



Cornerback D'mentrie Lacy (No. 7) had on of UNLV's five interceptions in a 21-17 Rebel win over Pacific. The 3-1 Rebels travel to face New Mexico State Saturday in Las Cruces. They return home Oct. 17 for the Homecoming game with Nevada-Reno.

Defense staves off late Tiger rally

by Tony Llanos

The UNLV Rebels, who had not won a Big West season opener since 1989, defeated the Pacific Tigers, 21-17, at Amos Alonzo Stagg Memorial Coliseum in Stockton, Calif., for their third victory in the last four games in front of 12,542 stunned spectators.

The Tigers, who are considered to be an offensive explosion in Division I-A football, amassed 688 yards against Division I-AA Southwest Missouri State the previous week. Quarterback Dave Henigan, who substituted for the injured Troy Kopp, passed for only 269 yards and completed 25 passes in 49 attempts. The sophomore quarterback was intercepted five times by the Rebels.

UOP's first team All-American runningback Ryan Benjamin rushed for 93 yards on 25 carries. Benjamin had averaged 120 yards per game this season.

Rebel Coach Jim Strong did not name senior John Ma'ae the starting quarterback until Saturday morning. Ma'ae, who sat out last week's debacle at Oregon, completed 10 passes for 140 yards with two touchdowns and one interception. The other half of the quarterback duo, Bob Stockham, added 36 yards and completed three passes in six attempts.

Sophomore running back Jabbar Thomas, who nearly coughed up the game for the Rebels, ran for 95 yards on 28 carries. Starting running back Shannon McLean was sidelined for the rest of the game with a

bruised shin earlier in the first half. McLean finished with only 13 yards on four carries.

UNLV sophomore wide receiver Henry Bailey caught six catches for 92 yards in the Rebel victory.

But it was the UNLV defense who throttled the high-octane, run-and-shoot offense of Pacific. Defensive backs Jason Davis and Marvin Robinson each had two interceptions and D'Mentrie Lacy added another.

Rebel defensive back Davis intercepted a Henigan pass and ran it back for 25 yards for UNLV's first score. Kicker Nick Garritano's extra point was successful and the Rebels led 7-0 in the first quarter.

Pacific stormed right back with a 36-yard pass from Henigan to WR Ron Smith and suc-

cessful extra point attempt to tie UNLV at 7-7 in the second quarter. Tiger kicker Eddie Auscherman drilled a 37-yard field goal at the end of the half which put Pacific on top, 10-7.

The Rebels retaliated with a 12-yard strike in the third quarter to Rebel receiver Henry Bailey from Ma'ae to take a slim 14-10 lead into the fourth quarter.

In the fourth quarter, Ma'ae connected with UNLV tight end Kenneth Crump for a four-yard touchdown to cap off the Rebel offensive performance. The Rebels led 21-10.

Pacific started to storm back as wide receiver Aaron Turner caught a 10-yard pass from Henigan. UNLV's lead was down to four points at 21-17 in the fourth.

The Tigers lost a chance to win the game late in the second half. Pacific's wide receiver Turner, known for his "sure hands" dropped a potential, go-ahead touchdown catch with under two minutes to go. The Rebels beefed up their defense and later intercepted another Henigan pass.

But on the next play, Thomas fumbled which gave the Tigers another shot to win the game.

With a fourth-down play deep in Rebel territory, the Tiger quarterback threw a bullet into the hands of Davis to stymie the threat.

The Rebels improve to 3-1 overall, 1-0 in the Big West. Pacific meanwhile dropped to 1-4 overall and 0-2 in conference play.

Sports Briefs

Lady Rebel runner Diane McCarthy finishes fourth overall at meet.

At the Biola University Invitational, UNLV's cross-country team finished fifth in a field of 10 teams, Saturday in La Mirada, Calif. The Lady Rebels tallied 127 points.

Sophomore Diane McCarthy, sidelined by a virus the previous weekend, returned to the line-up to finish fourth overall. Her time of 18:44 was the best among college entrants as Nike West swept the top three spots.

Other Lady Rebel finishers were Jean Fletcher (20:44), Tasha Handy

(21:43), Michelle Brown (21:44), Usila Chepkemboi (22:10) and Latricia Dendy (22:39).

10th-ranked golf team finishes fifth in Kentucky

At the PING/GOLFWEEK Invitational in Lexington, Ken., the Rebel golf team wrapped up the weekend with a fifth-place finish overall. UNLV posted a team total of 892. Chris Riley led the Rebs with a 221 finish and tied for 11th place overall. Warren Schutte finished with a 223 strokes and tied for 14th overall.

BIG WEST CONFERENCE

	Conference			Overall		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Nevada-Reno	2	0	0	3	2	0
UNLV	1	0	0	3	1	0
Utah State	1	1	0	1	4	0
San Jose State	0	0	0	3	2	0
CS Fullerton	0	1	0	1	4	0
New Mexico State	0	1	0	3	2	0
Pacific	0	2	0	1	4	0

Friday

Brigham Young 30, Utah State 9

Saturday

Kansas State 19, New Mexico State 0
Nevada-Reno 19, CS Fullerton 0
San Jose State 26, Wyoming 24
UNLV 21, Pacific 17

Oct. 10

UNLV at New Mexico State, 6 p.m.