

Softball standout wins All-American Honor

By SARA KWAN
Staff writer

Freshman Missy Cross was one of three players from a junior college to be selected for the All-American 3rd team for women's softball. Krause was also nominated for the Easton All-American award, which puts her in competition with two year and four year schools from all over the country.

The first baseman said she was surprised when notified about the award. What started out as a few fun games of softball for recreation turned into an honorable award. Cross stayed humble, and her friends and family didn't put on a big party to celebrate her accomplishment either, but gave her a pat on the back. Cross and everyone around her knew that this was just the beginning. "It [the award] came in the mail," Cross said.

The current sophomore attended

Livermore High School and came to Ohlone to play softball and to play for "Coach." The nickname refers to her coach, Donna Runyon, who Cross continues to give compliments on. Of all schools she could have chosen, Cross said she picked Ohlone because of Runyon's organization and reputation.

Cross enjoys the rush and adrenaline from the game. She says she thinks the most important trait to have in order to become a good softball player is mental toughness. Other than warming up physically with stretches before games, Cross says she also gets herself focused mentally.

Runyon said, "She was a freshman, so she'll be around."

Cross says she looks forward to playing this season and hopes to continue to improve on the field. The quiet player is still undecided on a major, but hopes to play for another school some time in the future.



Missy Cross was elected to the All-American third team for her efforts during the 2004 season.

Photo by Devina Deo

Men's soccer seeks improvement over last year

By NICK ZAMBRANO
Staff writer

Move over summer boys, it's fall and that means only one thing: It's soccer season. So, hang up your gloves and rack up your bats, it's time to strap on those shin guards and get ready for some Ohlone soccer.

After coming off a less-than-stellar season last year, Ohlone Head coach Harold Whitmore looks forward to the upcoming season.

Whitmore, who has maintained a positive attitude over seasons past, looks for lots of improvement, attitude and hustle out of this year's squad.

If all three of these components click together like Whitmore hopes, he could have a team that can dominate the standings. The renegades charge out on to the field being led by six members of the 2004 team.

Returning players include sophomores Alan Wiggley, Andy

Prado, Richard Baggaman and Newark Memorial High School graduate Nick Romero. Also making his way back on to the grass is Reilly Johns, who led the team in scoring last season.

While Johns is scoring goals, sophomore Jay Data is keeping them out of the net.

The goaltender is coming off a superb season where he was a first-team All-Conference player.

All incoming freshmen are looking to make a great first impres-

sion including this year's newcomers. Adding to the roster are Danny Perry and former Washington High standout, Valentine Fajardo.

"This year's freshman class is better than in years past. They're showing a higher skill level," said Whitmore.

Although the team is ready for their first match Wednesday with powerhouse American River, more players are still needed.

To try out, stop by the practice field around 3 p.m. weekdays.



Coach Harold Whitmore

The Final Score wants you... your opinion, anyway

Week two...

So last week we covered life, drugs and death. What could I possibly do to follow that up. I have no idea, so I'll just wing it.

RANDY MOSS & TERREL OWENS: I read an article in The Chronicle on Tuesday about how some local high school football coaches are taking measures to combat "Owenitis," that is the influence of selfish, star athletes on the youth of America.

For the past 10 years or so, from Jeffrey Leonard's "one-flap-down" hooome run trot to Joe Horn's cell phone celebration call, athletes have been looking for ways to distinguish themselves from the other athletes with hopes of endorsements and fame as the catalyst.

Owens will always have the 50-yard line in Arlington and the Sharpie in Seattle while Moss has the full moon in Green Bay as his own.

Moss has one more thing in his corner that Owens doesn't. Moss is an admitted drug user.

Celebrating touchdowns rambunctiously, slapping coaches around, going into the stands to fight fans and using steroids has become part of the sports that we watch and hold dear to our hearts, but apparently the occasional use of marijuana is what sends high school

coaches into a frenzy these days.

The coaches seem well-intentioned and everything, but it just seems a little weird that this is what they choose to focus on, no touchdown celebrating and no marijuana, when steroids are so much more harmful to the athlete's well-being.

I guess if it is benefitting the team, it's OK.

BRETT FAVRE: Again, I'll start with the thought that I love Brett Favre, but only as a quarterback and human being. This is not a knock on him personally, but why the hell do I have to turn on ESPN and watch a news conference dedicated to his thoughts on Hurricane Katrina?

He's a football player... I just don't get it.

MAURICE CLARETT: Hey dude, if Mike Shanahan says he made a mistake drafting you in the third round of this year's draft the day after he cut you, you'd better start begging Ohio State to let you back in school, cause this just isn't going to happen for you.

Shanahan has made a habit of turning overlooked college running backs into stellar professionals over the past decade or so. Clarett was far from overlooked, possibly the highest profile running back to never take a carry in an NFL game. Shanahan took a shot in April,



The final score
By STEVEN CHAVEZ
Sports editor

using his third pick to draft the controversial back that took on the NFL and won, then lost.

After admitting to misconduct (not to mention throwing his coach and a few teammates under the bus) at Ohio State and finding out that he wouldn't be able to follow his phenomenal season where he led the Buckeyes to a National Championship because of a suspension, he decided to sue the NFL to try to get in. NFL rules prohibited anyone under the age of 21 from entering the draft.

He knew that taking a season (or two, as it turns out) off would be nothing but bad for him and his checkbook.

He won the case initially, but the decision was later overturned in the NFL's favor, proving that he was not above the rules once again. Now, Mr. Running Back himself cut him from the team, deciding instead to hold on to four other backs in Clarett's place.

Say your salutations to Clarett, cause you can sue all the people you want, but that won't make you a

better player and you're what is holding you back now.

SEPTEMBER 11: The NFL season kicks off this year a week from today on Sept. 8 with the Raiders going to New England to play the defending champion Patriots (don't worry Raider Nation, it's an aired game, you can watch it), but the majority of the teams in the league will start that Sunday, the fourth "anniversary" of the terrorist attack that took down the Twin Towers.

No, this doesn't have anything to do with sports, but F@#\$ terrorists.

MATT CAIN: The San Francisco Giants finally have a Rich Harden, Barry Zito, Tim Hudson or Mark Mulder.

In five innings on Monday, the Giants' biggest prospect since Clark made his major league debut.

How did he do, you ask? Very well to the trained eye.

Cain went out and pitched against the worst team in the worst division in baseball and aside from the second pitch of the second inning that went far, really far, he shut the Rockies down completely.

Cain pitched his way out of a fourth inning jam where he loaded the bases with no outs, only to squirm free giving up only a run.

The highlight of the Cain's de-

but came in the next inning though, when one of today's best hitters stepped up to the plate with two outs: Todd Helton.

After 13 pitches, Cain's last pitch of the night was hit to the left center field warning track before Moises Alou made the catch and the ballpark could take a breath.

Cain walked off the field while the ball was in the air, pumped his fist while standing on the third base line when the ball was caught and walked triumphantly into the dugout.

The Giants couldn't score two runs off a guy that was 3-10 with an ERA over five, so the kid lost, but he sure as hell made an impression.

The final shakeup

Your humble Sports Editor would like to reach a higher level of interaction with his readers.

I am encouraging any and all opinions, disagreements, or anything else you want to write to me about to be sent to us so we can chat about it in my open forum.

Send it to monitor@ohlone.edu or drop off hard copies in Room 5310.