

UNLV basketball brings benefits from all around

By Andrea Reitan
YELLIN' REBEL

Good news comes in bunches when things are going well. If the UNLV basketball program has any intention of reaping the benefits of their Final Four appearance, they're off to a good start. Two of the nation's top recruits orally committed to attend UNLV.

Elmore Spencer, a member of the national junior college champion Connors Junior College in Warner, Oklahoma committed to UNLV on Wednesday.

Along with Spencer, Shon Tarver out of Santa Clara High School in Oxnard, California, verbally committed to UNLV and was supposed to hold a press conference yesterday to announce his decision.

Spencer and Tarver will be the second and third recruits signed providing they maintain their decisions and follow through with a letter of intent on April 11. UNLV signed 6-2 guard H. Waldman from local Clark High School back in November during the early signing period.

Spencer is a 7-foot, 235 pound center who hopes to replace David Butler who completes his college career this season. Spencer will have to challenge George Ackles, who is a medical redshirt this season for the position.

Tarver is a 6-5 guard who averaged 32 points and nine rebounds for Santa Clara. He led his team to the California Division 4-2A championship.

If UNLV keeps up their successful play and recruiting it could end up in a non-stop cycle that could be beneficial for a long time.

A REBEL WITH A CAUSE



Yell Photo / Robert Anderson

-POWER Rebel forward Larry Johnson #4 takes this Final Four appearance very seriously, and will be ready to take on Georgia Tech Saturday.

Binion's to host after Final Four

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Following the Rebels participation in the Final Four, Binion's Horseshoe will sponsor the "Runnin' Rebel Welcome Home Rally".

A motorcade will start at the Union Plaza Hotel and will be led by Governor Bob Miller and Mayor Ron Lurie. The motorcade will move east on Fremont to Las Vegas Boulevard, proceed south on the strip to Tropicana, then east to the Thomas and Mack Center.

At 7:30 p.m. the Runnin' Rebels will be introduced at a special presentation in the Thomas and Mack Arena. Large screens will be provided for a closer look of the Rebels. Surprise guests from around the country will make video appearances at the presentation. Tickets will be required for this event and can be picked up in a "drive through" area in lots 5 and 6 going in to the T and M parking lot at the Swenson entrance.

The motorcade will be held no matter what the outcome of this

weekend's games.

Just so you know: Each university participating in the Final Four received 1,650 tickets. How the tickets are distributed is left to the discretion of the university. So, basically, when students, who aren't required to pay for regular season tickets or are given substantial discounts, become boosters and scholarship backers their arguments will be taken to heart.

Until then, the students are left to suffer with the tube.

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See the game at Thomas & Mack this weekend

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All of you have by now heard about the controversy surrounding the distribution of basketball tickets to students. Well, if there can be any kind of consolation, the Thomas and Mack has done the best they can to compensate.

According to Kay Scherer in the Promotions department at the T and M, there will be a special fireworks show prior to the showing of the game on a 15 by 20 foot big screen TV. Saturday's game against

Georgia Tech will be shown free of charge at approximately 5:00 p.m. Doors will open one hour before game time and seating is on a first come first serve basis.

Providing that the Rebels defeat the Yellow Jackets on Saturday, the same format will be followed for Monday's championship game. It is also possible that the Thomas and Mack will add another screen. Doors will open at 5:00 p.m. with game time at 6:00 p.m.

Parking fees are also being waved.

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