

# Preston named acting Director of NCAA Academic Services

BY MICHAEL MELISSA  
SPORTS EDITOR

The UNLV Athletic Department announced Tuesday that Jaina Preston will serve as Acting Director of NCAA Academic Services.

She will also be responsible for supervision of the Athletic Academic Advising unit in ad-

dition to her duties in academic compliance. Preston will continue to report to Associate Director of Athletics David Chambers.

"Jaina lends a lot of expertise to this position," UNLV Director of Athletics Charles Cavagnaro said. "She will help us coordinate with the other academic advisors a program

that will truly benefit the student-athlete."

Preston will also be named to a committee that will review the operation of the Athletic Department's academic advising unit, and make recommendations concerning the relationship of the unit with the university and specifics to assure an efficient operation.

The UNLV Athletic Department has also asked the academic advisors to serve as resource members of the committee.

Assisting Preston will be Vaune Kadlubek.

Other planned changes include: Lori Friel, men's

basketball; and Julie Johnson, football.

Lea Sexton will also take on responsibilities of directing UNLV's academic reporting and statistical requirements.

The changes were decided on by administration during the summer.

## Brewer

from pg. 1

Brewer's friend Cheryl Allen began the service by remembering their times together in and out of the classroom.

"When I think about Randy I will remember the joyous times we spent together," Allen said.

Friend and sports information co-worker Scott Gulbransen remembered Brewer as a joy to be around.

"He was the kind of person who could light up the room with his smile," Gulbransen said. "Whenever I needed help Randy was there. No question about it. Randy Brewer exemplified what a human being should be like. He loved UNLV, he loved his family, he loved his friends, but more than anything he loved life itself."

In an emotional speech, Coach Jeff Horton remembered how Brewer was an inspiration to coaches and players alike.

"We want to remember the way Randy Brewer touched each and every one of our lives," Horton said. "He had the big smile and the laugh. He was always saying something good and something positive in a sometimes negative world."

"No matter how down I might have been, he always made me feel good and would not let me stay down," he said.

Brewer, who started at UNLV as a walk-on to the football team, eventually earned a scholarship and a

starting job on the team. He started eight games last year including the games against the UNR Wolf Pack and the Las Vegas Bowl.

He had a big catch in the Bowl game against Central Michigan which preserved a drive and led to the go-ahead score. The win against UNR gave the Rebels a share of the Big West crown.

"He was a contender not a pretender. He knew what he wanted to do and set his mind to it and did it," Horton said. "I know he will always remember that special moment of winning the Big West Championship and the Las Vegas Bowl."

With one year of eligibility in football remaining, Brewer chose to pass up the playing field for the professional world. He landed himself a job in his hometown of Denver in the media relations department of the Denver Nuggets basketball team.

"He was the type of guy who exemplified what we want our student athletes to be like," Horton said. "He had his priorities right—he graduated in four years, got a job and did anything anyone ever asked of him. His character was outstanding."

"I was always Big Daddy but he was the Brew Crew," Horton said. "The Brew Crew will be with us for the rest of our lives."

Tight end David White got to know Brewer while sharing time with him at the same position.

"It was fun to be a teammate of his," White said. "We

got to know each other real well. We were always helping each other out. We were a one-two combination when we were playing together."

Although White and Brewer competed for playing time, it was a situation where they both tried to make each other better.

"On any team you have two guys fighting it out for the same position," White said. "It didn't matter who started, we were both just trying to win."

Funeral services will be held 10 a.m. Friday at New Hope Church in Denver. Horton, his wife Teri, UNLV tight end's coach Tom Nordquist and sports information director of football Mark Wallington will attend before flying to Iowa for Saturday's game against Iowa State.

The Rebels have dedicated their season to Brewer's memory and will wear black stickers on the back of every helmet with the initials "R.B."

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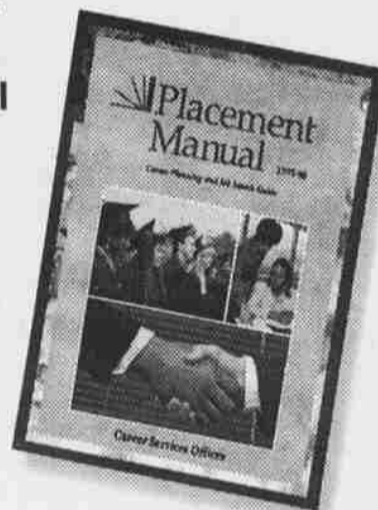
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## Rebels

from pg. 9

in the country on the turf with a 228.7 average per game.

Starting running back De-John Branch, who injured ligaments in his knee during two-a-day practice sessions, was expected back by this week, but will probably not return until next Saturday's home contest against Hawaii at Sam Boyd Stadium, Horton said.

The Rebels have turned the ball over five times in each of

their blow-out losses to Rice and EMU. Horton has been working on that aspect of the game in practice this week.

"It is obvious why we lost the two games with all the turnovers," Horton said. "That has been the big emphasis in practice this week."

The Rebel receiving corps also continues to struggle. Only tight end David White has caught over five passes in the first three games. White has 14 receptions on the season for 158 yards.

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