

## Ugly

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the 400 sign in center. It was his seventh of the year.

Tista Perri took the mound for the Rebels and lasted six innings to get his third victory of the year. He is now 3-2 on the season. He gave up 12 hits while striking out four and walking two. He also allowed eight earned runs in getting the win.

Finishing up for Perri was Fred Koehne who went the final three innings to get his first save of the season. Koehne gave up three runs on four hits, most of which came in the seventh, but settled down for the eighth and ninth inning.

Continuing his smoking string of strong offensive games, Tanner was 3-for-5 with a home run, a double base hit, two runs scored and an RBI. Also hot for the Hustlin' Rebels was second baseman Sean Campbell, who went 3-for-5, and Vincent, who was 2-for-4 with two runs scored.

The Rebels took on the Salukis in a Saturday battle as well, beating them 4-2 in front of 479 fans.

With the game tied at one, Tanner hit a double that scored two and gave the Rebels a 3-1 lead. The Salukis got one back but that was as close as they would get, as Kleiner hit a solo shot to finish off SIU in the eighth.

Tom LaRosa went 8 2/3 innings for his fourth win of the season, improving his record to 4-0. He had eight strikeouts, no walks and allowed two runs on eight hits.

Rob Luce recorded the final out for the Rebels with a strikeout.

For the Rebels, Adolph, who has been on a tear of late,

went 3-for-4 with a run scored and a double. Tanner also had a hot bat, going 2-for-4 with two RBIs, and Kleiner also went 2-for-4 with a pair of RBIs and a run scored.

The Rebels were in action on Thursday, facing Southern Utah in a rare night game at Wilson Stadium.

With 168 attendance, UNLV beat the Southern Utah Thunderbirds, 7-1. Chad Barry got the win for the Rebels, giving up just two hits in six innings of work.

With the Rebels already up 2-0 in the sixth, Anthony drove a Southern Utah pitch against the green fence in center field. The Thunderbirds got one run back in the seventh, however, it did not matter, as the Rebels came back with four in their half of the seventh.

The Rebels got one run on a sacrifice fly, then scored another when Tanner's sacrifice bunt went for a Thunderbird error when the pitcher threw the ball into the SUU dugout.

With one on, Rebel pinch hitter Jason Vogel came up with a base hit to center field, scoring Vincent from second. It was Vogel's first base hit as a Rebel.

Adolph was the big Rebel bat, going 2-for-5 with a run scored. Wilkes had two RBIs in the contest and went 1-for-3. Anthony and Campbell also went 1-for-3, both with a run scored.

Barry had eight strikeouts in the game to one walk. He is now 3-0 on the season.

The Rebels faced SIU for the finale of the three game series on Monday, however, results were not available at press time.

The Rebels will be in action tonight at 5:05 p.m. when they face No. 15 Arizona State. The Arizona Sun Devils lead the series, 49-12-1 and beat the Rebels twice last season in Tempe, Ariz. (10-2, 6-0).

## Good-bye Big West, hello WAC!

BY MICHAEL MELISSA  
SPORTS EDITOR

UNLV's relationship with the Big West Conference has never been what you would call a friendly relationship.

It probably wasn't even a good working relationship, either.

So when the Rebels failed to make the BWC basketball tournament by losing to Utah State on March 3, nobody in the BWC really shed a tear.

Perhaps they even chuckled.

UNLV could probably care less if anyone laughed or cried when it missed a tournament bid by two games, the first time since 1991-92 that the Rebels have missed the conference tournament. However, that year the Rebels were on NCAA probation and were excluded from any tournament play.

Discounting that season (they went 18-0 in the BWC and 26-2 overall), UNLV

has never missed the tournament. In fact, UNLV was practically a shoe-in every season to win the BWC championship. In 14 years with the BWC, UNLV was champion eight times and went on to the NCAA tournament nine times; although they have not appeared in the Big Dance since 1990-91 where they lost to the Duke Blue Devils in the Final Four.

The Rebels have still put up impressive numbers in the conference, as well as a fine list of players of the year for the BWC. Overall, the Runnin' Rebels were 202-48 in the BWC and finished in or were tied for first place for the season 10 times, and they finished first in the BWC tournament eight times.

They went undefeated in the BWC three times, two of which were back-to-back seasons, 1990-91. The same seasons UNLV put together a 32-game winning streak.

Rebel players have also topped the list for players of the year in the BWC. While participating in the BWC for

14 years, the Rebels have had 10 players of the year, and two of those players were named twice: Larry Johnson (1990-91) and Richie Adams (1984-85).

UNLV has not had BWC player of the year since 1994, when Kebu Stewart was given the honor.

By leaving the BWC, however, the Rebels will be taking a step forward when they enter the Western Athletic Conference next season and play their first game against a WAC opponent.

It will be a quantum leap for UNLV, going from a weak basketball conference to one that features perennial winners, such as New Mexico, Utah and Brigham Young University.

A rivalry may even be brewing between UNLV and another WAC school, before these two teams even get together as conference opponents. When the Rebels face Fresno State

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