By KYLE NORDEEN
Sports editor

Adapting to life as a college student is no easy task. Be it a four-year university or a junior college like those of us at Ohlone, we are required to become even more responsible for ourselves in order to get the things that we need done.

Life as a student athlete is even more challenging, requiring the time management skills and determination to excel both on the field/court and in the classroom to maintain your eligibility.

Now try to imagine adapting to that life — in a place you’ve never been — more than 8,000 miles away from your home.

That is exactly what Jarrad Jackson and Nick Clarke are doing this semester, leaving behind their home of Perth, Australia in order to advance their basketball careers here at Ohlone.

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They’re all contacted us,” said Peterson.

“It was all random emails. To be honest, I don’t really know how they found us,” said Jackson.

Both Clarke and Jackson attended the Willetton Senior High School back home and currently live together along with Ashley Stephens, who is also from Australia, Oivind Lundestad, who is from Norway and Lauri Toivonen, who is from Finland.

Being accustomed to life here, especially on their own with a group of guys their own age, has been quite the experience for them.

“Of course it’s different,” said Clarke.

“You miss your family... but we kind of have our own little international house. I was living with my mom back home,” said Jackson.

“But now you have five 20-year-olds living together and you couldn’t ask for better roommates.”

While they are from all over the world, the fact they have all left their homes to play here has helped them form a close bond.

“We are more drawn to each other,” said Clarke. “The guys from America have their own group within the group and the aussies with us. All of our classes are together as well.”

Clarke is still undecided on where he wants to play after this semester. Clarke is an all-League player, and how to play as a group is more advanced.”

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Jarrad Jackson (right) and Nick Clarke (center), along with Oivind Lundestad (left) have been adapting to life in the United States while honing their skills on the basketball court at Ohlone.