

Editorial

UNLV Students and Faculty Must Attend Game

The biggest football game in the history of UNLV is only two days away. It is the annual meeting of the Rebels and the UNR Wolf Pack.

This year, for the first time in 10 years, the game has championship implications for UNLV. The Rebels, with a victory, would win a share of the Big West Conference crown.

Just 11 months after the faculty senate suggested that football be cancelled, the team has rebounded under first-year coach Jeff Horton. *The Rebel Yell* would like to salute Horton and his staff for coming into a bad situation and turning things around so quickly.

The students of UNLV and the faculty and staff need to lend their support to our football program and attend Saturday's game. For UNLV to win, the crowd must be loud and rowdy. The emotion that will be in the stands will carry on to the field and be a determining factor.

The students and staff of UNLV have been complacent too long. Excuses of the stadium being too far away will not cut it this weekend. With UNR bringing 10,000 of their own fans, UNLV must counter with 20,000 fans to have home field advantage. This team has played hard all season long and deserves a decent crowd to play in front of. If the fans do not show up for this game, the relationship between UNLV football and the people of Las Vegas will be on unstable ground.

The Rebel Yell challenges all UNLV students and faculty to attend this game to cheer our team on to victory and a Big West Championship. We have had four miserable years marked by one scandal after another. We can finally put that all behind us with a win over UNR.

So we encourage you to bring your friends, family and co-workers out to Sam Boyd Stadium this Saturday to root the Rebels to victory in the program's biggest game in history. It will be a genuine college atmosphere that everyone will truly enjoy.

Go Rebels!

The above is the opinion of *The Rebel Yell*. All other inclusions on the opinion page reflect the opinions of the author or artist indicated and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of *The Rebel Yell* staff.

UNR will Succumb to Horton and UNLV

It is the fight between good and evil.

It is the old guard versus the new.

I am, of course, speaking of this Saturday's Battle for Nevada. It is the annual meeting of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and the University of Nevada, Reno. This is not a meeting of the minds; it is a meeting of two football teams fighting for the pride of their state.

This year, this subdued rivalry turns into the real thing. No longer is it a basketball school (UNLV) versus a Division 1-AA powerhouse (UNR). This time, these teams have reasons to hate each other.

The first reason is obvious—UNR is jealous of UNLV. UNR may have the rich history of a 100-year-old school, but the students and alumni resent UNLV. Why you ask? It's simple: UNLV has grown into a first class university in only 20 years. More money and prestige has come to UNLV in the past decade, and UNR doesn't like that. To top it off, UNLV is in the most exciting city in the western United States. WolfPack fans may be loyal, but they realize that Reno is no Las Vegas. It is not the biggest little city in the world. It's just a tiny town with slot machines.

The second reason this rivalry has grown over the past two years is that both schools share the same conference. Before 1992, UNR was a Big Sky opponent that didn't really matter. Sure, people tried to turn it into a rivalry, but it never really went anywhere. UNLV was too busy worrying about the NCAA basketball tourney to legitimize a football rivalry with a little school in the north of the Silver State.

That all changed when UNR was admitted to the Big West starting in 1992. Now, the game meant something. But things

Straight From the Gully



SCOTT GULBRANSEN

really didn't change. UNR dominated, but no one really cared. After all, UNLV was a basketball school.

The best day in Nevada college football history occurred on Nov. 23, 1993. That's the day when UNLV hired the best young college football coach in the country. To top it off, that coach, Jeff Horton, left the blue and white

of UNR for the scarlet and gray of UNLV.

When Horton left UNR, the rivalry became real. The man, handpicked by Chris Ault to bring UNR football into the 21st century, defected to take over a program in disarray. How could he be so disloyal to UNR and Heir Ault?

A sudden tiff occurred (instigated by Ault), which set the stage for a true rivalry. Two schools which dislike each other, two coaches (one who felt betrayed and one who felt the weight of an over-the-hill overachiever lifted off his shoulders) fighting for a conference championship and students at both universities that, with rising tuition costs and budget cuts, need something to feel good about.

Even if both teams were 0-9, this game would be big. But a berth to the Las Vegas Bowl and a conference championship hang in the balance. It now becomes the biggest game in the history of both schools.

Who will win? If you just looked at win-loss records, you might think UNR. But in a game like this, the past means nothing. Emotion and hype take over, and it becomes a battle for pride.

The fact is, UNLV will win this game. The Rebels will win, because good always triumphs over evil. The guy in the white hat is Horton. The mean, nasty and evil man in the black hat is Ault.

Why is Ault considered the "bad guy" in Southern Nevada?

There are several good reasons why Ault is disliked in Las Vegas. First, Ault thinks he is a football god. But, outside of Nevada, no one really knows who the man is. There are reasons to believe that Ault takes himself too seriously. In this year's UNR football media guide, you won't find a picture of Chris Ault. Instead, every "vision" of Ault is represented by a painting worthy of velvet. Apparently, King Ault commissioned a painter to record his return to coaching. Rumor has it, when UNR arrives in Las Vegas, the school has to order a separate room for Ault's ego.

Second, Ault left UNLV high and dry when he turned down the school's offer to succeed Jim Strong as football coach. UNLV, with its back against the wall, trusted Ault and believed he would accept the position. Instead, Ault waited until the last minute, probably hoping to ruin recruiting for UNLV, to announce he would stay in Reno rather than accept the challenge of building another program.

As it turned out, Ault got the short end of the stick. Horton wasn't afraid to accept the challenge, and his gamble has already paid off big. While Ault rots in the obscurity of the Big West conference, Horton will be smiling for national television audiences, as his team moves to the Western Athletic Conference in 1996.

UNR may be the better team right now, but it won't matter. Good will defeat evil, and the world will be a better place knowing Chris Ault will return to Earth.

Final score: UNLV 34, UNR 31 on a Nick Garritano 42-yard field goal.

—Scott Gulbransen is the Opinion Editor at *The Rebel Yell*.

Vandals Spoil Dorm Experience

One aspect of dorm life I haven't focused on is vandalism. Living with 200 people seems to generate this problem 200 times more than it should. When an area of the dorm is vandalized, everyone is responsible for the damages, to pay for them when they must be paid for, or, to live with them until they can be fixed.

For instance, after any given weekend (because the cleaning staff only operates during the week), the residents of any dorm are riding an elevator out of *The Shining*. The day I write this, there are candy wrappers stuck to the floor with an adhesive known as taco sauce. The taco sauce has dried into a film of black, sticky gunk on the floor of the elevator. The control panel is covered with the dried slim of a mashed peach, and there are foot prints on the walls.

What kind of dumb ass thinks this destruction is a good idea? Certainly, no one wants to ride

Smart Remark



ANDREW MARX

in an elevator where every surface contains food particles. But if that holds true, then there is an obvious fallacy here. If no one thinks destroying the elevators is a good idea, why does it happen every weekend?

Other frequent disturbances in the dorm are fire alarms.

Someone pulls those small red levers located on every floor of every building, maybe out of boredom, or curiosity, or maybe because they are drunk, and at that point, don't know any better. Most residents hate you, and so do the RA's, the police officers and anyone else who is disrupted by false fire alarms.

There are instances when a fire alarm is sounded "accidentally"—because a resident set it off by smoking or doing something else in their dorm room. This is okay, because at least there is someone to yell at.

It is not okay to destroy property that you share with 200 other residents. That means don't

leave garbage on the stairs, or break the laundry machines or pee in the elevator. Unfortunately, it doesn't look like the destructive people are going to stop.

For instance, perhaps it would save the school money by installing cameras in certain pivotal areas of the dorm. The worry here is that these might also fall victims to destruction. And video cameras are expensive. But in the long run, are they that much more expensive than fixing the broken elevators every day? And if a person were caught pulling a fire alarm, hey, prosecute them.

Not every resident is to blame for the destruction, either to the elevators or anywhere else. But the fact is, that's what sucks about dorm life. Whether or not we are to blame, we must all take the responsibility for the actions of a few.

—Andrew Marx is an opinion columnist at *The Rebel Yell*.

The Rebel Yell

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS PHONE (702) 895-3878
4505 MARYLAND PARKWAY FAX (702) 895-1515
LAS VEGAS, NV 89154-2011

JAMES EMBREE
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