

# Lady Rebels take two from 12th-ranked Hawaii

## Wednesday: Lady Rebs stymie late Wahine run

by Tony Llanos

The Rainbow Wahines couldn't quite apply that old, Kamehamehan principle, "only the strong shall rule" to UNLV Wednesday night as the Lady Rebs defeated Hawaii, 71-67, at the South Gym. Book that, Dann-o!

UNLV, now 15-7 overall first in Big West Conference at 13-3, has won five in a row and seven of its last eight. The road weary Wahines (18-5 overall, 9-5 in conference), who will travel to Fresno State this weekend, extended their losing streak to three games.

UNLV forward Teresa Jackson led all scorers with 20 points. Freshman guard Gwynn Hobbs turned in a spectacular performance as she tied her season high of 15 points for the Lady Rebs. Center Merlelynn Lange and Guard Sharon Hargrove each finished the evening with 12 points. Wahine guard Alicia Pontious led her team with 23 points.

The Rebels got the lava flowing early out-hustling the Rainbow Wahines and led by as much as 14 points in the first half. Hobbs sparked the offense with her outside shooting. Hawaii made several futile substitutions as the UNLV rampaged on an early 29-15 run.

However, Hawaii barreled in like a tsunami and tied the game in the second half with their full-court pressure, aggressiveness, and ball control.

"We thought we gave it away on a couple occasions,"

said Rebel Head Coach Jim Bolla following their victory.

UNLV's Sharon Hargrove fouled out early in the second half. Hargrove's departure did not worry Coach Bolla, though.

"We pulled together and played solid defense with the loss of 'Shay,'" he said.

Hawaii's relentless Alicia Pontious took advantage of several Rebel mistakes scored on crucial possessions in the second half. The 6-2 Hawaiian senior was involved in several physical matchups with UNLV's Merlelynn Lange who gave the Wahine guard a bloody lip and stepped in front of Hawaii's agile guard Melanie Azama to knock her out of the game in the first half.

It seemed that the Wahines were going to break that "Bolla Bowl Taboo" late in the half. But Hawaii could not capitalize on missed opportunities on the charity stripe.

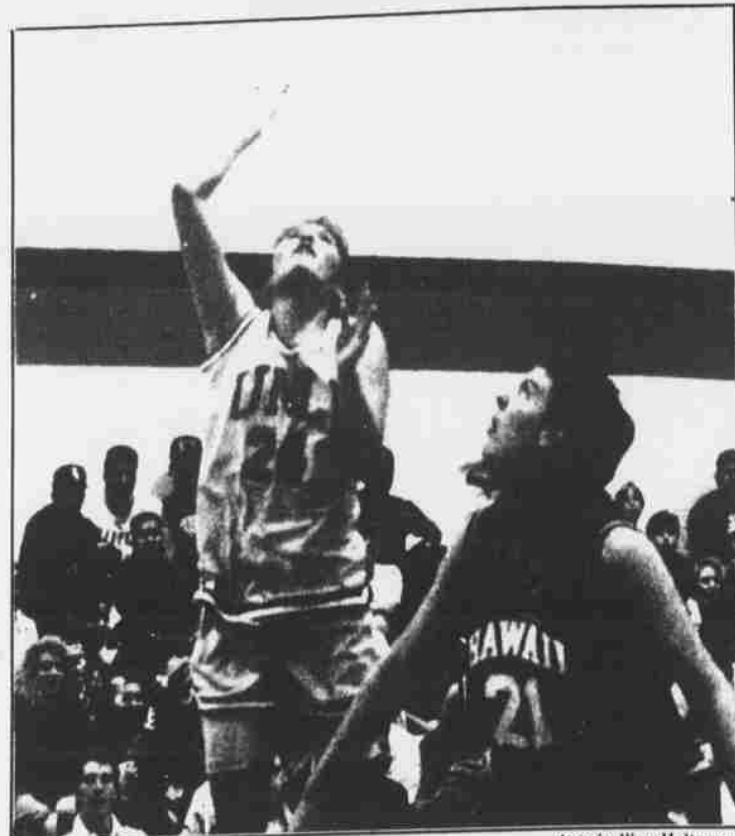


photo by Wray Halterman

Gwynn Hobbs helps the Rebels overcome a seven point Hawaii lead.

"We missed some important shots," said Hawaii Head Coach Vince Goo, "but we had UNLV on the run."

The Rebels will conclude their homestand with two tough Big West Conference games

against Long Beach State on Saturday and UC Santa Barbara on Monday. Should UNLV continue this upward trend, the UCSB game could determine the Big West Conference championship.

## Tuesday: Lady Rebels come from behind, sink Hawaii 65-58

by Tony Llanos

As the Wahines rode the crest of a wave in the latter portion of the first half, it was the Lady Rebels that rode the higher surf at the end.

UNLV guard Sharon Hargrove and senior center Merlelynn Lange sparked a convincing second-half rally that wiped out the visitors on this great Hawaiian giveaway, 65-58 at the South Gym Tuesday night.

"Amazing...truly amazing," said UNLV Lady Rebel coach Jim Bolla after the contest.

"We'll enjoy this win."

The Lady Rebs overcame a 39-32 deficit and the loss of Lange, who fouled out, in the second half. UNLV fought their way through a stingy, pressure defense led by Hawaii's agile point guard Jenny Kaeo and made key free throws by freshman guard Gwynn Hobbs and Hargrove following their late 7-0 run.

"Hawaii is tough. We expected no surprises from them," added Bolla.

All was not paradise for the Lady Rebels at the "Bolla Bowl."

In the first half, Hawaii's pesky point guard, sophomore Melanie Azama, showed her quickness with a lay-up off a steal which geared the Wahine scoring machine to a 16-6 run. The Rainbow Wahines also shut out UNLV's top scorer Teresa Jackson in the first half. However, both teams shot 33 percent from the field in a low-

scoring first half. Hawaii finished the half with a 29-25 lead.

At the beginning of the second half, when the Lady Rebel volcano started to erupt the Rainbow Wahines appeared to become sluggish.

"No excuses," said Hawaii Head Coach Vince Goo after their loss, "give credit to UNLV. They came alive."

Hargrove led all UNLV scorers with 20 points. The 5-9 senior from Compton, Calif., also pulled down a career-high

11 rebounds, junior forward Teresa Jackson added 12 points and Lange contributed 11. Freshman forward Tracy Titus, in her first start, recorded season-highs of seven points and seven rebounds. Hawaii center, senior Kalei Namohala, led all Wahine scorers with 14.

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## BASEBALL

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in nine games. Their record is now 8-6.

UNLV took advantage of seven Utah errors and nine walks to win the first game 7-1. The Rebels scored five runs in the third inning as Utah pitcher Jim Hallinan walked three and surrendered hits to first baseman Nick Kuster, catcher Mike Hubel, and a triple to left fielder Dan Madsen. Hallinan (0-2) faced 10 batters in the third. Hubel and second baseman Jeff Coats crossed the plate in the fifth yielding the Rebels' final margin of victory.

Utah played a solid second game, committing only five walks and no errors. UNLV out-hit the Utes, but stranded 10 runners including six in two innings. Rightfielder Tory Miran went two for three, hitting

a double and a homerun, his third of the year.

Designated hitter Steve White followed immediately with another homerun, his second this year, to give the Rebels a 2-1 lead in the fifth. But Utah rallied quickly, scoring a run in the top of the sixth off a homerun by relief pitcher Mike Hughes. The Utes grabbed the lead for good in the seventh when Ute second baseman Marc Benjamin scored the winning run. The loss breaks a five game winning streak by the Rebels. Utah's record is now 3-8.

The Rebels return to action Thursday through Sunday when they host Northwestern, Oregon State and Southern Utah in the Coors UNLV Desert Classic at Barnson Field.

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