Inside
Letter from the Alumni Council President ............. 48
Class Chat .................................................. 49
Chapter Updates ......................................... 54
2007 Homecoming Photos ............................... 56
Alumni Family Tree Challenge ......................... 58
Remembering Friends .................................... 60
Tell Me How Nevada Was ............................... 62

Photo by Jean Dixon
Dear Nevada Alumni,

The outlook for this year is incredibly positive, and as your new Alumni Council President, I am extremely fortunate to be part of the Nevada Alumni Association during an exciting time at the University. I am also thrilled to welcome this year’s Alumni Council slate of officers, three new and 18 returning board members. Alumni Council members are diverse in their professions and areas of strengths. Each of them is dedicated to making the Nevada Alumni Association a stronger organization, while serving as ambassadors for the University.

Over the last several years, the Nevada Alumni Association has had much success in the following task forces: Membership and Marketing, Student Involvement, Volunteer Involvement and Community Outreach. This year, one of my goals is to continue to expand on our strengths and find new ways to better serve our alumni.

The Nevada Alumni Association wants to encourage alumni and their families to visit the University. If you have not been to campus since graduation, what are you waiting for? Your alma mater is alive with many activities throughout the year, such as Pack Picnics on the Quad, pre-game parties, theatre productions, art shows and athletic events.

One of the most exciting new developments on campus opened in November—the Joe Crowley Student Union. This building replaces the Jot Travis Student Union and has become the center of campus. Inside you’ll find a two-story ASUN bookstore, credit union, copy center, meeting rooms, a grand ballroom, Baja Fresh, Port of Subs, one of the largest Starbucks’ west of the Mississippi and much more. To encourage you to return to campus, the Nevada Alumni Association is planning a free all alumni and family event on Friday, Feb. 1 at the new union. Please plan to join us. For more information, visit http://www.unr.edu/alumni.

Finally, the Nevada Alumni Association and I want to thank our dues-paying members. Paid memberships help provide funding for our programs and events throughout the year and members receive discounts to alumni events and savings offered by local and national vendors. I encourage those who have not yet become dues-paying members to do so today by visiting http://www.unr.edu/alumni or calling (888) NV ALUMS.

Sincerely,

Cindy Buchanan ’95
President, Nevada Alumni Council

Nevada Alumni Council
Board Members
Executive Committee
Cindy Buchanan ’95
President
Randy Brown CPA ’89
Past President
Mike Dillon ’94
Treasurer/President-Elect
Lauren Sankovich ’98
VP for Community Outreach
Michael Pennington ’95
VP for Student Involvement
Robert A. Bielle ’83
VP for Volunteer Involvement
Karen Garcia ’92
VP for Marketing and Membership

Board Members
Chad Blanchard ’93
Kelly Bland ’91
Todd Cabral ’91
Jim Conkey ’83
Roger Dechonkh ’71
Larry Digesti ’72
Seema Donahoe ’02
Jason Frierson ’96
Stephanie Clemo Hanna ’96
Mary Harmon ’93, ’97
Sam Hudson ’94
Carlos Lédon ’01
Judy Machabee ’91
Patrick Martinez ’95
Marlene Olsen ’74
Marcedes Parsons ’84
Sarah Ragsdale (ASUN President)
Jeff Pickett ’89
Julie Rowe ’94
Chris Vargas ’95
Charlie Walsh ’86
Cary Groth
Director, Intercollegiate Athletics

Staff Members
John K. Carothers
Vice President, Development & Alumni Relations
Bruce Mack
Associate Vice President, Development & Alumni Relations
Amy J. Carothers ’01
Director, Alumni Relations
Juliane Di Meo
Alumni Program Manager
Christy Jerz ’97
Alumni Program Manager
Lindsey Harmon ’06
Alumni Program Coordinator
Hope Hepner
Administrative Assistant II

‘50s
Robert Vaughan ’50 (history) has served his community for many years, through his law firm, Vaughan & Hull, Ltd. The firm has held the highest rating given for professionalism and legal ability in the Martindale-Hubbel Law Directory for over 45 years and has been chosen for listing in the Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers for 18 years.

‘60s
Jack L. Byrom ’69 (civil engineering) retired in 2005, after a 36 year career in the utility business at Sierra Pacific Resources. Jack started a new career at the Truckee Meadows Water Authority in Reno and spends his spare time following his two very talented granddaughters around the state at athletic events.

‘70s
Linda Denenberg ’71 (business education) succeeded last November to get Proposition 1C: the “Emergency Housing Act,” on the election ballot in California. The bill passed statewide.

Janet Trefethen ’71 (journalism) of Trefethen Family Vineyards appeared with Michael Chiarello, on his show Easy Entertaining on the Food Network. The episode titled “Spaghetti Western Does Just That” featured a cowboy picnic with Janet’s wines proving the perfect compliment.

Rayona Sharpnack ’73 (physical education) wrote Trade-Up!: 5 Steps for Redesigning your Leadership and Life from the Inside Out. Rayona is also the founder and CEO of the Bay-Area based Institute for Women’s Leadership.

Catherine Cross Maple ’74 (special education) is the deputy cabinet secretary for the New Mexico Public Education Department, Learning and Accountability. Catherine has a deeply rooted professional background in the field of leadership and organizational change for education.

Ernie Pontius ’77 (elementary education) and his wife, Sheila (Austin) Pontius ’75 (business education), are now retired, enjoying RV travel and cruising to Alaska, Mexico, Australia/New Zealand and the Maritimes in Canada.

‘60s

Nevada Alumni Association • Winter 2008
‘80s

John Bokelman ‘80 (managerial sciences) traveled to Peru with his family and hiked to the top of Putucusi Mountain, overlooking Machu Picchu. John proudly wore his "Nevada" T-shirt on the summit.

John F. Christensen ‘80Ph.D. (psychology) has been married to Julie Burns Christensen since 1974. John is in private practice and also the founding board member of Pilgrims’ Partner Foundation, http://www.pilgrimspartner.org, which provides services to nonprofit organizations in the Western United States working with low-income clients.

Paula J. Del Giudice ‘83 (marketing) is the executive director of the Seattle Guild of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. The Seattle Guild leads the country in raising funds to support diabetes research. Paula and her husband, Mike Wickersham, along with their children, Kevin and Katie, make their home in Sammamish, Wash.

Martin Hastings ‘85 (marketing) was sworn in as a municipal court judge in Las Vegas, Department Six, on June 20, 2007. Martin received his Juris Doctorate from the University of San Diego, School of Law in December 1989.

Greg Bortolin ‘86 (journalism) is the director of communications and government affairs for the Desert Research Institute. Prior to DRI he spent five years as the assistant director of communications and manager of media relations at the University of Nevada, Reno. Greg was a sports writer, columnist and copy editor for the Las Vegas Review-Journal.

Colette Rausch ‘86 (journalism) is the deputy director of the Rule of Law Program at the United States Institute of Peace in Washington, D.C. Collete now lives in Takoma Park, Md. with her husband, Patrick, and her 4-year-old son, Calvin.

‘90s

Cindie Geddes ‘90 (resource management) was awarded both a Nevada Arts Council Fellowship and a Sierra Arts Literary Arts Grant for the opening scenes of her work-in-progress, Scar Tissue. She hopes to use the proceeds accompanying the selections to carve out some time away from running Flying Hand Writing Services and turn several hundred pages of fictionalized scenes from her life into something resembling a novel.

Machen MacDonald’87 (journalism) has become a No. 1 best-selling author with his new book: The Power of Coaching... Engaging Excellence in Others! Machen is the founder of ProBrilliance Leadership Institute and is a certified business and life coach in Grass Valley, Calif.

Sid Zeller ‘88 (general studies) was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps. in July 2006, after which he transferred to Stuttgart, Germany for three years. Sid was awarded a Bronze Star for his combat service in Iraq in 2004 and a Meritorious Service Medal for his work training Marines from 2002 to 2007. Sid has two boys: Jeff, 15, and Jeremy, 4.

Kim Tulman ’89 (journalism) was named the director of marketing at Renown Health. Kim was also recognized as a “Woman of Achievement” by the Nevada Women’s Fund.

Rich Whitney ’89 (management/marketing), ’01M.A. (counseling and educational psychology), ’07Ph.D. (counseling and educational psychology) is an assistant professor at DePaul University in Chicago, Ill. in the Human Services and Counseling Program within the School of Education.

Adrienne Kristine ‘87 (sociology), ’91M.A. (English) has published her second eBook: I’ve Got a Convection Oven in My RV. Now What? She will be on tour, promoting her book across the United States.

Continues on page 50
Mark Stovak ’90 (biology), ’95M.D. was selected to be the team physician for the USA Track & Field Team at the 2007 Pan American Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in July 2007.

Megan (Nenzel) Brown ’92 (finance) was promoted to senior assurance manager at Grant Thornton LLP. Megan has been with Grant Thornton for 11 years.

Julie (Dobbs) Pickett ’92 (speech communications) and her husband Todd Pickett own Archie’s across the street from the University. Archie’s recently re-opened after over a year of remodeling, adding a second story with a full bar and gaming.

Jennifer McQuarrie ’93 (political science) has joined the Sacramento law firm Palmer Kazanjian Wohl Perkins LLP as an associate attorney. Jennifer graduated with great distinction from McGeorge School of Law, University of the Pacific in 1997.

Christine (Marsh) Brenner ’94 (general studies) is teaching tennis to adults and kids and has been doing so for six years.

Theresa Jones, P.E.’94 (civil engineering), ’04MS (hydrology) joined PB&J, an engineering consulting firm, as a project manager. Theresa is an active member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and Society of Women Engineers.

Wren Ballard ’95 (nursing), ’05MSN (nursing) has joined Sierra Neurosurgery Group in Reno. Wren has worked in the intensive care setting for more than 11 years.

David Pearson ’95 (speech communications) has accepted appointment as the vice president of sales for CLP Resources, Inc. David will be responsible for CLP’s overall sales strategy and execution.

Brita Sorensen ’95 (elementary education/special education), ’01M.Ed. (elementary education) married Patrick Scheffer on Sept. 21, 2007 in Lake Tahoe, Calif.

Kevin Cuccaro ’96 (health science, pre-medicine) recently moved to San Diego, Calif. with his wife, Janet, and their children, Aidan and Alyse. A Lieutenant in the United States Navy, Kevin will be serving as a staff anesthesiologist and specialist in pain medicine at Naval Medical Center San Diego. Friends are invited to contact Kevin after his long exodus at kcuccaro@gmail.com.

Alison Fogarty ’96 (biology) received her MBA from the University of St. Thomas in December 2005 and was hired as the director of database marketing for the Grand Casino in Minnesota. She lives just outside of Minneapolis with her husband, Joe, and their three children, Brittany, Riley and Joey.

Nicole (Moschetti) Vance ’96 (finance) has accepted the position of wealth management specialist with Wells Fargo Private Bank. Nicole earned a Juris Doctorate from the University of California Hastings College of the Law.

Dan Flowers ’97 (accounting) was promoted to senior assurance manager for Grant Thornton LLP. Dan has been with the assurance practice at Grant Thornton for more than 11 years.

Darrin Maddox ’97 (business administration) has accepted a new role as senior analyst for Meridian Business Advisors. Darrin will provide services primarily in the areas of business valuation, forensic accounting and litigation support.

Maureen E. Mays ’98M.D., director of preventive cardiology and cardiac rehabilitation and assistant professor in the department of cardiovascular medicine in the Oregon Health and Science University School of Medicine, has been awarded diplomate status by the American Board of Clinical Lipidology.

Francesca (Dougherty) Lee ’99 (biology/Spanish), ’04M.D. has reached chief resident status and is in residency training in internal medicine at Loyola University Medical Center in Chicago.

Julie (Harris) Kelly ’00 (speech pathology) finished her doctorate in audiology from the University of Florida and continues to run her private practice, North Coast Audiology Center, in Eureka, Calif.

Adam Porath ’00 (biology) graduated from the Idaho State University College of Pharmacy in May 2006 with a Doctor of Pharmacy degree. Adam recently accepted a
position at Renown as the clinical pharmacy specialist and pharmacy practice residency program director.

Joaquin Borrego ’01Ph.D. (clinical psychology) is assistant professor and associate director of clinical training for the Department of Psychology at Texas Tech University.

Kathleen Hale ’01 (journalism) will lead PBS8, an engineering consulting firm, as senior public information officer. Kathleen has more than 15 years of engineering, marketing and public outreach experience.

Rajan Zed ’01MBA, a Hindu chaplain from Reno, read an opening prayer from ancient Sanskrit scriptures in the United States Senate in Washington, D.C. on July 12, 2007. The Hindu prayer was the first delivered on the Senate floor since its formation in 1789.

Arjun Dhingra ’02 (marketing) won a unanimous decision against his opponent for a gold medal in the International TaeKwon-Do Federation World Championships held in England this year. Arjun competed in the most senior division of the tournament for fifth degree black belts.

Lisa Mortensen ’02 (accounting/computer information systems) earned the designation of Certified Valuation Analyst. Lisa is an active member in the Nevada Alumni Association, the Nevada Society of Certified Public Accountants, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the National Association of Certified Valuation Analysts.

Candee Ramos ’02 (journalism) departed in December for her Peace Corps service in Guinea. She will serve as a small business advisor.

Aaron Squires ’02 (finance) graduated from Pepperdine Law School in May of 2006, and passed the California Bar exam to become an attorney. Additionally, he is a Certified Public Accountant, a Certified Financial Planner, and passed Level III of the Chartered Financial Analyst Program. Aaron is married to Nicole Jensky of Thousand Oaks, Calif.

Dano Kraig P. Fernandez ’03 (criminal justice) graduated with a master of arts in justice administration degree from Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont. Dano’s next plan is to teach criminal justice disciplines and law enforcement studies.

Dawn Ellen Hirokawa ’03MPH received a doctor of medicine degree in June 2007 at Jefferson Medical College. Following graduation, Dawn is completing a pre-med residency at Christiana Care in Delaware and then a residency in dermatology at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital.

Josh D. Luke ’03Ph.D. (educational leadership) is a Fellow in the American College of Health Care Executives. Josh has been the chief executive officer of Anaheim General Hospital since 2004.

Timothy Baker ’04M.D. has reached chief resident status and is currently serving his residency in internal medicine at the University of Chicago Hospital.

Ryan Jerz ’04 (general studies), ’07M.A. (journalism), has been hired by the Nevada Commission on Tourism as interactive media manager. Ryan loves the state of Nevada, and his new position gives him license to tell the world why.

James Richter ’04M.D. is training at Loyola University Medical Center in the pathology program and recently received chief resident status.

Jennifer Sanzi ’04 (journalism) was promoted to public relations manager at Olsen & Associates. Jennifer manages several key accounts for Olsen & Associates and helps with the public relations planning, writing, media relations and training for all clients.

Anetta Tirjak ’04 (nursing) works in the surgery department at Saint Mary’s Regional Medical Center in Reno, and will soon achieve her master’s in nursing and her master of nursing in public health at Orvis School of Nursing.
Abbi Holtom Whitaker ‘04 (journalism) was named vice president of Lyman Public Relations, responsible for overseeing real estate and hospitality accounts in the Western United States, Mexico, Costa Rica and Hawaii.

Ming Zhou ‘04M.D. will serve as chief resident in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Nevada School of Medicine in Las Vegas.

Yonas Gebeyehu Tesfaye ‘05Ph.D. (hydrology) was named water resource engineer for PBS&J, an engineering consulting firm. In this role, Yonas is responsible for planning, design, construction and operation of flood control, land development and transportation drainages including water supply and wastewater systems.

Meagan Gilson ‘05 (political science/journalism) has been named senior account executive for MassMedia at the firm’s Reno office. Meagan has been with MassMedia since 2003, most recently serving as an account executive.

Lianne Ong ‘05M.D. will act as chief resident for the family medicine program in Las Vegas for the University of Nevada School of Medicine.

Ryan P. Ross ‘05 (supply chain management) and his wife Shawna (Parsons) Ross ‘02 (speech pathology), 04M.S. (speech pathology) opened a private practice in speech and language pathology for children. The couple resides in Sparks, Nev.

Erin Aldrich ‘06 (geography) departs in early 2008 for Peace Corps service in Romania. Erin currently works as a mapping analyst with the University of Nevada, Reno. She will serve as a youth development Peace Corps Volunteer, focusing on environmental education.

April Frances Bankston ‘06 (mathematics), former University of Nevada, Reno women’s basketball team member, is now playing professional basketball in Chemnitz, Germany.

Katie (McCune) Palani ‘06 (general studies), ‘07M.A. (journalism), recent graduate of the Interactive Environmental Journalism Master’s Program, has joined Catholic Community Services of Northern Nevada as public information specialist for the area non-profit.

Marcus Liem ‘06 (speech communications) accepted a new job as communications director at the Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center. Marcus will lead the center’s statewide communications, public relations and marketing efforts.

Sean Rivers ‘07 (accounting) has joined the Certified Public Accounting firm of Kafoury, Armstrong & Co. Sean served with the U.S. Marine Corps during the first Gulf War and also volunteers with the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and the American Lung Association.

Robyn Campbell-Ouchida ‘93 (journalism) and her husband, Kurt Ouchida, would like to announce the birth of their second son, Cooper Thomas. He joins older brother Jace. Robyn and Kurt own a consulting company in Henderson: All Write Business Communications.

Joanne (Licausi) Johnson ’96 (speech communication) and Drew Johnson are excited to announce the birth of their daughter Liliana on Father’s Day 2007. Drew and Joanne reside in Ventura, Calif.

Loni (Harris) Kissin ’90 (journalism) and Joel Kissin are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Taylor Florence Kissin, on Jan. 22, 2007.

Patrick “Ty” Whitaker ‘03 (environmental science) and Abbi Jayne (Holtom) Whitaker ‘04 (journalism) would like to announce the birth of their child, Alton “Ever” Whitaker, Feb. 19, 2007.

David Atkins ‘04 (geography) and Brooke (Miles) Atkins ‘02 (journalism) are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Paige Elizabeth Atkins, born Dec. 29, 2006.

Mandy (Rabenstine) Grotting ‘00 (elementary education), ‘05M.Ed. (literacy studies) and Curtis Grotting are excited to announce the birth of their first child, Claire Frances Grotting, in May 2007.

Ryan McLaughlin ‘02 (speech communications) and Heather (Schumann) McLaughlin ‘00 (criminal justice) welcomed a new addition to their family. Dominic Ryan McLaughlin on July 8, 2007.
FOR MORE THAN 10 YEARS, alumni, students, friends and fans of Nevada have been able to join the ranks of “licensed Wolf Pack fans” with a University of Nevada, Reno Wolf Pack collegiate license plate.

Nevada residents with a vehicle registered in the state can get the special Wolf Pack plate at any Nevada DMV office. A portion of the fee collected goes into the general and athletic scholarship funds. Last year the fund generated more than $150,000 for athletic and general scholarships!

In addition to regular car license fees, the standard Wolf Pack plates are $60 initially and $30 at renewal. A personalized Wolf Pack plate is sold for an additional $96 initially, and costs $50 annually to renew. The University of Nevada, Reno receives $25 of the initial fee and $20 at time of renewal.

For more information or to download an application for a personalized plate, go to http://www.dmvnv.com/platescharitable.htm.

Currently, 6,350 Nevada drivers have the Wolf Pack plates.
Alumni College Chapter
Doug Byington '55, '64
dbyington@tqol.com
Save the date for Alumni College XIX, July 15–17, 2008!

ASUN Past Officers Chapter
Sarah Ragsdale
president@asun.unr.edu
The newest chapter of the Nevada Alumni Association was formed for past officers of student government to cultivate youth leadership development, mentor current student leaders, keep up-to-date on campus and ASUN happenings, exchange career information, create scholarships and socialize. In November, all officers were invited to the Grand Opening of the Joe Crowley Student Union to attend the special open house of the ASUN wing, the dedication of the Rita Laden Senate Chambers and the ribbon cutting ceremony of the ASUN Past Presidents room. If you are interested in joining the chapter, please contact Sarah Ragsdale.

COBAAA
Ro Lazzarone '03
ro@thelazzaronegroup.com
In early October, COBAAA wrapped up one of its largest projects to date with the opening of the new COBA student lounge. Alumni, faculty, students, COBAAA board members and COBA dean Greg Mosier were in attendance to celebrate the opening—a great success! COBAAA also sponsored the COBA graduation reception in December. COBAAA continues to focus on growing membership, as well as supporting various student organizations, scholarships and events, with one of its biggest events happening this spring—the annual COBAAA golf tournament. Please save the date for the tournament, Thursday, May 15, at LakeRidge Golf Course.

Fallon Alumni Chapter
Tina (Luke) Dakin ’71, ’84
jtdakin@brcglobal.net
The Fallon Alumni Chapter sponsored a Western barbecue scholarship fundraiser at the Norm Frey Ranch in Fallon in August. More than 100 alumni and friends supported the event. On Sept. 29, football fans took a rooter bus from Fallon to Reno and enjoyed an awesome game—Nevada vs. UNLV. It was a great game and great fun.
Dottie Austin, mother and grandmother to four Nevada alumni, made a $1,000 donation to the Fallon Alumni Chapter for scholarships. Thanks, Dottie!

Football Alumni Chapter
Jim Farley ’99
jfarley47@verizon.net
Football Alumni president, Matt Clafton ’93, has announced a new Southern Nevada Alumni Football Chapter, which will be headed by Jeff Kondra ’95. All southern Nevada football alumni are encouraged to contact Jeff by emailing him at kondra@cox.net. Upcoming events for Alumni Football Chapter: Annual Golf Tournament (May 30), Crab Feed (TBD), and tailgate the Nevada vs. UNLV game Sept. 27. Please email Jim Farley if you would like further information on our upcoming events.

International Alumni Chapter
Zaneta Janiczak '01
zaneta@unr.edu
When asked why they come to the University of Nevada, Reno, international students most often say a friend, relative, or acquaintance recommended it to them. As alumni, you play an important role in helping us spread the word that the University of Nevada, Reno is a great place to study, experience the United States and grow professionally. The OISS assists with international recruitment and admissions. Interested students can visit our web site at http://www.unr.edu/oiss.

Mackay Alumni Chapter
Jessica Muehlberg ’02
mackayalumni@unr.edu
When asked why they came to the University of Nevada, Reno, international students most often say a friend, relative, or acquaintance recommended it to them. As alumni, you play an important role in helping us spread the word that the University of Nevada, Reno is a great place to study, experience the United States and grow professionally. The OISS assists with international recruitment and admissions. Interested students can visit our web site at http://www.unr.edu/oiss.


Barbara (Houston) Smith (left) and Rayne (Ellison) Pilon ’92 (right) enjoy the Homecoming football game, Oct. 6.
Native American Chapter
Sherry Rupert ’05
srupert@govmail.state.nv.us

The Native American Chapter (NAC) plans to provide a $500 scholarship to a University of Nevada Native American student this spring. The chapter will make this an annual scholarship and hopes to increase the award each year through fundraising events and sponsors. The chapter is also starting preparations for the 4th Annual University of Nevada, Reno Powwow, May 3-4, at the Manzanita Bowl. The Powwow is growing each year and has become a University tradition. University partners collaborating in the success of the Powwow are the Native American Student Organization and the Center for Student Cultural Diversity. The chapter would like to give a special thanks to their members and would like to welcome newcomer Steven Frank, Chairman of the Summit Lake Paiute Tribe. If you wish to become a member, please contact Kari Emm, VP of membership, at kemm@unr.edu or visit www.unr.edu/alumni.

OSNAA
Kathie Baldridge ’05
orvis_alumni@hotmail.com

OSNAA celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Orvis School of Nursing at brunch held Oct. 6. In attendance were members from the first graduating class, recent graduates and everyone in between. The brunch was a grand success and enjoyed by all.

USAC
Michelle Cobb
mcobb@unr.edu

We hosted our first USAC Passport Fair on campus. Government passport officials were on-site to process applications. The fair was open to students, faculty, staff and alumni. It was a great success, and we plan to hold more in the future.

We also assisted USAC with a two-day orientation to prepare students for their upcoming semester abroad. The first night was a presentation covering what they should expect for the upcoming semester. The second night was a breakout session with students, parents and alumni. There was mix of excitement from the students and nostalgia from the alumni reminiscing about their trips.

Washington D.C.
Ronda (Brown) Bybee ’95
rcrashba@alumni.gwu.edu

On Sept. 15, Nevada alumni, family and friends gathered for the 7th Annual Alumni Baseball Picnic. Prior to the picnic and game, alumni were escorted to the field for batting practice and a meet-and-greet with Nationals’ player and Nevada alumni, Ryan Church. As an added bonus, Corky Miller, Atlanta Braves’ catcher and also a Nevada alumnus, stopped by to chat and pose for pictures. Former Reno neighbors were re-united during the picnic, neither knowing the other lived in the D.C. area. Get involved with your chapter, because you just never know who you’ll run into! This spring, keep an eye on your email inbox for news of when alumni will be gathering to watch Nevada men’s basketball. What, you aren’t receiving our emails? Join the Washington D.C. Chapter on Nevada Chatta — www.nevadachat.com!

Young Alumni Chapter
Seema (Bhardwaj) Donahoe ’02
Seema.Bhardwaj@igt.com

As usual, the Young Alumni Chapter rose to the occasion for Homecoming with a number of activities! Our very own Ro Lazz erroneously honored as Young Alumnus of the Year at the Homecoming Gala. YAC was also a sponsor for Old Guys’ Night at the Little Wal’, and our members revelled in the fun and the nostalgia at the alumni tailgater. Continuing with tradition, YAC hosted its annual Mystery Bus Dinner in November. More than 40 alumni and friends visited Blairsden, Calif. for a hearty meal at the Grizzly Grill. A stop for drinks at the Log Cabin completed our tour. December brought the return of YAC’s holiday mixer with dinner at Louis’ Basque Corner and ice skating downtown. On Jan. 4, we enjoyed another YAC tradition—our annual Bagna Cauda at the Coney Island! Bread, meat, cheese, vegetables, hot oil and seasonings add up to one spectacular meal! 

At recent educational fairs in Pune, India, international alumni Zaneta Janiczak ’01 and Raman Plakkot ’95MBA promoted the University as the number one educational destination in the United States.

Nicole Flowers, Brian Frailick ’97, Dan Flowers ’97 and Nicole (Moschetti) Vance ’96 attend the grand opening of the new COBA student lounge.

YAC members Melissa Molyneaux ’06, Stephani Foust ’01, Kristen LaBrosse ’07 and Kari Emm ’01 attend the Homecoming Gala, Oct. 4.
Romeo Lazzarone ’03 and Jay Kornmayer ’74 greet President Milt Glick during a half-time ceremony at Nevada’s Homecoming game Oct. 6.

Lory Rehne ’79, Nathan Shafer ’64, Barbara Laveaga, ’54 and Vince Laveaga ’53 walk through the buffet line during the Alumni Association tailgate before the start of Nevada’s Homecoming game against Fresno State, Saturday, Oct. 6 at Mackay Stadium.

TOP: Nevada students at the inaugural Blue Flu event. BOTTOM: Renee Wong Gonzales ’96 and her friend Joe LaPlante have fun at the Alumni Association tailgate. Wong Gonzales is the president of the Asian American-Pacific Islanders Alumni Association Chapter.

Kylie Bolling ’00 enjoys the Nevada Alumni Association tailgate inside Wolf Pack Alley before Nevada’s Homecoming game Oct. 6.

Justin Meckley ’05 and Brian Holt ’03 hang out during the Alumni Association tailgate.

President Milt Glick with Alumnus of the Year Mary Ellen-McMullen ’73 and 2007 Alumni Council President Randy Brown, CPA ’89.
Alphie and Alphie Jr. pose with the Homecoming Parade’s Grand Marshall Lieutenant Jim Dangle (Thomas Lennon) from Comedy Central’s Reno 911!

Soda and mini-hot dogs show their Pack pride.

2007-2008 Nevada Alumni Association and alumni chapter scholarship recipients.

Wendy Damonte ’94 served as the master of ceremonies for the Homecoming Gala at the Reno Sparks Convention Center.

Nevada State Bank was one of more than 70 businesses supporting Homecoming on Wear Blue day, Oct. 5.

Alphie and Alphie Jr. pose with the Homecoming Parade’s Grand Marshall Lieutenant Jim Dangle (Thomas Lennon) from Comedy Central’s Reno 911!

2007 Nevada Alumni Association award winners are honored during half-time of the Homecoming game Oct. 6.

TOP: Nevada cheerleaders pose on the Quad. BOTTOM: Office of Communications staff dress up for Pack Pride Day.
Some choose Nevada for the academics. Some for the activities. Some for the tradition.

For the Garside/Germain family, it was all three.

It all began with Raymond Germain and Virginia Garside meeting at Nevada as students in the 1920’s. Since then, the tradition of Germins and Garsides following in their ancestors’ footsteps has continued to this day. While they’ve chosen many different fields of study – from education to journalism to business to science – and various extracurricular activities like sororities, fraternities, boxing, rugby, intramurals and student government, they all share a common bond of pride in their hometown university.

Top picture: Alta Belle (Germain) Hanson, Virginia (Garside) Germain, Raymond Germain, John Hutchinson
Pictures from left to right: Raymond Germain; Virginia (Garside) Germain; Two friends and Virginia (Garside) Germain in front of Manzanita Hall, 1933
How many University of Nevada, Reno alumni make up your family tree? Let us know, and you could all be featured in the next issue of the Silver & Blue. For details, visit http://www.unr.edu/alumni or call (888) NV-ALUMS.
Remembering Friends

**Judy Calder,** University of Nevada, Reno associate professor, died Aug. 18, 2007. Judy was born Nov. 1, 1942 and had served as a faculty member at the University since 1992. She was initially hired to direct survey research for the Alan Bible Center for Applied Research. Among Judy’s noteworthy accomplishments are 15 years working with the Centers for Disease Control’s Behavioral Risk Factors Surveillance Study in Nevada and extensive research in family and domestic violence. Additionally, Judy forged a relationship with the State Department of Health and Human Services. Judy received her higher education degrees from the University of California, Los Angeles. bachelor’s in English (1967), master of arts (1970) and her doctor of education degree with an emphasis in research methodology (1977).

**James Lawrence Tigner,** emeritus professor of history, died on March 8, 2007. He was born in Los Angeles on April 18, 1918. He left UCLA to enter the first class of Air Cadets of the U.S. Air Corps. After a short period of flying B-25 airplanes, he was selected to enter the U.S. Top Secret Counter Intelligence School. James was then assigned to Myrtle Beach Air Force Base. He married Roberta Jean Tigner on Sept. 23, 1942. At the end of his military career, he retired as a Major, having received the Army Occupation Medal, Asiatic Pacific Service Medal, World War II Victory Medal and the American Campaign Medal. He then completed his undergraduate education at Redlands University in Redlands, Calif., graduating in 1952 with distinction. The following fall, he entered Stanford University earning a master’s degree followed by a doctoral degree.

Throughout his career, James wrote numerous articles including 101 articles published by the Encyclopedia Britannica. James taught at Stanford University, the University of Oregon and at Guadalajara, a joint Stanford and University of California, Berkeley summer program on Mexican-American relations, as well as: the University of Nevada, Reno, where he served as chairman of the Department of History. Throughout his career, he found great joy in teaching and retired in 1992. He is survived by his loving wife, Jean. They were beloved by numerous young people, including John Scherdtler, and were godparents to the Boomer children, Pat, Anita, Roberta and Diane.

**Helene (Lee) Montgomery ’35 (botany)** died May 13, 2007, in Napa, Calif. She was 93. She was born Helene Louise Per Lee in New York City in 1914. She came West with her mother to Reno at the onset of the Great Depression. She attended the University of Nevada, Reno from 1930 to 1934, where she met and later married Edward S. Montgomery ’34 (journalism), late of the San Francisco Examiner. Edward, one of the University’s six Pulitzer Prize winners, died in 1992. When her husband served two terms as the Press Club’s president in the 50s, Helene was seen regularly at the Club’s storyed Gang Dinners, often sharing the dais with such international luminaries as Haile Selassie, Vyacheslav Molotov and Queen Frederika of Greece. She is survived by her daughter, Diana Lavagnino, and son, Douglas, as well as eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Memorial donations may be made to the Nature Conservancy.

**Merle Snider ’43 (zoology)** died at home on Sept. 7, 2007. Honesty, integrity, sincerity and grace are but a few of the superlative qualities of this great family man, who was loved by many and will be sorely missed. He was born to Emilie and Emma Snider in September 1916 in Winnemucca, where he spent his childhood. After graduating from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1943, Merle joined the Navy and served in the South Pacific, Saipan and Okinawa. After the war, Merle had numerous occupations. He worked at KIKH-AM radio station from 1953 to 1956. He became a partner in the Electronic Distributing Corporation, president of the Musicians Union from 1959 to 1975. Merle also served as an assistant labor commissioner for the state of Nevada. He was active in many organizations: Kiviani club, Sunrisers, chairman of the Nevada State Council of the Arts, Sierra Arts Foundation, Masonic Lodge, Shriners and Campfire Girls. Merle was an accomplished pianist and played until the late ’80s. Merle married his beautiful bride, Glenda, in 1940. She preceded him in death in 1994. Merle is survived by his sons, Ronald, Lyle, Glen and daughter, Merlene Cardnuto (Michael) and grandchildren, Melissa, Mathew, and Michelle and great-grandchild, Caden.

**Patricia Marie (Traner) Boyes ’46 (history)** died on Aug. 12, 2007 at her home in Lemon Grove, Calif. She was awarded the Herz Gold Medal for highest scholarship at the University and was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority. Patricia taught elementary school in Reno for many years before finishing her career as a high school librarian in Southern California. After her retirement, she and her husband, G.R. Boyes, traveled extensively in the United States and Mexico, making their home in Lemon Grove. She was preceded in death by her parents, (former Dean of the College of Education) Fred W. and Carrie Traner, Mrs. Margaret Bradshaw and Helen Conney, and two nephews, Rodger Conney and Ted Bradshaw. Survivors include her husband; daughter, Jan Madrasso; stepdaughter, Carol Boyes; stepson, R.S. Boyes; and three grandchildren, Jim Madrasso, Amanda Madrasso, and Sam Boyes.

**Patricia Ann (Fee) Barry ’50 (history)** died Jan. 2, 2007 from cancer-related causes. Pat was born on Nov. 29, 1928 in Reno, Nev. to Laurance and Edna Russell Fee. Pat attended high school in Reno. Pat was a high school teacher in Cedarville, Calif. She was beloved by her students for her variety of education and her down-to-earth good humor. Pat was also a prolific writer. She wrote numerous articles for the Modoc County Historical Journal, Range Magazine and for numerous newspapers. Pat’s greatest love was her family and friends. Pat had great friends, and her family is immensely grateful for the generosity and love bestowed upon her by these wonderful people. Pat is survived by her brother, Jim Fee, and his wife, Susie; her son, Ernest James Gvan, and his family, Acinda, Fernando, Elizabeth and Christian, her son, James L. Olmsted, and his son, Sage Fox. Also surviving Pat are her nephews and nieces, grandnephews and grandnieces. Pat was preceded in death by her parents, Laurance and Edna Fee, her sister and brother-in-law, Martha and Terry Cahill, and husband, Nick Barry.

**Dixie (Olean) Westergard ’56 (physical education)** died Sept. 21, 2007. Dixie was born to Leon and Thelma Karr on June 4, 1935 in Rule, Texas. Dixie completed high school in Lovelock, where she met her future husband, Roland Westergard ’56 (civil engineering). Dixie continued at the University of Nevada, Reno where she was member of Delta Delta Delta sorority, participated in women’s athletics and was active in numerous student organizations. Dixie and Roland married in December 1956. Since 1958, Dixie and Roland have made their home in Carson City. Dixie’s contributions through the years were many, especially the energy she shared with her children. She was an active member of Nevada Women’s History group and was inducted into the Nevada Women’s History Roll of Honor in 2002. Dixie’s family members include husband, Roland Westergard; daughters Laurie Gray (Paul), Tricia Wentz (Mike), son Todd Westergard (Tammy) and daughter Wendy Nason (Dan). Grandchildren include Dustin and Tyler Gray, Michael, Kyle, Shannon, Trevor and Tawnee Wentz; Brooks, Cloe and Keaton Westergard; and Anna and Cole Nason and great-grandchild Kylee Wentz. Dixie is also survived by her mother, Thelma Sturges and sister, Bobbie Jeanne Aufdermaur; brother Charles “Butch” Sturges (San Diego); and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

**Thomas F. Ormachea ’68 (economics)** died on April 1, 2007. Tom was born July 31, 1934 in Fallon to Thomas Ormachea and Margarita Kallenbach. The family settled on a ranch outside of Fallon in the 1930s where Tom and his five sisters were raised. He graduated from Churchill County High School in 1951. At the age of 18, he was with the elite Army 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team and received his infantry badge in Korea. After the war, he was an honor guard at a pentagon near Yokohama, Japan. When he returned to Nevada, he spent time in Fallon, working on the ranch and sheepherding in the Clan Alpine Mountain Range. He began the study of economics at the University of Nevada in 1956. During his time at the University, he was a member of the Wolf
Pack boxing team and the Sundowners. After working for Harrah's, his background in economics led him to a position as a management analyst for the State of Nevada and then several years with the Nevada Gaming Board. He opened Ormachea's Dinner House in Winnemucca in 1987. His parents, and his sister, Dolores, preceded him in death. He is survived by his sisters, Marie, Margaret, Julia, and Lois.

Alanah Jean Woody '93 (anthropology), '96MA (anthropology) died on July 19, 2007. She was surrounded by her family throughout her hospitalization. Alanah was born on March 24, 1956 in Modesto, Calif. to H. Eugene Woody and Lola Woody. Famed for her wit, compassion, good humor and drive, she was a co-founder of the Nevada Rock Art Foundation and its first executive director. Alanah studied anthropology at the University of Nevada, Reno and earned a doctorate in 2001 from the University of Southampton in England. It was at Southampton that she met her future husband, Angus, also an archaeologist. Alanah's interest in anthropology expressed her deep-rooted love and concern for people. Although Alanah led a full and fulfilling professional life, her family life was always her greatest love. Alanah is survived by her husband, Angus R. Quinlan; son, Christopher Woody; father, Gene Woody; brothers, Duane L. Woody and Dwight J. Woody and sister-in-law, Ginny Woody. Her family greatly mourns her passing, but finds some small consolation in that she packed into her life enough for 10 lifetimes. Alanah is an irreplaceable lynchpin around which family, friends and colleagues revolve, all bound to one another by this incredible woman.

Steven Thomas Stefani '02 (animal science) died in Afghanistan Oct. 4, 2007 in an explosion that struck his convoy near Ghazni. Tom served as a U.S. Department of Agriculture provincial reconstruction team advisor in Ghazni, Afghanistan, since March 13, 2007. Tom was developing and implementing projects to help Afghans in the Ghazni province. He worked directly with the province's director of agriculture to create a reconstruction plan that included a poultry-rearing facility, starting a cold storage facility for farmers to store their commodities, as well as other agricultural advancements. Tom's service was a voluntary detail with his job as a rangeland management specialist for the U.S. Forest Service. Tom worked with permittees to balance the needs of livestock with the rangelands in the Wells office. Tom is survived by his father, Steven Stefani; his mother, Barbara Stefani; two brothers, Dan, who attends the University, and Jon, and his girlfriend of five years, Jessica Dhaemers. An annual memorial scholarship has been established in the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources in honor of Steven. To learn more about the Steven Thomas Stefani Annual Memorial Scholarship, please contact Susan Casey at (775) 784-1653 or scasey@cabnr.unr.edu.

Derek “DJ” Kyle Jensen '07 (public health), was fatally wounded Oct. 28, 2007 in Reno at the age of 23. He was born in Sparks, April 26, 1984. Raised and educated in Sparks, he attended Reed High School and fully enveloped himself in athletics, being part of the baseball and football team, as well as his education. After his graduation from Reed High School in 2002, he attended the University of Nevada, Reno, studying for a public health degree. During his studies at the University, he was accepted into the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity as the Sergeant of Arms, and ultimately became the president his third year as a member. He was employed at Stantec Engineering for almost two years at the time of his passing. He is survived by his parents, Scott and Virginia Jensen, his brother, Tyler Jensen, along with other loving family members and friends. In lieu of flowers, his family asks donations be made to the Derek Jensen Memorial Scholarship Fund through Sierra Pacific Federal Credit Union. Checks may be sent to P.O. Box 10100 Suite 15, Reno NV 89520.