

# UNLV Football Matchup

## UNLV vs. San Jose State

**Where:** Sam Boyd Silver Bowl, Las Vegas  
**When:** Saturday, September 22, 7 p.m., PDT  
**Records:** UNLV, 1-2, San Jose State, 1-1-1  
**Last Meeting:** 1989, San Jose State won, 38-28 at San Jose  
**Media:** Radio-KROL (870 AM), TV-SportsChannel (live telecast)

### Offense

#### UNLV

The passing combination of Derek Stott to Keenan McCardell continues to light up the Southwestern skies. The two have hooked up on 17 pass plays for 319 yards, so far this season. McCardell was named Big West Offensive Player of the Week for his six catch, 109-yard performance this past week against Oregon State.

The running attack is led by QB-RB Hunkie Cooper and Marvin Eastman. The two have combined for

329 yards rushing on 76 carries, an average of 4.3 yards per carry.

The running success, and even the passing success of the red and silver attack can be attributed in large part to the play of the offensive line. The offensive line has been outstanding, opening huge holes to run through and providing quarterback Derek Stott time to throw the ball. The line is anchored by seniors Dustin Quinton and Greg Mattes.

#### San Jose State

The Spartans feature a power running game led by

running backs Sheldon Canley and Maceo Barbosa. The 5-8, 193 lb. Canley has rushed for 253 yards in three games. The 5-10, 202 lb. Barbosa is averaging 4.4 yards per carry so far this season.

The Spartans have an excellent passing game as well. Quarterback Ralph Martini has completed 56.5 percent of his passes this season. Martini spreads the ball around to four different wide receivers, each with over 100 yards receiving on the season.

### Defense

#### UNLV

The strength of the Rebel defense lies in the secondary, where the "Las Vegas Connection," Carlton Johnson and Charles Anthony, (Johnson graduated from Rancho High, Anthony from Western), hunt down and destroy enemy ball carriers and receivers. Johnson leads the Rebels in tackles with 18, 15 of them unassisted. Anthony is tied for second on the team with 10 unassisted tackles.

The linebacking corps is solid, led by senior Jody Reinoehl. Reinoehl is tied with Anthony with 10 un-

assisted tackle and has been instrumental in the Rebels' defensive success.

The Rebels' defensive line has been somewhat suspect, yielding 5.6 yards per carry to opposing running backs. It must be remembered though that the number is slightly inflated by the tremendous success that Houston, a Top 25 team, had against UNLV.

#### San Jose State

The Spartan defense is spearheaded by their defensive line. San Jose State registered six sacks in their game last week against Pacific, and are sure to be hungry for more.

The defense also held

Pacific to minus one yard rushing for the entire game. Although Pacific is not a powerhouse team, the fact that they were held to negative yardage on the ground the whole game is a tribute to the strength of the Spartan defensive line.

The remainder of the San Jose State defense is decimated with injuries. Two of the Spartans top three linebackers are out due to knee surgery, and the third was arrested in a domestic dispute on Friday, leaving his status as questionable. Also injured is the Spartan's best defensive back, Eddie Thomas.

### Overall

The Rebels face their first Big West Conference game fresh off their first victory of the season, an impressive 45-20 drubbing of Oregon State.

The key to the game for the Rebels will be the success their offensive line has in stopping the Spartans' strong pass rush. Running backs, Eastman and Cooper need to keep the defense honest, by con-

tributing some big gains of their own.

The San Jose State offense has been successful between the 20-yard lines, but hasn't scored very much, only 58 points in three games. The Spartan receivers will have to withstand the hard-hitting Rebel secondary, and may end up going more with the ground game. Given UNLV's failure to stop the run effectively this season, San Jose State should be able to run

the ball well.

The Rebels, will need the help of the home crowd, should this turn out to be a close contest. A higher student turnout (students accounted for only about 1,000 of approximately 17,000 people in attendance) would definitely help.

As always, a section has been reserved for students, with proper ID, to attend the game free of charge.

## Rebel Football Forecast

### by Mark Landwehr

The Rebels came together as a team last week, and should be able to put together two good halves of football this Saturday, something they have not done yet this season.

Look for the Rebel offense to run alot of rollouts and option-type plays to try to avoid the fierce San Jose

State pass rush.

The UNLV offensive line should give Derek Stott enough time to get off a few deep passes to Keenan McCardell. If the offensive line does an exceptional job Stott will be able to pass freely against a weak Spartan secondary.



The big question mark

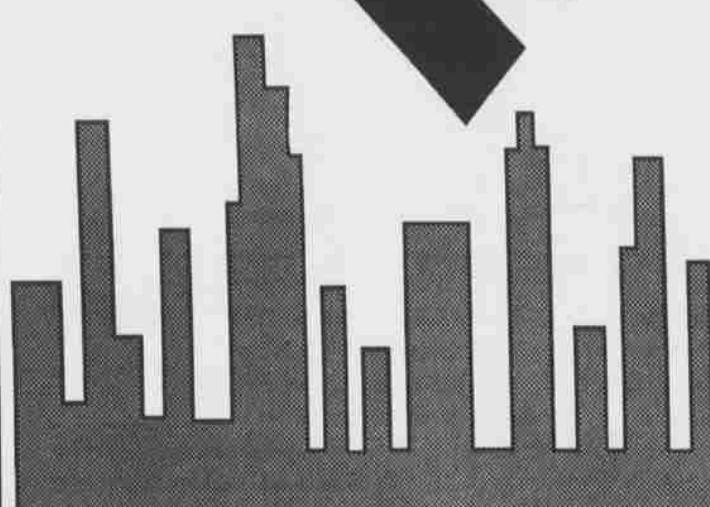
is whether the Rebel defense can contain the Spartans' running game.

I think the Rebel offense will score enough to stay in the game, and win it on a late field goal by Todd Amrein.

**My pick:**  
UNLV 24

San Jose State 21

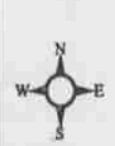





## CLUB M<sup>TV</sup> Dress Contest

**1st \$75.00**  
**2nd \$25.00**  
**3rd Dinner for 2**  
**Friday, Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> 9:00 pm**

Flamingo		
Trop	UNLV	Eastern
Russell		
	Maryland	ΣΑΕ



## McCardell named Big West Offensive Player of the Week

by Billy Naftaly  
Staff Reporter

King Midas might have had hands that turned everything that he touched into gold, but senior wide receiver Keenan McCardell's hands turn receptions into touchdowns.

Those hands, which caught three touchdown passes and compiled 109 yards receiving last Saturday against Oregon State, were honored when McCardell was named Big West Offensive Player of the Week.

"I was named Big West Player of the Week last year at the end of the season and it felt pretty good, but we lost the game. Now that we won, it feels really great," McCardell exclaimed.

Most people would be ecstatic with statistics like those posted by McCardell last weekend, but not him.

"It felt real good to score three touchdowns, but I felt like I played a so-so game. I believe there is always room for improvement and I think there are a lot of things I could improve on," he explained.

The speedy receiver grew up in Houston, Texas, but decided to play here at University of Nevada, Las Vegas because he wanted to see what it was like to be away from home.

Since attending UNLV, Mc-

Cardell has matured into, arguably one of the best receivers presently in the college ranks. The funny thing is, he hasn't been a receiver for a very long time.

"My high school coach got me interested in playing wide receiver. Before my junior year, I was playing quarterback. He told me that the best position to get a scholarship to a Division I level school, would be at wide receiver. So, we made the switch in the middle part of my junior year."

"I just blossomed recently as a receiver because of the team. I don't think of myself as the star, I feel like a role player," he said.

In high school, McCardell played many sports besides football. Baseball, basketball, and track were some of his loves, but it was football that captured his heart.

One of McCardell's greatest assets is his ability to adapt to different offensive schemes. He played under a system created by former coach Wayne Nunnely for three years and now has been thrust into a system initiated by new head coach, Jim Strong.

"The one that coach Nunnely had, I felt real comfortable with. The new system that coach Strong brought in, had a lot of new things that I had to learn. I put what I learned from coach Nunnely into

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