

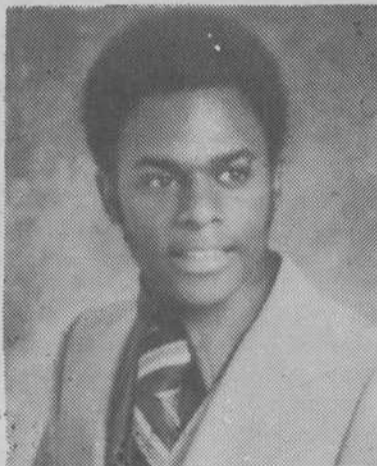
SPORTS BOARD

SPORTS, GAMING, HORSERACING

OCTOBER 25, 1984



KEN'S COMMENTS



By Ken Wilson

With the current 1984 accomplishments of the UNLV football team as inspiration, and given the success of the Runnin' Rebels over the past two campaigns, it appears that Jerry Tarkanian's task would be an easy one with the official arrival of basketball practices' opening day.

Entering his 12th year at the helm, Tarkanian has formulated a winning combination with a get-tough policy which

has produced two straight NCAA playoff berths, while yet another is assured as the Rebel mentor has been blessed with incredible talent in addition to a very long bench.

Many preseason polls have already tabbed UNLV the PCAA Conference favorite, while others have also placed the Rebels in the top ten, and, at first glance, the roster features nothing but explosive materials

in a lineup that includes: Richie Adams, Ed Catchings, Frank James, John Flowers, and transfer Anthony Jones.

Nevertheless, with an awesome frontline that should be tough both offensively and defensively, there seems to be a Dallas Cowboy type drama on the horizon with regards to a replacement for the departed point guard, Danny Tarkanian.

According to the original game plan, 6-2 sophomore Freddie Banks was to be the heir-apparent to Tarkanian's spot, but the development of 6-4 sophomore Gary Graham, who red-shirted last season, has made it a two-horse race.

In that a team usually takes on the personality of its point guard, Banks is known for his offense, while after a year off, Graham has come back with a well-rounded game on both ends; thus the final decision remains with Tarkanian.

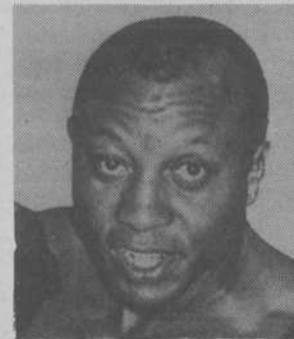
The rest of the lineup shouldn't be as hard to assemble with the leadership coming from last season's top scorer and rebounder in the form of PCAA Player of the Year, Richie Adams.

From there Coach Tarkanian can utilize different combinations with front courters including Flowers, Robinson, Catching, James, and Eldridge Hudson who returns after an almost career-ending knee injury.

Newcomers looking to

HOLMES STARTS "COUNTDOWN TO GLORY" AT RIVIERA ON NOV. 9

Undefeated Larry Holmes begins his "Countdown to Glory" — the first step on the path to breaking Rocky



James Smith

Marciano's legendary record — when he defends his International

break into the limelight will be former Georgetown player Anthony Jones, who had several off years after an outstanding prep career, and yet another transfer, Arman Gilliam, who came to UNLV from Independence Junior College in Kansas.

The Rebel hoopsters appear to have all of the key ingredients to capture their third consecutive Pacific Coast Athletic Association crown, and even to advance further in the chase for a national title.

However, much of UNLV's success this year will depend on the Rebels' ability to adjust to given situations during the season in addition to Jerry Tarkanian's finding that all-important stabilizing force at the lead guard spot.

Boxing Federation heavyweight championship against James (Bonecrusher) Smith in a 15-round battle on Friday, Nov. 9 at the Riviera Hotel and Casino.

The title fight, promoted by Don King Productions in association with the Riviera, will be Holmes' first defense of his IBF crown and his first bout in almost one year.

The card — which also features former World Boxing Association heavyweight champion Mike Weaver against Tony Anthony and Randy (Tex) Cobb against Trevor Berbick — will be held outside in a specially constructed stadium in the east parking area of the Riviera.

Lady Rebel center has knee surgery

UNLV women's basketball center Donya Monroe underwent arthroscopic knee surgery this week and is expected to miss four to six weeks of practice, team co-coach Jim Bolla confirmed.

"It was a previous injury that she aggravated," said Bolla through a university news release. "We're lucky that there wasn't any cartilage or ligament damage so it didn't demand any major surgery. It was a very similar injury to Karen Hall's."

Hall, a freshman guard who also suffered a knee injury which necessitated surgery, had her cast removed Monday.

The big eight-bout card begins at 5 p.m. with gates to the stadium opening at 4 p.m. The Holmes-Smith championship bout begins at approximately 7:30 p.m.

Ticket prices start at \$25. Tickets also are available at \$50, \$100 and \$250. All tickets are available 24 hours a day at the Riviera casino cage.



Larry Holmes

Holmes, who turns 35 on Nov. 3, has a record of 45-0 with 32 knockouts, his last win coming on Nov. 25, 1983, when he stopped Marvis Frazier in the first round.

Now, with the end of his career coming into sight, Holmes is trying for a record once thought almost unapproachable, 50 heavyweight division wins without a loss, one more than former heavyweight champion Marciano managed in the late 1940s and 1950s.

The gifted boxer-puncher from Eaton, Pa., turned pro in 1973 and won the World Boxing See HOLMES, Page 15

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