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**SPORTS BRIEFS**

**UNLV Football Coach Jim Strong Ready to Re-Build Program**

By Bob Rodgers



Jim Strong

Jim Strong, a tough man of his word, has his work cut out for him. He is here to rebuild the Rebel Football program.

The UNLV football program has not been near the top of the league standings since 1984.

Strong, who has become UNLV's 6th head coach, has taken a very low key approach to turning the program around. For a man who has been at winning schools such as Arkansas, Minnesota and National Champ Notre Dame, this is a big change.

But nonetheless, his thinking is very positive and he feels the program can take an upward swing at this time.

When asked just how many games the Rebel football team will win this year, Strong said, "Six wins sounds good. That would be

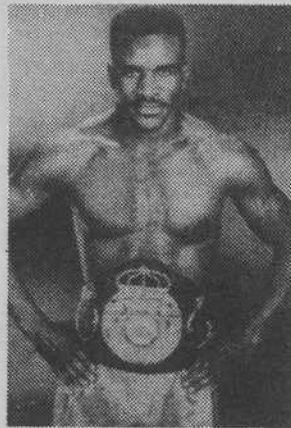
a great season. Sometimes the dice will roll in your favor if the timing is right, and since we are living in the gaming capitol of the world, why not hope for the best? A few fumble recoveries, some blocked kicks, some long runs for TDs, ect."

Strong added, "The jury is still out on UNLV football, but I am looking forward to an exciting season."

**Holyfied Is a 13-5 Favorite Over Doulgas**

James "Buster" Douglas, the Heavyweight Champion of the World, who overcame 42-1 odds and beat Mike Tyson last February in Tokyo, will be faced again with an underdog role against Evander Holyfield.

Jimmy Vaccaro, director of the Mirage Race & Sports Book, still feels the public isn't completely convinced about Douglas and has established the challenger Holyfield as a 13-5 favorite against Douglas for their title fight at the Mirage on Oct. 25.



Evander Holyfield

**Alex Kazel of Basic High and Tony Lorenzi of Valley High Receive Scholarship Awards**

By Bob Rodgers

The National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame named two local outstanding high school scholar athletes. The two outstanding football players of last season were awarded \$500 scholarships.

Alex Hazel, a defensive end and offensive tackle at Basic High School maintained a 3.6 grade point average by the end of his 7th semester. He was named to the All-Conference and All-State teams and received a Presidential Fitness Award. He will attend UNLV this fall.

Tony Lorenzi, an offensive and defensive tackle at

valley High School had a 3.3 grade point average. He too was named to the All-Conference and All-State teams and received a Presidential Fitness Award. He will attend UNR.

There were a total of 9 nominated for the two awards. They were: Joe Duran-Chaparral, Mark Mecham-Clark, Richard Bratton-Western, Tom Connors-Gorman, Chill Yee-Las Vegas, Todd Hilman-Rancho, and Brian Jenkins-Bonanza.

This is the 4th year that awards have been given by the NFFHF.

**BASEBALL:** The Las Vegas Stars will end their season this Sunday with 2 games against Tacoma beginning at 6:05 p.m.

The Montreal Expos of the National League were sold for \$100 million.

**BOXING:** George Foreman will fight in London, England September 25th. The 42-year-old has won 22 consecutive fights since coming out of retirement in 1987, 21 by knockout.

**FOOTBALL:** With the NFL regular season just one week away, there are 4 teams that are undefeated in pre-season play. Three of the four were in last place at the end of last season. They were: Atlanta (3-13), Detroit (7-9), and San Diego (6-10).

**BASKETBALL:** The Las Vegas Silver Streaks won their first play-off game over Saskatchewan 128-124. They will now take on Calgary in a best 2 out of 3 series.

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