



The final score
By **STEVEN CHAVEZ**
Correspondent

16-0 isn't an Indy pipe dream

The Indianapolis Colts took huge strides in November to become the first team, and only other team, since the 1972 Miami Dolphins to go undefeated during an NFL season. In November they beat the twice-defending champion Patriots, and the two teams dueling to call themselves the second best team in football, the Bengals and the Steelers. The closest of those games was the 45-37 win in Cincinnati over the Bengals.

They destroyed the Patriots 40-21 in New England, then, on Monday night, took advantage of their own home field in beating the Steelers handily 26-7. This Colts team started this season without the ability to put points on the scoreboard, but their revamped defense kept them in the first three games by holding their opponents to just over five points a game. Since then, however, the Colts have found their offensive stride and have put up 35.5 points per game while their defense has allowed just under 18 points per game.

Mathematicians out there, that means that the Colts are scoring, on average over the past eight games (which is the equivalent of half a regular season), twice as many points as they are giving up. Remember, that a lot of those points are scored in what is referred to as "garbage time," the time in a game where the coach pulls some of the key starters to save their energy reserves and keep them healthy.

The Colts still have a tough road ahead of them, facing the underrated San Diego Chargers, as well as the best team in the NFC in a possible Super Bowl preview when they play the Seahawks in Seattle.

The Colts have already proven that they are the team to beat, and the road to the Super Bowl will indeed go through Indianapolis and any other cliches you can think of. Even if an undefeated season isn't in their cards, you can believe that any team hoping to hoist the Lombardi Trophy on Feb. 5 will have to beat the Colts.

Manning and company have laid down the law in the league, much like the 49ers, Cowboys and Patriots in seasons past. Those teams were beatable, and were beaten at certain points, and so are the Colts. Nobody will beat this team, though, unless Tom Brady can figure out a way to play in the secondary for the Patriots.

Lady Renegades: Missed it by that much

By **NICK ZAMBRANO**
Sports editor

To have an impressive win-loss record is admirable. However, when that impressive record does not even get you in to the post-season, it becomes a bit of a downer.

What is even more of a downer is that is exactly what happened to the women's soccer team this year.

Like the BCS, (or as what I like to call it, "The Bull Crap System") teams were picked for the playoffs by way of a computer determining such things as strength of schedule and margin of victory.

Because of this "sure-fire" system, Ohlone missed the post-season by 2/100's of a point.

"If we would have tied when we had lost, we would have made the playoffs," said Ohlone Head Coach Larry Heslin. "Sitting at home was not fun that first Saturday after the season."

During the season, the Lady Renegades had five games where the margin of victory was just one goal.

Despite not making the play-

offs, the Lady Renegades posted a stellar record this year going 14-8. This was due in part of their dominance in conference play, in which they went 12-4. In two of those games, they pounced on rival Chabot with almost no problem, out-scoring them with a total of nine goals to two.

"Despite wins and losses, our fight was there," said Heslin about his team's record.

An example of the fight the Lady Renegades had, could be seen in midfielder Erin Sincerny.

Sincerny played the whole season fighting a broken foot injury, and still managed to start a majority of Ohlone's games. Despite the injury, (the second of her career) she managed to have two assists on the year. As soon as school lets out, Sincerny plans out to go under the knife to repair the foot again but will also not be back next season.

As is the usual with athletics in community colleges, players come and players go. Unfortunately for Heslin, that hits home harder.

This particular departing class consists of star sophomore for-

wards Sarah Fernandez and Ana Ceja. Fernandez and Ceja combined for 34 goals on the year, which was over 65 percent of Ohlone's total goals scored.

Fernandez's final stat sheet had 23 goals and 10 assists, while Ceja's had 11 goals and 7 assists.

Also leaving Ohlone this year are midfielders Dana Ryan, Kristina Eng, twin sisters Allison and Ambur Hollenshead and fullbacks Tiffany Miller and Christina Lemos.

"You never have the same team twice," said Heslin.

If you followed the Lady Renegades this season, you know what this means. The whole starting lineup is practically gone.

None have yet to decide where they will be moving on to next season but they surely will make a fine addition to where ever they go. Heslin's goal for the leaving girls right now consists of getting the word out about his players.

All that is remaining from this year's starters is freshman goaltender, Amanda Lopez.

Lopez, who might be moving out of the net next season, an-

chors a class of sophomores that have already proved they got what it takes the play at this competitive level.

Returning with Lopez will be fullbacks Christina Buna and Alex Korn, forward/midfielder Sophia Ngo and CSUEB transfer April Rodriguez.

Ngo stepped up toward the end of the season and had a few assists, while Buna could be the next Sincerny as far as competitive spirit and will go.

Also, look for Rodriguez to bring some of her leadership skills over from CSUEB, where she played on a higher level.

As far as recruiting goes, Heslin has put a recruitment packet together covering prices, classes and other things that are beneficial while attending Ohlone.

Now that this season is wrapped up and in the books, Heslin looks forward to next year. "We got to do a good job at recruiting," said Heslin, "and then make a run at the league and state championship."

Look for the Lady Renegades to make another run at the playoffs and titles come next fall.

No being homesick for men's basketball

By **NICK ZAMBRANO**
Sports editor

"There is no place like home." "Home is where the heart is." "Home sweet home." These are phrases that you will not likely hear from the mouth of Men's Basketball Head Coach John Peterson, regarding his team's play at home.

The Renegades returned to Ohlone after being out on the road since Thanksgiving. Their last stop was down in Monterey for the Monterey Peninsula College Tournament. While there, Ohlone won two games and lost only once. This tournament marked the third tournament (Jonathan Wallace and Thanksgiving) that the Renegades have participated in this still young season.

"We're worn out, because we've had to play 13 games in 25 days," said Peterson. "It's a little too much. If I could go back and reschedule, I wouldn't do it again."

Playing in these last few tourneys have taken a toll on the Renegade players. Freshman forward Jermaine Smith has missed the last seven games with a staph infection, while sophomore guard Brandon Lott is gone for the season with a torn ACL, and will be having surgery to repair it in January.

Although they have taken their licks, the Renegades post a 9-4 record. Peterson's young squad has meshed together quite well, and continue to grow as a group. "I'm happy with where we're at right now, and very pleased at being 9-4," said Peterson.

Despite having won two games in Monterey, Peterson would say that his favorite moment at the tournament was getting to have some time

together with his team and catching up.

Being on the road may not seem beneficial to most coaches but to Peterson it is the exact opposite. "I love it," said Peterson, "we don't play too well at home, there are too many distractions."

Usually it's the other way around, but if it works, don't mess around with it.

However, being on the road so often also adds a few problems. The Renegades have not had a lot of time on the court to practice or hit the weights in the weight room.

Peterson and the Renegades are on the road the entire break, ironically their second game after the semester lets out is in the San Joaquin Delta College Tournament, and then after that, it's off to another tournament, this time in San Jose, the week after Christmas. After the tourney in San Jose, the Renegades then travel three hours to Oroville to face Butte College. Two days after that, Ohlone is still on the road, this time travelling to Weed to play the College of the Siskiyous.

Ohlone will finally return home on Saturday, Jan. 14, against Foothill College the weekend before school gets in, and after that they have only five games inside of Epler Gym.

Interested in sports writing?

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Hey Warriors, come out and play

I hate to say it, but I'm going to say it anyway, "I told you so." The Warriors, our Golden State Warriors are the real deal this year.

Even though the season is young, the Warriors are rolling on all cylinders, having won their last five straight games. We are witnessing what could be a changing of the guard down in Oakland, folks.

In the month of November, the Warriors were 11-6 and are currently holding the ninth spot in the NBA power rankings. They have not posted a winning November since 1992, which ironically was their last winning season.

Talk about a complete 180.



Swing Away

By **NICK ZAMBRANO**
Sports editor

The bench is performing well, they're hitting their free-throws, the defense has shown signs of improvement and most importantly, Baron Davis is healthy.

Just recently, Davis was named the Western Conference Player of the Week, it's the third time he's done that in a Warriors uniform.

This past week alone, he averaged 21 points and 13 assists a game. And since the season started, he has only gotten hurt once.

Davis is not alone when it comes to putting up points; the Warriors have five men averaging in double figures.

Believe it or not, Mickael Pietrus is one of those players. The third-year player out of France has averaged 10.5 points a game and continues to make an even more impressive highlight reel. I was skeptical at first when the Warriors took him in the first round of the draft in '03, but since then he's pretty much shut me up.

Moving on, already the Warriors front office is campaigning for Jason Richardson (22.5 points, 6.5 boards and 2.5 assists), Troy Murphy (16.1 points with 8.6 boards) and Davis to make a trip to Houston for the big game this year. And once again if you refer back to your history sheet, the Warriors have not had a representative in an All-Star game since Lattrell Sprewell.

It's been hard to notice what the Warriors are doing, but just give it some more time ladies and gentlemen, because this has been in the works since 1992 and we have waited too long already.