

Commentary

# Road kills UNLV

For UNLV athletic programs, the phrase "road trip" might as well be changed to "road kills." Face it, this season UNLV athletic teams aren't exactly road warriors.

The Clubhouse

RAY BREWER

given new meaning to the word turnover. In their first 15 games the Lady Rebels averaged 28 turnovers per game, for a grand total of 414 turnovers.

Of the three major Rebel sports, football, men's basketball and women's basketball, two wins have been chalked up between them for the 1995-96 season.

Also, the UNLV soccer team has lost 14 of 15 road games dating back to the 1993 season.

The soccer team's lone outing without a loss came this season when they gave up a lead late in the second half to UC Irvine in the 86th minute. The game ended in a disappointing 1-1 tie.

The Kickin' Rebels last victory away from Peter Johann Memorial Field was in 1993, when they defeated St. Mary's 2-1.

The Runnin' Rebels have proven to be a popular road basketball team. Every school wants them to visit their gym, because they know the Rebels are always friendly visitors and let the home team get their way.

Dating back to the 1994 campaign, the Runnin' Rebels have been defeated 10 consecutive times away from home. This isn't nearly as bad as the soccer team's record, but it's impossible to be competitive in college basketball if you can't win on the road.

Also, if the Runnin' Rebels have any hopes of making the Big West tournament, they need a road victory sooner or later. As of today, they don't qualify for the little dance, mainly because of their .000 winning percentage on the road.

This season's road stats aren't as bad as the basketball team's record (0-7) indicates. Excluding the Long Beach State game where they lost by 19 points, the Rebels have lost the other six games by a combined score of 25 points (4.2 points per game average).

Women's basketball is the proud receiver of the two road victories mentioned early. Their 67-66 nail-biter victory over Florida A & M on the second game of the season could be the team's highlight of the year. The other win came in a 64-63 thriller against LBSU.

They have a road record for the 1996 season of 2-10.

As for the women hoopsters, they're just plain horrible. The pressure of getting coach Jim Bolla his 300th win is taking its toll on the team. In addition to that, Bolla's resignation has the team in much turmoil.

With a depleted squad of only seven players, they're having a hard time winning anywhere. Not to mention that they have

Now to the Clubhouse's personal favorite, the Throwin' Rebels, or should I say, the "Lets Thrive off the 1994 Las Vegas Bowl Victory Rebels." Face it fellows, the miracle Bowl season is long gone, and let's remember it was only the Las Vegas Bowl. You know, the not-so-historic bowl game in the middle of December.

Anyway, the football team was shut-out on the road this year, a big surprise, right? Wrong, they had a hard time winning anywhere. But on the road is where it was really ugly.

The tally sheet reads 0-6 for road games in the 1995. Dating back to last season, that makes eight road losses in a row.

Unlike *The Rebel Yell* Sports Monkey, I'll make a 100 percent accurate prediction: The Throwin' Rebels will lose their ninth straight on the road, when they travel to Tennessee to open the 1996 season. Don't worry, I've called ahead to the University of Tennessee scorekeeper and warned him he might need to add light bulbs in the home team's 100's column on the scoreboard.

Like the other two sports, the football team is allergic to a good road effort.

For all you math majors, the three-sport combined road record for the 1995-96 season, as of Saturday is 2-23. However, the three-sport home record is not much better, as they post a 9-16 combined record for the 1995-96 season.

With all these facts, you don't have to be Sherlock Holmes to crack the mystery of the UNLV road woes.

Maybe they could travel a different airline, or wear their home jerseys under their road uniform.

The men's basketball team should bring a miniature red carpet to roll out in the locker room before away games, to duplicate the Thomas & Mack atmosphere.

As for the football team, maybe they can borrow their host's practice squad's defense line, so their opponents don't run wild for a 300-400 total yard offensive night.

So to all UNLV athletics, the only way to get respect in my clubhouse is to win on the road. Not just a game on the road, but several games on the road.

Until the road-kills can put together a winning performance, they will be banned from the clubhouse and put in the dog house where you belong.

# UNLV volleyball signs five recruits

BY MICHAEL MELISSA  
SPORTS EDITOR

Not since 1985 has UNLV fielded a women's volleyball team.

Now the excitement is brewing within the program and head coach, Dietre Collins, is ready to step out on the volleyball court next season with her Lady Rebels.

"It's a very exciting time right now," Collins said. "We had six scholarships to give and all six have been filled."

Collins announced that five of the scholarships have been given to freshman while the sixth scholarship was given to an athlete playing with another NCAA institution. She will transfer under the NCAA student-athlete one time transfer policy.

The five freshmen Collins signed are Christy Clark, Kim DeWitt, Christel Eves, Danielle Gerlach and Liz Goyet. They have all signed their national letter of intent, and will be looked upon to build the volleyball program for the future.

Clark was the team leader for the Cypress Creek High School Cougars in Houston as a setter and right-side player. The 5-foot-10 Clark led the Cougars to a record of 33-7 this season, and went as far as the regional quarterfinals. Last year the Cougars finished with a 40-2 record and in 1993 the Cougars finished undefeated (42-0) and were the state champions.

She also led her team last season with 148 digs and 333 assists. Clark chose UNLV over Florida State, Texas and Utah State.

The next recruit for Collins is DeWitt, a 5-11 outside hitter from St. Charles, Ill. DeWitt helped St. Charles High School win the Upstate 8 Conference and advance into the sectional finals last season. She was named to the first-team all-area squad and chose UNLV over Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

The lone local recruit in Collins' camp is Eves, who comes from Basic High School in Henderson. She is a 5-11 middle blocker/outside hitter and helped lead her team to a 10-

9 record last season along with a trip to the zone playoffs.

Last year Eves led the Basic High School Wolves with 151 kills, 59 solo blocks and 37 service aces.

A big addition was made to the middle of the court when Gerlach signed to play for UNLV. A 6-foot middle blocker from Desert High School in Edwards, Calif., Gerlach led her team, the Scorpions, with 426 kills and a 130 blocks.

The Scorpions finished up the season with an 11-4 record and a spot in the California Interscholastic Federation-Southern Section Division 5 playoffs.

Gerlach comes to UNLV after declining an invitation to UMass.

The final freshman of the bunch is Goyet, who will come to UNLV from Scripps Ranch High School in San Diego, Calif. Goyet is a 5-9 outside hitter who led her squad, the Falcons, to a 23-7 record and a trip to CIF-San Diego Section Division 2 semifinals.

She also helped the Falcons win three conference titles over four years.

## Rebels

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the job for us."

Tanner finished the day 2-for-5, and second baseman Sean Campbell was 2-for-3.

Rob Luce was the winning pitcher for the Rebels. Luce sat down all five Utes he faced in 1 2/3 innings.

UNLV jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the second inning only to see Utah score two in the third and one in the fourth to tie the score.

Lefty Fred Koehne replaced starter Bill Scheffels in the fifth inning. Koehne walked the first batter he faced and then proceeded to retire 11 Utah batters.

The Rebels took a brief lead in the bottom of the eighth, but Utah tied it up in the ninth when Koehne walked the Utes Matthew Leonelli and Scott Pratt singled. Leonelli scored on an error by center fielder Chris Adolph, which sent the game into extra innings.

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