

# J.R. RIDER READY FOR '92-'93 CAMPAIGN

By W. G. Ramirez

If there was ever a player more suitable for the uniform that represents a "Rebel," J.R. Rider looks quite right for #34.

Rider has become a part of a school that has been scorned by rumors and allegations that have nothing, at all, to do with him. The basketball team was put on probation last season, and he remained a member. He led the Runnin' Rebels to the longest winning streak throughout the season. He stuck by in a court case that ended up leaving UNLV

out of the NCAA tournament. Finally, he has returned for his senior season, teaming with Big East veteran coach Rollie Massimino, to help keep the Rebels atop the Big West Conference, as well as the national rankings.

UNLV isn't actually "atop" the rankings, but they have been ranked #22 in the Associated Press' preseason poll. J.R. Rider is ready and willing to give 200%, and prove that UNLV is a national contender.

Many experts see UNLV falling behind New Mexico State

this season in the Big West - Rider sees different.

"I love adversity," admits Rider. "Even though we're small, we're very scrappy. This team is going to do very well."

The Runnin' Rebels have been plagued with the absence of a big man underneath, yet both Rider and Coach Mass feels the quickness and ability of his team will carry this squad. Rider knows what his role is and what it will take to bring his team to the potential they have.

"I'm just going to go out and

be an exciting and amplified player to keep the team pumped up. I will be a team leader. I know that I will have to score a lot of points and pull down a lot of rebounds."

The NBA could be in Rider's future, and this is something that he is very aware of.

"If I have an excellent year - I can be there," concedes Rider, when asked about being a lottery pick in 1993.

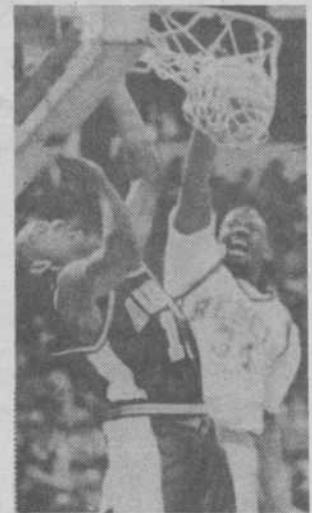
Recently during a telecast of the preseason NIT, basketball analyst Dick Vitale listed Rider as one of the top five backcourt players in the nation. "I'm an unknown player because of last

year's ban, (on national TV), it shocks me that I'm already being noticed."

Rider is confident, in his own personal opinion, that he can live up to that stature; Rider says, "I belong there!"

The Rebels will face Marathon Oil Friday evening at the Thomas and Mack Center. Last week the Rebels crushed a Russian Select team at the T&M.

Guard Reggie Manuel suffered a sprained ankle and will be out for approximately a week and a half. Ken Gibson or Lawrence Thomas will start in place of Manuel; Both should receive significant playing time.



J.R. RIDER

## UNLV CLOSES OUT SEASON AGAINST TITANS AT SILVER BOWL

Sentinel-Voice

The UNLV Rebels need just one victory to post their first winning record since 1986 when the Rebels finished 6-5. Cal-St Fullerton will invade the Sam Boyd Silver Bowl this Saturday afternoon as both teams finish their 1992 campaign.

A victory would mark the 16th time in UNLV's 25-year history that the Rebels had a winning season. The Rebels ensured themselves a winning home record when they defeated Montana State 36-7.

RB Omar Love, WR Demond Thompkins and all-purpose back Henry Bailey led the Rebels past the Bobcats. The Rebels jumped out to a 20-7 halftime lead behind a 10-yard touchdown run by Love, which was set up by a 46-yard punt return by Bailey, and a 58-yard scoring toss from Bob Stockham to Bailey.

Bailey baffled the Bobcat special teams all day, highlighted by the second-half kickoff return, which Bailey returned 82 yards for a touchdown.

Stockham and Thompkins connected on a 35-yard scoring strike as the Rebels eventually evened their record at 5-5.

Bailey is closing in UNLV's single-season all-purpose record of 1,868 yards set by Rebel legend Mike Thomas in 1973. Bailey is currently second with 1,737 all-purpose yards and needs 132 more. Bailey is second in the conference and fourth in the nation with a 173.7 all-purpose yard average.

In other Rebel notes, UNLV senior Brian Parvin has been named a second team All-American punter by the Football News. He becomes the third All-American in UNLV football history, joining Randall Cunningham (2nd team, Associated Press, (See UNLV, Page 16)

## REBEL BASKETBALL

UNLV VS. MARATHON OIL

THOMAS & MACK CENTER

Friday, November 27  
8:05 P.M. Tip-off

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- Henry Bailey - football
- Danny Barber - soccer
- Evric Gray - basketball
- John Ma'ae - football
- Rodney Mazion - football/baseball
- Shannon McLean - football
- J.R. Rider - basketball (\* current leader)
- 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:  
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