

'Runnin' Rebel' 87-88 Schedule Announced

In a year that will bring the Soviet Union National Men's basketball team, as well as at least two nationally televised network games to Las Vegas, UNLV Director of Intercollegiate Athletics Dr. Brad Rothermel today announced the schedule for the 1987-88 UNLV Runnin' Rebel Basketball season.

"In my judgment, this schedule represents one of the most competitive home schedules that we have had in the history of our program," said Rothermel in making the announcement. "We eagerly anticipate the competition from not only our quality non-conference opponents, but also, what appears at this point to be a vastly improved PCAA Conference field."

The Runnin' Rebels will open the 1987-88 season on November 24 at the Thomas and Mack Center hosting the Soviet Union Men's National team. The pre-conference season continues with Auburn at home and Nevada-Reno and Houston on the road. Three tournaments are also included in the pre-conference schedule including the Pearl Harbor Classic in Honolulu, UNLV's own Miller Lite Rebel Round-Up (Alaska-Anchorage, Creighton, Tennessee Tech, UNLV) and Bud Light Holiday Classic (LSU, Northern Iowa, Wisconsin, UNLV). The Rebels other non-conference games include Temple, on January 24 in a game that will be nationally televised by ABC-TV and still-unscheduled opponent on February 13, which will be televised nationally on CBS-TV. Georgetown, North Carolina State and DePaul are possible opponents in that game.

Runnin' Rebel Head Coach Jerry Tarkanian is pleased with the new schedule. "I think that again we have as tough a schedule as we can put together," said Tarkanian. "We don't have an NIT Tournament, or a Great Alaska Shootout, where you put four tough teams back-to-back, but we do have some great competition in Auburn, Houston, Temple — those three teams alone had a combined 68-32 record last season and all three were in the NCAA playoffs."

"I also see more parity in the (PCAA) Conference this season," Tarkanian continued. "I think our league is going to be as strong as it's ever been."

Four teams on the Rebel schedule participated in the NCAA Post-Season basketball championships, Auburn, Houston, Temple and LSU (Holiday Classic). In addition, Alaska-Anchorage was the runner-up team in the NCAA Division II championships, and Hawaii-Hilo was a quarterfinals team in the NAIA National Tournament.

SCHEDULE NOTES:

** The UNLV Bud Light Holiday Classic will feature set pairings on both nights. Pairings for the UNLV Miller Lite Rebel Round-Up are T.B.A. In the Miller Lite Rebel Round-Up field, Alaska-Anchorage features Clark High School's Averian Parrish, who arrived in Alaska via Dixie College and BYU. Tennessee Tech features Earl Wise, Ohio Valley Conference Rookie-of-the-Year and the second highest scoring freshman (18.6 ppg) in the country last year.

** While Temple lost to

Holiday Classic participant LSU in the NCAA regionals last season, two other tournament teams met a fate that is familiar to Rebel basketball fans — both LSU and Auburn lost to Indiana in the Midwest regionals. Houston, for the record, was knocked out of the playoffs by Kansas.

** Rebel fans will remember Temple as the team that gave the Rebels the big game in last year's pre-season NIT. The Atlantic 10 Conference champion Owls return four starters including leading scorer Nate Blackwell (19.8 ppg) and Tim Perry who was one of the NCAA's top shot-blockers last season. The Owls were 32-4 last season and coach John Chaney was the USBWA Coach of the Year.

** The February 13 game which CBS has yet to announce, will be held in the Thomas and Mack Center. One other open spot remains on the Schedule as one game still has to be set for the Pearl Harbor Classic.

The 1987-88 UNLV Runnin' Rebel Basketball Schedule

November 24	The Soviet Union National Team
December 1	Auburn
December 3-5	at Pearl Harbor Classic 3rd — UNLV vs. Hawaii-Loa 4th — UNLV vs. Hawaii-Hilo (at Hilo) 5th — UNLV vs. T.B.A.
December 8	at Nevada-Reno
December 12	at Houston
December 21-23	UNLV Miller Lite Rebel Round-Up Alaska-Anchorage, Creighton, Tennessee Tech, UNLV
December 28 & 29	UNLV Bud Light Holiday Classic 28th LSU vs. Northern Iowa Wisconsin vs. UNLV 29th Wisconsin vs. No. Iowa LSU vs. UNLV
January 2	at New Mexico State
January 4	at CSU Long Beach
January 7	UC Santa Barbara
January 9	UC Irvine
January 16	at CSU Fullerton
January 19	at Utah State
January 21	at San Jose State
January 24	Temple (ABC-TV)
January 28	Fresno State
January 30	University of the Pacific
February 4	at UC Irvine
February 6	at UC Santa Barbara
February 11	CSU Fullerton
February 13	T.B.A. (CBS-TV)
February 18	Utah State
February 20	San Jose State
February 25	at University of the Pacific
February 27	at Fresno State
March 3	CSU Long Beach
March 5	New Mexico State
March 10-12	at PCAA Tournament



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