

Baseball wraps up; many earn scholarships

By NATE GILL
 Sports writer

The Renegades won their last two games, beating Gavilan and a fierce competitor in Skyline. Ohlone stomped on Gavilan on Saturday, beating them 31-11. Then on Tuesday, the boys beat Skyline, putting Skyline out of first place in their division. The two wins came too little too late for the Renegades, as they find themselves just short of making the playoffs. The boys have their last game of the season at home against West Valley on Thursday.

The Renegades had a long hard-fought season in which Coach Tom Kunis made sure they made huge strides not only as baseball players but as men. The Renegades lost a lot of close games to teams that are at the top of their division.

Despite not making the playoffs, the Renegades' season was far from a disappointing one. As a team, they made huge academic strides, which earned a good handful of sophomores scholarships to play ball at the next level.

Matt Langseth earned a scholarship to Cornell University. Rich McDowell will play at Cal Poly Pomona, Shane Murchison looks to be headed to San Jose State, Nick Caravelli is being recruited by a number of schools and Andrew Ham is going to San Francisco State. Joe Gardner earned a full ride scholarship to the University of Santa Barbara and Justin Lunday earned a full ride scholarship to the University of York in Nebraska. "These guys earned the opportunity," Kunis is proud to say.

When Kunis was asked his feelings on the season, he replied, "This team, despite being inherited, was



Photo by Tomás Ortega

Coach Kunis watches his team's practice, awaiting their final game this Thursday.

marvelous in their ability to adopt a new philosophy. The sophomores did not get playing time last year and did very well being everyday players this year."

As far as next season is concerned, Kunis is very excited, "This will be my first recruiting class in 2008-'09." Kunis gets a chance to recruit more players that will fit what he wants. "Our goal for next year is to win every game." With Kunis's first year at Ohlone under

his belt, the baseball program looks to improve more and more each year; with talented recruits and hard-working coaches, the Renegades should be right at the top of their division next year.

Regardless of the very talented players and coaching staff, Kunis said, "Improvement in facilities will really dictate the progress of this program and our ability to secure quality student athletes in the future."

Round One Set for Saturday

By TOMÁS ORTEGA
 Sports editor

Sports fans and non-sports fans alike love to see a great team perform. Last season, the men's basketball team, led by 6'8" forward Jermaine Smith, stormed into the Elite Eight, hosted in Fresno.

Just a month ago in early March, this year's men's basketball team, this time riding on the shoulders of freshman Guard Chancious Rose, treated us with a great ride into the Sweet 16 in Fresno. Although that game ended in a well fought-out defeat, all who attended or listened to the broadcast of the game could agree that it was one of the more special moments of the sports year.

Again, everyone loves to see a winner. This Saturday, Ohlone will see its next heavyweight hitting team kick off their playoff run. The 5th ranked Renegade Softball Team faces off against the number 12 Solano Falcons. The teams will face off in a best 2 out of 3 game series over the weekend, with the first pitch of the series set for 2 p.m. Saturday.

Coast North Conference M.V.P. Kassy Winger is "ecstatic" to be



Photo by Tomás Ortega

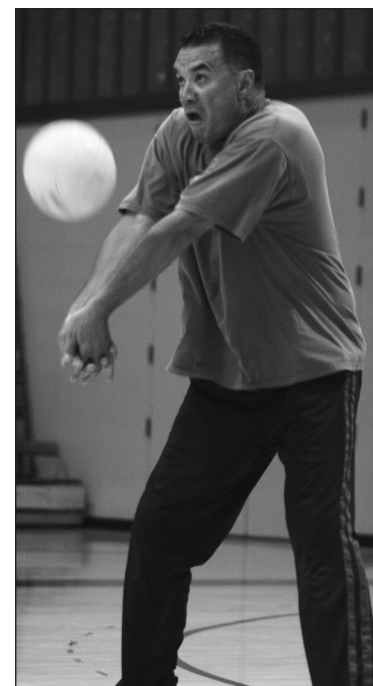
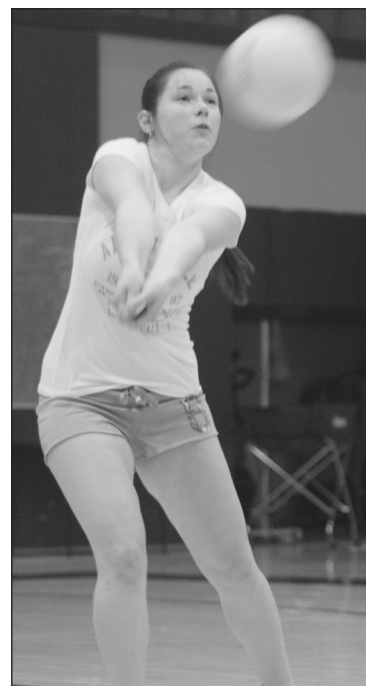
Coach Runyon gives final instructions prior to Saturday's playoff game vs. Solano.

heading to the playoffs. She said the team is planning to go to Disneyland after a hopeful state championship crowning. Winger is tied for 5th in the state with 68 hits on the year and tied for second in doubles with 23.

On the year, Ohlone has the upper hand vs. Solano in three games, winning two of the three. The lone loss was a 11-9 offensive explosion or, to be a little more critical, a game

in which both teams combined for 14 errors in the game. Not exactly a stellar ball game by any measure. Fortunately, it was just the 10th game of the year for Ohlone, 9th for Solano.

When asked about her team's playoff chances over the course of the following weeks, Head Coach Donna Runyon said, "We're going to the state championship. This is a team that's destined."



Photos by Tomás Ortega

Mondays' open gym brings people of all ages to a fundraiser for the women's volleyball team.

Volleyball continues with Monday open gym

By TOMÁS ORTEGA
 Sports editor

The school year may be winding down, but that's no excuse for the gym to be empty on a Monday night. Every Monday evening at 7 p.m., the volleyball team, coached by first-year Coach Jeremy Peñaflor, holds an open gym for all to come and have a swat at the volleyball court.

The event is mainly a fundraiser, charging \$3 at the door for anyone who wants to hang around with recreational and seasoned volleyball players alike. The open gym has been running since Coach Peñaflor was hired in late January and he hopes to keep it going throughout the summer.

Peñaflor is in his first full season as a college-level head coach and would like to put the Ohlone volleyball team among the ranks of the basketball and softball teams already on campus as far as stature. He said, "My expectations are all about rebuilding. It's rebuilding the program, rebuilding how we think about volleyball on this campus."

He encouraged all to swing by and play on Monday nights. Who knows, they may be donning the forest green and gold come the fall volleyball season.