

UNLV Football Matchup

UNLV vs. Nevada-Reno

Where: Sam Boyd Silver Bowl, Las Vegas
When: Saturday, Oct. 20, 7 p.m.
Records: UNLV, 4-3; UNR, 6-0

Offense

UNLV

Over the last five games, the Rebels are averaging 29.6 points and 398.6 total yards per game. They are gaining 201.8 yards per game on the ground and passing for 196.8 yards per game.

Fullback Marvin Eastman leads the Rebel ground game with 477 yards rushing on 101 carries. Following Eastman is all-purpose man, Hunkie Cooper with 365 yards. The UNLV ground attack ranks second in the Big West.

Quarterback Derek Stott has compiled a career total of 2,922 yards in passing. He needs only 78

more yards to become the fifth Rebel quarterback to go over 3,000 yards in career passing. Also, Stott ranks second in the Big West and 16th nationally in passing efficiency with a 135.0 rating.

The man the Rebels count on to catch the football, is split end Keenan McCardell. McCardell leads the Big West and ranks 11th nationally in receiving yardage with 93.7 yards per game.

UNR

The Wolf Pack comes into this game boasting an undefeated record and are ranked 3rd in Division I-AA. They are averaging 34 points a game, while holding their opponents to 15.

Sophomore Jason Frierson and senior Ray Whalen lead the running game for the Wolf Pack. They have rushed for 311 yards and 286 yards, respectively.

The passing game is controlled by sophomore quarterback Fred Gatlin. He has compiled 1,156 yards and eight touchdowns this season. Gatlin has completed 50.5 percent of his passes for an average of 192.7 yards per game.

Gatlin has two outstanding receivers to throw to. Senior Ross Ortega has caught 28 passes for 313 yards and senior tight end Scott Benning, has caught five touchdown passes.

Defense

UNLV

The defensive unit struggled against New Mexico State, but there was enough individual effort to help propel the Rebels to victory.

In the backfield, the Rebels rely on their two safeties, Carlton Johnson and Charles Anthony. Johnson is second on the team in tackles with 51. He also has two intercep-

tions this year.

At the linebacker position, the Rebels are led by Rumone Hilton and Jody Reinoehl. Hilton leads the team in tackles with 54 and Reinoehl has 249 career tackles to his credit.

UNR

The Wolf Pack defense is an opportunistic one. So far this year, they have forced their opponents into 14 interceptions and seven

fumbles.

The secondary features two outstanding football players, senior Kevin Sims and senior Xavier Kairy. Both have three interceptions this year.

Probably the best defensive player out on the field for the Wolf Pack, is junior linebacker Matthew Clifton. He has recorded 67 tackles, 43 of them are solo.

Special Teams

UNLV

On punt returns, Cooper leads the Big West and is 14th nationally with an average of 13.9 yards per

return. Also, his 472 yards on kickoff returns, leads the Rebels.

UNR

Senior placekicker Kevin McKelvie has con-

nected on 14 of 16 field goal attempts and has converted all 21 of his point after attempts. Also, Ortega is averaging 35.5 yards per punt as the Wolf Pack punter.

Predictions

This should be a close and hard fought game. I give the victory to the Rebels because they will be pumped up due to Homecoming.

Stott and McCardell should be able to hook up for some big plays and Stott will become the fifth Rebel to go over 3,000 yards passing.

last couple of minutes, returning the Fremont Cannon to UNLV.

My Pick
UNLV 21 UNR 17

I believe the game will be won on a drive in the



Yell Photo / Robert Anderson

Touchdown run - A Cal State Fullerton player grabs UNLV's Teddy James #23 jersey in a vain effort to stop him from making a touchdown.



Yell Photo / Robert Anderson

'Coop' - Hunkie Cooper #14 runs in back of some great blocking by the UNLV offensive line on the way to a touchdown against Cal State Fullerton.

BIG WEST CONFERENCE

	Conference			Overall		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
San Jose State	3	0	0	4	2	1
Fresno State	2	0	1	5	1	1
Utah State	1	0	1	1	3	1
UNLV	3	1	0	4	3	0
Long Beach State	2	2	0	3	4	0
Pacific	1	3	0	2	4	0
Cal St. Fullerton	0	3	0	1	6	0
New Mexico St.	0	3	0	0	6	0

Saturday, Oct. 13

Fresno State 24, Utah State 24.
 Pacific 67, Cal State Fullerton 37.
 San Jose State 46, Long Beach State 29.
 UNLV 24, New Mexico State 20.

Saturday, Oct. 20

Cal State Fullerton at Hawaii.
 Long Beach State at Fresno State.
 Nevada-Reno at UNLV.
 New Mexico State at Pacific.
 Utah State at San Jose State.

AP TOP 10

School	Record	LW
1. Virginia	(6-0)	2
2. Miami (Fla.)	(4-1)	3
3. Tennessee	(4-0-2)	5
4. Nebraska	(6-0)	7
5. Auburn	(4-0-1)	3
6. Notre Dame	(4-1)	8
7. Florida State	(4-1)	10
8. Illinois	(4-1)	-
9. Houston	(5-0)	-
10. Michigan	(3-2)	1

LW - Last week