



Mack tennis back in full swing

After decade away, Warriors have upended Oakland, Skyline 4-3

„ STAFF REPORTS

Article Created: 04/09/2008 03:24:36 AM PDT

OAKLAND — It's been more than a decade since McClymonds High has fielded a boys tennis team, but boy, is it making an impression.

Already this week, the Warriors have knocked off defending Oakland Athletic League champion Oakland and perennial front-runner Skyline, both 4-3.

"We haven't had a team in 10-15 years," said coach Robert Hadden. "Our predictions are we're looking to take the OAL title."

Hadden is a former outreach consultant at McClymonds who is retired from that post, giving him the time to organize the team.

If these two matches are any evidence, Mack's goal seems realistic.

Using the experience of brothers Anwar and Ajoni Bason, Mack (2-1) took the Nos. 1 and 2 singles and Nos. 1 and 2 doubles against Skyline.

Anwar Bason, a senior, outlasted defending OAL singles champion Brook Workeneh 6-4, 1-6, 10-5 while Ajoni Bason, a freshman, beat the Titans' Jonathan Chao 6-1, 6-1.

Anwar then teamed up with Eugene Hill to score a 6-1, 6-1 win at No. 1 doubles, and Ajoni partnered with Bichay Men for a 6-1, 6-1 win in No.2 doubles.

In Monday's win over Oakland, the Bason brothers notched wins at both the top singles and doubles spots.

Softball

OAKLAND — Senior Andrenaye Taylor's bases-clearing triple broke open a one-run game, as Skyline rolled to a 15-5 victory over Oakland.

The host Titans trailed 1-0 going into the bottom of the second inning, before quickly getting three runners on against Wildcats starter Jessica Torres. Taylor nailed an offering from Torres that started an offensive barrage.

Skyline scored 12 runs in the inning to take control. The win moved the Titans into sole possession of second place in the OAL.

"This was actually a big game for us, because Oakland has been playing well and (was) ahead of us," said Titans head coach Paul Keener. "We have a lot of respect for their program, and to be honest, they showed some heart."

Imani Curtis-Contreras pitched five solid innings for Skyline (6-7, 3-1), after missing last week's first-place showdown against Oakland Tech because of a school field trip to Europe. Catcher Amanda Wentworth and shortstop Morgan Saltz also missed the contest.


Judy Pun had three hits and a triple for Oakland (3-2). For the Titans, Taylor and Matia Kilgore both had three RBIs.

Oakland Tech 17, Fremont 0

The Bulldogs made quick work of the Tigers, scoring 11 runs in the first three innings.

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Devina Brown pitched four strong innings for Oakland Tech (5-0), which remained in first-place in OAL play. Makayla West had four RBIs for the Bulldogs.

O'Dowd lineman to Sac State

OAKLAND — Aaron Gasper, a second-team All East Bay offensive lineman, will attend Sacramento State in the fall with an opportunity to earn a scholarship in football camp.

The 6-foot-3, 270-pounder should fit right into Sacramento's zone-blocking scheme, said Dragons coach Paul Perenon.


"Their offensive scheme is the same thing that we run," he said. "It is like stepping into a jet that you have already flown."

Perenon considers Gasper a steal for the Hornets, saying he could develop into a Pac-10 type player.

"I think he is going to be a really good player for them," Perenon said. "They are really excited to have him. They think he is going to be one of the steals coming out of the East Bay area. I think some schools are going to regret not making an attempt to get him.

"Aaron has the frame and the mind-set," he added. "He keeps getting better, and that is the beautiful thing about him. He improved dramatically every year he has been in our program."


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