By LOUIS LAVENTURE
Sports editor

With soccer-playing parents, it was almost a foregone conclusion that Jessica Hernandez would excel at the sport that both of her parents love.

Hernandez leads the undefeated Lady Renegades in scoring with five goals and two assists on the season responsible for 12 points.

The 19-year-old sophomore played at Newark Memorial High School where her mother also played during her high school career. Hernandez has been playing organized soccer since the early age of 4 in her hometown of Newark.

She liked the sport that her parents introduced her to, sticking with it and eventually turning in to a lethal scorer with quick feet and powerful shots. "She can hit shots with both her left and right feet," coach Larry Heslin said. "She hits rockets and the ball flies off of her foot with tremendous power."

Last year Hernandez scored the tying goal against City College of San Francisco that clinched a playoff berth for the Lady Renegades.

She has moved to forward this season primarily because of her progress from last year as well as her striking abilities.

"It feels good to have all of my hard work pay off," Hernandez said. "Coach really pushes us to make us do more than we think we are capable of."

Hernandez would love to keep playing the sport that has brought her so much joy in her life after Ohlone and has not ruled out transferring athletically.

"I have had some contact with CSU Monterey and I would love to play there," Hernandez said. "Even if I don't play soccer, I would still like to transfer there and finish my education."

If playing professional soccer is not in the future of Hernandez she would still like to accomplish her career goal of becoming a nurse.

She is finishing her general education requirements but would like to enroll in a nursing program once she graduates.

Hernandez was brilliant for the Lady Renegades in the first half of their 6-0 victory over Canada College Tuesday. She scored the only goal of the half, giving Ohlone a slight edge at halftime 1-0.

She took a pass from Presley Strother and showed dazzling dribbling skills and soft feet to put the touch past the goalkeeper. Her offensive skill set is very impressive and even teammate Melissa Grey took notice.

"Jessica is an amazing player. She is a huge asset to our offense," Grey said. "She is smart with the ball, knows where to play it and without her we would not be able to call ourselves undefeated to be honest."

Even in the blistering 95 degree heat, Hernandez was able to make push after push toward the goal before ultimately sneaking one past the keeper just before the half.

The sophomore has one sibling, a 12-year-old sister who also plays the sport her parents have a fondness for.

She is also familiar with one of her Ohlone teammates, first-year player Renae Waldschmidt. The two both attended Newark Memorial High School and played together for three years.

Heslin has the Lady Renegades undefeated and his style is appreciated and respected by his deadly striker.

"I like when coach gives me advice during the game," Hernandez said. "He tells me what to do by correcting me and it makes it easier to focus on what I need to do, especially playing more physical on defense."

Hernandez has scored in the last two games and Ohlone will need that scoring as they are set to embark on a tough three-game road trip.

Their next home game is Oct. 16 against Monterey Peninsula College at 4 p.m. at Central Park.

Jennifer Hernandez advances the ball past the Canada College defender in a 6-0 shutout victory on Tuesday at Central Park in Fremont. LOUIS LAVENTURE / MONITOR

Jessica Hernandez was set to become a 12-year-old sister who also plays the sport her parents have a fondness for.

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Women’s Soccer

The Lady Renegades remain undefeated improving to 5-0-3 after a convincing 6-0 shutout victory over Canada College Tuesday in Fremont.

After a slow start Ohlone came out of halftime with a lot of energy and turned the momentum in their favor scoring five of their six goals in the second half. The Lady Renegades were focused on not having a letdown after an emotional 2-1 win against City College of San Francisco on Friday. Ohlone was able to shut down the potent Rams scorer Ashly Dickson and keep their undefeated season in tact with the huge road triumph.

"We were aware of Ashly and we did bring it to the girls attention that she was dangerous," coach Larry Heslin said. "We still played our game but she is a good player that takes a total team effort to defend and that is exactly what we did." Jessica Hernandez and Elizabeth Mooney had goals for Ohlone on assists by Morgan Collyer and Raequell Hamblen. Goalkeeper Kami Herley had five saves, allowing only one goal in the win to forward Danyelle Perez.

The win was especially sweet for the returning Ohlone players who tied CCSF in their final game last year to clinch a playoff berth. Both teams having undefeated records made it even more intense and even the players took notice. "This year, we put them in their place and finally got what we deserved which was a W," sophomore Melissa Grey said. "Especially knowing that they are a team to look out for and showing them that we are the new team to look out for." As emotional and satisfying as that win was, it had no effect on the Lady Renegades’ performance Tuesday as they put up the scoreboard in the second half for five goals. This is the second shutout of the season for Grey who goes from goalie to in the field on any...