

Commentary



Manon Rheaume

Just One of the Guys

Go ahead. Call it a gimmick. Call it a fad, a publicity stunt or even a novelty.

But don't say she's out there for the money or the hype.

"I'm out there to play a hockey game and I'm a player like any other player."

Manon Rheaume said after starting at goaltender for the Las Vegas Thunder Tuesday night. "My job is to win the game, and I don't think of all that other stuff."

But it's hard not to think of all that other stuff.

Rheaume, 22, made history as the first female professional hockey player when she started an exhibition game for the NHL's Tampa Bay Lightning two years ago. She only saw her second action of this season against the Houston Aeros Tuesday night. Her first action was a relief effort against San Diego Oct. 29, registering five saves in 13 minutes.

But against the Aeros, Rheaume gave up three scores in two periods before Thunder coach/GM Bob Strumm pulled her in favor of Pokey Reddick with Houston leading 3-1.

"I thought she played a helluva game," Strumm said. "But I wasn't sure how many (scores) we were going to get."

The Thunder ended up losing to the Aeros, 4-2.

Strumm put his decision to replace Rheaume in baseball terms - it was like going with your starting pitcher for six innings before bringing in your reliever.

"I thought she made some big, big saves for us," Strumm added. "I was thinking about a 50-50 split when the game started, 30 minutes and 30 minutes. But I thought she played so well that we went the two periods (40 minutes) with her."

Rheaume had nine saves on 12 shots by the Aeros in her attempt to become the first woman to win an International

Please see Corner—16

In This Corner



PAUL GUTIERREZ

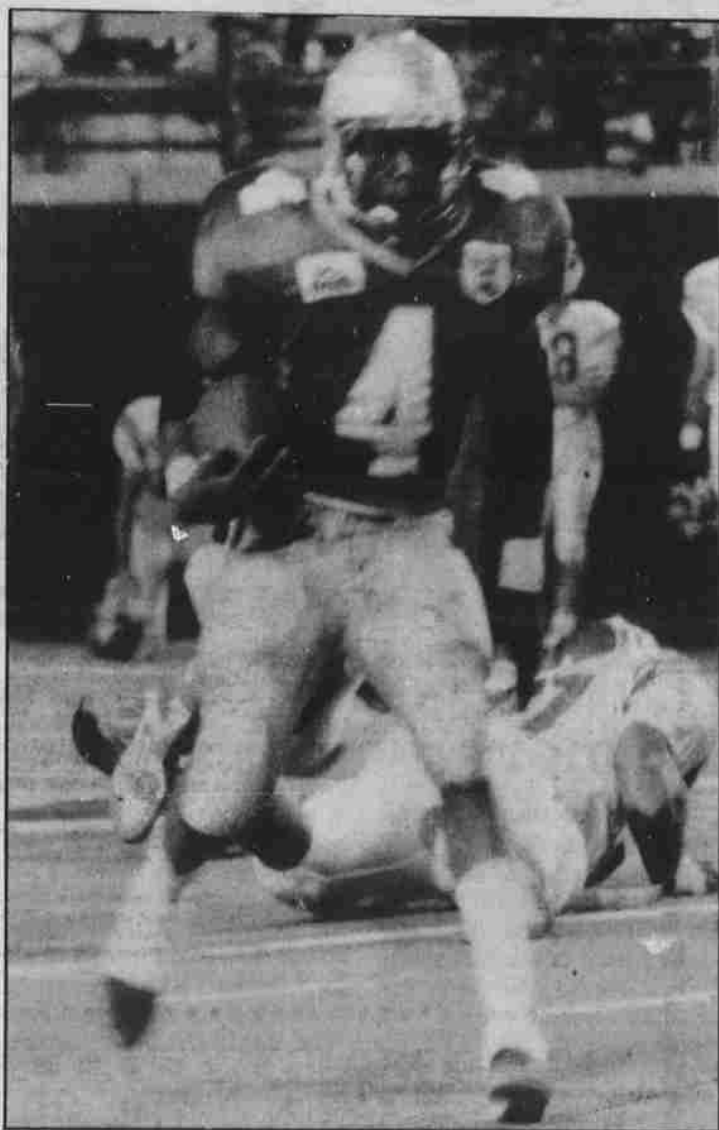


PHOTO BY HYUN-HO HAN

Running back Omar Love has been suspended for the rest of the regular season for breaking team rules.

Turnovers, Penalties Burn Rebels at USL

Football: UNLV needs help to reach Las Vegas Bowl

BY KEVIN LEWIS
STAFF WRITER

It wasn't that second serving of Cajun gumbo that gave the Throwin' Rebels heartburn.

The cause of UNLV's gastric indigestion was a fourth quarter interception that led to Southwestern Louisiana's dramatic 28-27 win Saturday at Cajun Field in Lafayette, La.

With 5:54 to play, USL free safety Brian Jackson separated Daemon Keener from Jared Brown's third-down pass. The deflection was caught by linebacker Patrick Alexander for the interception. And with 2:59 remaining, quarterback Jake Delhomme threw an 8-yard touchdown to Donald Richard to give the hosts an interesting dilemma, kick the ball for the tie, or go for two and the lead.

A roughing-the-passer penalty on the TD against the Rebels moved the ball to the one and a

half-yard line for the point-after, allowing the Cajuns to seal the game with a 2-point conversion pass to Kenyon Cotton.

The game opened with Rebel coach Jeff Horton continuing his gambling ways on special teams with an onside kick by Brad Faunce that traveled only nine yards in the light drizzle. USL capitalized on the opportunity by marching 44 yards on five plays with Delhomme throwing an 11-yard TD to Richard.

"If I had to do it again, there's no doubt that I would," said Horton, whose team now must beat Nevada-Reno (4-0, 8-1) Nov. 19 and cross its fingers for a favorable scenario to reach the Las Vegas Bowl. UNLV needs to finish in a three-way tie with UNR and USL to get the bowl bid based on Big West tiebreakers. "We needed to loosen up ourselves. It just didn't work."

Credit the Rebels for not packing it in after trailing 17-0 and taking a 27-20 lead with 7:31 to play.

The Ragin' Cajuns were seemingly shell-shocked after punter Mike Jones' knee was ruled down at the Cajun 21-yard line after

Please see USL—18

Swingin' Rebels Ready to Battle Top Teams

Golf: No. 3 UNLV among eight of top 10 ranked teams in South Carolina

BY JOHN SANTANA
STAFF WRITER

This weekend's *Golf World* Intercollegiate Invitational in Hilton Head, S.C., almost seems

like a preview of the NCAA Championships.

That's because the field for the Invitational, which opens Friday and ends Sunday, features eight of the top 10 teams from the *Golf World* top 20, including No. 3 UNLV. Sixteen of the 18 teams in Hilton Head are ranked in the top 20.

Among those competing this weekend on the 6,651-yard Arthur Hills Course at Palmetto Dunes include top ranked Stanford, No. 2 Oklahoma State, No. 4 Arizona State, No. 5 Florida

and No. 8 Georgia Tech.

"Our whole schedule's that way," UNLV coach Dwaine Knight said. "Everywhere we play the field is loaded with top 20 teams. But that's okay because it helps us prepare for the NCAA's."

While the team competition should be tough, the battle for medalist honors should also be a scramble. Top contenders include UNLV's Chris Riley and Gilberto Morales, Stanford freshman Tiger Woods and Stewart Cink and Jason Walters of Georgia Tech.

"I think Chris is playing ex-

ceptionally well," Knight said. "He has a chance to win any tournament he's in. I think Gilberto is close to winning his first college tournament. His game is really coming around."

The Rebels will be competing for the first time since enduring one of their worst performances of the season at the Jerry Pate Intercollegiate in Birmingham, Ala., on Oct. 24-25. They finished eighth out of 12 teams and shot a season-high 882.

Please see Golf—16

Lady Rebels split, men win lone meet in openers

BY SEAN DEFRANK
STAFF WRITER

The UNLV swim teams began the 1994-95 season with a sweep of Cal-State Northridge at Buchanan Natatorium last weekend.

The women posted a 180-92 victory with sophomore Nicole Hunscher leading the way. Hunscher captured the 50-yard freestyle (25.38 seconds), the 200-yard freestyle (2:00.72) and the 100-yard butterfly (1:00.31).

Senior Dawn Emery won the 100-yard backstroke (58.84) and the 200-yard backstroke (2:07.24).

It was a busy weekend for the women as they also competed against Arizona State University, losing 179-119.

There was a positive outcome for UNLV as senior Julie Mroziak won the 200-yard freestyle (1:54.74) and the 200-yard backstroke (2:06.84).

Mroziak displayed the form

Please see Swim—18



PHOTO BY LESLIE LITCHFIELD

The Lady Rebels beat Cal State Northridge but fell to Arizona State