

No. 39 Lady Rebels Sweep Weekend Homestand

BY MICHAEL MELISSA
STAFF REPORTER

The 39th ranked Lady Rebel tennis team rolled through three matches this weekend against Idaho State, UC Irvine and Grand Canyon.

With the wins, UNLV ran its season record to 7-2.

"We did not play as well as we can," coach Ola Malmqvist said. "Hopefully we will start playing as well as we should."

Against Idaho State, the Lady Rebels swept all sets, beating the Cyclones, 9-0. Marianne Vallin, ranked 24th in the nation, defeated Robyn King at No. 1 singles, 6-1, 6-3. The win raised her season record to 13-6.

Marie Linusson, Lisa Annebro, Astrid Copano, Jeannette Fylpaa, and Ljiljana Kordic all came away with victories as well.

It was the same deal Saturday, as the Lady Rebels swept UCI, 9-0, on their way to another easy victory. Vallin was rested, and Linusson was brought in to fill the No. 1 singles role. She did her job, beating Janet Johnson in straight sets, 7-5, 6-3.

Stuart, Annebro, Copano, Fylpaa and Kordic also came out

with easy wins. In doubles action, the teams of Linusson/Kordic and Copano/Fylpaa destroyed UCI by not losing a point in either match. Annebro/Stuart won their match as well, 7-5, 6-4.

After a day off, Vallin came back to face Grand Canyon Sunday. It took her three sets to dispose of Denise Valentin, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3. Linusson also went three sets in her victory, while Stuart, Annebro, Copano and Fylpaa all pulled through with two-set wins.

The only match loss of the weekend came in doubles play, when Kordic/Linusson lost in three sets, 6-4, 2-6, 2-6. Both Vallin/Copano and Stuart/Fylpaa came out with big wins.

"The team spirit is getting better, and with that the good play will come with time," Malmqvist said.

The Lady Rebels will continue their homestand this weekend by hosting Weber State Friday, New Mexico State Saturday and Washington State Sunday. All matches start at noon, and will be played at the Fertitta Tennis Complex.

Senior Day Heartbreak

BY KEVIN C. LEWIS
STAFF REPORTER

We know there's a thin line between love and hate but what is the difference between winning and losing?

The UNLV women's basketball team could write a best-seller offering its interpretation.

After rolling past rival Nevada-Reno 84-61 on Friday, the Lady Rebels fell short on Senior Day, at the buzzer, to Pacific, 72-70.

"Our coaching staff has been saying all along that the differences between winning and losing is very minor things," said coach Jim Bolla, whose team could realistically be at least 14-9 overall, instead of 9-14, 8-8 in conference. "We've been in this situation before where the little things determine the outcome of the game. If we don't block out on missed shots and go after loose balls with a vengeance we're not going to win the close games."

The Lady Rebels felt confident holding on to a 70-69 lead with possession of the ball and only 44.9 seconds remaining in the game against Pacific.

"We were trying to tell them to stay focus on the remaining time on the clock," Bolla said.

"We needed to go out and execute our offense first before we did any celebrating."

Instead, the Lady Tigers seized the moment by pressuring the Lady Rebels to cough up a loose ball that led to a basket-hanging Missy Ross (20 points off the bench) scoring the clincher with less than 10 ticks remaining.

Gwynn Hobbs, 17 points and 5 assists, dribbled the length of the floor to release a desperate attempt on the baseline that sailed against the side of the backboard.

Center Summer Peterson, career-high 17 points and five rebounds, has emerged as a force under the boards to complement Tracy Titus. Titus, six points and three rebounds, had difficulty in getting into her rhythm and fouled out with less than five minutes in the fourth quarter.

By scoring 14 of her 19 points in the first-half on an assortment of short jumpers, long jumpers and dribble drives, Loriessa Randle paced the Lady Rebels to a commanding 46-33 intermission lead over UNR. She is averaging 13 points over her last four games.

The Lady Rebels finished with five players in double figures against UNR (LeAnn Kazmer 13, Celeste Robinson 15, Hobbs 12, Titus 10 and Randle's 19) as opposed to only three against Pacific (Peterson 17, Hobbs 17 and Angie White 16).

"Our numbers show we have success when we have balanced scoring with everyone scoring in double figures," Bolla said.

The Lady Rebels will close out the regular season on the road Friday against first-place UC Santa Barbara and on Sunday at Long Beach State before heading into the Big West Conference Tournament at the Thomas and Mack Center next week.

"We still have time to get it together before a wide-open (tournament) begins," Bolla said.

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going 3-5 with a home run, four RBIS, and three runs scored. It was her fourth homer of the season and she raised her average to .438.

Also turning in strong performances were Salcido and Balandran. Salcido went 2-5 with two runs scored, and Balandran went 2-3 with two runs scored, raising her season average to .310. She hit .215 in 58 games last year.

"Key people are starting to step in," McDonald said. "And Balandran, who has always been awesome defensively, is now offensively playing with the big guys."

The week started well for the Lady Rebels, which could have been an omen of things to come for the weekend tournament. On Wednesday, they shut out Tulsa in a doubleheader. They beat the Golden Hurricane by identical scores of 8-0, and both games were called in the sixth inning due to an eight-run mercy rule.

Both Branch and Stewart went the distances in the two games, with Stewart giving up seven hits and Branch allowing just two in the second game.

Rondina smacked a homer to fuel the Lady Rebel offense in the second game.

In action on Friday, the Lady Rebels faced Utah for the first time, with them beating the Utes 5-4 in ten innings. Stewart went ten innings on the mound for the victory and nailed a triple to help her own cause.

The afternoon game had UNLV



PHOTO BY HYUN-HO HAN
Amie Stewart is 8-1 with 53 strikeouts in 63 1/3 innings

PITTED AGAINST OREGON STATE with the Lady Rebels winning the game, 8-4. Branch and Stewart combined talents for the win, with Stewart striking out eight in five and third innings. Center fielder Sara Mallett went 3-3 in the game, and Watkins also scattered the ball around the yard with three hits of her own.

The only loss for the Lady Rebels came Saturday morning

when they fell to Oklahoma State, 8-4. Branch started the game going 4 2/3 innings and giving up three runs. Stewart finished up the game allowing five more runs to cross the plate. The only highlight of the game came when Rondina blasted her third homerun of the season.

"Their big hitters were just dropping hits in," McDonald said. "Anytime we hit something, it was hit hard."

The afternoon game was a hard-fought victory for the Lady Rebels, who defeated Oregon, 3-1. Stewart went the distance, striking out six and walking one for the win. Rondina again came up big with a run-scoring triple in the first inning, and collected two stolen bases as well.

Stewart came in to pitch again Sunday morning and went another seven innings on her way to beating Pacific, 7-3. She struck out seven and walked four in the game. Cyndi Parus was the big offensive output, going 2-3 with two RBIS and a run scored, along with Balandran who hit a three-run shot and went 2-3.

Next up for the Lady Rebels will be the UCLA Invitational this weekend.

Baseball

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bad," Dallimore said. "They were just going on first movement. I went out there and told him to make an adjustment"

Bauder, a sophomore from Western High in Las Vegas, received his first collegiate win to improve his record to 1-0.

"It feels so great to finally get that monkey off my back after two years," Bauder said. "Especially to do it in the championship game of the Classic here."

Bauder went 6 1/3 innings, allowing four earned runs on 10 hits, while striking out two and walking two.

"Towards the middle innings I started getting my curve over a little more," Bauder said. "Then coach started calling my change-up. It was working pretty good. I had them leaning out a little bit."

Mosher paced the offense, which had just eight hits, with two doubles. Hankins and Wilkes also had two hits apiece.

SATURDAY: UNLV reached the championship game when Rebels' shortstop Stacy Kleiner hit a three-run homer with one out in the bottom of the ninth to give UNLV a 7-4 victory.

The Rebels had a 4-0 lead after four innings before the Utes tied it at four heading into the ninth.

Kleiner finished 3-5 with four RBIS to lead the 10-hit attack, while Mosher went 2-2.

Fred Koehne (1-0) pitched 2/3 of an inning, both strikeouts, to gain the win in relief of starter Tom LaRosa.

"Freddie's the guy we've groomed to be our stopper," Dallimore said.

LaRosa went 8 1/3 innings, allowing four runs, three earned, on seven hits. He struck out four, and walked eight.

FRIDAY: No. 23 Georgia Tech defeated UNLV 14-11 as Yellow Jackets' shortstop Michael Sorrow hit for the cycle.

UNLV led 4-0 after four innings before Georgia Tech's offense exploded with five runs in the fifth and sixth innings. The Jackets scored four more in the eighth, three unearned after two Kleiner errors, to put the game away.

The Rebels had 13 hits, including three by Kleiner. Hankins, Anthony and Wilkes had two hits apiece. Wilkes and

McClendon both hit home runs.

DeMartini (2-3) took the loss for the Rebels. He allowed 10 runs, nine earned, in 5 2/3 innings. Oliver allowed three runs, one earned, in 1 2/3 innings of relief. Koehne allowed one unearned run in the final 1 2/3.

THURSDAY'S SECOND GAME: Yeskie continued his early-season dominance by defeating Washington 9-3.

Yeskie pitched his second complete game in a row. He allowed one earned run on eight hits, striking out a career-high 14, while walking one.

"We were fortunate that Nate gave us a complete game," Dallimore said, due to the fact that the team had five games in four days.

The sophomore from Carson City, Nev., improved his record to 4-0, and lowered his ERA to 2.18. In 41 1/3 innings, Yeskie has struck out 46 batters, and walked five. The 14 strikeouts Thursday was one away from tying the UNLV single-game record.

Anthony led the offense by driving in three runs on two hits. McClendon drove in two runs, while Vincent scored three times.

THURSDAY'S FIRST GAME: UNLV jumped out to an 8-0 lead, then held on to gain an 11-9 triumph over Utah.

Anthony had three hits, two for home runs, and knocked in a career-high six runs to lead the 16-hit attack.

Vincent and Wilkes also homered, while Mosher had three hits. Ryan Plughoff, Hankins and Vincent had a pair of hits apiece.

Junior Joel Garber (1-0) picked up his first win as a Rebel. He allowed six earned runs in eight innings, striking out four, while walking five.

"One through eight, this is as good as pitching as we've had in a long time," Dallimore said. "We stretched our pitching pretty good."

Freshman Bill Scheffels started the ninth inning, allowing three runs, two earned, before giving way to Oliver. Oliver pitched the final 2/3 to record his first save.

The Hustlin' Rebels hit the road for the first time this weekend, traveling to San Diego for a three-game series against San Diego State Friday-Sunday. The Aztecs are 10-6 on the season.



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