

SPORTS

UNLV Baseball

RETURN TO THE STATUS QUO

With the hitting, pitching and, most importantly, the defense finally returning to the status quo, the 18th-ranked Hustlin' Rebel baseball team now appears to be back on the right track after four weeks of up-and-down, roller-coaster play.

The Hustlin' Rebels took three of four contests from a much-improved U.S. Air Force Academy team, 8-2, 11-8, 8-10 and 8-1, this past weekend to run their season mark to 22-15, in anticipation of meeting Cal State, Northridge in a three-game set this coming Friday and Saturday.

The two teams will play a single, 2:30 p.m. contest on Friday, and then square off in a Saturday twinbill slated for noon.

"We're starting to show some of the same character this year that last year's team had," says Hustlin' Rebel skipper Fred Dallimore, now that his team is halfway through its 66-game regular season schedule.

"At one point last season, we were just about in the same boat (19-12). But we came back and played probably the best college baseball in the country for a stretch of three to four weeks. That's what it will take again this season, and I think this cast of characters have the stick-to-it-tiveness to pull it off."

Strangely enough, last season's Hustlin' Rebels caught fire after returning home from an extended roadtrip and sweeping the Air Force Academy. It's almost a Xeroxed copy this year; back home from a dismal roadtrip to Fresno, Calif., the Hustlin' Rebels pounded out no less than 11 hits per game against the Falcons.

"All three facets of the game (pitching, hitting, defense) appear to be jiving now," adds Dallimore. "All we need now is to hit a real hot streak, and then we'll be on our way. When we get hot, it's hard to touch us."

With total optimism, the Hustlin' Rebel coaching staff is looking for a three-game sweep of both Cal State, Northridge and Fresno State (April 13-14), which would make the season record 28-15, with La Verne College and Southern Utah State College left at home before taking off on the road again.

And once again this year, the statistics are making the big leap to respectability after a four-game series with the Air Force Academy.

As a team, UNLV has an aggregate batting average of .293, with 16 home runs, 59 doubles and 69 stolen bases.

Third baseman-designated hitter Bill Max, a sophomore and graduate of Las Vegas High School, is leading in most offensive categories: .376 batting average, 13 doubles (for an average of .39 per game), 20 walks and 29 runs-batted-in. He also has two home runs.

Regulars batting behind Max and hitting above the team mean are: freshman catcher Frank De Santis (.338, 1 HR, 10 RBIs), junior centerfielder Dan Murphy (.317, 2 HRs, 19 RBIs), junior designated hitter Ray Perry (.305, 1 HR, 18 RBIs), junior left-fielder Doug Smith (.295, 1 HR, 18 RBIs) and junior first baseman Ed Crow (.295, 4 HRs, and 28 RBIs). Crow's four home runs lead the team.

It has been a mish-mash of success and failure for Dallimore's pitching staff this season. Junior left-hander Stan Hawkins leads the pack with a 3-0 record and 2.61 earned-run average. Senior right-handers Kirk Jone (5-3, 2.77 ERA) and Dan Fischer (3-3, 2.63 ERA) have been battling nagging injuries, as has been junior righthander Tom Sauer (3-2, 4.68 ERA). Sophomore righty Ken Elsee has had some control problems of late, but still he is 5-1 with a 5.43 EAR.

"We'll just have to bring ourselves above the situation," Dallimore analyzes. "Getting to the NCAA playoffs right now will be a long haul. But one thing I've learned in my six years of college baseball, nothing is out of the range of possibility."



PEPSI OFFERS NETWARD MOBILITY

You're never too young to learn a new sport. But in the inner cities around America, the problem, often, is a lack of facilities and trained instructors. Not

so for this New York City youngster though, who was given a racket, a portable court near home and ten weeks of free instruction provided by the local Pepsi-Cola Bottler and the Department of Recreation. The Pepsi-Cola Mobile Tennis Program will visit approximately sixty cities throughout the country this year, giving instruction to 40,000 youngsters a week from May to September.

SPORTS



Films of fights such as this one between Joe Louis and Arturo Godoy in 1940 can fetch good prices from Jim Jacobs, a former handball champion.

If you have any fight films of the 40's, such as the heavy-weight bout between Louis and Nova in 1940 or the Robinson-Gavilan welter-weight fight of 1948, you can find out how much they're worth by writing to Jim Jacobs at 9 East 40th St., New York, N.Y. 10016.

Check Voice for Quick Service Ads.

Thanks for Supporting Our Advertisers.

Over 40,000 Las Vegans read THE VOICE

- EDITORIALS
- NEWS
- SPORTS
- ENTERTAINMENT
- LOCAL HAPPENINGS

We've got it ★ all together

gaudin ford



LEE WALKER Can Sell You A Car.

See Him Today!

PHONE: 385-5500

gaudin ford

Where fords REALLY DO cost less!

On the Strip at Charleston Boulder Hwy. at Oakley