

## UNLV, CSF play two games, 26 innings

Softball teams play 10- and 16-inning marathons Monday

by Ched Whitney

The UNLV and Cal State Fullerton softball teams played a total of 26 innings Monday and came away with only one decision. The Rebels downed the fourth-ranked Titans 1-0 in 10 innings in the first game. But 3 1/2 hours and 16 innings were not enough to come up with a winner in the nightcap.

Lori Harrigan allowed only five hits in the first game as she recorded her 10th shutout and improved to 17-6 on the season. Harrigan equaled her career high as she struck out 11 batters.

UNLV's margin came when Tricia Reimche, who had tripled, scored on a Sheree Corniel single.

The win raised the fifth-



Tricia Reimche bats during UNLV's 1-0 victory over Cal State Fullerton

ranked Lady Rebels' conference mark to 14-3. They are 34-9 overall. Cal State Fullerton dropped to 12-5 and 36-10.

UNLV sophomore pitcher Kim Smith pitched all 16 innings of the second game. She gave up three

runs on eighth hits. The Rebels were unable to break the tie despite out-hitting CSF 15-8.

The game, which was called due to darkness, will be completed at the end of the season if necessary.

The Lady Rebels host the Cal Poly Pomona Broncos Friday and the ninth-ranked Long Beach State 49ers Saturday for doubleheaders.

The games get underway at 11 a.m. both days.

## Hustlin' Rebs sweep wild weekend series with UCSB

by David Tegtmeyer

The UNLV Hustlin' Rebels completed a three-game sweep of UC Santa Barbara April 7. The Gauchos fell to 20-14 overall and 1-5 in the Big West, while the Rebels improved to 17-15 overall and 3-3 in the Big West.

Pitchers Lance Schuerman (2-2), Byron Klemaske (1-0) and Doug VanderWeele (3-3) all recorded wins in the series sweep. UNLV outscored UCSB 45-34 and out-hit them 52-40 over the three-game span.

The offensive onslaught was led by catcher Steve Cerio. Playing in only two games, he had six hits, four of which were home runs, and eight RBIs. Right fielder Tim Johnson had two home runs and six RBIs.

In the series' opening game, Friday night at Barnson Field the Rebels exploded for eight first-inning runs and held off the Gauchos to win 17-12.

UCSB pitcher Scott Longaker lasted only 2/3 of an inning as he allowed eight runs—only four of them were earned—on five hits as UNLV jumped to an 8-1 lead.

The Rebels increased the margin to 10-1 in the second inning.

UCSB came back, however. The Gauchos scored five runs in the fourth inning, three in the fifth

and one in the sixth to tie the game but UNLV answered with five runs in the bottom of the sixth to put the game away.

Saturday night's game was even wilder than Friday's.

The teams accounted for eight home runs in the 37-hit slugfest. Hustlin' Rebel catcher Steve Cerio went four for five and hit two homers for the second straight night. Cerio now has six on the season.

The Rebels, who led 9-2 after four innings, led 15-12 going into the ninth inning. The Gauchos scored six runs to go up 18-15 before the Rebels came back with four runs in the bottom of the ninth to win 19-18.

The two teams cooled off Sunday afternoon as the Rebels won, 9-4.

Designated hitter Ricky Scruggs led UNLV going three for five and driving in three runs.

Despite giving up nine runs (all of them earned) on 15 hits, UCSB pitcher Mike Woodward had a complete game.

UNLV's run production continues to be remarkably high and the Rebels have proven to be one of the hardest-hitting teams in the division. The team has a combined batting average .320. However, the Rebels have given up 16 more runs than they've scored this year.

Third baseman Nick Kuster

leads the team with a .402 batting average and eight home runs.

The Rebels have a team earned run average of at least seven runs a game and unless they bring that down significantly, they will be a middle-of-the-pack team and play the rest of the season as spoilers only.

With consistent top 25 teams such as Long Beach State, Fresno State, Cal State Fullerton, and San Jose State in the Big West Conference, the Hustlin' Rebels must have improvement on their pitching staff or face the reality of being a fifth- or sixth-place team in the division.



The Hustlin' Rebels took three games from UCSB over the weekend

## Record crowd attends Runnin' Rebel awards banquet

by Ched Whitney

It wasn't what it would have been had the UNLV Runnin' Rebels won a second-consecutive national title this season. But last Thursday's Rebel basketball awards banquet had a largest-ever crowd of 2,100 at the Sands Expo and Convention Center.

CBS' Pat O'Brien emceed the \$55-a-plate dinner. Comedian Jay Leno was on hand to deliver a short monologue. Other speakers included Sen. James Bilbray and UNLV Athletic Director Dennis Finfrock.

Finfrock, who is reportedly trying to have Head Coach Jerry Tarkanian fired, was booed as he took the podium.

Tarkanian introduced each of the players, a couple of whom spoke.

Senior Chris Jeter stole the show with a story about how his three-year-old son, when asked who he would like to be like when he grew up, answered Larry Johnson. Jeter also gave an emotional speech about Tarkanian. He told about how, as a freshman, he had hated Tarkanian and now, after being pressed into hard work for four years, he was about to graduate with a degree in criminal justice.

"I tell you one thing," Tarkanian said when he introduced Jeter, "Those criminals better run and hide."

Tarkanian briefly addressed a *Sports Illustrated* article that credited him with making some unflattering remarks about a couple of his players. He said he would be seeking action against the magazine.

Tarkanian and his wife Lois both blasted the local media for what they felt had been unfair coverage of the team during the season.

"I can't believe these young men don't get the credit they deserve," Lois Tarkanian said. "They make an effort on the court, they make an effort in the classroom and they make an effort in the community."

Academic awards were handed out during the evening. Five of the six seniors—Greg Anthony, Stacey Augmon, Chris Jeter, Larry Johnson and David Rice, received awards for academic achievement. George Ackles and Evric Gray were awarded for academic improvement.

The crowd was enthusiastic and appreciative. Most of the evening was light-hearted.

When Tarkanian introduced Johnson, he said, "Larry earned his letter this year."

Johnson and Augmon remained after the ceremony and signed autographs for fans.

### REBELNOTES

#### Tennis teams rolling

The men's tennis team, after getting off to a 4-5 start this season, has won 10 of its last 12 matches. They are led by sophomore Pat Boies and junior Eric Aanes. Boies a 20-8 singles record this season, Aanes is 18-8. The men's team is now 14-7.

The women's team is 17-7 and has won 11 of its last 13 matches. They currently have an 11-game home winning streak. Freshman Suzi Agassi is 16-9 for the team and Becky Markosian is 17-10.

## Assistant AD suspended for selling tickets in Seattle

by Rick Nielsen

To say that all eyes were focused on the UNLV team during the road to the Final Four probably wouldn't be an overstatement. Unfortunately for John Peterson, assistant athletic director for athletic development, four of those eyes belonged to two undercover police officers in Seattle, Wash.

Prior to the Rebels' game against Utah, Peterson was observed and apprehended outside the Kingdome for violating a Seattle city ordinance prohibiting scalping. He was taken into custody, and tickets and money were confiscated. However, it was later determined that he was not scalping the tickets.

Because he was only selling the tickets at face value he was not booked. After the matter had been properly investigated he was released. Peterson was sent home Friday from the tournament.

Since the incident, a private meeting was held between UNLV Interim Athletic Director Dennis Finfrock and Peterson to discuss the improprieties of Peterson's conduct. Based solely on that meeting, Finfrock suspended Peterson for 30 days without pay, and requested a public apology from him.

Peterson, when making the statement, said he was sorry, had used poor judgment, and although he had not meant any harm, he had clearly made a mistake.

According to Finfrock, the 12 tickets belonged to Doug Sanderson, who was released last year from the athletic development department because of an investigation stemming from the handling of ticket policies.

Although he said Peterson is expected to be on good behavior when he returns, Finfrock basically considers the case closed.

## Tarkanians are big whine-bags

by Eileen Brady

At the Rebel Awards Banquet April 4, I expected a great tribute to the players, who certainly deserved to feel strong support from the 2,100 attending Runnin' Rebel fans, especially after the heart-breaking loss in the Final Four. The gracious speeches of the players and the rousing highlight film of the season added to everything an awards banquet should be.

Everything an awards banquet shouldn't be, however, is a whining session about the local media from Jerry and Lois Tarkanian. Although they repeatedly claimed they "didn't want to get into it" at the banquet, they proceeded to admonish the press for treating the team unfairly. The unjust treatment, they said, began in the local media.

I wish they would have clarified exactly what the local press did to be criticized so harshly in front of more than 2,000 people. I