

Rebel Sports

UNLV inductees honored at dinner

by ralph r. brown

sports writer

The first time is special for everyone, and so it was for the inaugural class of inductees to the newly formed UNLV Athletic Hall of Fame.

The dinner on Friday was attended by 250 guests who were taken on an emotional rollercoaster throughout the evening.

Before the ceremony started the President of UNLV, Dr. Robert Maxson, explained that every since coming to UNLV he wanted a Hall of Fame and a year ago set in motion the process which came to fruition that night.

Inductees were selected from four different categories: teams, athletes, coaches, and officials or university administrations.

The first teams inducted were The 1968 Football team and The 1976-77 Basketball team.

The 1968 football team was the first team that UNLV fielded.

The 1976-77 basketball team was the first team from UNLV to reach the Final-Four. The team set 14 scoring records and had a four year overall record of 102-16.

Eleven athletes were inducted including Don Lyons, a deaf player for UNLV who provided the most emotional moment of the night when he took the podium after his introduction.

Lyons was accompanied to the podium by interpreter Linda Idolo. Through his interpreter he told those in attendance that he was grateful to have the opportunity to play for UNLV and the support that he received from the fans during his career.

Other athletes inducted on the night were Glen Corano, Nate Hawkins, Joe Ingersall, and Mike Thomas for football. Bob Florence, Glen Gondrezick, Elbert Miller Eddie Owens, Robert Smith, and Ricky Sobers for basketball.

Four people from the

administration and Coaching staff received inductions including a posthumous award to Rodger Barnson. Barn-

amongst you talking and reminiscence. He loved UNLV."

More inductees were the Rebels team physician

Meyer and Jerry Tarkanian as coaches, Micheal "Chub" Drakulich.

On the evening Fred Albrecht presented Ireland

talked about their memories of UNLV.

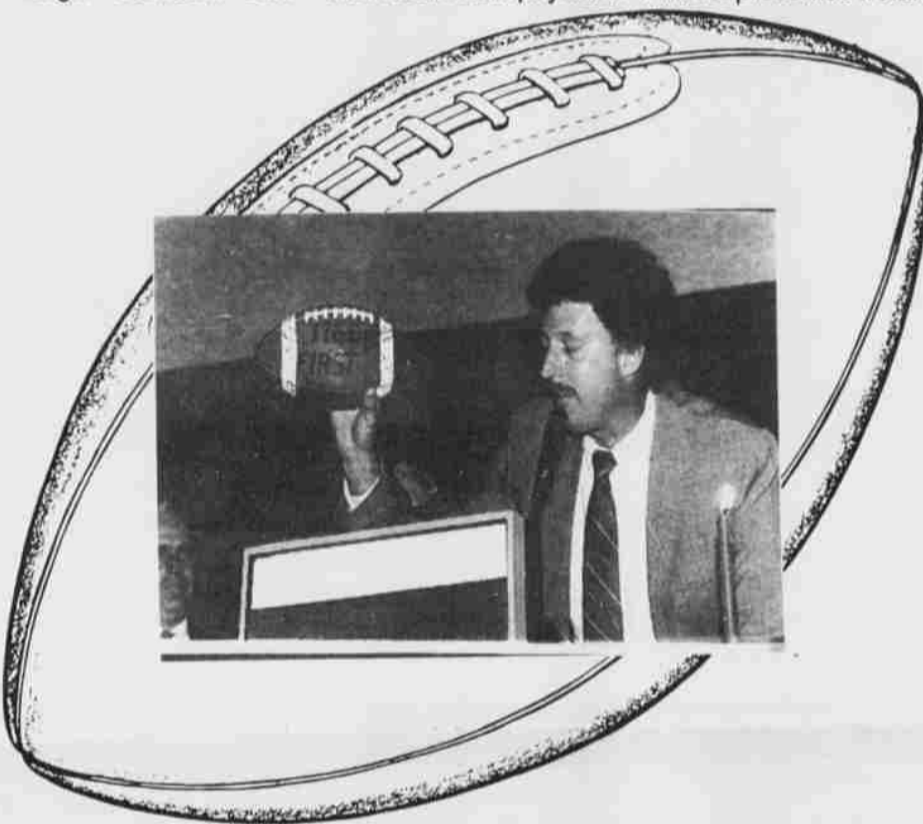
Ireland, who is also the Executive Director of the Hall of Fame organizing committee said it has been a Labor of Love and I've enjoyed every minute of it.

Carano who led the Rebels to their only undefeated season in 1974, spoke of the visions that the earlier teams had.

The visions we all had back then was that we were going to put UNLV sports on the map.

Thomas spoke of a decision he made a long time ago. "I made a decision to transfer from Oklahoma to UNLV, and with what's going on here now and what happened tonight I think I made one great decision."

The night was over and the people filled out the Moyer Student Union. They all left with the feeling that they had been a part of something special. The first time is always special for everyone.



son's award was accepted by his wife Tina and daughter Leigh. Mrs. Barnson, with tears in her eyes, told the gathering "if Rodger were here tonight he would be out

Dr. Thomas Armour, the man credited with opening the door to women's athletics and building the Rebels sports programs. Bill Ireland, and the man credited with hiring Ron

with a football that had been signed by all of the players from the 1968 team to be included in the Hall of Fame display.

Afterward some of the players and administrators

Pida cheers again

by ralph r. brown

sports writer

Last weekend was filled with Rivalry, Emotion and Homecoming.

The rivalry was UNLV vs UNR, the Emotion was provided at the Inaugural Hall of Fame Induction Ceremonies, and the Homecoming took place on the sidelines at the Silver Bowl.

Valerie Pida, the effervescent cheerleader who captured the hearts of millions last spring during basketball season, returned to cheerleading Saturday night.

"It just sort of happened that I came back tonight. I just felt that when I was ready I would come back." Pida said.

Pida spent all summer with the City of Hope Hospital where she underwent a bone marrow transplant to help her battle a life threatening cancer.

"It felt alot different cheering tonight. I knew it would take much to get back to this point. It's a very exhilarating feeling, it's something you have to go through to understand." Pida said.

Pida was assisted in her

routines on the sidelines by Joel Combs.

Pida took part in almost all of the activities with the exception of the halftime routine and the perimeter run of the stadium.

"I wasn't in the halftime routine because my costume wasn't finished in time. As far as the other, it was the first game and I thought I could do it but everyone said not to push it." Pida said.

This past weekend was a tremendous success for UNLV but the brightest light of all was the smile of Valerie Pida.

Oct. 10
FOOTBALL: UNLV vs. Utah State — 7pm. Silver Bowl

Oct. 11
SOCCER: UNLV vs. San Francisco — 1pm Barnson Field.

Oct. 24
NBA Preseason: Phoenix Suns vs. Chicago Bulls — 8pm. Thomas & Mack.

10% Discount

For student & faculty
with I.D.



Located in Runnin Rebel Plaza

FAMILY PAK™

Only \$4.99 plus tax

Includes 2 Combo Burrito Grandes,
2 Softacost™, 2 Tostados.

Please present this coupon when ordering. Limit one coupon offer per person per visit. Coupons may not be combined and have no cash value. Offer good only at participating Del Taco restaurants. Coupon good Through Nov. 6

