

# Lady Rebels advanced with Texas Tech victory

by Ched Whitney

Wednesday night at the Thomas & Mack Center it appeared that the same Lady Rebel team that started the season with 16 straight wins and rose to No. 5 in the country was back. UNLV earned the right to meet Georgia in the second round of the NCAA Tournament by downing the Red

Raiders of Texas Tech, 70-65. Texas Tech jumped out to a 12-7 lead early on. But a 14-1 run by UNLV put the Rebels up 21-13 and the Red Raiders could get no closer than 4 then rest of the way. The Lady Rebels led 35-25 at the half, shooting 46 percent from the field while holding Texas Tech to 30 percent.

After the Red Raiders cut the

deficit to 42-38 early in the second half, UNLV scored 12 straight points to build a 16-point lead. The Lady Rebels' transition game keyed the run as senior Vicki Lander and junior Sharon Hargrove scored on breakaways. Head coach Jim Bolla said he wanted the Lady Rebels to get into their running game.

"We wanted to go up tempo," Bolla said. "When we play that way we're a good team."

Vicki Lander said rebounding was the key to their fast break.

"If we got the ball off the board, that was our key to go," she said.

Texas Tech cut into the UNLV lead with a 14-3 run, but could get no closer than 4. The Rebels were able to convert their free throws in the final two minutes to preserve the five-point win.

Bolla was pleased with the Rebels' effort and said he felt they played without the anxiousness that had plagued them during the last month.

"We're playing like we played at the beginning of the year," Bolla said. "Everyone's more relaxed and playing without pressure."

Vicki Lander, UNLV's All-Big West guard led the Rebel charge with 18 points. Tasha Bradley contributed 10 rebounds.

UNLV traveled to Athens, Ga. Saturday to play the Georgia Bulldogs, the No. 1-seeded team in the West Regional. A win would guarantee the Rebels a host spot for the West Regional semifinals, Wednesday night at the Thomas & Mack.



photo by Eileen Brady

Janice Holliday keys the fast break against the Red Raiders.

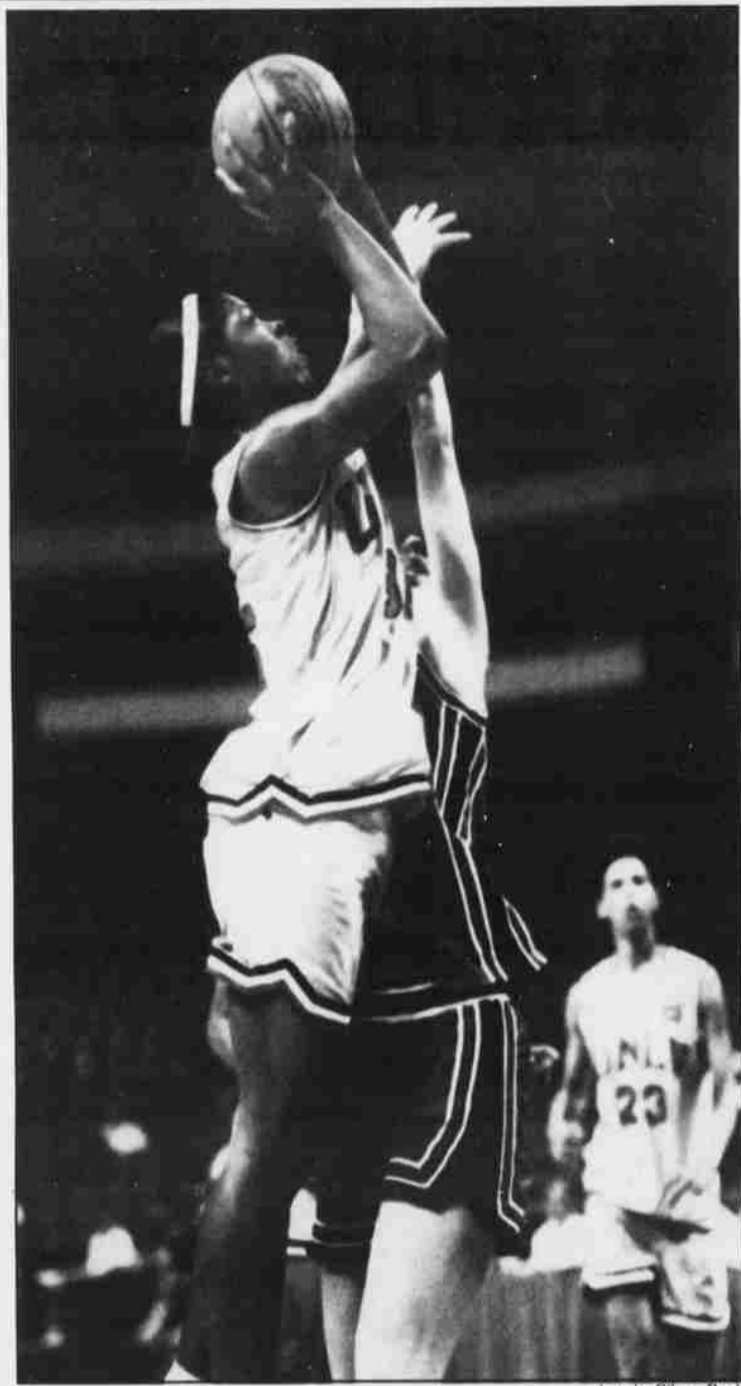


photo by Eileen Brady

Debra Davis shoots during the Lady Rebels win over Texas Tech.

## WOMEN'S NCAA TOURNAMENT

