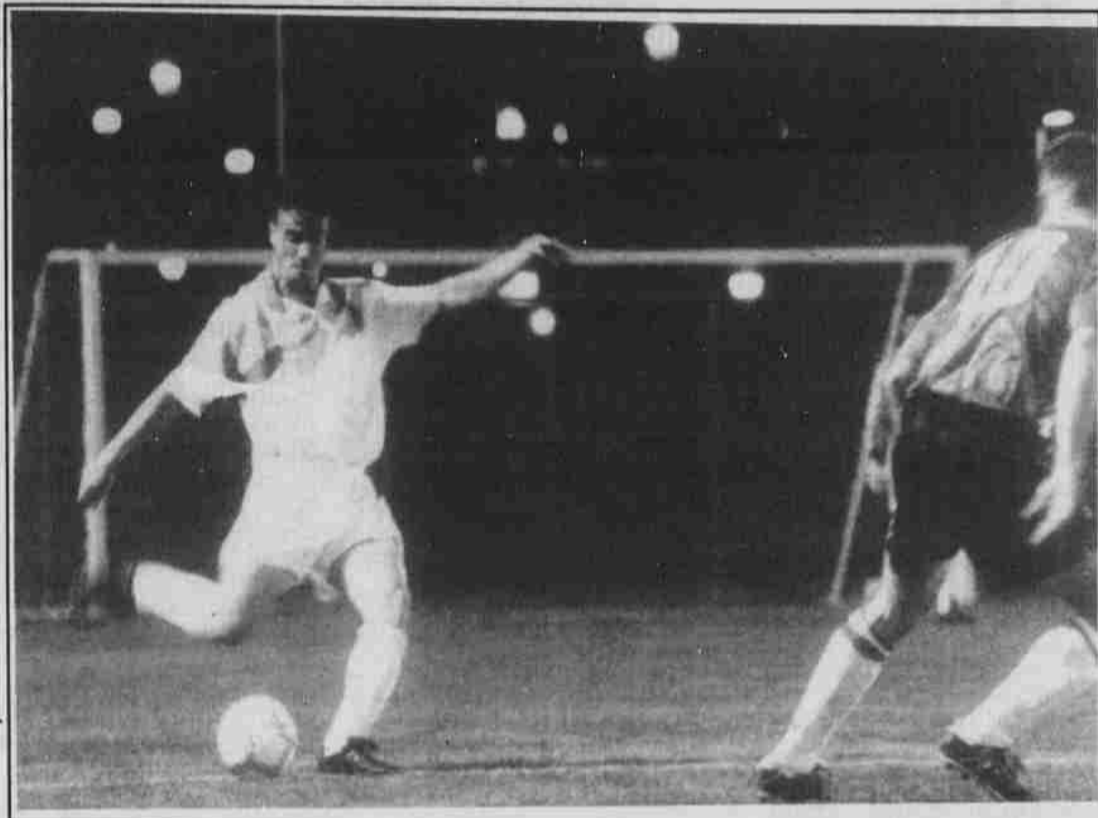


# SPORTS

REBEL  
YELL



"They've put together a good ballclub here"—  
Jerry Tarkanian on the  
Thunder at the pro hockey  
team's media day last  
week.



Todd Huggins playing defense against San Diego State Friday night.

Hyun-Ho Han/ Rebel Yell

## Titan error nets victory for Rebels

### STAFF REPORTS

The UNLV Rebels soccer team avenged its most embarrassing loss of last season by defeating Cal-State Fullerton at Peter Johann Field on Sunday by a score of 2-1.

The only goal in the first half was scored by Tom Miller of the Rebels at 38:06 on a pass from Joey Mancuso.

Cal State-Fullerton tied the game at 60:27. The Titans had an opportunity to take the lead on a penalty kick just moments later, but failed when UNLV goalie Jeremy Angelo blocked a shot by

the Titans' Mike Ammann.

With the match tied late in the game, a Titan mishap helped to secure the winning goal for UNLV. The Rebels' Noah Gins intercepted a pass right next to the Cal-State Fullerton goal and took a shot from nearly 20 yards out that found nothing but net, avenging UNLV's 9-0 loss to the Titans last season.

**REBEL  
SOCCER TEAM'S  
RECORD  
5-9-1 OVERALL  
2-2-1 MPSF**

## Thunder silenced by Atlanta, 4-3

By SCOTT GULBRANSEN  
STAFF WRITER

Everyone in the Las Vegas Valley knew it couldn't last forever. The Las Vegas Thunder finally came back to Earth as they dropped their first game of the season to the Atlanta Knights, the team they had defeated Friday for their home

opener.

Atlanta had just flown in from San Diego where they played the Gulls and seemed to show signs of jetlag as they started slow. But the Knights quickly took advantage of the power-play situation scoring on 3 of 5 opportunities.

"It's very difficult to win when you allow three power-play goals," Thunder head coach Butch Goring said.

The Knights had lost to the Thunder and the Gulls in shootout situations on consecutive nights.



It appeared the game was headed to another shootout until the Knights' Larry DePalma deflected a Stan Drulia shot past Thunder goaltender Fredric Chabot.

The Thunder had one more chance with ten seconds left in the game as Marc Habscheid blasted a shot at Atlanta goaltender J.C. Bergeron who made a fantastic save, sealing the victory for the Knights.

"It was an unbelievable save," Atlanta coach Gene Ubriaco said. "Bergeron held the fort for all of us

all night."

The Knights seemed to gain momentum throughout the game as the Thunder, in contrast, fell apart. They looked tired and worn down by the time the third period came around.

The Thunder will continue their homestand against the Fort Wayne Komets Saturday and Sunday at the Thomas and Mack Center. Game time Saturday is 7:05 p.m. and Sunday at 6:05 p.m.

## Are Spencer and Boney worth watching?

By CHRIS JONES  
SPORTS COLUMNIST

Last year, Las Vegas' pro basketball fans saw Larry Johnson and Clyde Drexler. This year they get to watch Elmore Spencer and Dexter Boney.

Sound like a fair trade?

The Thomas & Mack Center will host its annual NBA exhibition game Wednesday night. This time it's a battle of Los Angeles featuring team turmoil, the Clippers, against the Magic-less (and A.C. Green) Lakers.

This game is more than just a

matchup of what will probably be the two worst teams in the Pacific Division. No, sir, we also get to see two of UNLV's most inept NBA exports duke it out on their old floor.

Elmore Spencer and Dexter Boney. Just reading their names must make you want to rush out to the box office and buy tickets.

Spencer's first professional season came when he was pictured on the cover of the May 17, 1993 issue of *Sports Illustrated*, but even that was a dubious honor since his shot was being sent into the fourth row by the Houston Rockets' Hakeem Olajuwon.

Boney, a free agent who was undrafted after playing with the

in two words: slim & none.

While it's logical for the game's promoters to hype up the idea of some former Rebels coming home, no one in the crowd will say they came just to see Boney or Spencer. If the people who arrange these exhibitions really want to bring out the Rebel fans, schedule the Charlotte Hornets (and Johnson) against the New York Knicks (Greg Anthony) or Atlanta Hawks (Stacey Augmon).

Fans should still support the game. Both teams made the playoffs last season and the Lakers are arguably this city's favorite basketball team. This is Las Vegas' one chance to see the NBA at home this season and it's great that the T & M hosts these exhibitions - just spare us the hype about two guys who have nothing to offer the fans when the regular season starts.



Elmore Spencer



Spencer, a 7-foot center who averaged 14.8 points and 8.1 rebounds in his final collegiate season, was the Clippers first round pick (25th overall) in the 1992 draft. Spencer left UNLV at the same time as Jerry Tarkanian. Both took their acts to the NBA, achieving similar levels of success.

Spencer averaged a whopping 2.4 points per game as a rookie last season. The big man also wiped the glass clean for an amazing 1.4 rebounds. Perhaps the highlight of

Rebels for two seasons, is hoping to catch on with the Lakers. Boney faces tough odds in his quest to wear the purple and gold. While the Lakers no longer sport a backcourt with Magic Johnson, Byron Scott, and Michael Cooper, they do have some talented young guards and spots will be hard to come by. Since players who can't shoot don't usually make NBA teams, Boney's chances of being on the roster for L.A.'s season opener Nov. 5 against the Phoenix Suns can be described



Dexter Boney