

Pacific tidal wave sinks Lady Rebels, 83-78

Tigers snap UNLV winning streak at 18.

BY TONY LLANOS
SPORTS EDITOR

Like their male counterparts, Pacific came back and fought off adversity to upset the Rebels this season. Unlike the men, the Lady Tigers traveled to Las Vegas to subdue its conference nemesis.

In high drama, Tiger forward Lainie Beber, who led her team with 26 points and 11 rebounds, nailed two crucial free throws with 1:50 left in regulation to break the scoring deadlock of 78-78. Pacific's Tine Freil sank a jumper and converted a foul shot to ice the stunning upset of the Lady Rebels, 83-78, at the Thomas & Mack Center Saturday.

"This is a huge win for the University of Pacific," said the Tigers' assistant coach John Henderson. "It's a good feeling for our freshmen, sophomores, and juniors. And especially for Tine Freil, to go out as a senior to beat UNLV in Vegas is even a greater feeling."

UNLV led by as much as 15 points in the first half as the Tigers showed fatigue early in the game only to lead Pacific 42-

Rebels honored

In pregame ceremonies prior to the men's game at the Thomas & Mack Center Saturday, Lady Rebel Teresa Jackson and Runnin' Rebel J.R. Rider were both named 1992-93 African-American Student Athletes of the Year by the *Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice*. Willie Ramirez, sports editor of the *Sentinel-Voice*, presented the awards.

34 in the opening period.

"The 12 turnovers in the first half really killed us," said Henderson. "It (the Tiger giveaways) led to a lot of transition buckets for Vegas."

In fact, the Lady Rebels converted a couple of steals by guard Cherie Hogg to easy layups by forward Teresa Jackson and center Vivian Johnson. Hogg nailed a long, three-point basket to cap a 12-2 UNLV run with 6:47 left in the first half.

Freil, only one of two players in NCAA history to score 1,000 points and record 1,000 assists in a career, struggled early in the game. The Tigers' senior guard only managed one field goal in seven attempts in the first half, including six misses from three-point country.

But Freil, a member of the Danish women's national bas-

ketball team, came through for Pacific.

"She struggled in the first half and did not shoot the ball well," said Henderson. "In the second half, Freil took over the show. She drove the ball real well and created a lot of openings."

Freil finished the evening with eight points, but dished out 15 assists in the Tiger victory.

Pacific's defense allowed the Lady Rebels to shoot 43 percent (13 out of 30) from the field in the second half.

"We had a lot of tipped balls on defense," said Henderson of Pacific's late stand against the Lady Rebels.

The Tigers limited UNLV's outside gunner Gwynn Hobbs to only two three-pointers in the closing period. The Lady Rebels drilled five from long, long range in the first half.

Said Henderson: "At the time-out (with 0:55 left in regulation), we told our team to get a hand in the three-point shooter's face. Vegas really needed those 'threes'—especially when we were leading in that stage of the game."

In her final appearance at home, UNLV's Jackson led the Lady Rebels with 26 points and added six rebounds. Johnson and three-point specialist Hobbs each tallied 18.

Pacific improves to 15-7 overall and 8-6 in the Big West. UNLV drops to second place with a 13-1 record in the conference, just percentage points behind No. 25 Hawaii.

The Rainbow Wahines are 15-1 in the Big West and have two

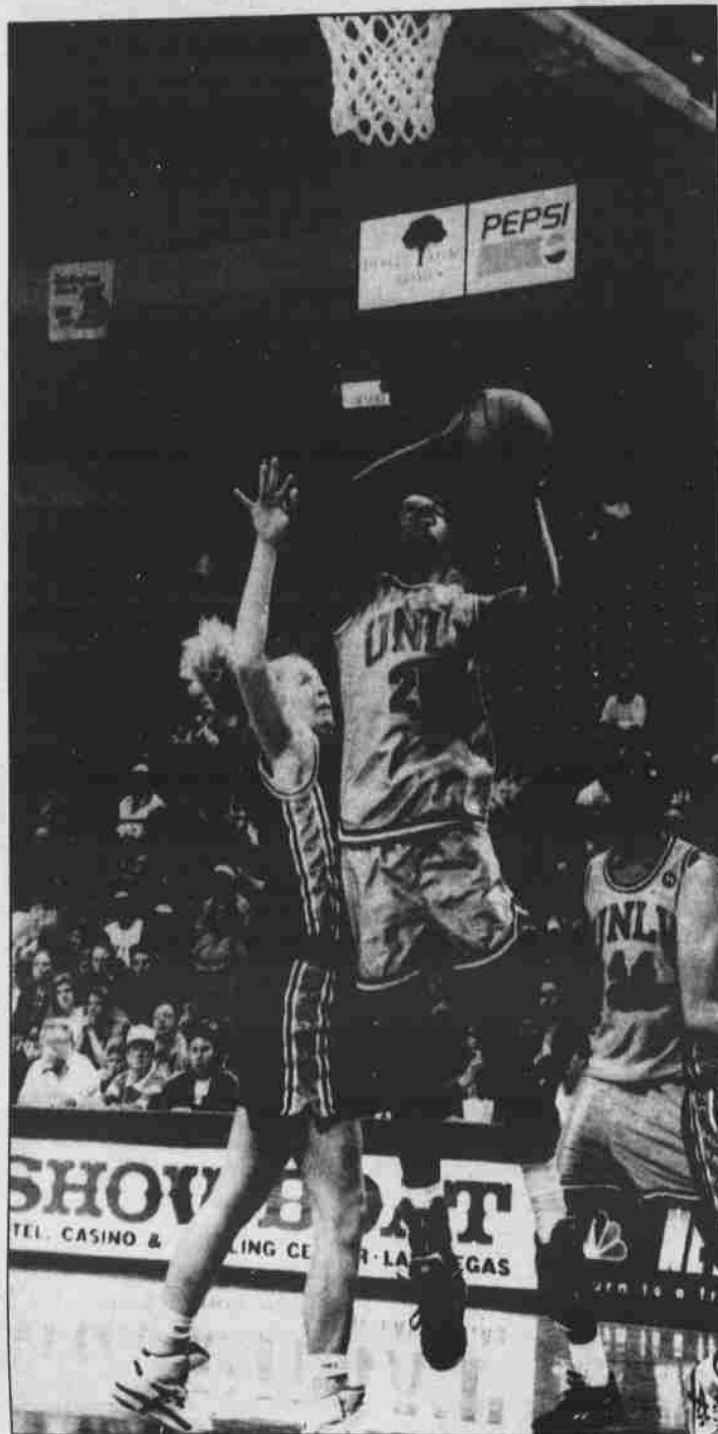


PHOTO BY WRAY HALTERMAN

Forward Vivian Johnson scored a career best 18 points in the Lady Rebel loss to Pacific.

games left against the Lady Rebels in the Aloha State. The match-ups on March 5 and 7 will be the much anticipated showdown for the Big West Champi-

onship between these bitter rivals.

UNLV journeys to California and returns to action against Long Beach State Saturday.

BIG WEST CONFERENCE

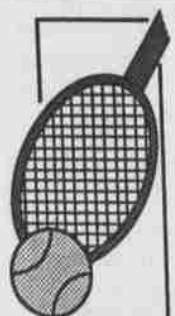
	Conference		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Hawaii	15	1	21	3
UNLV	13	1	20	2
UC Santa Barbara	11	3	13	9
New Mexico State	10	6	14	9
Pacific	8	6	15	7
Long Beach State	6	8	7	14
CS Fullerton	3	10	6	15
Nevada	3	13	3	18
San Jose State	2	11	3	18
UC Irvine	1	13	2	20

Thursday Results

No. 19 UNLV 95, San Jose State 52
CS Fullerton 85, Nevada 65
Long Beach State 90, UC Irvine 81
New Mexico State 68, Pacific 66

Saturday Results

Pacific 83, No. 19 UNLV 78
New Mexico State 80, San Jose State 72
Nevada 82, UC Irvine 73
UC Santa Barbara 88, LBSU 72
Pepperdine 100, CS Fullerton 68



TENNIS

13th Annual Nevada Bob's Invitational Feb. 19 - 21

Final Results

1. San Diego State
2. UNLV
3. Boise State
4. Utah
5. Fresno State
6. Southern Methodist
7. Northern Arizona
8. Weber State

Women's Results:
UNLV 6
Texas A & M 3

Relay team sets school record

Senior sprinter sweeps three events leading UNLV through the Miller Lite Invitational.

BY NICK HALEY
STAFF WRITER

When will UNLV crown its next national champion team?

If Karen Dennis has a part in it, it will be March 13 at the National Collegiate Athletic Association's Indoor Track and Field Championships.

Dennis, UNLV's first year track and field coach, has watched her 1600-meter relay progress from very good to one of the best in the nation.

Saturday in Flagstaff, Ariz., her 1600-meter relay, consisting of Judy Fraser, Michele Brown, Jean Fletcher and anchored by Crystal Irving set a new UNLV record at 3:35.50, capturing first place at the Miller Lite Invitational. The time was good enough for an automatic bid to the NCAA championships next month.

"It's really exciting," said Dennis of her teams prospects of a national title. "We lost a lot of seniors last year but with Crystal Irving remaining and being so coachable... it allowed the other young ladies to mature rapidly."

For Irving, however, victory didn't end with the relay. She also took first in the 200-meter and 400-meter with times of 24.25 and 53.88 respectively. Irving has secured a place for herself at the NCAA's in all three of these events.

The 400-meter was almost a medal sweep for UNLV with Fraser coming in second with a 55.15. Fraser, like Irving, has reserved an invitation at the NCAA's in the 400-meter. Fletcher just missed the victory stand, finishing fourth with a 55.74.

At 800 meters, Latricia Dendy and Tarsha Handy took second and third and at 3,000 meters, sophomore Dianne McCarthy finished second. McCarthy's time of 10:47.5 was adjusted down to 10:25.4 due to altitude.

"They say that training at high altitude gives runners an advantage," Dennis said. "There's a formula that they use (to compensate for competing at higher altitudes). They factor in the altitude to make the 'playing field' more level."

With just three weeks remaining, Coach Dennis hopes to secure a couple more invitations to the NCAA's. This weekend, her squad makes its final bids at the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Championships and the Days Inn Invitational.

Lady Rebs split four wins

UNLV finishes 2-2 vs. Top 20 competition at the ASU-Coca Cola softball toumey.

BY NICK HALEY
STAFF WRITER

UNLV softball split four games over the weekend at the Arizona State University-Coca Cola Softball Classic pushing its record to 4-2.

The tournament, featuring many of the best teams in the nation, matched UNLV against four teams ranked 15th or better.

On Friday, UNLV faced defending national champion and top-ranked UCLA. Pitted against the nation's premier pitcher, the Lady Rebels lost 3-1. The single run scored by UNLV came when Tricia Reimche ran in from second on a double by Lisa Wilkins-Eames. It was the only run generated by an opponent of Bruins throughout the tournament. Amie Stewart took the loss, her first of the year, giving up eight hits.

UNLV's "easy" game was on Saturday when they played against 15th-ranked Utah State. Senior pitcher Kim Smith won her first decision of the year, 2-0, tallying five strikeouts with no walks and only two hits. First baseman Cyndi Parus produced both RBI, batting 2 for 2 with a triple. Catcher Kim Fritts also added a triple.

In a Sunday double-header, the Lady Rebels faced another of the nation's premier teams, No. 2 Arizona. Once again, Stewart was called upon to duel it out with one of the nation's top pitchers but fell short. Stewart allowed only five hits but Arizona came through, 4-2 behind a pair of homeruns. Fritts hit her first career Division I homerun.

Smith took the second game on Sunday, 3-2. She allowed three hits, but one was a homerun.

UNLV returns home this weekend to host its own tournament, the UNLV Spring Fling at Cheyenne Park on the campus of Community College of Southern Nevada in North Las Vegas.