

Men's basketball rolls to win over Cañada

By NICK ZAMBRANO
Staff writer

It was a clash of the green and gold inside Epler Gym Saturday night, as the Renegades cruised to victory over the Colts of Cañada College, defeating them 70-45.

The Renegades opened up the game hot, quickly taking it to Cañada. Ohlone Head Coach John Peterson's planned strategy of applying full pressure was executed to perfection because it appeared, at times, Cañada was rattled or even confused. This led to turnover after turnover committed by the Colts, 20 in total. Being the advantageous team they are, Ohlone took total charge and at half time had a commanding 38-23 lead.

Leading the Renegades' dominating offense was sophomore guard,

Jason Bull.

The Amador Valley High graduate led all scorers with 19 points, hitting shots from all over the floor. Also contributing to the team's dominance was point guard, Ryan Cooper.

The 5'8" Cooper put up 13 points, while subbing in and out with the rest of the team.

Cañada got fresh looks at every player Ohlone had, due to the fact that coach Peterson had only eight players suited up for the game. Even with the limited roster, Cañada still could not take advantage of perhaps Ohlone's only weakness.

Alas, that weakness proved to be not so weak at all.

Opening the second half, the Colts came out on the offensive,

committing numerous fouls, which led to a 14-3 Ohlone run.

Continuing Peterson's plan, the Renegades kept putting pressure on Cañada, who seemed to be very frustrated as Ohlone kept passing the ball around them. So as the final buzzer went off, Cañada walked off the court, their heads lowered in disgust. The Renegades left, gleaming with pride.

The win puts the defending conference champs at an even 2-2 record in league play, which gives them a 10-10 overall record. Although Coach Peterson admits this is not where he expected his team to be, he knows his team will continue to rise to the occasion. That time to rise could come as early as this weekend, when the Renegades face off with rival Chabot, this Saturday in Hayward.



Aaron Parker drives past a Cañada defender during the first half of Saturday's 70-45 win

Photo by Steven Chavez

For the Lady Renegades, it is sweeps week



Photo by Shari Wargo

Angelica Benjamin is guarded, while Melissa Cross looks to pass during Ohlone's win over Cabrillo.

Ohlone defeats Cabrillo and College of San Mateo in same week

By STEVEN CHAVEZ
Sports editor

The women's basketball team won two sleepers, and by nearly identical scores, this week, rolling over Cabrillo College 77-53 on Jan. 19 and over College of San Mateo 77-53 on Wednesday.

Against Cabrillo, Ohlone came out smoking hot, scoring the first 10 points of the game. Cabrillo then scored a single point off of a free throw, which the Lady Renegades followed up with five more points to lead 15-1.

The rest of the half saw Ohlone dominate Cabrillo on both ends. They were led by Annika Baird and Liezl Dacuyucy, who scored all of her 9 points in the first half.

Dacuyucy had perhaps her most significant impact on the game when she hit consecutive

3-pointers to take the game from 20-8, when Cabrillo was slowly creeping back in, to 26-8, from which Cabrillo was never able to come back within 12 points of the lead.

The Lady Renegades went into the half leading 43-20.

In the second half, the Lady Renegades seemed to lose a bit of focus, allowing Cabrillo to creep slightly closer, due to what Head Coach Elizabeth Stanley would later refer to as a lack of intensity on defense.

Baird led all scorers with 17 points.

In their second game this week, Ohlone played a similar game, this time letting the College of San Mateo stay close in the first half, carrying a 37-36 lead into the second half.

Dacuyucy again had a strong first half, finishing the half and the game with 9 points, along with Joy White who scored 9 of

her game-high 15 points in the first half.

The Lady Renegades picked up the pace in the second half, running off a 25-4 run through the first 13 minutes, giving them an insurmountable 22-point lead.

Kaycie Zimmerman led Ohlone's scoring surge in the second half with 8 points, followed by Nikki Smith, who scored all 7 of her points in the second half.

"We're young," said coach Stanley after Wednesday's game. "Offensively, defensively, we have to learn to play college-level basketball."

Ohlone is still undefeated in league play, with this week's action running their record to 3-0.

Next up for the Lady Renegades will be San Jose City College on Friday, right here at Ohlone College.

Dynasties, rookies, prophecies; all stemming from the No Fun League

A hearty hello to all of my faithful readers and newcomers alike. Much to talk about this week, let's get to it.

New England Patriots: Now, I'm not the kind of guy to brag and/or boast, nor am I the kind of guy to rub it in when I'm right (who am I kidding? I'm guilty of both).

The New England Patriots defeated the Pittsburgh Steelers this weekend, en route to their second consecutive Super Bowl appearance.

They also have earned the chance to become only the second team in NFL history to win the Super Bowl three times in four years.

Now, for those of you that have forgotten or didn't read my column the week after the Steelers beat the Patriots on Halloween, here is the main thing I wanted to point out: "Don't count on this game meaning anything in the playoffs... The Patriots (will) beat the Steelers" See? I

told you I'm not one to rub it in when I'm right.

Ben Roethlisberger: Well, it had to be said, even though it hasn't been said; Ben Roethlisberger, at least this year, was nothing but a figurehead quarterback that got far too much attention for simply not screwing up.

Roethlisberger, much like Trent Dilfer was for the Baltimore Ravens four years ago, was to go out and let the number one defense and a very strong running game take charge, while he simply sat back and didn't blow it. He blew it.

Roethlisberger threw three interceptions and didn't do much good until it was already too late in Pittsburgh's loss to the Patriots on Sunday.

I know he's a rookie, and he has many years ahead of him to establish himself as a passer and all-around quarterback, but this year, he was too highly praised. The ac-



The final score

By STEVEN CHAVEZ
Sports editor

colade was too high and the criticism, or lack thereof, about right (even I'd admit that it's hard to criticize an undefeated quarterback).

The telling sign that he wasn't going to perform well this week was the statement that he made, more than once, about how he was scared (or afraid, depending on the interview) to let his teammates down. Any athlete will tell you that fear in any form is deadly.

Philadelphia Eagles: So the fourth time was the charm for the greenies from Philly and their not-so-over-

rated-anymore quarterback (eh, Rush Limbaugh?) Donovan McNabb.

McNabb, in perhaps his most shining moment, took a group of good college-level receivers and got enough out of his running game to make the absence of star wide receiver Terrell Owens insignificant.

Unfortunately for McNabb, as I stated last week, no team from the NFC was going to win the Super Bowl this year, no matter who emerged from the AFC.

Super Bowl: Remember when the NFC used to be a conference of powerhouses? The 49ers, the Packers, the Cowboys; hell does anyone else remember when the Giants and the Bears were good?

A few years back, the NFC had won 13 consecutive Super Bowls. These were the days when sports reporters would refer to the NFC

Championship Game as the "Real Super Bowl" and the actual Super Bowl as the coronation of the kings.

This, back in those days, was not a farfetched hypothesis, nor was it an uncalled for assault on the AFC. It was simply a matter of fact. Nowadays, however, it seems that the tide is shifting toward the AFC.

The AFC has won five of the last seven Super Bowls since the streak of 13 ended when the Denver Broncos upended the then defending Super Bowl Champion Packers.

And the NFC barely got one of those wins, when Tennessee's Kevin Dyson was tackled on the 1-yard line by Rams linebacker Mike Jones, preventing what would have been a game-winning touchdown as time ran out on the Titans.

With the Patriots almost certainly going to win this year, it will make it six out of eight Super Bowls for the once-subpar AFC.