TAKING THE WEST BY STORM...
1984-85
LADY REBEL BASKETBALL

SEASON OUTLOOK:

The 1984-85 UNLV Lady Rebel Basketball team hopes to go one step further this season. In 1982-83, the Lady Rebels’ 24-4 mark was the most successful record in the program’s history. In 1983-84, the Lady Rebels became the first-ever PCAA Women’s Basketball Champions, advancing to the first round of the NCAA Tournament (another Lady Rebel first). In this 1984-85 season the UNLV Lady Rebels will attempt to conquer another step toward their goal of climbing to the top of the collegiate basketball world.

“We’ve tasted two years of success,” Lady Rebel Co-Head Coach Jim Bolla said. “We finally made it to the NCAA Tournament. Now that we know what it takes to get there, we have to take it one step further.”

Last year was indeed a banner season for the Lady Rebels. The team started the year with as string of six consecutive wins, compiled a perfect 4-0 conference record and ended the year with a 24-7 slate. Despite a 78-58 loss in the first round of the NCAA Tournament to California State Long Beach, the 1983-84 campaign was overwhelmingly one of the most prosperous ever for UNLV women’s basketball.

This year’s edition of UNLV Lady Rebel Basketball will differ slightly from the 1983-84 team, but will maintain the “theme” of success. “We will be smaller this year than last,” Bolla said. “But we’ll offset our lack in height by using more skilled players at all the positions.”

Once again, the Lady Rebels will be led by All-America candidate Misty Thomas. Thomas, 5-11, junior, out of Windsor, Ontario, Canada, has guided the team for the past two years in the point guard slot. Last year, she compiled 15.5 points per game, 6.3 rebound per game and broke the school season assist record with 180 in 1983-84 (breaking Sheila Powell’s old record of 174 set in 1976-77). Thomas also earned CoSIDA Academic All-America honors accumulating a 3.94 grade point average.

“The key to the team this year will be Misty,” Bolla stated firmly. “She is so versatile that she can play anywhere. In size, she is actually not a point guard, but she handles the ball so well that we have to utilize her there.”

Thomas spent this summer developing her talents through international competition at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games, as a member of the Canadian Olympic team.

The Lady Rebels have compensated for the loss of six letter winners with a quality recruiting class. Joining the squad will be two of the finest prepsters in the country, Karen Hall, 5-4 point guard, and Parade All-America, Zina Harris, 5-8 forward/guard.

Walk-ons Chris Stiver (5-10, forward/guard) and Saundra McPherson (5-7 guard), both of Las Vegas, will provide the necessary bench strength this season.

The Lady Rebels may not be as established as perennial dynasties, but they share one thing in common with the elite of women’s collegiate basketball—talent. “We recruit athletes not just shooters and rebounders,” Bolla said. “The team will never be complacent—they want to get better every year. I think the players are starting to get a hunger in them.”

The Lady Rebels realize that in order to be considered "Top-20" caliber, they must face top-20 competition. This year, as years past, will be a stiff challenge. Powerhouses such as Texas, Louisiana Tech, Penn State, Alabama and Ohio State are just a few of the teams the Lady Rebels will face in 1984-85. In addition to the strong competition, the Lady Rebels will make eight road trips this season compared to the regular three or four in years’ past.

Last season the Lady Rebels became a charter-member of the newly formed PCAA Women’s Basketball Conference. Acquiring membership with a conference, according to Bolla, will provide several advantages.

"Being in a conference gives you more credibility," Bolla said. "You also have the backing of the conference office. Being independent you don’t develop rivalries as you do when you’re in a conference. Being an independent is like being an orphan."

For the 1984-85 Lady Rebels achievements such as consecutive conference title and a top-20 ranking would be great. For now, the Lady Rebels hope simply to go one step further.

LADY REBELS ROUNDBALL BOOSTER CLUB:

The start of the women’s basketball season is near, and the Lady Rebels Roundball Booster Club is once again asking for your support.

The revenue generated from your donations will be utilized directly by UNLV women’s basketball program. Your continued support is sincerely needed, and we are certain you will be proud of the ’84-’85 Lady Rebels. We wish to encourage new membership to broaden our community support, and trust that charter members will not only renew their memberships, but will invite their friends to join.

For a minimum of $100, you can become a member of our club and enjoy the following benefits:
1. Two (2) Lady Rebel season basketball tickets
2. Preferred seating at all home games
3. A special invitation to "Meet the Lady Rebels" at the Imperial Palace Hotel
4. Two (2) Lady Rebel baseball caps

LADY REBEL SEASON TICKETS:

We welcome your support and invite you to become a season ticket holder. Individual game tickets cost $2 for adults and $1 for children and senior citizens. With 15 home games, you realize quite a savings by purchasing a season package at $25 for adults and $15 for children/senior citizens. We have included a form you may complete and mail to the Women’s Basketball Office along with your check or money order, made payable to the UNLV Board of Regents. Don’t delay! Mail your request today so that you will not miss a single game of what promises to be an EXCITING SEASON OF LADY REBEL BASKETBALL.
1984-85 LADY REBEL SCHEDULE

Nov. 26 at Northern Arizona University
Nov. 30 at Berkeley Tournament
(Oral Roberts, Berkeley, UNLV, Texas A&M,)

Dec. 4 LSU
Dec. 7-8 7-UP DESERT CLASSIC
(Fullerton, Texas, UNLV, Alabama)
Dec. 13 Ohio State
Dec. 29 at University of Colorado
Dec. 30 at Colorado State University

Jan. 4 BUDWEISER TOURNAMENT
(Penn State, Oregon State, Creighton University, UNLV)
Jan. 7 West Texas State University
vs. University of Detroit
Jan. 8 West Texas State University
Jan. 9 University of Detroit
Jan. 11 Oklahoma State University
Jan. 15 University of Nevada, Reno
Jan. 17 at University of California at Santa Barbara
Jan. 18 at Utah State
Jan. 19 at University of Utah
Jan. 24 Fairfield University
Jan. 25 University of the Pacific
Jan. 26 Fairfield University
vs. University of the Pacific

Feb. 2 Louisiana Tech
Feb. 7 at University of the Pacific
Feb. 9 at University of Nevada, Reno
Feb. 16 at University of California at Irvine
Feb. 23 University of California at Santa Barbara
Feb. 27 University of California at Irvine

Mar. 4-5 at University of Hawaii
Mar. 9-10 PCAA Championships - Irvine California