

SPORTS



Rebels

So much for the easy part of the schedule. UNLV's Hustlin' Rebel baseball team, currently 29-15 following a three-game sweep of U.S. International University (19-15, 8-3, 8-7) this past weekend, must now tackle the toughest part of its schedule this coming week -- and the timing could not have been more crucial.

Feeling they must win at least 40 games this year in order to even be considered for a post-season NCAA playoff berth, the Hustlin' Rebels need to win 11 of their remaining 16 contests to reach that goal.

And it all begins this Thursday, April 20, when UNLV hosts fifth-rated Florida State in a four-game series scheduled to run through Sunday, April 23. UNLV will battle the Seminoles in single, 3 p.m. contests on both Thursday and Friday, and then wrap up the second half of the set with noon single games on both Saturday and Sunday.

The going gets no easier following the Florida State series. The Hustlin' Rebels then host the University of Hawaii with sophomore flame-thrower Derek Tatsuno, the nation's leading strikeout artist in 1977, in a three-game set the following weekend. The ulcer-causing part of the schedule culminates May 1 and 2 with two 7 p.m. (MDT) contests at defending NCAA champion Arizona State.

"You might say it's time to tighten our

belts a notch," said UNLV coach Fred Dalimore. "The strange thing about our team, though, is that it seems to rise to whatever occasion comes up. Bide my word, we'll come out of this stretch in fine shape."

The Seminoles, coached by former Cincinnati Reds second baseman-radio broadcaster Woody Woodward, are no strangers to the Hustlin' Rebels. UNLV and Florida State have met twice before, both times last season in the (Hawaiian) Rainbow Easter Tournament. The Seminoles recorded 4-3, 4-2 decisions.

UNLV, which has been hitting a sizzling .353 over its last three series, will carry a .309 team batting average into the four-game set with Florida State. First baseman Mike Guerra leads all starters with a .370 average and seven home runs. Centerfielder Mike Randolph is hitting .345 and second baseman Vance McHenry is batting .335. Tandelph leads the club in steals with 20; the Hustlin' Rebels have stolen 79 per cent of their base-attempts so far this season.

Senior lefthander Herb Pryor, who sets record after record each time he pitches, is the team leader in both wins (10, against three losses) and earned-run average (2.12). He has also pitched 106 innings this season, and whiffed 80 and walked only 26. The Seminoles this week, in addition to facing Pryor, will see junior righthanders Kirk Jones (6-2, 4.30), Dan Fischer (5-5, 3.30) and Mark Jamison (4-2, 3.45). The order of the pitching assignments has not been firmed yet.

UNLV continues to see its fielding percent-

tage hover around the .957 mark, having committed only 72 errors compared to the opposition's 114 (.934).

The Hustlin' Rebels are 22-10 versus righthanded pitching and 7-5 versus lefthanders.

Benefit

Always known to be a man who will never be out done, Dr. Frank Sinatra has once again lined up a once-in-a-lifetime show for the UNLV athletic scholarship donors Seventh Annual "Thank You" party, May 2, 8 p.m. at the Aladdin Theatre for the Performing Arts.

"Another Evening With Frank Sinatra and Friends," will include Sinatra, Pat and Debby Boone, Lou Rawls, Ed McMahon, Totie Fields, Jackie Gayle, Pat Henry and Marlene Ricci. Surprise guests inevitably show up every year for this special Sinatra concert, which is being held at the Aladdin for the second straight year and offers reserved seat tickets for the general public as well as the Rebel boosters.

Last year's "drop-ins" at the UNLV "Thank You" Party included Jerry Lewis and Paul Anka and at one time, Sinatra, Lewis, Anka and Dean Martin were all on the stage at one time.

Tickets for this year's extravaganza are priced at \$25 and \$15 and are on sale at the Aladdin Box Office and the UNLV Athletic Ticket office on the Rebel campus.

Those who saw the recent Academy Awards show will remember Pat Boone's proud reaction to his daughter's performance of the song of the year, "You Light Up My Life." On the evening of May 2, Pat will be on the Aladdin stage with his daughter. Pat and Debby will each do solos, then they will sing together.

The toast of the Milk and apple pie set, Pat and his family are actually descendents of the great American trailblazer Daniel Boone. Pat has had songs on the charts for more than 200 weeks consecutively, and all-time record.

The third of the four Boone daughters, Debby's first record single was "You Light Up My Life." The record-setting song was no. 1 on the pop charts for 11 consecutive weeks, an all-time industry record.

Totie Fields, the loveable Las Vegas' Entertainer-of-the-Year, has been a staunch supporter of UNLV athletics for many years and recently drew this praise from Rebel head basketball coach Jerry Tarkanian--a Las Vegas celebrity in his own right, "She is truly a grand lady, who has had to go through an awful lot and deeps smiling through it all and we sincerely thank her for her continued closeness and help to our program."

Gayle, who appeared at last year's "Thank You" party also, is one of that small handful of laughgetters who can walk onto a stage, completely discard his set material and ad-lib on any subject that strikes his fancy.

Ricci is an exciting and captivating new singer about whom it has been said, "has the energy of Joplin and the styling of Streisand." She so impressed Sinatra when he saw her perform in the Aladdin long last month that she has recently been on tour with him.

Henry is also a former performer at the UNLV "Thank You" party and he will be a welcome friend on the Aladdin stage. Although he has long been a top-rated comedian and has appeared many times with Sinatra at Ceasars Palace, his initial entry into the show world was as a trumpet player and he still uses his horn in his act.

Rawls is a tremendous recording star who is no stranger to Las Vegas, although this

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19 COLUMN 1

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