

# Disaster strikes Renegades in Fresno

By TOMAS ORTEGA  
Staff writer

The Ohlone Renegades had a 15-point lead with four minutes to go in their Elite Eight match-up with Antelope Valley in Fresno. Unfortunately, they would get no more field goals by any one player on the court and Antelope Valley was allowed to build a comeback and finally win the game 71-69.

The Renegades looked sharp in the first half last Thursday. They were up by as many as 16 points, led by a barrage of threes from both Bert Whittington and Patrick Collier, who both finished the half with nine points apiece. Between the two of them, they shot 6-9 from three-point range. Heading into the locker room, Ohlone led 41-30.

When the second half began, Ohlone still showed they were a dominant team. Something must have ignited Allen Hester in the second half, in which he scored all of his 17 points while only limited to 13 second-half minutes.

Ohlone held Antelope Valley's Ade Dagunduro and Marcellus Robertson, to only 10 points in the first half. However, both of them went on a scoring frenzy in the second half, scoring 32 of their teams 41 second half points. After the game Ohlone Head John Coach Peterson said of Dagunduro, "we couldn't keep Ade from getting to the rim. He is such a phenomenal finisher and we had no answer. No

answer at all for him."

The final moments of the game were undoubtedly intense. Antelope Valley took the lead with 0.36 seconds left on the game clock. Peterson called a timeout at that moment and told his team that they needed to make sure they "controlled Ade from taking over the game."

Ohlone did keep the ball from getting to Dagunduro, except they were not able to make any game changing shots at the end of the game. They had about four shots at the end of the game but none were able to be drilled for the tie.

After the final whistle had blown, the many Ohlone supporters who made the three-hour trip down to Fresno went silent. The only fans making any sort of noise were those wearing Antelope Valley shirts. The Renegades stayed in the locker room for nearly an hour after the loss and when they finally came out, the looks on the players' faces spoke volumes.

Nothing was left to be said.

Ohlone had the game in their hands and let it slip away. Peterson pointed out that "when your margin of victory is 14 points all year long, you get into tight games and we didn't have enough in place to win tight games. And that's my fault, not the kids'."

Antelope Valley went on to win their next game and advanced to the finals where they met the host team Fresno City College. Fresno blew them off the court, winning 90-77 on Sunday.

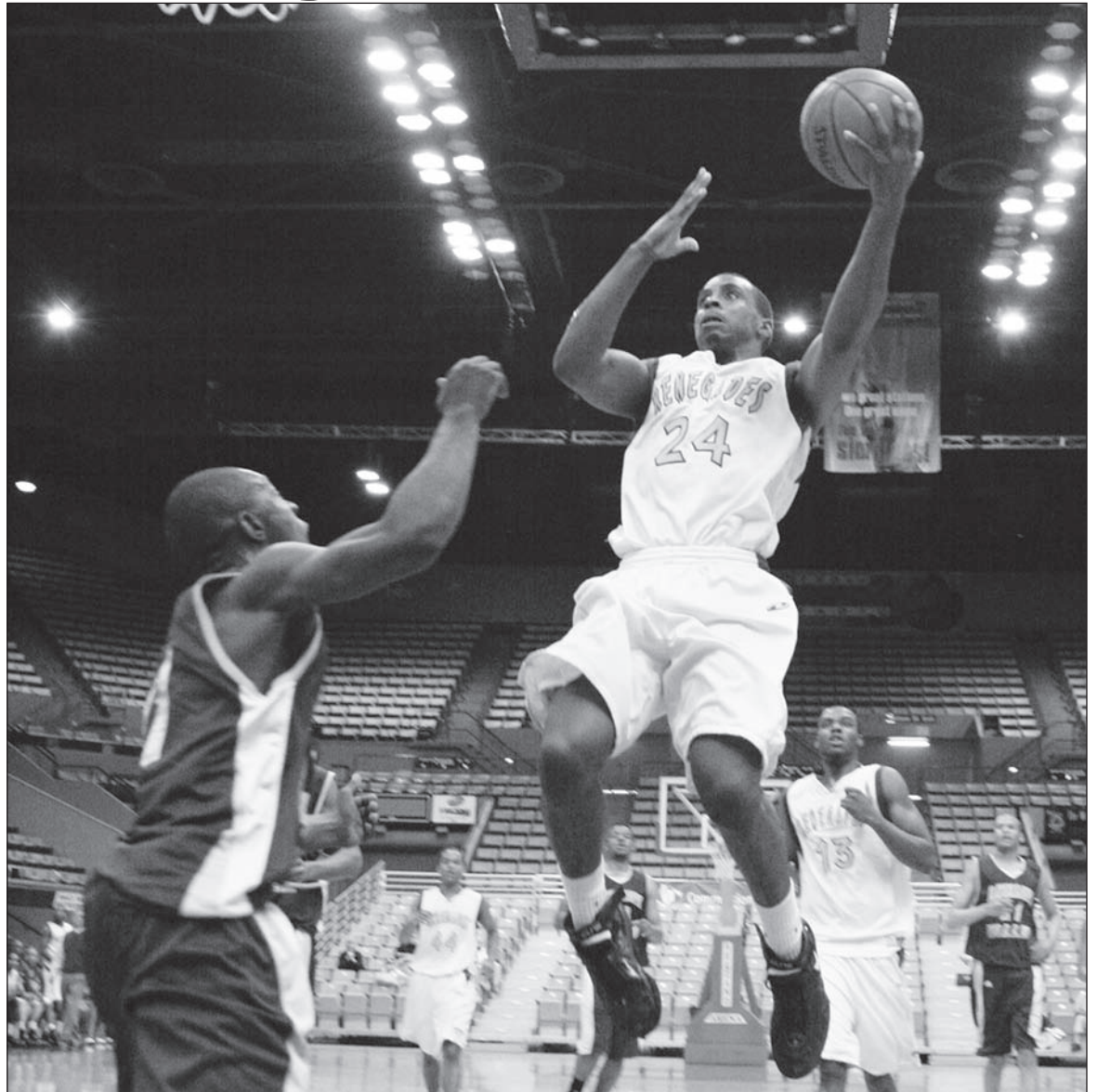


Photo by Jack Husting

**Patrick Collier, center and Ohlone met their untimely demise in Fresno. Ohlone finished the year with a 28-4 record, the best in school history.**

## Lady Renegades play 'mad'

By JEFF WEISINGER  
Sports editor

The Lady Renegades entered March Madness last weekend looking to continue their dominance through the season.

However, before they would go for the championship, they would have to go through a Saturday triple-header, which included Porterville, Yuba and Feather River College.

Ohlone would beat Porterville 6-2, Yuba 9-2, and Feather River 11-3, to move on to Sunday's quarterfinal game.

In Sunday's quarterfinal game, Ohlone took on San Mateo, a team

they defeated earlier in the season 7-0. Ohlone Head Coach Donna Runyon would send out her big game pitcher, Isabel Ramos. Ramos, who struggled slightly against Feather River the day before, once again began to struggle against San Mateo as Ohlone would fall into an early 2-0 lead.

Down, but not out, the Lady Renegades would begin to claw back, as Isabel Ramos would hit an RBI triple, which would bring in freshman catcher Cassandra Ortega, cutting the deficit to one. But that would be all Ohlone would get.

Ramos would keep the game close and did everything she could

to give her team a chance to come back and win, however San Mateo had other plans and found their hitting groove in the fifth and sixth innings and would eventually win the game 6-1, eliminating Ohlone.

The Lady Renegades drop their overall record to 16-4 on the season, with Ramos' record dropping to 9-3.

Ohlone will now have to look forward to restarting their winning streak in league as they will come back home to take on Diablo Valley College today at 3 p.m., then travel to Foothill College on Tuesday, and then finally return home on Thursday, March 22 to take on Hartnell College at 3 p.m.

### Future Ohlone home games:

#### BASEBALL

Thurs., 3/15/07: vs. Cañada College, at 2 p.m.

Fri., 3/17/07: vs. Monterey Peninsula College, at noon.

Tues., 3/20/07: vs. Hartnell College, at 2 p.m.

Thurs., 3/29/07: vs. West Valley College, at 2 p.m.

Sat., 3/30/07: vs. Chabot College, at 2 p.m.

Tues., 4/3/07: vs. Taft College, at 2 p.m.

Wed., 4/4/07: vs. Southwestern College, at 2 p.m.

Thurs., 4/12/07: vs. Cabrillo College, at 2 p.m.

#### SOFTBALL

Thurs., 3/15/07: vs. Diablo Valley College, at 3 p.m.

Thurs., 3/22/07: vs. Hartnell College, at 3 p.m.

Tues., 3/27/07: vs. Gavilan College, at 3 p.m.

Thurs., 3/29/07: vs. West Valley College, 3 p.m.

#### SWIMMING

Fri., 3/23/07: vs. Fullerton College, at 2 p.m.

Fri., 4/13/07: vs. Sierra College at 2 p.m.

# Remember, that's Oakland, not Fremont

Last year was supposed to be the year for the Oakland Athletics. They were clicking on all cylinders, the pitching staff was perhaps one of the tops in the league while the addition of Frank Thomas finally brought life to the lineup. A World Series shot was only four wins away.

All A's fans know how that one ended. But like the saying goes, "there's always next year." I'm not even going to lie but when the Tigers sank their teeth into the A's last October, the pain had just begun. So to say that "theres always next year," is a little premature.

The magical turnaround of Frank Thomas packed up its bags and went to Toronto. And then there's the Barry "Benedict" Zito story,



**Swing  
away**

By NICK  
ZAMBRANO  
Sports editor

who left the green and gold for the orange and black along with plenty and plenty of papered green. But what added more salt to the wound was that nasty, little tidbit about that 20-mile hike from Oakland to south Fremont.

New Manager Bob Geren has a lot on his plate this upcoming season and it's going to be imperative that he steer his team clear of these disturbances if he

wants any chance to win an AL West divisional title in his first year as skipper.

General Manager Billy Beane has dug his way out of bigger holes before in the past and this year is not an exception. He did manage to bring in another old slugger trying to revive his career in the form of Mike Piazza along with journeyman outfielder Shannon Stewart. Although he isn't "the Big Hurt," Piazza can still provide some punch into the heart of lineup while Stewart can get into scoring position easily with his ability to steal bases.

Nick Swisher broke out early last year but saw his numbers decline as the season rolled on. If Swisher can manufacture another 30+ home run season and keep his

batting average around .280, we could be talking about a potential All-Star.

Speaking of breaking out, Marco Scutaro had a phenomenal post-season filling in for the human Humpty-Dumpty, Bobby Crosby. Scutaro's performance should say enough to give him the starting shortstop job. Crosby, along with Angel Perez, should be sent down to Triple-A Sacramento to start the season off.

Although, the depth chart has flame-thrower Rich Harden as the number one in the starting pitching rotation, Danny Haren could very well own that number one spot. Haren was the man who mowed down that oh-so-powerful Minnesota lineup to get the A's

to the ALCS.

The only negative with the pitching is the lack of left-handers. This is where Oakland will miss Zito the most. After Zito's defection to San Francisco, the A's were left with only three lefties on the whole staff.

Despite that, the A's look to be in good form to repeat as divisional champs, but don't count on another shot at the World Series.

And as far as that whole 20-mile hike thing to Fremont goes, I find it rather horrific that "Fremont Athletics" t-shirts are already being worn. In my mind, that is far more premature than ejaculation.

Quick, does anyone know someone who can perform a speedy euthanasia?