

Oakland A's moving to Fremont

The Oakland A's of Fremont? This could be the new name of the Oakland A's by 2011.

In a press conference held Tuesday, A's owner Lew Wolff announced that they have joined forces with Cisco Systems to acquire a 143-acre site in Fremont to be the new home for the Oakland A's. The ballpark will be named Cisco Field. It will be located on the west side of Interstate 880 off Auto Mall Parkway.

Fremont is 20 miles south of McAfee Coliseum and 12 miles from downtown San Jose. With the population of Fremont over 210,000, it is the fourth largest city in the Bay Area.

Wolff also announced that the name of the team would end in the phrase "of Fremont." He mentioned a few titles, including The San Jose A's of Fremont, The Silicon Valley A's of Fremont, and jokingly said "The Omaha A's of Fremont."

This stadium will probably be ready by the 2011 season if Wolff gets approval from the citizens of Fremont and Alameda County for his proposed 34,000-seat ballpark and surrounding village, with a price of \$500 million. Construction will take up to 36 months and a start date is hopefully set at 18 months from now.

Wolff's main goal was to build a new stadium in downtown San Jose. However, that would not



Over time

By **RAHUL BATRA**
Sports writer

have worked out, because the San Francisco Giants own the rights to all the land in the South Bay.

So, Wolff did the next best thing – move the team a few miles northeast. Wolff has already had tremendous success in real estate development, and he certainly knows how to choose good land to build on. Also, being only a few short miles from San Jose, Wolff will still remain in the Alameda County property lines, which is the A's territory.

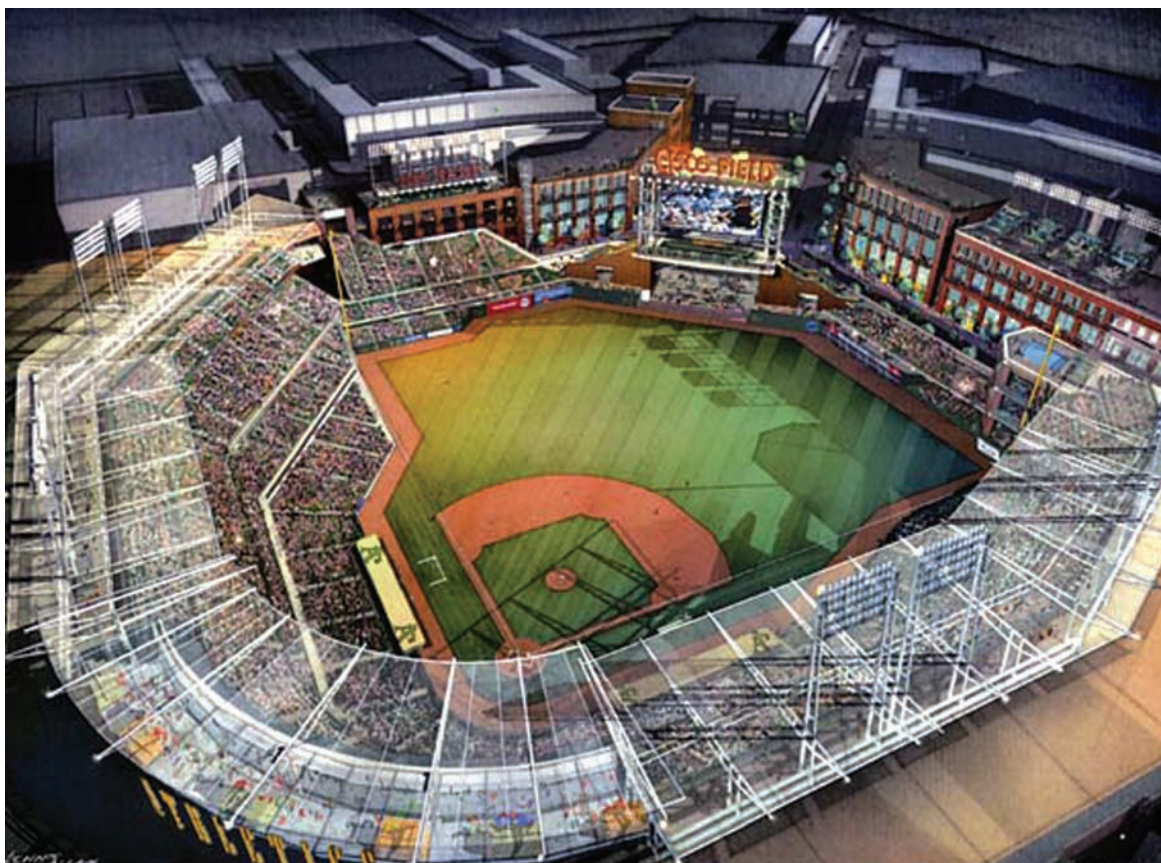
But, besides the financing, there is one question. If there already exists the San Jose Giants, can the A's really call themselves the San Jose A's?

That remains to be answered.

Commissioner Bud Selig was on hand at the press conference and has given his blessing of the team moving out of Oakland.

"This is a classic situation of a team that needs to take control of its own destiny, and they've done it very, very well," Selig said. "They did what they had to do. They had no alternative."

Photos of the proposed design



Artist's rendition of the proposed A's stadium to be built in Fremont.

have already been displayed all over the Internet. The initial designs of the ballpark have very little foul territory (which is a HUGE difference from McAfee Coliseum), an enormous scoreboard above the centerfield wall and a swimming pool (a la Chase Field in Arizona) by the right field foul pole.

This move has made the A's General Manager, Billy Beane,

extremely happy. Beane hopes that a new ballpark will bring in more revenue for the team. That, in turn, will allow the A's to increase their payroll and spend more money to acquire top performers. It will allow them to sign players to long-term contracts, which they couldn't do with players such as Jason Giambi, Miguel Tejada, Mark Mulder and Tim Hudson because their value had

gone up too much to keep them.

Oakland ranked 26 out of 30 in attendance last season, averaging 24,000 per game, the lowest of any playoff team.

The A's have played in Oakland since 1968 and have won four World Series titles since then, second only to the New York Yankees. Hopefully, this move will allow the A's to get back to the World Series.

Men's basketball shuts down DeAnza, 87-79

By **JEFF WEISINGER**
Sports editor

The mission for the men's basketball team this year: Win the championship.

After winning last night at home against a tough DeAnza College team 87-79, most would say that the Renegades are on the right track.

The first half showed the Renegades at their top performance. Led by sophomores Bert Whittington, Giovanni Vernon, Patrick Collier, Renardo Bass and freshman Haridou Coulibaly, Ohlone took an early 27-19 lead halfway through the first half.

However, the Renegades' play defensively did have its errors, which would lead to a late rally by DeAnza as they would cut the early deficit to 34-30 with a little bit over three minutes left in the first half.

Ohlone would stand strong and

keep their lead as they went to the locker room at halftime with the lead 42-30.

The Renegades, however, would momentarily stumble out the gates defensively as they would allow DeAnza to begin a comeback early in the second half as the DeAnza Dons scored 20 points on the Ohlone defense in the first five minutes of the second half. Most of those points were scored off free throws from fouls against Ohlone, and off miscues passing the ball by Ohlone.

However, in the end, Ohlone's defense would hold strong and the offense would eventually pick up as Ohlone would start a rally of their own, despite the strong showing defensively by the Dons in the second half.

And yet still, despite strong play on both sides of the ball it was still too close to call midway through the second half, with the score 59-55

Ohlone with just over 10 minutes to play.

And then the fun and games were over as it was time for the Renegades to take care of business.

Ohlone would once again step up to the challenge of stopping DeAnza as they stopped another Dons rally late in the second half with just over seven minutes to play. This rally by DeAnza would, however, be the last as Ohlone would take over once and for all and win the game 87-79.

They will take on Alameda College this Saturday at Alameda at 3 p.m. For them to continue their road back to the playoffs, they have to reduce the little errors that they were making last night against DeAnza, and take advantage of the scoring opportunities off the breakways.

But for right now, this team is on the right track to head back to the playoffs in late February.



Photo by Jeff Weisinger

Jermaine Smith takes a shot against DeAnza as teammate Renardo Bass looks on.



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