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THE YELLIN' REBEL

Spring Break Issue

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS

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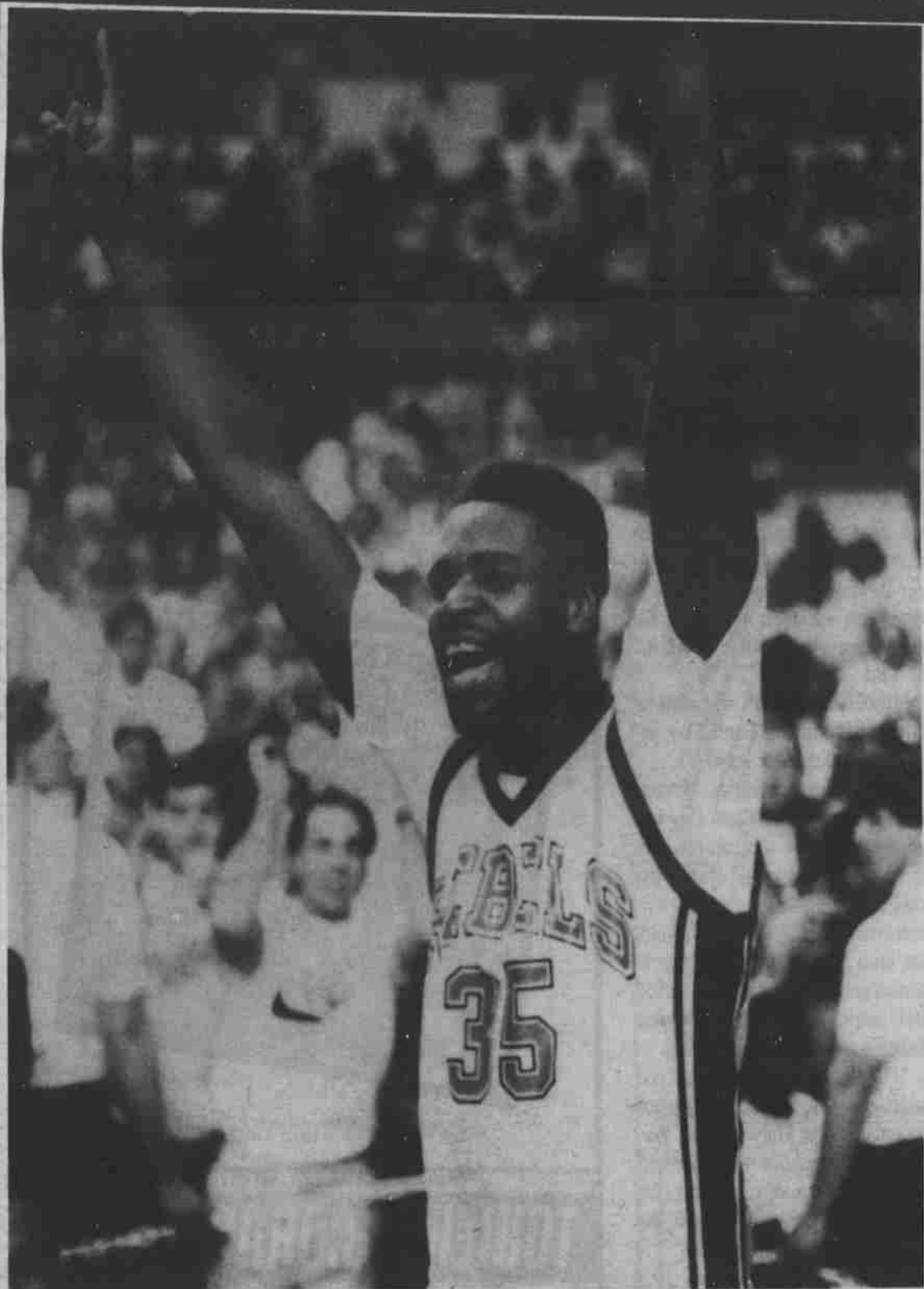
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Rebs win it all!!

1990 NCAA Champs

NUMBER ONE!!



Yell Photo / Robert Anderson

- VICTORY #35 Moses Scurry raises his hands in triumph as the UNLV Runnin Rebels win their first NCAA Championship against Duke with a record setting score of 103-73.

By Andrea Reitan and
Chuck Walker
YELLIN' REBEL

The UNLV Runnin' Rebels were number one before the season and now they can say they finished where they started.

It was a glorious finish to a year full of controversy, brawls and injuries. Jerry Tarkanian and his "Bad Boys from the desert" ran away with the NCAA's most coveted prize, the 1990 NCAA Men's Basketball Championship. UNLV went into the National Championship as the favorites and trounced the Duke Blue Devils 103-73 for their first ever NCAA Championship.

UNLV just went out and played their game. They applied constant defensive pressure and never allowed Duke to get into their vaunted half-court offense. "Their half-court defense is the best in the country. They were in control of the game whether or not they had the ball. They would not let us get back in the ballgame," commented Duke head coach Mike Krzyzewski. The Rebels forced 14 first-half turnovers and grabbed 10 steals to give UNLV a 47-35 halftime lead.

Tarkanian told his Rebels to run the court and that's exactly what they did. UNLV jumped out to a 21-11 lead behind the one-two combination from Stacey Augmon and Anderson Hunt. Augmon danced, glided, and pounded his way on the inside while Hunt lighted up the scoreboard from the perimeter. "They just wore us out" said Krzyzewski. Greg Anthony's last second layup put UNLV up by twelve at the half.

The Rebels continued to dominate in the second half with a 18-0

run, after the Blue Devils cut the lead to ten. Not enough can be said about the Rebel defense. They denied Duke the inside and pressured the perimeter constantly. "I don't know if you realize what they did tonight," Krzyzewski said. "there was nothing we could do. They would not let us do anything." Christian Lactner ended the Rebel scoring blitz with two free throws with 13:04 remaining.

UNLV had consistent play from its starting five. Anderson Hunt, who was named the Most Valuable Player of the final, scored 29 points, was 12-16 from the field, and 4-7 from 3pt range. "It feels great!" Hunt said. Duke's Phil Henderson had the task of guarding Hunt. "I've never seen him stop and hit like that," Henderson said. "It seemed like he never got tired."

Larry Johnson redeemed himself (from fouling out of Saturday's semi-final game against Georgia Tech) by scoring 22 points including the two three pointers in the second half. Johnson also grabbed 11 rebounds.

Stacey Augmon Also had 12 points with 7 assist before committing his fifth personal foul with 4:54 left to play. Anthony added 13 points and 6 assist while David Butler chipped 4 points and 3 rebounds.

The Rebels broke two NCAA records in the final game. One for the most points scored in a final and the other for the largest margin of victory. "Not in my wildest dreams, not in my wildest dreams," Tarkanian commented when asked if he ever thought he'd win the "Big ONE". "Well it's obvious they were great," Krzyzewski said "I'm in awe of what they did."