

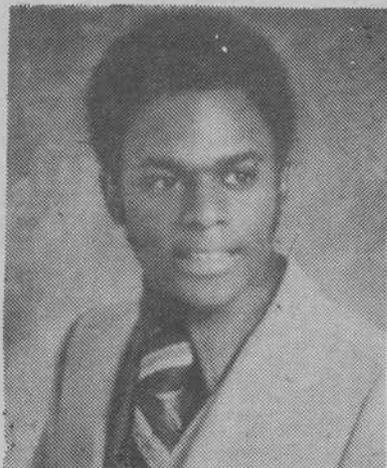
SPORTS BOARD

SPORTS, GAMING, HORSERACING

MARCH 24, 1983



KEN'S COMMENTS



By Ken Wilson

In the midst of all sorts of financial troubles within the UNLV Athletic Department, a group of individuals made it possible to put all troubles behind for a while to cheer for the "team."

For the first time in some time, the UNLV basketball team was the talk of the town the entire 1982-83 season, and Las Vegas will take its rightful place in the memories of all that witnessed the unfolding of a banner year.

A 24-game win streak, last second victories, upset wins, are all just part of the contents that fill scrapbooks from the just concluded year.

Jerry Tarkanian's UNLV Runnin' Rebels ended the 1983 season at 28-3 overall, losing Sunday in a second round NCAA Western Regional game at Corvallis, Oregon, to North Carolina State, 71-70. The Rebels were the 1983 regular season PCAA champ with a 15-1 mark and the 1983 PCAA post-season champs with wins over Pacific, Cal State-Long Beach, and Fresno State at the tournament. The Rebels ended the 1983 season ranked at No. 6 in both the final AP and UPI polls. At one point this season, the Rebels were unbeaten and ranked No. 1 by nearly every polling service. The Rebel's only losses this season were at Cal State-Fullerton and West Virginia.

UNLV's sparkling season came to an abrupt stop as the Rebels, who had a 1st round bye as one of the top seeds in the west, were beaten by North Carolina State, 71-70.

After trailing by as many as 8 early in the first half, UNLV took a 20-19 lead with 8:26 left in the opening stanza, on a lay-in by 6-6 frosh Eldridge Hudson. The Rebels then led 33-27 at the half and broke open a 12-point lead at 52-40 with 11:40 left in the game when senior Sidney Green scored on a goal tending call, was fouled and hit the free throw to give the Rebels the 12-point advantage.

However, North Carolina State then started to chip away at the UNLV lead and the Rebels started missing free throws. In the final 2:33 of the game, the Rebels were 3-8 from the line, while North Carolina State was outscoring UNLV 8-5. The Wolf Pack took its first lead since early in the first half at 71-70 with :04 left in the game, when North Carolina got 3 shots and 2 offensive rebounds at its own end, as Thural Bailey finally banked it in for State's final margin of victory. The Rebels got off one last desperation shot, but it was no good as the season came to an end for the Rebels.

For his efforts this season, Jerry Tarkanian is being considered for Coach-of-the-Year honors in many polls. It might be the first time in collegiate history that a coach has taken a team that was unranked in the preseason to the No. 1 position in the college rankings. In 1983, Tark has earned UPI's

MAYS AMONG 35 CELEBS IN DESERT INN TOURNEY

Many have joined the bulging field of celebrities who will play in the \$200,000 J&B Scotch Pro-Am golf tournament at the Desert Inn Country Club April 7-10.

Tournament Director Herb McDonald said that 35 celebrities have

sent in their commitments to participate in the celebrity pro-am portion of this LPGA event.

Defending champion and two-time winner Nancy Lopez will face 89 other lady pros in the 72-hole competition in search of the \$30,000

first place prize.

Her stiffest challenge will come from another two-time J&B Scotch Pro-Am winner, Donna Caponi. Player of the Year and leading money winner on the 1982 LPGA Tour, JoAnne Carner, will also be in the lineup, as well as Beth Daniel, winner of the \$100,000 J&B Gold Putter Award Championships held at the Desert Inn Country Club last October.

McDonald listed some of the celebrities alphabetically. They are: Claude Akins, Chuck Connors, Kathryn Crosby, Scatman Crothers, Ken Curtis, Fred de Cordova, Joe DiMaggio, Kevin Dobson, Bob Donner, David Doyle, Barbara Eden, Chad Everett, Tom Harmon, Peter Haskell, Elroy Hirsch, Keith Jackson and Dennis James.

Also, there are: Michael Kane, Harvey Korman, Fred MacMurray, Peter Marshall, Willie Mays, Ed Nelson, Paul Picerni, Tom Poston, Dale Robertson, Gus and Telly Savalas, Charles Schulz, Jim Sikking, Robert Stack.

Bruce Weitz and Efram Zimbalist, Jr.

"This is, by far, our most impressive roster of celebrities ever," McDonald said. "Not even the Crosby, Hope or Dinah Shore golf tournaments combined have this many stars playing," he boasted.

The J&B Scotch Pro-Am will benefit the Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Southern Nevada.

LITTLE PEOPLE SUPPORT GROUP TO MEET

The March meeting for the Little People Support Group has been scheduled for Thursday, March 21, at 7 p.m. in the Administration Building of Desert Development Center, 1300 S. Jones Blvd.

The entire family is invited to hear Kathryn Everson speak on clothing and how to make alterations for size and body proportions.

At this meeting we will be having a Dessert Potluck, so bring your favorite dessert and join us for a fun evening.

West Coast Coach-of-the-Year, so far.

Next season the Runnin' Rebels' home will be the 18,501 Thomas and Mack Arena. However, the task of reaching the postseason will not be an easy one with key personnel departing.

The Rebels will lose starters Sidney Green and Larry Anderson, along with 6-9 reserve center John Copeland, all in their senior season. Returning will be three starters: 6-2 Danny Tarkanian, Jeff Collins, and Paul Brozovich, all of whom will be seniors. Also returning will be Eldridge Hudson, who will be a sophomore, and will have knee surgery on his left knee shortly. Hudson started 16 of 26 games during the past season, along with 6-4 Eric Booker, a senior next year who started 9 of 31 games this season. Also back will be 6-4 Gary Graham who will be a sophomore and who played in 28 games. Returning also will be reserves 6-4 Chuck Ruggeroli and 6-5 Tom Roberts who will both be seniors and 7-0 George Posti who was redshirted this season.

Tarkanian has already made plans to replace the departing seniors by landing several top prospects. Already signed with UNLV and will be a freshman next year are 6-9 Richard Robinson from Kennedy High School in Granada Hills, California, and 6-5 Ricky Collier from Ramona High School in Riverside, California. Eligible second semester of the 1983-84 school year will be 6-9 John Flowers, a sophomore who transferred to UNLV the second semester of the 1982-83 season from Indiana.

MEADOWS MALL WELCOMES EASTER BUNNY

Hippity-hopptly, Easter's on its way... and so is the Easter Bunny! He will be arriving at The Meadows on Saturday, March 26, at 11 a.m. Children will be able to visit with him and have their pictures taken, if they like, in Center Court at the following hours:

Monday-Friday: 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. (lunch: 2-3 p.m.)

Saturday: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. (lunch: 2-3 p.m.)

Sunday: 12 noon to 5 p.m. (lunch: 2-2:30 p.m.)

The Easter Bunny will be at The Meadows: Saturday, March 26, through Saturday, April 2.

The Meadows Mall is located between Valley View and Decatur

NEW TOWN TAVERN AND CASINO

Las Vegas, Nev.



Satellite T.V. coverage.

ALL-NEW COMPLETELY REMODELED. DECORATED AND REFURBISHED

Join the action

600 W. Jackson 647-3995 Open 24 Hours
Corner "F" & Jackson Free Drink Coupon For Players