

Rocky Renegades headed south

■ Loss to West Valley won't affect Ohlone's chances in San Diego

By ANKITA CHHABRA
Sports writer

Everyone has their good days and then they have their bad ones.

The Ohlone Men's Basketball team seem to be on a roller coaster ride this season.

Their performance this season has come and gone, as their excitement has.

Even though they had a blowout victory over De Anza College on Wednesday night, their game Saturday against West Valley College did not even come close to reflecting the image of their capability.

"We are not playing fundamentally right and that's why we are looking sloppy on the court," said Renegades Head Coach John Peterson after both games.

Ohlone played strong in both games, but they let little mistakes slip through, causing them to give away free points to their opponents.

Their victory over De Anza came with some struggle during the second half, where sloppy passes and foul trouble led to free throw points to the Dons.

With the contribution of points from point guard A.J. Flournoy and forward James Hancock, Ohlone staked in the victory at home,



Photo by Jeff Weisinger

Renegade's Leon Hart lays it up over the DeAnza player in Ohlone's 80-54 win.

80-54.

"I just want to put shots in and practice my game", said Hancock who had 18 points in the win.

Hancock, like the rest of his teammates, looks to improve on

his mistakes in practice.

"The boys just need to start playing fundamentally," said Peterson, who is hoping to decrease the amount of turnovers in the games as well as work on a better man on

man defense for their upcoming games.

Wednesday night's effort did not seem to carry through to their game against West Valley on Saturday as they lost to the Vikings in a tight shootout 68-62.

The opening shot was put in by the Vikings, until Frank Monge gave way to opening Ohlone's scoring streak, leading up to a 32-31 Renegade lead.

However, their mistakes and sloppiness came back to haunt Ohlone as they were outscored 37-30 in the second half by the Vikings.

"We just need to work on our mistakes," said Kevan West and overall they do.

Alpha N'Diaye sat out the second half of the game due to a technical foul and was held out for the rest of the game.

Though the scoreboard stayed close, Ohlone's loss led to a realization that they need to work on reducing their turnovers.

Overall they're looking confident as they head down south to San Diego this weekend for the Grossmont College Tournament.

Despite their 6-3 record, they are still one of the best teams walking into this tournament.

The team has it's eye on the state championship, despite the early struggles nine games in, the dream does not seem to be too far away.

Still a ways to go for the young Renegade squad.



Third and Five

By JEFF WEISINGER
Sports editor

A foolish Giant

A few sins of being high-profiled in public are: carrying a gun, let alone loaded with the safety off and unregistered, having a weapon at a club or any public venue, and being drunk in public.

New York Giants wide receiver Plaxico Burress not only broke all of these sins, he did it all in a span of a few hours.

After shooting himself in the leg Friday night, Plax took another hit Monday morning after he was charged with two counts of illegal possession of a firearm, a felony of which (in the State of New York) is punishable by a mandatory three and a half year sentence for each count.

(Meaning he'd have to do seven years if found guilty.)

By the way, the club Burress was at, known as the Latin Quarter, is a block away from the NFL offices... for those who might've been wondering.

On Tuesday, Burress was suspended for four games and placed on the non-football injury list, ending his season regardless of suspension.

Lets recap for those who don't know.

Plax went to a nightclub in New York City Friday night with a loaded handgun, got a little bit drunk, had his own gun accidentally go off and shoot himself in the leg, and now faces seven years in prison.

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg wants to see those seven years done.

"I don't think anyone should be exempt... And I think it would be an outrage if we didn't prosecute him to the fullest extent of the law," said Bloomberg, referring back to the P. Diddy trial that saw Diddy get acquitted of two counts of murder.

The Giants have stated that "Plax needs the Giants more than the Giants need him."

That is pretty true, actually.

Amani Toomer leads the team in receptions, Kevin Boss leads in touchdown catches, Domenik Hixon leads in average yards per catch.

Oh, and Big Blue is 11-1 by the way, with little or no help from Burress.

Burress joins a long list of pro athletes that have "made it and messed up," a list of which is led by the infamous Adam "Pacman" Jones.

Long story short, Plax became another sad statistic. A talent gone to waste.

The sad part is that he could go to jail for shooting himself.

Most writers are sick of writing about this kind of thing.

This one is one of them.

New class on campus: Sports Broadcasting

By ANKITA CHHABRA
Sports writer

If sports is something that tickles your brain and you are interested in learning how your information about the game comes to you, then there is something for you to look out for.

Ohlone College is introducing a new class this spring semester known as Sports Broadcasting.

Officially labeled as BRDC-213, the lecture and lab class is worth about three units.

Its mainly focused on the lab portion as students will get a hands-on experience with the equipment and learn the field work of sports broadcasting.

The class will be taught by two instructors, Paul Hammons and Laura Elliot.

Hammons worked for several major broadcasting companies, producing the sports and news broadcasts for ABC and NBC mainly for almost 30 years and taught at both Columbia University and Fordham University.

"The goal of the class is to satisfy each student's intellectual curiosity towards sports productions," said Hammons.

Students will gain knowledge in things like play-by-play reporting, setting up cameras and working with equipment

Even though ONTV, Ohlone's News Channel covers sports, this class will mainly focus only on Ohlone Sports, particularly basketball for the spring and will move onto volleyball and water polo in the fall semester.

Hammons also plans to begin to stream Ohlone sports events as a project of the class.

Students will be given a chance at all the aspects of broadcasting, and will be graded on their quality.

The class is for anyone that is interested in sports with Hammons and Elliot looking forward to students who can bring forth their own experience to the class.

The class will be two hours lecture on tuesdays from 10 a.m. to noon with about five hours of lab time.

The Renegades' very own 'Field of Dreams'

By TOMÁS ORTEGA
Sports writer

Athletes from all different sports take serious pride in their work.

Whether it be hitting extra reps after practice or watching extra film, athletes are some of the most prideful people about their craft.

Baseball players, especially at the collegiate level, take pride in maintaining their baseball field.

Throughout the fall, the Ohlone Baseball team has not only prepared for their upcoming season, but have also been cleaning up the baseball field which has never exactly been eye candy around the Ohlone campus.

For the last 20 years, the baseball field has seen minor to no improvements to the infield dirt.

The outfield grass is a big problem. Starting about 15 yards into the outfield, the ground slopes downhill, causing outfielders to throw uphill and force them to cover more ground on a fly ball.

However, head baseball coach Jordan Twohig has, with support from Athletic Director Chris Warden and Buildings and Grounds director Mohammed Gil, used his manpower to fix the field.

Last month, the outfield fence was taken down and replaced within a week and is a much better look than a chain link fence with a green tarp. Twohig also hopes to replace the fence along the left field line with the same material as the outfield fence.



Photo by Jeff Weisinger

The Men's baseball team has been working hard all fall to upgrade the field.

Another new addition is the walk up paths from the on deck circle to home plate. Before Thanksgiving weekend, the area around home plate was all grass. But on Sunday, Twohig and his players extracted the grass and filled the walk ups with dirt.

"I want to give these guys a Division One experience," said Twohig. "The only way to do that is to give them a better field."