

Renegades avert disaster, defeat lowly Cañada

■ Center Reggie Jones blows up for 33 points.

By NICK ZAMBRANO
Sports editor

On paper, it seemed like the Ohlone Renegades would just walk over lowly Cañada College on Saturday, Feb. 7. The Renegades came into their weekend match-up with the Colts ranked fourth in the state and owners of a 18-4 record. Cañada on the other hand, came in at 9-11, while holding a 1-7 record in Coast Conference play.

However, it was far from a walk and more like a track meet as the Renegades narrowly pulled out the win, 66-60.

To open up the game, Cañada sank two straight three-pointers and would actually finish the half shooting 50 percent from behind the arc.

"That's what they (Cañada) do," said Ohlone head coach John Peterson. "We wanted to make sure that if they were going to make threes, we didn't want to give them points on the free-throw line, so if they were going to beat us they were going to have to make a lot of threes."

Colts' guard Peter Pappageorge went five for nine from over the three-point stripe and finished the night with 16 points; fellow guard Kyle McIntyre finished with 15

points, all from the land of threes.

At the end of the first half it seemed like Cañada had full control of Ohlone with a 28-22 lead. Eighteen of those points came by way of the three.

Going into the second half, Peterson gave his squad a little advice.

"Just loosen up out there against the zone," Peterson told his young group. "We were hesitant to shoot it early in the clock. We told them once

SCOREBOARD

Cañada: 60
Ohlone: 66

Next game:
Sat. Feb. 13,
vs. CCSF
3 p.m.

the ball hits the paint, let it fly."

And flying they went.

Ohlone center Reggie Jones broke out in the second half and brought the battle down to the post. In the second half, the sophomore lit up the scoreboard for 16 points while also going a perfect four for four from the charity stripe. Jones fell short of a double-double for the game but still finished with 29 points and nine rebounds.

"It could have been 33," Jones kidded, referring to the 33 points he had against Foothill College back on Jan. 29.

Due in part to Jones' surge,

Ohlone found themselves exchanging one-to-two point leads for the final eight minutes of the game. The Renegades did have some production from the land of three, and it came at the most crucial of moments. With the game now in the final minutes, Scott Clark sank one of only two Ohlone three-pointers, to finally create some separation from the Colts.

"Scott hit a couple of threes and it really opened it up for us," said Peterson of Clark's clutch three-point shooting. Clark would go on to finish the game with 10 points, he was also two for three from beyond the arc.

Lavon Gray dominated on the rebounds, as he collected 15 boards. 11 of those 15 came off the opponent's backboards and in turn created more opportunities for the Renegades on the other end of the floor.

The notch in the win column puts Ohlone at 18-4 overall and 7-1 in Coast Conference play. The Renegades remain in first place in conference play with the win, while still holding a one-game lead over Foothill, who sits at 7-2.

After Cañada, Ohlone traveled to San Bruno last night to take on Skyline College. The results of that game were unknown at press time. The Renegades return home Saturday, Feb. 13 when they take on City College of San Francisco, tip-off is scheduled for 3 p.m.



Photo by Alex Glanville

Lavon Gray, right, pulls up for the jumper. Gray finished with a game-high 15 rebounds and seven points.

Ladies remain perfect in league play

By KEVIN YIN
Staff writer

The Ohlone Lady Renegades maintained their perfect conference record on Friday, Feb. 5 with a 78-55 blowout win over the Monterey Peninsula College Lobos at home.

Jasmine Rubin scored 26 points on 12 of 23 shooting and Ganeaya Rogers added 17 points and nine assists as Ohlone improved to 14-6 overall and 9-0 in conference play. The 78 points scored by the Lady Renegades tied a season high.

"[Rubin] can play," Ohlone head coach Julia Allender said. "She and Janea can just flat out put the ball in the basket. They're both playing really well right now."

Rubin set an aggressive tone for Ohlone on the opening possession, stealing a Lobo pass right in front of

SCOREBOARD

MPC: 55
Ohlone: 78

Next game:
Sat. Feb. 13,
vs. Mission
5 p.m.

the scorer's table and racing ahead of two defenders to draw first blood for the Lady Renegades. Yet the early minutes of the first half gave no indication that the final result would be so lopsided.

Just inside the 14-minute mark, the Lobos held a 13-11 lead, but a 15-2 Ohlone blitz over the next two and a half minutes gave the Lady Renegades a 26-15 lead and established a hold on the contest that Ohlone would not yield again.

The first half was unusually physical, with the Lady Renegades being whistled for 11 team fouls. Monterey seemed determined to attack down low, and were well equipped to do so with a front court measuring 5'9", 5'9" and 5'11". Ohlone was equally determined to defend the paint, and the game's favorable outcome was owed in no small measure to the rugged paint defense supplied by Elise Spain and Jayme Leftridge.

"We really worked hard on that the last few weeks, not letting players catch

down low," Allender said. "They do a great job. It's a tough position to play and they really work hard."

Monterey's Natasha Ray would also open the second half's scoring with a basket that cut Ohlone's lead to 14, but Rubin and Rogers would ensure that was as close as the Lobos would get.

Ohlone did not neglect their defense in the second half either. With Spain and Leftridge controlling the paint, and Rubin, Rogers and McLaughlin hounding the passing lanes, Ohlone surrendered only

seven points in the first ten minutes of the second half. The lead ballooned to 27 on Leftridge's 15-foot baseline jumper with 9:31 remaining.

With the postseason approaching, Allender praised her team's effort and focus. "We're just getting ready for the playoffs now," Allender said. "I'm proud that they get in here every night and put wins together. It's not easy to do."

The Lady Renegades traveled to Aptos to face Cabrillo College last night. The results of the game were not known at press time.

Padilla, #2 Ohlone baseball start season with a bang

By JEFF WEISINGER
Editor-in-chief

How does a team prove that last season was not a fluke?

For the #2 Ohlone Baseball team, winning your season opener in a blowout is a pretty good start.

The Renegades, fresh off their first Coast Conference Pacific championship in nearly 20 years, let alone starting the season nationally ranked for the first time in the team's 40-year history, traveled to #5 Diablo Valley and manhandled the Vikings 14-2 on Monday.

Sophomore left-hander Roberto Padilla (1-0, 0.00 ERA) took the mound for the Renegades, pitching a solid 5 1/3 innings, allowing just four hits while striking out seven. Padilla's performance Monday is much improved after he struggled through just four-plus innings in his first career start at Diablo Valley in

2009 when the Renegades fell to the Vikes, 12-8.

Padilla's pitching was overshadowed by a Renegades lineup that exploded for 14 runs on 17 hits against a Diablo Valley pitching staff that has struggled to start the season.

UP NEXT:

Thurs. Feb. 11
at Santa Rosa
2 p.m.

Ohlone began the scoring fest in the top of the second inning, sparked by sophomore Kyle Holmstrom's one-out double down the left field line. Holmstrom scored from second base one batter later as Ryan Walterhouse hit a double of his own to put Ohlone up 1-0.

Sophomore Michael Di Rocco laced a single to shortstop, moving Walterhouse to third. On the next

pitch, Di Rocco stole second while Walterhouse stole home, putting Ohlone up 2-0. Steven Ramos struck out with two outs, however reached first on a throwing error, allowing Di Rocco to score from third, capping a three-run, second inning for Ohlone.

The Renegades would strike again in the sixth inning, blowing the game wide open, scoring six runs in the sixth to lead 9-0, highlighted by Jeff Johnson's two-RBI double, scoring Ramos and Zach Johnson with one out.

Freshman pitchers George Asmus and Alike Pruett also made their Renegade debuts, pitching a combined 3.2 innings to close the game out. Pruett entered the game to relieve Padilla, pitching a perfect two innings with two strikeouts.

The Renegades will look to go 2-0 today when they travel up to Santa Rosa to take on the Bear Cubs.



Photo by Joseph Florez

Freshman Crystal McLaughlin looks to pass with a Monterey defender giving pressure.