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DECEMBER 26, 1985



SPORTS ON PARADE

By B. J. RICHARD



UNLV Rebels step up in class with Hawaiian classic

HONOLULU — If UNLV's basketball players ever thought Christmas in Las Vegas was a little weird, they don't anymore.

After one day here, this place makes Las Vegas look like the North Pole on Christmas Eve. That is, unless your Christmas spirit is intensified by Christmas lights on palm trees, laurel wreaths in Hawaiian shirt shops and sunbathers walking to the tune of Christmas carols.

Yes, the aromas of pine needles and coconut oil collide this week, offering a very odd atmosphere for the biggest schedule grind in UNLV history.

The 12th-ranked Rebels, 8-1, arrived here Sunday for the middle leg of a brutal six-game, nine-day swing. They're 2-0 after winning the Rebel Roundup Saturday night, but here they step up in class — and atmosphere.

The atmosphere and the distractions — one player brought his fins and others started talking about mopeds halfway across the Pacific —

Raiders top Rams; Allen top NFL rusher

LOS ANGELES — Marcus Allen won the NFL rushing title Monday night, but the Los Angeles Raiders needed Chris Bahr's three field goals and Marc Wilson's 21-yard TD pass to Dokie Williams to beat the Los Angeles Rams 16-6.

Allen gained 123 yards and finished with 1,759 yards, 40 ahead of Atlanta's Gerald Riggs, to win the

Raiders' first rushing title. His ninth-consecutive game over 100 yards rushing tied Walter Payton's National Football League record this season.

Allen also set a single-season record for yards from scrimmage with 2,314, breaking the Rams' Eric Dickerson's 1984 mark of 2,244 yards.

Dickerson, who won the last two rushing titles, gained 98 yards for 1,234 this season.

The Raiders (12-4) clinched the home-field advantage for the AFC playoffs, which they begin Jan. 5 at home against the winner of Saturday's New York Jets-New England game.

The Rams (11-5) open the playoffs at home Jan. 4 against the Dallas Cowboys.

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — For Freddie Roach, the price of respect against undefeated WBC lightweight champion Hector "Macho" Camacho was a broken nose, a broken hand and a gashed face.

Camacho battered the stubborn Roach for 10 rounds Wednesday night, but could not put him down while earning an unimpressive unanimous decision in the non-title bout.

"He fought the best he could," Camacho said. "Everyone thought he was going to get killed, but he proved everyone wrong. He was very tough."

Camacho, who weighed 127½ pounds, used left-right combinations to bloody Roach's nose from the third round on. Roach, according to his manager and father, broke his hand in the round and could not punch effectively the rest of the way.

In the fifth, Camacho's lack of hard training began to show. He tied up Roach at every opportunity and once was penalized for holding.

However, Camacho's relentless pounding took a further toll, opening a deep

Camacho wins over Roach — loses outfit



"Macho" Camacho

cut above Roach's eye. Referee Hank Elespuru checked the cut twice, but let the fight continue.

While Camacho may have lost some respect with his performance, his image as a snappy dresser may have suffered a more serious setback. Known for his flamboyant fashions, Camacho had part of his \$2,700 sequined boxing outfit stolen before the fight.

He wore a pair of white boxing trunks with the word "Bronx" written on them.

The bout was Camacho's first since he won the WBC lightweight crown in an impressive victory against Jose Luis Ramirez last August.

The bout was likely his last before a tentative title defense against Sergio Zambrano early next year in Mexico.

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