

Rebels beat CS Fullerton for the first time in four years, 29-10 at the Silver Bowl

by Mario Diaz
Staff Reporter

The first five weeks of the season UNLV established itself as a good second half team. Saturday night before a crowd of 13,791 at the Silver Bowl, the Rebels put things together in the first half and put Cal State Fullerton out of contention early. The 29-10 victory improved the Rebels to the .500 plateau at 3-3, with a 2-1 record against conference foes. The loss dropped Cal State to 1-5, with a record of 0-2 in Big West play.

Both teams came in relying on strong running games and solid passing attacks. The game was built up as a battle on the ground, with Reggie Yarbrough leading the Titans in rushing, and UNLV countering with its triple threat of Marvin Eastman, Teddy James, and Hunkie Cooper. The play of UNLV's special teams, led by Raymond Walters, was what really decided the final outcome.

When Phil Nevin kicked a 54-yard field goal for the Titans in first quarter, UNLV found itself behind 3-0. On UNLV's second possession of the game, Derek Stott marched the team on a five-play 78-yard scoring drive and the Rebels took a 7-3 lead. Teddy James scored the touchdown, going in, practically untouched, from 20 yards out. The key play of the drive was a 45-yard pass from quarterback Derek Stott to wideout Keenan McCardell.

Stott finished the game with 217 yards passing on only 11 completions. McCardell had 93 yards receiving on 5 catches.

UNLV's all-purpose man Hunkie Cooper ran 18 yards on a quarterback keeper, to put UNLV up 14-3 with 1:55 left to play in the first quarter. The touchdown was set up when Raymond Walters, who had just been put on special teams the previous week, stopped a Titan fake punt by sacking Titan punter Phil Nevin on his own 19-yard line.

After the Titans' next possession failed, Walters broke up another Nevin punt attempt. Walters hit Nevin on the Titan 19-yard line after Nevin was unable to handle a bad snap from center. "After I noticed he was having problems with the ball, I went right to him and tackled him" said Walters.

UNLV had to settle for a field goal and a 17-3 lead after penalties stalled their drive.

The Rebels defense played a

good first half allowing the Titans only 48 yards in the air and 57 on the ground.

UNLV increased their lead to 23-3 at halftime, their first halftime lead in 11 games. Derek Black scored the touchdown on a 1-yard plunge. The point-after by Todd Amrein was no good, the sixth extra point missed by the Rebels this year.

Fullerton State was able to close the gap in the third quarter, by putting together a 14-play, 75-yard drive capped off by J.J. Celestine's touchdown reception from Paul Schulte on a fourth-and-three play from the UNLV 5. This was the only scoring done by either team in the third quarter.

UNLV iced the game in the fourth quarter on a 12-yard run by Hunkie Cooper. Cooper's run capped off a night of 194 yards of total offense, including two touchdowns.

Cooper said, "Right now our offense has put two good games together, and I think our football team is coming together in one unit."

Coach Jim Strong alternated Cooper and Stott at quarterback throughout the game.

"The way our game plan is set up, Hunkie and I are always switching off, the other team has to prepare for both of us, so it makes it a little bit tougher on the defense. He's our groundman, so whatever Hunkie does, I'm behind him all the way," said



Yell Photo / Robert Anderson

Battering Ram - QB - RB Hunkie Cooper uses one of his offensive linemen to make it through the line during Saturday's win over Cal-State Fullerton.

Stott.

Coach Strong acknowledged the fine play of his special teams, and the outstanding performance by both the offense and defense. The victory was Coach Strong's first at the Silver Bowl.

Next up for Coach Strong and the Rebels, a road game against the Aggies of New Mexico State in Las Cruces. New Mexico State currently has the longest losing streak in Division I-A at 22 games.



Yell Photo / Robert Anderson

Run for the line - QB Derek Stott makes a break for a first down after being flushed from the pocket.

To the Brothers of ΣΑΕ,

Even though it was too late to qualify, I want to thank you for asking me to be your Homecoming Queen Candidate!

*Thanks again,
Sally Potenza*

AP Top 10 - How they fared

1. Notre Dame (3-1), lost to Stanford, 36-31. Next week: vs. Air Force.
2. Florida St. (4-1), lost to No. 9 Miami (Fla.), 31-22. Next week: idle.
3. Michigan (3-1), beat Wisconsin, 41-3. Next week: vs. Michigan State.
4. Virginia (5-0), did not play. Next week: vs. North Carolina State.
5. Auburn (3-0-1), beat Louisiana Tech, 16-14. Next week: vs. Vanderbilt.
6. Tennessee (3-0-2), did not play. Next week: vs. No. 10 Florida.
7. Oklahoma (5-0), beat Oklahoma State, 31-17. Next week: vs. Texas, in Dallas.
8. Nebraska (5-0), beat Kansas State, 45-8. Next week: vs. Missouri.
9. Miami (Fla.), beat No. 2 Florida State, 31-22. Next week: vs. Kansas.
10. Florida (5-0), beat Louisiana State, 34-8. Next week: at No. 6 Tennessee.

Big West Conference

California 35, San Jose State 34.
Long Beach St. 31, New Mexico St. 27.
Northern Illinois 73, Fresno State 18.
Oregon 52, Utah State 7.
UNLV 29, Cal State Fullerton 10.
Pacific did not play.

A REAL LUNCH BREAK.

GET A REGULAR FOOTLONG SUB AND LARGE SODA FOR \$3.99

Paying too much for too little? Pay Subway a visit. Whether you want a sub or a salad, you'll get a fresh meal that really fills the bill. Next time it's lunchtime, give yourself a break. A lunch break at Subway.

Limit: one coupon per customer per visit. Not good in combination with any other offer. Offer expires: 6/91. GOOD AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATION ONLY 1220 E. Harmon Ave.