



## Weighing Anchor

By ERIC DORMAN  
Editor-in-chief

### A farewell to stairs

You won't have Fake Uncle Sam to kick around anymore because, gentlemen, this is my last column.

Actually, I can't say I can easily relate to Richard Nixon's hatred of the press, but I always wanted to use that quote. And besides, the man knew how to make an exit.

It's interesting how whenever you leave a place you've been for a while, you remember the time you first saw it. After four years at Ohlone, I still remember the first time I visited the campus. My friend and I, both 11 or 12, used to have to wait outside the Smith Center for our older sisters to get out of class. We amused ourselves by sliding down the stair rails until a 50-something UPS delivery guy, returning from delivering a package to one of the buildings and angered by the sight of two children having fun, described to us in graphic detail the grisly injury he had obtained as a child while engaged in the same activity. The story was undoubtedly fabricated, but being young and naive, we took it as the gospel truth. I haven't touched a stair rail since.

At 14, I started taking classes here. As a homeschooler, I had the choice of entering high school or attending college; my friend, perpetually cooler than I, chose high school, while I solidified my status as a social deviant by heading to Ohlone. And while I've remained hopelessly ignorant of the fashions, rumors and pop culture literacy that seem to comprise the true pedagogy of high school, I've learned more here than I ever would have thought possible.

Unquestionably, Ohlone gets a bad rap. It's called the school of last choice, the place where the uninspired and unmotivated go to siphon state resources, the place nobody attends by choice. Well, as someone who attended Ohlone by choice and knows countless others as motivated to succeed here as I have been, I have to take issue with that assessment. I'm graduating next week with 95.5 units, an A.A. degree and an SIR to USCD—three achievements that would have been impossible without this school and the opportunities it provides.

The California community college system offers a kind of educational experience that is entirely unique and utterly invaluable: by offering a low-cost, all-inclusive educational environment, they achieve a level of diversity and outreach that no UC or private school comes close to. One thing is for certain: I couldn't have done what I've done in any other place.

UCSD doesn't have any stairs; just beaches and ocean. I can't say I'm going to object to the setup, but I'll still miss the Hill.

## Soles take flight



## Art show winners

By ANNA BIARITZ ROLDAN  
Staff writer

Jessica Gill's untitled painting took first place at the Student Fine Art & Design Show in the Louie Meager Art Gallery.

The show, featuring 30 pieces by students from a number of Ohlone art classes, is open until May 18. The art department faculty judged the competition, which received almost 500 entries. About 200 pieces received awards.

Gill's oil painting, a portrait of a woman, was an eye-catching piece. The painting was very animated, with the woman wearing a very intriguing and somewhat alluring expression.

Bryant Sina's "Purple Haze," made with acrylic paint, was another expressive piece. Having been in one of his shows, I knew it was Sina's right when I saw it. The texture of the painting and the style he used was similar to his other works. Sina's work was also featured elsewhere in the gallery, such as "The Bunny Gene" and "No Escape," which both placed in the sculpture category.

Another unique piece was Forrest Tanaka's photograph, entitled "Spoon Levitation." The picture was both serious and amusing, since the spoon really was levitating. The piece won second place for the photograph category.

In a different medium, Aemi Kadakia's "Design for a Rug," made with gouache, a water-based paint, took second in the Interior design category. The design was classy and refined; the pattern well-drawn.

The Louie Meager Art Gallery is located in the Smith Center. It is open Monday through Friday from 12:30 to 3 p.m.



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## Dancers catch air in 'Soul to Sole'

Students from Ohlone's dance classes delivered performances focused around expressions of both the body and the soul at the Spring Dance Showcase shows over the weekend. Left: Kevin Calderon-Lopez leaps through the air before fellow student choreographers Kyle Meiers, Alex Drattell and Onel Higginbotham; above, Randy Martinez reaches the apex of his mid-air toe touch and right, Randy Martinez, Tracy Layden and Sonja Wright log some group air time.



## Unity Week: bringing students together

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This event that occurred at the Palm Bosque on Tuesday, May 5, was a vivid appearance of Chicano pride. Students were enjoying tacos and burritos while listening to merengue music and playing a friendly game of Loteria, a Mexican bingo game to win a fruit bouquet from Edible Assortments.

The highlight of this event was the merengue dance performed by Cindy Diaz, Andres Garcia, Robert Jackson, Alessandra Martinez, Elizabeth Rodriguez and Alex Vera to a song entitled "Com Tú Me Quiere a Mi," by Limi-T 21.

Diaz and Julie Rodriguez created merengue choreography, which took a long two weeks of preparation. Prior to the performance, Diaz said that she was confident in her dancers and was excited to perform.

The other Unity Week event held on Tuesday was the presentation of former student Elaine Mathews' "The Red Door." The film was screened in the Smith Center from 1:30 to 3 p.m. It was about a man named Tom who becomes torn between his own passion of becoming a chef and continuing his family's tradition of being a feng shui master. A family tragedy further causes a rift

between Tom's wishes and family tradition.

The second day of Unity Week featured a one-man show by Brandon Hughes, who was present during the Black History Month celebration in February.

Hughes performed in the Jackson Theater at 11 a.m. The show portrayed the topics of relationships, friendships and family. At the Palm Bosque the first 200 attendees were treated to free pizza.

The day also featured breakdancing from Dance Instructor Sergio Suarez's hip-hop dance class, as well as Polynesian dancers from a local high school.

Suarez said, "I am glad that there is a hip-hop element now being represented." Suarez encourages students to visit [www.alltheway-live.tv](http://www.alltheway-live.tv) for more information on his dance classes.

Chabria said, "all the events are fun and we just want people to relax." Chabria also said, "Unity Week is one of the few cause-based events that we plan."

Unity Week took about a month to plan by M.E.Ch.A. co-chairs Esmeralda Leon and Garcia, who gave credit to M.E.Ch.A, Tony's tacos and the dancers for the event's success.



Photo by Jeff Weisigner

**Daniel Drake, a cinema major, breakdances in front of the Palm Bosque as part of Wednesday's Unity Week events.**

## An aspirin for 'Foreign Language Headache'

By **THEODORE HARRISON**  
Staff writer

Deborah Lemon, a Spanish teacher for the past nine years, has seen the frustration many students face trying to learn a new language. Lemon even has a name for it: "FLH," or Foreign Language Headache. In response, Lemon has developed her own unique style designed to help students personalize their learning experience and overcome

their initial fear and apprehension about learning a new language.

Lemon uses a kinesthetic teaching method, which simply means "in motion." Lemon's "in motion" learning concept includes student presentations on their best friends, campus tours, and informal dance lessons all in Spanish. Students even put together their own mini reality shows called the Bachelor/Bachelorette show.

Lemon experienced many of the

same frustrations while employed with a defense contractor in North Carolina. With a few high school courses to her credit and family members who spoke Spanish, Lemon felt confident she could represent her company at a trade fair in Mexico. Needless to say, she struggled to find the words to effectively market her company's products. It's an experience she shares and recreates in class. In one example, half of her students

act as vendors and the other half are merchants and they must try to buy and sell in Spanish.

Lemon did not let the experience discourage her. She returned to the University of North Carolina and earned a bachelor's degree in Spanish (this was in addition to her previously earned degree in English.) Lemon, who was born in the Bay Area and raised in North Carolina, would later return and earn a Master in Spanish from the University of

California, Santa Barbara.

Through the use of the kinesthetic teaching method, Lemon has found that students get more involved and respond positively when their course work is personalized. Lemon has also found the teaching experience more rewarding for herself when students open up and talk about their own life and experiences. "I feel like they're really understanding how to use the language and not just reading out of book with slides."