



**The final score**  
By STEVEN CHAVEZ  
Correspondent

## To close or not to close?

Competitive fire must be a thing of the past. With all the talk surrounding the World Series on Tuesday evening, a disturbing theme developed through the interviews with the Astros players.

For God-knows-what reason, the media focus was a question of whether or not the retractable roof of Minute Maid Park would be opened by Major League Baseball or closed, the way the Houston Astros organization wanted.

Personally, I don't believe the MLB should have the right to tell anyone to open or close their stadium's roof. Having a closed roof holds in the noise, making it a distinct advantage for the home team. The Astros, particularly, were next to unstoppable with the roof closed over the park. During the regular season, the Astros were 38-17 with the roof closed and only 15-11 with it open.

The players, and even Manager Phil Garner, protested the roof being open through words all the way leading up to game two of the series. With the Astros down three games to none, though, their focus should have been baseball, not logistics. This comes in a postseason that has been full of excuses from teams about umpires, fans, wild pigeons, shooting stars; well, you get the idea.

My point is this, whatever happened to the old-time baseball attitude? The attitude that said, "it doesn't matter what the umpires do or what the fans say, we have to go out there and play better than the other team does to win this game. There are no excuses, if we lost, we didn't do our jobs."

I'm so sick of hearing the bickering, fighting and fussing about all these things that have little to do with the outcome of the game. The Astros didn't lose game three because the roof was open, they lost because they didn't capitalize on the opportunities that were in front of them.

White Sox Manager Ozzie Guillen wouldn't even talk about the roof's stance before the game, citing indifference to the whole matter. THAT'S what I'm talking about. Guillen should be given a bronzed jock strap for having the only pair in this whole situation.

Look folks, umpires are going to blow calls and the MLB is a dictatorship that has power over everything, even making the All-Star game mean something (I still don't get that one). These things happen in baseball because umpires are human. These aren't the reasons that are making the White Sox bowl over Houston; their manager's attitude may just be that reason.



Photo by Nick Zambrano

The Renegades are going through their final tune-up for the 2005-'06 season. They open up against American River in Sacramento this Friday.

## Men's Basketball kicks off new season Friday

By NICK ZAMBRANO  
Sports editor

Swish. Sound familiar? You've probably heard it when walking around the campus. Swish, there it goes again, where is it coming from? That sound is coming from Epler Gymnasium where the men's basketball team is getting ready for the upcoming 2005-'06 season.

The Renegades are coming off a season which always hovered around the .500 mark, in conference play they held a 5-5 record. But that does not get to somebody like Head Coach John Peterson, who is determined to bring his team back to glory. "I expect to compete for the league title this year," said Peterson.

In his path stands a difficult challenge, a challenge that any coach will tell you is no walk in the park. He has only one player returning from last year's squad.

Gone are the likes of Ryan Cooper, Steve Cotton and Jason Bull, and in are 15 new faces filling Peterson's depth chart. Ohlone's lone returning player is Sam Kim, who is

coming off a wrist injury that sidelined him for most of last season.

It seems like Peterson has the deck stacked against him, but he still maintains his positive outlook. "Everyday is a new lesson," said Peterson, who is in his sixth year as Ohlone's head coach. Besides being the coach, Peterson also acts as a teacher. Just like a teacher would, he gets on to the court and demonstrates how a certain play or drill should work. He is active in both roles, creating a hands-on experience. Obviously for every coach being hands-on is a necessity but Peterson excels in the ability.

Although team members are still getting to know each other, the chemistry needed for a championship is there. "We're stronger, faster and bigger this year, we're definitely going to play more aggressive," said Peterson. However, last year's squad was pretty durable, so we'll have to wait and see if this year's group can outdo them.

The Renegades open up their season this Friday in Sacramento against American River College

and then travel Fairfield to battle Solano College Nov. 7. Ohlone finally arrives back on home turf for the second annual Jonathan Wallace tournament Nov. 11.

## Building year for volleyball

By SARA KWAN  
Staff writer

If anyone knew anything about going against all odds, it would be Ohlone's volleyball Coach Jamie Cortez and her team. With some inexperienced girls mixed in with a few experienced players, the Lady Renegades are definitely going through a building year.

However, Coach Cortez is still proud of her team and their progress. "We have some girls who haven't played before, but they're hard working and willing to learn," said Cortez.

Their 2-8 record doesn't reflect the heart and effort that has been put in for this season. In the game last Friday night against Gavilan, they managed to hold on and win.

"We've come a long way," said Cortez.

There have been some outstanding performances by Angelica Benjamin and Jessie Sodderholm led the way. The girls have worked hard with each other in order to keep up with their teammates and other teams in the conference.

In order to improve next time around, Ohlone will offer volleyball classes to help with possible recruitment for tryouts. With the help of volleyball classes and scouting high school talent, she hopes to build a stronger team next season.

If anyone has questions about the volleyball classes or are interest in trying out for volleyball next season, Coach Cortez can be contacted at [jcortez@ohlone.edu](mailto:jcortez@ohlone.edu). Her office number is (510) 659-6051. Their next game is Friday against Cañada in Epler Gym at 6:30 p.m.

### Softball fundraiser

The Ohlone College Softball team is once again selling See's candy to raise funds for their upcoming season. The sale will take place through November 21, with all purchases available for pick-up on the first week of December. All checks can be made payable to Ohlone Softball. Anyone interested in purchasing can contact Coach Donna Runyon a (510) 659-6053. The softball teams needs your help, so hurry!

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