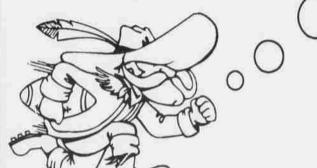
SPORTS



My bags are packed." - Isaiah Rider, Jr.,

regarding the possibility of signing a contract with the Minnesota Timberwolves and leaving for Minnesota in the next few days. Rider, was visiting campus Wednesday



CHRIS JONES TAFF COLUMNIST

·Last weekend's series between the San Francisco Giants and Los Angeles Dodgers was another historic chapter in this heated rivalry.

It wasn't enough for the Dodgers to send their archrival home for the winter with a 12-1 victory on the final day of the season. Dodger manager Tommy Lasorda had to rub salt in the wound, saying he hoped the fans in San Francisco would "remember this day" and suffer like the L.A. fans in 1991 (when the Giants killed L.A.'s playoff hopes in the season's final se-

Giants third baseman Matt Williams, upset at the constant taunting from the Dodger dugout, threatened pitcher Orel Hershiser with "line drives right back up the middle" if he faces the Dodger righthander next

Threats of bodily injury. Bad blood. A classic ending to the season, but an even better beginning for the next round of one of baseball's oldest feuds.

·Since the Atlanta Braves were fortunate enough to get the expansion Colorado Rockies to wrap up their schedule, we will once again be forced to see baseball's version of the Buffalo Bills in the playoffs.

When the NLCS moves to Atlanta, pay close attention to the sellout crowds at Fulton County Stadium. See how they dress in brand new Braves clothing. See them do the Tomahawk Chop. Listen to them cheer for

"America's Team."

Then ask yourself where all of these Braves "fans" were in 1990 when their team lost 97 games in front of 97 fans every

 Pay no attention to those who claim baseball is no longer the national pastime. The year1993 saw the debut of two enormously successful (attendance wise) expansion teams in Colorado and Florida and the game set a record for overall attendance. More than 70 million people saw a major league game this year, beating the best previous total by well over 13 million

·Hockey season is underway.

Who cares?

If the NHL ever hopes to attain an NBA-like level of success, they've got to find a way to keep their star players healthy. Last season saw three of the league's best and most marketable players (the L.A. Kings' Wayne Gretzky, Pittsburgh's Mario Lemieux, and Flyers rookie sensation Eric Lindros) miss a combined 166 games.

Can you imagine fans paying to see the Chicago Bulls if Michael Jordan wasn't playing?

Then why should the average sports fan turn to hockey when the only names they recognize are never on the ice?

 Heavyweight Lennox Lewis has told the British media that he might not be in boxing for much longer.

"I look at myself going for about a year and a half more. Boxing's a sport I'm not going to stay in for a long time," Lewis

If Lewis continues to fight like he did in an unimpressive victory over Frank Bruno last Friday, fans of the fight game will be happy to see him go.

· A final note on UNLV football: When does basketball season start?

Sports Talk notes UNLV wins prestigious Preview Invitational golf tournament

Fryatt, Riley tie for second place

BY PAUL GUTIERREZ SPORTS EDITOR

To say that UNLV golf Coach Dwaine Knight was happy with his team's performance last weekend would be the understatement of the year.

The Rebels outlasted the top 15 teams in Golfweek magazine's preseason poll to win the Preview Invitational in Dallas.

"This is our biggest win in our

program so far," Knight said. "We've had individual champs before but this is the biggest win we've ever had as a team.'

UNLV finished with a three round score of 875, four strokes



ahead of Oklahoma.

"I'm happy with the recognition," Knight said. "It's good for recruiting and for the guys that put in all the work."

Ed Fryatt and Chris Riley tied for second place overall, with three others in the prestigious tournament, both finishing at 216, evenpar. Chase Whitaker finished tied for 11th at 219 after being in second after the first round.

Even sweeter for the Rebels is that the tourney was held at Stonebridge Country Club in Dallas, the site of the NCAA Championships in the spring.

'We're trying to be the best," Knight said. "Winning this tournament was a step in that direction."

Davis to get start at quarterback against Matadors of CS Northridge

BY SCOTT GULBRANSEN STAFF WRITER

The Rebel football team will try and regroup from last week's pounding at Nevada as they take on Cal-State Northridge at the Sam Boyd Silver Bowl.

Northridge seems to be just what the doctor ordered for the



Rebels. The Matadors are a member of the American West Conference, which is not known for its football prowess. Northridge is 1-3 and is considered to be one of the doormats in the fledgling confer-

The Matadors are led by quarterback J.J. O'Laughlin, a decent prospect. He has passed for 253 yards and two touchdowns in a run-oriented offense.

The Matadors' leading rusher is Robert "Not once but" Trice. He has burned opposing teams for 477 yards on 76 carries, including a 75yard run for a touchdown. Trice has three scores for the year.

The Rebels are licking their

wounds from their trip to Reno. Quarterback Bob Stockham has lost his starting job to Jason Davis, who will make his first start of the season. Running back Omar Love looks to repeat or eclipse last week's 87 yard performance against the Pack. The Rebel defense has been working hard all week to rectify problems exploited in Reno.

Game time Saturday is 7 p.m. at the Silver Bowl.



Athletics receives grant to erect new marquee

STAFF REPORTS

The UNLV Department of Athletics has received a half-million-dollar donation from International Game Technology, the world leader in the design and manufacture of slot machines and video gaming equipment.

Pending approval by the Board of Regents, the \$500,000 donation will be used to construct a new marquee for the Thomas & Mack Center at the intersection of Tropicana Avenue and Swenson Street. It will be used to promote events at the T & M.

"This new marquee will be one of the biggest and brightest arena signs in the country," said Pat Christenson, director of the T & M and Sam Boyd Silver Bowl. "This new structure will enhance the image of the facility and will create a more exciting way for us to promote and advertise our sporting and entertainment events."

The new marquee will replace the existing one and will be 50 feet high and 30 feet wide. The color scheme and design will compli-

ment that of the T & M. It will have a full-color electronic message center 13 feet high

see Marquee pg. 10

Rebels end losing streak, beat Western Kentucky

BY JOE A. MARTINEZ STAFF WRITER

With a 2-1 overtime victory against Western Kentucky Sunday, UNLV (3-7, 0-1) captured third-place at the New Mexico Invitational.

But the Rebels dropped a hardfought match against the tournament host Lobos, 1-0, in the opener. UNLV played a solid 90 minutes of soccer.

The Rebels threatened at the 30 minute mark as senior midfielder Tommy Miller fired a corner kick from the right side to

> see Soccer pg. 10 THE REBEL YELL



The Rebels travel to play UC Irvine and UCLA this weekend.