

REBEL SPORTS

Rebel defense sports new look in '88

by mike barclay

sports writer

Price, it fits the personnel better.

The "new look" for 1988 is here. It's not short mini-skirts, women in men's suits, or khaki safari outfits. In fact, it has nothing at all to do with clothing, or personal appearances. It's the name of the UNLV football program's new defense and they hope it will knock their opponents out of style.

According to Coach Wayne Nunnely the Rebels will sport a new "3-4" defense this year. This defense is often used in the NFL.

This defense basically consists of three linemen, four linebackers, and four defensive backs. The linemen primarily rush the opposing quarterback and attempt to stop the running backs. The linebackers cover short passes as well as defend against the run. The defensive backs cover the opponent's receivers.

It is slightly more complicated than last year's defense, but, according to defensive coordinator Bob

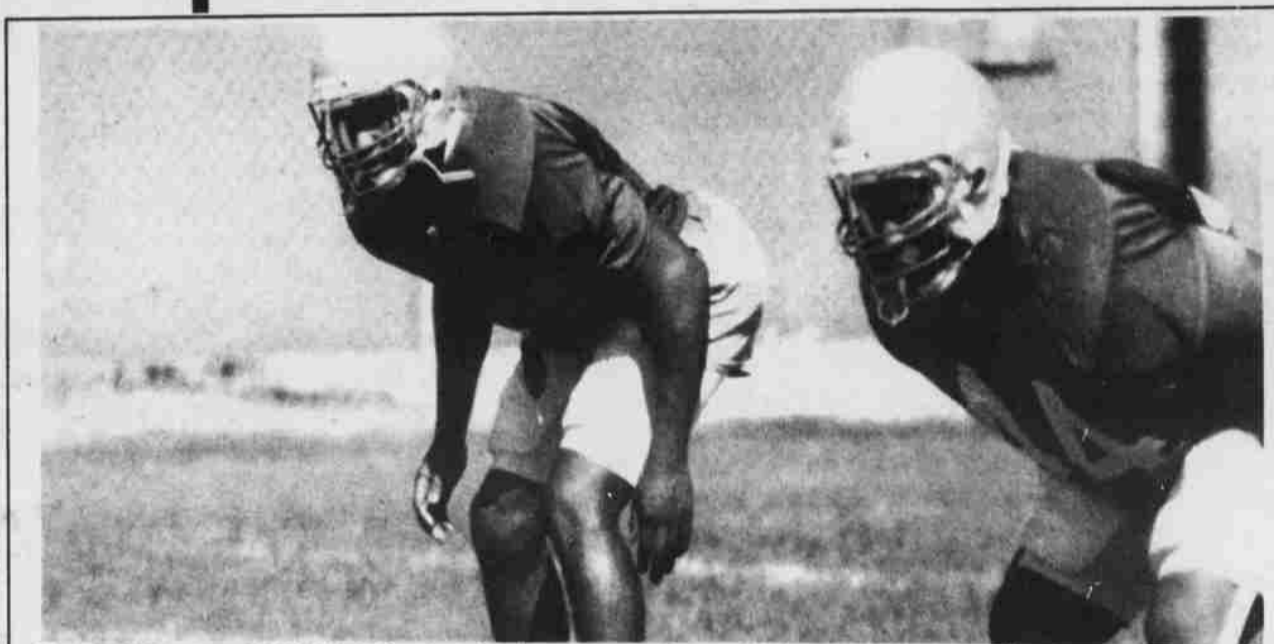
After the loss of all but four starters from last year's defensive squad, the UNLV coaching staff hopes to "rebuild" the defensive team by bringing in a few new faces this season. New recruits, along with several junior college transfers, will help the Rebels to become strong defensively.

The defensive line returns only one starter, Doc Wise, but Terry Castro and Eric Collins had quite a bit of playing time last year. Marguet Miller, Trent Spafford, and Dave Pappas will challenge for starting roles.

Nunnely expects to have a quicker defensive line this season, though he does admit to having problems with depth.

"The depth in our defensive line is a concern of mine, in that we have a lot of youth behind our starters," Nunnely explained. "We lose quite a bit of size and strength."

There are no returning starters at linebacker for the Rebels this season, however



Tyrone Carter, UNLV defensive back, eyes receiver during a recent practice.

photo by steve spatatore

they are rich with junior college talent.

Inside linebackers Dave Clarke, and Keith Williams were mentioned by both Nunnely and Bell as standouts this spring.

"They (Clarke and Williams)," Nunnely says, "may be as good a pair of linebackers as we've had here since Kirk Dodge and Tom Polley in 1984."

At the outside linebacker

positions returnee Jeff Barnes and converted safety Ron Banks appear to have the starting roles, but are in close competition with JC transfers John Foster, Keith Coleman, and Avery Miller and converted tight end Anthony Glover.

This close competition makes the linebacking crew stronger, however most of the talent in this area is untested at the major college level.

Two starters return in the defensive backfield for the

Rebels. Charles Anthony, who had 48 tackles as a freshman last season, along with Al Hemmans, who Nunnely said is "a good man-to-man defender, and the fastest of the group," are slated to start again this year.

At strong safety 1987 part-time starter Tyrone Carter will start this year for the Rebs.

The UNLV defensive unit looks promising, but is largely untested. The Rebels

should be tested defensively in the early games of the season, especially at Baylor and Nebraska.

Nunnely expects good things from his defense this year, but says that the early season is not as important as the later season (conference play). The defense should gain experience as the year goes on. Nunnely says, "It's not how you start the 100 meter dash, but how you finish it."



Augmon going to Seoul

UNLV sophomore Stacey Augmon became assured of a spot on the U.S. Olympic basketball team Tuesday following the announcement that Brian Shaw of UC Santa Barbara had been cut from the squad in order to trim the roster to the 12-man limit. Augmon becomes the first

UNLV athlete to represent the U.S. in the Olympics. The U.S. team will begin defense of their Olympic gold medal on Sept. 18 against Spain.

Rounding out the U.S. roster are Willie Anderson of Georgia, Bimbo Coles of Virginia Tech, Hersey

Hawkins of Bradley, Charles Smith of Georgetown, Jeff Grayer of Iowa State, Dan Majerle of Central Michigan, Danny Manning of Kansas, J.R. Reid of North Carolina, Mitch Richmond of Kansas State, David Robinson of Navy and Charles Smith of Pittsburgh.

History of Rebel football

With the start of the 1988 UNLV football season it seemed appropriate to offer a brief history of the UNLV football program.

On September 14, 1968 UNLV, then known as Nevada Southern University, played its first football game, defeating St. Mary's College 27-20.

In 1969 UNLV began to play UNR on an annual basis in what is known as the "Big Game". The winner of the game is awarded the John C. Fremont Cannon.

1973 brought about the first coaching change in UNLV football history. Five year coach Bill Ireland stepped down and was replaced by

to coach at Southern Methodist University and is now the current Head Coach of the Indianapolis Colts of the NFL.

The Rebels had their greatest success under Meyer in 1974. UNLV went 11-0 and advanced to the semifinals of the NCAA Division II Championships.

After Meyer left for SMU in 1976, Tony Knap was named head football coach. Knap helped the Rebels make the jump from division II to division I in 1978.

Prior to retiring at the end of the 1981 season Knap led UNLV to its biggest win in its young history. On October 10, 1981 the Rebels defeated eighth ranked Brigham West

Young in Provo, 45-41. Harvey Hyde became head coach in 1982. UNLV's

In 1984, under the guidance of quarterback Randall Cunningham, the Rebels won the PCAA Championship and were invited to the California Bowl. There, the Rebels defeated Toledo 30-13 in UNLV's only major bowl appearance.

Current head coach Wayne Nunnely took over the job in April of 1986.

That same year the Rebels defeated Wisconsin 17-10 before the largest crowd in Silver Bowl history, 32,207. 1988 marks the Rebels 11th season at the division I level and 7th in the renamed Big West Conference.

REBEL FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

- Sept. 3 at Baylor 7:00 PM(CT)
- Sept. 17 CAL STATE FULLERTON 7:00 PM
- Sept. 24 OHIO UNIVERSITY (Hall of Fame Night) 7:00 PM
- Oct. 1 at Nebraska 1:30 PM(CT)
- Oct. 8 at Pacific 6:30 PM
- Oct. 15 NEW MEXICO STATE (Homecoming) 7:00 PM
- Oct. 29 TULSA 1:00 PM
- Nov. 5 at Utah State 1:00 PM(MT)
- Nov. 12 FRESNO STATE 1:00 PM
- Nov. 19 SAN JOSE STATE (Senior Night) 1:00 PM
- Nov. 26 at Long Beach State Noon