

TASTE OF COLLEGE LIFE



RAY CHAVEZ/STAFF PH

Allen's P.C.B. Est. 1888

PARENTS, STUDENTS AND EDUCATORS, above, get lunch during the ninth annual Latino Education Summit at Cal East Bay in Hayward on Saturday. Below, Patricia Juarez, of Berkeley, performs with other members of the Cemanahuac Aztec dance group.

Education summit for Latino students draws hundreds

By Lucinda Ryan
CORRESPONDENT

A SPIRING college students and their parents packed the classrooms and halls of Cal State East Bay in Hayward on Saturday to get a heads-up on higher education during the ninth annual Latino Education Summit.

The free, five-hour event drew 500 to 700 attendees, who took advantage of workshops presented by Cal State East Bay's faculty and students on topics including high school prerequisite courses needed to qualify for university admission, fitness and physical education, grants, scholarships and financial aid.

Some of the panel discussions were presented in both English and Spanish.

High school senior Derek Juscamayta said the help he received from a counselor in an "On-The-Spot Admission" meeting has eased his mind about moving on to college.

The 17-year-old, who plans to become a lawyer — specializing in discrimination, immi-



gration, security and child labor issues — said the counselor advised him on which classes he needs to take for the remainder of his high school year to become fully qualified to gain admission to Cal State East Bay.

"Without this information, I would probably have gone to community college and worked," he said. "This really opened doors for me."

The event was also sponsored by the Alameda County Office of Education and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Alameda County. The summit, and others like it for other ethnic groups, are intended to expose more young people to the higher-education opportunities available to them.

Offering an environment where students and parents feel free to ask questions helps reduce the intimidation that many feel in seeking higher education resources, said Hector Garcia, director of curriculum and instruction for the county office.

See SUMMIT, Page 4

improvements such