

Commentary

A Stepping Stone Goes Unturned

Shame on you. The greatest UNLV football season in ten years came to a triumphant climax with the Rebels' 52-24 dismantling of Central Michigan in Las Vegas Bowl III Dec. 15.

Yet, something wasn't right.

It took one quick scan of the interior of Sam Boyd Stadium to figure out the problem. Nobody in Las Vegas seemed to care.

Okay, I apologize to those few who braved a little bit of cold to inspire their team in the big game. Those who did attend cheered aggressively for the Rebels before bringing down the goalposts for the second time this season. To those few, I applaud you.

But the majority of UNLV students and faculty, who declined to partake in the festive atmosphere surrounding the nationally-televised contest, missed what could be a major stepping stone for Jeff Horton's Throwin' Rebels.

Depending on who you ask, the attendance ranged from the 17,562 announced at the game, to the 12,122 a source close to the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority gave as the actual turnstile count.

Considering that the first two Las Vegas Bowls attracted 15,476 and 15,508 fans, respectively, without UNLV being involved, the dismal attendance this time was magnified.

What does Horton and his squad have to do before they receive the community support they deserve, win the national championship?

At least ESPN spared Las Vegas from further humility. How many times have you watched a college sporting event on television without seeing any shots of the crowd?

But that is exactly what ESPN did, and I thank them for that. While those attending were into the game, a shot of the



A Rebel's View
SEAN DEFRANK

"crowd" would only have made Las Vegas look like a joke.

Instead, ESPN did the honorable thing. They chose to focus on the game, a game which resulted in 24 departing seniors going out as champions.

If only people in Las Vegas could have seen what people around the country did.

If only people in Las Vegas could have seen the performance put on by senior wide receiver Henry Bailey. Bailey, a four-year starter who ended his college career as UNLV's all-time leader in all-purpose yardage, receptions and touchdown catches, saved his best for last.

With 79 yards rushing, 101 yards receiving and four touchdowns, Bailey led the show. But he was hardly a one-man band, not on a night in which the Rebels gained 589 yards of total offense.

If only people in Las Vegas could have witnessed the UNLV defense. It was a defense that forced four turnovers, resulting in 24 Rebel points.

That's the thing though. Las Vegas had every opportunity to witness the whipping. It had every chance to come support Horton and his team.

For a city that embellishes winners, the success of the 1994 UNLV football team should have been embraced by the community with open arms. Why it wasn't is a mystery to me.

With a move to the Western Athletic Conference in 1996, UNLV athletics will take a major step upward. The Las Vegas Bowl win served as a move in that direction. It's just a shame that such a stepping stone had to remain unturned for most of Las Vegas.

—Sean DeFrank is a sportswriter at The Rebel Yell.

Lady Rebels Host SJSU, Hawaii

The UNLV women's basketball team, 3-9 overall, 2-3 in Big West play, will host a pair of games at the South Gym beginning Friday.

The Lady Rebels will face San Jose State Friday night at 7:30 before meeting Hawaii Sunday at 2 p.m.

UNLV leads the all-time series against SJSU, 20-1. The Lady Spartans enter Friday's game with an overall mark of 3-12, 1-5 in BWC play while the Rainbow Wahine, 4-8, 2-3, play New Mexico State Friday before facing the Lady Rebels.

UNLV leads the all-time series against Hawaii 29-5.

Hawaii won the regular sea-

son crown a year ago before UNLV beat the Rainbow Wahine to win the Big West Tourney title.

Since *The Rebel Yell* last went to press, the Lady Rebels have gone 2-6. But UNLV has won two of its last three games, including an 81-77 win over Cal State Fullerton and a 74-68 victory over New Mexico State.

Gwynn Hobbs is UNLV's leading scorer, averaging 15.5 ppg and 5.9 assists per outing.

Tracy Titus is averaging 13.9 ppg and 7.6 rebounds.

Angie White is the team's third-leading scorer with a 12 ppg average. She scored a career-high 20 points in the NMSU win.



Gwynn Hobbs

UNLV Sports Schedule

A listing of sporting events

A listing of events featuring Rebel sports teams and UNLV facilities

Today

Runnin' Rebels at UNR.

Friday

Las Vegas Thunder vs. Phoenix, International Hockey League, Thomas & Mack Center 7 p.m.

Lady Rebel basketball vs. San Jose State, South Gym 7:30 p.m.

Saturday

Thunder vs. Minnesota, IHL, Thomas & Mack Center 7 p.m.
Rebel swimming at dual meet vs. UC Irvine, Fresno State.

Runnin' Rebels at Utah State.

Sunday

Lady Rebel basketball vs. Hawaii, South Gym 2 p.m.

Monday

Intramurals racquetball.

Tuesday

Thunder vs. Chicago, IHL, Thomas & Mack Center 7 p.m.

Wednesday

Intramurals Schick 3-on-3 basketball tourney meeting, MSU 201 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Jan. 26

Runnin' Rebels vs. Pacific, Thomas & Mack Center 7:35 p.m.

Jan. 27

Hustlin' Rebels baseball vs. Loyola Marymount, Wilson Stadium 3:05 p.m.

Intramurals Schick 3-on-3 basketball tourney.

Thunder vs. Houston, IHL, Thomas & Mack Center 7 p.m.

Lady Rebel basketball at Pacific.

Lady Rebel tennis at Cal.

Jan. 28

Hustlin' Rebels vs. Loyola Marymount, Wilson Stadium 1:05 p.m.

Runnin' Rebels vs. San Jose State, Thomas & Mack Center 7:35 p.m.

Lady Rebel tennis at Stanford.
Rebel swimming at Washington.

Jan. 29

Hustlin' Rebels vs. Loyola Marymount, Wilson Stadium 1:05 p.m.

Lady Rebel basketball at UNR.
Rebel swimming at Washington.

Jan. 30

Runnin' Rebels at Long Beach State.

Feb. 1

Intramurals basketball meeting, MSU 201 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Feb. 2

Runnin' Rebels at UC Irvine.
Lady Rebel tennis at Rolex Indoor Nationals, Dallas, Texas.

Feb. 3

Hustlin' Rebels vs. New Mexico, Wilson Stadium 3:05 p.m.

Lady Rebel basketball vs. UC Irvine, South Gym 7:30 p.m.

Intramurals SOA pre-season basketball tournament.

Lady Rebel tennis at Rolex Indoor Nationals, Dallas, Texas.

Feb. 4

Hustlin' Rebels vs. New Mexico, Wilson Stadium 1:05 p.m.

Rebelswimming hosts 13th Annual UNLV Alumni Meet, Buchanan Natatorium 2 p.m.

Runnin' Rebels at Cal State Fullerton.

Lady Rebel tennis at Rolex Indoor Nationals, Dallas, Texas.

Feb. 5

Hustlin' Rebels vs. New Mexico, Wilson Stadium 1:05 p.m.

Lady Rebel basketball vs. Cal State Fullerton, South Gym 2 p.m.

Lady Rebel tennis at Rolex Indoor Nationals, Dallas, Texas.

Feb. 6

Intramurals basketball begins.

Feb. 7

Thunder vs. Milwaukee, IHL, Thomas & Mack Center 7 p.m.



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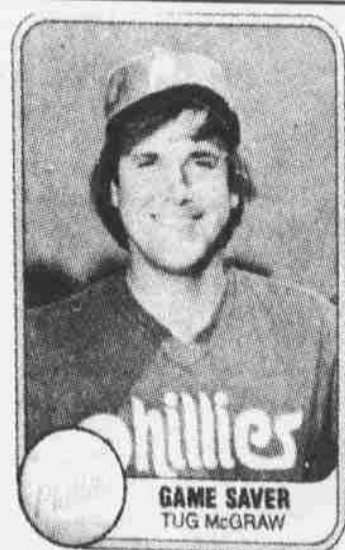
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Cards and Collecting



The 1948 Bowman set was the first post-World War II football set, and only the second gum card edition devoted entirely to football ... Although some collectors dislike the small black-and-white photos, the '48s are notable for including 10 rookie cards of Hall of Fame players, as well as most of the other pro stars of the period, including PAUL GOVERNALI ... Paul, an All-America halfback at Columbia, won the Maxwell Trophy in 1942, finishing second for the Heisman ... After serving in the Marines, he joined the Boston Yanks and had a good rookie season ... Boston traded him to his hometown New York Giants in the '47 season, and he is pictured here at the Polo Grounds ... The card is worth about \$25 today; the set, \$6,000 ...



This 1981 card of TUG MCGRAW calls him the Game Saver, an appropriate title after his heroics in the 1980 World Series ... In the fifth game he struck out the final batter with the bases loaded to preserve a 4-3 win ... In the sixth game, Frank got out of bases-loaded jams in the last two innings to give the Phils the title ... Tug also is fondly remembered by Mets fans ... In 1973, his "You Gotta Believe!" cry rallied New York to a come-from-behind division title, as McGraw saved 11 games and won four that September ... The card, #657 in the '81 Fleer set, is a bargain for Phillies fanatics at 50 cents or less ...

Cash in on the collecting craze with Phil Erwin's booklet, *Sports Card Investing for Fun and Profit!* Send \$3 (check or money order payable to King Features) with a self-addressed, stamped (52 cents), No. 10 envelope to: Card Investing, P.O. Box 5669, Riverton, NJ 08077.