

Five former Wolf Pack stars join

Former Wolf Pack standouts Kamy Keshmiri, Mike Schellin, Chris Starr, Alex Van Dyke and Marty Zendejas were inducted into the University of Nevada Athletics Hall of Fame in October.

The five were officially inducted into the prestigious Hall of Fame on Oct. 5 and recognized at halftime of Nevada's Homecoming football game with Fresno State the next day.

"This year's class is very deserving of induction into the Nevada Hall of Fame and represents the tremendous success of Wolf Pack athletics," Cary Groth, director of intercollegiate athletics, said. "Kamy Keshmiri excelled in the discus not only on the collegiate level by winning three NCAA titles but also on the world scene, while Mike Schellin personified toughness and excellence in the boxing ring by going undefeated in his collegiate career. Chris Starr was one of the finest players in the history of Wolf Pack women's basketball and still holds numerous school records. One of the most electrifying receivers in Big West and NCAA history, Alex Van Dyke, was a threat to score every time he touched a football, while Marty Zendejas defined consistency on the gridiron by hitting 80 percent of his field goal attempts in his outstanding career."

Kamy Keshmiri

(Men's Track & Field/1990-92)

A graduate of Reno High School, Kamy Keshmiri was named the high school track and field athlete of the year in 1987 by Gatorade and *Track & Field News* after setting the national high school record in the discus. He transferred to Nevada from UCLA in 1990 and won the first of three NCAA championships in the discus that year in Durham, N.C., the Wolf Pack's first track and field national title in 25 years. He set the Big Sky Conference record, had the best college mark and



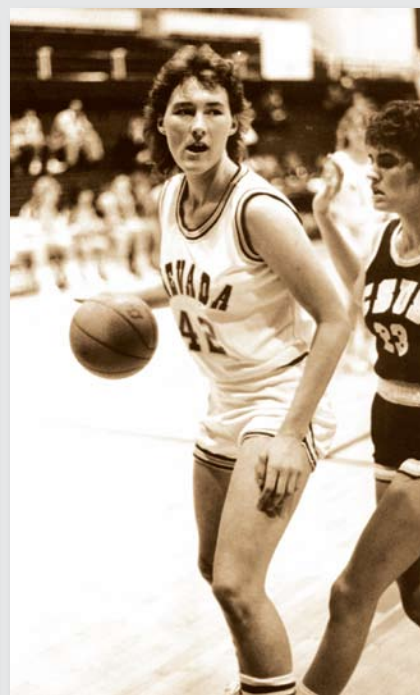
Kamy Keshmiri

ranked in the top 10 in the world that year. He would defend his NCAA discus titles in 1991 and 1992. The son of Nevada Hall of Fame inductee and four-time Olympian Joe Keshmiri, Keshmiri also excelled on the world scene. He won the discus title at the Mobile TAC Outdoor Track & Field Championships in 1988 at age 20, becoming the youngest thrower to win a national discus title since 1899, and captured the gold medal at the 1989 World University Games. He is now working in the hotel business in Reno.

Mike Schellin

(Boxing/1966-68)

One of the greatest collegiate boxers of all time, Mike Schellin turned in an undefeated 32-0 record in his career at the University of Nevada. He captured three California Collegiate Boxing Conference titles and was a two-time winner of the



Chris Starr '88 (health education)

Julius LaRowe Memorial Trophy as the outstanding boxer. Schellin also was the runner-up at the 1968 Western Regional Olympic Trials in Las Vegas, just missing the chance to represent the United States that year in the Summer Olympic Games in Mexico City. Schellin now lives in Carson City where he is co-owner of Nevada Insurance Agency which has offices in Reno and Carson City.

Chris Starr

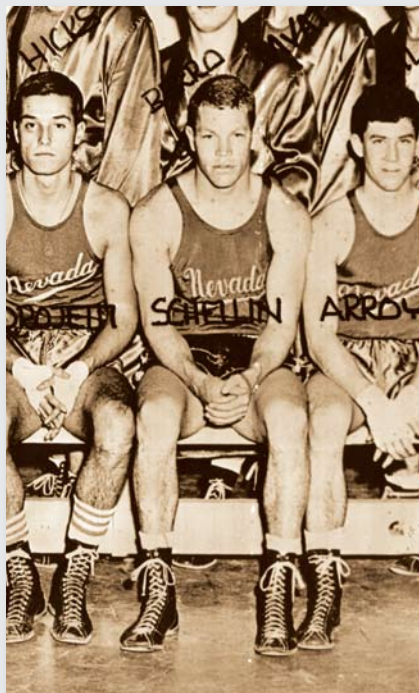
(Women's Basketball/1982-86)

The first Wolf Pack women's basketball player to earn induction into the Hall of Fame, Chris Starr ended her collegiate career as the most decorated player in school history, earning All-America honors in 1985 and 1986. A native of Klamath Falls, Ore., the 6-0 forward set over 20 school records in her career and still holds the majority of them. She scored 2,356 points in

Nevada Hall of Fame



Alex Van Dyke



Mike Schellin '69 (physical education)



Marty Zendejas

her four seasons to set the Nevada women's basketball career scoring record, a mark that stood for 21 years as the most points by any Nevada basketball player — man or woman — until Nick Fazekas surpassed it in 2006-07. Starr made 60.3 percent of her career field goal attempts and also holds the Wolf Pack career records for rebounds (948), free throws made (594) and free throw percentage (.865). She also earned Academic All-America honors in 1985-86. Starr is currently the Director of Intramural Sports at Colorado College in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Alex Van Dyke

(Football/1994-95)

A two-time All-American, Alex Van Dyke was one of the most electrifying wide receivers in school history. He broke three NCAA records during his career (since broken), including receiving yards

(1,854), receptions (128) and all-purpose yards (3,100). Van Dyke scored 26 touchdowns in just two seasons and still ranks in the Nevada top 10 in every career receiving, all-purpose and kickoff return category. He was a unanimous selection as the 1995 Big West Conference Offensive Player of the Year after leading the nation in receptions per game (11.7) and yards per game (168.6) as a senior. In 1996, Van Dyke became the highest draft pick in school history after being taken 31st overall by the New York Jets, and went on to spend five seasons in the NFL (three with the Jets and two with the Philadelphia Eagles). The unanimous selection at wide receiver on Nevada's "Team of the Century" in 1998, Van Dyke owns Going Vertical, a state-of-the-art training facility for athletes, in his hometown of Sacramento, Calif.

Marty Zendejas

(Football/1984-87)

A native of Chino Hills, Calif., Marty Zendejas earned All-America honors three years from 1984-86. The brother of 1996 Hall of Fame inductee Tony Zendejas, he was a three-time first-team All-Big Sky honoree and became the Big Sky career leading scorer with 385 points, breaking that mark during his junior year. He made 80 percent of his career field goals (72 of 90) and did not have a field goal blocked in four seasons at Nevada. He still holds the Nevada career records for kick scoring, field goals and points after touchdown (169 of 171). Zendejas played briefly in the Arena Football League, and he and his brother, Tony, currently own restaurants in southern California. [N](#)

Former Pack standout

makes his film debut

By Thomas Ranson

DON'T CALL HIM MR. HOLLYWOOD QUITE YET.

Talib Wise, a former running back and wide receiver for the University who plays for the New Orleans VooDoo in the Arena Football League, appeared in his first movie, *The Game Plan*, which was released in theaters last September.

"The only thing I had during the movie was a huge smile on my face," Wise said when he saw the movie the day after its release. "I couldn't get up during the movie and scream 'that's me, that's me.'"

Disney's *The Game Plan*, which stars Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, portrays Joe Kingman, a bachelor professional quarterback who discovers he has an 8-year-old daughter and tries to juggle football and his daughter in the midst of the long-awaited championship game.

"It's been great to be able to be part of something like *The Game Plan*," Wise, who played for the Wolf Pack from 2003 to 2005, said.

Wise happened to be in the right place at the right time to appear in his first film. He said one of his teammates informed him about the upcoming movie and the need for football players. Most of the football movies use players from the AFL and approximately 25 appeared in *The Game Plan*. "You see different sports movies and question how the actors got that opportunity," Wise said. "Growing up on the south side of Chicago, never in a million years do you think you'll be in a movie, especially a sports one."

Wise earned \$5,000 for his film role as a defender on the New



Talib Wise

York Dukes, the rival team of Kingman's (The Rock) Boston Rebels. "Basically we just played football," Wise said.

Wise said he smiled when he learned he would be working with "The Rock," the former WWF professional wrestler who switched careers to acting. He enjoyed working with Johnson and the other stars, who included Kyra Segdwick and Gordon Clapp.

"It was really good, especially how down-to-earth they are," Wise said about the well-known actors. "They tried to make it as fun as possible."

Johnson was grateful to work with the top players from the AFL and said they made the movie a realistic football experience.

"They brought a special dedication and energy to the film, but more importantly,

they brought a great reality to our movie," The Rock said in a statement. "All of the AFL guys in the movie are great players in their league... they're the top guys at what they do. I really had a great time working with them. They were all very patient with me, and I want to thank them for that."

The September football flick will probably not be the last time you see Wise on the big screen.

"I built a nice friendship with the director, Andy Fickman, and the guys who put it together," he said. "I told them to keep me in mind the next time they do a sports movie."

Wise was selected by the Bears in the 2005 NFL Draft but was released prior to the season. Since then, Wise has lit up the field in the AFL. He played one season for the Arizona Rattlers in 2006 and then finished the 2007 season with the VooDoo.

Wise, though, is battling back into the NFL system as he enters his third season in the AFL.

Thomas Ranson is an intern in the Athletics Media Services Department

Academic Center topped off

On Dec. 6, a topping off ceremony was held to celebrate the halfway point of construction on the Marguerite Wattis Petersen Academic Center and the E.L. Cord Academic and Athletic Performance Complex. The final beam was raised and a lunch was served after the ceremony. Key donors, board directors of the Athletics Association of the University of Nevada, Reno and staff from the athletics department were in attendance. The 7,000-square-foot facility, which includes a 1,400-square-foot outside plaza, will provide Nevada student-athletes with state-of-the-art academic resources. The facility is scheduled to open in April or May 2008.



Cary Groth, University director of Athletics, listens to John Itzaina, project coordinator of The PENTA Building Group LLC, during the topping off ceremony.

Photo courtesy of the Athletics Department

Nevada Legacy Society



The society was formed to recognize and honor the commitment of those who have provided for the future support of the University under their estate or financial plans—regardless of the size of the gift.

Long-term support generated through gift planning is necessary to maintain our tradition of excellence and to help us leave a legacy in higher education and research for future generations. The Nevada Legacy Society is being established to honor and thank our friends who have included the University in their plans. They have done so by naming the University of Nevada, Reno Foundation as a beneficiary to wills, living trusts, IRAs, life insurance, and other life-income gifts.



Becoming a Member: The launch of our Nevada Legacy Society also brings new opportunities to share examples of how individuals can make a difference. Your confidence and investment is critical to securing Nevada's future and we are grateful to be able to thank you now!

If you have included the University of Nevada, Reno Foundation in your estate plans, you are still eligible to become a charter member of the Nevada Legacy Society. Please contact Lisa Riley or Bob Eggleston, planned giving directors, (775) 784-1352 or plannedgiving@unr.edu, so we can recognize your support and say, "Thank you." Your generosity helps us secure a future for Nevada's flagship University.

Nevada Cheer coach on track for excellence

Kim Welker '97 (general studies) returns as head cheer coach to the University, bringing 15 years of experience as a Nevada cheerleader, assistant coach, and instructor in cheer. Along with assistant coaches Ciara Cavin '03 (international business), Zeb Nomura, and Jordan Trice. Welker is building a Division I cheer program for the University.

"We are looking for the all-around cheer athlete, someone who brings the skills needed, but also is able to connect to the fans and the community," Welker says. This year's team includes 27 women and 10 men, which allows for diverse presentations at athletic events.

Cheer is a daily commitment for the student athletes involved, but a commitment readily accepted by team members. But Welker emphasizes, "I care most about the education and personal development of my athletes, because those are the main factors in how enjoyable and successful life will be."

This year's Nevada Cheer program is featured in the documentary *Nevada Cheer* by Emmy-winning producer Jack Sutton '70 (biological sciences). The documentary is available through Nevada Athletics.



Nevada cheerleaders encourage the Pack during Homecoming.

The 2008 Cheer, Dance & Stunt calendars are available now for only \$12. Designed by George Anastassatos '95 (art), the order form is available on the Athletics website at <http://www.nevadawolfpack.com> under "Cheer Squad." Details: email kwelker@unr.edu, or call (775) 682-6962.