

Titan

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 baseman Ryan Hankins knocked in three RBIs. He slammed his eighth homer of the season in the seventh inning. Denny DeMartini (6-5) picked up the loss.

Dallimore's team entered the series only one game out of first place, but now fall to fourth with an overall record of 25-15, 6-6 in conference.

UNLV was battling health problems which caused Dallimore to play Rebels out of position. Second baseman Willie Mosher is recovering from a broken wrist. Hankins hyperextended his knee Friday, while shortstop Shaw Casey took himself out of the game voluntarily, with a leg injury, after committing two errors in the Titans' four-run fourth in the first game. Stacy Kleiner moved over from second base to shortstop while Teddy Foster was inserted at second.

"Fortunately, we have time to mend our wounds and get healthy before the start of the conference tournament in two weeks," Dallimore said. "But we still have to take care of business no matter what. We have to play out of this."

The Rebels did get some business out of Hankins, bad knee and all. The freshman went 4-for-5, with a home run and two doubles, Friday, and 3-for-5 in Saturday's fiasco. He hurt the knee while going aggressively after a hard-chopping double down the third-base line in CSF's two-run ninth.

After the Rebels nearly topped over the Titans in the opener, Fullerton played the second game with flawless execution. If they had a runner at first base with one out, they would sacrifice. On defense, they hit the cutoff man. On the base paths, they routinely scored from second on singles and from first on doubles. Before the 9-4 loss was over,

it was evident the Rebels' morale was sinking.

Saturday's finale attracted 768 fans with Fullerton collecting 17 hits, including a pair of home runs, and solid pitching from their ace right-hander Ted Silva (10-1). He was the benefactor of a 6-0 lead after three innings.

The Titans erased any Rebels' thoughts of winning one with a seven-run eighth inning that was capped by Tony Martinez's three-run homer. The Titans scored in every inning a runner reached base until the ninth inning. Tom LaRosa (2-5) was tagged with the loss.

"We have to lock down the fourth seed in the Big West by taking care of business against San Jose State and (UC) Santa Barbara," Dallimore said. "We won't help ourselves by winning only two-out-of-three in each."

The Rebels travel to San Jose this weekend to play the Spartans in a three-game series.

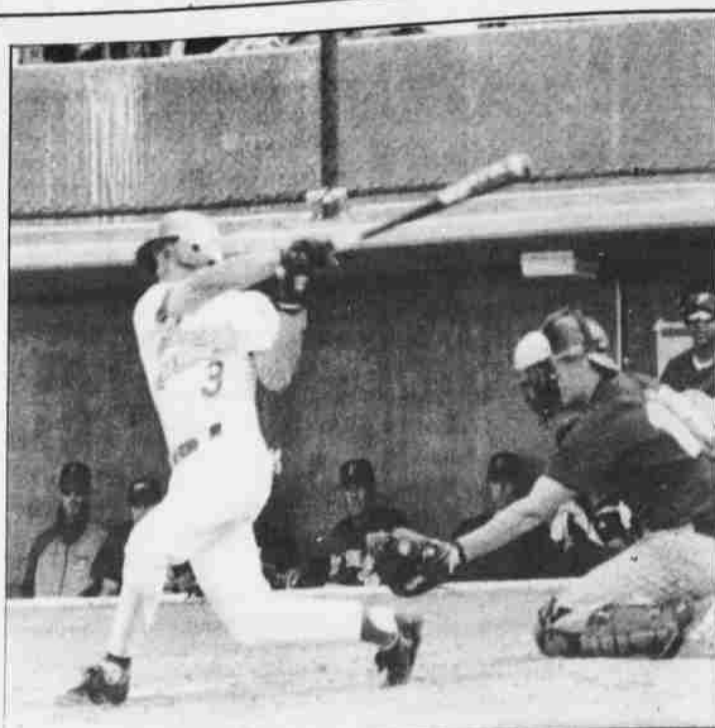


PHOTO BY HYUN-HO HAN

Freshman Ryan Hankins went 9-14 against the Titans, raising his season average to a team-leading .370

Robbs

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 do anything on the island without somebody saying it was because of my father, and I decided I should try someplace else again."

Don Robbs agreed. "I want Scott to be able to choose his own path. If someday he'd like to step in and do what I've done, I want him to be comfortable in what he's doing. I want him to know that he's earned it, and that's why I supported his idea of leaving for Las Vegas."

So just over two years ago, Robbs departed Hawaii yet again and found himself in Las Vegas, the new home of his mother and most of her family. He contacted former UNLV sports information director Dick Fishback (whom he met while Fishback was working in the same capacity at the University of Hawaii), and said, if Fishback ever needed any help with the baseball program, to contact him.

Fishback gave Robbs' name to UNLV baseball SID Jim Gemma, and when the job as P.A. announcer at the Hustlin' Rebels' new stadium opened up, Robbs jumped at the chance.

"It doesn't pay well and it isn't a high profile job," Robbs said. "But I get to work around the baseball team doing something I enjoy."

It also didn't hurt that few people in Las Vegas knew his father.

"There was almost no pressure here to follow in his footsteps," Robbs said.

So Robbs has been bidding his time announcing the names of players, along with the various promotions and giveaways that go along with his public address role. Those who work with Robbs appreciate what he does, but Robbs feels this is only a temporary stop on his way back to the mid-Pacific.

"We've been very happy with Scott since he's been here," Gemma said. "I know I enjoy coming to the ballpark because I like to be around him."

Despite the warm feelings found in Las Vegas, Robbs realizes that his time at UNLV is just a "stepping tool" before moving along once again. His eventual goal is to return to Hawaii and work in sports radio, television or sports public relations, but television is the front-running choice because "all the money is found in television."

No matter which career path Robbs chooses to follow, he is sure that it will be close to college athletics.

"My father has done it all in Hawaii, and if I wanted to I could use his connections to get myself ahead. But I don't think it would be the best thing for me to do, and I don't want to be known for riding coattails, so I left to try to make a name on my own."

—UNLV baseball public address announcer Scott Robbs

"I don't like dealing with the pro's egos," Robbs said.

And in Hawaii, where there are no professional teams, college sports can take on the "big time" atmosphere without having to deal with the money and attitudes common to professional sports. With the time difference between Hawaii and the rest of the country, plus the lack of other sports on the island, broadcasting for the University of Hawaii is huge because of the lack of competition.

"U of H is big over there," Robbs said. "Nothing else is close. I've handled some of it before, but when I go back I want it to be on my terms."

Gemma agreed that Robbs' time at UNLV could be short.

"He's always talking about Hawaii," Gemma said. "Scott even plays the theme from 'Hawaii Five-0' between innings."

"Growing up in Hawaii taught me a lot of things," Robbs said. "It's not like growing up in the states, where things are in many ways the same. Hawaii has its own culture, and it taught me a lot of things that I couldn't

have learned someplace else."

Robbs described the lifestyle in Hawaii as much more laid back than that of the rest of the U.S., but at the same time pointed out that there are cultural rules in Hawaii that everyone follows "like you never enter anyone's house without taking off your shoes first."

And it's that laid-back style of life that makes Robbs want to someday end his name-building odyssey with a return home. His father would also like nothing better.

"I think it would be wonderful for Scott to fill my shoes," Don Robbs said.

Scott Robbs still feels that is years away from taking place though, and said he currently

has no plans of leaving his job at UNLV. It seems his task of making his way in the world is far from complete, and until it is—in his eyes alone—Robbs can only dream of returning to the airwaves in Hawaii.

"If everything works out, I'll

be there," Robbs said. "I won't go back if my father asks me to unless I feel I deserve to be there. You have to earn things in life, right?"

Until that day when everything is earned, the airwaves in Hawaii will have to wait.

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