


LAS VEGAS

Sentinel Voice Sports



Sports Profile

by Bob Rodgers

UNLV Linebacker Reese Thomas Returns, Wide Receiver Daemon Keener Shows Improvement

By Bob Rodgers
Sportswriter

Reese Thomas, the youngest player on UNLV's 1990 football team, has returned with high hopes of becoming one of the best players that the present coaching staff has recruited.

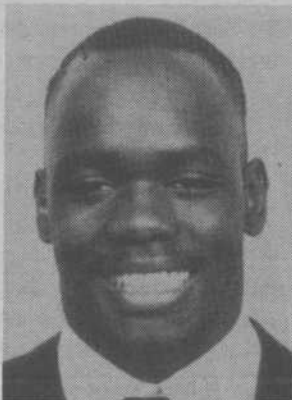
Thomas managed to play in every game last year as a freshman; that says a lot for the young-

ster. The linebacker also has the quickness and the ability to defend both the run and the pass. Reese has great work habits and it shows on the field as he has shown in his great hitting power.

Only 17-years-old when he started in his first major college football game, Thomas attended



DAEMON KEENER



REESE THOMAS

Vocational Tech High School in Chicago, Illinois, where he was a four year letterman in football, as well as being named to the all-conference, all-city, and all-state teams.

Reese was also named team MVP.

Daemon Keener, on the other hand, is beginning his second season as a member of the Rebel

football team.

One of the most improved players on the team, Keener is hoping he will be given more playing time so than he can contribute toward the better of the team.

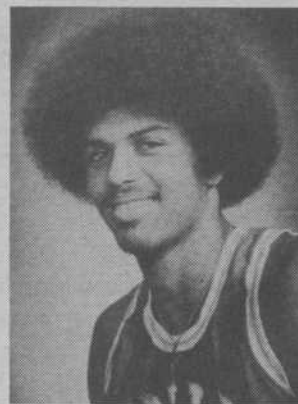
Daemon, a sophomore, has a lot to offer the football program the next two years, and potentially could become a great player

if he can remain healthy.

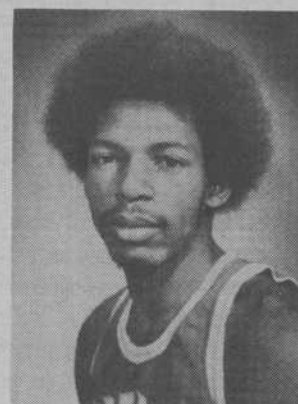
At Waltrip High School in Houston, Texas, Keener was a three year letterman in both football and track, and was a one year man in basketball.

The business major was an all-state honorable mention at both runningback and defensive back, and finished with a 6.8 yards per carry average.

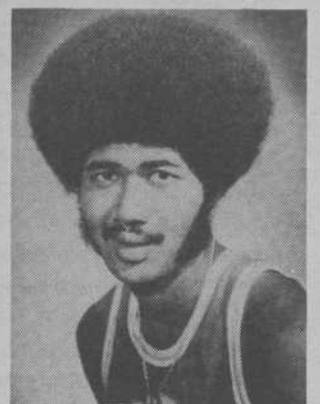
1975-76 Rebels To Be Honored



REGGIE THEUS



JACKIE ROBINSON



EDDIE OWENS

Names like Reggie Theus, Larry Moffat, Jackie Robinson, Sam Smith, Robert Smith, Eddie Owens and others will always be remembered by Las Vegas Sports Fans.

It is this team that placed UNLV on the basketball map by making a trip to the Final Four, the first in the university's history. They overcame unsurmountable odds, and will be among those honored during the first ever Las Vegas Black Sports Hall of Fame Awards Night set for Wednesday, November 6th, at the Flamingo Hilton Hotel, presented by Coca Cola and the Sentinel-Voice.

Robinson, now a successful businessman in Las Vegas still has fond memories of those glory years, (1975-76) when he was

responsible for helping to build what is now a basketball powerhouse. "We had a real team effort out there by a lot of individuals. While everyone had different personalities we were really able to blend as a team, and Tark was a true inspiration," recalled Robinson.

Although several of the team members have relocated many still reside in Las Vegas and plan to rekindle the good days during the banquet at the Flamingo Hilton.

The Hall of Fame will induct five of the city's most outstanding achievers as well. Those inducted include Jean Brooks, a coach for more than 20 years; Overton Curtis, a football great and superb coach; Lee White, formerly with the New York Jets

Super Bowl team; Al McDaniel, UNLV's legendary track coach and Silas Stepp, who broke ground as one of the first Black athletes at UNLV.

An evening of sports trivia will fill the air, as honors are given to UNLV coach Jerry Tarkanian (Merit Award) and to Sarann Knight-Predy and Al Jordan (Community Service Award) who have worked on the behalf of youth for so many years in Las Vegas.

High School athletes Antonio Jackson of Las Vegas High, and Rae Hartwell of Western will also be honored for their scholastic and athletic achievement. City Councilman Frank Hawkins will make a special presentation on behalf of Major Jan Laverty-Jones, and other awards will be presented by a representative of Governor Bob Miller, and other elected officials.

This is something that is long overdue. It is something that all young people should be allowed to attend so they can meet these people," said Knight. Not only are those being honored successful in sports, they are successful in other aspects of life, this all transcends into a positive person," she added.

Knight will host a pre-awards night gala at the Club Rouge on Friday November 1, beginning at 5:30 p.m. All the honorees and inductees will be on hand to

(See Rebel, Page 13)

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