

Commentary

UNLV: A Real World Experience

Storm clouds gathered, a light drizzle fell, and, like the fans hovering for autographs, I was awaiting my subject.

It was early 1993 and J.R. Rider had just scored 36 points in a senior night win over Utah State.

At the time, he was constantly in the news for his academic woes. Yet his on-court game was excelling.

"What do I ask him?" I nervously said to myself as I wiped my sweaty palms on my pant legs.

"How do I ask it?" I was standing outside the Thomas & Mack Center in the tunnel area, waiting for Rider to emerge. You see, Rider wasn't talking to the media and he was staying in the locker room so he wouldn't have to deal with any questions.

I had covered him since his junior college days at Antelope Valley College when he played against my alma mater, Barstow College. With that in mind, I hoped he would remember me and recognize me as a fellow UNLV student. He'd talk to me, I hoped. After all, a potential lead story hung in the balance.

It was scary. "Rider on the Storm" appeared in the March 1, 1993 issue of *The Rebel Yell* and was my first story as sports editor.

This is my last. I will be leaving in less than two weeks to take a job in New York City as a reporter with *Sports Illustrated*.

They say change is the only thing certain in life. And right now, change is staring me point-blank in the face.

Talk about scary. I hope I'm ready for that all-encompassing void out there we refer to as "The Real World." With the real world-type training I've received here at UNLV in my two-plus years at this institution of higher learning, I should be.

UNLV has proved to be a working lab for students studying sports journalism with its seemingly constant basketball controversy.

I arrived on campus for Rollie Massimino's first season as coach. That year started out innocently enough until the Rider scandal exploded onto area papers and television sets.

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In This Corner

PAUL GUTIERREZ

Rebels Blow Away Aggies

Baseball: No. 1 Cal State Fullerton in town with first place on the line

BY SEAN DEFRANK
STAFF REPORTER

Battling 30 MPH winds, as well as its opponent, the UNLV baseball team swept three games from New Mexico State (13-12, 15-6, 11-9) last weekend at Earl E. Wilson Stadium.

The Hustlin' Rebels pounded out 48 hits, including 10 home runs, to improve their record to 25-12, 6-3 in the Big West.

"One of the key factors was that the elements were bad for both teams," UNLV coach Fred Dallimore said. "But the team that survived the elements was the team that won."

The sweep set up a showdown this weekend between UNLV and No. 1 Cal State-Fullerton for the conference lead.

"We needed to win (the NMSU) series before this series, having the impact on the conference that it does" Dallimore said. "We've battled ourselves right where we want to be. Our future and our destiny is in our own hands."

The Rebels featured a balanced attack versus the Aggies, with no starter getting more than six hits, or less than four. Every starter also scored and knocked in at least two runs.

FRIDAY: Ryan Hankins' two-



PHOTO BY MICHAEL LACY
Stacy Kleiner, who is currently riding a 19-game hitting streak, turns the deuce in weekend action at Wilson Stadium.

run single with one out in the bottom of the ninth inning gave the Rebels their 13-12 victory.

UNLV trailed by two heading into its final at bat, but Hank Crosby and Ted Wilkes led off the inning with singles before Scott Vincent was hit by a pitch. After one out, Stacy Kleiner extended his hitting streak to 17 games with an RBI single. Hankins then followed with his game-winning hit.

Nate Yeskie (9-2) went the distance for the Rebels. He allowed 12 runs, 10 earned, on 19 hits while striking out 12 and allowing no walks.

Ryan Plughoff and Shaw Ca-

sey both had three-run homers for UNLV. Brian Anthony had three hits, including his ninth homer, and two RBIs.

SATURDAY: The Rebels slammed 19 hits, including four from Plughoff, and scored in every inning except the first, in the 15-6 triumph.

Casey went 3-for-5 with three RBIs, while Vincent went 3-for-3 with two RBIs for the Rebels.

UNLV spanked four homers, from Anthony, Kleiner, Crosby and Casey, to highlight the offense.

Denny DeMartini pitched 7 2/3 innings. Please see Baseball—12

Recruits Runnin' to UNLV

BY SEAN DEFRANK
STAFF REPORTER

New UNLV men's basketball coach Bill Bayno appears to have begun rebuilding the one-time national power.

According to sources, the Runnin' Rebels received commitments from four recruits Wednesday, the first day of the month-long spring signing period.

The players include two junior college transfers, Warren Rosegreen of Chaffey (Calif.) College and Chancellor Davis of Dixie (Utah) College, and two high school players, Ben Sanders of Westchester (Calif.) High and Norris Bell of Hempstead (N.Y.) High.

Rosegreen, a 6-5 power forward, is considered a rebounding specialist, having led the California jucos ranks in rebounding the past two seasons.

His height may give him some problems at the Division I level, but he is considered a good leaper and has had no off-court problems.

—Davis, a 5-10 point guard. Please see Recruits—12

Lady Rebels Sprint in Invitational

Track: UNLV travels to Mt. SAC this weekend

BY KEVIN C. LEWIS
STAFF REPORTER

The Lady Rebels jumped past a strong field in the UNLV Track & Field Invitational last Saturday at Myron Partridge Stadium.

LeAnn Kazmer and Shannon Brick placed first and second, respectively, in the women's high jump with marks of 5-6 and 5-4.

"I just don't feel comfortable right now," said Kazmer, whose basketball season ended last month. "Maybe I'm not being fair to myself either, so I guess things will run their course."

The 400-meter relay team of Judy Fraser, LaTasha Prothro, Andrea Burnside and Tamara Archibald finished third with a

time of 46.98 seconds, which established an NCAA Provisional Qualifier mark.

Three-time All-American Fraser, also finished in third-place in the 200-meter race with a time of 25.15.

Senior sprinter Burnside has run the fastest time in the Big West Conference in the 100-meters so far this season, with a time of 12:04 in the Fresno Relays two weeks ago. She finished in fifth place in the 200-meters race (25:17) but also has the third-fastest time this season in the conference in the event.

Freshman Sarah Feliz finished in third place in the grueling 5,000-meter race with a time of 19:00.96 and in fourth place in the 3,000-meter race with a time of 11:11.41.

UNLV's lone home meet this year was non-scoring and fielded participants from USC, Michigan State, Southern Utah University and track clubs. UNLV next travels to the Mt. San Antonio College Relays in Walnut, Calif., this weekend.



PHOTO BY HYUN-HO HAN
Junior Tangelia Russell placed fourth in the triple jump last weekend. It was her first time competing in the triple jump.

