

Ohlone's ladies wrap up a great season

By JEFF WEISINGER
Sports editor

After riding a 25-6 season that led to their first Coast Conference South title in three years, the women's basketball team seemed primed to go far into the playoffs, with some even predicting Ohlone to win it all in the 2006-07 season.

However, the goal of "winning it all" for the Lady Renegades was shattered in their 74-68 defeat in the playoff opener to CCSF back on Feb. 23. "It's disappointing for the season to end so abruptly," Ohlone head coach Elizabeth Stanley said. "Every year you want each team to be as successful as possible. I don't think any of us were ready for this to be over."

Stanley hopes that her returning freshmen will learn from the loss so that they'll be better next season and hopefully will go further into the playoffs. "I want them to remember this," Stanley said. "I want them to learn from this experience."

Yet, regardless of the fact that the season ended without the State Championship, there is much to gain from the season.

In her sixth season as head coach, Stanley won Coach Conference Coach of the Year. Stanley led her team through many challenges during the season from training her upcoming freshmen after losing more

than half her team to graduation, to fighting the injury bug as four of her players were playing hurt with one that was out with a knee injury, to leading them to an underdog win against Foothill College, who was top-ranked in Northern California at the time, to helping her team make it to the playoffs.

Sophomore point guard Daneesha Wright and sophomore Ceciley Johnson were both named to the All-State team.

Wright, named to first team All-State and also named All-Coast Conference Most Valuable Player, averaged 20.5 points a game, including a season highest 35 points in one game.

Johnson, who was also named to first team All-Conference, averaged 13.3 points a game including a season highest 22 points.

Freshman forward Kelly Fisher was the only freshman player for the Lady Renegades to be named to the first team All-Conference. Fisher averaged 10.9 points a game including a season high 22 points.

Fisher wasn't the only freshman to receive an award, though. Four other freshmen for the Lady Renegades were named to the All-Conference honorable mention list. The list consists of forwards Taylor Lyons and Demi Wilson, point guard Caprice Hall and



Photo by Jack Husting

Demi Wilson is one of four freshmen returning to the hardwood floors of Ohlone next season.

center Keke Harrison.

With the "soon-to-be" sophomore's Lyons, Wilson, Hall, Harrison and Fisher, Stanley and

the Lady Renegades look ready to come back next season and win it all in the upcoming 2007-08 campaign.

Renegades split Spring Break contests

By TOMAS ORTEGA
Staff writer

Last Thursday was a great time to be under the sun and watch the Ohlone baseball team hand a loss to West Valley College 9-8.

At the end of six innings, Ohlone led 9-2 by way of two home runs, Adam Dexter and Derek Hallet each contributing a solo shot a piece. The Renegades also received help from both Matt Wissmann and the West Valley defense, or lack thereof. In the first, Wissmann reached first with a single. He was later caught stealing but advanced all the way to third on a terrible throw from the pitcher. He would later score on an error by the third baseman.

However, West Valley would mount a comeback in the seventh. Until then they had only touched Ohlone's starter, Wayman Gooch, for

two runs on two hits. But Wayman would end up allowing the next five batters reach, including a 3-run home run by West Valley's lead off hitter. Wayman was then pulled for reliever Kurtis Sherer after allowing his final batter to reach on a double.

Sherer would go on to give up one run on one hit and two walks but was pulled for Aaron Lewis, who then proceeded to retire the final two batters in the inning. The Renegades' lead was cut down 9-8.

Ohlone's offense came up with one hit the rest of the way. But the play of the game came in the top of the ninth. Lewis was still in the game looking for the save. With one out and nobody on, West Valley's cleanup hitter launched Lewis' 1-0 pitch to deep center but it was met by Ohlone's Jared Berrier who made a tremendous catch going up and robbing a possible game-tying home run and saved the victory.

Friday's game was exactly the opposite of Thursday's game. Ohlone met up with Chabot and had a terrible defensive and offensive performance, losing 9-0. Ohlone was only able to shell out five hits as opposed to Chabot's 15, and they couldn't even muster one run to compete with Chabot's 9.

The Renegades had themselves in the ballgame through six innings. They kept the score within two from the second inning on. However, they were unable to put together a real threat. Their best opportunity came in the fifth inning when Derek Heleni stepped to the plate with a runner on first.

He crushed a 0-1 pitch to deep center, far enough to let the crowd see the centerfielders back, except the ball hit some hard surface on the warning track and awarded the runners only two bases with two outs. Jermaine Collins then stepped up to

the plate and crushed a screamer into right field only to be caught by the well-positioned right fielder.

Ohlone Manager Eric Kahoalii stated that Ohlone did, "hit the ball hard and were looking for [their] pitches. But [Chabot] did a good job of scouting [Ohlone]."

Tuesday's game against Taft College was a nail biter. We'll pick up the game in the bottom of the ninth with Ohlone down 2-1. Derek Hallet was sacrificed over to second and lifted for a pinch runner that later scored the tying run on a sacrifice fly to center.

On the same play, Berrier moved over to second on the throw home. With two outs, Rich McDowell lined a 1-2 fastball in between the shortstop and 3rd baseman to score Berrier from second. The Renegades won 3-2. The Renegades improved their record to 12-3 in conference play and 17-11 overall.

Ladies capitalize on Gavilan's mistakes

By NICK ZAMBRANO
Sports editor

One of the many keys to victory is to take advantage of your opponent's mistakes. In a lopsided 11-1 victory over Gavilan College last week, it was safe to say the Lady Renegades kept that saying in mind.

After hitting the second batter of the game, Tiffany Chan received a great performance from her supporting cast on the field.

In an effort to get into scoring position, the Gavilan base runner was thrown into a pickle situation after catcher Cassandra Ortega at-

tempted a back-door play at first. The runner was eventually called out, but Gavilan would try to strike again. Facing off against Gavilan's three-hole hitter, Chan looked in on a 3-2 count and gave up a solo home run.

The run would be Gavilan's only one of the day.

Ohlone started to open up the floodgates in their half of the second inning. With the score already 2-1 in their favor, Ohlone sent Katrina Roman to the plate. After waiting patiently for a pitch she could hit, Roman drew a walk. Following in her footsteps was Meredith Ang, who also drew a walk. Now with runners on first and second, Danielle

Yee was hit by a pitch and given first base.

The bases were now loaded for Valerie Briones. Briones reached base on a fielder's choice and Roman was out on the play at home.

However, the scoreboard would light up soon after. Second baseman Kassy Winger stepped up to the plate and cleared the bases with an infield single of all things. As Ang and Yee scored Winger attempted a move for second.

Winger was caught in a pickle. Briones, who was at third, saw daylight and headed for home. The throw to the plate was not in time and Winger was already at second.

The inning ended with the Lady Renegades up, 5-1.

Ohlone would continue to pour salt on the already gushing wound.

In the fourth, Ohlone's ladies of the diamond added a six spot before an out was even recorded. With the score now 11-1, Ohlone Head Coach Donna Runyon could be seen from the third base coach's box with a bit of a smile on her face, a victory for her team was now sealed.

Due to the 10-run mercy rule, the game was officially over in the fifth inning. Gavilan was given one last chance to muster some sort of offense but failed to do so.



Swing away

By NICK ZAMBRANO
Sports editor

UF vs. OSU, the sequel

When I first realized who the participants in this year's NCAA Basketball National Championship game were, something came to mind.

These two teams have met before.

The players were all new. The environments changed, from Glendale, Arizona to Atlanta, Georgia. The ball was different and so were the playing fields. I got it! It's the sequel to January's football classic, "The Gators Meet the Buckeyes," "The Gators and Buckeyes go to the Big Dance!" It makes complete sense; it's just like another poorly-put together Hollywood sequel, except this time, it's actually pretty good.

The premise remains the same - both schools go about their respective seasons but eventually meet up on a collision at the Men's Basketball National Championship game. Ohio State, once again playing the evil villain, is still tending to their wounds after their bitter defeat in the BCS National Championship game at the hands of the Gators and crave a rematch. While the Florida Gators themselves are still thriving and praising coach Urban Meyer as a football god. But football is over and it's time for some hoops.

Gone are the likes of Chris Leak, Jarvis Moss, Troy Smith, and Ted Ginn Jr. but in their places are Joakim Noah, Al Horford, Greg Oden and Mike Conley Jr. With the addition of Greg Oden, Ohio State is the favorite to win it all. The 7'0" freshman rolls over opponents with ease and looks like a NBA veteran.

Florida, on the other hand, is just trying to defend their championship from last year's March Madness tourney. With their whole team back, the pressure is on but there's something else that makes the pressure even heavier. Rumor has it that head coach Billy Donovan is up for the recently vacated Kentucky job.

The season finally ends and it's time for some madness in March. Both teams win their respective conferences titles and earn number one seed invites to the big dance.

Fate inches them closer and closer together and then finally, BAM! They take center stage for the final dance.

Everyone expects a close, hard-fought battle but it becomes quite the opposite; at the end of the first half, it was 40-29 in favor of the Gators. The Buckeyes make it close but Florida goes on to win it, 84-75.

Wow, Hollywood pulled a fast one on us, again.