



OHLONE COLLEGE MONITOR

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Ohlone in talks to outsource bookstore

BY: SARAH HASHEMI
Features editor

The Ohlone College bookstore, located in Building 5, is negotiating a plan to possibly sign a contract and incorporate within the coming months.

Each semester, the Ohlone Bookstore employs an average of 12-15 students.

Mona Farley has been the manager of the Ohlone bookstore for the past eight years.

Before Ohlone, Farley worked at Stanford Bookstore for 30 years.

Farley said she learned of a possible change in the future of the bookstore when "the director

of purchasing, Mark Robbins, told me that the bookstore is going to go RFP," back in January 2010.

RFP - or request for proposal - is an early stage in the process.

It invites possible buyers or operators to bid on a business and then submit proposals.

The process puts the bookstore on a course to be outsourced and no longer an Ohlone owned and run operation.

According to Farley, it would make Ohlone the first junior college of our area to have an outsourced bookstore.

An Ohlone committee of 12 - three of them students - was formed

to review submissions of bids and proposals.

They met several times to talk about what each company had to offer.

In March, the companies were invited to give a presentation to the committee.

From there, a top candidate was chosen and negotiations have started.

On Friday, during President Gari Browning's State of the College Address, Browning was asked during the question and answer session about the bookstores impending incorporation.

She said that the Follett Higher

Education Group was the winning bidder. Browning also said that nothing has yet been confirmed.

Follett presently is ranked 133 out of 500 in the Forbes Magazine listing of the largest private companies in the United States.

The company's mission statement is as follows: "To support higher education by being the pre-eminent provider of academic and collegiate products and services"

Other bookstores have been outsourced. In fact, Farley states that in the bookstore business, it has become a norm.

Follett owns Stanford, Cal Berkeley and CSU East Bay

Bookstores.

The future of the Ohlone College Bookstore now remains in question.

Student employees have expressed concern for their jobs, while others in the student body are uncertain what the change might mean for textbook prices.

Follett was started in 1873 with a small bookstore in Illinois and has expanded to be the largest operator of bookstores, more than 700, in the northern United States.

The issue of possible bookstore incorporation would go to the Board of Trustees this fall to be voted on.

College's future looking bright, president says

By MANIKA CASTERLINE
Managing editor

Ohlone College President Gari Browning kept an optimistic tone in her annual State of the College address Friday.

"Many colleges are not able to provide the first issuance of CalGrant payments to students while they wait for the state to settle the budget," Browning said. "Fortunately, Ohlone is fiscally strong enough to provide this first payment, thus assisting students in getting a good start on the semester."

This is an example of the type of relationship Ohlone has to its students.

"Standard and Poor's has upgraded the Ohlone College credit rating from AA- to AA. This improved rating means that we will receive a better rate on the interest we pay investors for the bonds they purchase or if we need to borrow money. This rating is attributable to our good fiscal management and our prudent reserves," Browning said regarding our current fiscal state.

Browning also announced that Ohlone College Board of Trustees member John Weed will not seek re-election this November.

Weed has been on the board for 33 years.

Browning said, "In the past five years, the Ohlone student body has become more diverse. African-American students, Asian students, and Hispanic students have all become a larger percentage of the total student body, while white students

have gone from 32 percent of the student body to 26 percent. Of Bay Area colleges, Ohlone has the highest percentage enrollment of Asian students."

This spike in diversity has also led to an increase in involvement in student government. The Associated Students of Ohlone College (ASOC) is the largest governing body in the state. Last spring it reached a high point with 57 members.

"I have heard many times that plans are not useful, that they are just exercises. We have officially completed our 2005-10 Strategic Plan and reaped the many benefits from having made that plan," Browning went on to say.

The latter part of the president's speech focused widely on the future of where she intends to lead the college.

Measure G will be on the ballot in November. It would raise money to achieve portions of the Facilities Master Plan.

During the question and answer time, she said that Building 1 could be turned into a library complete with an Internet cafe.

Browning said, "We have also demonstrated that by pulling together we can handle whatever the state budget puts on our plate. We have kept our eye on the future, looking beyond the difficulties of the moment."

She concluded her speech by stating, "I'm excited about working with all of you in the coming year to make our hopes and dreams for the future a reality."



Photos by Jeff Weisinger

Dr. Gari Browning, president of Ohlone College said, "I am strongly optimistic about Ohlone College" during her annual speech.

Math professor Bressler dies

By MANIKA CASTERLINE
Managing editor

Curtis Bressler, associate professor of mathematics, died on Friday.

He collapsed from a heart attack in the morning while making breakfast for one of his daughters and her friends. He was 61.

Bressler has worked at Ohlone for the past 10 years and worked in Colorado before coming here.

Administrative Justice Professor Rich Camino said, "I never heard him say a discouraging word."

Professor of Mathematics Jeff O'Connell shared a story about how he once held a class right after Bressler's and would go early to see

where his colleague was in terms of teaching the course.

It helped him in terms of guiding his structure for his own class. It also began a crossover between the classes.

Professor of RN, Deb Parziale said, "Curtis took a Chinese class with one of his daughters so that she could know about her heritage."

Anu Ganguly, professor of chemistry who had an office next to Bressler, said that he was the only man on the floor and would move furniture for her.

The two started each morning by hugging each other.

While Dean of Humanities,

Continued on Page 2

Monitor changing

The *Monitor* will now be published every other week. The next issue will come out on Sept. 16.

Thanks to Twitter, Facebook and the advancement of YouTube, the Ohlone *Monitor* newspaper is proud to announce that later on this month, we will be relaunching the new Ohlone *Monitor* website, www.ohlonemonitoronline.com, and in the future The *Monitor* will be on Twitter and Facebook, bringing you up-to-the-minute updates to your iPad, iTouch, Blackberry, Sidekick, etc.



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OPINION



Celebrity versus legitimacy: The lines blur

By **TINA KARIMI**
Opinions editor

Andy Warhol is considered the veritable grandfather of manufactured pop culture fame.

He proclaimed in 1968 that in the future, everyone would be famous for 15 minutes.

He was wrong.

In today's world, everyone is famous for more than 15 seconds.

That minuscule span of intense scrutiny is more than enough time to cash in on the public interest.

As long as they are relevant, we see them everywhere from reality television stars writing tell-all books about their scripted drama, singers endorsing skincare products, and actors trailed by thousands of photographers as they build schools and health clinics in foreign countries.

Granted, actual experience in a concentrated field of study ceases to be a strict requirement for the

LETTER

title of expert these days.

A photogenic face and a degree of notoriety are all it takes.

And for the most part, it is easy to spot the examples of false authority all around us and let them go.

The celebrity makes money or receives positive publicity and the public is entertained.

But when does it go too far?

Probably when a man best known for collaborating on a Shakira song about undulating hips announces he is going to run for the presidency of a country recently devastated by an enormous earthquake - that's when.

The most shocking aspect of Wyclef Jean's announcement of his intentions to run for president of Haiti was the fact that not more of the public was shocked or perplexed.

He was being perceived as a legitimate candidate.

In fact, many seemed to think that Jean's high profile would prove

helpful in sustaining interest in Haiti in the coming years.

Jean is a Haitian-born entertainer. He immigrated to the United States as a child and has had absolutely no experience or training in politics.

His charity, Yele Haiti, has been investigated for controversial accounting practices.

And yet, it seemed as though he was actually being taken seriously in his ill-fated quest to attain the presidency of Haiti, a country that had long been plagued by entrenched poverty before the earthquake.

From the footage and many pictures of Haiti post-quake, it appears that the country had been bombed, with bodies and rubble lining the streets and people clustered together in tent-cities.

This is serious. Although Jean was eventually declared unable to run by Haitian officials due to the fact that he had not resided in Haiti

for five consecutive years prior to his announcement, he is still pushing his candidacy.

His ambition in and of itself is the very height of arrogance and ignorance toward the situations he would face if he were to be elected to the office of the president.

It is a serious position and considering the global challenges politicians face, would it really be ideal to elect Jean?

Our society's worship of empty notoriety does not help either.

The tabloid industry in America is huge, and news reports are frequently padded with fluff for the sake of entertainment.

We demand infotainment rather than actual news.

And celebrities dominate our mainstream headlines. The real stories get buried instead of being in the lead.

It is a fact that more people will pay attention to Angelina Jolie's humanitarian aid missions than a

legitimate journalist.

Why?

The celebrity-crazed culture, the cult of personality, is here to stay. Some of these stars and "goodwill ambassadors" make a difference.

They are sometimes very proactive in their philanthropic pursuits and undoubtedly attract the public's attention to important causes.

This mindless hero worship of those in the public eye, irrespective of how they got there in the first place, is disturbing.

To treat a celebrity as if he or she is somehow above other people is both stupid and dangerous.

Sometimes the line gets blurred.

One simple rule to remember: If you would not ask your favorite celebrity to perform open heart surgery on you, it is probably not the best idea to elect him or her as your president.

Fall 2010 is a clean slate for Ohlone students

By **EVELYN CHOY**
ASOC President



Welcome to Ohlone College! My name is Evelyn Choy, your student body president for this year.

I hope that all of you will find yourselves enjoying the first few days of a new stage in your life.

College is a very special experience and one that should be explored to its fullest.

I am very happy that Ohlone College and I, through student government, can be a part of this stage in your life. Also, to those who are returning, welcome back to another year!

For all of you, I hope that this

year will be a productive year.

This new year is a clean slate for all of you and from this day on, it is up to all of you to make this year, your year to succeed!

I am looking forward to serving all of you through student government.

The student body of Ohlone College, the Associated Students of Ohlone College's (ASOC) role is to be the liaison between the college administration and the student body.

We serve as a forum of expression for student needs, wants and

concerns. We represent the students on over 28 different campus-wide committees.

We also represent Ohlone College on a regional and statewide level. We operate the recreation room on the Newark campus and we have replaced the old furniture by the pond and in the cafeteria on the Fremont campus.

This year the executive council has gone to lengths to adopt the vision: "a united student government working in a professional and transparent manner".

For those who would like to

join the student government, application packets are available to be picked up and completed in Building 7, second floor at the ASOC/Campus Activities window.

All applications must be turned into the window on September 14th at 5:00 PM to be considered.

I encourage all of you to join the ASOC and hope that your experience will be as good as mine if not better!

Once again, I am looking forward to a great year and working to serve all of you through student government!

Math Professor dies prior to start of Fall 2010

Continued from Page 1

Social Sciences, and Mathematics, Mikelyn Stacey stated that when she had to meet with professors on the week before classes began

Bressler was the first to show up on the morning of Aug. 24 and the last to leave.

Ron Travenick, VP of Student Services, was Bressler's partner

during a staff development day exercise, which took place on Aug. 26.

The goal of it was to connect one another on a personal level by

listening to one another's stories.

"Bressler felt connected to Ohlone in a way he hadn't before," Travenick said.

Bressler is survived by his two

daughters, who were adopted from China, and his wife Nancy.

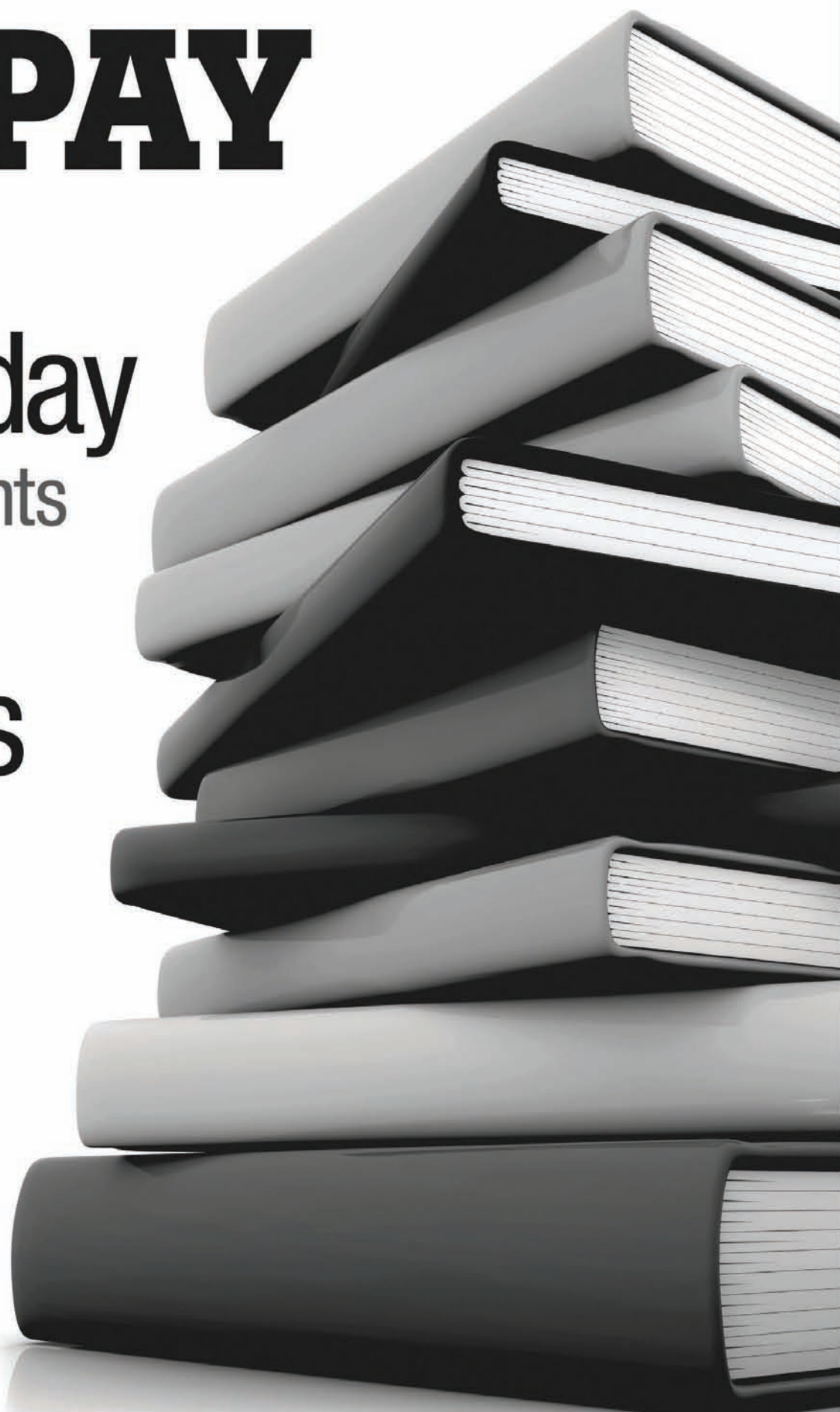
A makeshift memorial has been constructed in Bressler's honor, outside of his office, 2309.

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Volleyball aims for big strides in 2010

■ Lady Renegades look to exceed two-win conference mark

By **JEFF WEISINGER**
Editor-in-chief

Step-by-step. For the past two seasons under head coach Jeremy Peñaflor the Ohlone Women's Volleyball team has played, in a sense, under that mantra.

However, entering his third season, and with just one conference win under his belt, Peñaflor is taking a more serious approach to the upcoming 2010 campaign.

"There's a lot more expectations this year," he said. "All these girls have a lot of experience. The level of play is a lot higher than it has been in the last couple of years; definitely higher than it has been since I've been here."

The Lady Renegades struggled to get toward the top of the Coast Conference North, as an already low roster was hit by the injury bug midway through the season.

Ohlone managed to win its first conference game in more than a year when it defeated San Jose City College in five games in San Jose on Oct. 21, and defeated the Lady Jags again in November at Ohlone, also in five games.

Although they are only bringing back three main sophomores from last year's team, the one big thing Ohlone has going for them in 2010 is depth.

"I'm loving the numbers," Peñaflor said. "Last year, we were at the will of our numbers. This year, we have depth in every position, so



Photo by Jeff Weisinger

Returning sophomore Brenda Calara, right, gets her work in at practice while third-year head coach Jeremy Peñaflor watches over. The Lady Renegades open the regular season on Wednesday at Laney College.

we can mix and match the lineups." Returning for the green and gold are Brenda Calara, Jayme Leftridge and Stephanie Cao.

"We we're a young team last year," Peñaflor added. "(Compare) those girls from last year to what we're doing now, you see their

improvement a lot, along with their maturity."

"We have a lot more talented girls that have played for a longer time," Calara said.

"The lack of talent we had last year compared to this year has made the difference," Cao added.

Numbers and experience should definitely help an Ohlone squad that opened the season 3-2, but then lost five in a row, getting swept in four of the five, and winning just one game during the stretch in their 3-1 loss against Hartnell College.

One issue that was addressed

this season was communication. The Lady Renegades addressed that with a new communication system that should benefit on the court.

Ohlone opens the 2010 regular season with two matches on the road, starting Wednesday at Laney.

Men's soccer ready for playoff run this season

By **KEVIN YIN**
Sports writer

Growing pains may not be pleasant, but at least you'll be taller when they're through. Sudden growth—the condition afflicting Ohlone's men's soccer team—may be awkward, but in this context, it's an undeniably good problem to have.

Last season was an unanticipated success for the program.

A woeful 3-17-2 mark in 2008 produced paltry expectations for 2009.

However, the program, under first year Head Coach Jan Eric Nordmo, defied doubters with a

remarkable turnaround, as the team posted an 11-9 record and finished second in the Coast Conference's North Division.

"When you look at where we were the year before and the quality of players we had in the program, it was definitely a big step up," Nordmo said.

"I think we surprised a lot of teams going 11-9."

The unexpected success of last season was impressive not only because of the team's poor finish in 2008, but also because of the team's lack of depth. The team started last season with only 15 players on the roster.

Overall depth will not be such a

daunting obstacle this season. The team currently has 36 players, and while having the extra bodies helps, having more options presents its own set of obstacles.

"We're going to start with some challenges at the start, trying to figure out who our players are going to be out there on the field with the starting 11, because we have a lot of players who are vying for it, so we haven't settled into a real strong system of plays yet," Nordmo said.

"This year, we had four scrimmages and I don't think we've had the same starting 11 for any of those scrimmages."

Although Nordmo is candid about the difficulties that devising

a rotation from a greatly increased pool bring, he expects the increased depth to pay dividends this year.

"Last year, we kind of started real strong, and as things got challenging, we started to taper off a little," said Nordmo. "This year, I think it's going to be the opposite."

Nordmo will have some known quantities in his deep talent pool in two standouts from last year's squad.

Returning forward George Mayer II was named the Coast Conference's Forward of the Year last season, while midfielder Dustin Richards made second-team All-Conference.

When asked to detail team goals,

many coaches resort to vague or cliché answers, but Nordmo is specific about the kind of results he anticipates.

"If we can get 13 wins, we'd like to see that. We want to change little gains by little gains. We can't go say 'oh, we're going to win it all'. It's just not practical to say that," Nordmo said. "I think a realistic goal is to take some of those nine losses and turn them into wins or maybe draws."

Both the men's and women's seasons begin on August 27th against West Hill College in Lemoore, and men's team opens at home on Tuesday, Aug. 31 against Shasta College at 1:30 p.m.

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