

Rebels Tame Cougars

BY SEAN DEFRANK
STAFF REPORTER

Baseball Benefit Set For Friday

The first Diamond All-Star Evening, a night of entertainment benefitting the UNLV baseball team, will take place at Artemus Ham Concert Hall Friday at 8 p.m.

The event, put on by the Hustlin' Rebels Dugout Club, will honor San Francisco Giants' third baseman and former Rebel baseball great Matt Williams, along with UNLV coach Fred Dallimore.

Headlining the evening are entertainers Robert Goulet and Tony Orlando. Music will be supplied by the Desert Inn Orchestra.

Also scheduled to appear are Gov. Bob Miller, as well as former NBA player and UNLV basketball star Sidney Green.

At the end of the evening, a special Extra Innings party will commence, including a

verbal and silent auction.

Items to be auctioned include an all-expense paid fishing trip to Alaska, a New York travel package hosted by former Oakland Raiders' linebacker Phil Villapiano, a San Francisco travel package hosted by Williams and many memorabilia items.

Tickets are \$20, \$25 and \$100, and are on sale at the Thomas & Mack Center and Ham Hall. Tickets can also be purchased by calling 895-3801 or 895-3900.

All \$20 seats can be purchased on a two-for-one basis by all UNLV students and faculty.

For more information, call Bob Feeney at 434-4112 or 599-3721.

—Sean DeFrank



PHOTO BY HYUN-HO HAN

Willie Mosher turns the deuce against BYU.

The UNLV baseball team continued its early-season roll by taking two of three games from Brigham Young last weekend at Earl E. Wilson Stadium.

The Hustlin' Rebels (8-4) won Friday's game 6-2 and split Saturday's doubleheader, winning the opener, 10-6, before dropping the nightcap, 7-1.

In Saturday's nightcap, BYU pitcher Mike Nielson threw a five-hit complete game to avoid the sweep. Nielson (1-1) struck out eight and walked five.

The performance overshadowed Tom LaRosa's outing for the Rebels. LaRosa, a sophomore out of Green Valley High, pitched 6 1/3 innings of no-hit ball.

"We just didn't swing the bats," UNLV coach Fred Dallimore said. "Tommy pitched pretty good. We just didn't get him any support."

The Cougars broke through with five runs on two hits in the seventh inning. They won the game despite finishing with four hits.

LaRosa (0-2) began the seventh by walking designated hitter Shane Wilson. After a strikeout, LaRosa hit Cougar shortstop Eric McDowell with a 1-2 pitch.

Catcher Jared Bills then followed with a double to the center-field fence, the first hit allowed by LaRosa, to drive in one. After another walk, second baseman D.G. Nelson hit a two-run double down the right-field line.

The big inning concluded with a sacrifice fly, followed by a wild pitch which UNLV catcher Travis McClendon threw into left field trying to nail Nelson, thus allowing the final run to score.

LaRosa allowed five runs, four earned, on two hits in seven innings. He struck out six, but was done in by lack of control, walking seven, while hitting two.

"I had a lot of walks, which

really hurt me," LaRosa said. "That's what really set up the big inning for them. If I'd have cut down those balls, then they might not have scored at all. It comes down to my fault."

In Saturday's first game, the offense exploded for 21 hits in the 10-6 victory.

Center fielder Scott Vincent went 5-6, with two doubles, along with three RBIs to pace the offense.

"The best pitch I saw all day, I got out on," Vincent said. "I saw the ball a lot better today."

Stacy Kleiner, Ryan Hankins and Ryan Plughoff had three hits apiece for the Rebels.

Second baseman Willie Mosher, who entered the game batting .179, had two hits, including his first home run, and scored three times.

First baseman Brian Anthony hit his fourth home run of the

season, his third to the opposite field.

UNLV jumped out to a 7-0 lead after five innings, but BYU came back to cut the lead to 8-6 entering the bottom of the eighth.

Vincent's two-run double in the eighth provided the final margin.

Denny DeMartini gained the win for the Rebels. He had a no-hitter through four innings before faltering in the middle innings.

DeMartini (2-2) pitched six innings, allowing three runs, all earned, on six hits. He struck out four and walked one.

Mike Bauder, a sophomore out of Western High in Las Vegas, pitched the final 1 1/3 innings to earn his first save.

In Friday's game, Nate Yeskie went the distance, scattering 12 hits, in the 6-2 victory.

Yeskie (3-0) gave up two earned

runs, while striking out eight and walking one.

The sophomore right-hander from Carson City, Nev., has now struck out 31 batters in 31 1/3 innings, both team highs, while walking only four.

"I think I'm concentrating a lot more," Yeskie said about the difference between last season and this season. "Last year, I came out and had to realize the hard way that everybody can hit at this level."

The Rebels had nine hits, two each by Hankins, McClendon and Hank Crosby.

One of Hankins' hits was a home run, his second of the season. The freshman third baseman leads the Rebels in batting with a .407 average, and is tied with Vincent for the RBI lead with 15.

UNLV also stole five bases, two

by McClendon. The Rebels concluded the series with 28 stolen bases in 33 attempts for the season. UNLV has also outthundered its opponents 19-10.

The Hustlin' Rebels host the 16th Annual UNLV/Coors Desert Classic this weekend at Wilson Stadium. The tournament, which begins today, concludes with Sunday's 3:30 p.m. championship game.

The tournament involves UNLV, No. 23 Georgia Tech, Utah and Washington.

The Rebels play Utah today at 1:30 p.m., and Washington today at 5 p.m. UNLV then plays Georgia Tech Friday at 1:30 p.m.

Saturday's matchups will be determined by the preliminary games' outcomes, with Saturday's winners advancing to Sunday's championship.

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