

**MARCH MAGIC: IMPACT BEYOND THE COURT**

When I asked University President Milt Glick to comment on the impact of the basketball team, he noted several things. First, he talked about not just winning, but winning with class — a classy team, a classy coach and classy fans who know the difference between rooting for their own team and cursing at the opposition. Get a mental picture of this — the 5-foot-and-change Dr. Glick walking across campus chatting with an unnamed Nevada player, all of whom range in height from over 6 to over 7 feet. They were talking not about basketball, but the student athlete's future plans. Class. Values. Dr. Glick noted that although winning primarily helps raise contributions to athletic scholarship funds, it also brings alumni and friends in to chat about donations to other programs. The University has only 49,000 alumni compared to 250,000 for many of its competitors. It needs new friends for financial support. He talked about recruiting nonathlete students, as well. Everyone wants to belong to a winner. Nevada needs to keep its best high school students in the state. It needs to attract a more diverse student body from out of state. Winning with class helps.

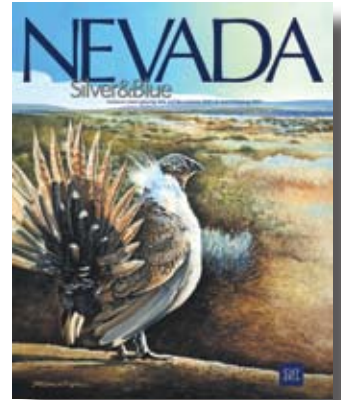
**Frank A. Partlow, Jr.**  
Reno

To read the complete letter, go to our website:  
<http://www.unr.edu/nevadasilverandblue/letters>

**TRANSFORMING EDUCATION**

Stephen Lafer's thesis that Americans need to determine what the essential goals of schools must be (*Making the Argument*, Spring 2007) introduces a crucial step in prolonging this experiment in democracy that Thomas Jefferson and his visionary band established through the Constitution. Public education was created to prepare citizens to honor their responsibility to lead our nation through astute voting.

Public schools are currently besieged by a preponderance of alliterate students (who can read but choose not to); irrelevant and unengaging curricula; 24-hour-per-day amusement opportunities that suck the time and dictate the priorities of youth; distracted parents



too burdened or uninformed to monitor homework and reading development; and politicians whose reform policies are more about private gain from public coffers than addressing the academic needs of our young citizens.

Students and the taxpayers who are heavily invested in supporting their educations deserve the best school systems money can buy. Top-quality school systems will require the collaboration of concerned



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citizens and experts to examine our practices, clarify our goals, and motivate the whole nation to support them. The life of this democratic republic is dependent upon savvy voters.

Dr. Dana Davis was my adviser at the University from 1964 to 1968. I have been a public school teacher 39 years. Dialoguing about ways to transform public education is a worthy honor in her name.

**Carolyn A. Dondero, '68 (English), '76M.Ed.**  
*Valencia, Calif.*

### TELL ME HOW NEVADA WAS

In reading your Spring 2007 issue (which is the best I have seen, congratulations), I read the article on Art Smith's torpedo practice in Pyramid Lake. Art Smith and I were both natives of Sparks and I was a few years older. A group of University of Nevada students, Tom Allard '47 (history), Bob Games, Pat Eaton and I, joined the Navy Aviation Cadet program in April 1942. Allard and I were assigned

as flight instructors after receiving our commissions and Navy wings in January 1943. Art came through our flight squadron as a cadet and I was his instrument flight instructor.

While Art was still a cadet at the naval air base in Corpus Christi, Texas, I invited him to join my wedding party at the Chase Field Air Base in Beeville, Texas. Tom Allard was my best man and Art was a groom in the party. We were all in Navy dress white uniform. The reception following the wedding was held in the Naval Officers Club on the base. Since he was a cadet and not allowed in the club, I dressed him in my Navy ensign uniform, since I had

### CORRECTIONS

The caption to the "Straight Answers" story (Spring 2007, page 25) was incorrect. Jeremy Braccini was the 15th Fallon child to be diagnosed with leukemia.

"What It Feels Like to" feature subject Sammar Abdulmuttalib (Spring 2007, page 12) flew to Chicago on her journey to the United States, and not Washington, D.C.



*Lt. Tony Ibaretta of Scotia, Calif., Lt. Tom Allard of Carson City, Viola M. Riley, bride Irene Riley, groom John E. Cantlon of Sparks; Cadet Arthur Smith of Reno; Marine Lt. Donald Dickenson of Bernhardt, Mass. Aug. 20, 1944.*

been promoted to first lieutenant. He had several hours of nervous celebration with us before taking off for his barracks.

Pat Eaton was killed in a plane crash during the war. Both Tom Allard and Art Smith have now passed on but all three of us came home and graduated from the University of Nevada. [Ed.'s note: Smith attended Nevada but was not a graduate.]

**John E. Cantlon '47 (biology)**  
*Vice Pres. Emeritus, Research and Graduate Studies*  
*Michigan State University*

### KUDOS

I received *Nevada Silver & Blue* the other day. I spent my school years in Reno for five years, and now I am back in Japan. It's good to know what's up there. Keep up your good work.

**Sachie Kanda '00 (speech communication)**  
*Soka-shi, Saitama, Japan*

**WRITE US:** Send your letters to *Nevada Silver & Blue*, University of Nevada, Reno, Jones Center/108, Reno, Nevada 89557 or email at [silverblue@unr.edu](mailto:silverblue@unr.edu). Letters may be shortened or edited.

## Only Online

Visit our website for photo galleries, full versions of the printed stories, plus video and audio clips. You can also access *Nevada Silver & Blue* archives. In this issue:

**Commencement 2007** — Check our photo gallery plus listen to an audio clip of President Glick. You can also buy the pictures you like from our Shutterfly link at <http://www.unr.edu/nevadaphotography>

**What I've Learned** — Listen to an audio clip describing Nevada Hall of Famer Dick Trachok's unusual encounter with a referee in 1949 and read his full interview.

**4-H: Beyond cows & cooking** — Listen to JoAnn Elston '56 and 4H kids talk about the new and exciting things they encounter at the 4H program.

**Nature & Environment** — Take a look at the Big Fish photo gallery and read more about what University researchers are doing to save the world's freshwater fish.

**Davidson Academy** — Watch the ABC *Nightline* video feature and hear a student discuss his academy experiences.

<http://www.unr.edu/nevasilverandblue>

### COMMENCEMENT: A BEGINNING

Howard Rosenberg (in photo at right with red hood), professor of art and member of the Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents, can march into the baccalaureate commencement ceremony with the dignitaries, but he marches in with his students. It's a tradition he treasures. Nearly 2,000 students were candidates for degrees during the various commencement ceremonies in May. This includes more than 1,300 bachelor's degree candidates who walked across the stage on the historic Quad and shook the hand of University President Milt Glick May 19, 2007.

Mark Ubando, at right, the student whose night job it was to dress up as Nevada's mascot Alpie, walked the commencement stage in costume May 19. Ubando, a 23-year-old native of Reno, is a candidate for a bachelor of arts degree in speech communication. Check our website for more pictures.



Photos by Jean Dixon

