

# Softball team goes 3-2 in shortened tourney

by jim derusso

staff writer

When the 12-team field of the 1989 UNLV/Spuds MacKenzie Spring Fling Softball Classic converged on the Silver Bowl softball complex, they expected to start play on Friday and compete in a double elimination tournament to crown one champion. Before the 12 teams could begin play, winds gusting to well over 40 mph changed the tournament plans. The tournament would become a two-day competition, Saturday and Sunday. They would divide the 12 teams into two six-team pools, with the two top teams playing for the championship.

In the opening game of the five game round-robin format, the Lady Rebels and Penn State took advantage of not having fences in the outfield. The two teams combined for 3 homeruns over the last three innings.

UNLV was out homered 2-1, but ended up with the last home run. It came off the bat of catcher Sheree Corniel with two out in the top of the seventh inning of a 3-3 game. Corniel, along with her home run, went three for four, and drove in three of the four Rebel runs leading the offensive attack that backed the six-hit performance of freshman pitcher Lori Harrigan as the Rebels posted a 4-3 victory.

The middle game of the three played on Saturday, saw the Rebels facing Cal-State Sacramento. Harrigan again was given the ball and quickly removed the sting from the Hornets offense by striking out the side in the first and fourth innings as the Rebels went on to a 4-0 win.

The Lady Rebels got off to a quick start by taking a two-run lead after three innings. With speedster Patricia Spencer on first, Felicia Benjamins pulled a double down the right field line. Spencer

never hesitated and scored standing up. Benjamins would later also score on an error by the Hornets' shortstop.

The Lady Rebels would add two more runs to their total in the fifth inning. Benjamins, who went 3 for 3, again was involved in the Rebel rally. She lead off the inning with a single to right, and was followed by timely one out singles by Patti King and Corniel, and helped by a throwing error on Hornet pitcher Shelia Montgomery.

The night game of the triple hitter had two 2-0 teams facing off, UNLV and Colorado State. The winner would have the inside track at making it to the championship game, and unfortunately for the Lady Rebels, they left their better games behind them. Colorado State won convincingly, 5-0.

Patti King got the start for the Lady Rebs, but was unable to get out of the first inning. King faced only five

batters, giving up four hits and three runs before Coach Shan McDonald made the move back to Harrigan.

The three first inning runs would turn out to be two more runs than CSU pitcher Kathy Wirth would need. After a two-out first inning single by Harrigan, Wirth then retired the next 13 batters on her way to a two-hit shutout.

When Sunday's games came around, UNLV's hopes to get to the championship game were slim, but a sweep of a pair of games against south West Texas and Utah State would put the Lady Rebels into the consolation game.

UNLV came out for its game against the Bobcats of South West Texas and immediately gave starting pitcher Patti King, who had struggled in her last two outings, a six run.

They sent 11 batters to the plate, had eight base hits, had

every batter reached base safely at least once and had seven consecutive singles all in the first inning.

It went like this; single by Benjamins, single by King, single by Corniel scores Benjamins, single by Kelly Kamp, single by Michelle Moreno scores two more, single by Mindy Garcia, Kim Harris singles forcing Kamp home. After a fielders choice lead-off hitter Patricia Spencer singled in the last two runs of the inning.

King was able to cruise through the whole game giving up single runs in the fourth an sixth innings enroute to picking up her second win of the season.

The 7-2 Lady Rebel victory set up a winner take all match-up against Utah State. The winner would advance, and for the losing team the tournament would be over.

The battled ended up be-

ing a battle between the two pitchers. Harrigan and Utah States' Terri Rice battled through 7 innings of regulation play, and the two teams were tied at zero. The tie remained through nine.

The scoreless tie would come to an unfortunate end in the tenth. Tie breaking rules in softball say that each team is to place a runner at second base to start off the remaining innings. A seemingly harmless single to center by Utah States' pitcher gave the Aggies a 1-0 lead.

No problem, the Lady Rebels would get their chance to place a runner at second base. Lori Prince was the designated runner, but was thrown out at the plate on a single by Moreno to end the game.

In the championship game, Colorado State defeated Texas-Arlington 2-0. UNLV finished at 3-2 for the tournament, and is now 5-5 overall.

## Holyfield vs. Dokes

by mike metzner

boxing columnist

Following Mike Tyson's fifth round win over Frank Bruno, you might be inclined to think that no one can seriously challenge the undisputed champion. However, on Saturday, March 11 at Caesars Palace, two heavyweights will attempt to prove you wrong.

Evander Holyfield, perceived by many to be the best heavyweight other than Tyson, will meet Michael "Dynamite Dokes in a scheduled 12 round main event. While Holyfield has been installed as a seven to one favorite, this fight could end up being a close shootout.

Dokes turned professional at age 17 and began his career with a fourth round knockout of Al Byrd in 1976. He progressed rapidly through the heavyweight ranks with wins over more experienced veterans such as Jimmy Young, Ossie Ocasio and Randall "Tex" Cobb. Finally, in December of 1982, Dokes got a shot at a world championship. He scored a controversial first round TKO over Mike Weaver to capture the WBA

Heavyweight crown. He retained his title in a rematch with Weaver, but then lost it to Gerrie Coetzee in September of 1983.

Despite possessing tremendous boxing skills, Dokes lacked personal discipline. His best friend became a devilish white powder known as cocaine. By 1985, he was a full-fledged addict and out of boxing. The next year was very rough for Dokes as he endured multiple arrests and a few unsuccessful attempts at rehabilitation. Finally, in 1987, after being released from a Utah drug center, Dokes was clean.

He returned to the ring on December 17 of that same year, and knocked out K.P. Porter in the fifth round. Since then, he has rattled off seven straight victories, six of them coming via the knockout route. At age 30, Dokes cannot afford to waste any more time as he seeks to regain the heavyweight crown.

The career of Evander Holyfield has taken quite the opposite route. The only setback for Holyfield thus far came in the Olympic Games in Los Angeles when he was disqualified for hitting his

opponent after the referee said "stop". The disqualification cost Holyfield a shot at the gold medal and forced him to settle for the bronze.

As a professional, Holyfield captured the IBF cruiserweight title after just 11 pro bouts. After running out of competition at the 195 pound weight limit, he set his sights on bigger paydays and an eventual showdown against "Iron" Mike Tyson. As a heavyweight he has looked impressive, but not devastating.

In order for Holyfield to beat Dokes he's going to have to be the busier fighter. Dokes has the edge in experience and power while Holyfield in undoubtedly the quicker of the two. The big question that still remains is whether or not Holyfield can take the punch of a true heavyweight. As for Dokes, no one has ever questioned the durability of his chin.

Who's going to win? Look for Holyfield to capture a unanimous decision simply because he'll throw more punches. The chances of him knocking Dokes out are pretty slim, but you never know.

Dokes is 37-1-2 with 23 KO's and Holyfield is 20-0 with 16 KO's.

## Lady Rebels finish 23-5

by kim alpert

staff writer

What a way to go! The UNLV Lady Rebels finished out their regular season with a smashing 73-46 victory at UC Irvine on Saturday despite committing 31 turnovers.

The smothering Rebel defense held the Anteaters to just 30 percent shooting from the field.

Pauline Jordan finished up an all-star season with a trademark 22 points and 10 rebounds. Tammy Moore, Merlynn Lange and Vicki Lander added 10 points each with Lander also dishing out eight assists.

On Thursday the Rebels traveled to UC Santa Barbara and came away with an im-

pressive 88-57 victory in seeded in the upcoming front of NCAA selection committee chairman Stan Morrison.

Five UNLV players finished in double figures as the Rebels shot 58 percent from the field (32 of 55) and 77 percent from the line (23-30). Kim Crawford paced the Rebels with 14 points followed by Lander and Jordan with 12 and DeNise Ballenger and Shelly Ray with 10.

UNLV finished out its season with an impressive 13-5 record in the Big West Conference and 23-5 overall and will open up the conference tournament on Wednesday against UCSB at the Long Beach Arena.

On Sunday the Ladies will find out where they will be

NCAA Tournament, and according to Coach Jim Bolla, the possibility exists that UNLV could host at least one tourney game.

"We kind of feel that we have a good chance of hosting a first round game," Bolla said. "(Morrison) is in a position where he can't tell us a lot, but he was real high on our team.

Bolla went on to say that he is looking for a sponsor to buy tickets for the students if UNLV does get to host an NCAA tourney game.

The possibility still exists also, that UNLV could receive a first round bye and then host a second round game, but Bolla did emphasize that all of this is still speculation.

## Mens and womens Big West Tournaments begin Wednesday at the Long Beach Arena