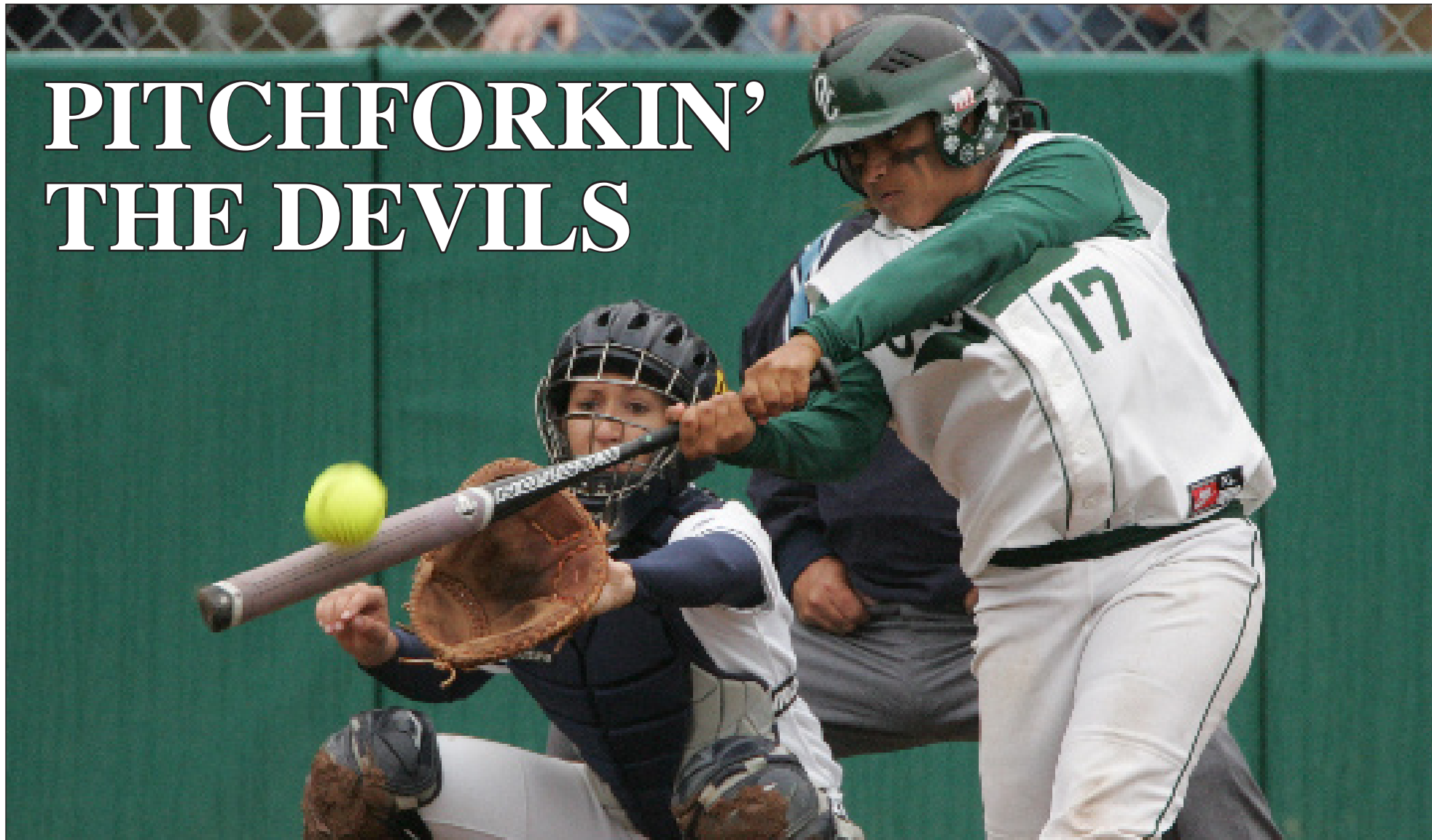


# PITCHFORKIN' THE DEVILS



Photos courtesy of Don Jedlovec

**Julyssa Perry's RBI single in the bottom of the sixth inning scored Ashley Nahale from second, giving the Lady Renegades the go-ahead 2-1 lead on Sunday. Kim Cawley also scored on a Merced error to give Ohlone a 3-1 lead.**

## One step closer: Softball off to Round 2

### ■ Lady Renegades fight past Merced for trip to Super Regionals

By TOMÁS ORTEGA  
Sports writer

Merced College did what they could to rally late against the Ohlone Softball team over the weekend in a best of three series in the opening round of the state playoffs.

However, Ohlone kept their foot on the gas to accelerate past Merced, winning the first two games of the series.

Saturday's game saw the Renegades throw ace pitcher Kelly Colker against the Blue Devils.

Colker efficiently pitched her way through all seven innings on the mound to pick up the 2-0 win. Her five strikeouts didn't compare to some of her more recent performances, where she'd strike out closer to ten, but it didn't keep her

from staying focused on the present challenge.

"I was just in my zone," Colker said while adjusting the right arm that tossed 94 pitches.

"I was in my own little world like always. I don't like to let other people distract me."

The runs by the Renegade offense were scored early enough to give Colker the cushion she needed to keep her mind on her duties only.

A double steal called by Head Coach Donna Runyon put runners in second and third for Paulina Gentry.

The freshman designated player mashed the pitch off the second baseman into right field scoring the only two runs of the game.

"Since we have over 120 stolen bases this year, I really think that people know that we're aggressive on the bases and we're going to run," Runyon said.

Game two Sunday afternoon was filled with more drama than

Saturdays.

Although rain fell at a steady pace, it didn't feel like a California rainy day. The air was heavier than most days and was noticed easily when you breathed in.

It had little effect though for Merced's Sam Bassey who crushed Kendall Beermann's pitch high into the trees behind the right field fence for a solo home run. The run put Merced ahead for half an inning before Ohlone scored the equalizer.

The game was knotted at one until the sixth inning. Ashley Nahle, who is having an outstanding season as a freshman for the Renegades hit a lead off double to the right field wall. Momentum was restored to the

Ohlone dugout, who rallied with two more hits to score two runs and take the lead for good.

Beermann was replaced by Colker for the final two innings and she was perfect, retiring the six batters she faced to clinch a Sweet 16



**Sophomore pitcher Kelly Colker and catcher Kat Sumner celebrate the win against Merced.**

appearance for the Renegades.

Ohlone is slated to play against the third seeded Cosumnes River this weekend starting Saturday at 2 p.m.

The Renegades hope to have a better showing than their squad

did last season against Shasta in the Sweet 16.

Ohlone was knocked out in two straight games to end their season.

For more playoff coverage, log on to [www.ohloneonline.com](http://www.ohloneonline.com).

## Men's Soccer ready to rebound from 2008 season

### ■ Renegades aim to rebuild from a dismal 2008 season

By ANKITA CHHABRA  
Sports writer

3-17-2 in 2008, with an 0-15 start. Not exactly what you hope for in a season.

Leaving behind last season's memories, the Ohlone Men's soccer team, under the new guidance of Head Coach Jan Eric Nordmo,

played their last non-traditional season matchup against De Anza College last Wednesday.

Though the game seemed to have been in their favor in the beginning, the ending proved to be a different story.

Though a win or a loss does not count toward anything in pre-season, practice tends to make perfect.

With some old faces back on the grass field, as well as some new ones, this Ohlone team has grasped the concept of team effort

fairly quickly looking at their pre-season games.

Returning captains Wayne Jin and Daniel Galloway, along with Cody Nathans, have all shown dominance on the field in their respected positions as they have headed these games.

While returners might show their new attitude towards this season, it was the new ones on the grass that made a statement as well.

After heavy recruitment, Coach Nordmo introduced the Renegades with promising faces such as

Jonathan "Cookie" Santillan and forwards Daniel Ferrarese and Pierre Bruggeman, who all have made their marks thus far.

"Ohlone is better than what we played last year, and what I just saw today is an improved team and we are looking forward to playing them in the season," said De Anza head coach Mark Landefeld.

The first half started off with an opening goal by Renegades forward Pierre Bruggeman. The score was kept to 1-0 until the last few minutes before halftime, when another shot

by Nick Sanchez went through, giving Ohlone 2-0 lead.

The second half stayed nil for the beginning for both sides, until the Dons took charge and took the lead over the restless Renegades as the score resulted in 3-2.

Ohlone tried their best to hang in with only two subs and attempted to make another goal, but their efforts fell short.

Nordmo was very pleased with his team efforts and said that "this was a team that will be giving a good fight in the leagues this year."