

Hustlin' Rebels win four out of five

By Mark Landwehr
YELLIN' REBEL

The UNLV Hustlin Rebels, (18-8), won four games of a five game homestand that saw them play five games in five days.

The U.S. International University Gulls, (9-25-1), were Wednesday and Thursday's victims, as the Rebels defeated them 11-7 and 4-3 respectively.

On the mound for the first time in 12 days on Wednesday, was the Rebels ace pitcher, Junior Donovan Osborne. Osborne overcame his longest layoff of the season to notch 10 k's, and grab his sixth victory against only two losses. Osborne was not his usual overpowering self, but the layoff due to rainouts in all three games of a road trip to Oklahoma may have been to blame.

Rebels Coach Fred Dallimore said of his All-American pitcher, "Donnie was helped by them swinging at a lot of pitches out of the strike zone, but then again he only got in 30 pitches in a ten minute practice because of the weather.

Senior, Joe Sawaia, came in to save the game with two outs in the eighth inning; registering three k's in only five batters faced. The only blemish in the performance being that the only batter who didn't make an out hit a home run off of Sawaia in the top of the ninth.

The Rebels bats were slow to start, but a six run fourth inning sparked the Rebels to an 11-7 victory. The inning was highlighted by singles by junior catcher Steve Cerio, (four for five on the night), a ground rule double by sophomore second baseman Ernie Perez, (3-3, 4 RBI's), and a triple by junior right-fielder Tim Johnson, (1-2, 2 RBI's).

The rematch on Friday night was highlighted by the hitting of two freshmen, third baseman Mike Strobel, (2-3, 2 RBI's), and first baseman Nick Kuster, who got his first collegiate home run in the 8th inning. The run proved to be the game winner, as the Rebels got their second win in as many days, 4-3.

Sophomore pitcher Doug Vanderweele, (1-1), started the game, and pitched well, but yielded to relief man Tory Miran in the 8th inning, who picked up the win. Senior Joe Sawaia picked up another save with his appearance in the ninth inning.

The Hustlin Rebels then began a three game series with interconference rival Long Beach State, the conference opener for both teams. The Rebels entered the series ranked 20th by Baseball America, while the 49ers were ranked 10th. The home team got the best of the series, two games to one, dropping the first one in extra innings, but coming back to take the next two.

The series opened on Friday night with junior Brian Boehringer, (2-3), pitching for the Rebels, and Eric Grubin, (5-1), on the hill for the visitors.

Boehringer pitched an excellent game, giving up only four runs in 9 and one-third innings pitched. Unfortunately, it was not enough, as the Niners scored three runs in the top of the tenth inning, to win the game 7-4.

The Hustlin Rebs got 11 hits off of Long Beach pitching, but only four runs. Junior designated hitter Rickey Scruggs, was responsible for half of those runs, going three for five, including a ground rule double in the seventh that scored two runs.

UNLV threatened to win the

game in the bottom of the ninth, with two out and runners at the corners; but the inning ended with a fly out to centerfield to put the game into extra innings.

The home team was undaunted, however, coming back to even the series with a 9-8 victory on Saturday night.

The Rebels came out swinging. Junior shortstop Ron Richard led off the game with a double, and scored when the next batter, junior outfielder Tim Johnson, the Rebels leading hitter, (.410), also hit a double. The second inning witnessed more hitting by the home team, highlighted by doubles by junior left fielder Danny Costa, (.250), and senior first baseman Casey Clements, (.329). UNLV picked up four runs to make the score 5-3, as Long Beach State had scored three runs in the top of the inning.

The Rebels went down in order in the third inning, but came back to score three runs in the fourth inning in response to a two run flurry by the visitors.

The 49ers picked up one run in the seventh inning, to make the score 8-6 in favor of the Rebels. The Rebels again responded in the bottom of the inning though with a run of their own to make the score 9-6. The run was scored by designated hitter Ricky Scruggs, (.397), who hit a single, stole second, and went to third on a bad throw on the steal by the Niners Catcher. Scruggs then scored on a single by third baseman Mike Strobel.

Long Beach State threatened to win the game in the top of the eighth, but came up short, scoring only two runs.

The 9-8 victory was credited

to sophomore pitcher Jonathan Jarolimck, who went six and one-third innings, and gave up six runs on 11 hits. Senior Joe Sawaia came in with two outs in the ninth inning to pick up his third save in four days, and sixth of the season.

The rubber game of the match was played on Sunday afternoon and matched UNLV's ace Donovan Osborne, (7-2), against Long Beach State's Tom Urbani, (4-1).

Osborne went the distance, but had only four strikeouts. Coach Dallimore showed faith in his ace, leaving him in even with bases loaded and nobody out in the seventh inning. The inning resulted in 2 runs for Long Beach State, and evened the score at 3-3.

Osborne remained in the game, and the Niners took the lead, 5-3, when they scored two runs in the top of the eighth off of a home run by the visitor's star hitter Don Barbara, (.480), and a single and a double by two out of the next four batters.

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The eighth inning witnessed hitting heroics by freshman Derek Freeman, who entered the game when regular shortstop Ron Richard went down with a knee injury turning a double play in the 5th inning. With a two strike count, Freeman, (2-2, 4 RBI's), took a low inside fastball downtown for a three run home run that ultimately proved to be the game winner, as the Rebels won the game 6-5. "I was trying to hit to right, but he came inside and I got a hold of it", said Freeman. When asked of his substitution for Richard, Freeman responded, "I'd rather beat someone out for the job, but I'll take whatever opportunity comes. I hope

Ron's OK". Freeman should see a great deal of action, as Richard is out indefinitely with torn knee ligaments.

Rebel hitting was led by sophomore left fielder Danny Costa, (4-4, double and two runs scored). Second baseman Ernie Perez, who moved to shortstop when Richard went down, with Freeman taking second, went two for four, including a double for an RBI in the second inning.

Coach Dallimore was pleased about his team's winning the series 2 games to one, as he felt, "We played a good team out there. Long Beach is a very strong team." The two victories give UNLV a 2-1 record in the conference and a 18-8 record overall. The team should move up from their twentieth ranking by taking two of three from the tenth ranked 49ers.

The Hustlin Rebels next series is away against interconference rival UC Santa Barbara, which starts on Friday, April 6. The Rebels next home game is a three game series with interconference opponent San Jose State starting at 7 pm on Friday, April 13, that is Friday the 13 for all you superstitious fans out there.

Lady Rebels 33-12 for season

By Chuck Walker
YELLIN' REBEL

The UNLV softball team split on the road last weekend. Last Friday night against the Lady Sun-devils of Arizona State, the Lady Rebels dropped a doubleheader losing the first game 2-1 and then losing the nightcap 4-0. On Sunday, UNLV bounced back to beat Oregon State 8-0 and 4-0. Fridays loss ended a nine game winning streak for the Lady Rebels.

ASU's Terri Carnicelli pitched a three-hitter to beat UNLV 2-1 in the first game of Friday nights doubleheader. Patti King went the distance giving up two runs off of five hits. Chris Parris scored the Lady Rebels only run off of Dena Baker's

RBI single in the top of the third inning.

"We just didn't come out aggressive and hit the ball" Rebel Assistant Coach Brian Kolze commented.

In the game, ASU's Melinda Cook and Amber Tintzman combined pitching helped defeat UNLV 4-0. Lori Harrigan went 4.1 innings in a losing effort.

"They caught us with back to back squeezes and even though we played a much better game, we couldn't catch up," said Kolze.

This is the third straight loss against Arizona State for the Lady Rebels.

Sunday's doubleheader turned out to be a much better.

Lori Harrigan and Kim Smith

pitched back to back one-hitters to get UNLV back on the road to success.

The Lady Rebels beat Oregon State 8-0 in the first game with Kim Harris as the superstar of the day with 4 runs and 4 RBIs.

Dena Baker and Chris Parris both went 3 of 6 with UNLV getting 13 total hits.

Kolze said "We came out and pounded them."

In the second game, Kim Smith beat Oregon State 4-0 for her sixth win of the season.

Trish Reimche went 4 of 5 at the plate.

UNLV's overall record is now 33-12 for the season.

Go Rebels! (Rebel Fever)

Hey! Hey! All I can say is "I want to see the Rebels go all the way." You've passed the test. You're the best in the West. When I go out today I'll be wearing red and gray. The road to Denver, we will always remember Georgia may be on your mind. "It's just a matter of time," when you "wreck" Georgia Tech. We'll say: What the heck." If you don't beat Duke, we will know it a fluke, meanwhile, run, run, run and have "big fun". To the fans in Vegas you have already won.

by Deborah Cornwell

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