



Charles Mathewson (far left) presents golf Coach Dwaine Knight (center) with a check.

Golf program receives \$500,000 gift

by Richard Munson

The UNLV golf program got a step closer to being fully endowed when it received a \$500,000 check from International Game Technology, manufacturers of slot machines and video gaming equipment.

Charles Mathewson, the chairman of the board of International Game Technology, presented Rebel golf head coach Dwaine Knight with the check in a ceremony

held at the Thomas & Mack Center. Mathewson said that International Gaming Technology felt they could really do something for the program. Knight was very pleased to accept the donation.

"I just want to say thanks for believing in the program. There are few places in the country that has the support like that of Las Vegas. Dreams really do come true in Las Vegas," Knight said.

UNLV President Robert Maxson and Dennis Finfrock, interim athletic director were in attendance.

"This is a banner day for the athletic department. To guarantee success in the future it take endowments like this," Finfrock said.

UNLV's Warren Schutte, last years' NCAA champion said, "What a day, I just can't put it into words. It is a great day for us, I'm happy to be a part of it."

Lady swimmers dive into season

by Tuija Kyrolian

After breezing through last season undefeated, the UNLV women's swim team return's to defend its Big West Conference champion title with a young and talented team.

Having most of its swimmers from last year return, UNLV swimming Head Coach Jim Reitz said that this years women's team has the makings of the best team in the school's history.

"We have a good core of returning students and enough new talent to be even better than last year," Reitz said.

Among the swimmers that Reitz said will play a key role in the success of the team are senior Kristen

Lynch, sophomores Julie Mroziak and Mary-Alice Torgerson, who each won individual events at the Big West Conference meet in February.

Freshman Maria Olsen, who is one of the top backstrokers in her native country of Sweden, is also expected to be one of the top swimmers.

Torgerson, 1991 Big West Swimmer of the Year said that the team is inspired by the success achieved last year.

"We definitely have the potential and spirit to win the conference this year," Torgerson said.

Torgerson hopes to see herself, along with her teammates, qualify for the NCAA swimming champi-

onships. She also hopes that the post conference meets, like the NCAA's, will play a more significant role this season.

The men's and women's teams kicked off their season Saturday with a tri-meet against Arizona State University and New Mexico. The Rebels beat New Mexico, 235-64, but lost to ASU.

"ASU is a Top 10 team in the country and will post the greatest challenge in our schedule this year," said Reitz.

According to Torgerson, the team is not pressured by the fact that its toughest dual meet is first. She said what really matters is how the team does in the conference and NCAA meets this year.

Neel takes over for Finfrock

by Morgan Fisher

Buster Neel stood quietly mixed among administrators and members of the media as interim athletic director Dennis Finfrock resigned. It wasn't until UNLV President Robert Maxson announced that Neel would be the new interim athletic director before his face stood out in the crowd.

Maxson said that Neel would be the director until a permanent one could be found which could be as early as the first week in December. Maxson said everything was in order, but Neel would be needed to run the day-to-day operations that encompass the job.

Neel, 40, was appointed vice president of

business affairs in June 1988. He will now oversee finance, payroll and the athletic department.

Neel served as vice president at Marshall University and vice chancellor for finance at Auburn University from 1976 to 1985.



photo by Morgan Fisher

New Interim Athletic Director Buster Neel

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The Rebels came out strong early as they went on an 11-2 run to take a 31-20 lead. But just when it looked like the Rebels might blow the game open, the Cubans went on a 22-5 tear to take a 42-36 lead with just under two minutes remaining in the first half.

While the Cubans could do no wrong, the Rebels were taking poor shots and making careless turnovers. Tarkanian said the fact that these Rebels have not had a chance to play against a press like the one the Cubans displayed, affected his team at the start.

"It bothered us early," Tarkanian said. "But that's my fault because we've never practiced against it. But, overall, I think we played really good against their press."

If the Rebel team in the first half looked nothing like last year's Final Fours squad, the team that showed up in the second half certainly did. After falling behind 56-51 seven minutes into the second half, the Rebels went on a 21-2 run to break the game open.

The run was full of dunks, lobbs and pretty passes and brought the

small, but boisterous crowd to its feet.

"I couldn't be more pleased," Tarkanian said. "In the first half we didn't play hard, but I thought we did a good job in the second half."

Rider led the Rebels with 19 points on six of 14 from the field, including three three-pointers, while Elmore Spencer added 13 points to go along with six rebounds and four blocked shots. Evric Gray and Dexter Boney each chipped in 11 points. Gray led the Rebels with seven rebounds.

MAGIC

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disease, but that doesn't matter—he has it. University President Robert Maxson addressed the issue in its relation to collegiate athletics. He said that you could never be too cautious in protecting student athletes.

But there is not much a coach or other administrators can do, everyone makes their own decisions. And as seen by Magic the virus does not discriminate, each person including Magic thinks that "it could never happen to me."

Days before Magic's announcement, former Laker great Wilt Chamberlain appeared on NBC's Today Show plugging his new book, *A View from Above*, and boasting about 20,000 bedroom partners. This is not a good example for some one of his stature to set when there are so many kids that put athletes on pedestals. These young kids are naive and only beginning to understand life and a statement like this could do more harm than good.

One Atlanta child was

asked what he thought of Magic in light of what has happened and he said that he wouldn't be wearing his Magic Johnson shirt anymore—just one example of prejudice towards the disease.

Now Magic will be playing a new game and he will have to once again start out as a rookie. If he does as he did in his rookie year with the Lakers in 1980 winning the NBA title, we may just see Magic Johnson winning the biggest game of his life.