Nevada to induct six former Pack stars into Hall of Fame

Former Wolf Pack stars Jennifer Ashcroft, Nate Burleson, Tracey King, Mike Maxwell, Don Price and Angie Yoon will be inducted into the University of Nevada Athletics Hall of Fame Oct. 19 at the Hall of Fame Dinner at the Silver Legacy. They will also be recognized at halftime during the football game against San Diego State on Oct. 20 at Mackay Stadium.

“This year’s Hall of Fame class is one of the most talented and diverse classes we have inducted,” said Cary Groth, director of athletics. “These former student-athletes performed at the highest level individually and as members of Wolf Pack championship teams.”

Including this year’s six honorees, 165 individuals and two teams have been inducted into the Nevada Athletics Hall of Fame since its inception in 1973.

2012 Nevada Hall of Fame Inductees

Jennifer Ashcroft ’02 (Track & Field (1999-2002))
Jennifer Ashcroft ’02 (health education) a 2000 Olympic Trials qualifier earned first-team All-American and All-Conference honors in the pole vault in 2000 and 2002. She was a three-time conference champion in the pole vault, winning the Big West title in 2000 and WAC championships in 2001 and 2002, and helped the Wolf Pack to the Big West championship in 2000. A three-time academic all-conference selection, she earned Academic All-American honors in 2000 and was the state of Nevada winner for the 2002 NCAA Woman of the Year award. Ashcroft also qualified for the 2000 Olympic Trials.

Nate Burleson – Football (1999-2002)
Nate Burleson earned All-American honors at wide receiver in 2002 from the American Football Coaches Association, Associated Press, Sporting News and CNN/Sl. He also earned first-team All-WAC honors and won Nevada’s Golden Helmet (MVP) award in 2002 after setting the school record with 138 receptions that year. The Wolf Pack’s Offensive Player of the Year in 2000, he ranks third in career receptions with 248 and fourth in career receiving yards with 3,287. Burleson has gone on to have a standout career in the NFL with Minnesota, Seattle and Detroit and founded the Nate Burleson C.A.T.C.H. Foundation.

Tracey King – Women’s Tennis (1988-92)
Tracey King ’92 (psychology) is the first women’s tennis student-athlete to be inducted into the Wolf Pack Athletics Hall of Fame. A four-time, first-team All-Big Sky Conference selection, she still holds Nevada’s school record for career victories with 83 and school mark for single-season victories with 24 wins in 1990-91. King led the Wolf Pack to the 1992 Big Sky championship, the first such title for any women’s team at Nevada, and won three conference singles titles and one doubles championship. An academic honoree, King was also the state of Nevada winner for the NCAA’s Woman of the Year award in 1992.

Mike Maxwell – Football (1993-95)
Quarterback Mike Maxwell ’97 (management) was named the 1994 Big West Confer-
Wolf Pack teams score high in latest NCAA APR report

The University of Nevada, Reno’s athletics teams turned in their eighth consecutive year of penalty-free academic performance in the latest NCAA Academic Progress Rates. Two teams, men’s golf and rifle, turned in perfect multi-year rates, with perfect eligibility and retention of all of the student-athletes from 2007-11. Both teams received public recognition awards for ranking in the top 10 percent in the nation as part of the 2012 NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program.

All 16 Wolf Pack teams turned in multi-year APR scores above the 925 standard. In the multi-year APR numbers, the Wolf Pack saw seven of its teams improve their scores from one year ago, including football, men’s basketball, rifle, softball, cross county, swimming and diving and volleyball, while men’s golf retained its perfect mark. The NCAA also released its APR information for all of the head coaches in the nation, and 10 of the Wolf Pack’s 13 head coaches had marks above the national averages, including football, men’s basketball and women’s basketball.

“We are pleased that our APR numbers continue to improve,” said Cary Groth, director of athletics. “That is a tribute to the dedication of our student-athletes, coaches and staff, as well as all of the professors and staff on the University campus.”

The APR is used by the NCAA and universities to measure current academic success by looking at the academic progress of every current student-athlete. It includes eligibility, retention and graduation as factors in the rate calculation. Teams that score below 925 may lose scholarships.

“The latest APR data caps off an outstanding academic year for the Wolf Pack,” said University President Marc Johnson.

Frediani endows scholarship

Wayne Frediani ’72 (management) has made a gift to establish the Wayne A. Frediani Scholarship Endowment, which will provide an annual scholarship to a student-athlete in the College of Business. The scholarship will be first awarded during the 2014-15 academic year.

He is the executive director of the Nevada Franchised Auto Dealers Association and a founding steering committee member of the Starting 5, the financial support committee for Nevada’s men’s basketball. Frediani, a 36-year Wolf Pack donor and ticket holder, developed the courtesy car program for the athletics department.

Wolf Pack Athletics Launches Battle Born Campaign

For the Wolf Pack, Battle Born is much more than a state motto; it is part of a marketing and fundraising campaign that will guide the Wolf Pack as the University of Nevada heads into its first year as a member of the Mountain West Conference.

This year, Wolf Pack fans will see the commitment to the campaign in the form of the Battle Born logo on the field at Mackay Stadium and on the court at Lawlor Events Center. Nevada’s official merchandiser, Silver and Blue Outfitters, will also feature Battle Born-themed apparel at Wolf Pack events and at its store at Meadowood Mall.

Another component of the campaign is a new fundraising group, the Battle Born Team, that will help Nevada raise the funds necessary to provide a bridge to sustained competitiveness during the transition to the Mountain West Conference.

More than 45 companies and individuals have joined the Battle Born Team, committing $10,000 a year for each of the next three years. Battle Born Team members were recognized at a dinner on the 50-yard line at Mackay Stadium in August.

For more information about the Battle Born Campaign or to join the Battle Born Team, call (775) 682-6975.