

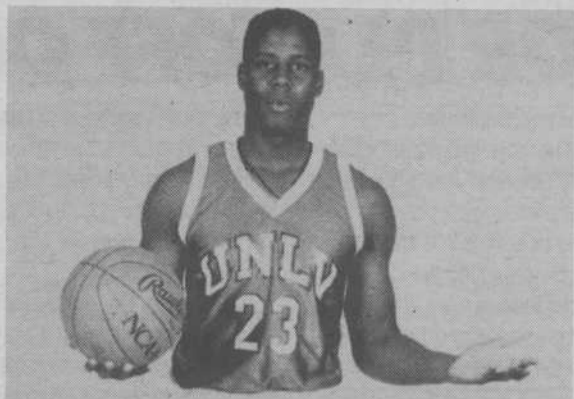
ROLLIE'S THROWING A PARTY, AND EVERYONE IS COMIN'

By W.G. Ramirez

Head Coach Rollie Massimino will begin his tenure with UNLV this Saturday evening at the Thomas and Mack Center. Taking center court one night after the NBA makes a brief stint in 'Vegas, will be Massimino and his Runnin' Rebels, as they officially tip off the first day of NCAA practices at midnight Nov. 1.

Saturday night's "Midnight Madness" will commence at 10:30 p.m. on Oct. 31, as a barrage of entertainers and celebrities invade the T&M to hype the crowd and help bring in the 1992-93 season.

Among those to be on hand include: former North Carolina



Senior Evric Gray will be one of three returning starters from last year's 26-2 squad

State coach and current ESPN basketball analyst Jim Valvano, former Atlanta Hawks coach and NBC basketball analyst Mike Fratello, TNT basketball analyst Dick Versace, L.A. Dodger skip-

per Tommy Lasorda, Motown recording artists The Good Girls, impersonations of Cher, Michael Jackson, The Blues Brothers and The Temptations will be done by The American Superstars from

Laughlin, NV, The Famous Gorilla that has dazzled fans at NBA arenas all over the country, and Circus Circus performers from the popular Las Vegas resort.

Past Rebels that are scheduled to appear include: Reggie Theus, Glen Gonderzick, Robert Smith and Ricky Sobers.

Also keeping the fans hyped up all night will be the UNLV pep band and cheerleaders.

A highlight video of Jerry Tarkanian's final season with UNLV, which ended at 26-2, will be shown.

At midnight, the 1992-93 team will be introduced to the public with the famous pre-game fireworks and light show. Senior

returning starters Dexter Boney, Evric Gray and J.R. Rider will lead the squad in a series of drills as well as a full-court scrimmage.

After 19 highly successful seasons at Villanova, Massimino will make his first on-court appearance at the Thomas and Mack as UNLV's new coach. Several college basketball preview magazines have already featured Massimino on the cover.

The Sporting News Magazine states that "Massimino clearly wasn't brought to Las Vegas to continue Tarkanian's legacy. (UNLV President Robert) Maxson and (Athletic director Jim) Weaver want future generations of basketball fans to look upon the UNLV program the same way they now view Villanova's: prosperous and clean.

"The UNLV president had to smile when Massimino said that none of his players will ever "embarrass" the school. With 40-odd NCAA violations pending and recent figures indicating that only 25 percent of Rebel basketball players entering school in 1983 and '84 graduated."

Massimino pledges to avoid



UNLV Head Coach Rollie Massimino

any obstacles that would place a dark cloud over the university.

Saturday night could prove to be an ample opportunity to skip the "same-ol" costume party and head down to Swenson Road for "Midnight Madness."

Hot dogs and soft drinks will be sold for \$.25 from 10:30-11 p.m. and the first 5,000 fans will receive T-shirts commemorating this special event. Admission and parking at the T&M will be free.

Fans are urged to bring a can of non-perishable food as a donation to the Las Vegas Rescue Mission as it enters the holiday season. Silver State Disposal will have bins at the entrances to collect the cans.

SAN JOSE ST. COMES TO TOWN DURING REBELS' THREE-GAME LOSING SKID

By W.G. Ramirez

UNLV's one-week vacation from Big West Conference play, in Hawaii, wasn't too pleasant. While on the islands, the Rebels' scarlet and grey were added to the Rainbows' colors of victims. The University of Hawaii throttled UNLV 55-25 while piling up 642 yards of total offense and improving their record to 5-1. The total yardage by Hawaii was the most ever surrendered by a Rebel team.

Although Hawaii currently has the ninth-ranked rushing offense in the nation, the Rainbows used an aerial attack that produced 343 yards and five touchdowns.

Only WR Demond Thompkins and WR Henry Bailey could get things going for UNLV. Thompkins caught 11 receptions for 201 yards and 2 TDs. Bailey, who is twelfth in the nation for all-purpose yardage, had a career-high 212 all-purpose yards, including a career-long 82-yard kickoff return.

UNLV, 3-4 and 1-2 in conference play, fell below .500 for the first time this season

This week the Rebels will have their hands full when pre-season favorite San Jose St. visits the Silver Bowl. The Spartans raised their season record to 5-2 and improved their Big West mark to 2-0 with a climactic 27-25 victory at Utah State.

QB Jeff Garcia, in John Elway fashion, took the Spartans 65 yards in six plays to set up a 32-yard field goal, with six seconds remaining, for place-kicker Joe Nedney.

Nedney has kicked two game-winning field goals this season, one of them being a Big West record 60-yards against Wyoming.

Last season, against UNLV, was Garcia's first career start: He completed 22 of 33 passes for 277 yards and five touchdowns en route to a 55-12 drubbing of the Rebels.

Defensively, San Jose State is paced by safety Troy Jensen, who has recorded 53 tackles and a conference-leading four interceptions thus far in '92. Senior OLB Raymond Bowles has recorded 30 tackles - three for loss-of-yardage and two

sacks.

This season the Spartans are averaging 29.7 points per game while giving up 25.4 ppg. UNLV is giving up almost the identical as the Spartans' offense is taking, 29.8 ppg., while they are scoring a mere 18.7 ppg.

After spending the past twelve years as an assistant coach, Ron Turner has fit right in with the Spartans as they continue their collision course with Big West foe UNR.

Although both schools are undefeated in the conference, Nevada has toppled four Big West opponents, as opposed to the Spartans' two.

The Spartans and Wolfpack will square off one week from this Saturday in San Jose.

After Saturday, UNLV will have three games remaining on their schedule. They'll travel to Logan, Utah to face Utah St. and will then have a bye week. The final two games will be at the Silver Bowl against Montana State and Fullerton.

Head Coach Jim Strong will need to pull out at least two more victories if he hopes to avoid his

third straight 4-7 season. A third victory would give UNLV their first winning season since 1986, when they went 6-5, under the leadership of Wayne Nunnely.

The football game will be telecast live over KDWN-AM (720) with Ken Korach and Tony Cordasco calling the action. The broadcast will begin with "Rebel Warm-Up" at 12:30 p.m. Kickoff is at 1:05 p.m. ★ ★ ★ ★

UNLV Midnight MADNESS HALLOWEEN NIGHT OCTOBER 31, 1992

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As 1992 winds down, its time for you to:

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE UNLV 1992 AFRICAN-AMERICAN ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

- Tony Allick - swimming
- Henry Bailey - football
- Danny Barber - soccer
- Evric Gray - basketball
- John Ma'ae - football
- Rodney Mazion - football/baseball
- Shannon McLean - football
- J.R. Rider - basketball
- Elmore Spencer - basketball
- Demond Thompkins - football/baseball

The top 5 vote-getters as well as the ladies' finalists will be released for voting on December 3rd. Voting will continue through January 13, 1993. Winners will be announced January 14, 1993. Please drop off or mail your ballot to:

"Athlete Of The Year" c/o Sports Dept. 1201 S. Eastern Ave. Las Vegas, NV 89104-2007