

## Stanford overpowers Lady Rebels

By Richard Munson

The Lady Rebels were simply outplayed. That's exactly what happened as the eighth-ranked Stanford Cardinal beat the Lady Rebs 81-67.

The game wasn't as close as the 14-point margin of victory would show it to be. Stanford had a 30-point lead, 74-44, with a little less than six minutes left in the game and that's when the Rebels started their comeback. This was the only letdown by Stanford throughout the entire game. The Lady Rebels went on a 23-3 run led by Sharon Hargrove. The Stanford lead was narrowed to 10 points, 77-67, but it was too little, too late.

Stanford jumped out to an early 6-1 lead and began to build. There were four

Stanford players in double figures led by Julie Zeilstra, who had a game high 20 points. Stanford was able to stretch their first half lead to as many as 12 points, thanks in part to the Lady Rebels shooting only 29 percent in the first half.

Merlelynn Lange, UNLV's leading scorer had her streak of ten consecutive games scoring in double figures snapped after only scoring four points. Lange did pull down 10 rebounds as did Tasha Bradley.

UNLV was led by Sharon Hargrove who had 16 points, 12 of which came in the second half.

The Lady Rebels played host to Cal State Fullerton last night. They will host New Mexico State on Wednesday, in the South Gym at 7:30 p.m.

## Women rout San Jose State

by Richard Munson

Going into San Jose, the Lady Rebels were expected to have an easy time.

They did. They coasted to a 33-point victory, 79-46.

The Lady Rebels incorporated a new full-court trapping defense that forced 22 Spartan turnovers. It was most successful at the beginning of the second half as the Rebels caused five turnovers in the first three minutes. They capitalized on the turnovers as they outscored the Spartans 29-8, which increased their halftime lead of nine points to 30. It was 63-33 with less than 10 minutes left in the game.

The Rebels never trailed in the game—they jumped out

to an early 11-0 lead. But the Spartans never gave up. Junior Karen Smith scored the Spartans' first five points and went on to lead all scorers with 18. The Spartans narrowed the Rebel lead to five points at 28-23 after Smith hit two free throws. That was as close as the Spartans would come, as the Rebels took a 34-29 lead to the locker room at the half.

Sophomore guard Teresa Jackson led the Rebels with 17 points. Merlelynn Lange pulled down 12 rebounds and scored 12 points, her 10th consecutive game scoring in double figures. Lange, the Rebels' leading scorer, ranks 12th in the nation in field goal percentage.

## Women swimmers end season undefeated

Both women's and men's teams successful in recent meets

by Richard Munson

While everyone is hoping the men's basketball team will end their season undefeated, another UNLV team has already accomplished this feat.

The women's swim team, with victories over Northern Arizona and UC Irvine last weekend, gave coach Jim Reitz his first undefeated season. The men, though not undefeated, were also dominant against these two schools.

### Northern Arizona

The women captured first place in seven events and won 131-105.

Winners included the 200-yard medley relay team of Kelli Odden, Audra Martin, Heather Trout and Jill Shenandoah. Individual winners in freestyle competitions included Kathleen Burns in the 1,650, Heather Chapple in the 500, Julie Mroziak in the 200 and Amy Warrick in the 50. Rosie Zimsen captured the 200-yard butterfly

with teammates Tara Clark and Kristen Lynch in second and third respectively. Tuija Kyrolainen won the 200-yard breaststroke.

The men were dominant as they won nine events en route to a 143-88 victory.

Mark Magee won the 200- and 500-yard freestyle, while his teammates placed second and third in both events. Tony Allick was a multiple winner as he won the 200-yard individual medley and the 200-yard backstroke. UNLV's only other multiple-winner was Matt Harverson as he won the 100-yard freestyle and was a member of the victorious 200-yard freestyle relay team.

### UC Irvine

In the last meet of the regular season, the women were able to win 10 events while the men won nine.

There was one surprise as UNLV's women's 400-yard medley relay 'B' team beat the 'A'

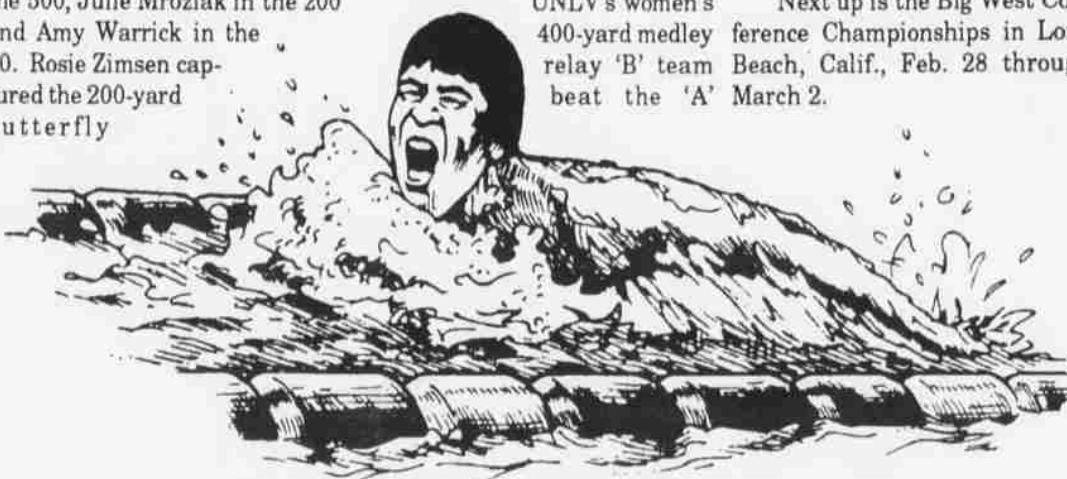
team by nearly two seconds. The 'B' team included Mroziak, Lynch, Clark and Kim Wolf.

Mari Kasvio was a multiple-winner, taking the 100-yard freestyle and the 200-yard breaststroke. The women's other multiple winner was Chapple, as a member of the 400-yard freestyle relay and in the 200-yard butterfly.

The men had four multiple winners.

Leading the men was Allick, who had three first-place finishes—the 200-yard backstroke, the 200-yard individual medley and the 400 medley relay. Colin Dircks was also a part of the 400 medley relay team and won the 200-yard breaststroke. Takuo Henmi placed first in the 1,000-yard freestyle and the 200-yard butterfly. Rounding out the victories was Mike Lockhart who won both the 200- and 500-yard freestyle races.

Next up is the Big West Conference Championships in Long Beach, Calif., Feb. 28 through March 2.



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## Where are the crowds?

by Ched Whitney

This season the UNLV women's basketball team has moved from the South Gym to the Thomas & Mack Center for most of their home schedule. The move was necessitated by overflow crowds at the 2,000-seat South Gym.

A question now arises: Where have those overflow crowds gone?

Sofar—nine home games (not counting Monday's game) this season, the Lady Rebels' average attendance is 609, a miniscule number in the 18,500-seat Thomas & Mack.

Other schools support their women's basketball programs. The attendance at UNLV road games has averaged 1,063. The University of Texas drew 5,935 fans for their game with the Rebels, 1,200 more than UNLV has drawn at their nine home games combined.

Why? Because they aren't any good?

No. Until a three-game losing streak earlier this month, the Lady Rebels were 14-0 and ranked No. 5 in the country.

Head coach Jim Bolla, the eighth winningest active coach in the nation, has built a perennial winner. UNLV is the defending Big West Conference champ. They're back challenging for the conference crown this year despite losing their best player, Pauline Jordan, to graduation.

Junior center Merlelynn Lange has become a dominant force offensively this year, averaging 19 points a game in Big West matchups. Lange has used her considerable height advantage—she's 6 feet 6 inches—to become

the Lady Rebels' leading rebounder. UNLV has a balanced attack with five players averaging between nine and 14 points per game for the season.

Is it because the Runnin' Rebel men are the only game in town?

Not a good excuse; there haven't been any scheduling conflicts this season. The only day on which both teams have had home games was Jan. 9, and then the games were combined to form a doubleheader, an idea that Coach Bolla said he likes. There won't be more doubleheaders this season, but there are some scheduled for next year. However, even the doubleheader didn't have much effect on attendance—only 500 people came to the Rebels' game with San Jose State.

Is it because UNLV students don't care about women's sports?

It doesn't appear so. Last semester *The Yellin' Rebel* received a few letters and petitions requesting more coverage of women's sports in the paper. Certainly, these students attend the very events they wanted to read about.

Women's college basketball will probably never receive the national attention that men's does. But if women's college sports are to make inroads in the national sports spotlight, they first have to be supported by their own schools' student bodies.

The Lady Rebels' next home game is Thursday at 5:30 p.m. They host New Mexico State at the Thomas & Mack. Saturday they face off against Long Beach State in a nationally-televised game (ESPN) at the South Gym at 7:30 p.m.

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