

Baseball bounces back; softball improves

CRISTIAN MEDINA
Sports editor

The Ohlone Baseball team bounced back from a tough loss at the hands of Modesto Junior College by beating Mission College on Wednesday afternoon.

The Renegades jumped to an early 3-0 lead in the top of the first inning and added an insurance run in the eighth to beat Mission 4-2.

The early offense paired with a good pitching performance by Josh Calmerin, who came on in relief for starter Ronnie Reed in the third inning.

Calmerin pitched the rest of the game, only allowing one run on three hits and striking out four.

The victory was Ohlone's 11th of the season as they improved to 11-3.

The Renegades' pre-season play has thus far been phenomenal, and with two games left until conference play begins, the club will look to ride the momentum straight into the regular season. Their next game is



IVAN VARGAS / MONITOR

Construction continues on the new baseball field on the Fremont campus, seen here late last month. Heavy rains in March have delayed the opening of the baseball and softball fields, which now are expected to be ready for use later in the spring or perhaps in the summer, depending on the weather this month.

against College of San Mateo at 2 p.m. today.

The Lady Renegades softball team improved their conference record on Tuesday, beating San Jose City

College 6-2.

A joint pitching effort by Kassondra Kochan and Ja-saiah Gholston along with a five-run fourth inning secured the victory.

Ohlone improved to 3-1 and only trail the College of San Mateo in the standings. The Lady Renegades will play Gavilan College at 3 p.m. today.

#STOPCHARLESBARKLEY2K16

COMMENTARY

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The Golden State Warriors have continued their spectacular season by breaking the Chicago Bulls record for consecutive home victories. They've now won 45 straight home games and show no signs of slowing down.

Steph Curry also became the first player to make 300 3-pointers in a single season and continues his streak of consecutive games with a three at 132 straight games.

The Warriors are very much on pace to break the Bulls' other more notable record of most wins in a regular season at 72.

While teams like the Spurs, Cavaliers and Thunder are enjoying impressive seasons, the Warriors also look poised to make another playoff run and win the title yet again.

They're exciting, explosive and winning. A lot. All the attention on them should be pretty much positive right? Right? Wrong.

Doubters and haters that oppose the style and success of the Warriors still run amok. They seem to either be annoyed with the finesse jump-shot style that "wouldn't have survived in the old NBA,"

or simply can't find a better excuse for their record other than "they're just overrated."

57-6 is not overrated. Sorry about it.

Now, I can understand that the NBA used to be a lot more aggressive and the Warriors may not thrive in that style of play, but that's not the way the NBA is anymore. You can't discredit Golden State's historic season by comparing their style of play in 2016 to the style of play 20 years ago. That just doesn't make any sense.

Yes, the game has gotten less physical and, sorry, but there isn't a whole lot you can do about it. The game changes; it evolves. Everything does. The sooner the critics realize that, the sooner they can stop being so angry all the time that a skinny 6-foot-3 kid is dominating the league with shots and skills that can't even be replicated in a video game.

It's almost like it would take the Warriors five consecutive undefeated seasons and five straight championships just for critics and former players to cool it with the bashing. Although after they lose their first game in five years, I'm sure the cackles of "overrated" would quickly return.

Which brings me to the man of the hour. The man who has been the face of the anti-Warriors campaign. Mr. Charles Wade Barkley.

Oh, Chuck. Now, let me start by saying I'm not downplaying your illustrious NBA career in any way. You're an 11-time all-star, you've won an MVP award, you've even been part of the Dream Team. You've more than earned your spot in the Hall of Fame, don't get me wrong. But come on.

You went on the Late Show and made a pretty bold prediction: "They're not gonna win the championship this year."

Now, of course you're entitled to your own opinion and that's perfectly fine of you to think that. I too am entitled to my opinion and in my opinion, your opinion is a little ridiculous. And here are three reasons why.

One: They have close to if not the most depth in their lineup and bench in the league. Two: they are led by hands-down the best shooter in the league and more than likely the MVP again. Three: The playoffs start in about six weeks and they've only lost six games all season. I know it's the playoffs and anything can happen in a seven-game series against the same team, but losing hasn't been part of their routine this season and it probably won't be anytime

soon.

You also don't have a very good recent track record for predictions, might I add. I know you apologized after being wrong in your Cavs over the Warriors finals prediction, and I appreciate you owning up to that. However, them winning was still not enough validation for you. You still made the Kyrie and Love excuse. What else do they have to do other than win back-to-back titles to earn your respect? Beat the Monster Squad?

Even then, how many championships would it take for Golden State to win before you bought into their style of play? Not two, not three, not four, not five? - Sorry, LeBron, I had to.

I guess the Warriors will just have to keep on winning and breaking records and you'll just have to keep on making incorrect predictions and criticize a team that has already achieved so much and even won a championship, something you said a jump-shooting team couldn't do - That shirt looked good on you, by the way.

Eventually the Warriors lose or you'll just stop criticizing and appreciate Golden State's current historic success. In the meantime, please, for the love of God, practice your golf swing.

SHORT SPORTS REPORT

with
Cristian Medina



Champs fall

UFC 196 lived up to the hype this past Saturday with two big fights that did not disappoint.

Holly Holm, fresh off her upset defeat of former belt holder Ronda Rousey, was unable to defend the bantamweight title.

Miesha Tate took Holm down and dominated in the ground game, winning the fight by submission in the fifth round. With Holm dominating most of the match points-wise, Tate shocked the crowd and the UFC world by putting the new champ to sleep in a rear naked choke hold.

With this win, the women's bantamweight division has been turned upside down yet again.

The UFC will have to decide if Ronda Rousey will immediately challenge Tate for the belt or if she will have to meet Holm for a rematch before she gets a shot to reclaim the title.

The second fight and main event of the night saw the featherweight champion Conor McGregor square up against Stockton's own Nate Diaz.

The "Notorious" McGregor planned on fighting to be the first dual-weight champion - featherweight and lightweight - and was expected to face lightweight champion Rafael dos Anjos in his first fight. However, after breaking his foot, Dos Anjos was forced to pull out of the fight.

Nate Diaz, a welterweight fighter, was selected to replace Dos Anjos and had just two weeks to prepare for the fight.

McGregor tacked on 25 pounds for the fight, which some feared would take away from his abilities.

Despite this, McGregor came out aggressive, landing several punches on Diaz in the first round, but he was stunned by Diaz in the second round.

McGregor questionably went for a takedown of Diaz - ground game is not McGregor's strong suit - and it quickly backfired on him. Diaz took advantage of the mistake and made McGregor tap out after a quick submission and choke hold.

There's no question that with the two headlining fighters losing, UFC president Dana White will have his hands full planning future fights. The plot thickens.