

Baseball team moves to different field

By TOMÁS ORTEGA
Sports editor

The Ohlone baseball field, over the years, has slowly begun to show its age.

Realistically speaking, the field has become ridden with squirrel holes and the outfield has developed a downward slope from the point where the grass meets the infield dirt to the outfield fence.

The warning track is roughly 3 feet lower than the flat surface that is the outer portions of the infield.

To help remedy the situation, Head Baseball Coach Tom Kunis had his team do all they could to fix the field.

At one point, Kunis even had a dumpster put adjacent to the field to throw out any excess garbage they

would bring up.

Coach Kunis said that the "field is like a classroom to our guys. It's their home for 3-4 hours a day. It's their workplace."

He also said, "if you are going to be spending time out there, you want it to look nice. You want it to play nice and you want it to be functionally representative at a collegiate level."

Unfortunately, Kunis and his team can only do so much to help fix the field without giving up too much time to actual baseball practice.

Last month, Coach Kunis and a few of his players attended a board meeting to bring up the fact that the playing conditions on the baseball field were unacceptable.

Since then, there has been some progress made in fixing the field

to be as functional as it can be for now, while the department tries to draw up a plan for a new stadium for the team.

According to Coach Kunis, Ohlone is currently talking with the Golden Baseball League, an independent professional baseball league consisting of eight teams, to try and get an agreement together to partner for a stadium deal at the new Newark campus.

But as one can imagine, getting a deal done that will satisfy all parties will be pretty tough.

However, Kunis said that by building a new stadium, it gives [Ohlone] the "opportunity to provide something to the community. If you build a nice stadium, you're going to put yourself on the map because you can host all the big

events, all the tournaments."

So for now, all that can really be done for the field is to clean it up as best as possible. But, as coach Kunis brought up, they don't want to "put too many resources into something that isn't going to be around for much longer."

Now, as of the last three weeks, the baseball team has not been practicing on their home field.

Because of the condition of the field, the team has chosen to practice down the highway at the Milpitas Sports Complex. So far, the complex has satisfied the needs of the coaches and players during practice.

As for the field on campus, Kunis predicts the team will likely keep off the home field the rest of the semester.



Give 'n Go

By VANESSA BAUMANN
Staff writer

Inside Sharks

This year's home opener started off very shaky and ultimately led to an unlucky finish.

With fans pumped to see the Sharks play at home for the first time this season, HP Pavillion had a blackout. The blackout lasted for right around 50 minutes before the game was able to start.

The Sharks ended up losing that game 1-2 to the Boston Bruins.

The Sharks, however, didn't play badly. They had a number of scoring chances, but were denied partly because they hit the post four times and the crossbar once. The Sharks' record going into today's game is 3-2-1, with the tie being a shootout loss to the Edmonton Oilers.

The Sharks so far have been inconsistent, but it's only the beginning of the season. They have been caught a few times with over back checking, which have cost them some goals.

Evgeni Nabokov has been playing very well, with the exception of the 2-6 loss to the Colorado Avalanche.

In Monday night's win over the Vancouver Canucks, Nabokov robbed Daniel Sedan from scoring which at that time could have made the game 2-0 for the Canucks.

This season has a few new key players, like rookie Torrey Mitchel, who has tremendous speed and heart; Jeremy Roenick, the 40-year-old veteran who is close to the 500-goal mark.

Also they have backup goalie Dimitri Patzold. Coach Ron Wilson has continued to switch his line changes trying to find out the right lines, though we all know he doesn't stay with any particular line for too long.

The Sharks as of Monday's game are the Pacific Division Leaders, and are 3rd in the Western Conference. They are also currently leading the league in face-off winning percentage, with 58.4 percent.

This season also has had a few fights, which everybody loves to see. Douglas Murry had two fights and Rob Davidson had one.

Today's game will be against the Detroit Red Wings at 7:30 p.m. Fans are eager to see this game, since the Red Wings knocked the Sharks out of the second round of the playoffs last year.

But it's a new year now, and the players and coaches feel that they have a strong team that has a lot of talent. Once the Sharks become more consistent on their power play and minimize their penalties, they will be a hard team to beat.

Men avoid loss

By JEROME NEPACENA
Staff writer

Tuesday's Men's soccer game against Mission College started out with the Renegades controlling the pace of the game and keeping the ball on their side of the field for most of the first half. But it ended with Ohlone losing that momentum slightly and escaping with a 3-2 win.

As Coach Harold Whitmore screamed at his team for overdriving, it became clear that they came out with some good aggression.

Eventually Ohlone's work paid off as Ali Noori hit a goal off an assist by Hector Valiente and that's

when things began to look good for the Ohlone Renegades.

With a little over 5 minutes left in the first half, the Ohlone homecrowd screamed in protest as a clear hold on an Ohlone player was missed by the referees, what made it worse was that the hold ruined a potential scoring opportunity for the Renegades and returned possession to Mission.

This missed call by the refs only seemed to fuel the Renegades when later, Hector Valiente scored another goal just before the end of the first half to give them a 2-0 lead going into halftime.

When the second half began, Ohlone was beginning to look a little sloppy and things just weren't going their way. After struggling to find the goal, several minutes later the Renegades came back and took the lead late in the game off a penalty kick. Then they were able to hold off Mission for the rest of the game.

Despite the close win, Coach Whitmore was not entirely pleased with his team's performance. "It was sloppy. We didn't play our game. We also had to use a lot of our players, even bringing our second keeper in. Overall we didn't play well in either the first or second half, but we'll take the win." The victory improved the team's record to 3-9-1.



Photo by Tomás Ortega

Ohlone was aggressive all afternoon.



Photo by Jerome Nepacena

Fanny Koloko-Green zooms past both a Skyline defender and a friendly.

Ladies top Skyline

By JEROME NEPACENA
Staff writer

On a rainy Friday afternoon the lady Renegades faced an early 1-0 deficit against Skyline college.

Knowing they had to put together an effort to counter Skyline's early aggression Ohlone looked to gain control of the game in a competitive first half.

Skyline rarely saw the ball on their side of the field as the Renegades responded with a fiery aggression of their own which seemed to have caught Skyline off guard.

Trying to hold off the Renegades' attack Skyline played defense to the best of their abilities and made a few nice saves to try and protect their early lead. This would not last long as the Renegades were able to score and tie the game at 1-1 going into halftime.

The second half saw the Renegades execute very well on offense led by forward Fanny Koloko Green who was very aggressive with the ball and created many opportunities to score for herself and her teammates.

The next goal for Ohlone was scored by Fanny on a one on one possession in which she was able to elude two Skyline defenders for the goal. For the next 10 minutes of the game Ohlone used good defense to hold off Skyline and keep them from getting their rhythm back.

Two highlight saves by goalie Shabnam Razawi frustrated the Skyline offense and it began to appear as if time was running out and a comeback would not happen.

With 5 minutes remaining in the game Fanny Koloko Green further sealed the deal as she was set up for a goal and was able to score easily for the Renegades and seal the game's outcome.

The game was rough, rainy and competitive and Coach Hesslin loved every minute of it. "That was great, that's how soccer is supposed to be played," Coach Hesslin said after watching his team defeat Skyline 3-1. "We played very well for both halves and put together a great effort."

When asked about Fanny Koloko Green's effort in the second half making plays and being aggressive on offense, Coach Hesslin said "Fanny played a great game, probably one of the best efforts she's had all season. I was also really proud of our whole team today we all played very well."

The rainy and muddy atmosphere of the game seemed to help the Renegades keep their intensity level up. "It's always harder to play when it's rainy and muddy," Coach Hesslin added, "You're cold, you're wet but you're focused and you're having fun."

The Lady Renegades improved their record to 4-7-3.

Golf Tournament fundraiser Monday

By TOMÁS ORTEGA
Sports editor

The Ohlone College Athletic Department will be hosting its 23rd Annual Golf Tournament this Monday, Oct. 22. The tournament will be held in Pleasanton at the Castlewood Country Club just off Interstate 680.

Registration fees are \$225 for an individual and \$900 for a foursome. The fees include the green fees, cart, lunch, dinner, special awards and prizes.

There will also be a special ceremony at the end of the day. The day will kick off at 11 a.m. and is scheduled to round out at around 6:30 in the evening.

If you would like information regarding this event, contact Donna Runyon at (510) 659-6053 or go online at ohlone.edu/org/athletics.