

Jarolimek wins through experience

Senior pitcher uses style over speed

by Richard Munson

Senior pitcher Jonathan Jarolimek remembers his high school playing days when pitching was just throwing. Now the undefeated right hander from Winnemucca, Nev. has come full circle to realize it is more than just throwing—it is pitching.

Jarolimek speaks of pitching in the sense that you don't just throw the ball at the plate and overpower the batter — as Jarolimek did at Lowery High School. He will be the first to admit that he doesn't throw hard.

"I don't throw hard enough. I wish I threw harder," Jarolimek said. "The batters are striking themselves out. They become more defensive at the plate and they strikeout."

Jarolimek is undefeated in his first six games this season and the winning streak has started to get to him.

"To a certain point it does. It would be nice (if it continued) but it wouldn't be as nice as winning conference — that's never been done," Jarolimek said.

Even with the streak, Jarolimek is taking no extra time to prepare for his next game, it's life as usual. He said he tries to go out and get excited against everyone no matter who they are. The Rebel ace doesn't start thinking about the opposition until mid-week, since he usually pitches on Fridays.

Jarolimek said his personal goals definitely weren't going undefeated this season and were more directed toward the

team's success. He said during his first year at UNLV he and teammate Tory Miran became accustomed to winning after the team went to the regional finals that year.

The following year the team dropped off and Jarolimek said he was spoiled with the success of the first year. But that first year could have been the beginning of the end for Jarolimek. In his first ever college game, Jarolimek came into the game with the score 12-2 in the ninth inning. In that ninth inning Jarolimek gave up eight runs before he got the final out.

"That was bad. I thought, am I way over my head? I didn't know if I could play here at this level. It was a good reality break my whole freshman year," Jarolimek said.

Jarolimek said he owes his success to Coach Fred Dallimore. The 19-year coach of the Rebels has given Jarolimek the pitches he can use to get batters out. Before coming to UNLV, Jarolimek used to throw the ball past the batters he faced, which meant he had one pitch—a fastball.

"That's definitely Dallimore," he said. "He taught me how to do it, in all of my accomplishments. I have to give credit to him. He has the knowledge of baseball, he knows his stuff."

Jarolimek was quick to say the entire coaching staff was good enough that any of the assistants could be a division I head coach somewhere else.

But with the tougher opponents at the college level his speed was average. Coach Dallimore worked with him and gave him his change-up and curve ball. In high school, his coach Ken Christian was just



photo by Wray Halterman

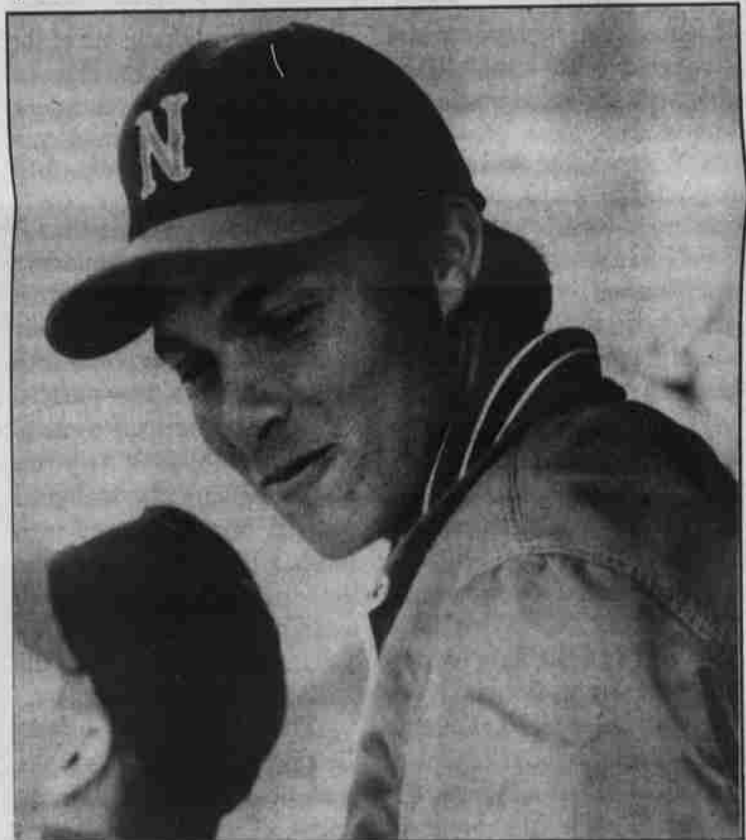
(Above) Jarolimek was the starting pitcher in UNLV's 6-5 victory over Cal State Northridge. (Below) Jarolimek speaks with a teammate after Saturday's opening game against Northridge.

that—not the pitching coach he found in Dallimore upon his arrival at UNLV.

"High school was fun, but I didn't have a change-up until I got here. In high school I had a coach, not a pitching coach. That's what I have here," Jarolimek said.

Jarolimek takes pride not only in his pitching but his defense, in every aspect, whether it be pick-offs or run-downs or fielding bunts. He said his weakness is trying to make-up for the speed he lacks on his pitches. But even with this weakness he said he can compete at the next level—the pro's.

"Scouts don't look at stats. They look at potential. If you can get people out, then you can get them out. I think I can (compete in the pro's). I'm confident I can do it," Jarolimek said.



Rebels wash out Cal State Northridge



photo by Wray Halterman

Rebel Catcher Lee Reiber tags out the Matadors' Greg Shepard. The Rebels won two out of three against the Matadors.

UNLV takes two of three from CSUN

by Tony Llanos

The rain didn't stop the UNLV baseball team from taking two games from Cal State Northridge this weekend, but it did postpone one and shorten another.

First baseman Nick Kuster's sacrifice fly in the bottom of the 11th inning scored left fielder Dan Madsen as the Hustlin' Rebels throttled the Cal State Northridge Matadors 6-5, in the first game of a doubleheader at Roger Barnson Memorial Field.

The defeat ended the Matadors' winning streak at nine games. Aaron Turnier (2-1) pitched the 2 2/3 innings of

scoreless relief to earn his second victory of the season. Northridge's Kenny Kendrena (5-4), who hurled 10 2/3 innings, took the loss.

Both teams combined for 11 runs, 27 hits and four errors. Jonathan Jarolimek scattered 10 hits and gave up only three earned runs in 8 1/3. Despite four walks, and two bean-balls, the senior right-hander kept his undefeated record intact at 6-0.

With Kendrena still on in the 11th, Northridge right-hander hit Dan Madsen with an inside pitch. Tory Miran who hit a single on a hit and run to move Madsen to third. Nick Kuster lifted an outside pitch to deep right-center to score Madsen for the winning run.

"I was excited to have gotten the chance to hit in that situation," Kuster said. "He

(Kendrena) kept throwing off-speed pitches to me throughout the game. I finally got a fastball on the outside corner for the sacrifice fly."

"We're 5-0 when coach is thrown out. That (Dallimore's early exit) really psyches us up," Kuster said about his coach's ejection in the ninth inning.

In the nightcap, the Rebels couldn't hold a four-run lead as the Matadors struck with six runs in the eighth to give CSUN a 6-4 victory.

With a 4-0 shutout in the works, Rebel starter T.J. Mathews (4-4, 2.68 ERA, 7 Ks) struck out the first two batters in the top of the seventh. However, the right-hander allowed a two-out line drive up the middle to CSUN's second

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