Rebel Stringers Keep Busy in Weekend Action

Tennis: Men finish in fifth place while women fall

BY MICHAEL MELISSA STAFF REPORTER

Mens tennis

After a slow start in the UNLV Invitational Tennis Tournament, the No. 32 Rebels beat Nevada-Reno, 5-2 on Sunday. With the win they raised their record to to 5-5 overall and 3-1 in the Big West Conference. They finished in fifth place in the tournament this past weekend.

The big blow came on Friday, though, when the Rebels were upset by unranked Tulsa, 5-2.

"Losing in the first round was not good," coach Larry Easley said. "It only shows that we need to get more match tough."

Tulsa had some experienced seniors and juniors who are match tough this year, Easley explained. "We have some junior college transfers who don't have as much experience. We just need to get match tough."

The Rebels turned it around Saturday when they faced Weber State. They did not lose a set in the match, and won 7-0.

Against UNR, the Rebels swept doubles play for their first point of the day, and played solid tennis on the singles side of the court. Roger Pettersson, ranked 41st in the nation, won in straight sets, 6-0, 6-4. With the victory, Pettersson moved his season record to 16-5.

Luke Smith, Tim Blenkiron and Thomas Schrader all came out with wins as well Sunday. The only two losses were by Jules Pohjola and Rob Norton, who both went three sets before falling to the Wolf Pack players.

In other action from the tournament, Tulsa came out as champions by beating No. 50 Oklahoma, 5-2. The biggest match between the two teams came in doubles play, when the Golden Hurricane outslugged the Sooners, 9-8 on court No 1.

Colorado came in third and Nebraska finished fourth in the tournament.

The Rebels will get a nine-day vacation before traveling to Corpus Christi, Texas, to play in another invitational tournament March 2-5. Their next home meet will not be until March 24, when they face Arizona.

Lady Rebels tennis

The Lady Rebels did not fare as well as the men Saturday, falling to No. 32 Oklahoma, 6-3 at Spanish Trail Country Club.

"Oklahoma was just a little bit better than us," coach Ola Malmqvist said. "This time the (better) ranking held true."

The Lady Rebels are currently ranked 39th in the nation, with a 4-2 record overall. They are still waiting to play their first Big West match of the season.

The tone of the match was set when Marianne Vallin, ranked 24th in the nation, was upset at No. 1 singles by Anne Covert, 16, 6-4, 6-3. The Sooners went on to take five of six singles matches that day. Shiera Stuart, Lisa Annebro, Astrid Copano and Jeannette Fylpaa all had rough outings Saturday.

The only victory in Lady Rebels tennis came at the No. 2 spot, where Marie Linusson defeated Monique Malan, 6-3, 6-4.

Going into doubles play, UNLV was down 5-1, but battled back, winning two of the three doubles matches. The teams of Vallin/Copano and Linusson/Kordic both came out with victories, while Stuart/Annebro were defeated.

"We did play good doubles. We just need to find more ways to win," Malmqvist said.

Up next for the Lady Rebels is a three-match set which starts Friday and finishes up Sunday. They first meet up with Idaho State, followed by UC Irvine Saturday, and Grand Canyon fills out the schedule Sunday. All matches will be played at the Fertitta Tennis Complex.

Swimmers Set for BWC Championships

The UNLV men's and women's swimming and diving squads return to the pool this weekend when they travel to Long Beach, Calif., to compete in the Big West Conference Championships.

The event begins today and concludes Saturday.

Both squads of the Splashin' Rebels try to improve on last year's second place finish. UC Santa Barbara won both championship meets last year.

The women, who finished 12-6 in dual-meet competition, last claimed the title in 1992. They are led by senior Xiaohong Wang, who is second in the 100-yard butterfly (56.58) and the 200-yard butterfly (2:05.66), and senior Dawn Emery, who is second in the 100-yard backstroke (58.46)

and the 200-yard individual medley (2:07.60).

Senior Julie Mroziak is second in the 200-yard backstroke (2:03.04), while freshman Jennifer Crowder is second in the 200-yard breaststroke (2:21.60).

The men, who went 8-6 in dual meets, are led by freshman Bryan Schuerman. Schuerman is first in the 500-yard freestyle (4:37.67), second in the 1000-yard freestyle (9:40.57) and second in the 1650-yard freestyle (16:36.55).

Othermen's leaders are junior Matthew Cardwell, who is first in the 1000 free (9:35.35), and freshman Mike Mintenko, who is second in the 200-yard freestyle (1:40.99).

-Sean DeFrank

Lady Rebs Fall to Hawaii, Thrash SJSU

The UNLV women's basketball team came up short against Hawaii, 69-68, but quickly asserted itself with Sunday's 86-56 win over San Jose State.

The Lady Rebels' Tracy Titus was named Big West Player of the Week behind her 31 points and 11 rebounds in the Hawaii loss and 15 and 12 against the Spartans.

The effort extends her string of double-doubles to four games.

The Rainbow Wahine (3-12 in Big West play, 5-17 overall) enjoyed 18-of-23 free-throw shooting and were led behind the frontcourt scoring of forward Nani Flores (23 points) and center Kendis Leeburgh (21 points).

The Lady Rebels out-hammered Hawaii 44-26 on the boards but had trouble scoring as Loriessa Randle (12 points) and Gwynn Hobbs (10 points) were the only UNLV players to finish in double figures.

Summer Peterson's return to the lineup sparked the intensity under the glass with her seasonhigh 11 rebounds.

In Sunday's road win against

the Spartans, Hobbs tied her season-high of 10 assists as each of the Lady Rebels' starting players finished in double figures. Hobbs leads the Big West with 6.9 assists per game.

UNLV sent SJSU (2-13, 4-20) to its14th loss in the last 15 games and have lost six straight.

The Lady Rebels will host Nevada-Reno Friday and face visiting Pacific in the final regular season home game Sunday.

-Kevin C. Lewis



Player of the Week





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INTRAMURAL BOWLING RESULTS

Women's Individual High Series Jennifer King - 464

Jennier King - 404

Women's Team High Series

Island Girl - 524

Men's Individual High Series

Scott Camero - 694

Men's Team High Series

Prime Time - 2536







ENTRY FEE - \$2.00 3

Friday, March 3rd at 8:00 pm MPE - North Gym Best of 15 Attempts



VIDEO TOURNAMENT

AND WER ASTIMOT Thursday, March 2nd at 3:00 pm in MSU - Games Room Entry Fee - \$3.00 (includes MCI T-Shirt with entry fee)



Intramural Swimming

Sign Up
Thursday, February 23rd at 7:00 pm
in MPE - Natatorium
No Entry Fee