

# Hargrove brings star status to UNLV

## Straight outta' Compton

by Richard Munson

"Straight outta' Compton" may be the title to a popular rap song but it could also be the story of Lady Rebel forward Sharon Hargrove. Hargrove hails from Compton, but her path to UNLV was not quite straight.

At Compton High School, Hargrove was first-team all-state, selected as league MVP and was named to the *Los Angeles Times* first team. Spending her life in Compton, Hargrove was used to the city. She was used to spending all night partying, but that all changed when she left Compton and took her first step toward UNLV—to Central College in Coolidge, Ariz.

Hargrove spent the 1988-90 seasons at Central where she obtained superstar status. At Central she led the team in scoring, averaging 22 points. With her high scoring ability she led Central to a third place finish nationally. Hargrove was

also a National Junior College Athletic Association and Kodak All-American in 1989-90. In 1988 she was a third team All-American and was named conference MVP during her sophomore season.

Central was different for Hargrove, a lot different from the streets of Compton. Hargrove said she had to adapt to the desert lifestyle.

"I realized I had to get an education and I didn't have that type of lifestyle. I was used to the city and now, from Central I'm here, back to the city," Hargrove said.

In her first season at UNLV, Hargrove made quite an impact on Lady Rebel basketball. Hargrove started 26 of 31 games and scored in double figures in 21 of those games. She averaged 16 points per game and had a team high of 42 steals. Hargrove said her strength is her quickness that allows her to react as a defender and to make the steals that are her trademark.

Hargrove said that her weaknesses are turning the ball over too many times and perimeter shooting. With Hargrove's

up tempo run-and-gun style of basketball, one can see why these are at the top of her list as weaknesses.

Lady Rebel Head Coach Jim Bolla credits Hargrove with having an aggressive attitude with the ball. Bolla also said that she is one of the keys for the Lady Rebels.

Hargrove's most memorable moment at UNLV is an unhappy one. During last year's Big West Tournament, the Lady Rebels were playing New Mexico State and were ahead by 10 points when, out of nowhere, the Aggies came back to pull within two points at 89-87. Then, with four seconds on the clock, the Aggies took the ball and hit a three-pointer to win 90-89.

This season the team is younger and the older players are being asked to respond more, Hargrove said. This season Hargrove is averaging 15 points and ranks ninth in the conference in scoring. She has also used her quickness to lead the team in steals ranking 13th in the nation, a long way from the streets of Compton.

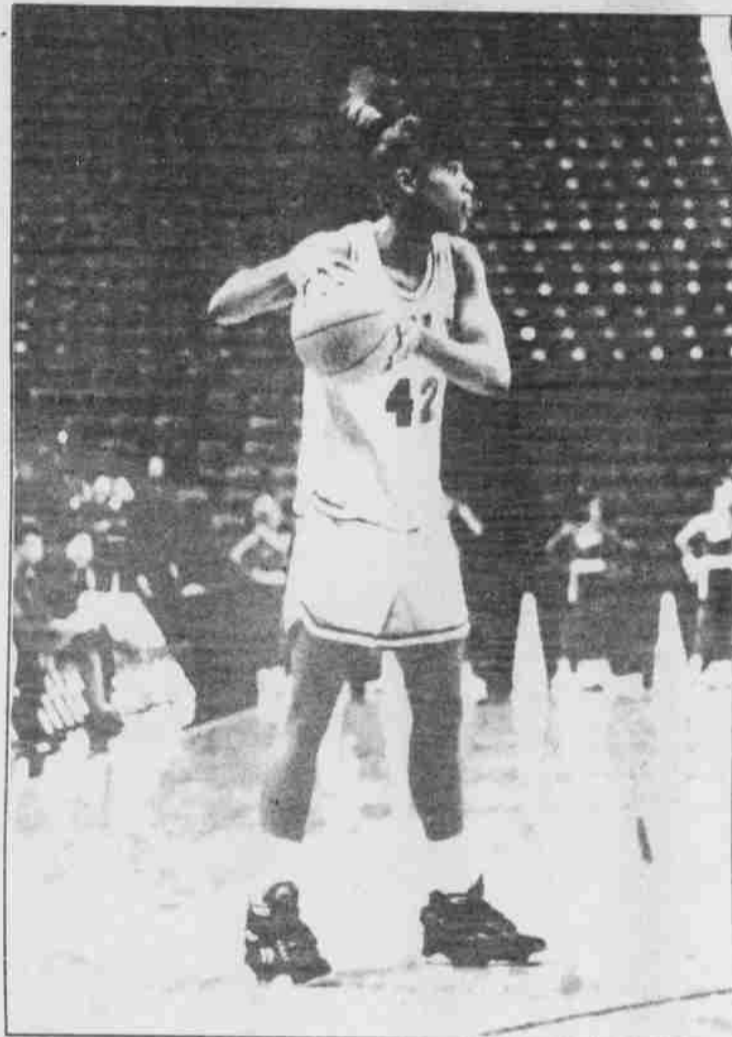


photo by Wray Halterman

Senior Sharon Hargrove has become an integral part of the Lady Rebels.

## Rebels face tough challenge at Utah State

by Richard Munson

The 21st ranked Rebels, fresh off their victory over New Mexico State, will travel to Logan, Utah, Thursday night to face the Utah State Aggies in what could prove an even tougher test than Saturday's game against New Mexico State.

Both the Rebels and Aggies have played the Rutgers Scarlet Knights, but there are two notes of difference. The Rebels, in New Jersey, lost in overtime, 91-85. The Aggies, at home, beat Rutgers 78-70.

The last time the Rebels played at the Smith Spectrum, Rebel Head Coach Jerry Tarkanian was the recipient of a water bomb placed near the



Rebels' bench. This time it will be a different story as Tarkanian makes his final appearance in the Spectrum. The Rebels will be looking to snap the Aggies seven game home-court winning streak.

The Rebels boast a 9-0 undefeated Big West Conference record, while the Aggies are fourth in the conference with a 5-2 record.

The Aggies are led by senior Kendall Youngblood and junior Jay Goodman. Youngblood is averaging 15 points per game and Goodman is averaging 12 points.



## Hobbs adjusting to college life

by Brian Hurlburt

Adjusting to life in college is tough enough for most incoming freshman. Buying books, finding classes and making new friends is hard, right? Try adding the pressure of being the starting point guard for a basketball program rich in tradition and the equation becomes a little more difficult.

This is the life of Gwynn Hobbs, freshman and floor leader of the UNLV Lady Rebels. While it seems like there would be a lot of added pressure, Hobbs downplays any adjustment she had to make from high school.

"It's not a hard adjustment. I know what I'm doing," Hobbs said.

She may not feel a great deal of pressure, but Head Coach Jim Bolla said she is the key to how good the team will be this year. The team, as well as Hobbs, is playing better and with more confidence as the season progresses. UNLV is 8-4 overall and 6-0 in the Big West conference, after a rough beginning.

Hobbs came to UNLV full



photo by Morgan Fisher

Though just a freshman, Gwynn Hobbs has assumed the role of playmaker for the Lady Rebels.

of potential, and she said that she is just trying to be what the coaches want her to be.

"I just want to live up to my potential and play the way the coaches want me to play," Hobbs said.

Coming to UNLV is a highlight for Hobbs. Recruited heavily out of high school, she chose UNLV because she liked the people and felt welcome on

the campus.

"It is a dream come true for me, and I am proud and happy to be playing here," Hobbs said.

This year Hobbs is averaging 10 points and 5 1/2 assists a game. She is the team leader in minutes played, assists, three-pointers and free throw percentage.