

No happy ending for volleyball

■ Peñaflo's first year as head coach results in 2-14 record after losing at home Wednesday

By ANKITA CHHABRA
Sports writer

The Women's volleyball season closed its curtains on the Lady Renegades last night as San Jose City came in and swept Ohlone 3-0.

Ohlone went through one heck of a roller coaster ride this year with a bench that was anything but full, players who were in and out of the game due to various reasons and a new coach who learned a lot about his team in his first year.

Riding a 2-13 record, the girls took on the San Jose City College Jaguars in a game that Ohlone thought they could win.

"Everything that could go wrong today went wrong," said Volleyball Head Coach Jeremy Peñaflo who, with his girls, saw their season crashing down from their much improved second half of the year.

"Sometimes you win and sometimes you lose," said Lady Renegades Susana Bumb, who, along with Lean Vanessa Ridao and Angelica Benjamin were honored during Sophomore Night in Epler Gymnasium.

"It wasn't our best game... we could've played better," Bumb said after the game.

This was an unfortunate loss for the Lady Renegades because this game was absolutely no clear indication of their growth and improvement throughout the season.

All three games were dominated by the Jaguars as they started strong, taking as much as an early eight-point lead and never looking back.

Despite the strong effort by the Lady Renegades to claw their way back, the Jaguars just simply overpowered Ohlone in almost every way.

The constant miscommunication by the Lady Renegades is mainly what shot down any chance at an Ohlone comeback.

Starting for Ohlone once again was Angelica Benjamin.

The freshman tried everything



Photos by Jeff Weisinger

Michelle Cruz, Angelica Benjamin and Stephanie Phan, above, from left, couldn't stop San Jose City; below, Lean Vanessa Ridao, Angelica Benjamin and Susana Bumb were honored on sophomore night.



to close the gap for the Renegades, but even her powerful spikes that got the team most of their points in each of their comebacks resulted in the disappointing loss in each and every set.

With the season coming to an end and their disappointing record of 2-14, Coach Peñaflo is looking forward to next season and his returning freshmen as well as the off season, when assistant coaches

Jackie Acruri and Kevin Corral and he will be heavily recruiting in the last week of the high school season, along with going to club games to improve the Ohlone volleyball program.

Swept in Salt Lake, lost to Skyline; Lady Renegades struggle on road

By TOMÁS ORTEGA
Sports writer

Women's Basketball Head Coach Elizabeth Stanley and her new squad of young freshmen are back to light up the Coast Conference south.

Last year, the Lady Renegades finished second in their conference behind the undefeated DeAnza Dons.

Over the weekend, Ohlone entered the Salt Lake City College tournament in Utah after Foothill College pulled out because they couldn't make the trip.

Ohlone didn't do too well in their three games, losing all three.

However, they played very well to open up the tournament as they lost to host Salt Lake City College 70-65.

Ohlone also lost the second game against the College of Southern Idaho 87-44 and lost the third game 76-41 to Snow College of Ephraim, Utah.

The turnover count for the Renegades was high in the first two match ups as Ohlone had about 20 turnovers in the first half of both games.

"They were exhibition games,"

said Stanley. "We played over our head and it was a little intimidating for our young team. We did learn a lot of lessons though."

The Renegades may have started the season on a relatively sour note, however they can't go the rest of the year and say they are yet to be tested.

Unfortunately for the Lady Renegades, last night against Skyline College they "stopped playing hard."

Stanley said her team played at a competitive level for just over the last three minutes on the road, losing 62-54.

"We just haven't gone hard enough in practice. We need to get our players healthy so we can start moving at a faster pace."

With only five players returning from last year's team, Stanley is counting on someone to step up and be a "killer to demand respect" in ball games.

However, with such a young team assembled it may take a while to find that player who can step in and demand that respect.

The Lady Renegades have their first home game of the season on Friday at 6 p.m. as they take on Butte College.



Third and Five

By JEFF WEISINGER
Sports editor

Tenn and whoa

Becoming just the 10th team to start 10-0 since the AFL-NFL merger, the Tennessee Titans are anything but perfect.

But don't tell that to Titans Head Coach Jeff Fisher, who told The Tennessean newspaper that his team's a "perfect 10."

However, despite lack of "household name" players, the Titans do something that nobody else in the NFL is able to do week in and week out... find a way to win.

With a former Chicago Bear castoff in Justin Gage, a former Raiders third-string cornerback and kick returner in Chris Carr, a standout rookie runningback in Chris Johnson and Reggie Bush's former backup at USC, LenDale White, the Titans offense is nothing like the "perfect" Patriots of a year ago.

Then there's their quarterback.

With Vince Young dealing with his issues, the Titans turned to 35-year-old Kerry Collins to "get 'er done."

Although he doesn't have the talent that Tom Brady had around him (nor the numbers Brady had at this point last season), or the legs that Vince Young has, not to mention the fact that the Titans are only ranked 20th in total offense, the former Raider and New York Giant has done enough to be undefeated.

However, the one thing Collins has done, despite throwing only eight touchdowns so far this year with just under 2,000 yards passing, is manage the game.

And then the main reason of Tennessee's surprising success this year, their defense.

Tennessee finished fifth in the NFL last season in yards allowed per game, allowing just over 290 yards per game. This year, they are slightly better, allowing just over 280 yards per game which is sixth in the NFL. They are ranked first in total points allowed with 131 and have allowed an average of 13.1 points a game which is best in the league.

The Titans' upcoming schedule does give them the chance to become the second team ever to finish the season 16-0, and the third team to finish the regular season undefeated.

The only challenge would be the last two games of the season when they take on the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Indianapolis Colts.

Nine years ago the Titans made it to the Super Bowl against the St. Louis Rams and were a yard short of sending the game into overtime and possibly winning it.

Maybe this time around they will get that final yard.