



THEY ONLY STUMBLED IN 1990, NOW THEY'VE FALLEN IN 1993

By W.G. Ramirez

In 1990, they became the first team to get as close as they did, by capturing the Big West regular-season title, when they tied UNLV for a share of the crown; the one thing that the Runnin' Rebels have always dominated since joining the league for the 1982-83 season.

It was January 8, 1990 that they made their presence known by toppling the eventual National Champion Runnin' Rebels 83-82 in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Now three years later, they've come to stake claim to the goal they started back in '90. Heading into the final weekend for

regular-season play, UNLV faces its first-ever second place finish, as the New Mexico State Aggies sit in first. NMSU squeaked past UNLV this past Monday night 90-88 to up their record to 21-6 and 13-3 in the Big West. UNLV fell to 19-5 and 12-4. The four conference losses are UNLV's most since joining the conference in 1982.

With NMSU one game ahead of the Rebels, both teams will finish their season playing at UC Irvine and at Cal State-Fullerton.

The Aggies, who were tabbed as 3-1/2 point favorites outside of Las Vegas, got by UNLV after

Marc Thompson put in a follow-up shot after Tracey Ware fired an air ball into a group of players to the left of the basket. After the ball caromed off of the players battling underneath, Thompson sank the winning basket, leaving five seconds for UNLV to put something together.

Following a timeout, Rebel guard Dedan Thomas scrambled past mid-court with two ticks left and attempted a desperation shot at the buzzer which fell short.

Now the Rebels must regroup and perform well this weekend as tournament time approaches. Tonight UNLV will face UC Irvine at the Bren Events Center

and then close the season Saturday evening against Cal State-Fullerton in the Titan Gym.

The last time the Rebels lost to either of these two teams came in 1989, when both Irvine and the Titans beat UNLV. Both losses for the Rebels were by one point each and both were on the road.

Between the two, Fullerton might have the best chance at upending UNLV, or New Mexico State for that matter, as the Titans currently hold a 14-10 record, 9-7 in the Big West. CSF's three victories over UNLV were in the Titan Gym; the same place that the past six matchups between the Titans and Aggies have been split. Irvine sits outside the door of the basement, in front of Reno, with a 6-18 mark, 4-12 in Big West play.

The 18th Annual Big West Conference Basketball Tournament will be March 12-14 in Long

Big West		
Current Standings		
	Conf.	Overall
NEW MEXICO STATE	13-3	21-6
NEV-LAS VEGAS	12-4	19-5
PACIFIC	11-5	15-9
LONG BEACH STATE	10-6	18-8
CAL-ST. FULLERTON	9-7	14-10
SANTA BARBARA	8-8	15-9
UTAH STATE	7-10	10-15
SAN JOSE STATE	4-12	7-17
UC IRVINE	4-12	6-18
NEVADA	3-14	8-17

Beach, California at the Long Beach Arena. This will be the final year that the tournament will be in Long Beach as the

tourney moves to the Thomas and Mack Center here in Las Vegas.

Pairings for this year's tournament will be announced Monday March 8. The NCAA Tournament pairings will be announced March 14.

SPORTS COMMENTARY

By W.G. Ramirez
Sports Editor

"HE MAKES THE LAW"

It was 1985

When the chaos all started,
From the 'Carolina Tar Heels
Michael Jordan departed

He could do it all

except of course wrong,
'Cause thats Michael Jordan
was everyone's song

Portland lost out
when they went for the Glide,
It would bethe Chicago Bulls
that was ready to ride

Two slam dunk titles
came along the way,
Creativeness in the air
meant a big payday

By the end of his first season
he'd be named league MVP,
The future looked bright
as far as Chicago could see

He now owns two rings'
form the past of couple of years,
But he can be a thorn in the side
for most of his peers

Nike signed him on
as did many others,
They were taken by his game
not to mention his putter

Just ask Reggie Miller
who caught a shot in the jaw,
you see Jordan's the sheriff
and he makes the law



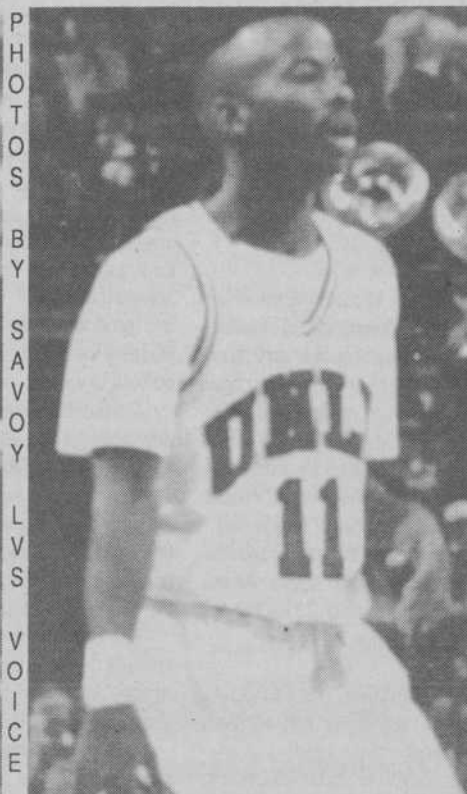
Being restless of late
has been a trend for ol' Mike,
could he be bored of the game
he's dominated all his life

Well hop on for the ride
there's room on the cycle,
just don't get in the way
of flawless Sheriff Michael

UNLV'S NATION LEADERS

J.R. RIDER

DEDAN THOMAS



PHOTOS BY SAVOY LVS VOICE

With help from six straight 30-point performances, UNLV standout J.R. Rider has impressed NBA scouts causing rumors that Rider could be a lottery pick this summer. Rider is currently second in the nation scoring 28.8 points per game.

Dedan Thomas has ran the floor for UNLV extremely well this season, averaging 8.6 assists per game. Thomas' average is second in the nation behind New Mexico State's Sam Crawford. Thomas will have to step next season in the leadership role as a senior.

SUBSCRIBE NOW!!!

Get Your Copy of the **SENTINEL-VOICE**
MAILED DIRECTLY TO YOU WEEKLY!!!

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

SENTINEL-VOICE

Nevada's Only African-American Newspaper
Published every Thursday

1 year — \$25.00 6 Months — \$15.00
 PLEASE START MY SUBSCRIPTION IMMEDIATELY

Name: _____
Street: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____

Make check or money order payable to Sentinel-Voice
1201 So. Eastern Ave. - Las Vegas, NV 89104

The Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice is
Excellent for the Thinking Person!

Using Our Great Heritage
To An Even Greater Future.

The Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice serves Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, Reno, Carson City, Sparks, Hawthorne, Henderson, Tonopah

ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE IN ADVANCE

Second Class Postage Paid at Las Vegas
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Brown Publishing Co.,
1201 South Eastern Avenue • Las Vegas, Nevada 89104