

Ohlone sinks Solano, 82-61

■ Renegades ranked second in California

After winning the DVC Invitational tournament last weekend, upsetting second-ranked Diablo Valley College 75-61, then going on to the finals, defeating Butte College 100-49 and Merritt College 92-66 with sophomore guard Renardo Bass earning MVP honors in the tournament, the Men's Basketball Team is on the right track to win the championship in the state finals coming up in March.

However, although it is early in the season, the Men's Basketball Team looks dominant, especially last night as they played the first of a four-game homestand against Solano College.

The Renegades dominated the game from the very beginning as the defense held their own against a fast Solano team that was good passing the ball. Regardless, Ohlone shot out the gates and took the early lead.

However, Solano would have a response to Ohlone's quick and strong start, as they would eliminate the early Renegade lead midway through the first, but Ohlone would strike back and tie the game at 15 with 6:40 left in the first half. Solano's mistakes toward the end of the half would also give Ohlone a chance to take the lead with a



Photo by Jeff Weisinger

Sophomore Center Jermaine Smith bends the rim as he dunks the ball in during the Renegades' offensive domination in the second half.



Staff photo

No. 13 Jermaine Smith and No. 20 Korey Hutchison attempt to get the rebound.



Over time

By RAHUL BATRA
Sports writer

Crunch time for college football

We're getting to crunch time in college football.

Of course, we have the famous Heisman Trophy for the athlete who has dominated the season. The top four players in that category are Troy Smith of Ohio State, Darren McFadden of Arkansas, Brady Quinn of Notre Dame and Colt Brennan of Hawaii.

Then, there are the bowl games that will be played from mid-December to Jan. 8. However, the game that everyone is awaiting is the championship matchup Jan. 8 in Glendale, Arizona.

Ohio State will be in the National Title game. It's just a matter of who their opponent will be. Many sports writers on the East Coast want a rematch between OSU and Michigan. I disagree. The only reason many have Michigan ahead of USC in the BCS rankings is because the loss to Oregon State in Corvallis for USC is far more severe than Michigan losing to Ohio State in Columbus. However, that should not be the deciding factor. What should be are the wins against ranked opponents. You have to look at the wins before the losses and see which ones are better overall. This is where style points factor in.

USC has defeated four teams in their schedule that were ranked in the top 20: Nebraska, Oregon, Cal and Notre Dame.

Michigan, on the other hand, has only defeated one, the game where they beat Notre Dame in South Bend by 26 points! This is what really matters when you look at the teams that are fighting for the one and two spots in the BCS standings. USC versus Ohio State should be a fantastic battle between two well-coached teams. After watching both of these squads throughout the season, I can't wait to see them go at it in the Valley of the Sun!

Now, for Bay Area Cal fans, don't be sad that the Bears are out of contention for the championship game or the Rose Bowl because they lost to my Arizona Wildcats a few weeks ago. Look for them to play in San Diego on Dec. 28 at the Pacific Life Holiday Bowl against Texas A&M. Despite their two losses, Cal has played phenomenally. Look for Marshawn Lynch and Nate Longshore to play extremely well. Both will have a tremendous game. They both have been the reason for Cal's explosive offense this season.

This is college football at its best, ladies and gentlemen! Make sure you take advantage of all the bowl games, because they only come once a year!



First and 10

By JEFF WEISINGER
Sports editor

little more than six minutes to play and the Renegades would indeed take advantage of their opponent's miscues as Renardo Bass' free throw attempt would be good and would give Ohlone the lead. The Renegades would never look back in the first half after taking the lead, as they would go on a 13-0 run late in the first.

Despite a small rally by Solano, Ohlone would lead at halftime by a score of 30-27.

The second half however would be all about the Renegades.

Led by sophomore center Jermaine Smith and freshman guard Korey Hutchison, the Renegades simply dominated over Solano in the second half. The highlight of the second half was Jermaine Smith's dunk midway through the second half as he got through three Solano defenders. The Renegades would end up leading by as much

as 23 points in the second half. The Renegades led Solano 65-42 with 10:32 left in the game.

Solano would try to scratch and claw their way back in this one, however they missed too many opportunities offensively, and all their mistakes defensively would eventually cost them, as they missed numerous key shots and missed passing to the open guy, which eventually gave Ohlone more opportunities to score. And score they did, as the Renegades seemed as if they were scoring at will as they continued to dominate on offense and defense side of the ball.

The Renegades would simply run away with this one, defeating Solano by a score of 82-61, improving their record to 8-1.

Their consistent play on both the offensive and defensive side of the ball is the reason why this team seems to be the one to beat this year.

The Renegades continue their four-game homestand as they take on Hartnell College on Saturday at 5 p.m., Siskiyou on Sunday at 3 p.m. and finish it off next Friday against Merritt College at 7 p.m.

"This team is fun to watch," said Renegades Head Coach John Peterson.

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