A’s and Giants remain hopeful despite losses

By ALLEN KRIMMEL
Staff writer

Baseball came back in full swing the weekend of April 6-8.

The San Francisco Giants suffered a three-game sweep to the Arizona Diamondbacks.

The Oakland Athletics resumed a four-game series that had originally begun in Japan, losing three out of four games.

Despite a disappointing weekend, each ball club has high expectations for its players.

Buster Posey, catcher of the San Francisco Giants, is now in healthy form after suffering a broken bone in his left ankle at a home plate collision last season.

Fan favorite pitchers Tim Lincecum signed a two-year contract extension and Matt Cain, a five-year contract extension.

New acquisitions for the Giants consist of outfielders Melky Cabrera, and Angel Pagan to add extra hitting ability, and speed to the top of the batting order.

The Giants are also expected to put more faith in their young shortstop Brandon Crawford, and first baseman Brandon Belt, who spent most of last year in the minors.

The biggest off-season acquisition for the Oakland Athletics was the signing of the powerful Cuban outfielder Yoenis Cespedes.

Cespedes signed a four-year contract worth up to $56 million.

This amount of spending is usually relatively unheard of for the A’s.

The A’s usually only having a total salary cap space of a little over $40 million a year.

Other moves that some might consider questionable for the A’s was the signing of Manny Ramirez, who turns 40 years old this year.

He must also serve a 50-game suspension for the use of steroids.

The A’s were also able to sign fan favorite outfielder Coco Crisp to a two-year contract extension.

In terms of expectations for the teams, Comcast Sports Network Bay Area insider Paul Gutierrez has made predictions for both teams.

A return to glory is in store for the San Francisco Giants. They are not only expected to win the National League West division, but Matt Cain is also expected to win the Cy Young award, meaning he is the most efficient pitcher in the National League.

“The next time Buster Posey plays a full big league season will be his first. And the Giants will benefit,” said Gutierrez.

Unfortunately, another year of disappointment is waiting for the Oakland Athletics.

They are expected to land in third place in the American League West division.

Paul Gutierrez also expects that A’s general manager to use Yoenis Cespedes as trade bait for minor league prospects before season’s end.

Speculation is always anticipated for any sport, but the MLB season is young and anything can happen to either of these two teams.

Lady Renegades win and lose during doubleheader

By JOHN HUGHES
Staff writer

The Lady Renegades won one and lost one in a double header April 7.

Lady Renegade starting pitcher Lauren Ermitano pitched a jewel of a game, shutting out City College of San Francisco 14-0 to gain the victory.

Ermitano pitched five strong innings against the Lady Rams, giving up only one hit and striking out eight.

Ohlone hitters provided Ermitano with a double, two triples and two home runs.

Alicia Lema-Keesis and Mariah Nisbet provided two of the extra base hits, while Renelle Traylor and Jamie Costa provided the homeruns.

Renelle Taylor and Jamie Costa provided the homeruns. The Lady Renegades had their running shoes on also Mackenzie Bush, Mariah Nisbet and Katy Weger also provided three stolen bases.

The victory was a complete team effort, with Mariah Nisbet, Katy Weger, Renelle Traylor, Jamie Costa and Alicia Lema-Keesis getting at least two hits.

Buster Posey returns to the Giants after his season-ending ankle injury in 2011.

Katy Weger went four-for-four, scoring two runs and getting two RBIs and Renelle Taylor went three-for-three, scoring three runs and belting two RBIs.

The victory gave the Lady Renegades a 23-11 over all record, and a West Coast Conference record of 10-3.

The day began with a pitching duel and a loss to College of San Mateo 1-0.

“We out hit them 7 to 4” said Coach Donna Runyon said, “We also left eight runners on base.

Ohlone starting pitcher Katie Bihl pitched well going 4.1 innings and allowed only four hits and one unearned run, but Lady Bulldogs pitcher Michelle Pilster was up to the task, bolstering her record to 23-2 to earn the victory over Fresno City College.

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