Women's season expected, men's season ends in disappointment

ALBERT REBOSURA
Sports editor

The rollercoaster season for Ohlone's men's and women's basketball teams ended in a pair of losses to Chabot on Friday.

Women's basketball

"The season that head coach Liz Rizza dubbed a "re-building season" came to a close Friday when the team lost to Chabot 80-57.

Beating Chabot would have ensured that Ohlone would be a bubble team for the NorCal playoff tournament bracket.

However, they were facing a 26-3 Chabot squad that blew them out in their previous meeting 64-47 on Jan. 28.

"We did a lot better our second time against Chabot. The first time we only had 12 (points) in the first half, this time we had 27 and were only down by six," Rizza said about her team's improvement. "We just ran out of energy in the second half.”

The Lady Renegades couldn't buy a field goal in the first half, but were only down 33-27 with the majority of the points coming from the free throw line.

Chabot established their dominance in the second half as they poured on 47 points to Ohlone's 30, securing a comfortable victory.

Chabot's Michigan State-bound point guard Morgan Green was playing on another level. She filled up the stat sheet with a triple-double: 26 points, 10 rebounds and 11 assists. She also had a team-high six steals.

"You can't stop her. It's like she drives and you help but she'll find a 3-point shooter," said Rizza about how hard it is to stop Chabot's star player.

The combination of shooting 24 percent from the field and committing 24 turnovers made it difficult for the Lady Renegades to keep the score close.

Despite the poor offensive showing, freshman shooting guard Mickie Ferrer was a bright spot off the bench for Ohlone, scoring 18 points. "She had six 3-pointers. I think that's a record high for her," said Rizza.

Ohlone drops first games of the season

An 11-game win streak ends with two losses

MARIAGARCIA-HERNANDEZ
Baseball beat writer

It was a sunny day with a clear blue sky last Saturday afternoon at Renegades Field—the perfect setting for a baseball game against Los Medanos College.

The perfect setting wasn't so perfect for Ohlone. Los Medanos made themselves at home, beating Ohlone 6-4. It was revenge for Los Medanos, who lost to Ohlone 11-3 on February 18.

The loss put an end to the Renegades' undefeated start to the season.

The Renegades were off to a slow start. The quiet first inning foreshadowed what was the start of a loss. Starting pitcher Anthony Olmo couldn't pitch out of the first inning—struggling to keep opponents off base.

The Los Medanos pitcher "was doing a good job, keeping us off balance," said Coach Mark Curran following the loss. "We had a little hiccup in the first inning with our pitching, we didn't locate well so we got behind early.”

Losing 6-0, Ohlone's offense was completely shut down until the sixth inning. Brock Pradere, Pablo Arteyo, Josh Roman and CJ Giles each had RBIs cutting the deficit 6-4.

Left-handed pitcher Josh Calmerin, making his fifth appearance, looked fresh and was throwing strikes, helping the Renegades cut the lead to 6-4.

Fans quickly found hope in Calmerin calling him, “a left-handed relief.”

“I was just pounding zone, letting them hit the ball,” said Calmerin after enhancing the team's performance. He continued, saying Ohlone needs to come out 'guns blazing...and keep the momentum going out on the field.’" Ohlone lost again Tuesday against Gavilan College and the team's record now stands at 11-2.

Monitor Sports Guy

Random thoughts

• Holy NBA trade deadline Batman! Nine percent of the league was traded on the most historic deadline day in NBA history.

Tracking the trades during class has been thinking: what if you could make school-related trades? For example, I would trade my seat in Anthropology 101 for your priority registration for next semester. Or maybe trading professors?

• The five-year anticipation is over. Manny Pacquiao and Floyd Mayweather will fight May 2.

• Billy Beane and the Oakland As have blown up the roster once again—making numerous moves and frustrating A's fans everywhere. Pitchers and catchers reported for spring training last week, and among those reporting for the A’s—Barry Zito.

What a story it would be if he actually makes the roster. "It's really exciting he's amazingly returning as the 2002 Cy Young pitcher he was—so teams next offseason will now pay seven-year $126 million contracts at him.

• Did I mention the Pacquiao vs. Mayweather fight is finally happening?

• The San Jose Sharks played an outdoor hockey game against their rival L.A. Kings at Levi's Stadium on Saturday. More than 70,000 fans showed up, making it the third-largest attendance in NHL history.

It was a spectacle seeing Levy's transformed from a football field to an ice rink. The outdoor game dubbed the "Stadium Series" was a win, and embodied the growth in popularity of hockey in the Bay Area. Unfortunately, the Sharks disappointed more than 70,000 fans by losing to the Kings 2-1. It was another big game on a big stage that the Sharks couldn't seem to win—nothing new.

I think it's time that the Sharks are pretending to be contenders and win the Stanley Cup. Pull a Billy Beane and revamp the roster.

• Pacquiao vs. Mayweather is—in fact—actually happening.