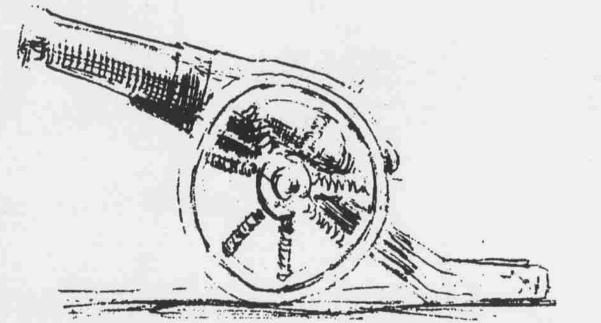
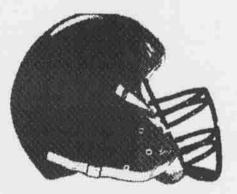
# HOMECOMMG 392

## The Battle for the Fremont Cannon







UNLV (3-2) vs. UNR (3-2) Saturday, 7 p.m. Sam Boyd Silver Bowl

### Inside

#### UNLV vs. UNR

A series history. The Rebels have won nine games, the Wolf Pack has won eight - Page 8

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Its history. Is it really worth \$10,000? - Page 9

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# **Rebels, Wolf Pack meet for first time as Big West foes**

by Anthony E. Zuiker

of his 91 passes for 862 yards, seven

How long have the Nevada-Reno Wolf Pack possessed the Fremont Cannon? Three hints. It's dusty; it's still in Reno; Wayne Nunnely.

Give up? A half a decade ago. The UNLV football team, led by each Wayne Nunnely, defeated Neva-

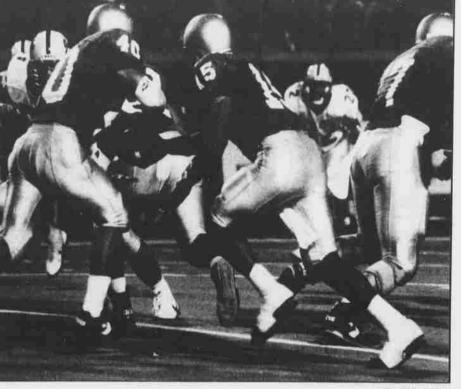
Coach Wayne Nunnely, defeated Nevada-Reno 24-19 back in 1987 to earn bragging rights to the Fremont Cannon, perhaps college football's most valuable trophy. The Cannon is valued well in excess of \$10,000.

So, how do the Rebels get their cannon back? Easy—win.

Not an easy task. The UNLV football team is hurting physically and psychologically. Physically, the Rebels are riddled with injuries. Psychologically, the Rebels must face their intra-state rival after being outscored 106-37 in their past three games. Adding "insult to injury," the Rebels must erase last year's 50-8 defeat at Reno.

The Rebels and Wolf Pack will kickoff the homecoming game at 7:05 p.m. this Saturday at Sam Boyd's Silver Bowl.

The Nevada-Reno Wolf Pack return 10 starters, five offensive and five defen-



The Rebel Yell

The Rebels will try to bounce back from their 40-10 loss at New Mexico State.

sive. Of the top 45 players on the roster last year, 25 have returned.

Although UNR posted a 11-0 record last year, 8-0 in the Big Sky Conference, Coach Chris Ault will look to an arsenal of "wolves" to pack the offensive cannon. For the Wolf Pack, quarterback Chris Vargas, who leads the Big West Conference in total offense, will be the starting at quarterback this week despite veteran Fred Gatlin's success against the Rebels. This season, Gatlin completed 63 touchdowns, and only two interceptions. Gatlin has averaged 287.3 yards passing per game against the Rebels, and has led his teams to a 3-0 record. Vargas, who played in the second half last year, went 7 for 9 with no interceptions for 119 yards and one touchdown.

Last week, Nevada-Reno wide receiver Bryan Reeves caught a school record 16 passes and the Wolf Pack defense recorded their second shutout in nine years as the Wolf Pack shut out CS Fullerton 19-0 to spoil their Homecoming game.

UNR broke a scoreless tie with just eight seconds left before the half when Steve Terelak kicked a 30-yard field goal.

Quarterbacks Chris Vargas and Fred Gatlin combined for 378 yards passing, but the Wolf Pack turned the ball over six times, (3 interceptions, 3 fumbles), to hold their scoring down to just 19. UNR Running Back Dedric Holmes, in his first start of the year, rushed for 91 yards.

Next week, the Wolf Pack will host the New Mexico State Aggies, who defeated the Rebels 40-10 last week.