

# Tennis team strives to attain national caliber

by andrea d. luce

staff writer

Craig Witcher, in his third year of coaching men's and women's tennis at UNLV, with Assistant Coach Jim Craig, plans to reshape tennis.

Witcher's goal is to improve the tennis team to national calibre.

Though this is more likely to become reality in a few more years, he has started the year off with much hard work and determination.

The loss of the first, third and fourth positions from last year's team was a major set back, but 1988's team has filled those shoes quite well.

Mark Coronado, a junior, and the second seed last year has jumped up to the number one seed position and is leading the team superbly.

His 1986-87 singles and doubles records are 32-30 singles and 28-27 doubles. This year Coronado has won four out of six matches.

Last year's sixth seed, Lee Rosenthal has moved up to maintain the second spot on the team. Rosenthal, a Florida native, owns a 40-31 two-year record at UNLV in singles.

The third seed, Richard Mahlangu, red-shirted last year to adjust to hard court American tennis.

Crombie Hatfield, preceeding Mahlangu at the fourth position is also a native of South Africa. He has moved up one position this year after playing fifth, last year with a singles record of 15-15 and a doubles record of 14-9.

Before the college tennis season officially started, the team practiced twice a day for two

hours each practice. To help keep them quick on the court, Witcher and Craig included running sprints into their daily regimen, along with occasional weight lifting.

Witcher and Craig said team support is a major factor. When each player ends his match, win or lose they're automatically at their teammates side cheering them on. That aspect, more than any other, is stressed by Witcher and Craig.

Rice has been working out with the team each day since before the beginning of practice and attends every home game.

The team started the season off with a 5-4 win over Loyola then, went on to lose to Weber State 2-7, but came back with a victory over Reno 6-3. Though they then fell to Arizona- ASU 0-9 and University of Arizona, 2-7.

# Lady Rebs improve record

by ralph brown

staff writer

The UNLV Lady Rebels improved their record to 15-4 overall and 9-3 in the PCAA with a win over the Lady Bulldogs at Fresno, Saturday night.

The Lady Rebels, bothered by the defensive pressure of Fresno, committed 19 turnovers and trailed at the half, 31-28.

"We didn't handle their pressure very well in the first half," Rick Glenn, assistant coach, "but we came back with our own pressure in the second

half."

That pressure pushed UNLV out to a 47-38 lead, but the Bulldogs hung tough and managed to get the margin down to one at 57-56 with 4:30 left to play and stayed close, trailing only 63-61 with less than two minutes to play.

However, the Lady Rebels scored the last six points of the night to put the Lady Bulldogs away.

Denise Ballenger led the way with 16 points and Geannine and Pauline Jordan added 12 and 10 points respectively.

On Thursday night

Ballenger led a group of Lady rebels into double figures with 27 as they set a school record for margin of victory at 71.

UNLV's 113-42 win at San Jose State was the first of a three game road swing that ends Monday night at Pacific.



WARMIN' UP — Scott Warner helps team warm up for upcoming match. photo by jon ansok

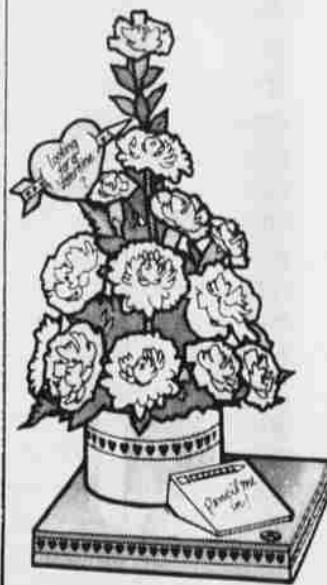
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