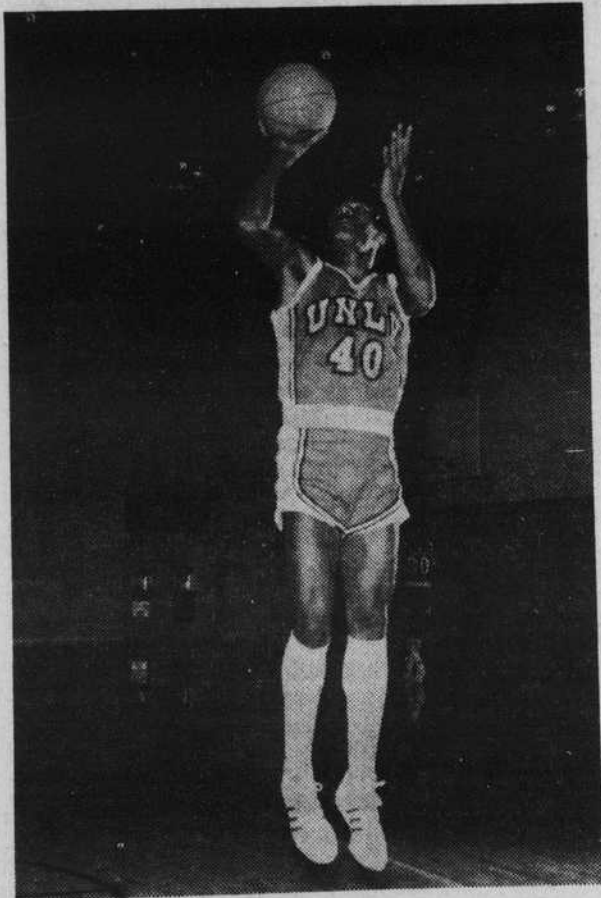
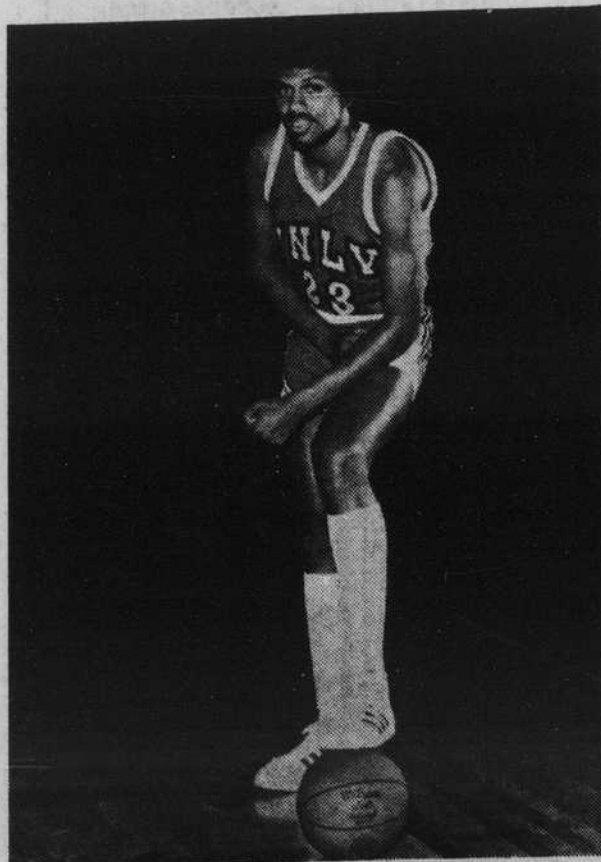


# RUNNING REBELS

## SPORTS



**3 Willard Govain**  
6-3, 196, Junior  
Oakland, California



**23 Reggie Theus**  
6-7, 204, Junior  
Inglewood, California

by beating Gonzaga 91-68. On Thursday they will go against University of California Santa Barbara. UC Santa Barbara won over Seattle University 58-55.

Gonzaga of Spokane has a 4-6 record; Seattle has a 3-6 and UC-Santa Barbara a 3-6.

UNLV has won the last five Holiday Classics by an average of 10 points, beating St. Mary's, Michigan, Fresno State, Virginia, and Arizona. The Rebels won on three other occasions, finished second four times and in third place four other times. They never have come in last.

Tarkanian is not taking the losing streak the three teams in the Holiday Classic have been running lately, lightly. Gonzaga has lost its last five contests, Seattle its last three, and Santa Barbara its last six. Tarkanian says, "This will be no piece of cake for us. We've proved that time and time again this season."

Sports fans are beginning to wonder where Tarkanian found the scrappy Govain, a player who seems to find joy in beating people six inches bigger than him in all parts of the game.

Tarkanian says, "I don't know what it is about him. He looks slow, but he must be fast because he gets so many steals."

"Wild Willard" makes it a habit to lead UNLV in a category that never makes the box scores. He usually leads the team in steals, statistic which many times goes overlooked. He has hit 11.6 points a game, but leads in steals with 27. This man seems to take up the slack for a departed Sam Smith, who led the club in steals last year.

Govain's record so far this year - prior to Wednesday - is: against Pepperdine, 14 points; against San Diego State, 20 points; against Tulsa 19 points; against Loyola 11 points; and against Iowa 12 points. He seldom hits below double figures and drives other players nuts with his play underneath which keeps the best of 6-8 forwards off balance. "I came in with a positive attitude. It was all whatever I wanted to get, I had to work for," said Govain of his quiet arrival at UNLV.

The real strength of Govain, however, comes in his drives to the bucket. He maneuvers well around the basket and seldom misses even when 6-8 forwards and 6-10 centers are all over him.

Whatever Govain does, he seems to pop up wherever Tarkanian wants him. He leveled one player nearly 40 pounds heavier than he in one game. This happened when San Diego State's Rocky Lee, a 6-10 reserve, happened to be in the way of Govain's path of progress. Govain ran over Lee and sent him crashing to the floor, which seemed to instill the special "oomph" needed to fire up another UNLV win.

Tarkanian spends a lot of time wondering whether high school and junior college talent will buy the UNLV program, when it is a lot easier when a player like Govain comes out of nowhere - as a walkon.

This win brings UNLV to 12-0 and extends their home streak to 70.

UNLV upped their lead to 24 points several times, and Gonzaga never got closer than 16 points during an otherwise dull game. Only about 1,000 fans remained for the entire game.

UNLV's 23 point winning margin is the second largest of the season and the 68 points scored by Gonzaga is the fewest margin managed by any opponent so far this year.

Assistant Coach, Ralph Readout, said, "Our defense was responsible for their poor shoot-

ing percentage. We just went through the motions on offense during the first half. We didn't have enough respect for Gonzaga. That's the mark of an immature team."

One big difference in the teams was on the free throw line. Gonzaga only made eight out of 20, but UNLV was successful on 25 of 31 attempts.

Earl Evans led the Rebels with 24 points; Reggie Theus was next in line with 19 points; Gerald Sims added 14 points and Tony Smith 12 points.

Tarkanian put all five reserves in for the last three minutes: guards Brett Bales, a freshman; Mike Milke, who has seen little action in four years; forwards Cleveland Jackson, a tight end on the Rebel football team; Sam Copeland, who was supposed to red-shirt this season; and center Manuel Johnson, another freshman. This quintet outscored Gonzaga seven to four while on the court.

### 1977-78 RUNNIN' REBEL SCHEDULE

DATE	UNLV OPPONENT	OPP	LOCATION
Nov. 26 85	Northwestern State, LA	80	Las Vegas, NV
Nov. 29 78	Pepperdine University	75	Malibu, CA
Dec. 3 91	Bradley University	90	Las Vegas, NV
Dec. 5 117	Pepperdine University	90	Las Vegas, NV
Dec. 9 101	San Diego State University	95	Las Vegas, NV
Dec. 10 104	University of Tulsa	103	Las Vegas, NV
Dec. 14 77	University of Nevada, Reno	64	Las Vegas, NV
Dec. 16 89	Lamar University	88	Las Vegas, NV
Dec. 17 101	Loyola Marymount University	84	Las Vegas, NV
Dec. 20-21	REBEL ROUNDUP 101 UNLV, Northwestern University, 85 U. of Iowa	95 84	Las Vegas, NV
Dec. 28-29	HOLIDAY CLASSIC 91 Gonzaga University, U. of California, Santa Barbara,	68	Las Vegas, NV
1978			
Jan. 5	California State, Northridge		Las Vegas, NV
Jan. 7	University of New Mexico		Las Vegas, NV
Jan. 13	Illinois State University		Las Vegas, NV
Jan. 15	Marquette University		Milwaukee, WI
Jan. 17	University of New Mexico		Albuquerque, NM
Jan. 21	Wichita State University		Wichita, KS
Jan. 24	University of Arizona		Tucson, AZ
Jan. 28	University of Louisville		Louisville, KY
Feb. 4	University of Maryland		College Park, MD
Feb. 11	Arkansas State University		Las Vegas, NV
Feb. 17	Pan American University		Las Vegas, NV
Feb. 18	Portland State University		Las Vegas, NV
Feb. 24-25	University of Hawaii		Honolulu, HI
Feb. 28	St. Mary's College		Las Vegas, NV
Mar. 4	University of Kentucky		Lexington, KY
Mar. 7	Athletes in Action		Long Beach, CA

HOME GAMES - 8:15 p.m.

LAS VEGAS CONVENTION CENTER  
HEAD COACH: Jerry Tarkanian

ASSISTANT COACHES:

Ralph Readout, George McQuarn, Odie Allison

The undefeated Rebels (11-0) hosted Gonzaga at 9 p.m. Wednesday; and Seattle University and the University of California, Santa Barbara, met at 7 p.m.

Wednesday night the Rebels met Gonzaga and showed they still had it going for them