Ohlone improves to 21-6, sends Bulldogs home with a conference loss

First-year coach Mike Curran has the Ohlone College baseball team off to one of the best starts in school history. The Renegades improved to 21-6 overall and 10-5 in Coast Conference play after defeating the visiting College of San Mateo Bulldogs 5-3 on Wednesday afternoon in Fremont.

“We didn’t play our best but we still found ways to get the job done,” Curran said following the victory. Jaramy Jacobs started the game for Ohlone, going four strong innings before running into some trouble and giving way to reliever Brady Moore.

Moore was brilliant in the relief effort, giving a different look to the Bulldog hitters with a sidearm type of delivery. Moore picked up his sixth win of the season, improving to 6-1 overall and more importantly increasing the chances for postseason qualification.

“Brady Moore came in really throwing a lot of strikes,” sophomore Jacob DiThomas said. “We just can’t let the umpires make calls. We have to be aggressive and make things happen.”

DiThomas earned a walk, driving in a run in the winning effort for the Renegades.

Sophomore Jacob Lopez also drove in a run for Ohlone, nabbing a single in the winning effort after striking out in his second plate appearance.

“Teammates will pick you up and it doesn’t really give you too much time to think about it,” Lopez said. “This was a great team win.”

Next up for the Renegades will be another home conference battle at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, when West Valley College travels to the Fremont campus.

Rain postpones conference showdown for Renegades

Riding a three-game winning streak, the Ohlone College softball team didn’t let a little bad weather distract them from their playoff focus. The rain postponed Tuesday’s conference showdown with West Valley College until April 14, but that didn’t shift their focus either.

“We want to put another one of those championship circles on the fence for coach,” Morgan Meyer said.

The baseball and softball fields will be torn down and replaced by new facilities in 2015, making this the final season for both.

The Lady Renegades are doing their part to make sure that they first qualify for the coveted California State Playoffs, which begin at the end of the month.

Ohlone got a lot closer to the playoffs over the past few weeks, compiling victories over San Jose City College, Monterey Peninsula College and Hartnell College, in that order.

The Lady Renegades are now 19-10 overall and 8-3 in Coast Conference competition.

Ohlone outscored their opponents in the three victories 25-16, which included a 14-6 drubbing of Monterey Peninsula.

“Sometimes things go our way and sometimes they don’t, but it is all about how you come back or move forward,” RaeAnn Garza said.

The last game for Ohlone in March was a bit of a different story – and much more dramatic.

The Lady Renegades pulled off a 5-4 walk-off victory, marking the 13th win of the season for the Ohlone hurler Garza.

Sophomore infielder Savannah Ulloa did most of the damage for the Lady Renegades, collecting two hits and driving in two runs in the winning effort.

Ulloa spoke about her role earlier in the season.

“I try and not let stuff get me down,” Ulloa said. “Everybody fails, especially in sports. I just try to focus on what is next and learn from my mistakes.”

Next up for Ohlone is a home game at 1 p.m. on Saturday when De Anza College travels to Fremont.