

Renegades pillage the Vikings

By TOMÁS ORTEGA
Staff writer

Renegades forward Reggie “Big Ranch” Jones’ 11 second-half points gave his squad the spark they needed to outscore the West Valley Vikings 64-52 Saturday afternoon.

Jones’ first half presence wasn’t felt as heavily and it showed, seeing the Renegades down 32-24 at the halfway mark.

“It was an attitude change in the second half,” Head Coach John Peterson said. “They needed to impose their will defensively.”

The Renegades squad, anchored by Jones, did just that, limiting the Vikings to just 17 points in the second half. Meanwhile, the Renegades more than doubled their first half offensive output, scoring 40 points in the second frame.

“We make everyone on the other team beat us, not just one player,” Jones said.

The Renegades opened the game on fire, going on a 11-5 run to start. Guard Isaiah Moore collected two blocks in the first seven minutes of the game and the Renegades looked to run away with it quick. Unfortunately, a few key turnovers by the Renegades and strong offensive bursts by the Vikings propelled them past the Renegades on a 12-0 run that put them ahead by six.

The Renegades had no answer defensively against West Valley’s Devon Mynhier, 10 first half points, and Drew Phillips’ 12 points.

The second half though, was a different game altogether. Phillips collected just six points in the second half and Mynhier just four points.

“Coach inspired us at halftime and told us what we needed to hear,”



Photos by David Epperson

Quaran Johnson, right, guards his West Valley counterpart. Below, Reggie Jones backs down a defender. He had 19 points for the game.

Jones added.

Offensively in the second half, five different Ohlone players had at least five points. Maurice Briggs’ six points fueled the Renegades’ 14-0 run, where they originally saw themselves down by five to the Vikings. The Renegades went on another 10-0 run as time expired, capped by a pair of Quaran Johnson free throws to put the game well out of reach.

Over the semester/winter break, the Renegades will be in constant action on the road, including a tournament hosted by the West Valley Vikings in Saratoga.

The Renegades’ final game of the 2009 calendar year is slotted against Consumnes River College in Sacramento on New Year’s Eve at 1p.m.



Twohig, No. 19 Ohlone ready for 2010

By JEFF WEISINGER
Editor-in-chief

“Every year’s a new year, every game’s a new game.”

Renegades Baseball Coach Jordon Twohig has always been an “even-keel” type of coach, and with the 2010 season right around the corner, he’ll look to lead the No. 19 Ohlone Renegades to the State Championship in May.

“I think the team’s looking really strong after fall ball,” Twohig said. The Renegades played 10 Fall-ball games against other schools during this fall semester as they prepare for another run at a State Championship in 2010.

“For 20 years, Paul Moore built

this all up,” Twohig mentioned. “And he made it to the Final-Four and we’ve yet to do that. But that’s our goal. I think there’s a bar that’s been set. There has been a bar set at Ohlone, where we win championships. That’s what we do here, set, first and foremost, by our athletic director Chris Warden.”

Ohlone’s turnaround from a .500 record in 2008, under former coach Tom Kunis, to a new school record 37-11 record in ‘09 ended in disappointment as the Renegades lost in the semi-finals to San Jose City and to Cosumnes River.

This year’s team will be different however. Last year’s squad rolled over teams with an experienced rotation that recorded a team ERA

of 3.34 and young lineup that bat a .328 average and scored a team total of 371 runs.

This year’s squad looks to be the opposite of 2009, with a young pitching staff and an experienced lineup that’s bringing back a majority of the ‘09 starters, Twohig is confident that his team will be as successful as they were last season.

“I think those guys are better,” Twohig added. “They’re a year better and a year more skilled. They know what it’s like to face a pitcher who’s crafty and against a guy who throws 95 miles per hour.”

Steven Ramos, Cody Foster, Zack and Jeff Johnson, Michael Ussery and Ryan Walterhouse return

to the 2010 lineup with sophomore lefty Roberto Padilla leading, a young Renegade rotation.

“He’s really coming into his own,” Twohig said about his returning left-hander. Padilla finished 2009 with a 4-4 record and a 3.64 ERA with 57 strikeouts and 28 walks.

“The biggest thing for us is the pitching,” Twohig said. “And if they do what we think they can do, watch out. It’ll be a fun season.”

The Renegades kick off their season with their first three games on the road, starting at Diablo Valley College on Feb. 6 at noon. They’ll play their first home game on Feb. 16 against Los Medanos at 2 p.m., kicking off a four-game homestand.

Ohlone prepares for approaching season

By JACOB SCHABERT
Staff writer

The Ohlone Renegades Softball season is set to begin Feb. 2, opening up against Modesto College. The Renegades dominated the Coast Conference last season in route to a 39-10 overall record, going 16-1 in conference play.

If the Renegades can hit the ball close as well as they did last year, then Ohlone will be set offensively.

Last season, Ohlone led the Coast Conference in batting average with an overall team BA of .327, they also led the conference in runs batted in, with 223, and in runs scored, with 299.

The Renegades also had seven players finish the season with a .300 or better batting average, with an 8th player batting over .290, an almost unheard of statistic.

Ashley Nahale is one of the top offensive players from last season to return this year Nahale batted .361,

to go along with 4 HR’s, and 36 RBI’s a year ago. Nahale was the epitome of a contact hitter, striking out only five times all season. Another key returner to this year’s squad is Julyssa Perry. Perry batted .340 last season with 15 RBI’s, and 18 stolen bases.

The Renegades didn’t just dominate last season on the offensive side, pitching was just as much a factor in finishing league play nearly undefeated as the hitting. The Ren-

egades held down the opposition to just 55 earned runs all season in 316 innings of play.

Departed sophomores Kelly Colker and Kendall Beermann were the stars of the pitching staff last year. Colker finished with a 26-7 record, a 1.27 ERA, with an astonishing 211 strikeouts in 219 innings pitched.

League play will begin Feb. 16, against the College of San Mateo.



Swing away
By NICK ZAMBRANO
Sports editor

Tweeting the news

I’ve been in the journalism game a while, and it’s tough. We tend to be like bloodhounds because the information we have to gather is hardly ever given to us on a silver platter. To you we appear nosy, but in reality, we’re just trying to do our job.

However, in this day and age, the information we’ve pined so much for can easily be gained by a 13-year-old boy. It goes without saying that in the technological era that we’re in, journalists - or anyone in the media, really - are assuming the roles of cyber-victims. And with being the victim, we are forced to either adapt or become obsolete.

And adapt is what today’s media has chosen to do.

Twitter itself has become a primary source for the sports world. Because of its simple “what are you doing” format - or as some call it, “tweeting” - credible sports reporters have blitzed the social networking website because of its popularity among today’s athletes.

For instance, on the day of Allen Iverson’s “retirement,” NBA reporter JA Adande was one of the very first to break the news. How did he do it?

Through his own personal Twitter account.

It was a total domino effect. First, Iverson’s people themselves released the announcement on the website. Then Adande got a hold of it. Finally, ESPN announced the news and named Twitter the lead source. If ESPN, the worldwide leader in sports, has resorted to using a public website for its information, then what is in store for the rest of the media industry?

When it was first announced, I thought the idea was completely brainless. I told myself time and time again that I would not lower myself just to get those facts and leads.

I caved. I was forced to adapt. After hearing ESPN and Fox Sports News continuously using Twitter as a source and even hearing about the Ohlone basketball team having an account, I had no choice. It was a growing essential to me and my choice of profession.

From what I’ve experienced, using Twitter as a source is okay, to an extent. Aside from getting scoops, it does allow you to interact with your favorite athletes on a more personal level.

If it were the absolute last line of hope, then it would be even better. At this rate, we’ll be discussing what LeBron James has for breakfast in no time. Come on now, this world is all about “survival of the fittest,” but let’s please edge on the side of reason.