

# Lady Rebels split weekend games

## New Mexico St. 99, UNLV 95, OT

by Rich Dacey

UNLV's Lady Rebels basketball team hosted the New Mexico State Roadrunners Thursday night at the Thomas & Mack and lost a game that they could, or should, have won.

The Lady Rebs led the game during the first half and up until there was only 2:22 left in the game. The Lady Rebels' biggest lead was nine points. Although they seemed totally in control the entire game, they just could not put a run of points together large enough to put NMSU away. Turnovers, inside missed shots and fouls came back to haunt the team in the last seven minutes of regulation and contributed to the loss in overtime. Without Teresa Jackson hitting two clutch free throws with no time remaining, UNLV would have lost in regulation.

The Lady Rebs started out of the gates fast, leading 17-8 in the early going. Scoring was led by Merlelynn Lange and Teresa Jackson, both with 12 points at the half. The Lady Rebs seemed to be on cruise control toward their 11th win of the season. But it was not to be as NMSU's two stars, Tracey Goetsch and Andrea Kabwasa kept hitting clutch baskets and free throws to keep the Roadrunners within five points at the half.

Even with New Mexico

scratching and clawing their way back into the game, it seemed as if UNLV could pull away when it sensed its lead was in danger. But in the final minutes of the game, turnovers and fouls cost the Lady Rebels the lead and they found themselves down by five points 84-79 with only 15 seconds left in regulation.

The Lady Rebs wasted no time in cutting that lead to two when Alisha Stevenson buried a three-pointer from the baseline with seven seconds to go. Teresa Jackson stole the outlet pass and streaked in for what would be the tying basket. She took her shot and missed but was fouled on the rebound with no time left on the clock.

The referees agreed that Jackson was fouled with time left on the clock so she was awarded two foul shots. Jackson calmly sank both free throws to send the game into overtime tied at 84.

Merlelynn Lange, who in this contest became the ninth Lady Rebel ever to score 1000 points, scored the first two points in overtime only to see NMSU answer back with the next nine points of the overtime session. This time there would be no last-second heroics for UNLV.

Although the Lady Rebs did keep fouling NMSU, hoping the Roadrunners would fare poorly at the free throw line, they did



photo by Wray Halterman

Teresa Jackson hit two key free throws to tie the game.

not. NMSU hit eight of 10 free throws in the overtime session and escape with the emotional 99-95 win. to keep the Lady Rebels at bay

## UNLV 76, Fresno State 62

by Tony Llanos

Head Coach Jim Bolla's "new-look" zone defense and the offense of junior forward Teresa Jackson led UNLV to a 76-62 triumph over visiting Fresno State. Jackson topped all UNLV scorers with 15 points.

Both she and senior center Merlelynn Lange led the Lady Rebels in rebounds with eight. Lange, senior guard Sharon Hargrove, and freshman guard Gwynn Hobbs each contributed 13 points to the Rebel victory. Hobbs also drilled three 3-pointers in the contest.

The Lady Rebs' tight defense limited Bulldogs' scorer, center Stacey Cornaggia, to only 11 points. FSU's deepest penetration came within 11:23 of the first half when the Bulldogs were down by one point at 18-17. However, UNLV came back with an impressive 9-0 run which included a dazzling 3 point basket from Hobbs.

The win improved the Lady Rebels to 11-7 overall, and 9-3 in the Big West while the Bulldogs dropped to 10-10 overall, 4-7 in conference play.

The Lady Rebs will head to California for a two game road trip which includes a stop on Thursday in San Jose against the Spartans at 5:15 p.m. and a Saturday contest in Stockton to battle the Pacific Tigers, 5 p.m.

## Rebels keep rolling

### UNLV 83, SJSU 39

by Rich Dacey

Last Thursday night's men's basketball game between the Rebels and the San Jose Spartans was not for the weak of heart. What was witnessed by the fans at the Thomas & Mack more closely resembled Custer's Last Stand than a basketball game as the Rebels won in a cake walk, 83-39.

With points by the Runnin' Rebels flowing like accusations from the administrators office to the men's basketball department, UNLV's offense so dominated the visitors that the next time any of the Spartan players visit Las Vegas they could only hope to be just humble tourists.

UNLV's transition game clicked right from the start. Making swift and easy dunks, layups and three pointers for the Rebels, who got out to a com

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### UNLV 66, Pacific 50

by Tony Llanos

The 15th ranked Runnin' Rebels outplayed the University of Pacific Tigers, 66-50, in a Big West contest last Saturday night at the Thomas & Mack Center in front of 14,820 spectators (one of the largest of the season). The victory was UNLV's 19th in a row and 45th at home.

Tiger guards Tony Amundsen and Dell Demps, both three point specialists, had hoped to keep the game close with their outside shooting, but only connected a combined seven, three point baskets in 24 attempts. On the other hand, UNLV's Evric Gray made the only three point basket for UNLV after the team combined for 20 outside shots. However, head coach Jerry Tarkanian was unconcerned about the horrific three point shooting following

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