



Inside the lines

By **JEFF WEISINGER**
Sports editor

West not best

The last time a California team won a "major" championship, Shaq and Kobe were best of friends and the Arena Football League had a major T.V. deal with NBC.

Seems like a long time ago, right?

The 49ers and Raiders glory days are now long gone, with the San Diego Chargers' only Super Bowl appearance coming in 1994 against the 49ers in their last Super Bowl trip.

Neither team has been to the Super Bowl since then.

The Raiders' run in 2002 was demolished by Tampa Bay in Super Bowl XXXVII.

The S.F. Giants have yet to win a World Series since moving to the S.F. Bay Area from New York in 1958. Their last championship came as the New York Giants in 1954.

Hey, 50 years without a championship is nothing compared to the Cubs' drought (101 years and counting).

The A's started the decade strong, making the playoffs from 2000-04, however they lost in the ALDS in five games in each of those five years (Yankees in 2001 and 2002, Minnesota in 2003 and Boston in 2004). Their best run came in 2006, but ended in the ALCS after being swept by the Detroit Tigers.

The Los Angeles Angels have just one World Series win, which came in 2002 against the Giants. And the Dodgers have yet to make it to the World Series since beating the A's in 1989.

The Warriors "believed" in 2007 for the first time in 13 years. But they haven't won an NBA Championship since 1975. And the Sacramento Kings have been in a drought since 1951.

We've all stopped "believing" since.

The only success California has had in this decade came down to just three teams.

One, obviously, was the Los Angeles Lakers, who went on to win three consecutive NBA Championships from 2000-'02, but lost in the playoffs to the Spurs in '03 and in the NBA finals to Detroit in 2004 and, recently, to Boston in 2008.

The San Jose Sharks have been the most consistent team in California, making the NHL playoffs in 10 of the past 11 seasons, but cannot seem to get to the Stanley Cup finals.

And then we have the AFL's San Jose Sabercats. Since entering the Arena Football League in 1995, the Sabercats have missed the playoffs just twice in franchise history and won three Arenabowls in the 2000's (2002, 2004 and 2007).

So, of all the pro sports around California, an Arena Football team has kept California going. Wow.



STILL RUNNING STRONG

Photos by Don Jedlovic

Ohlone's Kat Sumner, above left, scores a run as teammate Shelby Tomasello cheers her on. Below, sophomore pitcher Kelly Colker looked mostly sharp during the weekend tournament.

Softball takes third in own tournament

■ Ohlone goes 4-1 in weekend's March Madness tournament

By **TOMÁS ORTEGA**
Sports writer

The Ohlone Softball team held the 17th annual March Madness tournament over the weekend at the Central Park Sports Complex in Fremont, and the Lady Renegades opened the tournament with a bang.

Ohlone played three games in their pool on Saturday, coming away with three consecutive wins over Lassen College, Solano College and Hartnell College.

Ohlone outscored their opponents on Saturday 36-1.

The Lady Renegades played Lassen College first and easily handed Lassen its first loss of the tournament 13-1.

Ohlone's Kelly Colker pitched six innings, allowing only one run on three hits while striking out 11 Lassen hitters. Jessica Maria came

on in relief to get the final three outs of the game.

Renegades Jamie Miller and Ashley Nahale collected two hits and drove in three runs a piece to lead the way.

Against Solano, in the second game on Saturday, Colker continued her excellence, pitching seven innings, allowing only one run on four hits while striking out eight in a 6-0 victory.

At the plate, Kim Cawley of the Renegades went 3-3 with two runs scored. Teammate Ashtyn Mullin also scored two runs.

In Saturday's third game, Ohlone had four hitters collect at least two hits a piece with three of those hitters scoring two runs each as the Lady Renegades beat Hartnell 17-0.

The 17-0 score is the second largest margin of victory for the Lady Renegades this season.

Ohlone picked up where they left off on Sunday, defeating Modesto 8-0.

Seven Lady Renegade starters scored at least one run to fuel the victory.

The momentum they gained in the Modesto game didn't last very long, though.

Ohlone's next game was against Siskiyou College, a team they haven't beat in the previous two regular season meetings, losing 10-2 in the first meeting and 2-1 in the second.

Sunday's game was like the first meeting between the two as Siskiyou beat Ohlone 7-0, making it three wins in a row against the Lady Renegades.

Ohlone only managed two hits against the tall Siskiyou pitcher, Jackie Imhof.

Imhof faced just three Renegades over the minimum and collected six strikeouts on the day.

Colker struggled against the Lady Eagles, giving up seven earned runs on nine hits in six innings.

Most of the damage caused by Siskiyou came in their four run sixth inning.

Siskiyou would go on to win the March Madness tournament in a 2-1, eight-inning thriller against Fresno City College.

Ohlone left the tournament with an 18-7 overall record and will look to add to their win record as they host Monterey Peninsula College today at 3 p.m.



Ohlone baseball back on track; wins 14-4

By **JEFF WEISINGER**
Sports editor

After fighting back against rival Chabot in Hayward last Thursday and winning in Monterey against Monterey Peninsula in 11 innings on Saturday, the Ohlone baseball team looks to be back on track.

Their 14-4 win Tuesday in Salinas against Hartnell just about solidifies that.

"This was a great team win today," said Ohlone Head Baseball Coach Jordon Twohig. "Anytime you can go on the road in conference and come away with a win,

you have to be pleased."

Outfielder Jeff Johnson's RBI double in the first inning, scoring Steven Ramos from second, sparked the Renegades to an early 1-0 lead.

However, Tom Kainoa's 2-RBI single in the bottom of the first inning gave Hartnell an early 2-1 lead after the first inning.

The Renegades struck back, scoring two runs in the second and three in the third inning.

After allowing four runs through the first four innings, including a solo home run to Hartnell's Dustin Stump in the second, Renegades

right-hander David Luna (4-1) shut down Hartnell in the fourth and fifth innings, allowing just one hit before being relieved in the sixth inning by the sophomore right-hander Alex Oberle.

Ohlone held a tight 6-4 lead as both teams' offenses fired back and forth for the first three innings of play.

And then the Renegades began to pull away in the fourth inning as freshman Kyle Holmstrom and Michael Ussery each had a two-RBI double with Ussery scoring on an error by Hartnell first baseman Josh Markwith.

Ohlone would finish the fourth inning scoring five runs as they would take a commanding 11-4 lead.

The Renegades scored two more runs in the fifth inning and one more run in the sixth for their third consecutive win.

Oberle and freshman right-hander Jon Sa combined to pitch the last 3 1/3 innings, allowing just a total of two hits while holding Hartnell scoreless for the last six innings of the game.

The Renegades look for their fourth straight win as they host Monterey Peninsula today at noon.