A lack of size on the boards proved to be as Oldon small guards got beaten all night on the boards.

“We knew if we didn’t rebound the ball on the defensive side, it would be hard for us to win that game,” Head Coach Julia Allender said.

“We gave up close to 30 offensive rebounds.”

Oldone was never quite out of the game however. Up until the final minute, Allender said she felt they had chance.

“We were never completely out of the game until the last minute,” Allender said.

However, with the lack of size compared to Santa Rosa, Oldone produced an uphill battle from the start.

“We start one kid over 5 feet, 9 inches, and [...]. they start one kid under 3 feet, 9 inches,” Allender said.

“Tough,” Allender said.

Along with the incoming recruits, the Lady Renegades will also see the return of Alex Robinson, who will add her share of size to the roster. While the Lady 2012 season ended in a disappointing fashion, Allender seemed content with the success the team had.

“I think this team had an incredible year,” Allender said.

“This was a team that had more heart, [and] determination [...] than any team I’ve had here. I thoroughly enjoyed this team.”

The Lady Renegades have a lot to be proud of for their efforts in the 2011-2012 season, finishing undefeated within their division and earning an impressive 24-6 overall record.

However, the ultimate goal of a state title still remains ever so elusive. With most of the team leaving this spring, the final push will come only with a top level recruiting class.

The turnover is nothing new to Coach Allender. As she put it, “There is no rebuilding year. Every year you rebuild.”

Diablo Valley Vikings sink Renegades

By THOMAS PHY Staff writer

Junior college basketball is a constant turnover from season to season, and another turnover is about to unfold for the Lady Renegades as their season came to an end Feb. 29.

Coming off a big win over College of the Redwoods in the second round of the CCCAA Women’s Basketball Northern California Regionals, Oldone’s 65-51 home loss to fifth-ranked Santa Rosa Junior College was a rough way to end a promising year for the Lady Renegades.

Santa Rosa came into the game with a 23-6 overall record and a first-place finish in the Big 8 division. Their strong record proved true as the visitors got off to a hot start early, going into the half with a 36-29 lead.

Lady Bear Cubs beat Lady Renegades

By JOHN HUGHES Photographer

Odhone starting pitcher David Hart didn’t get any support as the baseball team lost 5-3 to Diablo Valley College on Feb. 21.

Diablo Valley College jumped out a 3-1 lead after just four innings of play.

In the top of the seventh inning after a lead-off single and an infield error DVC had runners on first and second with one out.

The following batter smashed a double to left center field to give Diablo Valley a four-run lead.

Odhone attempted a come-back in the bottom of the eighth. With one out No. 10 Matt Owens singled, followed by No. 20 LJ Kala-wai’a’s base hit.

They were left standing on base after the next batter singles, followed by a ground ball to second base for the final out of the inning.

“Our pitching staff is doing a great job keeping us in the ballgame and giving us a chance to win,” Coach Russell said.

“We’re giving up to many free bases, errors, walks, hits, pitching, little things like that, we’re not quite there yet.”

“We have one of the most competitive non-conference schedules in Northern California. There’s only two teams that did not make the Northern California playoffs last year,” Russell said.

Dick Walsh enters Hall of Fame

By JOHN HUGHES Photographer

Former Odhone College Men’s basketball coach Dick Walsh has been elected to the California Community College Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame. He will be inducted March 10 in Sacramento.

He is the first coach to be inducted into the Hall of Fame from Odhone.

Steve Goccmiglio, chairman of the of the Hall of Fame Committee, said, “The state has leagues in the state, and each league has one representative that can nominate coaches for the Hall of Fame.”

“Dick’s name has come up several times, over the last 10 years and last fall he received 80 percent of the votes to get elected,” Goccmiglio said.

We reviewed coaching experiences started in 1901, coaching the B Class Basketball team at Mt. Eden High School in Hayward. He wanted to move to college high schools within a 15-mile radius.”

“There were a number of my students who were sent out with full four-year scholarships to other colleges. When they arrived, they didn’t have anything,” Walsh said.

In 1981, Walsh took a sabatical leave and traveled to New Zealand to become the director of basketball for that country. His duties included preparing the national men’s and women’s teams for the World Games.

Dick Walsh, a longtime Odhone teacher and swim coach, died Feb. 25 at his home in Georgetown at the age of 83.

Croghan was born Aug. 15, 1928 in Kellogg, Idaho to William and Bessie (Elizabeth) Croghan. Shortly after, his family moved to Aberdeen, Wash.

Croghan graduated high school in 1946 and soon after enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. He then went on to graduate from Western Washington University in Bellingham, Wash. with a degree in education. His teaching career started in Mt. Vernon School District. In 1956, Croghan moved to California to take a swimming job with the San Leandro School District, which he kept for 30 years. He then decided to return to school and get his masters degree in administration from University of San Francisco.

Croghan took a position at Odhone where he remained till his retirement. Throughout his career, Croghan coached many swim teams in both high school, college and league teams. His first age group yearround team was the Flying Fins of Fairfield. After leaving the Flying Fins, Croghan started his second team the Hayward Swim Club.

After his tenure with the Hayward Swim Club he started as a coach with the Odhone college swim team., where he finished his coaching career. After his retirement in 1994, Croghan and his wife Jan moved to Georgetown where he became an avid vinter and apple grower.

Croghan and his wife loved to entertain family and friends at their home. Both Jan and Jack Croghan were heavily involved with the community of Georgetown. Croghan was a larger than life man who will be missed by many.

He is survived by his wife of 31 years, Janet (Jan); his children Mark, Mareta, Michael, Matthew; and his stepson Steve Jones from his second wife.

A celebration of the Croghan’s life will be held March 11 from 3 p.m. to 5 at Crosswinds Church, 6444 Sienna Court, Dublin.