## December 10, 1992 The LAS VEGAS SENTINEL-VOICE OPEN SEASON WITH VICTORY; SDSU ON SATURDAY NIGHT ROLLIE'S R



Dexter Boney (L) and Evric Gray (R), seen here against New Mexico State, are a big part of UNLV's stinging defense

By W.G. Ramirez

Holding off a furious pack of Lions, the UNLV Runnin' Rebels withstood a late 12-point rally to defeat Loyola Marymount 84-80. The victory marked the first in the Rollie Massimino era and also extended the nation's longest winning streak to 24 games. UNLV has now won their eighth straight season-opening victory.

Senior forward J.R. Rider led all scorers with 29 points and senior forward Evric Gray costarred in the contest, filling the net with 19 points.

The Lions, coached by one of Massimino's former assistants at Villanova, nearly spoiled Rollie's debut with UNLV when they pulled within two points with 20 seconds left. Rebels junior guard Ken Gibson put his gametotal in double figures when he canned two free throws with 16 seconds remaining to push the Rebels lead to 84-80. Gibson ended up with 11 points.

Now in its 35th season of collegiate basketball, UNLV will play its 1,00th collegiate basketball game when they travel to San Diego State this Saturday.

Coming off of a 2-26 season, including a winless record in the Western Athletic Conference, the Aztecs have began their

1992-93 campaign by already achieving half of their win total from last season. The Aztecs are 1-2 thus far,

with a 72-68 victory over Cal Poly Pomona landing between a season-opening loss to the University of San Diego 85-60, and a heartbreaking defeat at the hands of Arizona State 67-64.

SDSU has four returning letterman that start, including 6'10" junior center Joe McNaull and 6'7" junior forward Courtie Miller. Freshman guard Jason Hamilton has tried to ignite the Aztecs, averaging 10.3 points per game along with 10 steals as a reserve.

Junior Danny Griffin, who has been slowed by strained knee ligaments, was able to play eight minutes against LMU. Although scoreless, Griffin grabbed three rebounds.

Gray, who has been hampered with a strained lower back, and sophomore guard Reggie Manuel, who has been bothered with a sprained ankle, seem to be back on track for the Rebels and are expected to see action Saturday against SDSU.

UNLV holds a 14-4 advantage over SDSU in a series that dates back to 1966. The Rebels peeled away with an 88-72 vic-

tory last season in the Thomas and Mack Center. Gray had a career night, scoring 28 points including four three-pointers. The senior forward also snatched 10 rebounds off the boards.

J.R. Rider, who poured in 29 points against Loyola-Mary-

mount last Saturday, will lead the Rebels against San Diego

State this Saturday.

As always, the game will be carried live over KDWN-AM (720) with Tony Cordasco calling the action. The pre-game show begins at 7 p.m. Also, the game will be telecast live on KRLR-TV 21 at 7:30 p.m., with Ken Korach and Glen Gonderzick calling the action. This season marks the return to live

Last season the Rebels were banned from being telecast live due to an NCAA infraction in 1977. The only time UNLV was on TV last season was on a

UNLY THE STARTERS SDSU	
F-Evric Gray, 6'7" Sr.	F-Tony Clark, 6'8" So.
	F-Courtie Miller, 6'7" Jr.
	C-Joe McNaull, 6'11" Jr. G-Chris Walters, 6'2" Jr.
	G-Rober Ringo, 6'2", So.
	3-11
LVSV TO	<b>DP 25</b>
TW Team	LW
1. KANSAS	3
2. DUKE	4
3. INDIANA	2 5 1
4. KENTUCKY	5
5. MICHIGAN	1
6. SETON HALL	6
7. FLORIDA STATE	7
8. NORTH CAROLIN	
9. GEORGETOWN	11
10. LOUISVILLE	12
11. ARIZONA	8
12. UCLA	14
13. IOWA 14. OKLAHOMA	13 15
15. TULANE	15
16. MEMPHISSTATE	the second s
17. GEORGIATECH	16
18. CINCINNATI	19
19. SYRACUSE	20
20. MICHIGANSTATI	
21. UNLV	24
22. CONNECTICUT	22
23. NEWMEXICOST.	21
24. NEBRASKA	NR

NR



**25. PURDUE** 

TV for UNLV.

tape-delay basis

AFRICAN-AMERICAN ATHLETE OF THE YEAR MEN WOMEN -Henry Bailey - football -Teresa Jackson- basketball D-Danny Barber - soccer D-Evric Gray - basketball -Sharon Hargrove- basketball -Shunta Rose - track & field G-Shannon McLean - football D-Trevia Williams - track & field D-J.R. Rider - basketball

Crystal Irving - track & field These ten outstanding athletes for UNLV have been named as finalists for UNLV's African-American Athlete Of The Year for 1992. Please fill out your ballot and drop off or mail to: Athlete Of The Year, 1201 S. Eastern, L.V. Nev. 89104. Winners will be announced January 14, 1993