

Midnight Madness immobilized

When Rollie Massimino took over as head coach of the UNLV basketball program more than a year ago, he promised to bring new ideas and start new traditions.

One of those ideas was the implementation of Midnight Madness, a celebration of the start of basketball season. The thought was that UNLV would hold a grand celebration in the Thomas & Mack Center counting down towards midnight, Oct. 31, the first day colleges can begin practicing basketball.

It worked last year, complete with fireworks, celebrities and all the pomp and circumstance that is Las Vegas. Among the luminaries: Tommy Lasorda, the Phoenix Suns Gorilla and the late Jim Valvano.

The fact that it coincided with Halloween made the event even more intriguing. Midnight Madness-type events are common at East Coast schools, it was said, and they bring out that ol' college spirit that is lacking at UNLV.

But it did not happen this

year. UNLV's Coordinator of Sports Information Tommy Sheppard said that Las Vegas' first-year professional hockey team played a major part in eliminating



Sports Editor

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night Madness '93. "The Thunder have a home game that same night," he said of the franchise that also calls the T&M home. "Their game will end at about 10 or 10:30 and it would be impossible to turn it over (and lay the basketball court down). That's a four-hour task."

No attempts to find an alternative site were made after the overlap in scheduling was discovered. "You wouldn't want to have it anywhere but the Thomas & Mack," Sheppard said. "You can't have the fireworks anywhere but there."

Apparently, the Thunder could have rescheduled their game to the afternoon to permit crews to set up for basketball. But they did not want to compete with the NFL on television, Sheppard said.

So, the decision to cancel a public Midnight Madness was made by the UNLV Athletic Department.

But it does not make sense. The NCAA revised its rules again this year, allowing teams to begin practice on October 30. The Thunder did not have a home game Friday night so if the UNLV athletic department and Massimino really wanted to continue this "tradition" for the students, it could have been pulled off.

Instead, the Runnin' Rebels officially opened practice early Saturday at midnight, by themselves. No fireworks, celebrities, fans or students. Just the players, coaches and Rollie.

Maybe it is better for the players to practice together officially for the first time by themselves. After all, the previous staff did win a national championship doing things that way.

What was supposed to be a new tradition for the students of UNLV came crashing down like the Dunes tower because of an oversight in scheduling. It seems only fitting. Fitting that this is how the season begins for the most enigmatic Runnin' Rebel team in recent years.

Paul Gutierrez is Sports Editor of The Rebel Yell.

Card

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unimaginative and boring in the last three outings. When you're 1-6 and have the ball in the red zone, down by 20 points, why call a draw? There is no excuse for the poor passing patterns the Rebels were running last Saturday. The coaching staff should be

ashamed.

Overall Grade F Watching the Rebels last Saturday made the Professor realize that basketball season is upon us.

It couldn't come at a better time.

Until next week pupils: "We didn't just play a bad game, we're a bad team." - George Halas

Nightmare

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"The two interceptions killed us," Stockham said. "I thought the defensive back made a great play on one of them. On another, I was lit up from the backside (hit from behind). We were just trying

Intramurals Corner

WITH YOUR HOST: SCOTT HAVERLOCK

Twenty teams from the five flag football divisions have clinched playoff berths entering the final week of the UNLV Intramurals regular season, which concludes Saturday.

Another 11 squads have the potential to qualify for postseason play this week.

A winning percentage of .500 or better (four wins) is required to make the playoffs.

Two post-season tournaments - Women and Men - will be played. The four Men's Divisions will compete in a single elimination, winner-takes-all tourney.

In the Women's Division, Island Girls (6-1), Divas (5-2), Flag This (4-1), the Untouchables (4-1) and Alpha Gamma Delta (4-3) have earned post-season bids.

Sigma Chi (5-2), Sigma Phi Epsilon (5-2), Kappa Sigma (4-2), Lambda Chi Alpha (4-3) and Tau Kappa Epsilon (4-3) have qualified for the playoffs from the Intra-Fraternity Council Division.

C&E and Beta Beta, both 5-1, have clinched playoff berths from the Men's Cherry Division. In the Men's Silver Division, PBNJ (6-1), the Bulldogs (6-1), the Wild Banchees (5-1) and Jaft II (5-2) are in while the Sloppy D's (7-0), the Blue Smurfs (5-2),

to make plays."

It was a record-setting night for both squads. UNLV had its smallest crowd of the year and scored the most points in a losing effort in school history.

the Negro League (5-1) and the Hawaiians (4-2) are Men's Black Division qualifiers.

Both Alpha Tau Omega teams can kiss their playoff aspirations goodbye. Their seasons came to an abrupt halt when the UNLV chapter was temporarily suspended last week due to its participation in the homecoming brawl.

Both ATO squads were on track for playoff bids.

The UNLV Sports Official's Association flag football men and women all-star games will be held Friday at 3 p.m.

The UNLV Intramurals Indoor Soccer Tournament will field 23 teams in three divisions.

The week-long tournament begins Monday.

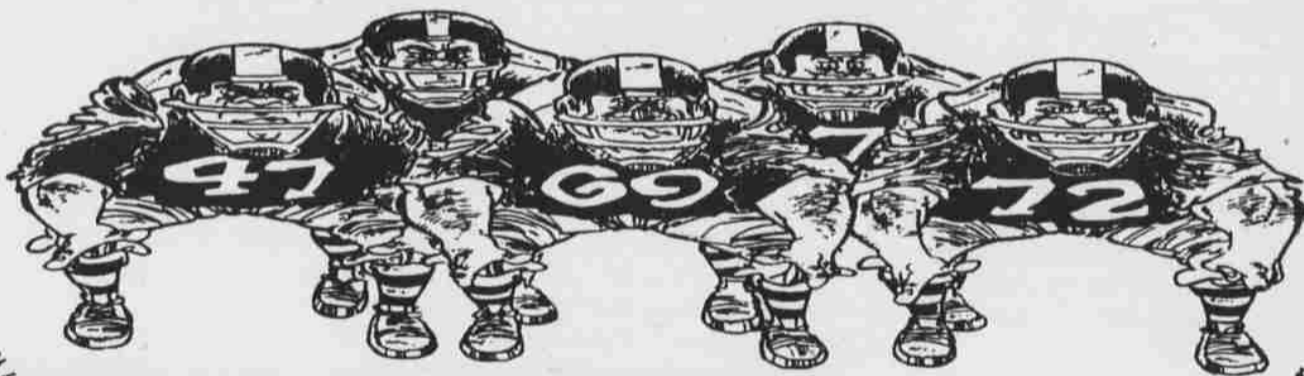
There are 10 Men's Division teams, eight Intra-Fraternity Council teams and five Women's Division squads.

The UNLV Intramurals Badminton Tournament takes place Tuesday, Nov. 16. The one-day tournament will have divisions for men and women.

The mandatory captain's meeting will be Nov. 9 at either 4 p.m. or 6 p.m. in Room 201 of the MSU. The tournament is free.

The Rebels did have a few bright spots. The tandem of Randy Gatewood and Demond Thompkins combined for 250 yards receiving on 14 catches. Omar Love was the leading Rebel rusher with 80 yards.

S.O.A. Flag Football All Star Games



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UNLV Intramurals



Friday, November 5th 3:00 pm
UNLV Intramural Fields

Friday, November 5th 4:00 pm
UNLV Intramural Fields

East

Coach Steve Willis
Kristina Lopez
Crystal Munyon
Kristi Plaso
Shannon DeWitt
Cathy Smith
Kerri Gilligan
Chris Paris
Cheryl Kosewicz
Jennifer Leach

Untouchables
ZTA
ZTA
AGD
AGD
King Jaffey's
Untouchables
Untouchables
Untouchables
Untouchables

West

Coach Chris White
Pam Andres
Dayle Iramina
Cheryl Ahuna
Suzy Sasinowski
ShaRonda Ramos
Kennita Chase
Kymm Gay
Molly Gibson
Sara Yohnka

Divas of Destruction
Island Girls
Island Girls
Island Girls
ADPi
Divas of Destruction
Divas of Destruction
Flag This
Flag This
Flag This

East

Coach Mike Taylor
Kurt Wohlrab
Beau Free
Jamie McNally
Wesley Wong
Erik Selzer
Kirk Pederson
Steve Chiovare
Brett Conetta
Erik Boal
Rhead Kinder
Kage Snyder
Thai Johns
Matt Rzconca

TKE
Bulldogs
Bulldogs
Jaft II
Free Willies
TKE
SAE
Sloppy D's
Sloppy D's
Falcons
Lambda Chi
Gators
Sigma Pi
Sigma Chi

West

Coach Anthony Paul
Doug Brustman
Jeff Woods
Ed Gentry
Jeff Bennett
Aaron Payne
Shawn Jackson
Melvin Rushing
Danny Laferriere
Kurt Umehara
Dan Friedner
Eric Molfetta
Chad Ratliff
Mike Little

Negro League
C and E
PB n J
PB n J
Blue Smurfs
Blue Smurfs
Negro League
Negro League
Hawaiians
Hawaiians
Wild Banchees
Wild Banchees
Sig Ep
Kappa Sig

For more information contact Campus Recreation MSU 111 895-3221.