

# UNLV powerlifter qualifies for nationals

by Richard Munson

Next time you're walking through the student union and you see a really big guy and you think he's on the football team—think again.

He may very well be 33-

year-old Joe Dentice. The sophomore competed in the National Athletic Strength Association (NASA) regional in Lancaster, Calif., Saturday and placed first. His victory qualified him for the nationals to be held in Oklahoma City in March.

While participating in the event, Dentice set seven regional records. Dentice placed first in three divisions. He won the Natural, those who have had no steroid use for the last year, Pure, never used steroids and Submasters for competitors aged 33-39.

In the competition Dentice lifted 585 lbs. in the squat, 380 lbs. in the bench press and 622 lbs. in the dead lift. His personal bests

in these events are 625 lbs. in the squat, 400 lbs. in the bench press and 700 lbs. in the dead lift.

Dentice has been lifting for 18 years and works out four times a week at the Las Vegas Athletic Clubs.

"Power lifting is more strength than technique," Dentice said, as opposed to what many people see in the Olympics.

Dentice has a glorious past in competing. He has

been state champion 16 times and national champion seven times. He also was able to travel to the Soviet Union as a member of the United States travelling squad, which competed in Moscow and Leningrad.

Should he place first or second at the nationals, he would be able to represent the United States at the world championships, held in Las Vegas in June.

## Soccer nets Big West honors

Five UNLV soccer players were named to All-Conference teams.

Three were named to the Big West Conference First Team. The team includes junior Daniel Barber, sophomore Richie Louis and three-time Big West Player of the Week Thies Carstens.

Senior Mike Madrid and junior Scott Uderitz were named to the second team.



Joe Dentice

## SWEENEY

from page 9

at all for anyone to be judged without knowing the individual," Sweeney said.

Speculating on the percentage of the 11 seniors who appear on this year's roster, Sweeney said, "There may be very close to 75 percent who are going to graduate by the summer."

Sweeney said he believes graduation rates of the non-student-athlete at UNLV are much lower than that of the football team.

"Great athletes with excellent character are better students because they care in the classroom and on the field," Sweeney said.

Sweeney doesn't go on any of the recruiting trips for the Rebels. He does, however, send a letter with the recruiting coach detailing the expectations of the UNLV curriculum and meets with those being recruited on their campus visits. Sweeney said he believes that the incoming freshmen will improve the graduation rate of the football team even further.

"I believe we are getting in excellent young men," Sweeney continued. "We have two talented men here locally who have 3.8 grade point averages and two others from Texas who have 3.0 GPA's in high school."

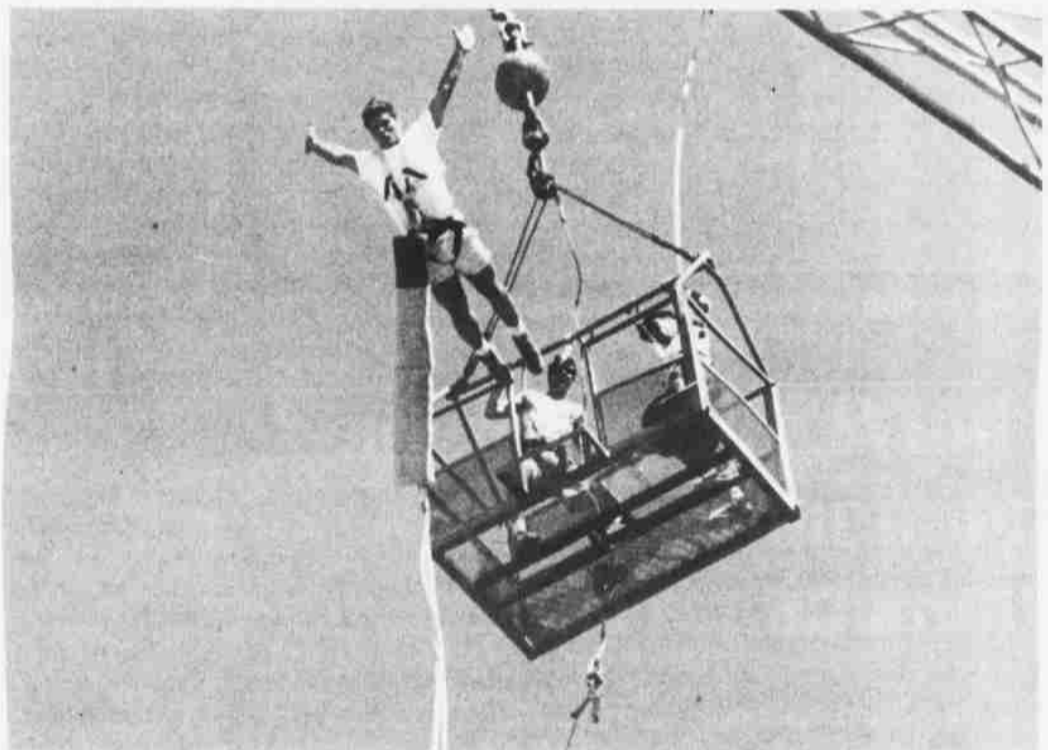
Based on percentages, the Rebels may have as few as one player on this team go into the NFL. However, they all will move on to the real world. Although they may be losing most of their games on Saturdays, according to Sweeney, it appears they're winning all week.



Kevin Sweeney



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