



Sam Crawford blocks Eric Gray's shot.

photo by Wray Halterman

## Rebs clinch title

### Home court winning streak at 47 games

by Richard Munson

For the 10th time in as many years the UNLV basketball team has won the Big West Conference championship. The title was clinched after the Rebels 69-58 victory over New Mexico State University.

The Rebels who have been stifling opponents with their 1-2-2 zone defense ran into a problem with the Aggies. After coming out running in the first nine minutes of play the Aggies slowed the game down not starting their offense until 25 seconds appeared on the 45-

second shot clock. The Aggies led early 23-16.

The Rebels were then forced at times to play man-to-man defense, something that they had not done since the beginning of the year. Heading the defense was sophomore guard Dedan Thomas.

"Dedan played the point really well. But he just played great defense," Head Coach Jerry Tarkanian said.

Tarkanian was so impressed with his defensive play that he likened Thomas to the team of last season.

"He's a good man-to-man defender," Tarkanian said. "He plays defense like the team did last year, he's quick enough (to play man-to-man) but none of the other guys are."

Thomas who said his defense wasn't as good as it was at

the beginning of the season was pleased with his performance and honored that Tarkanian would place him as high as the players from last year's team.

"It feels great. That's a great compliment. I took tips from Anderson and Greg on how to stay with my man," Thomas said.

After the Rebels stiffened up on defense they took the lead at 27-26. Their only challenge came at the end of the first half when they were tied 33-33 before entering the half ahead 35-33.

Elmore Spencer slowed down the Aggies' leading scorer Eric Traylor who only had 13 points and six rebounds. The Rebels were led by J.R. Rider who scored 27 points while Spencer and Dexter Boney added 16 and 14 points each.

### Late rally lifts Hustlin' Rebs over Utes

by Nick Haley

At Roger Barnson Memorial Field, the Hustlin' Rebels rallied from a two run deficit to defeat the University of Utah Utes in 10 innings Sunday. Catcher Steve White and outfielder Rodney Mazion drove in one run apiece in the bottom of the ninth with two outs to tie the game at 5-5. Second baseman John Coats hit in the winning run in the 10 inning for a 6-5 victory.

The win went to first year

Rebel pitcher Aaron Turnier.

The Utes scored their first run in the second inning when, with bases loaded, Ute outfielder Jeremy Chiles was walked forcing a run in. Utah scored again in the third inning when infielder Mike Alto, who scored two in the game, batted in teammate first baseman Shane Jones.

The Rebels tied the game in the fifth inning, scoring their first run on a balk by Ute pitcher Guy Fowlks. UNLV outfielder Demond Thompkins

batted in the second run, tying the game at 2-2.

A triple by outfielder Dan Madsen in the sixth inning pushed first baseman Nick Kuster over the plate, giving the Rebels a 3-2 edge. But the Utes answered quickly, scoring twice in the seventh. Ute catcher Scott Peterson batted in one run, then later stole home as a teammate stole second. Utah scored again in the eighth inning off a sacrifice to take a two run lead, setting up UNLV's ninth inning rally.

## Lady Rebels pick up road wins

The Lady Rebels basketball team will go that extra distance for a win. It doesn't matter that they're already on the road, fighting for a birth in the NCAA tournament, and a high seed in the Big West tournament. The Lady Rebels rallied to win 66-63 over Pacific.

The Lady Rebels rallied from 10 points down to force the overtime period after Tracy Titus' basket with five seconds to play in regulation. The Lady Rebels were pulled within two after Gwynn Hobbs hit a 3-pointer with 24 seconds left.

Hobbs then opened the overtime period with a 3-pointer and the Lady Rebels led the rest of the extra period. Hobbs finished the game with 10 points.

The Lady Rebels were led

by Sharon Hargrove with 20 points, while Teresa Jackson added 14.

Thursday Hobbs shined for the Lady Rebels as she matched a career-high by scoring 15 points in their 72-60 win over San Jose State. Both Hargrove and Jackson led the Lady Rebels with 16 points.

### Lady rebs to host Wahines

The Lady Rebels return to the Thomas & Mack Center tonight to host the Rainbow Wahines from Hawaii. The two teams will also play Wed. night. Both games will begin at 7:30 p.m.

### Players show support at announcement

by Richard Munson

Four coaches and six players made their way into Zion United Methodist Church Sunday, to the loud ovation of the crowd that had formed inside, to show their support for Jerry Tarkanian.

Assistant coaches Ed Goorjian, Tim Grgurich, Keith Starr and David Rice along with players Clint Clausen, Brian Emerzian, redshirt Ken Gibson, Reggie Manuel, Elmore

Spencer and Dedan Thomas were all on hand to hear Tarkanian's decision.

"It's a big surprise, a very big surprise," Thomas said.

Senior and crowd-favorite Emerzian was happy for Tarkanian but showed resentment toward the administration.

"I'm happy for Coach, he's done a lot for the community. What the university has done is wrong and I hope they pay for it," Emerzian said.

Grgurich was in favor of

Tarkanian's decision and said he would stand behind it.

"We're just here for Coach. I've been with him too long and it's his show," Grgurich said.

Besides the fact that the decision will bring the team together, Clausen said it is important that the community come together.

"It's important to bring the kids together. Sometimes things go right when you get this much support," Clausen said.

### Players to sue for NCAA tourney

At the start of practice Wednesday afternoon, the UNLV basketball team voted 10-2 to file a lawsuit to get back into the NCAA tournament. Only Seniors Melvin Love and Elmore Spencer did not vote in favor of the suit.

The players said their rights were violated when the university agreed with the NCAA not to participate in postseason play this season.

Attorney Steve Stein will handle the suit for the team, which could be filed as early as

next week. Stein said the players were not a part of the negotiations that took place between the NCAA and the university when the suspension was agreed to.

Tarkanian said he would not coach if the team was able to participate in postseason play, because he was the one the NCAA wanted, not the team.

Brad Booke said the deal would have to stick and the lawsuit would probably not succeed.

## Tennis doubles up on Colorado

The UNLV women's tennis team upped its record to 5-1 with a 6-3 victory over Colorado.

The Janelle Barr, Shiera Stuart, Becky Markosian and Rachael Clark all won in singles play.

The team of Barr and Stuart won in doubles play as did the team of Markosian and Clark.

The Rebel Yell is accepting applications for sports writers. Baseball, tennis, softball and swimming are going on at UNLV. Be part of the team.

Drop by MSU Room 302 to fill out an application.

