

# Runnin' Rebels get worn down in home loss

BY MICHAEL MELISSA  
SPORTS EDITOR

Coach Bill Bayno looked tired and haggard after Monday night's loss to in-state rival UNR, 71-64.

But how is a coach supposed to look when his team is up by 13 in the second half?

Maybe it was the four turnovers in 40 seconds that wore him down, or the fact that at halftime the Rebels were up, 28-21, and finally gave up the lead late in the second half.

"They wore us down in the second half," Bayno said after the game. "I thought this was going to be a 15-20 point loss, and the fact is we held them to 21 points in the first half."

"It's hard to sustain that momentum with no bench. We do not have enough depth, and we expanded a lot of energy in that first half."

The Rebels, 6-11 overall and 3-6 in the Big West Conference, were ahead at the break, 28-21, from the strength of a 11-2 run midway through the first half. The charge for the lead was primarily led by forward Warren Rosegreen, who finished up the game with a career high 26 points and 10 rebounds (his eighth double-double of the season).

"His (Rosegreen) leadership has been there all year, and lately he has really stepped up," Bayno said. "What has really been missing is leadership in the back court."

The Rebels widened their lead with a 10-4 run to start the second half, and with 17 minutes left in the game, guard Jermaine "Sunshine" Smith dished up an alley-oop pass to Rosegreen, who tapped it in for a 13-point lead.

From there it went all downhill for the Rebels.

The Wolf Pack went on a 10-2 run, to pull within two with 12:40 remaining in the game, and capitalized on each Rebel turnover. In one stretch the Rebels turned the ball over four times in 40 seconds, and each time UNR took advantage of the charity the Rebels were giving.

"I still think the key to the game is, we're up 13 and fighting, scrapping, we force a miss and get our hands on the ball, and we don't come up with it," Bayno said, trying to explain where the momentum shifted in the game.

"I mean we're in position, we have the ball and don't get it. They get a stiff back with a three-point play. We come back down and two or three possessions in a row we have a loose ball situation and we don't get it. Now the momentum swings."

The Wolf Pack stole the lead away from UNLV with strong free throw shooting down the stretch, along with a strong physical presence underneath the bucket. With Wolf Pack center David Watts having his

way with Tony Lane and Eddie Corbett down low, the Pack was able to pull within three with six minutes to play, 51-47.

A minute later they had the lead, by making both free throws off a foul from Rosegreen.

The Rebels shot better in the second half, shooting 57 percent from the field (50 percent for the game), whereas the Pack was hitting at 48 percent clip. But the difference lies in the free throws. The Rebels hit 4-11 in the second half while UNR nailed 21-26 in the half.

UNR's defense was geared to keep Clayton Johnson and Lane quiet throughout the game, and for the most part it worked. Johnson finished up with a season-low eight points and Lane dished in seven. "Sunshine" scored 13 for the game; it was his ninth game in which he scored over 10 points.

Bayno also changed the lineup a little, experimenting with freshman guard, Ben Sanders, at point guard. For the most part Bayno was pleased with his performance.

"We tried Ben Sanders at a new position for the first time all year, and he did a good enough job, considering that he is a freshman and its the first time he's played the point," Bayno said.

Although he looks tired and maybe haggard, Bayno still



PHOTO BY MIKE LACY

Warren Rosegreen (No. 42) scores career high 26 points.

has that fire burning within and he is looking to Reno for the BWC tournament in a month. To get there, however, the Rebels may have to win the majority of their games and hope a couple of teams fall by the wayside in the process.

"We're going to have some tough practices, and then come out and play hard," Bayno said. "Then we just need to figure out how to win again. If this team can get to Reno, though, something special is going to happen."

## Rebels trying to get even with San Jose State

UNLV hopes to avenge an earlier loss to the Spartans

BY MICHAEL MELISSA  
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It will be a mirror match-up tonight when UNLV plays host to San Jose State University at 8 p.m. in the Thomas & Mack.

A mirror match-up because both teams are playing at about the same level this season: self destructive basketball, as SJSU coach Stan Morris calls it.

"We have attempted some new methods of self-destructive

tion," Morris said. "Shooting ourselves in the foot isn't good enough, we have shot ourselves in the head occasionally. It has really been an up and down proposition. We haven't shot well, and on the nights that we have shot well we haven't taken care of it."

It sounds all too familiar to UNLV coach Bill Bayno, whose club gave the ball away 17 times to UNR on Monday night, and in one 40-second spurt gave the ball away 4 times, en route to a 71-64 loss.

In their first meeting of the season, the Rebels mounted a last-minute charge but came up short as Clayton Johnson's three-point attempt bounced off the rim at the buzzer. Johnson finished the game with 21 points, and hit a

career high five three-pointers in 10 attempts.

"They (UNLV) made a great run here at the end," Morris said. "Johnson missed that shot at the buzzer and had it gone, they would have walked out of here with a one-point win."

"The thing that impresses me most about the Las Vegas team is the extremely high level of competitiveness they play with, night after night, on a consistent basis. Billy (Bayno) has done the best job I have seen of keeping his guys up and that is really hard to do when you are losing."

The Spartans also kept the other Rebel big man, Warren Rosegreen, quiet with 10 points and eight rebounds, but that slack was picked up by

Eddie Corbett who dished up a career-high 10 points in the loss.

Like in the first game, the Rebels will have to contain the Spartans' three big men, who are all averaging above 10 points a game. Olivier Saint-Jean leads the Spartans in scoring, averaging 13.7 points per game with 6.5 rebounds. The other forward, Sam Allen, averages 12.8 points per game and center, Roy Hammonds, averages 11.4 a game.

The Rebels were able to hold Saint-Jean down to eight points and three rebounds, but in doing so, both Allen and Hammonds were able to score a little more, 10 and 13 respectively.

Both teams have been aver-

aging 67 points an outing, but in contrast the Rebels have held their opponents to 67, while SJSU has been giving up 75 on the average. The Rebels have also out-rebounded their foes by four (37 to 34) while the Spartans have struggled off the boards, grabbing the same amount as they have given up (36).

The last time SJSU won a game this season was against UNLV, but now both teams have been marred in deep losing streaks. The Rebels have dropped four straight while the Spartans have fallen the last five times.

The Rebels lead the overall series, 28-4, but have only won three times in the last five meetings. Two of those wins came in the BWC tournament.

## Women's tennis split weekend matches

By Ray Brewer  
Staff Sports Writer

In their season opener Saturday, the 35th-ranked women's tennis team was dealt a humiliating defeat in an 8-1 thrashing at the hands of Brigham Young University's Cougars.

Provo was the first of two stops for UNLV on their Utah road-swing.

The Cougars triumphed over the Rebels in all six singles matches, not allowing the over-matched Rebels to win a set.

Maranne Vallin, who is ranked 10th nationally and UNLV's No. 1 singles player, fell to Cougar Ellne Chiew 6-3, 7-5.

Also having troubles on the singles court for the Lady Rebels were Sofia Alenius, Lisa Annebro, Jeannette Fylpaa, Ljijana Kordic and Marie Linusson. On the doubles side, Annebro/Linusson were the only Lady Rebels to come away with victories as the two other teams fell to the Lady Cougars.

On the following day, the Rebels traveled up the freeway where they did battle with

No. 42, University of Utah.

The Rebels knotted their record at 1-1 with a thrilling come-from-behind victory.

This victory marked their first road win in two years, as UNLV was 0-6 on the road last year.

Vallin lost her first set, but rebounded to cruise by Angie Olsen in three sets, 5-7, 6-1, 6-1. This win gave Vallin a 1-1 record on the year in No. 1 singles play. Other singles players that earned a mark in the win column for the Rebels included freshman Alenius and senior Fylpaa.

After completing the singles

competition with a 3-3 tie, it was up to doubles play to decide the winner.

UNLV took two of three doubles matches to steal a victory from the Utes on their home courts.

Vallin/Alenius were victorious for the Rebels, along with Annebro/Linusson, sealing the victory.

The Lady Rebels will open its home schedule on Friday when they play host to New Mexico State on Friday and Weber State on Sunday. Both matches will be held on campus at the Fertitta Tennis Complex.

The men's tennis team was back in California last weekend to challenge top-ranked Stanford University at Stanford.

Mother Nature was the winner on this day, as heavy rains forced the match to be cancelled. The match will not be re-scheduled.

The men will be out of action for a few weeks until they host their own UNLV Invitational. The eight-team competition will take place Feb 16-18 at the Fertitta Tennis Complex.