



Give 'n Go

By VANESSA BAUMANN
Staff writer

More than a name

You might know him as a huge fashion icon married to ex-Spice Girl Victoria. Or you might've smelled his signature cologne, "Instinct" in a department store. However you may know him, he will always be recognized for his great soccer skills and amazing free kicks. If you guessed David Beckham, then you were absolutely right. This 32-year-old has been making big money and becoming a big celebrity, but most people hold that against him, and forget that he is a very talented soccer player.

The biggest news lately regarding Beckham has been about his departure from Real Madrid (Spain), who he led to "La Liga" Championship. Beckham signed a five-year contract in July, to play for the L.A. Galaxy, in Major League Soccer for \$32.5 million. Many people think that this is just a way for the league to make more money, and try to make soccer bigger in America. So what if that's the whole reason why Beckham flew all the way to America to play for the MLS. Wouldn't you if you were offered that much money? Beckham's not only interested in making money, he has said that he is happy playing in the U.S., and he wants to help make soccer a bigger sport for the U.S., too.

America loves a star, and that's exactly what Beckham is.

Already the stadiums that have hosted the L.A. Galaxy increased ticket sales, which indicate that Beckham has a lot of fans, although he did not play the first few games, due to an injured ankle. When he was finally able to play, he gave the fans exactly what they wanted. He scored a beautiful 27-yard free kick against D.C United in an L.A. Galaxy win.

How can you say that Beckham can't play soccer? His second injury, which is a strained ligament in his knee, happened on Wednesday, Aug. 29 against Pachuca (he'll be out about six weeks).

Many fans were upset at this, and strongly believed that Beckham's signing was just a bust.

But if you really think about it, what sport doesn't have players who get injured? No athlete is invincible.

Despite all the criticism that Beckham gets, it's clearly visible that Beckham is a great soccer player and he has good things to offer.

And let's not forget about the days when Beckham didn't have all the fame, and he proved to the world that he was a gifted soccer player, when he drilled a shot into the back of the opposing team's net from inside his own half, at the young age of only 22.

You know, not everybody can *Bend it Like Beckham*.

Renegades blanked Friday

By TOMÁS ORTEGA
Sports editor

In a game of soccer, what could possibly be more exciting than a penalty kick with the opportunity to tie the game? Well, there isn't much that is.

That's exactly what happened last Friday when the Ohlone Men's Soccer Team took on Fresno City College at home.

A penalty kick in the second half capped the excitement for the Renegades that afternoon only because Fresno City was able to keep the ball on their side of the field most of the game.

The Renegades ended up dropping their second game in a row 2-0.

Ohlone didn't play so bad, though. The defense, anchored by defenseman Matt Teuscher, was able to keep their area clean of Fresno attackers.

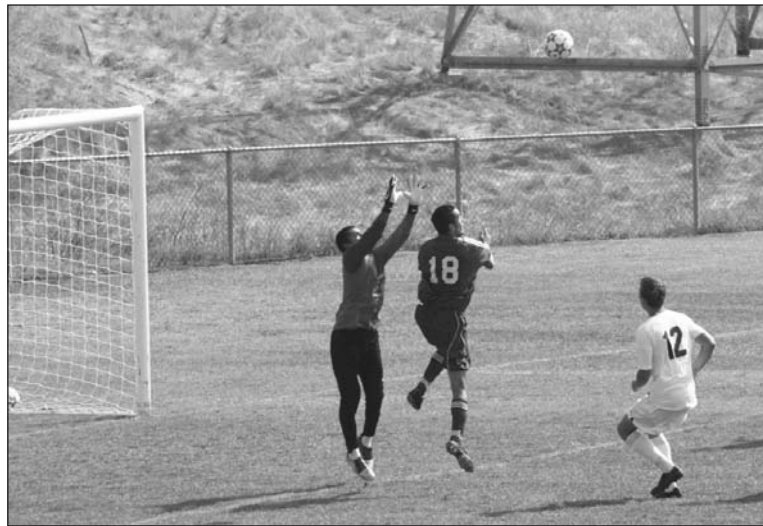
But the ball doesn't always roll in your favor. Fresno scored their first goal in the 15th minute when the ball was crossed from the outside, ricocheted off Ohlone's keeper and then shot into the back of the net.

After Fresno scored the first goal, neither team mounted much of a threat in the first half.

Four minutes into the second half, Ohlone had their best chance to score.

The Renegades drove the ball up the field and once getting inside the box, Fresno's defenseman committed a handball, called immediately by the ref and setting Ohlone up with a penalty shot.

Unfortunately, Fresno's keeper was able to get a hand on Julio Castaña's shot, diving to his left and deflecting it in that direction.



Photos by Tomás Ortega

Above: Abel Leon challenging Fresno's keeper. Below: Julio Castaña attempting the penalty



Ohlone Coach David Cordova later said "I allow them to make the [penalty shot] decisions. I'm not playing; it's their game. If nothing has been done coaching-wise before the game, I can't do anything. Sometimes things go your way and sometimes they don't. And it teaches him some responsibility as well."

Minutes after the botched kick, Fresno was able to tack on a second goal to put the game out of reach with a 3-on-1 break-away goal.

Though it is Ohlone's second loss, Coach Cordova isn't necessarily worried. "A 2-0 loss, but it's an improvement from last year. And they are definitely playing well."

Throughout the game, spectators could very easily see that although they didn't score, Ohlone moved the ball very well.

That sparked Coach Cordova to say, "that's always promising, and it's just potential that needs to be developed. Now we just need to find the back of the net."



Photo by Dan Yuan

Lady Renegades did all they could to keep pressure on Hartnell. The score was tied 2-2 at the end of 90.

Women's soccer misses win

By JEROME NEPACENA
Staff writer

What started off as a dominant performance by the Ohlone Women's Soccer Team ended up in some slight disappointment as the Renegades settled for their second draw of the season last Tuesday, tying the game at two-all.

The Renegades kept it coming

and continued to press their offense, and at about 13 minutes into the game Ohlone forward Fanny Koloko-Green scored Ohlone's first goal.

After a long stretch of tight defense, it seemed Ohlone had Hartnell's number, and seemed even more so when they scored another goal in the 32nd minute of the game when in a scramble for the ball, a

Hartnell player committed an own goal. Hartnell would later score again in the second half and secure themselves with a draw.

Despite not getting the win, Head Coach Larry Heslin commented, "We're improving...we're definitely headed in the right direction. Some things just happen during the game that you just have no control over."



Inside game

By RICHARD KILLEEN
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49ers' night

The 49ers kicked off the season Monday night taking on the Arizona Cardinals on newly named Bill Walsh Field. They dedicated their season opener to Walsh by wearing their classic 1981 cherry red uniforms. However, the game was nothing to write home about. In fact, with about three minutes to go in the fourth quarter it appeared as if both teams belonged in the PAC-10 instead of the NFL.

For more than three quarters, the 49er offense had been stagnant, to say the least. They often handed the ball off to running back Frank Gore, then occasionally attempted a downfield pass with little success. With little imagination in play calling and both defenses playing solid, the 49ers found themselves down 17-13 with three minutes left.

Then, seemingly out of nowhere, Quarterback Alex Smith proceeded to march his team down the field on a last-minute drive in Walsh-like fashion. Smith connected with Receiver Arnaz Battle to put them on the one-yard line, before finally running it in for the score and a 20-17 49er victory over the Cardinals.

Whether this win was a glimpse into the future of 49er success, or just two bad teams battling for their first of very few wins is yet to be seen.

With Mike Nolan coaching his team on the sidelines, you know the 49ers will be prepared every game. One of the big questions entering this season was how would many of the new faces come together in Nolan's philosophy.

With many new faces on defense like \$80 million man Cornerback Nate Clements, Linebacker Tully Banta-Cain, Safety Michael Lewis, and Defensive Lineman Aubrayo Franklin, many experts wondered if the defense could mesh together to stop all of the high-powered offenses in the NFC West.

Surprisingly enough, the defense was the one highlight of the night for the 49ers. Considering they were facing off against one of the more talented offenses in the Arizona Cardinals, the defense was outstanding.

One of the bigger problems in the past for the 49ers was the defensive backs, which happened to pick off Matt Leinart twice. The defensive line got pressure on Leinart the entire game, not allowing him to sit inside the pocket and pick apart the 49er secondary.

After Monday night's game, there was one big question on everybody's mind. Will the offense be able to execute on a regular basis? That question will remain unanswered until they can put together a few good performances.

The 49ers play their division rival St. Louis Rams Sunday at 10 a.m.