

REBEL SPORTS

SWIMMERS SORE, TIRED, AND HUNGRY FOR PCAA TITLE

by *william stout*

sports writer

Head Coach Jim Reitz has his team right where he wants them: sore, tired and hungry for the Pacific Coast Athletic Association swimming title enroute to the National Collegiate Athletic Association championships.

Saturday's Annual Intrasquad meet was an eye opener for some, taken with a grain of salt by others and a welcome beginning to what was demonstrated to be a hot season for the Rebels.

The swim team has

every right to be confident of success this season. Talent has never been lacking from Coach Reitz's arsenal of swimmers, winning eight of 15 events in last year's PCAA championships. The roster includes five international level swimmers.

This year's depth, with the addition of the largest freshmen class, is expected to put the Rebels over the top in team points scored. Two full squads of 18 members for the men's and women's teams will go to the PCAA Championship on Feb. 25.

Along with talent and

depth, the Rebels have heart—more than you could imagine. They need it. The training regimen at this stage in the season includes two practices a day, in the morning and afternoon, plus weight training. Two days each week for the past month and a half, the team has trained over 10,000 meters. One length of the pool equals 25 meters and 10,000 meters equals 400 lengths.

Six days a week is a whole lotta heart.

As a result, Coach Reitz expected his swimmers to swim tired last Saturday, so he didn't expect

sophomore Bart Pippinger to swim 50.59 for 100m butterfly, besting his fastest regular season time. Freshman Christine Spicer swam a lifetime best in the 1000m freestyle at 10:27.85 and swam 5:05.92 in the 500m freestyle.

"Faster than any woman last year," Coach Reitz said of Spicer's feat. "My coaching staff and I have only seen two of our freshmen swim until today. We are very pleased all around."

Freshman Doug Beaudry, a local boy from Bonanza High School, wasn't known to be a

backstroker, he swam 2:02.9, adding more depth to a power men's team.

Another freshman, Scott Coleman of Hawaii, swam a 21.25 in the 50m freestyle, a great time especially this early in the season.

Coach Reitz and his assistants, Vaune Kadlubek and Dave Gibson, maintain a coaching philosophy of training hard and smart.

"Swimming on the university level is a major adjustment for freshmen," Reitz said. "We know our experienced swimmers can swim a meet tired without affecting their

psych.

"We have been training harder this year than any previous. Our first game is Nov. 21 against arch rival Long Beach State."

The seven Rebel seniors' experience and team spirit will provide the backbone for the freshmen swimmers to contribute a strong team balance.

Commenting on his team-home-team advantage, Coach Reitz said that against Long Beach he expects to see 500 rowdy, obnoxious fans—similar to an Oktoberfest in the pool.

SWIM TEAM GEARS UP FOR SEASON

by *john d'aura*

sports writer

The Swimming Rebels dove into the 1987-88 season Saturday with the 7th Annual Red/Gray Dual Meet. The Diving Rebels will open their season Friday with the 4th Annual Rebel Diving Invitational.

The Lady Rebel swimmers welcome back to this year's squad UNLV school record holders Wendy Hoffman-Meyers, Sally Fleisher and Diana Palma.

Hoffman-Meyers holds the record in the 100m

and 200m Backstroke, 1000m and 1650m Freestyle, and the 200m and 400m Individual Medley. Fleisher holds the record in the 50m and 100m Freestyle, along with the 100m and 200m Breaststroke. Palma holds the 200m Butterfly record.

The Rebel men's team will return record holders Chris Harmon, Bart Pippinger, Jim Bodine and Bjorn Lindstrom.

Harmon holds the mark for the 500m, 1000m, and 1650m Freestyle. Pippinger has a hold on the 100m and 200m Butterfly

marks. Bodine leads the 200m Freestyle and Lindstrom has the 100m Backstroke.

Lady Rebel record holder Fleisher also represented the U.S. in Yugoslavia at the World Student Games last summer.

Rebels Head Coach Jim Reitz, Diving coach Joe Murphy and Strength/Conditioning coach Vuane Kadlubek will be looking for outstanding performances from seven freshmen on the men's team and nine

freshmen on the women's team.

The swimming Rebels' schedule features the 3rd Annual Roadrunner Triathlon on Nov. 1, a home dual meet against Long Beach, and Annual Winter Invitational, and meets against the University of California, Santa Barbara, and University of Hawaii, on their way to the National Collegiate Athletic Association National Championships in March for the women and April for the men.

REBELS DENT PCAA HOPES

by *karen hall*

sports editor

After defeating the Cal-State Fullerton Titan football team each of the past nine years, UNLV all but destroyed its hopes of a championship season this weekend with a 28-14 loss at the Santa Ana Bowl in the second Pacific Coast Athletic Association game.

Quarterbacks Scott Sims and Richard Williams combined for a total of five interceptions, including an early fourth quarter interception in the Titan end zone when the Rebels were trailing 21-14.

The UNLV offense never really got going. It ran half-speed throughout the entire game and time ran out before the Rebels could perform any magic like they did against Utah State last weekend.

As in previous games, UNLV was unable to capitalize on unexpected breaks. Fumble recoveries by defensive

lineman Ike Freeman and linebacker Adrian Harris disappeared along with the interception by local player and Rebel free safety Charles Anthony.

The UNLV pass defense up to this point wasn't tested; unfortunately they were embarrassed by scrambling Fullerton quarterback Ronnie Barber who had all the time in the world to pass to his receivers. Barber completed 19 of 27 attempts for 279 yards and three touchdowns.

UNLV Head Coach Wayne Nunnely said, "Barber scrambled around to help give them extra time to throw. We were overly aggressive on the run sometimes and they hurt us."

The Rebels, now 2-3 overall and 1-1 in PCAA play, will attempt to bounce back this week when they travel to meet the Spartans of San Jose State.

COMMENTARY: STRIKE OVER

by *ralph r. brown*

sports writer

Well, the football strike is over and I've had a couple of days to sit back and digest the results and ramifications.

It is obvious by now that the players lost more than money. They lost all they had gained in the past 10 years.

This strike was a fiasco because it had all the suspense of an Oklahoma-Columbia football game. There was no doubt who would win. The question was how long and by how many.

Let's look back and review each side and the possible ramifications that this will have on the future of the NFL.

Management had a game plan, a hard-nosed strategy, which they stuck to until last Sunday.

I don't feel that it was management's plan to break the union but to simply avoid the massive losses that they suffered with the post strike.

Management lined up replacement players, trained them, and played

them, stating all along that the games would count in the standings. When it became evident to the players that the management was serious about this, they demanded that the games not count. Management said, "Sorry you had your chance."