

'Pack Snaps Streak Against Lady Rebels

Basketball: UNLV hosts UCI, Cal State Fullerton this weekend

BY KEVIN C. LEWIS
STAFF REPORTER

The UNLV's women's basketball team was never aware of the deal UNR struck with the devil.

What else could explain the Lady Rebels' sinister 89-85 road loss on Super Bowl Sunday which snapped their season-high four-game winning streak?

The Wolf Pack (1-8, 3-13) also stopped their 29-game conference loss streak, that dated back to March, 1993.

The Lady Rebels trailed 48-41 at the half and fought back to tie the game at 55-all early in the fourth quarter with balanced scoring from the starters.

Senior guard Gwynn Hobbs paced the effort with 17 points

and 10 assists. Forward LeAnn Kazmer scored 19 while center Tracy Titus had 16, forward Loriessa Randle scored 14 and guard Angie White had 13.

UNLV's defense was stymied by UNR's forwards, Ieesha Donadelle, 7 for 11 field goal attempts for 20 points and Shawna Franceschini's 11 for 15 shooting for 24 points.

Donadelle had averaged 8.1 points before Sunday's game.

The Lady Rebels were whistled for 23 personal fouls compared to only 13 for the hosts at

Lawlor Events Center.

UNLV shot 14-16 from the line while UNR hit 22 of 31 attempts.

Wolf Pack guard Carissa Meyer, aided by 11 of 14 free throw shooting, finished with 15 points.

In Friday's game at Pacific, the Lady Rebels put their offense in gear in the second half by eliminating turnovers and the domination of the boards by Titus. The Lady Rebels built a 66-55 lead off of an 11-0 scoring run that saw Pacific's offense go five minutes without scoring.

Titus had game honors with

24 points and 14 rebounds while Hobbs scored 18, including four 3-pointers.

The Lady Rebels face UC Irvine Friday night at 7:30 in the South Gym. The first place Ant-eaters (7-2 in conference, 10-6 overall) lost Sunday to UC Santa Barbara, 62-56.

On Sunday at 2 p.m., the Lady Rebels host Cal State Fullerton. The Titans (7-8, 4-4) are led by center Koko Lahanas, the Big West scoring leader averaging 26.4 ppg. Lahanas is also second in the nation in scoring.

No. 32 Rebels Ready to Defend Big West Conference Title

Tennis: Men open season with win at Loyola, losses at UCLA, UCI

BY MICHAEL MELISSA
STAFF REPORTER

The best adjective for the UNLV men's tennis team is solid.

Solid like a brick wall, a Mack truck, or an oak tree. Any simile that refers to something being solid fits for this team.

"On paper we are stronger than last season," coach Larry Easley said.

As coach, Easley developed a team that last season won the

Big West Conference, and is currently the No. 32 ranked squad in the nation.

"We had no business winning the conference last season," Easley said.

The Rebels were seeded third in the NCAA tournament, yet lost in the first round to Cal-Berkeley.

Since this team is fairly young, with Rob Norton being the only senior on the squad, Easley has worked to create a team unity that would strengthen the foundation he built the team on.

"This team is not as seasoned as some of the other teams in the conference," Easley said, "and many of (our players) are lacking in the experience department since we do not have any professional players.

"We'll get 'em going though."

Easley remains optimistic on his team's chances in the Big West Conference.

"We definitely have a shot at a conference title, and a shot at a top 25 ranking," he said. "It depends on how UC Irvine does. They have a Norwegian guy who has been on the professional circuit a year. They probably have the edge."

The rest of the conference also looks pretty even, Easley said. Nobody is going to win this hands down.

With only one senior gone from last year's championship team, the core of this team is basically unchanged. Roger Pettersson, who was All-American last season and is currently ranked No. 41 in the nation, is the brick with which the rest of the team is built upon.

The star power of this team is evenly distributed, Easley said. To go along with Pettersson are sophomores Tim Blenkiron and Luke Smith who make up a

strong supporting cast. With this being a fairly young squad, the team unity Easley is looking for will probably be there for the next two years.

New to the club are two junior college transfers, Julius Pohjola and Thomas Schrader. Filling out the roster are four freshman, two of whom are local products, Daniel Maccanello and Brett Taitz, along with Gregory Goldberg and John Polanco.

The first test for this team came Friday, at Loyola Marymount, where UNLV swept its hosts, 7-0. Blenkiron, Norton, Pettersson, Pohjola, Smith and Taitz all came away with victories.

Pettersson continued his tennis wizardry Saturday as the Rebels faced No. 4 UCLA. Against 22nd-ranked Robert Janecek, Pettersson went three sets and came out with the win, 6-3, 4-6, 6-4. That proved to be the only strike against an otherwise potent Bruin team. The Rebels fell

6-1.

It was the rematch the Big West Conference had been waiting for on Sunday, as the Rebels travelled up I-5, from UCLA, to meet UC Irvine. Once again Pettersson proved too tough for his opponent as he beat UCI's TOP GUY IN STRAIGHT SETS. Also getting wins were Blenkiron, Norton and the doubles team of Blenkiron/Norton.

UNLV lost the match 4-3, when it could not pull out another doubles win. With the singles even at three games apiece, it fell on the hands, or rackets, of the doubles squad. The Rebels lost two of three, giving UCI the conference win.

"To tell you the truth, I thought we going to be blown out when Irvine brought out their pro guy and a couple of other guys in the lineup," Easley said. "I was pleasantly surprised with our performance."

The Rebels host UNR Friday at 1 p.m.

RECYCLE



Player of the Week





Greg Shaw
Advanced - Racquetball

Sponsored by Pizza Hut - Maryland Pkwy



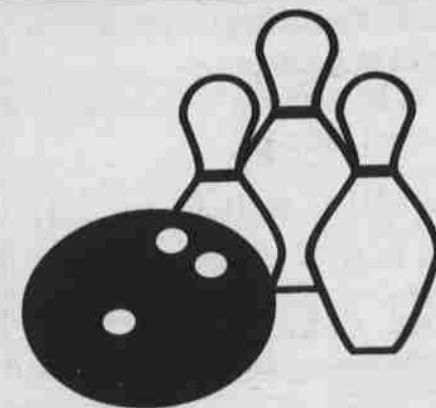
SPOT SHOT CONTEST

Thursday, February 2nd
9:00 pm - North Gym
Entry Fee - \$2.00
Best Time wins a gift certificate from Foot Locker



Racquetball Champions

Advanced - Greg Shaw
Intermediate - Brian Stauffer
IFC - Dan Fogg ATO
Women - Kathy Link



Intramural Bowling

Individual or Team
4 Persons per Team
3 Games per Bowler

Mandatory Captain's Information Meeting
Wednesday, February 15th at 4:00 pm or 6:00 pm
in MSU - Lounge 201
Entry Fee - \$5.00 per bowler (includes shoes)