

Magnificent Seven, Part 5

# Trish Spencer balances athletics and academics

Senior right fielder is a perfectionist

by Nick Haley

Being a top-notch student and athlete at the same time isn't easy. Both professors and coaches demand a lot of time and effort. As Lady Rebel softball right-fielder Trish Spencer can confirm, it's a stressful task to manage.

"It's a lot of work. You don't have much time to do your (class)work," Spencer said. "It's hard when you miss a week of school at a time."

Nevertheless, Spencer, after three and a half years at UNLV, has emerged as both an accomplished athlete and student. On the field, she is attempting to go a second straight season without committing an error and help the Lady Rebels return to postseason play. In the classroom, she has maintained a 3.0 grade-point average and has taken summer school every year in order to graduate on schedule.

Spencer's success as a scholar-athlete started at Charles Page High School in Sand Springs, Okla. She participated in sports year-round, earning letters in softball, basketball and track. All the while, she was able to maintain a 3.5 GPA and graduate with high honors.

UNLV softball Coach Shan McDonald recruited Spencer out of Sand Springs, Okla. Coming from a cooler climate, Spencer was drawn to Las Vegas by the warm, dry weather.

Since her freshman season, Spencer has been a starter for the Lady Rebels, splitting time



photo by Wray Halterman

Spencer has been errorless through the first 30 games this season.

between right field and designated player. She has led the outfield the last two years in fielding percentage and in the first 30 games of this season.

After two consecutive trips to the College World Series, Spencer knows what it takes to win. Confidence and errorless softball, she said, are key ingredients for UNLV in their bid for a third consecutive trip to the series. Experience, she believes, will allow the 1992 class not

only to return, but to win.

"I think the seniors believe we can (win it all), because we've been there for two years," she said. "You have to believe or you're not going to go very far."

After graduation in May, Spencer will spend her summer fulfilling an internship and then plans to enter the police force, either in southern California or southern Nevada. She intends to pursue a career in Search and Rescue.

## Men netters split matches

by Robert Vinson

The men's tennis team showed a split personality over the weekend during a northern California visit to Big West rivals San Jose State and Fresno State, winning at San Jose 7-2 and losing to Fresno 8-1.

Saturday, the Rebels swept into San Jose and pounded the home team by five. Individual winners included Eric Aanes 4-6,7-6,6-3, Misa Jevtic 7-6,6-0, David Hostalek 7-5,7-6, and Wayne Bowyer 6-4,6-1. Close to clinching the match with a 4-2 advantage after singles, the Rebels swept the doubles por-

tion of the match convincingly. The No. 1 doubles team of Jevtic and Patrice Boies won 6-2,6-3, the No. 2 doubles, Aanes and Lorin Entzel prevailed 6-3, 6-3, and the No. 3 doubles completed the conquest 6-3,6-3.

On Sunday, the high-flying Rebels were grounded by Fresno St. as the host team refused to show any hospitality to the visitors. The Bulldogs annihilated the Rebels, with the only winner for UNLV being Entzel with a come-from-behind victory over two-time Big West champion, Mike Noel 1-6, 6-3, 6-3. The Rebels are 8-5 for the season.

## SOFTBALL

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set by Dena Baker last year.

"I didn't even know about it. It was a surprise to me," Reimche said. "I never thought I would get it (the record)." Reimche, still focused on the game, promptly stole second.

Pitcher Lori Harrigan picked up her seventh shutout this season, despite four hits and three UNLV errors. Reimche and teammates backed Harrigan's performance with eight runs on 12 hits.

The Broncos, showing frustration after Reimche's record-breaking hit, went to the bullpen three times in the fifth, but none could stop the Rebel rampage. The Lady Rebel's offense produced six runs off of seven hits, including back-to-back doubles by Smith and third baseman Erika Swanson. The Broncos fell apart completely, committing two errors, a walk and a passed ball.

The 8-0 decision improved Harrigan's record to 10-4. Pomona pitcher Bonnie Ebenkamp, who won the opener, lost the second game.

Having out hit the 13th-ranked Broncos 21-6 the day before, the Lady Rebels faced what appeared to be an easier challenge Friday — the Roadrunners of New Mexico State. The Lady Rebels couldn't help

letting the Roadrunners win, giving up 14 hits, six errors and six unearned on the day.

UNLV freshman pitcher Cyndi Hewitt had a rocky start, throwing pitches past both the plate and the catcher. The Roadrunners took an early 2-0 lead and never looked back. After a disastrous third inning in which UNLV allowed four runs and committed two errors, the Lady Rebs trailed 6-0.

New Mexico State's bid for a shutout failed when Reimche tripled in the bottom of the third scored right fielder Trish Spencer. Both teams added another run to yield a 7-2 final. With the loss, Hewitt falls 3-3 on the year.

Pitcher Amie Stewart got the second start for the Lady Rebels. The freshman hurler gave up only one run for the game but received no run-support to lose the contest 1-0. Reimche's lead-off hit on the Lady Rebels' opening at-bat would be the only hit of the game for UNLV. Stewart's record drops to 4-2.

The Lady Rebels are now 22-12 overall and 5-7 in conference. UNLV will travel to Southern California to visit Long Beach State for another Big West Conference double-header.

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