

Sports

UNLV 1982 CROSS COUNTRY CAPSULES

REBEL CROSS COUNTRY TEAMS READY FOR POSTSEASON . . .

Knowing full well the taks that lay ahead, UNLV cross country coach Al McDaniels went into the current season hoping to exhibit a group of teams that would always put forth their best efforts. Now with the regular season concluded, McDaniels' crew will again be asked to show their Character as both the men's and women's squads ready for postseason action.

Traveling to Fresno, CA., the Rebel harriers look for a good outing in the PCAA and the District 8 Championships this weekend while the Lady Rebels will head for Salt Lake City, UT., to compete in the District 7 and NCAA Championships.

According to McDaniels, the men will encounter by far some of the best cross country runners in the nation. Teams from UCLA, Washington, Oregon, and

Arizona are all slated to appear in the meet Saturday (Nov. 13).

"Hopefully Melvin Thompson and German Aranda can have excellent showing," commented McDaniels. "The competition will be of the upper most quality. In the race for the PCAA title, Fresno State and U.C. Irvine look tough. Melvin and German have beaten Irvine's top runner (Mark Ruelas) twice, but he's beaten them twice also which means they'll have to have their best day to be in the race."

As usual, senior Myrna Nearing leads the women into action with good support coming from another senior; Barbara Neville.

"The main concern I have is that with the women up there in Salt Lake City there will be the matter of altitude to contend with," McDaniels said. "The meet will feature teams from the Western Athletic Conference and the Big Sky. All of those schools train at high altitude which will make it hard on us. I think

Myrna will do well and we are hoping the other girls can get their times down into the 18's."

RUNNERS TO WATCH . . . Melvin Thompson and Myrna Nearing who both lead the Rebel cross country teams all season along with German Aranda are UNLV's best hopes to advance to a higher level in the postseason.

Thompson recorded his best time of the year in the Fresno Invitational while German Aranda's personal best came in a distance of 10,000 meters in the Biola meet at 25:58. Myrna Nearing posted a time of 18:05 for her season best during the last regular season meet of the year. Nearing placed first overall in a 5,000 meter race that featured runners from Loyola-Marymount and California-Lutheran.

THE CROSS COUNTRY SEASON

. . . Growth and development seem to be the only appropriate words one could use when describing the success of the UNLV cross country teams during the 1982 season thus far. Entering his ninth year as a Rebels coach, Al McDaniels weathered the

preseason losses of several outstanding recruits to field a group of competitive athletes that are small in number but big in the desire department.

Opening the season on your own turf had to be an advantage, and McDaniels' cross country team's took full advantage of the home field by putting forth their best efforts in the 12th Annual UNLV Invitational. Though not winners, both teams placed fourth overall. Melvin Thompson recorded a 19:24.4 in a four mile distance to lead the men while Myrna Nearing ran 19:12.6 for the Lady Rebel efforts which did not go unnoticed.

UNLV's second encounter of the season gave coach McDaniels and his crew the opportunity to get a look a several of the conference foes they would have to face down the road. In the Fresno Invitational, a distance of 10,000 meters was covered and the UNLV cross country teams found the rainy weather on the day not to be very good. The Rebels, paced by Melvin Thompson's 14th finish with a time of 31:28 to enable UNLV to place 6th with 128 points. Ari-

zona placed first with 31 team points, followed by Stanford (38), Fresno State (86), and U.C. Irvine (114). The Lady Rebels placed 10th in a distance of 5,000 meters in the women's division with Myrna Nearing placing high (15th place; 18:15) Other Rebels turning in good efforts at Fresno were: for the men, German Aranda (30th place; 32:08), Isaiah Henry (38th place; 32:58), Jeff Newton (50th place; 34:05). For the women: Barbara Neville (54th place; 19:47), Vicki Smith (20:07), Therese Nolan (20:16), Sonya Briscoe (21:03).

"We are going to come up against some of the top teams in the country. This will be an education for both of our teams. The men will be in rough waters, but the women will even find the going a bit rougher," said McDaniels before his harriers were to participate in the Stanford Invitational. As predicted by McDaniels, both of the UNLV teams faced by far the toughest competition of the season but faired well. In a distance of 10,000 meters German Aranda and Melvin Thompson both recorded the best men's

time while Myrna Nearing's 18:47 was the best for the Lady Rebels. Thompson's 31:40 and Aranda's 31:30 were a bit off the winning time of 30:30, but McDaniels indicated that the times were just a reflection of the quality in the 350 runners in the day's meet.

In what McDaniels termed a pivotal meet before the postseason action, the UNLV men's cross country team placed 6th in the Biola Invitational while the Lady Rebels took a fourth place finish. The men's team, who missed the services of Melvin Thompson who was not included in the meet due to disciplinary reasons, got a strong combination effort by Isaiah Henry and German Aranda who finished a second apart 25:57 and 25:58 respectively. Myrna Nearing placed third in the 5,000 meter race with a time of 18:34. The team's outing helped McDaniels determine that his squads would have to really prepare for the final meet of the year.

In closing out the season, the UNLV men's team placed third in a triangular meet in San Diego while the Lady Rebels won a three team meet

RAY

From Page 12

Norton and other celebrities. While Leonard faced

the possibility of earning \$20 million to fight Hagler, the largest purse for one fighter, the Olympic champion's announcement ended months of speculation concerning his boxing future. His decision pleased most of the crowd of 7,000 on hand for the party, especially is wife, Juanita.

"I definitely don't want him to box again," she said. "He's got a million and there are other things he can do."

In 33 professional fights, Leonard has lost only to Roberto Duran, a 15-round unanimous decision in Montreal on June 20, 1980. He avenged that loss five months later in New Orleans when Duran said "no mas."

In Leonard's last fight on Feb. 15, he knocked out Las Vegas Bruce Finch in three rounds at Reno.

CAESARS PALACE, IN ASSOCIATION WITH TOP RANK INC., PRESENTS

THE WBA WORLD LIGHTWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP

RAY "Boom Boom" MANCINI

WBA CHAMPION
24-1-1

VS

DEUKOO KIM

KOREAN & ASIAN CHAMPION
17-1-1

PLUS OTHER BOUTS

SATURDAY AFTERNOON,
NOVEMBER 13TH

IN THE NEWLY CONSTRUCTED 10,000 SEAT
CAESARS PALACE OUTDOOR ARENA

TICKETS \$15, \$25, \$50, \$75 AND \$100
ON SALE DAILY FROM 10 AM TO 10 PM
FANTASY TOWER TICKET DESK 731-7865

CAESARS PALACE

