

Men's basketball upset rival Chabot in Hayward

By NICK ZAMBRANO
Staff writer

Rivalries. They are what make sports so exciting, and any athlete can tell you that there is no greater feeling than beating your rival on their own home field. For instance, one could ask the Boston Red Sox and they tell you how great that feels. However, if you're cheap, you can ask the guys on the basketball team, who defeated their rival, the Chabot Gladiators, 68-62 in Hayward this past weekend.

Even before the tip-off, it was obvious that Ohlone was not treating this as just another game.

During the team warm ups, the Renegades appeared to be more aggressive than usual, taking more purpose for each second of preparation time they had. This was a contradiction to Chabot's nonchalant warm up. That aggressiveness easily transitioned right over into the game.

Up to this point, Chabot had been undefeated, and unchallenged in league play. Their last victory was an 86-54 stomping of Foothill College on January 26.

Needless to say, the clock had to run out. Just like in last week's game

against Cañada, the Renegades came out searching for first blood. They found it.

Ohlone quickly started the game off with a 16-6 run, trying to wear out the Chabot defense with typically great passing offense. On the defensive side of the ball, the Renegades played the Gladiators as if to protect against the 3-point shot.

"We played to contest their 3-point attempts, trying to limit them," Ohlone Head Coach John Peterson explained. However, when Chabot did take those limited 3-point shots, that left the rebounds wide open to any takers. Chabot grabbed those loose rebounds, and "made the game closer," according to Coach Peterson. At halftime the two forces were separated by one point, with Ohlone leading 31-30.

Lowering his horns, and clearing the way for the Renegades in the second half was, once again, Jason Bull. The sharpshooting Bull, as usual, led all scorers, this time putting up a grand total of 31 points, 24 of which came from the land of 3-pointers.

Along with Bull, Ohlone had two other players with double digit points

to Chabot's one. Washington High graduate, Sam Kim, put up 10 points, while fellow guard, Andy Bocian had another 15. Bocian saw his first action in 3 1/2 half weeks, as a hamstring injury kept him on the sideline. Needless to say, he wasn't the least bit rusty. Nevertheless, a potent offense isn't anything without great ball movement.

Enter Ryan Cooper.

The energetic Cooper was reminiscent of NBA All-Star Steve Nash, driving his team down the court and getting the ball to where it needed to be.

To the naked eye, this would appear to be just another game pitting rivals against one another, but to the eye of a true sports fan it was more. With this victory, the Renegades pull within one game of snatching first place in the conference away from the Gladiators.

"It puts us back in the hunt," Peterson said, the win puts Ohlone at 3-2, with Chabot at 4-1 in conference play.

Ohlone won't face Chabot again until the final game of the regular season, Saturday, Feb 19. This game could be a playoff type game itself, deciding the conference champions



Photo by Steven Chavez

Ryan Cooper guards the ball from a Chabot player during Saturday's 68-62 Ohlone win.

and the fate of the Renegades' championship streak.

Ohlone will have to maintain a high level of play in the two weeks leading up to this game. Their next

two challenges will come this week, with Wednesday's game against Foothill (results unknown as of press time) and Saturday's game against San Francisco City College.

Here's the latest, straight out of Jacksonville



The final score

By STEVEN CHAVEZ
Sports editor

When is it a realistic notion that a team that has won two of the past three Super Bowls comes into another Super Bowl with something to prove? When that team has won its two championships by a combined six points. When the team that the defending champions are playing are led by one true leader and one "me-first" player. When that "me-first" player suffered a 10 week injury six weeks ago and the world is on the edge of our collective seats wondering if said player will, in fact, play. When every headline you read about the Super Bowl

has to do with him, rather than focusing on how good the champs are and how well coached they are and how they are just very good on every level: on field and off.

Terrell Owens has been on the tip of everyone's tongue for the last few weeks, with retired players and his own doctor alike telling him that it would be foolish of him to try to play on a leg that currently has one high ankle sprain, one metal plate and two screws, screwed into that plate, to keep his fractured right fibula attached to itself.

Owens himself has said from the very beginning that he was going to play. Not the beginning that started a week and a half ago when the Eagles won the NFC Championship. No, the beginning that started a few days after he had the surgery to insert the plate and screws.

He has since made statements

pointing out that nobody knows Owens like he knows himself and that everyone else needs to be silent and let him worry about the consequences of his decision to play.

The doctor that performed the surgery said after the NFC Championship game that he would not clear Owens to play in the Super Bowl.

Immediately following these comments, the Eagles head trainer came out and actually said the following (I was not able to get the official transcript from the press conference, so I will have to paraphrase.) *I know more than the doctor that I recommended to perform this surgery. The doctor has something vested in this situation, and he won't clear Mr. Owens to play because he could possibly be held liable if Owens gets reinjured and has to eventually get his leg amputated like former Raider lineman Curt Marsh, who suffered an eerily*

similar injury two decades ago. I, however, do not have anything vested in this. It is not in my best interest to be recognized by my colleagues as head trainer of the Super Bowl Champion Philadelphia Eagles. It would in no way impact my career or future earnings, so I am as close to an impartial member of a jury as John Doe from Jersey.

Forgive me for being slightly skeptical, but I think it *is* in the trainer's interest, and he may not quite know as much as the doctor on this one.

Owens has even gone as far as to bring God into this, saying that he has been spiritually healed, therefore he doesn't need any doctor to tell him whether or not he can play, he was given the go, straight from the highest authority.

Of course, if one were to listen to the likes of third-stringer Freddie

Mitchell, the Eagles don't even need Owens, because they have him.

Yes, you read that correctly, he actually said that. He said they won and got to the Super Bowl without him. Yes, that is true. But he actually thinks *he* had something to do with it. Okay, so he caught a few passes and even a touchdown against Minnesota a few weeks ago, but he didn't do anything against Atlanta.

Besides, the loss of Tight End Chad Lewis will prove to be bigger than any loss the Eagles have suffered this year.

So, as I said, the sports writers have once again neglected the Patriots (first time I said their name in this column) and made them the secondary story.

That, my friends, is how a team that has won two of the past three Super Bowls comes into another Super Bowl with something to prove.

Lady Renegades drop a close one to top ten team



Photo by Taylor Dunn

Liezl Dacuycuy calls out the play to her teammates while Kaycie Zimmerman provides a screen.

By BRENDEN BLAKE
Staff writer

The Lady Renegades came within one point of upsetting a San Jose City College team that currently holds a place in the top ten for woman's programs in the entire state of California.

After a hard fought, physical game full of jump balls, fouls, and turnovers, the Lady Renegades found themselves on the losing end of a 48-47 game.

"This game really proves that we can play with anybody, I am extremely proud of our girls," said Head Coach Elizabeth Stanley. "That is the number two team in the area and we had to miss in order for them to get the win," Stanley added.

The miss that Stanley was referring to came after a tough Ohlone

defensive stand forced San Jose into a shot clock violation with 6.7 seconds remaining.

After calling a time out, Guard Joy White drove the length of the floor and let go a driving floater that rimmed off just as time expired.

After the game was tight the entire first half, San Jose was able to build a seven point lead early in the second half behind the savvy play of guard Monique Coquilla who finished with a game high 14 points, and six rebounds.

With about ten minutes remaining in regulation and still trailing by seven, the Lady Renegades turned to forward Nikki Smith, who led a 14-4 Ohlone run with a series of tough turnaround jumpers and hard drives to the basket.

Smith finished with a team high

12 points and was a force inside, pulling down numerous offensive rebounds over San Jose defenders.

As the game wore on, the physical nature of play began to take a toll on both teams, as missed shots, and turnovers increasingly became a factor.

That aspect of the game is one that coach Stanley felt played to her team's advantage.

"We worked a lot on that aspect of the game in practice," said Stanley. "We anticipated this team would play that style of ball. I feel like we were ready for it, and it, in fact, worked in our favor."

The Lady Renegades play their next game on Friday against Cabrillo College on the road, with their next home game next Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. against Monterey Peninsula College.