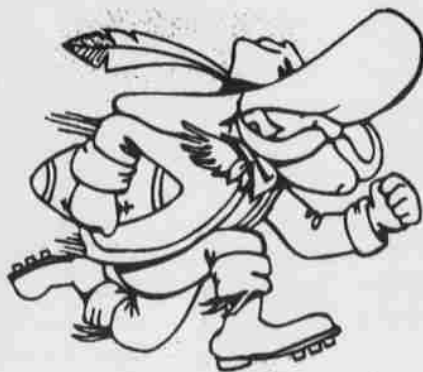


SPORTS

REBEL
YELL



"If you want to be the man, you've got to beat the man. WHOOOO!"
-Ric Flair

Montana's health Chief concern

Sports Talk

by Chris Jones

When you hear that a guy with four Super Bowl rings is coming to your team, you tend to get excited. If the guy's name is Joe Montana, perhaps the greatest quarterback ever to suit up in the NFL, that excitement turns to euphoria. As almost anyone can tell you, Montana now resides in Kansas City. It's no wonder that Chiefs fans are once again fired up for football.

The NFL kicks off its 1993 season this Sunday but many Chiefs fans are already lining up for Super Bowl tickets. Although the Chiefs have made the playoffs for the past three seasons they have not advanced past the first round.

It will be different this year,

Chiefs fans say. With the addition of veterans like Montana and former Los Angeles Raiders running back Marcus Allen, the Kansas City offense will roll through the NFL like a midwestern thunderstorm. The KC defense, led by linebacker Derrick Thomas and lineman Neil Smith, will hold down scoring while terrorizing quarterbacks.

On paper, the Chiefs have it all. The best special teams, a proven coach in Marty Schottenheimer and most of all, Joe Montana. It adds up, the fans say. This is the Chiefs' year.

Or is it?

It's true, Kansas City has been a good team. But this year's club is an entirely new model. The old Chiefs relied on power runners like Christian Okoye and Barry Word. Neither of them will

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Rebel soccer in Indiana for opener

staff reports

Despite the loss of a nucleus that propelled last year's team to a respectable fourth place finish at 4-3, 9-5-4 overall, the 1993 edition of Rebel Soccer figures to be in the mix of things when the season ends.

All-America candidate Richie Louis will lead the Rebels from his midfielder position. The senior was a first team All-Mountain Pacific Sports Federation-Pacific Division selection as well as being named

third team All-Far West Region.

"We lose the nucleus of the team with the departure of Danny (Barber), Thies (Carstens) and Scott (Uderitz)," Rebel coach Barry Barto said. "But after the newcomers learn their roles with the team and everybody gets used to playing together, then we could be a competitive side."

The Rebels begin their season this weekend at the Indiana Met Life Classic. UNLV will face Indiana Saturday before squaring off against Notre Dame Sunday.

Recent NCAA regulations have cut back on the start time for soccer.

"Two weeks is hardly enough time to prepare for a major tournament," Barto said. "Also, the new rules restricting back passes to the goalie and how long a goalie can hold onto the ball could drastically change how some teams play defense. But, these are rules everyone has to play with and means we will have to work that much harder."

Leaders will have to emerge if

the Rebels are to be successful on the field. Seniors Tom Miller, Daniel Packer and Ben Erickson figure to step up.

Miller led the club in assists last year and Packer is noted for having the team's hardest shot. Erickson has been a starter since his freshman year and has been described by Barto as having more ability than any player on the team.

The Rebels' home opener is September 10 when UNLV hosts the Coors Light Invitational.



Richie Louis
senior, midfielder

Rider wants to keep connections with former coaches and teammates

By Paul Gutierrez
Sports Editor

Rebel Yell sports editor Paul Gutierrez served an internship at The Oakland Tribune this past summer. While there he interviewed former UNLV star J.R. Rider at his home in nearby Alameda two weeks after being the NBA Draft's No. 5 pick. Following is the second in a two-part series.

Though Isaiah "J.R." Rider blazed his own path on the court last year, he is following in the footsteps of former Rebel greats. Rider will join Armon Gilliam, Larry Johnson, Stacey Augmon, Greg Anthony and Elmore Spencer in the NBA.

But Rider is not yet under contract with the Minnesota Timberwolves. He is waiting for Anfernee Hardaway to sign with the Orlando Magic before having agent Arn Tellem negotiate what will probably be a multi-million dollar deal.

Coming into the NBA with his reputation may make him a target. But he said he will be ready.

"Hopefully I can come in, crack jokes and ease up the tension a little bit and everyone can

have some fun," he said of joining the team that had the league's second worst record last season. "Maybe I can do that as a rookie, be a leader."

Playing along two other pros with less-than-spectacular reputations as team players - Christian Laettner and Chuck Person - is bound to make for some interesting times in the Land of 10,000 Lakes. Playing with Laettner may take some getting used to for UNLV fans in light of Duke's 1991 Final Four upset of the Rebels. Rider was at Antelope Valley College in Lancaster, Calif., in 1991.

"I didn't like him," Rider said sheepishly of the former Duke star. "But I liked his game for a big man. He deserves his credit. But especially coming from UNLV, you just don't like Duke. So I never cared for anyone on that team."

"But now that he's a teammate it's a brand new thing. I don't know him or dislike him personally. I just didn't like Duke. So now I have to go in there, shake his hand and see if our personalities can come together and be friends."

But being friends with university administrators is not in the future as far as Rider can tell.

The never-ending saga starring former coach Jerry Tarkanian, university president Robert Maxson and second year coach Rollie Massimino has left its mark on Rider.

"You can't dwell on things like that," he said of the scandal that he claimed made him a scapegoat of the Tark-Maxson feud. "You just learn from it. I couldn't have a relationship with certain administrators and be satisfied with myself. It's not that I hate them, because I don't hate anyone. Things just happened and I believe they'll get punished in time. Not by me, just by things like getting a flat tire or something."

Still, Rider did not totally withdraw his association from UNLV the way Larry Johnson did.

"I would help the basketball program," Rider said. "I wouldn't help any other part of the school. I don't want to get Coach Mass and the players in any further trouble so I don't want to get into too much of a relationship with them because people will assume things. But those are my friends and if they need help, I'll help them because it's hard being away from home. And everyone thinks that at UNLV we all get paid. There are

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THE REBEL YELL



Rider electrified UNLV crowds with his highflying style.

Gutierrez staff photo