me have to put up with the hike in ticket prices. I’m not particularly mad about the situation, because with the economy’s state, everyone has it bad,” said bus rider Japneet Kaur, who, just like the other bus riders, shrugged her shoulders and hoped that whatever the outcome of AC Transit’s fare hike proposal is, it will not be too bad.

The AC Transit Board of Directors will be meeting on Feb. 25 to discuss whether to increase the bus fare for adult riders. The increase would also limit the use of the 25-cent transfers and the use of TransLink cards. The board hopes to offset a budget deficit of at least \$42 million in 2010.

The fares have not been increased in the last four years. The proposal currently on the table will mean a 25-cent increase in basic fare, from \$1.75 to \$2. A 10-ride ticket and \$70 adult 31-day pass would increase as well.

“It sucks, because I take the bus five or six times a week and depending on how much the raise is set to, I might not take the bus anymore,” said Michael Hart, another student

bus rider.

Not only are the adult bus riders going to be affected by this change; youth, seniors and the disabled will have to pay \$1 instead of the current 85-cent price. However, 31-day passes for youth, seniors and the disabled will not face a price increase.

The major reason behind this consideration is the “catastrophic loss of state funding,” according to AC Transit General Manager Rick Fernandez. The public was asked to come out to the hearing and voice their opinions as well.

“I take the bus every day, so the price I might be able to handle, but as

long as they are not cutting...which [would] mean me being less mobile,” explained another concerned bus rider, Lacy Benson.

“Even though we will get some new revenue from the passage of Measure VV last November, it is neither big nor quick enough to completely offset our catastrophic loss of state funding,” said Fernandez in an AC Transit press release. “It is a difficult time for all of us. But the board is especially sensitive to the burden borne by youths, seniors and people with disabilities, and obviously has no desire to raise the cost of their bus passes.”

The public hearing was held last May. The board will decide the matter Feb. 25 in Oakland.

‘I take the bus five or six times a week and depending on how much the raise is set to, I might not take the bus anymore.’

—Michael Hart, student

Faculty Senate works to keep Ohlone in good standing

By NAZIA MASTAN
Staff writer

Ohlone will require a minimum AP score of only three instead of four to receive credit for certain classes in order to reflect changes at the UC and CSU level, the Faculty Senate decided Wednesday.

An Advanced Placement Score of three will now be accepted for Ohlone credit for three courses; Art History, English Composition and Political Science. This decision was made because other California community colleges, CSU’s and UC’s now accept a score of three for their general education requirements.

The minimum score of three will be accepted for Ohlone’s General Education Plan A. As of now, fours or higher will count for major requirements. However, the scores that will be considered for major requirements are still up to departments on a test-by-test basis. Many of the threes accepted may also count for a humanities requirement under our General Education Plan A. Also, new AP tests are going to be accepted, such

as Environmental Science, Chinese Language and European History, to name a few.

Ohlone has been undergoing a procedural revision of the programs that we offer because our accreditation is under a warning from the Accreditation Team. This team is comprised of 12 members from various California community colleges. Last March, these representatives studied the Newark campus as well as the Fremont Ohlone campus and found faults, which explains the warning our school was put under. There are community colleges in the Bay Area that are in worse condition than Ohlone, but that does not account for the fact that Ohlone needed to clean up some areas.

Our school has been working on revising and reviewing programs and composing detailed reports to send back to the team in order to reaffirm our standing in the California community college system.

The progress that Ohlone is making in reaffirming our accreditation was described as good at Tuesday’s Senate meeting. But, our school is still under warning, according to Vice President of Instruction Jim Wright. He touched on the

fact that if we review our programs wisely, our “\$46 million” budget will be reserved.

The next accreditation report that President Gari Browning will be sending to the community college representatives is due to be completed and sent on March 15.

Wright explained that our plans should encompass preserving and using our current cash wisely, and stressed the importance of “tying planning to budget.” Although other members of the Senate commented on the fact that this has been the plan for many years, now is the time that it should be taken into serious consideration because of the budget crisis.

The Senate briefly discussed the possible conflict of time allotted for finals at the Newark campus. The conflict in finals time slots may occur if a student is taking both Monday through Thursday classes and a Friday class. The Senate chose not to discuss the topic further during the next meeting because teachers should alert their students ahead of time that this conflict of finals time may occur. They expect that students will have to make sure that they have time to take both finals.