

Rebel softball struggling after great start

By Adam Hill
Staff Sports Writer

The Rebel softball team has run into a bit of trouble lately, but has still posted a respectable record of 15-18 overall and sits in third place in the Western Athletic Conference with a record of 9-7.

The Rebels entered the month of April with a mark of 13-13 and then proceeded to sweep a doubleheader from San Jose St., right here at Rebel Diamond, 5-4 in the first game, and 6-5 in the second. The game took place on April 3.

Since then, the Rebels have struggled, although it has been against tough competition. The next day brought another home doubleheader, this one against Fresno State, the third-ranked team in the country.

The Rebels were swept by the mighty Bulldogs, going

down 9-3 in the first game, and 15-13 in the nightcap. It was a difficult loss, but was expected against the highly-ranked Bulldogs.

The treacherous schedule continued as the Rebels then went on the road to face 18th-ranked Long Beach State on April 7. The game went 18 innings before Long Beach was able to score the winning run off Brandi Isgar in a 2-1 marathon affair.

Isgar pitched all 17.2 innings and did a tremendous job holding the potent 49er offense, but the offense just couldn't get to the Long Beach pitching.

"We outplayed them, out hit them, we just left too many runners on base," Coach Shan McDonald said. "We played hard the whole way, you just never know who's going to win. It was very disappointing."

The scoring drought contin-

ued the next day as the Rebels were swept in a double-header by a strong Cal-State Fullerton team, 1-0 and 3-0.

The five game losing streak came against three very tough opponents and included several heartbreaking losses.

The Rebels now gear up for a four game road trip featuring doubleheaders at Utah on Friday and Colorado St. on Saturday.

Including those games, the Rebels have 18 games remaining this season and they hope they can squeeze as many wins as possible out of these games.

"We've hit well, played good defense and our pitching has been fine. We just can't seem to get the key hit," McDonald said.

Several Rebel performers have had good seasons at the plate, however. Leading the way is All-America Candidate Julie Crandall. She is hitting

.351 with seven home runs and 22 RBI. In conference games, she is hitting .378 with four home runs.

Raven Coberg has hit 4 home runs and knocked in 18, while hitting .287. She has stepped up her offense in conference games, leading the team with a .392 average and 16 RBI.

Keao Chang has also hit well this year, compiling a .316 average with a home run and nine batted in. She also recorded the team's only triple.

All together, the Rebels are near the bottom of the WAC, hitting .247 as a team. Crandall is second in the conference with seven home runs. She has also racked up 20 walks and an on-base percentage of .469, both ranking her third in the conference.

Chang's on-base percentage of .446 ranks her sixth. Coberg sits in fifth with five home runs and is tenth in conference batting average, hitting at a .392 clip.

The defensive side has been

the strength of the Rebel team. The .957 fielding percentage of the Rebel defense ranks second in the WAC. The team ERA of 2.21 is good for fourth in the conference.

Brandi Isgar is near the top of many individual pitching categories as well. She leads the conference in innings pitched with 144. She is third in the conference in strikeouts with 88 and eighth in ERA with 1.75.

With all these great individual performances, the Rebels seem like they should have a better record. However, the clutch hitting just hasn't been there.

"The team has played with a lot of enthusiasm, focus, and intensity. I just hope it pays off soon," McDonald said. "We have done everything well enough, we just need to push runs across in key situations."

The next Rebel home game will be a Tuesday doubleheader against the San Diego St. Aztecs, a conference foe at Rebel Diamond at noon.

Making the play



by Erik Thompson / The Rebel Yell

UNLV 1st baseman Tony DeMarco stretches to receive a throw during UNLV's 11-10 win over Air Force Friday night at Earl Wilson Stadium.

Rebel golfers win school record sixth tournament

By Ray Brewer
Sports Editor

The other top collegiate golf teams have seen enough.

It's the same old story.

See the UNLV golf team win a tournament...see the Rebels win other event...see the Rebels kept the first-place ranking in every major poll.

Keeping with tradition, the No. 1 ranked UNLV golf team held off a fierce third-round rally by Wake Forest to capture the team title at the BELLSOUTH Yellow Pages Intercollegiate at the par-72, 6,829 MacGregor Downs Country Club this past weekend.

After leading the tournament by nine strokes after two rounds of play, UNLV (287-283-298 — 868, four over par) shot a final round 298, holding on for a one stroke victory of Wake Forest.

"I think we got off to a fast start and played well on the 36-hole day," UNLV golf coach Dwaine Knight said. "That set up the victory for us."

The win extended the Rebels' best ever season victory total to six and marked UNLV's 10th top-five finish in 12 events this season.

Winning a golf tournament is no easy task.

"It's pretty hard," Knight said. "There is so much parity in college golf. For us to have accomplished what we have, it says a lot about our kids."

Wake Forest (296-286-287) posted a third-round low total of 287 to make things interesting. North Carolina finished third with a score of 875. Duke came in fourth at 879 and Clemson was fifth with a three-day total of 880.

Individually, UNLV sophomore Jeremy Anderson was unstop-

pable.

Anderson made a little history in taking home medalist honors with a six-under par, 210 performance. He became the first Rebel to win two events this season since Chris Riley (3) and Ed Fryatt (2) accomplished the feat during the 1993-94 season.

Anderson, who shot a final-round 71 to secure the win, captured the GolfWorld Invitational back in November for his earlier win.

"He (Anderson) just felt really comfortable on the golf course," Knight said. "His (first round) 67 set the tone for the tournament."

UNLV had two other players finish in the top team of the leaderboard.

Junior Charley Hoffman finished in a fifth-place tie with a 72-68-76 — 216 and senior Bill Lunde

See Golf page 14

Baseline Scoops

NBA COMING TO THOMAS AND MACK

The Lakers and Jazz will be playing at the Thomas and Mac Center on October 27th at 7:30 pm. This marks the second season in a row that the Lakers have made a trip to Las Vegas. Fans will be able to see such stars as Shaquille O'Neal, Kobe Bryant, Karl Malone and John Stockton and many other star NBA players, providing that they aren't traded.

WOMEN'S TENNIS CONTINUES SEASON AT BYU

UNLV started off well easily defeating Wichita State. Even though UNLV lost both the top singles and doubles spots the rest of the team recovered and won all of the remaining singles matches and the third spot doubles match. The top singles match was a wild one with Gee Gee Garvin just coming up short in the third set, 7-6, 5-7, 7-5. UNLV finished the day with six wins to the Shockers three and set their sights for BYU.

The women's tennis team aimed high, but fell to 7th ranked BYU, 7-1. The Lady Rebels didn't fair too well on the outdoor courts at BYU. The Lady Rebels fell to 7-9 overall and 0-1 in the WAC. The one point for UNLV came on a 6-4, 4-6, 7-5 win for Lisa Annebro. UNLV's Marcella Valkenhoff suffered her first collegiate defeat against Brooke Leavens after starting the season off 7-0.

MEN'S TENNIS CONTINUES RUN AGAINST CENTRAL FLORIDA

The Rebels improved their record to 10-7 overall with their win on April Fool's Day. The men swept all of the singles matches and was well in control by the time doubles started. The Rebels only lost one set in all of the singles action. By the time doubles action rolled around UNLV was out to a comfortable

6-0 lead. The Rebels dropped two of the three doubles matches, but still came away with a 6-1 victory.

Next, UNLV traveled to USC to play the 9th-ranked Trojans. The Trojans swept the doubles matches and scored a team point that way. In the singles matches, Danny Erez and Brandon Fallon were the only victorious Rebels. Erez defeated Kyle Spencer 4-6, 7-6, 7-5, and Fallon defeats Christoph Poehlr 6-4, 6-4. After all play was decided UNLV was on the short end of a 5-2 loss.

CRANDALL EARNS PLAYER OF THE WEEK

A senior catcher on the softball team, Julie Crandall earned WAC Player of the Week for her efforts against San Jose State and Fresno State. Crandall went 8-14 (.571) over the week. She also finished with six RBI, eight runs, and four home runs.

WAC CHAMPION REBELS TO CELEBRATE CHAMPIONSHIP

On April 23 the Runnin' Rebels will host a banquet in honor of their championship. The banquet will be at the Las Vegas Hilton. There will be drinks, followed by dinner and then a program. Tickets are now on sale, call 895-UNLV for more information.

UNLV'S COLLINS TO COACH NATIONAL VOLLEYBALL TEAM

UNLV volleyball's Deitre Collins has been selected as head coach for the USA Junior National Team, which will be made up of top high school athletes who aspire to become members of the USA National Team.

The team will compete at the World Championship Qualifier in Monterey, Mexico, July 18-22.