



SPORTS

Western faces McQueen for state title

ONCE AGAIN RANDY LUND WINS IT FOR WARRIORS



Randy Lund follows through with his point after attempt that sealed Western's victory over Clark. Photo By B.Lee/LVs-Voice

By Bill Lee

It is safe to say that Randy Lund and the Western Warriors kicked their way into the Class AAA state championship game this Friday against the Silver State's Class AAA Northern Champion McQueen High School. Lund and Co. may have to continue kicking as the Lancers from up state brings an undefeated record to the Sam Boyd Silver Bowl, prepared for a 7:00 p.m. starting time.

Who would of thought that the Warriors would advance to the final game, except of course, the Western family. This re-

porter, as well as many others, was convinced that the potent yet over achieving Green Valley Gators would devour their way to the finals - not!!!

After being underestimated, the Warriors have been a thrill to witness in action. All four teams that advanced to the playoffs - Western, Eldorado, Clark and Green Valley - have put on an exciting display on the gridiron. Obviously, its been the Warriors that have survived the course, brilliantly.

Brilliance will need to be on the agenda, for Western, if they are to prevail as Nevada State

Champions. The McQueen Lancers are a big, strong, well balanced team.

Led by senior QB Todd Floyd, who has already led the lancers to a state crown in 1990, McQueen has crushed their opponents this season by an average of 37 points, en route to an 11-0 record. Floyd has passed for 1655 yards and 23 TDs. RB Dan Avansino has tallied 1000+ yards this season, and should be ready to streak on the Silver Bowl's fast turf.

The Lancer defense is led by linebacker tandem Todd Kuraisa and Justin Oakes. Both defensive specialists will have to keep a keen eye open for Western's opportunistic offense. The Warriors QB duo of Faraji Amie and the fleet footed Clint Morrow, parlayed with RBs Jumaane Amie and Anthony Gilyard will be the key to Western's success. Their knowledge and experience of playing in the Silver Bowl more than McQueen, could be a factor for this exciting

matchup.

The Lancers will also have to remember that any venture for the Warriors, into McQueen's territory, is dangerous. With Lund on the sidelines, Western will have to be contained completely. Just ask Eldorado and Clark.

Look for a high scoring contest, executed by the throwing of Todd Floyd. A Lancer air attack could take over by mid-second quarter. Complimented by a steady ground assault, the #1 ranked team in the state may end State MVP candidate Lund and his fellow Warriors' dreams.

A fantastic contest it will be, I think I will lay my cards on McQueen. Sports Editor Willie Ramirez agrees, as he believes the Lancers will burst Western's bubble. General Manager Lee Brown, who has been picking Western since the start of the playoffs, is sticking with the Warriors. Production manager Willis Brown is going with the consensus pick, McQueen.

Rebels close out season with two home games

AFTER FIVE STRAIGHT LOSING SEASONS, UNLV WILL TRY TO SALVAGE '92 CAMPAIGN

By W.G. Ramirez

So the Rebels won't win the Big West or earn a trip to the Las Vegas Bowl, so what?

Recap the season if you will. The UNLV football squad entered the 1992 campaign with five straight losing seasons, the last two under present head coach, Jim Strong. UNLV hasn't had a winning season since 1986 when Wayne NUnnelly guided the Rebels to a 6-5 overall record, 3-4 in the Big West.

The first two games of the season, played at the Silver Bowl, saw respectable crowds come out and watch the Rebels topple Western Athletic Conference foe UTEP in the waning seconds 19-17. The following week UNLV crushed Big Sky nemesis Northern Arizona

40-7. It was the Rebels' best start since 1984, when some Cunningham kid (Randall, of course) ran the offense. UNLV fell to Oregon, of the Pac-10, 59-6 and headed into conference play with a 2-1 record. Unfortunately the Rebels weren't the only team in the Big West trying to break out of their shell. Following a road win over Pacific, the Aggies of New Mexico St. humbled UNLV 40-10, sending them home to face sister school Nevada.

It was homecoming and UNLV played their hearts out only to fall 14-10 in front of 25,000 fans.

Now the Rebels stood at .500 with a 3-3 overall record, 1-2 in the BWC. It was time to face the big boys on the island. The Hawaii Rainbows seemed to welcome UNLV by placing leis around their necks and promptly tightening them quarter by quarter. The Rainbows throttled UNLV 55-25.

At this point in the season, it seemed as if history would repeat

itself, as the Rebels headed toward another dismal season. Then the black cats came out!!! It was Halloween day and the Rebels were having the San Jose State Spartans over for lunch, literally. Granted, it was a close game, the UNLV Rebels had an impressive outing for their tiny home crowd, and stunned the preseason favorite Spartans 35-31.

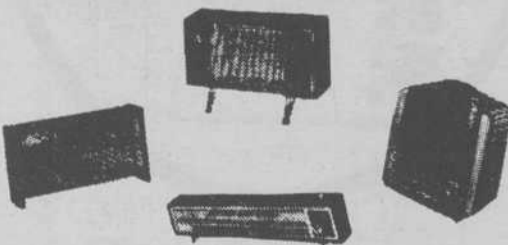
Two weeks ago, UNLV had to face one of those up-and-coming Big West teams and unfortunately they caught the bad end of the

(See Rebels, Page 15)

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Willie Will's BEST BETS

MIAMI -3-1/2 over Houston
Kansas City -11-1/2 over SEATTLE
UPSET SPECIALS
Tampa Bay +8-1/2 over SAN DIEGO
NEW ENGLAND +4 over N.Y. Jets
Washington -4-1/2 over NEW ORLEANS (Monday)
Current Record (34-17-2) including preseason
67% WINNERS

14-8 Best Bets -- 20-6-2 Upset Specials

CORRECTION - Unfortunately, last week's Best Bets did not get transferred into last week's format and my picks were left out, as you probably noticed. I apologize to all the readers that continuously refer to Willie Will's Best Bets.

Incidentally, I was going with these teams last week - Kansas City -1, Minnesota -5, Tampa Bay +3-1/2, New Orleans +7 and Miami +1. I would have been 3-2 for the week, but it will not figure in my record since it was not printed prior to Sunday. As of this week, I will only list my top 5 picks. Due to confusion during the first half of the season, I won't list the remainder of the schedule after my picks.

Good Luck, and don't let the "dogs" bite you.