**Water polo stats rise as season progresses**

*By LOUIS LAVENTURE  
Sports editor*

**Women’s Water Polo**

The Lady Renegades improved to 2-1 in conference and 6-10 overall this season with only five games remaining on the schedule.

Ohlone defeated DeAnza College 14-3 on Oct. 3, led by top scorer Vicki Bantz. Goalkeeper Rachel Whitaker was great in the net for the Lady Renegades, only allowing three goals in the victory.

Ohlone helped its playoff chances Wednesday with an important division win over West Valley College 8-5.

Bantz continued to score for the Lady Renegades as she found the back of the net three times against the Vikings.

“I played softball so I have strong legs, which is where most of my power comes from,” Bantz said. “I just use my legs to propel myself up and shoot hard.”

The Lady Renegades controlled the ball for the first two quarters – something that Coach Don French emphasizes at practice.

“We do like to control the ball and it is something we work on to get better at,” French said. “We emphasize it in practice, so we were ready to play the same way in the game.”

Both teams played at a really fast pace with a lot of turnovers early. Playing too fast is something French wants his team to improve.

“We don’t want to be in a rush and force bad passes,” French said. “We want our players to use their eyes and be patient because it may not be the first option. It could be the second or third even that is the best pass.”

The Lady Renegades are on the road for the rest of the regular season. Their next game will be in the Cross Over Tournament on Friday and Saturday in San Mateo.

**Men’s Water Polo**

Ohlone defeated DeAnza College in Fremont Oct. 3, squeaking out an 11-9 victory over the Dons. The win gave them a perfect 3-0 conference record and a 7-6 overall record.

The Renegades suffered their first conference loss of the season to West Valley College at home, leaving them at 7-7 overall and 3-1 in conference.

French was not discouraged by the loss.

“The boys played OK,” French said. “Just not where we need to be and we will get better.”

West Valley’s Vikings came out on fire scoring early and often en route to a 20-5 victory for the visitors.

The men will be heading to San Luis Obispo this weekend to take part in the Cuesta Tournament on Friday and Saturday.

With the conference championships less than three weeks away, the Renegades will have a tough challenge to get ready for playoffs.