

## Leon catches fire in Men's win

By TOMÁS ORTEGA  
Sports editor

Men's Head Soccer Coach Harold Whitmore said it as best as he could, "It's not going to be a pretty win." That's what he had to say after his team's 2-1 win over Las Positas College Friday afternoon.

Friday's game was one of those games that your buddies tell you that you should have been at.

The game featured all that could possibly be displayed at a good soccer match, especially with the fact that Ohlone is such a young, developing team.

Enter the first half, Ohlone is doing their best to try and reach the back of the net.

While on the offensive, the Renegade's Roni Matar is knocked down while doing his best to punch the ball into the box. LPC's mid-fielder is then able to steal the ball without being flagged for a foul and takes the ball up the right sideline, where he then crosses it into the middle of the field and his teammate is able to take advantage of an Ohlone defense that is late getting back.

LPC struck first, and jumped out to an early 1-0 lead 4 minutes into the game.

But this was supposed to be an ugly game, remember. Not more than a minute later, Abel Leon, who Coach Whitmore later said was on fire, blew his way past two Las Positas defenders into the middle of the box and scored from 10 yards out, beating the LPC goalie for Ohlone's first score.

That would be all either team would get in the first half. Each squad kept each other's offense in check by playing stellar defense and



Photo by Tomás Ortega

**Abel Leon goes up to score his second goal of the game after receiving a cross from Kevin Chow.**

not giving each other much room to get a shot off.

The second half was where the game got a bit less ugly and Ohlone showed just a bit of pizzazz. In the 65th minute of the game, Ohlone got hot.

The Renegade's mid-fielder took the ball up his right sideline and set a beautiful cross that was met by the side of Abel Leon's head, shooting into the back of LPC's goal for an Ohlone 2-1 lead. That proved to be the game-winning goal by Leon.

After the game, Leon deflected all praise for his excellent perfor-

mance and instead gave thanks to his teammates, including the injured Julio Castaño who tore his ACL earlier in the year.

Leon said, "I was working really hard. I knew I was going to get opportunities. Mark [Wilson] also played great as a forward. He was helping me out a lot. I got a lot of those shots off, two went in and we got the win 2-1. It was a good day."

Although Abel did notch the two goals to seal a victory for the Renegades, had it not been for Kevin Chow's splendid cross, the result

may have been different. Chow said of his play, "If I tear a hamstring I don't care. I'm just going to run as hard as I can for the goal. Then I saw Abel and I crossed it. And I saw it floating like a bird and it just landed right there. Just perfect."

Coach Whitmore praised Leon's game. He was even surprised that Abel didn't walk away with more than two goals on the day. That is some serious expectations for a first year player.

Hopefully, the Renegades can meet those high expectations when they match up vs. Skyline, Friday.

## Women's soccer play to a tie

By JEROME NEPACENA  
Staff writer

In a game that went scoreless, defense, hustle, heart and execution were on full display during the Ohlone Women's Soccer game Tuesday afternoon against West Valley College.

When the game began, both teams looked out of rhythm offensively and neither was able to get the upper hand.

During several possessions, Ohlone's Fanny Koloko Green looked to push the tempo and try and make something happen for the Lady Renegades, but West Valley was able to get back on defense and keep her from executing any plays.

Goalkeeper Shabnam Razawi was put to work. She did a good job of protecting the goal, making it even clearer that this game was going to be won on the defensive end. Razawi finished with seven saves.

On the offensive end, a lot of shot attempts by both teams were missed high or just short, but at times the ball would be deflected before it could even make it into the goalie's box.

When Green was finally able

to break free for a couple of shots she missed both, but as always the aggression was still there.

The score going into halftime was 0-0, but both teams looked very active on both ends and just couldn't put the ball in the goal.

In the second half it was more of the same, good one-on-one defense by West Valley countered by good team defense by Ohlone. Overall, the game was played precisely how it was scored, which was even.

Coach Larry Heslin had nothing

but praise for West Valley's team, "They played great, they've got a great team over there." When asked about the draw he said "Of course we'd like to get the win every time, but I think we played well on both ends."



Photo by Jerome Nepacena

**Rachel Morgan stops short to retrieve the ball before her counterpart.**



**Triples alley**

By TOMÁS ORTEGA  
Sports editor

## November loving

Ahhhhh yes... It's now November, and that means we just waved goodbye to my one true love this past October (baseball, if you already didn't know). Regardless, while baseball is away, I get to start my lust affair with both the NBA and the King that is the N-F-L.

This past Sunday was the end to a World Series that folks found very boring. It's sort of hard for me to understand why they think that way. I mean it was a baseball game, no? Well, since baseball isn't played in November lets, keep this ship moving.

The greatness that is, the Rai-dehsss. They are not doing well enough to really talk much about. The offense is almost as bad as last year, only with a much better ground game than before. But their quarterback situation is horrific. I just don't see Daunte Culpepper having that much left in him to put the team on his shoulders.

Now speaking of shoulders. 49er QB, Alex Smith, seems to have messed up his shoulder again. The way he was throwing the ball the other day really scares me and gets me wondering if maybe we should grab another QB before the coaching staff is forced to put Dilfer in again.

But enough of the negative, how bout "some" positive. The Warriors hosted the team that eliminated them from competition in the playoffs last April, Utah Jazz. It was such a highly anticipated game that the Bay Area decided to shake to a tune of a 5.6 magnitude on the Richter scale.

I actually doubt, as well, that the Oracle had anything to do with the movement of the plates. But it was an exciting game. However, it was a bit anti-climatic seeing the Warriors run into the same problems that caused them to lose the four games of the Western Conference semi-finals. Since they have nobody who can control the boards consistently, they must rely on their shooting. And shooting does include free throws, which the Golden State only made 26 of 38, translating to a lackluster 68 percent.

The Warriors are truly the only team that is any fun to watch in the Bay Area right now. Sorry Sharks.

Maybe November won't give us a passionate love affair, especially with two of the three teams in the Bay crushing our souls.

But hey, let's just take this for a ride and see where we end up. Hopefully, Golden State can give us some magic. And maybe the Raiders or 'Niners can legitimately win some games.