

Washington

(Continued From Page 21)

throughout his tenure, and he says that with the support of the present coaching staff, he's not worried one bit about his studies.

"They're so concerned about your grades," says Washington. "They'll do everything that they can to make sure that you are going to classes and that you are making good grades. They would rather you win academically than football-wise."

Obviously, Washington's main focus this Saturday night will be on winning a football game, in Las Cruces against the New Mexico State Aggies. Though questions marks have remained fluent around UNLV's defensive unit, Washington admits that he and his teammates "just need to stay focused." While Keith continues to play the role model position for the younger defensive linemen, Coach Horton realizes he has a good situation with Washington.

"I think the biggest pressure is from player-to-player instead of coach-to-player and they see him working hard doing things and they want to be just like him," states Horton.

REBELS

(Continued From Page 21)

UNLV is currently ranked third in the nation in Passing Offense, while receiver Randy Gatewood is atop all receivers with 44 receptions and 666 yards. Quarterback Jason Davis, tops in the Big West, is ranked eighth in the nation in total offense with 275.3 yards per game.

REBEL NOTES: Although NMSU has won the last two meetings, UNLV leads the series 8-2; In their 13 seasons in the Big West Conference, UNLV is 40-40-1 in league play; UNLV has been able to capitalize 65% of the time when inside the Red Zone so far this season. The Rebels have been inside the twenty-yard line 20 times this season and have scored 13 times; At the start of the season, Horton set a goal of running 100 offensive plays per game. After the first three games, it looked as if UNLV was on their way to the

century mark, recording 69, 85 and 96 plays. Against USU though, their total dropped to 72; UNLV has already recorded 19 sacks this year, just three short of their season-total last year; Injuries for UNLV include: WR/KOR Henry Bailey who dislocated his left pinky knuckle during a punt return last Saturday. Bailey practiced all week with his finger heavily bandaged and is listed as probable. Also, LB Paul Cotsonis is listed as probable after suffering a concussion during the first-half against USU. LB Reese McDade, who strained his neck and had to be carried off the field on a straight board against Idaho, could return to practice next week. OT Cedric Leonard, who is battling a sore knee, is expected to return to practice full-time next Monday according to trainer Kyle Wilson. LB Mike Scully (torn leg muscle) and LB Vaimagalo Faavi-Tua'au (knee sprain) are expected to miss at least half the season and coaches will be deciding on a red-shirt option on a case-by-case basis later this year.



THIS WEEK'S BEST BETS

NFL - Week #5



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Season Totals

MAULDIN	09-10-01 -- .473
RAMIREZ	12-08-00 -- .600

Last Week's Picks

MAULDIN (2-2-1): Kansas City -14', Minnesota -3', Atlanta -1, New England +3', Denver +7

RAMIREZ (2-3): Indianapolis +2', Washington +1, Detroit -3', Seattle +1, Chicago +7'

W.G. Ramirez
Sports Editor
Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice

SEATTLE -2'
GREEN BAY +3
L.A. RAMS +1'
N.Y. GIANTS -2
MIAMI -8'

NFL Week #5 - Sunday October 2, 1994
(Home Team in CAPS • Totals in parenthesis)
Line courtesy (at press time) of
The Stardust Race and Sports Book

CLEVELAND	-3' (36')	New York Jets
Seattle	-2' (37')	INDIANAPOLIS
NEW ENGLAND	-3 (44)	Green Bay
Detroit	-3 (39)	TAMPA BAY
Dallas	-11 (44)	WASHINGTON
Minnesota	-2' (36)	ARIZONA
Buffalo	-2' (39)	CHICAGO
Atlanta	-1' (44)	LOS ANGELES
New York Giants	-2 (41)	New Orleans
SAN FRANCISCO	-9 (45)	Philadelphia
Miami	-8' (45)	CINCINNATI

Monday October 3, 1994

PITTSBURGH	-7 (39')	Houston
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(BYE Week: Denver, Kansas City, L.A. Raiders, San Diego)

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Criner

(Continued From Page 20)

has recruited me the most has been Nebraska," proudly boasts Criner. "Those guys came to my school. I speak to them on the phone all the time." Criner mentioned Colorado, Oregon State and Arizona as the top college programs that have also contacted him.

"You're dealing with a kid whose expectations are so high and his standard of play has been placed at a such a high level," admits Hopkins. "When you don't experience success, you tend to second guess yourself. I basically believe that's what Chuckie is going through. "He hasn't gone through anything that any other average, or above average high school athlete has to go through. You have to deal with that at that level."

Off the field, according to Hopkins, Criner is a well-liked person by his peers, coaches and entire student body.

"He is an outstanding person. If you actually get to know him and sit down and talk with him, he is extremely cordial. He is a happy-go-lucky kid that's smiling all the time. Any coach that's in the city would love to have that particular kid as a son."

Although Criner denies that Friday's game is a showdown between him and Green Valley star Wade Perkins, it will be without a doubt a matchup of two of North Las Vegas' top products. Perkins lives in an optional area zone in North Las Vegas and had the choice to attend Green Valley.

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