

LAS VEGAS SENTINEL

Watch Us Grow

# SPORTS BOARD

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SPORTS, GAMING, HORSERACING



## Crouse, Defense Lift UNLV

LAS VEGAS, NEV. — Despite the fact that opponents are maintaining greater ball possession and are running off more plays, the 3-1 UNLV Rebel football team has some very impressive statistics after the first four games of the 1980 season.

Coach Tony Knap's Rebels, fresh from a 36-17 home victory over Cal

State, Fullerton, are averaging an impressive 449.3 yards per game in total offense (209.5 rushing and 239.8 passing) and are scoring 39.0 points per game. Defensively, the Big Red Rebel "D" is allowing 340.0 yards per game in total offense (152.0 rushing and 188.0 passing) and giving up 20.8 points per game.

UNLV has run off only 251 plays from scrimmage but has amassed 1,797 yards in total offense for an amazing average of 7.2 yards gained per play. Rebel opponents, on the other hand, have had 310 offensive plays from scrimmage for 1,360 net yards in total offense for a mediocre average gain per play of 4.4 yards.

As has been a trademark of Tony Knap teams at UNLV, the Rebels are again a well-

balanced team with an extremely explosive offense which is far from being centered around a small group of individuals.

Conversely, 14 Rebels have contributed to the 156 points UNLV has scored in its four games to date, 12 more have carried the ball at least once, four players have thrown at least one pass, 13 have caught at least one pass and one defense, five different Rebels have each intercepted two passes.

The Rebels are ranked in the top 10 in the nation this season, statistically speaking, in passing offense, total offense, and scoring offense, and while the 423 total yards gained in the victory over Fullerton is below their season average, it still is more than most schools will ring up during a Saturday night's work.

Junior speed merchant Michael Morton continues to lead UNLV

in scoring and rushing from his running back position and he has now

also moved into a tie for second on the squad in  
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CROUSE CRASHES THROUGH — UNLV fullback Ray Crouse displays the running form that enabled him to gain 100 yards on 16 carries last week against Cal State Fullerton in the Rebels' 36-17 win. Crouse, averaging 5.9 yards per carry, will direct his attention toward San Diego State Saturday when the Aztecs host UNLV.



RAY CROUSE

## REAL SHOW IN STADIUM, NOT RING

By Ed Brown

It was the end of an era — it was the "Last Hurrah" at Caesars Palace on Oct. 2 in a packed, temporary stadium on the hotel's parking lot. It was the final curtain for "the legend" Muhammad Ali.

World Boxing Council heavyweight champion Larry Holmes pounded furiously at the body of three-time champion Ali and successfully defended his crown when Ali, battered from the opening round, was unable to answer the bell for the 11 round.

More than 25,000 fans witnessed the fight promoted by Don King in association with Caesars Palace.

There were many other unusual things that happened surrounding this big show that bears mentioning. Some are practically unbelievable.

While the attendance estimates were placed at 25,000, it did not include the 600 members of the press from all over the world; 350 security guards, 22 Metropolitan Police officers and UNLV students; the hotel staff workers and the hundreds upon hundreds who "sneaked" into the stadium. The figure, more conservatively was around 35,000.

It took 30 men, a full day, to clean up the debris. They vacuumed the area with pressure

hoses and swept it up into plastic bags.

Caesars provided 16,000 hotdogs at \$2 each, 130 kegs of beer at \$2 a cup and 1,200 gallons of cola at \$1 a cup. Even pillows to sit on fetched \$7.50 each.

There were six doctors on hand plus four nurses, 13 paramedics and four ambulances. For the most part, a few wanted aspirin for their headaches.

Scalpers were everywhere, some asking for as much as \$200.00 for the \$50 tickets. In the West Las Vegas area, some "scalpers" had as many as 200 tickets to unload. Said one observer, "I don't have my ticket for

tonight's fight, but someone is going to get a bundle from me. I must see (the fight) this one."

Some who were perched on the banks among I-15 felt they had the best seats. About 300 ticketless fans found the embankment to their liking — and the price was right.

It was amazing to see the number of fans who crawled under the fence to see the fight. Moreover, they were able to work their way down into the \$500 section.

According to many, the \$50 seats in the bleachers were among the best in the "house." They came fully equipped with binoculars.

More than \$50 million was added to the Clark County economy.

Caesars set aside 1,000 of its 1,800 rooms for the boxing crowd. At the same time, the hotel contracted with other resorts to reserve 4,000 other rooms along the Strip for the boxing aficionados.

The admission for the daily training sessions was \$3 each. Ali was drawing 2-3,000 daily to see his workouts.

Ali-Holmes T-shirts were selling for \$7. The color picture of Ali went for \$5 and the inflatable Ali pop bags sold for \$10.

Holmes said, at a press conference in his room, that his manager-

trainer Richie Giachetti was paid \$100,000 to handle his affairs for this fight. Giachetti no longer draws a direct commission from Holmes earnings.

Ali became irritated when asked what he paid Angelo Dundee, his trainer. Dundee had been Ali's trainer since the "Louisville Lip" started on the pro tour at the age of 18.

On the day of Ali's departure from Las Vegas, following the fight, he and his entourage had to leave via bus. All of the planes out of the city were filled.

Two ardent fans of Muhammad Ali apparently became so excited  
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