

# Kickin' Rebels end season on low-note

Soccer finishes season with loss to New Mexico

BY RAY BREWER  
STAFF WRITER

A Rebel defensive collapse late in last Wednesday's game against the University of New Mexico led to a UNM winning goal, and blew out the flame of any UNLV soccer play-off changes.

In a high scoring affair at a freezing cold UNM football stadium, the Rebels fell to the Lobos 4-3.

The loss guaranteed a University of California Santa Barbara conference play-off berth, and sent the 1995 Rebel soccer squad to clear out its lockers.

Needing a victory over New Mexico combined with a UCSB defeat by Cal State Northridge to make the play-offs, the Kick-in' Rebels had slim hopes of post-season glory.

This defeat ended the 1995 campaign for Coach Barry Barto and his squad. They finished with a record of 6-9-3.

Early on it seemed as if the Rebels would cruise to victory, taking a commanding 3-1 lead only 20 minutes fresh into the contest.

The Rebels got two goals from Michael Griego in the 12th and 13th minute of play. These two goals in less than one minute could be the greatest offensive effort ever by any Rebel soccer player.

To put the icing on the Rebel's possibilities to earn a victory, Lobo Todd Trevino was ejected in the 58th minute of play.

It was just last season that

A fight for the ball...



PHOTO BY HYUN-HO HAN

Freshman defender T'Jon Akins battles for possession of the ball in a game at UNLV.

Trevino was in a Rebel jersey, slotting two winning goals in the team's five victories. One of Trevino's winning goals came against national powerhouse Rutgers in the Rebel's biggest win of 1994. Another UNLV transfer to New Mexico was Eric Dooley, who also started this match for the Lobos at midfield.

This put all the cards in the

hands of UNLV and it looked like the Rebels were going to demolish the Lobos.

Then it happened again, just like in all the other matches: The Rebels gave up the lead on a brilliant last minute effort by the opponent.

It started when Patrick Seles netted for New Mexico right before half-time.

Then in the 68th minute, forward Alex Bradford netted

to tie the game at three. Finally, in the 83rd minute, Justin Cell put the Lobos ahead with the go-ahead goal, giving them a 4-3 lead.

The Rebels showed their true youth this season, with several defensive collapses late in the game. However, youth will give way to experience next season and the Rebels should look good for next season.



Coach Jeff Horton

## Horton

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The extension comes during a season in which the Rebels are 1-7, losing six straight and giving up an average of 50 points per game. They have not scored in the first quarter this season and are at the bottom of all division I-A schools in points allowed per game.

Horton's contract will run through Dec. 31, 1998, and keep him at the same \$101,000 salary.

Last season Horton was named Big West Co-Head Coach of the year after leading the Rebels to a share of the Big West title and a Las Vegas Bowl victory against Central Michigan. It was the Rebels first conference championship and bowl win in 10 years.

Horton came to Las Vegas after coaching UNR in 1993.

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