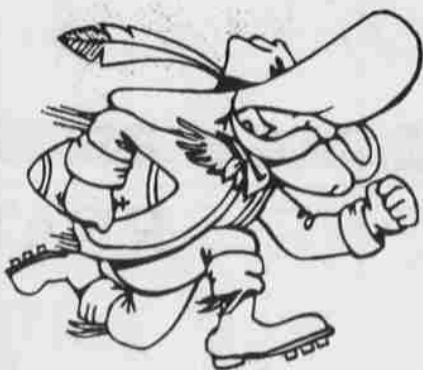


SPORTS

REBEL
YELL

"When you win, nothing hurts!"
- Joe Namath

Rebels travel to Manhattan - Kansas, that is

BY SCOTT GULBRANSEN
STAFF WRITER

The UNLV football team (1-2) will be in action this Saturday as they travel to Kansas State to take on the Wildcats.

"Bobby Stockham will start," said Head coach Jim Strong whose Rebels are coming off an impressive 33-20 home victory over Central Michigan.

Kansas State (3-0) is one of the better teams in the always tough Big 8 conference. They play a hard-nosed brand of defense and run the ball on offense.

"Kansas State is a big, physical team," said Strong. "Their offensive line averages 6-foot-6, 295 pounds."

Strong's concern is the Wildcats' pass defense. Last week against the University of Minnesota, Kansas State held the Golden Gophers to 198 yards in passing in the 30-25 victory. Minnesota has

averaged 353 yards per game this season.

"We're nixed up right now," added Strong. Although no one is out, linebackers Sidney Holmes and Rumone Hilton defensive tackle Stephen Anderson, defensive end Erik Semien, and fullback DeJohn Branch are all nursing injuries.

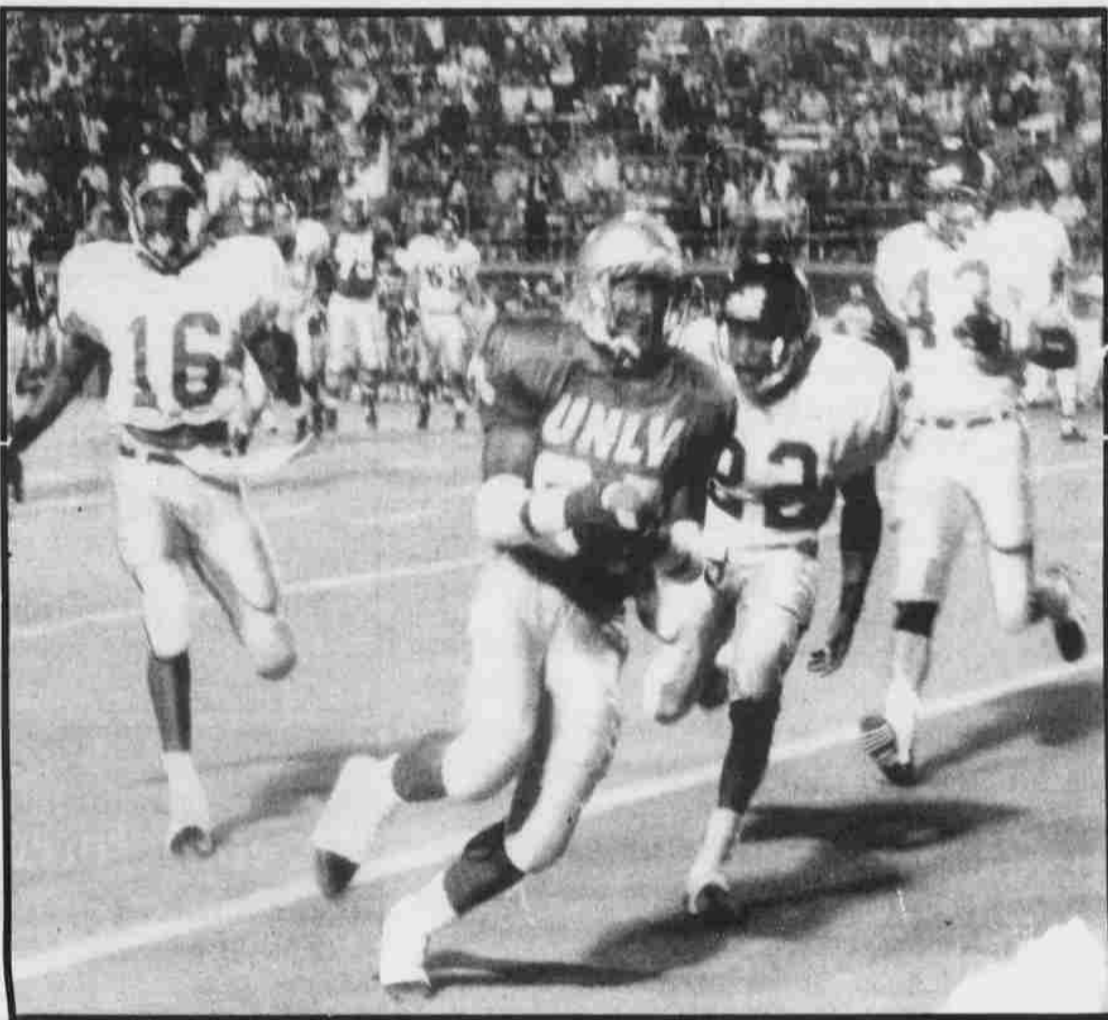
Said the UNLV head football coach: "We need to have a healthy team."

This is the first meeting between the two teams.

"It's our understanding that they (UNLV) have the best group of athletes in the Big West Conference," said Kansas State football coach Bill Snyder. "From what I've seen, there is no reason to dispute that."

UNLV is on the midway point of a treacherous road schedule to begin the season.

Their 1993 season has already seen them go to Clemson, and the University of Texas-El Paso before ever seeing the turf of the Sam Boyd Silver Bowl.



HYUN-HO HAN/REBEL YELL

UNLV won its home opener Saturday with a 33-20 over Central Michigan to improve its mark to 1-2. The Rebels travel to Kansas State this Saturday to battle the Wildcats. Kansas State has a 3-0 mark.

Stockham excels in new role

BY SCOTT GULBRANSEN
STAFF WRITER

Two years ago Bob Stockham had a huge decision to make. The 6-foot-4-inch sophomore had just come off a shoulder injury and had to decide between one of the two universities recruiting him - Oklahoma State or UNLV.

Stockham chose to be a Rebel.

"I visited both campuses and I just felt at home here," he said. "I looked at both of the programs and saw that Coach Jim Strong was really on track here. The talent he was assembling was very impressive."

Stockham was a big signing for Strong. He was a JC Grid-Wire preseason all-American his sophomore year before injuring his shoulder. He still managed to throw for 1,985 yards and

19 touchdowns in that injury-plagued season.

"The injury hurt me but I wasn't going to let it get me

"We have exceptional talent on this team. That's why the losses have been disappointing. When you know you're good and lose, it's much harder to live with."

-Bob Stockham

down," Stockham said of the mishap. He finished his junior college career second on the all-time single-season completion list by hitting 241-of-496 passes. He also led the nation in passing in 1990 with 3,506 yards and 35 touchdowns.

But when Stockham was thrust into the UNLV starting quarterback role last year, people began to notice. He had a good year, starting four

games and throwing for 965 yards and nine touchdowns.

"I don't even think about last year," Stockham said. "As far as I'm concerned it never happened." Stockham feels that this year is completely different because his playing time has been steady.

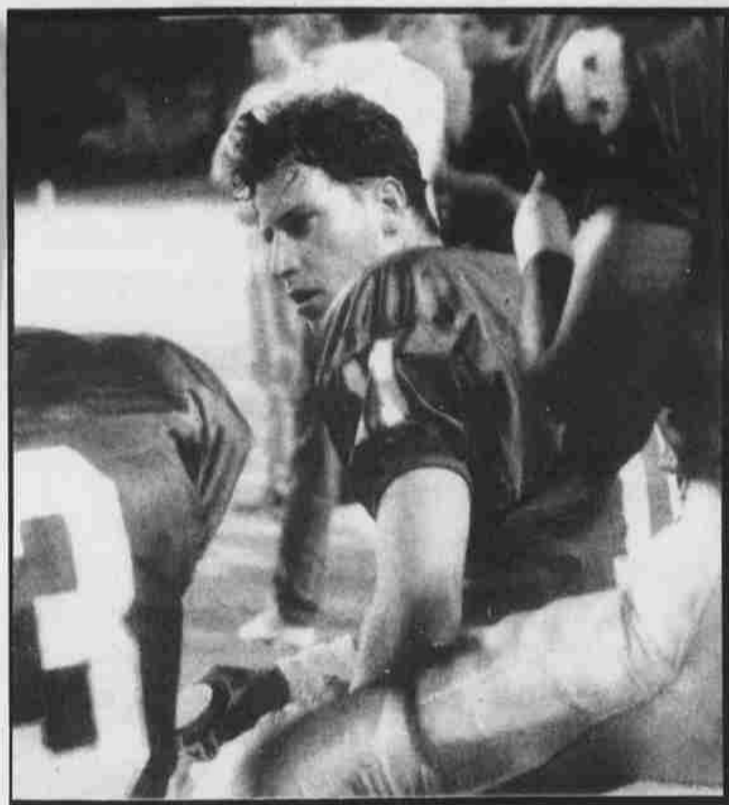
"It's much easier to get better at your position when you play every game," Stockham said smiling. "This year I started from scratch. I came in with a whole new perspective and it has really helped me on and off the field."

Off the field, Stockham is a dedicated student who hopes to one day coach football.

"I'd really like to coach and return something to the game," the Rebel quarterback stated. "It has always been a dream of mine."

Since Stockham took the role as the starting quarterback, he has shown im-

see Stockham pg.15



NICK HALEY/REBEL YELL

The Rebel offense is guided by quarterback Bob Stockham, who has completed 33-of-74 passes for 466 yards in the first three games.



About the Wildcats

Kansas State is 17-2 at home since the start of the 1990 season, which is the best home record during a 19-game stretch since the Wildcats went 17-1-1 from 1916 through the fifth game of the 1919 season...The 'Cats went 5-0 at home last season for its perfect home season since 1934...Kansas State's home record of 17-2 is the last three years is the third best mark in the Big Eight behind Nebraska and Colorado...Head football coach Bill Snyder has an overall 21-26-0 record at Kansas State since 1989.

Source: Kansas State Sports Information