STUDENT CLUBS
HEARTBEAT OF CAMPUS LIFE

DAN KLAIGH
EDUCATION IS NEVADA'S FUTURE

JEFF CECCARELLI
2009 ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
HOOKED ON NEVADA BIOLOGIST'S 'MEGAFISH'

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Education is Nevada's Future
From the President

Of perfect marriage proposals, ancient Greek mythology and the meaning of campus traditions

Moments before she came into my office after bounding up the stairs to the second floor of the Clark Administration Building to announce the happy news, Sarah Ragsdale ’08 (health ecology) had received the perfect proposal from her boyfriend, Patrick Mahoney of Norwell, Mass.

As Sarah cried tears of joy, she told me that the proposal of marriage had been delivered in the splendor of our rose garden, in the shadow of our beautiful Honor Court.

It was a place where Sarah, our campus’ ASUN president in 2007-2008, had always hoped the big question would be asked. Far, far away in Boston, as a master of public health student at Boston University’s School of Public Health, Sarah had often talked of our campus, of how our campus is radiant with the exquisite color of all four seasons.

Patrick proved to be an astute listener. Our campus was a meaningful place to Sarah, and it was fitting that one of the most important questions a person can ever ask of another was offered amongst our roses, on our campus.

Since that joyous moment this summer, I’ve thought about the larger meaning of Sarah’s proposal, and what it says about our University.

Universities hold many traditions sacred. Mackay Week, for example, is a long-standing event on our campus that is steeped in the history of our University and in the heritage of the Silver State. “The Book of the Oath” was initiated by University President Walter Clark in 1920, to be signed by each successive class, which would pledge themselves to service and high ideals.

With the advent of the New Student Opening Ceremony on our campus a decade ago, this tradition has been revived with a candlelit oath. Each August, with the fall semester approaching, our new students gather in Lawlor Events Center for this moving moment, when I lead our new students in the recitation of the Nevada Oath. Together, we recite words promising that these young people will be forthright and honest in their academic affairs, that they will lend service and support to those in need, and that they will gladly embrace and realize what a special honor it is to join the University’s community of scholars. The symbolism of the New Student Ceremony is impossible to miss as I’ve gazed out at Lawlor, filled only with the candle-lit promise of so many young people who are set to embark on one of life’s most pivotal journeys.

There are other, less formal, traditions that help bring a campus to life. We’ve just finished yet another season of “Pack Picnics on the Quad,” where young and old gather each Wednesday during the summer for great music, free watermelon and the sort of friendly communion that turns strangers into friends and reminds us of the words of the documentary filmmaker Ken Burns, who has said that during such special times we “feel a connection and a kinship with everything and everyone.” Some of our newer buildings on campus, most particularly the Joe Crowley Student Union, have also beckoned our friends and alumni to linger a while longer on our campus. Our new buildings are impressive, but perhaps more memorable are the relationships and experiences that they help create.

The best college campuses are made stronger when they combine the best aspects of tradition, from the formality and promise of service that are contained within the solemn words of “the Book of the Oath,” to less formal moments, such as meeting old classmates or friends after a Wolf Pack football or basketball game at the Little Waldorf Saloon.

In fact, perhaps Sarah Ragsdale has started yet another campus tradition: A marriage proposal among our roses.

Like all of our campus traditions, I’m sure it’s something Sarah won’t soon forget.

Sincerely,

Milton D. Glick
President
www.unr.edu/president
Features

Student clubs and organizations: The heartbeat of the University

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About the cover

Jeff Dow shot the cover photo of Nevada student members of various clubs and organizations in front of the Joe Crowley Student Union. With more than 250 clubs and organizations to choose from, the University provides a range of opportunities for involvement that set it apart from other learning spheres and makes the campus vibrant. Under the auspices of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada or the Graduate Student Association, clubs and organizations fall broadly into seven categories: social, multicultural, academic, religious, political, sports, service, or some combination of these. Leadership of the campus Greek system of sororities and fraternities is also included under ASUN’s umbrella. See feature story on page 2.

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What I’ve Learned: Dan Klaich ’72 – For full interview.

University News – Learn more about Zeb Hogan and National Geographic’s megafish project and see more amazing pictures. Watch Sen. Harry Reid’s introduction of David Schacter during a Capitol Hill news conference. Learn more about the Polaris Project. Listen to the Roadside Heritage episodes. View a technology profile of Graham Kent.

Gatherings – See more photos from 2009 Honor Court, Pack Picnics on the Quad and Alumni Night at the Aces game.

LOOK ONLINE: When you see this “LOOK ONLINE” notice in the print magazine, it means there’s related bonus material at the website, so check it out: www.unr.edu/silverandblue
Kristen Glaze, president, Panhellenic Council; Maria Velazquez, president, Kappa Delta Chi; Victor Gamboa, president, Multicultural Greek Council; Melissa Zuk, president, Orvis Student Nurses Association; Junlei Du, Chinese Students and Scholars' Federation; LaTasha Porter, Black Student Organization; Jeremiah Todd, president, Interfraternity Council; David Lynn, Men's Rugby; Bua Srisilpa, treasurer, International Club; Ben Becerra, Wolf Pack Veterans; Molly Hunsaker, Mackay Rockhounds; Eli Reilly, president, ASUN; Megan Carter, Women's Rugby; Kathleen Wright-Bryan, Native American Student Organization; and Sheena Harvey, Black Student Organization.
Student clubs and organizations: The heartbeat of the University

By Melanie Robbins ’06 M.A. Photo by Jeff Dow.
Additional photos provided by ASUN and University Archives.

The learning that goes on outside the classroom is as rich as the learning that occurs inside the classroom, according to Vice President for Student Services Shannon Ellis. “Students spend 16 hours in class each week, but another 152 outside the classroom,” she says, noting that top researchers on student life concur that when students join an extracurricular activity such as a club, organization, fraternity, sorority or student government, they have a higher likelihood of graduating than students who aren’t as engaged.

According to Ernest Pascarella and Patrick Terenzini, authors of How College Affects Students, involvement on campus is positively related to student satisfaction, persistence, and learning and development in a variety of dimensions, Ellis notes.

In addition, George Kuh, author of Student Success in College, writes, “What students do during college counts more in terms of what they learn and whether they will persist in college than who they are or even where they go to school.”

With more than 250 clubs and organizations to choose from, the University provides a range of opportunities for involvement that set it apart from other learning spheres.

“Clubs and organizations are what makes this a vibrant campus,” Ellis says. Under the auspices of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada or the Graduate Student Association, clubs and organizations fall broadly into seven categories: social, multicultural, academic, religious, political, sports, service, or some combination of these. Leadership of the campus Greek system of sororities and fraternities is also included under ASUN’s umbrella.

The variety of clubs is limited only to students’ imaginations: To become an officially recognized club, a student needs only to find nine like-minded friends and a faculty
adviser. Just about any concept is acceptable. Currently, the campus boasts several just-for-fun, social clubs such as the Apple Poppers, a club devoted to golfing apples around campus, and the 1457 Club, a group made up of students who were roommates in the house at 1457 N. Virginia St.

Multicultural clubs and organizations range from the Mosaic Club, which is based on the ideals of President Jimmy Carter to embrace and be sensitive to cultural differences; to the Chinese Students and Scholars' Federation, an official organization affiliated with the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in San Francisco; to Kappa Delta Chi, a Hispanic sorority.

The Mackay Rockhounds and the Orvis Student Nurses Association exemplify the numerous academically oriented clubs associated with fields of study. Major faiths from Islam to Buddhism to Christianity are well represented in clubs, as well as political views from left to center to right.

Sports include men’s and women’s rugby teams, men’s and women’s lacrosse, skiing, boxing, dancing and “ultimate frisbee,” among many. Service clubs abound and are represented by the globally connected Circle K, which is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club, and Wolf Pack Veterans, which not only provides support to veterans but also hosts fund-raising events to provide scholarships to veterans who are pursuing higher education.

The GSA hosts a number of graduate-level clubs, including Women in Dialog, a group that brings distinguished speakers to campus, and the Indian Student Organization, an international student group.

In addition, the School of Medicine hosts student organizations including the Student Outreach Clinic, which has been operating a public clinic committed to providing free, quality medical care to the uninsured since 1966.

**HISTORY OF CLUBS**

Clubs and organizations have been a part of campus life since the beginning. The 1900 *Artemisia* includes an article on the history of literary societies at the University, which notes that when the University opened in Reno on March 31, 1886, “all the students then attending were enrolled in a sort of literary society under the direction of Professors McCammon and Willis.” The school was closed for several months and reopened under President Leroy D. Brown and a new literary society was formed. “The Philomathean, it is
weekly meetings, did much to foster a true literary spirit," the writer notes.

The Aldephi Literary Society was formed "in the autumn of '92," according to the 1899 Artemisia. David Lynn, an international business major and member of the Men's Rugby Team, is proud to claim that his club is longest-standing club on campus today, having been around since 1898.

The Young Men's Christian Association and the Young Women’s Christian Association are no longer active on campus, having been replaced by numerous other Christian service organizations, such as the Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, but are among the first and most popular clubs established at the University of Nevada.

The "U.N.Y.W.C.A." was organized March 25, 1898 with 19 charter members, according to Artemisia. Both clubs had goals similar to the goals of many student organizations today: to develop students' character and to help them form bonds of friendship. One of the College Y.M.C.A.'s stated goals was "to promote the highest and most symmetrical development of manhood," while the U.N.Y.W.C.A.'s was "to infuse into the college life of the young women the sympathy and sense of comradship [sic] so much needed by those away from home."

The 1899 Artemisia includes announcements for the Crescent Club, a debating and literary society, which had five officers, including a "sergeant-at-arms", and the University Social Club. The latter met "every second Friday each month in the gymnasium," and was responsible for organizing dancing parties.

In 1902, the Crucible Club, a group for mining or engineering students, was formed. In 1909, the Agricultural Club, which became known as "The Aggies," was formed.

Today, there are a variety of active clubs for students in the College of Science, College of Engineering, and College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources,
including the John Mackay Club, the student chapter of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration; the Society of Women Engineers; and CABNR Student Ambassadors, among many more.

WIDE-EYED FRESHMAN

Eli Reilly, student body president, history major and president of the 1457 Club, remembers being a “wide-eyed freshman” from Las Vegas when he first set foot in Nye Hall in 2005. “I didn’t really know what I was doing. I didn’t know a lot of people.” But his resident assistant (aka RA) convinced him into coming to a Residence Hall Association meeting. “I had nothing better to do on Tuesday nights when they met,” he says.

As it turned out, there was an opening on the Residence Hall Council for public relations director. “I was sort of savvy at Photoshop,” he remembers. “The job was to make the advertisements for all of the residence hall programs, so I applied for the position and I got it. That was the beginning.”

Reilly, who will graduate in 2010 and hopes to go to graduate school at Stanford University, notes that without realizing it, his early involvement in an organization led to long-lasting friendships, set him on a path toward success and gave him a deep connection to campus that will never fade: “Regardless of which graduate institution I go to, I will forever bleed blue and I will always be a member of the Wolf Pack.”

He can’t say enough about the value of what he calls “co-curricular” engagement, whether within the Greek system, student government or clubs and organizations. “Clubs and organizations shouldn’t be called ‘extracurricular’ activities—They are co-curricular. The University experience is the net fusion of being in and out of class and learning all the time. You develop your brain cognitively in the classroom—you learn new things. But you also develop ‘psycho socially,’ as they call it, outside the classroom.”

Clubs and organizations supplement what’s being taught academically and serve as a “laboratory” in which to apply concepts and skills learned in the classroom.

Learning to relate well to others, to work with difficult people in a professional setting, for example, are not typically covered in classroom lectures. But within a club or organization, there are abundant opportunities to hone those skills, including leadership skills, Reilly notes. “You can be the smartest person in the world, but if you can’t relate to other people, you will be limited in your ability to succeed in the real world.”

The fundamental challenges of interacting with people remain the same whether at a high level of society or within a small club or organization, he says: “There’s not a lot of difference between being on the executive board of a club or a member of the ASUN, and being the president of the United States. It’s all about basic interactions between people.”

“When I didn’t have friends my freshman year, [members of the Black Student Organization] became some of my best friends and they have helped me transition all the way through my college life.”

LaTasha Porter, journalism major/BSO member
NETWORKING

Ro Lazzarone '03 (marketing), who was a member of the American Marketing Association Collegiate Chapter as a student, says his experience in the club was a lot of fun, but also taught him how to network: “The most memorable time was when a group of us from the Reno chapter attended the national conference in New Orleans. Not only did we meet a lot of great people from other schools across the country, but we also learned how other chapters operated and brought that information back to our chapter in Reno. Seven years later, I am now using those skills to promote my business and myself, and I still keep in contact personally and professionally with a few people I met at the conference.”

Lazzarone is a partner and financial services professional with The Lazzarone Group, a Reno-based insurance and financial services company. He stays connected to the University through membership and involvement with the Alumni Association. He is a current Alumni Council member, and past president of both the College of Business Alumni Association and the Young Alumni Chapter. Rita Laden ’96Ed.D, a professor of educational leadership and current Nevada Alumni Council member, who has served the University and its students since 1984 in many capacities, including associate vice president for Student Life Services, says she has always encouraged freshmen to join a club or two. “If you are in a club, you have social connections with your peers, but also with your faculty adviser, which is key because research shows that students who are connected socially with others on campus and with faculty have a much better chance of persisting through four years and succeeding in college.”

Connecting to a faculty member can be easier when that connection is less formal than in an academic setting where the student must earn a grade, Laden says.

Club and organization members are also connected to campus by involvement in activities such as Homecoming and Mackay Week. “If you are in a club, you are more likely to be connected to something outside the classroom,” Laden says.

Pop Quiz!

Find out how much you know about University of Nevada, Reno students.

1. The average entering GPA of new University of Nevada, Reno freshmen in fall 2008 was:
   A) 3.36
   B) 3.01
   C) 2.85
   D) 3.50

2. The six-year graduation rate for students entering fall 2002 was:
   A) 57.5%
   B) 44.7%
   C) 47.9%
   D) 60.3%

3. The University’s enrollment for fall 2008 was 16,867. 12,789 were undergraduates. How many undergraduates are currently Millennium Scholars?
   A) 6,217
   B) 5,368
   C) 2,870
   D) 1,236

4. The presidential scholarship ($5,000/year) is awarded to students who are entering freshmen with a minimum 3.50 GPA and 1360 on the SAT or 31 on the ACT. How many will be enrolled at the University in fall 2009?
   A) 81
   B) 54
   C) 28
   D) 92

5. Where do our students come from?
   A) 92% from Nevada; 7% from out-of-state and 1% from other countries
   B) 82% from Nevada; 16% from out-of-state and 2% from other countries
   C) 75% from Nevada; 20% from out-of-state and 5% from other countries

6. In-state tuition cost per credit in fall 2009 will be:
   A) $115.75 undergraduate and $150.50 graduate
   B) $200.25 undergraduate and $325.50 graduate
   C) $142.50 undergraduate and $214.75 graduate

7. The cost of attendance at the University is how much annually?
   A) $21,000 a year
   B) $25,000 a year
   C) $15,000 a year
   D) $30,000 a year

8. How many freshmen in fall 2008 had financial need?
   A) 36%
   B) 25%
   C) 55%
   D) 43%

9. What is the average indebtedness of a University graduate on financial aid?
   A) $14,657
   B) $25,432
   C) $10,923
   D) $32,004


Concrete Canoe team at national competition, 2009.
Of particular importance is the role clubs and organizations have in creating a family-like atmosphere for students who may be experiencing atypical life circumstances, such as minority and international students, Laden notes. “It’s especially important for minority groups and students of color to find a “safe haven.”

The International Club, which is popular, serves this purpose. “When international students come to campus, they don’t know anybody and their family could be five thousand or ten thousand miles away,” Laden says. “At least at first, they need to connect with others who are having the same experiences that they have.”

Bua Srisilpa, an international business major from Bangkok, Thailand and the treasurer of the club, says that she has had a great time being in the club. “Oh my gosh, I enjoy it so much!” she says. “I meet so many people from all around the world. The club has opened my eyes to people from different countries. They share their experience from other countries, which has helped me.”

Mui Condon ’02 (French) was actively involved with the International Club as a student, serving in several capacities, including president. “I was immediately attracted to the diverse population that the I-Club brought together. The best thing about the club was the ability to meet, learn and converse with students from around the world.” Although Condon immigrated to the United States at the age of three from Vietnam, and technically was a U.S. citizen during her college years, she felt it was important “to promote internationalism on campus with the exceptional international student population we had at Nevada.” Condon currently works on campus as a University Events manager.

The Black Student Organization, a 30-year-old, multicultural club, also offers students a place where they can be themselves. LaTasha Porter, a journalism major who will graduate in December, has been a member of the BSO, since she was a freshman. “It’s like a family,” she says. Coming from Las Vegas, she was alone at first. “When I didn’t have friends my freshman year, they became some of my best friends and they have helped me transition all the way through my college life.”

Sheena Harvey ’06 (interior design), a former BSO president who is currently working on her second degree in nutrition, also became a member of BSO as a freshman. “It helped me focus, not just on my studies, but on extracurricular activities, which are...
important,” Harvey says. “BSO helped me meet new people. You learn things about the campus, you gain networking and resources.”

The Native American Student Organization offers the same friendly, student-oriented atmosphere to Native American students and their friends. Kathleen Wright-Bryan, a member of the organization and member of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, says “The transition from reservation life to a more urban life is a difficult one. What our club promotes is a family away from your family.”

Sherry Rupert, ’05 (finance) the executive director of the State of Nevada Indian Commission, remembers seeking out the Native American Student Organization when she transferred to Nevada as a junior. “I felt that for me to be more comfortable, I should find more Native Americans, so I asked at the Center for Student Cultural Diversity and discovered there was a club.” Rupert, a member of both the Washoe Tribe and the Benton Paiute Tribe in California, thrived within the club, becoming the president.

While an undergraduate, Rupert recalls students raising money by serving food at Reno-Sparks Indian Colony events, as well as selling Indian tacos at basketball games in order to send club members to the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. “That was phenomenal,” she says. “A lot of our members come from rural areas. This gave us an opportunity to go to the nation’s capital and see first hand the things you hear about in the news. Many of the students had never been out of the state.” Rupert is the current president of the Native American Alumni Chapter.

**EVENTS THAT EDUCATE**

These multicultural groups host some of the largest and most popular annual events on campus: International Club hosts Night of All Nations, BSO hosts the BSO Ball, and the Native American Student Organization co-hosts the Spring Powwow along with the Center for Student Cultural Diversity and the Native American Alumni Chapter.
American Alumni Chapter. Club-sponsored events such as these not only help students connect to campus, but help educate the campus about the diversity of the world, Laden says. “I really appreciate these events where I can learn about other cultures.”

Reilly says multicultural clubs and organizations have educated him and opened his eyes, too. The multicultural Greek organizations—a new branch of Greeks that fall under traditional Greek organization principles and standards, but whose focus is primarily to serve various ethnic groups, the University has five such fraternities and sororities—put on a “step show” every year. “I had never been to a step show. I didn’t even know much about them. It’s a dance competition. After I went to the show, I realized how cool it was.”

Reilly also attended a gay pride rally for the first time to support the Queer Student Union, a political/social club that supports progressive GLBTQ issues. “I’m not gay, but I went to the gay pride rally because the friends I met in that organization turned me on to the issues that people in those communities are facing. I support those causes.” That rally, as well as other grassroots efforts, led the Nevada Legislature to overturn Governor Jim Gibbons’ 67 (geology), ’73M.S. (mining/geology) veto of a bill that banned domestic partnerships. “We are living in great times!” Reilly says of the effect of the political movement he supported.

Greek life
Reilly also endorses the character-building effects of Greek life, noting that it is often misunderstood: “People sometimes perceive the Greek system as a lot of drunks who go out and party. Is that true in some cases? Yes, it is. But at the same time, the core of these organizations, regardless of how the implementation of that might be perverted, is about building better people. That’s what sororities and fraternities are all about, and that’s why they have academic standards to be in them.” Reilly notes that the Greek organizations at Nevada contribute thousands of hours of community service every year, often helping charitable organizations.

The Greeks now have three governing bodies on campus: The Panhellenic Council,
formed in 1916, governs sororities; the Interfraternity Council, formed in 1921, governs fraternities; and the Multicultural Greek Council, formed April 24, 2007, governs sororities and fraternities that have a multicultural or ethnic focus.

Even though Reilly did not support Gibbons’ stand on domestic partnerships, they are Sigma Nu brothers for life. “The first time I met him,” Reilly says, “I gave him the Sigma Nu handshake and he said, ‘You’re a Sigma Nu brother!’ It’s a small world.”

LIFELONG LOYALTIES

Whatever combination of connections a student makes through academics, clubs, organizations, fraternities or sororities, it all adds together to build a successful future, filled with friends and lifelong loyalties.

“People don’t come right out and say it, but most people recognize the importance that the University played in their lives,” Reilly says. “It laid the foundation that gave them their start. When faculty, staff or other students invest their time and energy in helping a student grow and become a more capable human being, the payoff is loyalty. “When you boil it all down, the main reason people stay committed to an institution is relationships,” he says. “I feel that this University really cares about me. I honestly feel that way.”

The Joe: One year later

The Joe Crowley Student Union (dubbed “The Joe”) recently celebrated its first anniversary as the new hub of student life on campus. It opened during the fall of 2008 and quickly offered a comfortable atmosphere for students, alumni, and the community. The 167,000-square-foot building cost $66 million and was paid for entirely by student fees. The City of Reno gave the building its green award, recognizing the environmentally sound elements that were incorporated in the project designs.

One year later, The Joe houses a variety of restaurants and retail venues, including the two-story ASUN bookstore; offices for ASUN, student publications, the Center for Student Cultural Diversity, and most campus clubs and organizations; a state-of-the-art, 220-seat theater; a grand ballroom; and five fireplaces.

The Joe since its opening:

- Number of events hosted — 6,281.
- Number of reservations (meetings and events) — 32,456.
- Amount of energy that the solar panels have collected since installation — 369,440 kilowatt-hours (and growing).
- Number of textbooks sold at the ASUN bookstore — 203,774 books, generating $11 million.
- Restaurants Opening: Port of Subs, Panda Express, Villa Fresh Italian Kitchen, Starbucks, Keva Juice, Tahoe Creamery, Spudistro and Cantina del Lobo.
- Starbucks has had 293,626 total transactions since opening in The Joe, including 26,268 cups of drip coffee and 4,426 Caramel Frappuccinos sold.
- Keva Juice has sold 33,911 smoothies and 630 shots of wheatgrass.
- Number of film presentations — 456.
- Number of clubs and organizations served — 259 ASUN clubs; 522 ASUN events hosted; $172,878 awarded to clubs and organizations by ASUN.
- A few community events hosted at The Joe — The Green Summit, Diwali, Brianna Dennison Vigil and Safety Awareness, City of Reno events, EDAWN and Artown.
- ASUN Accounting Office received 9,085 visitors.
- ASUN Legal Services, including notary services, saw 353 clients.

To learn more about activities at The Joe, visit www.unr.edu/studentunion.

— Crystal Parrish

Joiners Unite!

Were you super involved while attending Nevada? Well, why let graduation stop you? The Nevada Alumni Association offers a dues-paying membership program, as well as access to more than two dozen alumni chapters. Many of our chapters are alumni versions of student organizations — including the Native American, International, Rugby and ASUN Past Officers Alumni chapters. There are also groups based on where you currently live or your college major. For a complete list of alumni chapters, as well as Nevada Alumni Association membership benefits, please visit www.unr.edu/alumni.
Industrialist Howard Hughes played a major role in establishment of the School of Medicine

The story of the establishment of the University of Nevada School of Medicine cannot be properly told without a discussion of the role industrialist Howard Hughes played in bringing medical education to Nevada.

The 1960s were a time of growth in Nevada, albeit not as formidable as the recent expansion of this decade. The influx of people streaming into the state demanded services, including those from medical professionals and specifically, physicians.

In 1964, the Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education asked for an in-depth study on the feasibility of establishing medical schools in western states with small populations. That report showed Nevada in desperate need of a medical education institution and recommended that a school be established in Nevada by the early 1970s.

University President N. Edd Miller, who led the Nevada campus from 1965 to 1973 during a time of turbulence and controversy, worked tirelessly to establish a public medical school in Nevada. He collaborated with key external supporters including Dr. Fred Anderson and H. Edward Manville to develop public and private support for what was then a controversial endeavor.

From the outset, Dr. George Smith, who became the founding dean of the University of Nevada School of Medicine, and his band of medical school proponents, including then-Governor Paul Laxalt, met with opposition to the school from several fronts including rural versus urban concerns and north-south political rivalries.

Laxalt, who was elected governor in 1966, remembers the political and social climate of those days. During his time campaigning in small towns, the primary concern was almost always a lack of physicians in rural communities. Nevada, especially southern Nevada, was growing rapidly even then, and the shortage of doctors was being felt statewide. Yet geographic and political challenges still stood in the way of the medical school.

In excerpts from his book Nevada's Paul Laxalt: A Memoir, the former governor recalled:

"After my election as governor, we decided to make the establishment of a medical school for Nevada a priority. I felt that selling a medical school was going to be difficult, at best. I believed we should attempt to depoliticize it. For me to be the point person might cost us valuable support on a purely partisan basis …"

"Of all the objections, the north-south rivalry was the most difficult politically. Historically, northern Nevada had received the bulk of state funding. Now, the Las Vegas area was feeling its oats …"

"The North contended that the University in Reno already had in place many of the programs necessary for pre-med training …"

"Finally … a select committee (was appointed) to do a feasibility study for the Board of Regents. Respected doctors such as Dr. Fred Andersen, who in time became known as the Father of the Medical School, along with Drs. Ernie Mack, Bill O'Brien and Dave Roberts, agreed to serve …"

"Dr. Wes Hall traveled the state soliciting support. Dr. George Smith, later to become dean of the medical school, effectively lobbied individual legislators."

Yet, in spite of all these efforts, the votes were still not there in the legislature.
Enter Hughes, whom both Smith and Laxalt credit with providing the financial contribution that helped tip the legislative voting in favor of establishing a medical school for Nevada.

“In February 1969, five of us decided to buy an ad in the Las Vegas Sun in support of the medical school in Reno as there were no university or graduate programs in Las Vegas at that time,” recalls Smith. That ad was the trigger that apparently caught Hughes’ attention.

Laxalt’s memoir continues:

“Fortunately, it (the ad) caught the eye of Howard Hughes. He called me and said he’d been following the medical school fight and wanted to help, but was concerned lest his intervention would ‘screw things up.’ I assured him that in my judgment his offer would help greatly.

The next day, I received his telegram in which he pledged to give between $200,000 and $300,000 a year for 20 years. The logjam was broken.”

"I talked to Mr. Hughes directly one time after he gave the commitment,” Smith remembers. “I went to his penthouse in Las Vegas and talked to him through a window to thank him.”

Smith says the school received the first several years of the gift commitment from Hughes before he died in 1976. Those funds paid faculty salaries in the early years of the medical school.

“We sincerely appreciated the money Mr. Hughes so graciously gave as it was a win-win for everyone,” Smith says.

“The value of the Hughes factor aside from the hard money was that his association lent great impetus to anything we did,” says Laxalt, who personally considered Hughes a very decent man. “It changed the momentum of the whole effort and permitted us to take the next step and go to the legislature.”

Finalizing negotiations took place and on March 26, 1969, Laxalt signed legislation to establish the “School of Medical Sciences,” in Reno as the state’s first and only medical school for the 35 years to follow.

“I talked to Mr. Hughes directly one time after he gave the commitment,” Smith remembers. “I went to his penthouse in Las Vegas and talked to him through a window to thank him.”

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“We sincerely appreciated the money Mr. Hughes so graciously gave as it was a win-win for everyone,” Smith says.

“In my experience as a public official, I don’t know anyone who has contributed more to Nevada than Howard Hughes,” Laxalt adds.

Dr. Owen Peck, emeritus executive associate dean who served the first six deans of the School of Medicine, arrived at the medical school in 1972 and was responsible for collecting Hughes’ donation each year.

“Fortunately, there were no written contracts with Howard Hughes, but he always followed through with his promise. His Las Vegas lawyer would hand me the check at a hotel,” Peck says, adding that without Hughes’ contributions “the medical school wouldn’t be here.” He felt so strongly on this point that he lobbied to have the institution named the Howard Hughes School of Medicine.

A full-length Robert Tanenbaum portrait of Hughes now hangs in the entryway between the Savitt and Manville buildings on the Reno campus. The accompanying plaque reads “In grateful appreciation to Howard R. Hughes for his vision and for his generous commitment to medical education and research, University of Nevada School of Medicine, October 26, 1987.”

Howard Hughes standing beside his H-1 Racer, 1935.
National Treasure

Working to protect Lake Tahoe’s famed clarity

It was a dry, 90-degree day when fire broke out near Angora Lake, southwest of Lake Tahoe. The wind-driven flames raged in some of the most severe fire conditions the area had endured in 20 years. Residents of nearby neighborhoods had 5 minutes to evacuate.

When the June 24, 2007 Angora Fire was finally contained, more than $141 million in damage had occurred, 254 homes were destroyed and 3,100 acres scorched, placing the blaze among the top half-dozen most costly fires in the U.S. Losses to the tourist-driven economy were estimated at $1 billion, but the increased erosion from loss of vegetation and falling ash and debris threatened Lake Tahoe’s fragile ecosystem and water clarity.

“There is no doubt this devastating fire was a wake-up call to Tahoe residents, businesses and agencies,” said Frank Flavin, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension western area director.

Since the late 1980s, Cooperative Extension has conducted educational and research programs to help stakeholders manage their properties in a way that protects Tahoe’s environment and water quality, but that also sustains a viable community with economic and social considerations.

“After Angora,” added Flavin, “we intensified the coordination of our Tahoe programs both within the college and with our multiple collaborating partners, bringing groups together to address issues.”

Adapting fire programs to new agency recommendations

The Angora Fire prompted national attention to wildfire issues in the Tahoe region and significant changes to land-management policies. Cooperative Extension’s Living With Fire program—helping Nevadans live more safely with the threat of wildfire—quickly responded to the new recommendations by revising existing educational materials and creating new ones.

The Tahoe version of the popular Living With Fire—A Guide for the Homeowner was
revised, printed and distributed within weeks of the new recommendations. Living With Fire in the Lake Tahoe Basin, a 30-minute DVD featuring the integration of wildfire-threat reduction techniques and water-quality protection practices, was released together with the Tahoe Living With Fire Web site.

“Our model has been to standardize the message, develop the needed educational materials and get them to our partners to disseminate to target audiences,” said Ed Smith, Cooperative Extension natural resources specialist and Living With Fire creator. “We have a good working relationship with fire-fighting agencies and with the Nevada Fire Safe Council, which has acquired millions of dollars for projects implemented through 44 community chapters at Tahoe.”

The issue of landscape mulches surfaced following the Angora Fire. Mulches play an important role in reducing soil erosion from residential landscapes. Unfortunately, they can be combustible and aren’t good choices for high fire-hazard areas. Cooperative Extension and other collaborators conducted an evaluation of the hazard associated with eight popular mulch products used in the Tahoe basin. The findings from this applied research project had considerable influence on how landscapes are managed in the region.

In 2008, the governors released their Joint California-Nevada Tahoe Fire Commission report concerning measures needed to reduce the wildfire threat. “The governors should support and enhance the existing fire-prevention education program, Living With Fire,” the report stated.

Integrating defensible space with other ‘best management practices’

Public reaction to the Angora Fire revealed an urgent need for improved communication to homeowners about combining defensible space techniques and “best management practices” (BMPs) to protect the lake’s water quality.

“We had a teachable moment where we could drive home our messages to property owners about clearing brush and trees around their homes and requiring methods that prevent soil erosion and promote the infiltration of roof and driveway runoff into the ground,” said John Cobourn, Cooperative Extension water resource specialist.

The installation of BMPs on all private properties at Tahoe is the largest project of the Lake Tahoe Environmental Improvement Program, endorsed by all local, state and federal agencies as the indispensable restoration plan for the lake. Recent research reveals that 72 percent of Tahoe’s worst pollutant (fine sediment) comes from urban runoff, and about half of that sediment emanates from private properties in need of BMPs, Cobourn added.

After the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) adopted new guidelines for property owners, Cobourn updated the Home Landscaping Guide for Lake Tahoe, now in its third printing. More than 100 contractors attended a 2008 BMP workshop, and for the first time at the lake, a program was established to educate Spanish-speaking workers. Nearly 1,600 BMP certificates of completion were awarded that year by TRPA. They have issued more than 10,200 certificates since the BMP program began.

Preventing invasive plant species from degrading Tahoe’s environment

Invading mussels, which could cost Tahoe’s economy $22 million a year, captured headlines during the summer of 2009, calling attention to the dangers posed by invasive species. The threat is not limited to aquatic species, however. Terrestrial invasive weeds replace native vegetation, degrading the lake’s sensitive ecology, its diverse wildlife and increasing incidents of wildfire. But their biggest threat is the tendency to increase soil erosion and stream sedimentation, which can damage Tahoe’s clear water.

“For weed management efforts to be successful, a coordinated, integrated, watershed-wide approach is necessary,” said Susan Donaldson, Cooperative Extension water quality specialist.

After Angora, response teams contacted the Lake Tahoe Basin Weed Coordinating Group, a diverse partnership of agencies and community members that was positioned to help the fire victims. The weed group, led by Donaldson and the University of California Cooperative Extension’s Wendy West, provided homeowner consultations and community workshops, followed by surveys and treatments in the burn areas.

“These programs allowed us to effectively apply early detection, mapping and rapid response strategies during the first critical growing season after the fire,” Donaldson said.

Other recent accomplishments of the basinwide weed coalition are:

- Assistance in developing a network to address the quagga mussel invasion of Lake Tahoe;
- Eradication of the noxious weed, yellow starthistle, from the basin;
- Annual basinwide weed monitoring and control accomplished using grant funds totaling nearly $500,000 since 2002.

“The University of Nevada, Reno, has provided important outreach materials for homeowners and the general public looking for technical information about erosion-control requirements, fire defensible space guidelines and proper landscaping,” said TRPA’s Dennis Oliver. “In particular, John Cobourn’s work with the BMP program, Sue Donaldson’s help on invasive weeds and Ed Smith’s Living With Fire document have been profoundly helpful.”

For more information on Cooperative Extension programs at Lake Tahoe, contact Frank Flavin, (775) 784-4848, or flavinf@unce.unr.edu.
Gabriella’s Story

Meth users take healthy steps to freedom

I was born in a small city in Central America. On my first birthday my mom abandoned me and I grew up with my great aunt. I was a very skinny little girl. At the age of 16, my aunt took me to Los Angeles. On the third night, the LA Police Department knocked on our door and I was taken away from the only family I knew and returned to my mother.

She told me I was fat and needed to lose weight. I was 5'1" and 119 lbs. It took me forever to get this weight and now I was once again abnormal. I was informed by my mother that in America skinny is the way to be. She bought me some pills (Dexatrim). Ever since then my weight fluctuated. I made myself throw up. It did not matter how much weight I lost, I looked in the mirror and saw fat and hated myself.

After I had a family of my own, I continued to fight an everyday battle with diet pills and binging. I started talking to my family members again who told me how they lost weight. Their miracle cure for fat was crystal meth. One of my siblings was a dealer and so I started taking it. I didn’t feel anything—no euphoria. I just wasn’t hungry. I didn’t realize this drug was messing with my brain. It was scary.

The police came to my apartment and I was arrested.

Alice Good ’78 is an emerita communications specialist with Cooperative Extension.

Cooperative Extension exercise physiologist Anne Lindsay (left) uses a body fat analyzer to determine the percent of body fat with a young woman in the Healthy Steps to Freedom program in Las Vegas.
Gabriella was taken into custody in Nevada and through assessment counseling, she was referred to Healthy Steps to Freedom, a University of Nevada Cooperative Extension program designed for women in correctional settings who find weight and energy issues to be prevalent in their drug use and treatment.

Admissions to treatment services in Nevada for substance abuse show methamphetamine (meth) as the second highest, just behind alcohol, according to a 2006 report from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. “More than half the individuals in treatment for meth are women,” says Anne Lindsay, Cooperative Extension exercise physiology specialist, who has worked with this population in and out of prison settings for more than 12 years. “There is a high prevalence of eating disorders and body image disturbances among these women.”

Research indicates the primary reasons women use meth is to lose weight and gain increased energy levels. Although they sometimes lose a lot of weight during drug use, they may also experience hair and teeth loss, numerous health problems and ruined relationships with friends and family. Women often experience rapid unwanted weight gain when they stop using these drugs, and the fear of gaining even more weight can negatively impact their recovery. Knowing what effect meth had on their weight previously, the temptation to use, if only for a little while, can impact their ability to maintain sobriety in substance abuse treatment.

“We encourage these women to be more physically active and make good choices for themselves and their children,” Lindsay says. “Healthy lifestyles—nutrition, exercise and body acceptance—are taught as an alternative approach to weight loss and desire for increased energy.”

While the long-term goals of the program are to reduce drug use and increase healthy behaviors, increasing knowledge and awareness and identifying current behavior patterns are the first objectives to reduce recidivism and attrition for females in substance abuse recovery. By reducing recidivism and the crime rate, community members also benefit from decreased financial burdens and enjoy a safer community.

Lindsay and Cooperative Extension program coordinator Sara Velasquez collaborate with the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and the University of Nevada, Reno’s Center for the Application of Substance Abuse Technologies (CASAT). CASAT is familiar with substance abuse disorders and with women who have meth issues. “CASAT is also instrumental in training substance abuse counselors, and they help us disseminate the program to counselors,” adds Lindsay.

This new direction will enable Healthy Steps to Freedom to expand its reach to northern Nevada sites where other young women like Gabriella can better understand their relationship with weight and body image with other individuals.

Today I am thankful for being here. It’s been a hard struggle going through everything, but I am currently in perfect compliance. Listening to the experiences of others made me realize what my family is going through and where I could have been. I realized I have an underlying issue that caused me to go to the lengths I did and it’s my weight.

I have learned there is a healthy, better way to deal with this issue. My mother is also realizing the damage she caused us from her ridiculing and her own twisted perception of what we should look like. I am working on getting back into the nursing field and taking care of my kids and family. I am the happiest I have been in a very long time. I still have issues with my weight but am slowly coming to grips with it. Thanks to Anne and the others at the University.

For more information on Healthy Steps to Freedom, contact Anne Lindsay, (702) 940-5434, or lindsaya@unce.unr.edu.

Impacts of Healthy Steps to Freedom 12-week pilot program

• Weight is a primary concern for the targeted women. Preliminary results show an increased gain in knowledge about weight-related issues, while participants maintained their weight.

• Women increased 24.2 percent of their body weight (32 pounds) from the time they stopped using substances until they began the program. During the program, there was only a 2.2 percent increase (4 pounds), with no change in body fat.

• Participants had an average increase in their goal weight of 5 pounds from entry into the program to the end of the program. They learned to perceive a more realistic ideal weight for themselves, indicating increased awareness of ideal weight goals.
Questions With
Frank Hawkins, Jr. ’81

Frank Hawkins, Jr. ’81 (criminal justice) is the executive director of Community Development Programs Center of Nevada and president of the Las Vegas chapter of the NAACP. A former Las Vegas city councilman, he played seven years for the Oakland Raiders following four years with the Wolf Pack. During his college football career, he gained 5,333 yards by rushing and is still the Wolf Pack career rushing leader. When he finished his career in 1980, this was the third highest rushing total of all time. Frank lives in Las Vegas with his wife, Cheryl (Tasker) ’84 (journalism), and daughter, Pierlys.

Nevada Silver & Blue: With your long history working for affordable housing and economic development in Nevada, how has the economic downturn affected Nevadans’ ability to obtain affordable housing as well as make a living, and do you see an upswing in the market?

Frank Hawkins: The economic downturn has been devastating to the economy. Nevadans will continue to lose their jobs and homes. Nevada is number one in the nation in home foreclosures. Our affordable rental apartment homes are in more demand than ever before because of the lack of modification/refinancing by the banks. Additionally, Nevada is experiencing huge commercial real estate and credit card defaults.

Three of our top five industries are no longer in a vertical growth mode: gaming, construction and housing. Nevadans will start to recover their jobs when these industries start to heal and the banks start to lend: mid year 2010.

NSB: As the current president of the Las Vegas branch of the NAACP, what is the role of NAACP and higher education in helping promote economic and social equality for minority group citizens?

FH: Since the inception of the NAACP 100 years ago, the organization has been diligent about civil rights and achieving equality between blacks and whites. As our organization moves into its next century of activism, our vision has been expanded to focus on human rights for all people.

Higher education should lead by example in promoting diversity, as well as economic and social equality, along with nurturing and protecting our youth. Higher education should be diverse in its tenured professors, poised to respond to student needs, willing to discuss tough issues such as racism and social injustice within its own system, and foster a sense of community and inclusion within the larger community.

I invite readers to join the NAACP. Visit our web site at naacplv.org.

NSB: As a generous donor to the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center, why did you feel it was important to support the University?

FH: During my college experience at the University, many people were kind to my family and me: Luther Mack, Bernice Martin-Mathews ’70 (nursing), ’75M.Ed. (educational administration/higher education), Bob and Nancy Cashell ’90 (doctor of humane letters), Frank and Marge Meyers, the Reviglos, Caranos, Alstons, Quilicis, Cupuros and many others. I want to be like them. I grew into a young man with the assistance of the Reno family. God has blessed me all my life. I am obligated to give back. The older I get, the more I appreciate the positive experience I had at the University. Besides, I met my wife, Cheryl, at the University in 1978.

NSB: How did your education at the University help you in your life and do you stay connected with friends you made here?

FH: I have always believed once you get the knowledge in your head, no one can take that away from you. I majored in criminal justice and apply many of the concepts I learned on a daily basis. I am more solicitous in my actions because of the conservative Reno culture, which I appreciate. I am in contact with a few classmates and teammates. If I see them once every 10 years or talk to them by telephone, we always talk about how great our college experience was: the good old days.

NSB: What was it like to win Super Bowl XVIII?

FH: Playing in the Super Bowl, without question, was one of the greatest days of my life. As a professional athlete the ultimate goal is to be the best in the world. In the season of 1983 and the Super Bowl of 1984 we proved we were the best football team in the world. All of the little hairs on the back of my neck were standing up when I walked out onto the field and a hundred thousand screaming fans were awaiting the start of the game and millions more watching on television around the world.
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- Amazing auction items, including once-in-a-lifetime trips, VIP winery visits and much more
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- $45 in advance
- $50 at the door

Tickets available at all Scolari’s locations. For more information regarding sponsorship or tickets, contact Mui Condon at mgu@unr.edu, (775) 784-4831 or visit http://giving.unr.edu/vintage.

Friday, October 16
2:00-9
5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Downtown Reno Events Center

Benefiting University Of Nevada, Reno Scholarships.
The University of Nevada, Reno has played so many roles in my life that it is difficult to overstate them. I am a product of this University. I met my wife, Denise, here and three of my four children also graduated from here. Reno is my hometown and I appreciate how important the University is to the quality of life that we all enjoy.

I don’t think there is any substitute for hard work. I work very hard and I expect people around me to do the same. I don’t take myself very seriously, but I take my job very, very seriously. I like to enjoy myself and enjoy life. I laugh a lot. I prefer to be kind to people, and I think people return that kindness. There is no excuse for bad manners or harshness. I think people tend to mistake a good and decent person for a weak person. I believe that a strong leader can and should still be a decent and polite person.

None of us can be truly successful in any kind of professional endeavor unless we are successful and happy in our personal and private lives. There is nothing more important to me than my family and, foremost, my wife. One’s family relationships set a tone for loyalty, respect and love that carries over into everything a person does.

The concept of returning something of what you have received from the University is misunderstood. Most of us aren’t millionaires and can’t make large naming gifts for buildings, but we can all make a difference. We can mentor a high school student and tell that young man or woman why it is important to get an education. We can volunteer at an alumni event and we can pay our dues. We all can give according to what we have and we all have something to give.

When I look at the students at the University today, I see unbelievably bright, gifted and articulate men and women. This last year, I also saw engaged men and women as the students got angry about the budget. It was actually a throwback to my years at Nevada in the late ’60s and early ’70s when we got fired up about everything. My advice, particularly to young men and women, is to get engaged and stay engaged. We can either make our futures or let our futures happen to us. We can chart our course or just float down the river. That means being involved and not taking anything for granted.

I’ve got the greatest job in the world. I have the ability to influence policy on higher education, which is what I believe is the key to the future of our state. This couldn’t be a more incredible opportunity. People ask me why I would want to be chancellor now considering the issues, the budget and the economy. Why not? If education was ever critical to our state, now is the time. We are in the midst of a once-in-a-generation economic downturn that has exposed the weaknesses in our economy because we have not diversified it to the extent that we should and could. How are we going to do that? Through education—from kindergarten to post-doctorate. We are not going to wish or luck ourselves into a better future. We are going to educate ourselves and our children into a brighter and a more diversified economy.

From a conversation with Chancellor Dan Klaich in July with director of foundation operations Crystal Parish. Klaich, a 1972 accounting graduate of the University of Nevada, Reno, is the 10th chancellor of the Nevada System of Higher Education. Klaich served in private legal practice for almost 30 years prior to joining NSHE. He served on the Board of Regents from 1983 to 1997, including two terms as board chair. He joined the Chancellor’s Office in October 2004, serving as NSHE’s executive vice chancellor and chief operating officer until his appointment as chancellor in 2009. He received his juris doctorate in 1975 from the University of Washington and a master’s in taxation from New York University in 1978. His wife, Denise, graduated from Nevada in 1973 with a degree in elementary education. They have four children—Kelly (Klaich) Roper ’98 (history) ’05M. Ed., Mitch Klaich ’02 (marketing), Michon (Klaich) Colovich ’03 (journalism), and Erin (Klaich) Kitchen (graduated from University of Texas and Harvard Law School).

What I’ve Learned

Dan Klaich

Dan Klaich ’72 (accounting)

LOOK ONLINE
For the full interview, visit: www.unr.edu/nevadasilverandblue

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Looking for a job that suits you well

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Attorney Chancellor Family Man Regent Hard Worker Policy Maker ASUN President
Zeb Hogan travels the globe by plane, boat, truck and horseback so he can wrestle monster fish in murky waters. The University researcher and faculty member is also a National Geographic Explorer. He is on a mission to find, study and protect the world’s largest freshwater fish—megafish weighing more than 200 pounds and measuring more than six-feet long—that are in peril of extinction.

His research has taken him to dozens of places, such as Mongolia, Thailand, China, Spain, Australia, Brazil and Europe, to study the two-dozen threatened species of megafish, and has landed him on the National Geographic Channel with a series of shows highlighting his work.

Hogan, a conservation biologist in the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Science, has teamed up with National Geographic for the Megafishes Project. This summer Hogan’s work in Thailand with giant freshwater stingray and in Mongolia with the rare, six-foot-long Hucho taimen trout were chronicled on the fish-focused “Hooked” television series. This fall his work with giant catfish in Spain and white sturgeon in Washington state will also be featured on the National Geographic Channel.

“The publicity is good if it highlights some of the valuable work that comes out of the University,” Hogan said. “I am proud to be associated with the University and so obviously I’d like to promote the work done here. I’m also happy if the publicity raises the profile of freshwater biodiversity conservation, since freshwater biodiversity is highly threatened yet the issue does not receive very much attention.”

Approximately two dozen fish meet the megafish criteria, including catfish, carp, trout, sturgeon, sawfish, paddlefish, gar and the giant freshwater stingray. Hogan said dams, pollution and overfishing are the biggest threats to freshwater megafish.

“It’s really our actions that threaten the megafish species, not the other way around” he said. “Seventy percent of megafish are endangered … and they need our help for survival.”

—Mike Wolterbeek ’02
University President Milton Glick predicted before the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center opened, “It will be a place where high technology will meet high touch, which is exciting for anyone who will walk in its doors.”

The Knowledge Center has indeed become a place of “high-touch,” as well as high-tech, as it has established itself as a community hub for cultural events.

“People from the community are coming to the Knowledge Center for artists’ showings and receptions, authors’ book-signings, and presentations by national speakers,” said Steve Zink, vice president of information technology. “I see a new tradition in the making—one of the Knowledge Center becoming a community venue for cultural events and mind-opening discussion.”

Since the 295,000 square-foot state-of-the-art building opened in August 2008, it has hosted events such as English Professor Cheryll Glotfelty’s book-signing reception for her anthology, Literary Nevada; the Nevada Writers Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony; and the Will James art exhibit and film screening of The Man They Call Will James, to name a few.

Acclaimed book artist Charles Hobson, whose work has been exhibited across the country, and in Europe and Japan, presented at the Knowledge Center in July and displayed his work there throughout the summer. (Please see page 40 for photos from this event.)

The North American Basque Organizations also held their international conference there in July. Last fall, the Knowledge Center hosted the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services naturalization ceremony in which 41 citizen candidates from 23 countries became U.S. citizens. Speaker Daniel Benjamin, who served on the National Security Council under the Clinton administration, spoke about national security issues at the Center.

Zink said: “The Knowledge Center was designed to accommodate events that stimulate the mind. The Whittmore Tower Entrance and Reception Gallery, as well as the Wells Fargo Auditorium, provide ideal spaces for these activities. We are very grateful to the donors who helped us create these spaces that now benefit the whole community.”

—Claudene Wharton '86, '99M.A.
Alternative crops are promising for Nevada farmers

University researchers are literally working in the field to test alternative, low-water-use alternative grains, warm and cool season crops for biofuels, and revegetation grasses for land that has little water on it. According to Jay Davison, area forage and alternative crops specialist with the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, they are having success.

“We successfully grew white and brown varieties of tef for the first time in Mason Valley, and the yields were comparable to the commercial varieties grown in Fallon,” Davison said. Tef is used primarily to make injera, an Ethiopian flatbread, but the international export market has dramatically expanded in the last two years.

“We also had yields of amaranth comparable to what the literature suggests.” Davison said. Both grains are used to produce gluten-free flours for people with celiac disease who cannot tolerate gluten, a protein in wheat, rye and barley.

“Because more people are being diagnosed with celiac disease, we have an opportunity to develop a niche market for these grains on a commercial scale since the price per pound is much higher than conventional grains,” Davison said. “In addition, we have excellent climatic conditions for them.”

Davison and others are working to develop and expand the existing market for tef and investigate the development of a tef processing plant for cleaning and grinding in the Fallon area.

The project will continue for one more year so researchers have a minimum of two growing seasons to replant and conduct experiments for more conclusive results.

—Deanna Heller ’75

‘New’ math to help in next generation reactors

Mathematics researcher and faculty member Pavel Solin knows how to make a nuclear reactor run more efficiently. He will use scientific computing to prove it as part of a national effort to develop the next generation of nuclear technologies.

Solin is receiving a $587,000 grant from the Department of Energy as part of an investment in cutting-edge nuclear energy research and development under the new Nuclear Energy University Program.

“I will be using new, highly sophisticated computational methods to improve the quality of computer simulations of the processes in nuclear reactors, which are described via very complicated equations,” Solin said. “The processes inside the reactor involve, among others, neutron flux, thermal hydraulics, structural materials and oxygen release, and require advanced coupled flow, thermal and structural analysis as the reactor swells with changing temperatures and pressures.”

The difference between Solin’s work and current methods is that the latter typically only analyze one physical process at a time. Solin’s methods can solve many physical processes simultaneously.

“Our methods will be used to support the design of a new generation of nuclear reactors, and we will run computer simulations of the old reactors to prolong their useful life as well,” he said.

Solin and his collaborators will work with engineers at the Idaho National Laboratory, the central location for these projects, who are designing the systems for the new reactors.

—Mike Wolterbeek ’02
EMMA GARCIA

As the 2009 Nevada representative to the Henry Clay Center for Statesmanship’s Second Annual Student Congress, Garcia spent a week in Lexington, Va., in June honing diplomacy and mediation skills with other students from across the country, all nominated by their state’s senior senator. The chemistry and political science major is a senior and a member of the Multicultural Greek Council as well as an academic tutor with the TRiO Scholars Program. She plans to become an obstetrician-gynecologist specializing in international women’s issues.

DAVID SCHACTER

A spring 2009 graduate of the University, Schacter was a four-time national champion boxer at Nevada. Schacter recently completed an eight-week internship with Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid—a former amateur boxer himself—in Washington, D.C. With a 31-2 record, Schacter is only the fifth collegiate fighter in National Collegiate Boxing Association history to win four straight titles. He also has studied abroad in Costa Rica, Thailand and China, where he trained with martial arts experts.

ELI REILLY

Elected student-body president this spring, Reilly is only the second two-term ASUN president in University history. He has spent much of his last year as president working to sustain University funding levels. He has also previously served as ASUN’s vice president for programming. The senior history major is a member of the Sigma Nu fraternity and is the first person from his family to attend college.

LOOK ONLINE
Watch Sen. Harry Reid’s introduction of Schacter during a Capitol Hill news conference: at: www.unr.edu/nevadasilverandblue

Casting call: economics pundits

During prosperous economic times, economists are not always the most sought-after media interviewees. In fact, many economists will tell you that for many years they had a difficult time getting anyone to take an interest in their passion.

However, with today’s global economic problems, University of Nevada, Reno economists have suddenly found themselves in high demand, being asked to comment on economic policies and recovery efforts by various media—print, broadcast and online.

The University’s economics professors have risen to the challenge, seeing these troubled economic times and the media’s interest as a chance to “raise the economic literacy of our population,” as economics professor Elliott Parker put it.

Parker and his colleagues, including economics professor Mark Pingle, have offered commentary on the stimulus package and the economic recovery with KOLO-TV’s “Dunbar Report,” commenting on the potential effectiveness of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act after one of President Obama’s televised speeches.

“Clearly our economics faculty members are well-respected, locally and nationally,” said Mark Nichols, economics chair. “Although they do not always share the same economic and political views with one another, they offer good commentary based on sound economic knowledge that stimulates debate and thought on our current economic situation and possible solutions.”

In fact, at times University economists are specifically asked to air their opposing views. For example, Parker and Cargill shared their opposing views on KRNV-TV’s “Dunbar Report,” commenting on the potential effectiveness of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act after one of President Obama’s televised speeches.

—Claudene Wharton ’86, ’99M.A.

Business professors pen newspaper articles

As a land-grant institution, outreach is central to the mission of the University. Because of this mission and the recent demand for business- and economic-related information, College of Business Dean Greg Mosier recently offered to have faculty from the college author a weekly column in the Reno Gazette-Journal containing helpful business information and economic commentary. The newspaper took the college up on its offer, featuring the College of Business articles each Wednesday in the Business section.
University researcher and faculty member Sudeep Chandra and undergraduate student Joanne Heslop faced huge, hungry mosquitoes and the never-ending daylight of the desolate Siberian Arctic region as they called a 90-foot barge home for one month this summer. Chandra and Heslop were part of the Polaris Project, an international team of scientists and students studying the effects of climate change.

Ancient carbon from Pleistocene era animals, along with chunks of green grass growing in the primeval soil, is being flushed into Arctic lakes and rivers as the long-frozen permafrost thaws, producing methane gas and possibly carbon dioxide that may be causing further global warming.

“The Polaris Project is an exciting and innovative approach to engage young scientists, professors and students to think about careers in climate research,” said Chandra, a principal investigator of the project and an assistant professor in the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Science.

Heslop was one of the few students across the country chosen to participate in the program located 50 miles south of the Arctic Ocean in northeastern Russia. The students and scientists study the nearby rivers, ocean, tundra, forests, floodplains and lakes.

“Few Western scientists, much less students, ever get the chance to work in the Siberian Arctic,” R. Max Holmes, director of the Polaris Project, said.

According to Chandra, “Programs like this one make me very hopeful that scientists and students from different countries will be able to bring much needed information to the public’s attention.”

The project is supported by the National Science Foundation’s International Polar Year Program.

—Mike Wolterbeek, ’02

Cyclists have converged on campus in significantly higher numbers than ever before: the number of registered bikes at the University increased nearly 200 percent over the past six years.

In response to an upswing in environmental consciousness and rising gas prices, the University’s OPTIONS campaign is encouraging the campus community to consider non-driving ways of getting to campus such as biking, carpooling and public transit.

The response from students and faculty has been strong. The campus drive-alone rate is now 44 percent. That’s a 15 percent drop from 2002, when 57 percent of students and faculty were getting in the car each morning to come to work or attend class.

The University is working toward a sustainable campus in many other ways as well, including using bio-diesel fuels for campus shuttles and subsidizing public transportation for faculty and students.

—Skyler Dillon, Class of 2010

University limnology and conservation assistant professor Sudeep Chandra conducts research in Shuci Lake in the Siberian Arctic with student Kayla Henson from Western Washington University.

Pedaling is on the rise

LOOK ONLINE
Learn more at thepolarisproject.org

Photo by Jean Dixon
Zink appointed to congressional advisory committee

Years ago, at the inception of the digital age, Steve Zink became fascinated with the concept of the future of recordkeeping and archives. Today, many of his ideas are manifest in the new Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center, which establishes a new model for merging and using information, technology and knowledge in a higher education setting.

Now, the University’s vice president of information technology and dean of the University Libraries will contribute to these topics on a national scale. Zink has been appointed to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress, which reviews the management and preservation of congressional records and advises the Archivist of the United States.

The Advisory Committee promotes a more complete documentation of the legislative process. It is comprised of the officials in Congress responsible for its records (Clerk of the House, Secretary of the Senate, Senate Historian, and House Historian) and the Archivist of the United States, who is responsible for the administration of the archived records of Congress. House and Senate leadership appoint public members of the committee, who represent historians, political scientists, congressional archivists, and other users and caretakers of legislative records.

In addition to overseeing all library and information technologies, Zink is a tenured professor, author and editor.

—Skyler Dillon, Class of 2010

Roadside Heritage Project explores eastern Sierra Nevada U.S. 395 corridor

The University is helping to shed new light on the science and history of the eastern Sierra Nevada in California along the U.S. 395 corridor stretching from Topaz Lake through Bishop, Mammoth and Lone Pine.

Through the Roadside Heritage Project, funded by a $2.5 million National Science Foundation grant, the University and its partners produced a dozen 7-minute audio “episodes” explaining various features of the region, such as its geothermal characteristics, mineral deposits, unique desert terminal lakes and the region’s volcanic history.

“These are informative, entertaining stories of the area, brought to life by vibrant interviews with locals and experts alike,” said Mike Collopy, director of the University’s Academy for the Environment.

One component of the project is bringing this information to middle-school students by guided field trips in which the students explore the science of the region firsthand.

The students also conduct interviews and use current technologies to produce their own educational stories about the region.

Project partners include the Eastern Sierra Institute for Collaborative Education, University of California, Berkeley’s Lawrence Hall of Science, and University of Nevada, Reno’s Raggio Research Center for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Education.

—Claudene Wharton ’86, ’99M.A.

KOLO-TV’s Brent Boynton interviews Mike Collopy at the top of Mammoth Mountain as the station’s John Tyson operates the camera. Boynton and Tyson produced six television news segments on the Roadside Heritage Project that aired in May.

Look Online
Listen to or download the Roadside Heritage episodes. www.roadsideheritage.org
The Nevada Seismological Laboratory at the University has finished the first phase of seismic surveying through downtown Reno as part of a $1 million U.S. Geological Survey study to create an earthquake hazard map in the Reno-Carson City urban corridor.

“There are several suspected faults in the downtown area, and we don’t know much about them,” said John Louie, professor of geophysics in the Seismological Lab and principle investigator of the project.

Researchers conducted full-scale seismic reflection soundings up to a half-mile deep using a “mini-vibe” truck. Louie, co-principal investigators Pat Cashman and Ilenna Tibuleac, and seven graduate students worked with two USGS researchers to make thousands of soundings to complete the high-resolution, noninvasive seismic imaging study using industry techniques for oil and gas exploration.

The truck, using a relatively light 700-pound reaction weight, stops every 30 feet, sets the shaker on the asphalt and vibrates the ground for a few minutes. Hundreds of monitoring sensors connected by cable transmit the seismic reflection soundings to the recording truck. It is a slow process, with the truck creeping less than one mile a day.

“This is a process of discovery,” Louie said. “We’ve looked for the suspected faults, may possibly find faults we don’t know about, and will be able to identify the most hazardous faults.”

—Mike Wolterbeek ’02

Sports Medicine experience at the Reno Rodeo

Rodeo competitors know it’s not a question of if you’ll get hurt, but when... and how badly. Competitors in the 2009 Reno Rodeo simply accept injuries as part of their sport. Luckily, University of Nevada School of Medicine physicians and students along with medical volunteers from the Reno Rodeo Association provided medical assistance and expertise as needed to both competitors and spectators at the June 18-27 event. The team treated a wide variety of injuries ranging from sprained ankles and broken fingers to broken jaws and torn skin.

“This was an educational opportunity for our students to learn how to interact with emergency medical teams and what is potentially involved with medical help in a large crowd setting,” said Dr. Daniel Spigen. Carol Scott, University director of sports medicine, tapes up the arm of a bareback rider at the Reno Rodeo.

Spogen, chair of the School of Medicine’s Family and Community Medicine Department in Reno.

—Anne McMillin

New director at helm of Seismological Laboratory

Graham Kent is well-known to researchers in Nevada. He has been studying the tectonics of Western Nevada for 10 years, including earthquake fault hazards in Lake Tahoe and Fallen Leaf Lake through sonar profiling. His research interests also include the Walker Lane Belt, a geological region roughly aligned with the border between the states of California and Nevada.

This summer Kent was named director of the Nevada Seismological Laboratory and professor of geophysics. It is a homecoming of sorts, since Kent graduated from South Lake Tahoe High School. He comes to Nevada from UC San Diego’s Scripps Institution of Oceanography, where for the past 13 years he has been a research geophysicist at their Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics.

“There’s a lot of opportunity for answering grand science questions in this region, which requires a variety of different seismic techniques,” Kent said. “I’m a hi-tech geek at heart and hope to bring the ability to work on some of the larger National Science Foundation-driven science questions, such as formation of the Sierra Nevada mountain range.”

After 11 years at the helm, former director John Anderson stepped down from the position to focus on teaching and research. “I never meant this to be my last job, to be director for life,” he said. “It’s part of my long-term plan; it’s someone else’s turn now.” He predicts Kent will “be a fantastic director for the lab.”

—Mike Wolterbeek ’02
Reynolds School endowed chair promotes career aspirations, research

David Morrow envisions a solution for the current media industry: his students.

“I want media students to consider careers as chief executive officers,” Morrow said. “It’s a viable path once students understand what drives business and what makes it succeed, and journalism students have the academic foundation and their practical skills to do it.”

Morrow, former editor-in-chief of TheStreet.com, began fall ’09 as the Donald W. Reynolds Endowed Chair in Business Journalism at the Reynolds School of Journalism.

Morrow has directed TheStreet.com since 2001, supervising a staff of 65 reporters and editors. The site has won numerous honors, including “best enterprise reporting” and “best commentary” in 2008 from the Society of American Business Editors and Writers. More than eight million unique visitors come to the site each month.

“I am elated to join the staff at the Reynolds School and to be in a position funded by the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation,” Morrow said. “Both are on the cutting edge of guiding the future of business journalism, not only in teaching the next generation of professionals but in steering the future of the profession.”

The Donald W. Reynolds Foundation granted more than $2.2 million to the school last year to develop courses in business journalism, especially courses about the coming “green economy.” Part of the Reynolds grant will be used for specialized economics courses for journalism students in the University’s College of Business.

Morrow also will work with Reynolds business chairs at Washington & Lee University, the University of Missouri and Arizona State University and with the Reynolds National Center for Business Journalism at ASU on articles, research projects and training seminars.

“David has the perfect combination of deep experience in business news plus the understanding of journalism on the Internet that is so important to our school,” said Jerry Ceppos, dean of the Reynolds School of Journalism. “He embodies so much of what we do: Marrying the values of traditional journalism with whatever platform works best for delivery of that journalism.”

“No story is more compelling than the story of our economy,” Ceppos said. “But journalists need specialized training to understand the nuances of the story. David will teach our students how to write about the economy in interesting and accurate ways and to identify career opportunities that fuse their knowledge, skills, enthusiasm and ambition.”

—Zanny Marsh

University of Nevada, Reno Performing Arts Series | 2009-10

The Performing Arts Series brings some of the world’s finest performers to the University’s Nightingale Concert Hall. Season Ticket discounts available — call (775) 784-4ART.
“This year’s class represents more than 40 years of the success of Wolf Pack Athletics and is made up of six decorated individuals who helped Nevada to numerous team and individual conference championships as well as a national title,” Wolf Pack Director of Athletics Cary Groth said. Lisé Mackie was the top swimmer in the Big West Conference in each of her three years at Nevada and represented her home country of Australia in the Summer Olympics, while DeShone Myles was one of the most dominant linebackers in school history, leading the Wolf Pack to four conference titles and setting the school record for career tackles. Bill Nicholson helped Nevada to a pair of Far Western Conference basketball championships before going on to serve as a member of President Gerald Ford’s staff and becoming a successful leader in the business world, and Bob Rautio was an All-American who won three conference titles in Nevada’s history, helping the Wolf Pack to four team titles and 10 individual and relay championships, while Jerry Ballew put the Nevada women’s swimming and diving program on the map, guiding a team that had never won a dual meet to a national championship in just seven years.

2009 Nevada Hall of Fame Inductees

Lisé Mackie – Swimming (1995-98)
One of the top swimmers in Wolf Pack history, Lisé Mackie ’00 (political science/international affairs) was named the Big West Conference Swimmer of the Year three times in her career and helped the Wolf Pack to three conference titles. A seven-time NCAA All-American, she still holds the fastest times in school history in the 200 freestyle and 200 individual medley and as part of the 400 medley relay and 400 freestyle relay teams. The Brisbane, Australia, native still appears in Nevada’s list of top times a total of 13 times. Mackie represented Australia at the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, Spain and the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, Ga., winning a bronze medal as part of the Aussies’ 800 meter freestyle relay team in 1996.

DeShone Myles – Football (1994-97)
A four-time All-Big West Conference selection as linebacker, DeShone Myles ’07 (general studies) led the team in tackles in all four years at Nevada and the University’s career leader in tackles with 528 (next on the list is Matt Clafton with 388). The 1996 Big West Defensive Player of the Year and a member of Nevada’s Team of the Century, he never missed a game, started all but one in his career and helped the Wolf Pack to four Big West Conference championships and a pair of appearances in the Las Vegas Bowl. Myles turned in four of the top six single-season marks for tackles in school history and still holds Nevada’s single-game tackles record, turning in 20 tackles in a 1995 game at San Diego State. He was drafted in the fourth round of the 1998 NFL Draft by the Seattle Seahawks. He played in 12 games in 1998 and four games in 1999 before a knee injury ended his season.

Bill Nicholson ’66 (finance) earned All-Far Western Conference accolades and honorable-mention All-America honors in 1964 as a center on the Nevada men’s basketball team. He helped the Wolf Pack to Far Western Conference championships in 1964 and 1966, while Nevada’s 1966 team turned in a 21-6 overall record and went a perfect 10-0 in conference play. Nicholson turned in 876 points and 643 rebounds in
Former Wolf Pack standouts Lisé Mackie, DeShone Myles, Bill Nicholson, Bob Rautio and Susan Eisele Whitehouse, as well as former swimming and diving coach Jerry Ballew will be inducted into the University of Nevada Athletics Hall of Fame in October.

67 career games, and his rebounding mark still ranks eighth in the Nevada career record book. Nicholson served as a pilot in the U.S. Air Force from 1966 to 1971 and then embarked on a career in business. He served as appointments secretary to President Gerald Ford from 1974-77. He has also served as the chief executive officer and chief operating officer of several companies, including Amway from 1984-92.

Bob Rautio - Track & Field (1961, 1967-68)

Bob Rautio won Far Western Conference championships in the javelin in 1961, 1967 and 1968, each of his three years as a member of the Wolf Pack men’s track and field team. In 1961, he earned All-America honors and set a national record for javelin throw by a freshman, a mark that stood for four years. He also ranked third in the nation and finished third at the NCAA Track and Field Championships in 1961. He joined the U.S. Army where he was stationed at Fort Bragg in North Carolina and was the All-Army javelin champion in 1966. Rautio returned to Nevada in 1967 and 1968, winning two more Far Western Conference championships in the javelin and finishing fifth at the NCAA Championships in 1968.

Susan Eisele Whitehouse - Swimming (1995-99)

Susan Eisele Whitehouse ’00 (animal science) helped the Wolf Pack to four consecutive Big West Conference championships during her career at Nevada. She won a total of 10 Big West Conference championships, including five individual championships and five relay titles. Whitehouse won the 200 backstroke race at the Big West Championships in each of her four years at Nevada. She held Nevada’s school record time for the 200 backstroke for 10 years (since broken) and set school and conference records in the 100 back twice. She still has one of the top five fastest times in school history in the 100 back. Whitehouse qualified for the 2000 Olympic Trials but was unable to compete due to injury.

Jerry Ballew - Swimming & Diving Coach (1976-83, 1985-86)

In his seven seasons as the coach of Nevada’s women’s swimming and diving team, Jerry Ballew ’76M.S. (physical education), ’78 (secondary education certificate), ’93Ed.D. (educational leadership) led the Wolf Pack from never having won a dual meet to winning a national championship. He guided Nevada to the AIAW Small College National Championship in 1979 and coached Nevada to a 68-35 record and six national top 25 finishes. He mentored 29 All-Americans and two individual national champions, including Ann (Belikow) Ballatore ’79 (physical education), ’81M.S. (physical education) who won the 50, 100 and 200 breaststroke events at the 1979 AIAW National Championships. His 1979 national championship squad was inducted into the Nevada Athletics Hall of Fame in 1991.

This year’s six honorees will be inducted into Nevada’s Hall of Fame on Friday, Oct. 23 at a dinner at the Silver Legacy Hotel and Casino in Reno. They will also be recognized at halftime of the Homecoming football game against Idaho at 1:05 p.m. Pacific Time on Saturday, Oct. 24 at Mackay Stadium.

Tickets for the Hall of Fame Dinner are available by calling (775) 682-6902, while tickets for the Homecoming game are available by calling (775) 348-PACK (7225) or going online at www.nevadawolfpack.com.

—Rhonda Lundin, associate athletics director for communications
John Ascuaga wins Jake Lawlor Award

John Ascuaga, a longtime University of Nevada, Reno supporter and president of John Ascuaga’s Nugget Casino Resort in Sparks, was honored with the Jake Lawlor Award at the 40th annual Governor’s Dinner in Carson City.

The Jake Lawlor Award is given annually to an individual who, over the years, has consistently demonstrated unwavering support for Wolf Pack Athletics.

Ascuaga has been a supporter of the University since his arrival in Nevada in 1955. He has awarded the John Ascuaga’s Nugget Scholarship to seniors in northern Nevada since 1956. Ascuaga has also been a season ticket holder at Nevada for years and has been a strong corporate sponsor.

John Ascuaga’s Nugget has generously sponsored many of the athletic department events, including the annual Nugget Classic women’s basketball tournament. The Nugget has also been the host of some of the athletic department’s most popular fundraisers over the years, including the Wolf Pack Wine Tasting Dinner and the Salute to Champions.

The Nugget opened in March of 1955 as a 60-seat coffee shop and has grown into a 1,600-room casino resort with award-winning restaurants, 75,000 square-feet of casino space and 110,000 square feet of convention space. Ascuaga purchased the Nugget in 1960 and became the sole owner and operator.

In addition to his support of the University of Nevada, Ascuaga’s charitable generosity can also be seen at St. Vincent’s Dining Room, where for more than 50 years, tens of thousands of Thanksgiving and Christmas meals have been served.

An avid rancher, Ascuaga was born in Caldwell, Idaho. He holds a degree in accounting from the University of Idaho and a degree in hotel and restaurant management from Washington State University.

—Rhonda Lundin, associate athletics director for communications

Rifle’s Andrew Hickey becomes Nevada’s first Academic All-American in six years

Former University of Nevada, Reno rifle team member Andrew Hickey has been named a first-team ESPN the Magazine Academic All-American, the first Wolf Pack student-athlete to earn the honor since 2003.

A native of Sutter, Calif., Hickey maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.97 during his Nevada career and graduated with his degree in biochemistry in May. He will spend the next year teaching English in Korea and then plans to attend law school.

Hickey became the first Wolf Pack student-athlete to earn first-team Academic All-America honors since baseball’s Erick Streelman in 2003 and just the sixth student-athlete in school history to be selected to the first team. Hickey also won a prestigious NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship this year.

Hickey, who just completed his senior season with the Wolf Pack rifle team, was named a second-team All-American in both air rifle and smallbore this year. He shot every match this season and finished first in air rifle three times. He turned in the team’s best score of the year in air rifle with a 594 vs. Nebraska on Oct. 5 and had three of the team’s top five smallbore scores this season.

“Andy worked very hard this past year to make the team the very best it could be,” Wolf Pack rifle coach Fred Harvey said. “We appreciate that his efforts have been recognized.”

The men’s at-large program for Academic All-America includes the sports of fencing, golf, gymnastics, ice hockey, lacrosse, rifle, skiing, tennis and water polo, and only 15 Division I student-athletes from across the country were selected to the first team.

To be eligible for Academic All-America consideration, a student-athlete must be a varsity starter or key reserve, maintain a cumulative G.P.A. of 3.30 on a scale of 4.00, have reached sophomore athletic and academic standings at his/her current institution and be nominated by his/her sports information director. Winners are selected by members of the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

Since the program’s inception in 1952, CoSIDA has bestowed Academic All-America honors on more than 14,000 student-athletes in Divisions I, II, III and NAIA, covering all NCAA championship sports.

—Rhonda Lundin, associate athletics director for communications
Pac Tracks

Photos courtesy Nevada Media Services

Nevada Fight Song

The Wolf Pack encourages fans to stand up during the fight song, clap and sing along with the Pride of the Sierra Marching Band and join the cheerleaders in yelling NEVADA at the end. The cheerleaders also invite Wolf Pack fans to join the band in yelling “Go Big Blue” with the tubas.

The Nevada Fight Song

HAIL to our sturdy team, loyal and true,
MARCH, march on down the field
oh Silver and Blue!

We’ll give a long cheer for NEVADA’s team,
See them break through again,
Fighting for our own U of N to victory.

N - E - V - A - D - A
NEVADA!

Nevada Traditions

The University of Nevada, Reno’s athletics programs have established themselves as some of the top in the Western Athletic Conference, but the Wolf Pack couldn’t do it without the support of its fans at all of its games.

With a new school year and sports season in full session, the school’s cheerleaders, mascots and dance team remind fans of a few things they can do to help support the Pack.

Wear Blue

The University of Nevada is very proud of its colors, Silver and Blue, and encourages its fans to wear blue to support the Wolf Pack at all of its venues. The teams would love nothing more than to look up and see a stadium or arena filled with fans wearing blue.
Two decades of growth

Nutrition department celebrates 20th year

While the traditional gift for a 20th anniversary celebration is china, students in Nevada’s Department of Nutrition, which is celebrating the notable milestone this year, have received something significantly more valuable—and far less fragile.

“My classes and the entire experience really set me up for success,” said Yolanda Ortega-Gammill, the “Yo” in Yo’s Kitchen Counter, a nutritional counseling business. She graduated in 1999 with a bachelor of science degree with a major in nutrition from the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources. “The faculty were amazing in their support and the work was relevant to my goals.”

Ortega-Gammill’s goals included starting her own business, which became Yo’s Kitchen Counter, www.yoskc.com.

“We all deserve to be happy in the body we have today, and my hope is to allow clients to adopt a philosophy of healthy and happy choices leading to the best life possible,” she said.

Twenty years after Nevada’s first nutrition students declared their major, the department continues to see phenomenal growth. In the early parts of this decade, it saw more than a 650 percent increase in research funding, and its student population more than doubled between 2001 and 2008.

Department Chair Chris Pritsos believes a cultural shift is driving growth.

“Nevadans and Americans as a whole are becoming more and more health conscious,” he said. “People now recognize the critical role nutrition plays in maintaining good health, and they want to learn more about it. With an emphasis being placed on preventative medicine, students see nutrition as an excellent major in preparing them for careers in the health professions such as medicine, dentistry, pharmacy and more.”

Career preparation is a fundamental philosophy of the department, reflected through many of the program’s core courses. One example takes place in Associate Professor Jamie Benedict’s community nutrition class, where students contribute time and knowledge to local agencies like St. Vincents, Casa de Vida, Safe Embrace and area hospitals, including Saint Mary’s and Renown.

“Our students appreciate the opportunity...
to work with the public, to see how these programs operate and to benefit the community by applying knowledge from their classes,” Benedict said. “Last semester alone, our students contributed more than 600 hours in assistance. These are real-world experiences allowing students to see real-world problems.”

The nutrition major offers students two specializations—one in nutritional science and one in dietetics. Students completing the nutritional science specialization typically are interested in graduate work in nutrition or are seeking entry to a professional school in health care such as medicine, dentistry or pharmacy.

“Our program has been highly successful sending recent graduates to prestigious dental schools, for example, such as University of California, San Francisco and University of Pennsylvania,” Pritsos said.

The dietetics track provides students with a background in nutritional health, but students also are prepared for the next step in becoming a registered dietitian, a dietetic internship. After completing an internship, students take a national examination to become registered.

“We’re attracting people from all over the country to our program,” said Karon Felten, director of the internship program. “Whereas internship opportunities throughout the U.S. are diminishing, our program is continuing to grow.”

With such growth comes competition for admission: The department receives about 60 applications for six internships per semester. The department currently works with six training sites throughout the state, placing interns at locations where they work rigorous schedules to complete a 1,200-hour commitment.

“It’s a fast-paced program, but we hear wonderful feedback from the students,” Felten said. “They appreciate the ability to work diligently and focus on their passions.”

Ortega-Gammill notes passion is the underpinning of her company.

“I wanted to find something where my passions for food, family and friends could exist synergistically,” she said. “People are always gathering in the kitchen; nourishing your body and your relationships is a common theme.”

As for the common themes learned through the Department of Nutrition, she says personal faculty relationships provide a foundation of support.

“I always felt like I had a cheering section,” she said. “Here it is 10 years later, and I’m still getting emails and messages of encouragement. I don’t think many people can say that about their college professors.”

Silver & Blue Society

Bound by their shared commitment to the University of Nevada, Reno, members of the Silver & Blue Society assist the institution in addressing a broad range of needs—including future needs that often cannot be anticipated at the time gifts are made.

To recognize these individuals, the Silver & Blue Society was formed to honor those who give an annual unrestricted gift of $1,874 or more. Members of the Silver & Blue Society provide for scholarships, new academic programs, innovative learning opportunities, faculty recruitment and development, and enhancements to campus, among a host of other areas.

The Silver & Blue Society owes its name to a time when a circle of dedicated men and women helped create the University of Nevada. Established as a land-grant institution in 1874, the school depended in part on the vision and support provided by advocates. Many of them knew the value of gifts beyond the government programs that were meant to create a thriving economy for a new western state.

The generosity of individuals makes all the difference in the future of Nevada. Unrestricted funding is a critical resource that supports the University’s most pressing needs.

To learn more about the Silver & Blue Society contact Crystal Parrish at (775) 784-1352 or cparrish@unr.edu.
Land-Grant Universities

1. The first building on the Nevada campus was Morrill Hall, named for Justin Smith Morrill, the congressman (later senator) from Vermont who was responsible for passage of the Morrill Land-Grant College Act of 1862. This provided early federal funding for the University of Nevada and greatly impacted the development of the University.

2. Lincoln Hall, along with Manzanita Hall, is the oldest continuously operating residence hall in the western United States, and is named after the signer of the Morrill Act, Abraham Lincoln. The first land-grant bill was introduced by Morrill in 1857 and vetoed by President James Buchanan. The movement for agricultural colleges developed in Illinois and Lincoln gained respect for it there. Note the timing of the bill, 1862, and that military tactics were added as a subject area at a time of increased need for military training.

3. Land-grant institutions were founded on two governing principles: equality of opportunity and utility of knowledge. Before the land grants, colleges were elite in terms of selectivity and stressed subjects like Latin, logics and classical studies. There was no need for the “common folks” to attend college and certainly agriculture and engineering were not considered suitable subjects for college study.

4. The expectation for the federal endowment was explicit… at least one college where the leading object shall be, without excluding other scientific and classical studies and including military tactics, to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts … The “mechanic arts” was engineering. Many colleges originally included A&M in their names to reflect this mission (some still do, Texas A&M is an example).

5. The original funding under the Morrill Act was via a land grant of 30,000 acres of federal land for each senator and congressman in the state. This is the origin of the term “land-grant institution.” Unfortunately the land grant did not amount to a vast sum for Nevada as land prices were not great and the state had but one congressman.

6. Today there is at least one land-grant institution in each state, territory, and the District of Columbia. Usually there was one single institution created under the 1862 Act. Some were founded as land-grant institutions (Kansas State University was the first of this type). Some were established from existing institutions (Iowa State University and the University of Nevada, Reno are examples). Many of the major public “flagship” universities are land-grants (the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Penn State are examples).

7. There was a second Morrill Act in 1890 that provided additional endowments to land-grant institutions, but only those that did not make a distinction of race in admissions. However, the state was eligible for funds if separate institutions existed for black students. The then-segregated Southern states established “1890 land-grants” that became some of the best known “historically black universities” in the South (Tennessee State University and the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore are examples). Later, a group of Native American tribal colleges became the “1994 land grants.” These are located mainly in the Western states.

8. The Hatch Act of 1887 was an extension of the Morrill Act that established a network of agricultural experiment stations at the land-grant institutions. The McIntire-Stennis Act of 1962 added forestry to the experiment station research agenda. Original funding was via land grants with annual funding based on a formula using the number of small farms in the state. The goal was to strengthen agricultural and forestry production through research. This is why the Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station exists.

9. The Smith-Lever Act of 1914 created a cooperative extension service associated with each land-grant institution. The goal was to extend University research results directly to farmer’s fields. That is why the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension has 19 offices scattered across the state as the “college that puts University research to work.”

10. Since land grants have experiment stations, they tend to have significant lands scattered around the state used for agricultural and forestry research. Nevada is no exception. It has five field stations and eight field laboratory sites. An example is the Gund Research Ranch located near Austin. The ranch has more than 10,000 acres with grazing rights on adjacent lands and is used for research like the impact of commercial livestock production and wildlife management on private-public rangelands.

—Tom Straka, ‘03 (general studies), is a professor of forestry and natural resources at Clemson University in South Carolina.
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Jenkins family creates biology fellowship

Stephen Jenkins and his wife, Katherine, were inducted into Honor Court as Silver Benefactors at the 2009 Honor Court Ceremony. In 2008, Jenkins, a professor of biology at Nevada since 1975, and Katherine established a fellowship endowment to support a graduate student at the master’s or doctoral level studying animal behavior, ecology, evolution or conservation biology at the University.

Jenkins is a former National Merit Scholar at Dartmouth and received his Ph.D in biology from Harvard. His research focuses on the behavioral and population ecology of mammals, foraging, plant-animal interactions and research design.

“Graduate students have a unique role at the University,” Jenkins says. “While pursuing their own educations, many also make critical contributions as teaching and research assistants to the success of our institution. Katherine and I established this endowment for graduate students in ecology to free them from teaching or research obligations for a semester so that they could spend full time writing their thesis or dissertation. We hope that graduate students who receive this fellowship will find it as valuable and productive as sabbaticals are for faculty.”

—Ken Kempcke

Stephen and Katherine Jenkins, 2009 Silver Benefactor inductees.
USA Funds makes higher education a reality for scores of Nevada high school students

The University of Nevada, Reno Foundation honored USA Funds by engraving the corporation’s name in the pillars of Honor Court as recognition for its generous and long-standing support of the College of Education’s Dean’s Future Scholars Program.

Established in Indianapolis in 1960 to help families finance rising college costs, USA Funds is a nonprofit corporation that works to enhance postsecondary education preparedness, access and success.

Dean’s Future Scholars is a University program that prepares and equips Nevada middle and high school students for postsecondary education. The program encourages low-income, culturally diverse and first-generation students from 25 middle and high schools in Nevada’s Washoe and Storey counties to attend college and become teachers.

Patricia Roe, special assistant to the president at USA Funds, represented the organization at the Honor Court Ceremony in June. “The students involved with the Dean’s Future Scholars program are demonstrating that first-generation students can and do succeed when the right support mechanisms are in place,” Roe says. “101 of the 113 high school graduates to date are involved in postsecondary education and the first cohort group from Nevada will graduate with degrees beginning in December of 2009. The Dean’s Scholars program is making a difference in the lives of these students and USA Funds is pleased to be a part of this successful program.”

—Ken Kempcke

Patricia Roe, special assistant to the president at USA Funds, which was recognized as a Patron.
‘Book Arts’ Open House

(1) Book artist and publisher Charles Hobson led a ‘tour’ through a number of his artists books on display in Special Collections as part of “Book Arts: Fusing Words and Visual Imagination.” The exhibits and events were presented jointly by the University Libraries and the Black Rock Press in the art department and made possible in part with support from the College of Liberal Arts’ Hilliard Endowment in the Humanities, Friends of the University Libraries and Nevada Humanities. The exhibit will be on display in the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center in the Whittemore Tower Entry and Reception Gallery through Sept. 16.

(2) Carol Parkhurst, senior director of the University Libraries, with emeritus professor of history Jim Hulse and wife, Betty.

(3) Friends of the University Libraries board member and local artist Anne Hall and her husband, Wes Hall, with book artist and publisher Charles Hobson (middle).

(4) Satoko Kurita, a lecturer in mathematics and statistics, views the display.

Photos by Theresa Danna-Douglas
Pack Picnics on the Quad and Alumni Night at the Aces Game

(1) Alumni and friends of the University enjoy a performance by Sol’ Jibe on the Quad at the Pack Picnic on Aug. 5, hosted by Summer Session and the Nevada Alumni Association.

(2) Rebecca Murphy and Shirley Danna-Douglas show off their painted faces.

(3) Cory ’04 (health ecology) and Enid Jennings, with Brock and Theo, Jeff ’01 (elementary education) and Lindsay Batavia ’01 (elementary education/special education), with Annie and Millie, brought the family out for an evening of music.

(4) Jimmy Bahista, Ashley Olsen, Ryan Olsen ’00 (marketing), Breck Worthen, Lauren Sankovich-Bashista ’98 (accounting), Keri Worthen ’99 (elementary education), Macie Marsh and Kendi Marsh ’04 (art) enjoying Nevada Alumni Night with the Reno Aces.

(5) Allen Coldani, Pat Martinez ’95 (elementary education), Jillian, Julie (Haney) Martinez ’97 (general studies) and Jay Sprow.

LOOK ONLINE
For more photos of all of our Gatherings visit: www.unr.edu/silverandblue

Photos by Theresa Danna-Douglas
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER 18</td>
<td>Nevada Alumni Association Alumni Bowling Night 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Coconut Bowl, Wild Island Family Adventure Park Sponsored by GEICO and Wild Island</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER 25</td>
<td>Nevada Alumni Association Pregame Party* 2 Hours Before Kickoff Wolf Pack Alley (North of Mackay Stadium) Nevada Football Alumni Chapter Game Day BBQ &amp; Beer Throughout the Game, NW Corner of Mackay Stadium</td>
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<td>OCTOBER 3</td>
<td>Nevada Alumni Association Pregame Party* 2 Hours Before Kickoff Wolf Pack Alley (North of Mackay Stadium) Nevada Football Alumni Chapter Game Day BBQ &amp; Beer Throughout the Game, NW Corner of Mackay Stadium</td>
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<td>OCTOBER 9</td>
<td>Nevada Alumni Association Pregame Party* 2 hours before kickoff Wolf Pack Alley (North of Mackay Stadium) Nevada Football Alumni Chapter Game Day BBQ &amp; Beer Throughout the Game, NW Corner of Mackay Stadium</td>
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<td>OCTOBER 16</td>
<td>Vintage Nevada Wine Festival and Auction 5 – 8 p.m. Downtown Reno Events Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCTOBER 18</td>
<td>Nevada Alumni Association and ASUN Homecoming Scavenger Hunt and BBQ 12:30 – 3 p.m. University Quad</td>
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<td>OCTOBER 20</td>
<td>Nevada Alumni Association Scholarship Reception 6 p.m. Clark Room, Morrill Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCTOBER 22</td>
<td>Nevada Alumni Association Annual Homecoming Gala Sponsored by Muckel Anderson and GEICO 6 p.m. No Host Reception 7 p.m. Dinner/Program Joe Crowley Student Union Ballroom</td>
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<td>OCTOBER 23</td>
<td>Wear Blue Day! Send your &quot;true blue&quot; pictures to <a href="mailto:nvalumni@unr.edu">nvalumni@unr.edu</a> Nevada Alumni Association and ASUN Blue Flu BBQ 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Joe Crowley Student Union Plaza Nevada Alumni Association Alumni Council Meeting 2 – 5 p.m. Joe Crowley Student Union Senate Chambers Young Alumni Chapter Old Timers’ Night 5 p.m. Little Waldorf Saloon AAUN Hall of Fame Induction Dinner 6 p.m. No Host Cocktails 7 p.m. Dinner/Program Silver Legacy Resort Casino Nevada Alumni Association and ASUN Family Pep Rally &amp; Bonfire 6 p.m. Dirt Lot North of Peccole Park (off Evans Avenue) Nevada Alumni Association Old Guys’ Night Sponsored by the Young Alumni Chapter 9 p.m. Little Waldorf Saloon</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCTOBER 24</td>
<td>Sacramento Alumni Chapter Homecoming Convoy 8 a.m. Depart from Rattlesnake Bar &amp; Grill (Loomis, CA) Lombardi Recreation Center Wolf Trot 5K Fun Run 7 a.m. Check In 8 a.m. Race Mackay Stadium to the Joe Crowley Student Union ASUN Homecoming Parade 9 a.m. Virginia Street, from 9th to 15th Street Nevada Alumni Association and ASUN Homecoming Breakfast 9:30 – 11 a.m. Joe Crowley Student Union Plaza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCTOBER 31</td>
<td>Nevada Alumni Association Pregame Party* 2 Hours Before Kickoff Wolf Pack Alley (North of Mackay Stadium) Nevada Football Alumni Chapter Game Day BBQ &amp; Beer Throughout the Game, NW Corner of Mackay Stadium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOVEMBER 14</td>
<td>Nevada Alumni Association Pregame Party* 2 Hours Before Kickoff Wolf Pack Alley (North of Mackay Stadium) Nevada Football Alumni Chapter Game Day BBQ &amp; Beer Throughout the Game, NW Corner of Mackay Stadium</td>
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ASUN = The Associated Student of the University of Nevada. For more information, visit asun.unr.edu. AAUN = Athletic Association of the University of Nevada. For more information, visit nevadawolfpack.com.

* Nevada Alumni Association Pregame Parties sponsored by Buckbeek, GEICO and Sierra Pacific Federal Credit Union.

Special thanks to those businesses that encouraged their employees to wear blue during Homecoming last year. If your business is “going blue” this Homecoming, and you’re not on this list, please contact us.
2009 Alumnus of the Year

Angela, Jeff, Rhonda and Jessica Ceccarelli in front of the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center.
Jeff Ceccarelli’s success began at Nevada

Jeff Ceccarelli ‘76 has a full life—as a husband, father and executive of NV Energy. Jeff is the 2009 Nevada Alumni Association’s Alumnus of the Year. His is a true story of success for the University, his family and the company he represents.

Jeff began working as an intern for NV Energy—then called Sierra Pacific Power Company—in 1972 after he graduated from Sparks High School. Jeff played basketball for the Wolf Pack while at the University and continued to date his high school sweetheart, Rhonda, ’83, ’93M.A., who had become a Wolf Pack cheerleader. While Jeff was a sophomore at Nevada, he and Rhonda were married. He graduated in 1976, earning a degree in civil engineering.

After he graduated, NV Energy hired Jeff as an entry-level engineer. “I had an opportunity to watch this company grow from a small family operation into a large company, crossing both ends of the state. It has been a wonderful experience,” he says.

NV Energy and the NV Energy Foundation have donated generously to the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center, the Renewable Energy Program, scholarships and other programs. “It’s been fun to watch the campus change throughout the years from the center of campus down south, to now being up north with the Knowledge Center and student union. Being able to support those changes has been very rewarding. The new buildings on campus are awesome, and make the University a world class experience for the students.”

The industry-education partnership between NV Energy and the University created the interdisciplinary minor in renewable energy that began in 2007. Headquartered in the College of Engineering, but open to all students, many of the classes are offered at the Renewable Energy Center at the Redfield Campus in south Reno.

“One of the most unique opportunities has been leading NV Energy’s support for renewable energy studies within the University,” Jeff says. “Renewable and green energy studies are definitely a draw for our campus, and the Redfield Campus has been a great venue for many of those curriculums. It is one thing to see the concept, and another to see it in action.”

As a lecturer, he’s seen students’ excitement for learning about renewable energy firsthand: “Seeing young people’s reactions and interest in the topics has been terrific. We are uniquely positioned in this state with our geothermal resources in northern Nevada to capitalize on renewable energy and make it something special for the University and the state. NV Energy is behind the program one hundred percent.”

Jeff shares his professional success with the family who has given him so much support. “To be the president of NV Energy’s northern utility requires a lot of time. Without the support of my family—my wife, daughters, mother, father and brothers—it would not be possible. At some point they have all been called upon for support, and their support has been pivotal to my success.”

Jeff continues to give University students the same opportunity he was given in the NV Energy internship program: “Both for the north and south, our mainstay for hiring our technical talent is through our internship program, much like the way I started. Great recruiting opportunities exist to attract the best and brightest young minds. These are young men and women who will soon play great parts in their individual fields.”

Jeff makes his home in Reno with wife, Rhonda ’83 (special education), ’93M.A. (counseling and educational psychology), and his two daughters, Angela, a junior majoring in education at Nevada, and Jessica, who graduated summa cum laude from Emerson College in 2008.

—Juliane DiMeo

Professional Achievement

Charles “Chuck” Jeannes ’80 (political science)
Chuck is president and CEO of Goldcorp Inc., which is headquartered in Vancouver, B.C. Goldcorp is the world’s second-largest gold mining company with nearly 10,000 employees working at 10 mines and several development projects throughout the Americas. While a student at Nevada, Chuck was active in campus affairs, serving as the director of ASUN’s Student Legal Services program in 1979-80. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity, the Interfraternity Council and Blue Key. In 1978, he served as an intern for Sen. Paul Laxalt in Washington, D.C. through the political science department. Chuck met his wife, Susie (Gray) Jeannes ’82, when they were both working in the ASUN offices.

Janet (Spooner) Trefethen ’71 (journalism)

Eren Ozmen ’85MBA
Eren is president and chairwoman of the board of Sierra Nevada Corporation (SNC). After joining SNC in 1988, Eren and her husband, Fatih ’81M.S., acquired the corporation in 1994. Under their financial, technical and business leadership, which included acquisitions of 10 electronics firms, SNC has grown into one of the top U.S. woman-owned federal contractors, employing approximately 2,000 people in 35 locations across 20 states. Eren has received numerous leadership awards, including SNC being voted as a Best Place to Work by Nevada employees in 2009, winning the 2001 Nevada Distinguished Business of the Year, the 2002 Women’s Role Model of the Year, and with a strong vision for its future, Fatih and his wife, Eren ’85MBA, acquired the company in 1994. They set their plans to expand through a series of targeted acquisitions of 10 electronics firms, growing from 20 employees to approximately 2,000—mostly scientists, engineers and technical personnel—in 35 locations across 20 states. Through Fatih’s enthusiasm, insight and expertise, SNC continues to lead and maintain itself at the forefront of the electronics, communications, space and aviation industries. The corporation is distinguished as one of the top performing federal contractors in the United States, earning numerous awards, including the 2001 Nevada Distinguished Business of the Year.

Fatih Ozmen ’81M.S. (electrical engineering)
As Sierra Nevada Corporation’s (SNC) CEO, Fatih propels the company in its exploration of cutting-edge technologies. Fatih joined SNC in 1981, and with a strong vision for its future, Fatih and his wife, Eren ’85MBA, acquired the company in 1994. They set their plans to expand through a series of targeted acquisitions of 10 electronics firms, growing from 20 employees to approximately 2,000—mostly scientists, engineers and technical personnel—in 35 locations across 20 states. Through Fatih’s enthusiasm, insight and expertise, SNC continues to lead and maintain itself at the forefront of the electronics, communications, space and aviation industries. The corporation is distinguished as one of the top performing federal contractors in the United States, earning numerous awards, including the 2001 Nevada Distinguished Business of the Year.

John Larsen ’72 (accounting)
John is the founder and CEO of Port of Subs, Inc., a Reno-based company that franchises and operates Port of Sub’s specialty submarine sandwich restaurants. The first restaurant was opened on North Rock Boulevard in 1972 and still exists today. There are 150-plus units currently open with another 10 in development stages. John is responsible for corporate long-range planning, which primarily includes the growth and development of new restaurants. He is the past chair and continuing member of the Nevada Small Business Development Center Advisory Board, a board member of Nevadaworks and has been a director of Nevada State Bank since 1995. In addition to these boards, John has been involved with many other organizations helping small businesses in Nevada.

University Service

James “Jim” Carr ’79 (geological engineering)
Jim earned his master’s and Ph.D. from the University of Arizona after graduating from Nevada. In 1983, he was appointed assistant professor of geological engineering at the University of Missouri-Rolla. He returned to Nevada in 1986, becoming full professor in 1994. In 1990, Jim was one of the principal grant writers who brought NASA Space Grant to NSHE, a program that continues to this day. In 1993, he received the F. Donald Tibbitts Distinguished Teaching Award. His devotion to students includes his 16 years as chief faculty adviser of Nevada Alpha and the University’s chapter of the engineering honor society, Tau Beta Pi. He is also a mentor with the ASCENT program in collaboration with Procter Hug High School. Jim is married to Janice Freeman ’74, ’78 (biology).
Outstanding Young Alumnus of the Year

Stephani Foust '01 (English), '08 M.A. (counseling and educational psychology)

During her time as an undergraduate, Stefani served as ASUN vice president, two-term senator for the College of Education, coordinator of the Student Orientation staff and was a member of Circle K, Student Ambassadors and a variety of other campus groups. She returned to the University in 2003 for the position of admissions and recruitment coordinator. Stefani has served as a founding board member and president of the Reno Tahoe Young Professionals Network, president of the University of Nevada Young Alumni Chapter in 2008, and a board member on the American Heart Association Wedding Faire Committee.

Melissa Molyneaux '06 (marketing)

Melissa Molyneaux is a native Nevadan and graduated from McQueen High School. She graduated in 2006 with a degree in marketing and a minor in journalism. Melissa was a presenter for the award winning IMC advertising team for Postal Vault. She was an active member of Delta Sigma Pi, the college’s business fraternity. Upon graduation, Melissa joined and took an active role in the Young Alumni Chapter, College of Business Alumni Association and created The Group. Melissa joined the Office Properties Group at Colliers International in 2005 as a sales associate. To date she represents over 850,000 square feet of office space and has been involved in transactions totaling over two million square feet. She is currently the President-Elect for CREW (Commercial Real Estate Women).

Alumni Association Service

Ronda (Brown) Bybee '95 (political science)

In 1997, halfway through her master’s program at Nevada, Ronda decided to move across the country to pursue a master’s in political management in Washington, D.C. After only a few months in D.C. she learned the Nevada Alumni Association’s Washington, D.C. chapter was gathering for a baseball outing. Eager to connect with “home,” she headed to her first of many baseball games with fellow alumni with the Washington, D.C. Chapter. Sadly, after the first outing, the chapter coordinator moved back West. In 2000, Ronda got the chapter up and running again, first with baseball outings and then adding football and basketball watching parties at what was soon dubbed “Lawlor East.” In 2005, Ronda married fellow alumni, Stewart “Mac” Bybee ’99 who she met at one of the Nevada events.

Marcedes Parsons '84 (social work)

Marcedes has been actively involved in various aspects of the Nevada Alumni Association including the University Club, the Nevada Alumni Council and volunteering numerous hours of her time at Alumni Association events and activities. Marcedes volunteers at events including, Pack Picnics, Easter Egg Hunts, pregame parties and Graduation Celebration. She often shows up early or stays late to offer extra help. Everything from hiding Easter eggs, passing out bananas and cookies, to corralling kids at the end of the face-painting line, Marcedes has it covered. Marcedes resides in Sparks with her husband Bill.
Joanne (Ortiz) Petre ’57 (French)

Joanne began teaching after graduation and continued until retirement in 1999. She taught at the old Central Junior High School, Swope Middle School and Reno High School. She has also remained connected to the University through the years by serving on the Nevada Alumni Council from 1990 through 1995 and as secretary for the Alumni College Chapter for many years. The Alumni College Chapter is responsible for planning an annual three-day educational event for alumni and friends. The goal is to educate attendees about the University and the state of Nevada while having fun. Teachers are also able to earn in-service credits for attending Alumni College. Joanne has been an integral part of planning and longevity of these events along with other Alumni College board members.

College Distinguished Alumni Awards

Agriculture, Biotechnology, and Natural Resources

Cherrie Tripp ’87 (agricultural economics)

Cherrie is the director of contracts management in finance and strategy for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Cherrie is an attorney with 15 years of experience in deal management, negotiation and partnership relations. At the Gates Foundation, Cherrie manages a team of attorneys and business professionals who oversee the foundation’s contracting practices in Global Health, Global Development and its U.S. Program. She joined the Gates Foundation in 2006 after many years in leadership roles in the technology sector with Microsoft, Avaya, and NCR. While working in the technology sector, Cherrie was responsible for structuring complex agreements across various international geographies. Cherrie has managed teams supporting $250,000,000 portfolios across the Americas, Asia Pacific and Europe. Cherrie resides in Seattle with her husband, Marc Lawrence.

Business

Clyde Turner ’60 (business administration)

Clyde founded a CPA practice in 1966. He sold his interest in 1979 to join Golden Nugget (later Mirage Resorts) becoming executive vice president, CFO and treasurer. He served on the Nevada State Gaming Commission from 1970-73. In 1993, he founded development companies Turner Investments and the Spectrum Companies, and later that year joined Circus Circus (later Mandalay Bay Group) as president and CFO. He was promoted to the positions of chair and CEO. He co-founded a private equity fund in 2005. Clyde currently serves on the Board of Directors of Epiphany Biosciences and Nano.

Alumni Chapter of the Year: Young Alumni Chapter

The Young Alumni Chapter has more than 100 members who all graduated within the past 10 years. YAC’s mission is to advance the chapter by staying connected to the University, awarding undergraduate scholarships and making sure their members have FUN! Some of the events include Old Timer’s Night, Wingology (a chicken wing and beer tasting event), Mystery Bus dinners, Bagna Caulda and, our most popular event, Beerfest! The 14th Annual Beerfest in April 2008 generated more than $20,000 in revenue. As a result, the Young Alumni Chapter has been able to provide more than $10,500 annually for undergraduate scholarships, host monthly events for members, as well as sponsor Nevada Alumni Association events including Old Guy’s Night, Pack the Wal’ for Homecoming and Graduation Celebration.
Filtration Technologies and previously served on the boards of St. Rose Hospitals, Coast Casinos and Sierra Pacific Resources.

Education
Ginny Knowles '92Ed.D. (educational leadership)
Growing up along the coast of Oregon, Ginny always knew she would become a teacher. Ginny graduated from Oregon State University in 1975 with a bachelor’s in home economics education. She attended graduate school at Washington State University, earning a master’s in vocational-technical education in 1980. After moving to northern Nevada, she taught reading at Sierra Nevada Job Corps Center and joined Washoe County School District in 1984, where she taught at Washoe High School and Triner Middle School. She completed her doctoral degree in educational leadership at Nevada in 1992, and served as assistant principal at Triner for two years. She became principal of Vaughn Middle School in 1995, where she is in her 15th year.

Engineering
Fatih Ozmen '81M.S. (electrical engineering)
Fatih is also the recipient of the James G. Scrugham Medal Award from the College of Engineering. (See Professional Achievement Award on page 46).

Health Sciences
Kim A. Eagle '77A.A.M.D. (medicine)
Kim is the Albion Walter Hewlett professor of Internal Medicine and director of the Cardiovascular Center at the University of Michigan Health System. He graduated from Oregon State University and attended University of Nevada’s School of Medicine, receiving his M.D. from Tufts University Medical School in 1979. He completed his residency and chief residency in internal medicine at Yale-New Haven Hospital. Kim has published more than 385 articles, 39 chapters, and edited seven books including his latest, The Heart of a Champion, co-written with legendary Michigan football coach, Bo Schembechler. Kim is a member of the American College of Cardiology Guideline Task Force, chair of the Task Force for the Development of Performance Measures in Cardiovascular Care, annual Scientific Sessions Program Committee, and is the editor of the American College of Cardiology’s CardioSource Review Journal.

Liberal Arts
Jackie L. Leonard '71 (speech/theatre)
Jackie is a minister at St. John’s Presbyterian Church in Reno and a member of the board of trustees of the San Francisco Theological Seminary. Ordained as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament of the Presbyterian Church (USA) by the Presbytery of Nevada in 1988, Jackie has served churches in Yuma, Ariz., Columbia, Mo., and St. John’s in Reno. In 2007, she established the Paul A. Leonard Chair for Ethics and Writing in Journalism in honor of her father, a Nevada Class of 1936 journalism graduate. Her philanthropy continues her family’s long tradition of giving back to the University. “It is a joy and a privilege to give back to the University and community, which have been so important in my life and the lives of my parents and brother,” Jackie said.

Libraries
Patricia (Cronenberger) Chase '57 (philology)
Pat graduated from Brainerd Jr. College in 1959 and soon after joined Women in the Air Force and served as a stenographer in Rome, N.Y. and the Air Force Cambridge Research Center in Massachusetts. Pat returned to school at Nevada and earned a bachelor’s in psychology. As assistant professor in educational psychology, she moved to Pocatello, Idaho to teach at Idaho State University. In 1960, she moved to Oxford, Ohio to Miami University of Ohio, where she worked as associate director of the Reading Materials Center under a Ford Foundation Grant. Pat received her master’s degree in 1965 and was hired as a Title I reading teacher/specialist and continued for 18 years. Pat also served on the local and state boards of the American Cancer Society.

Science
Gene McClelland '71 (chemistry), '78M.S. (metallurgical engineering)
After graduation, Gene continued the career he began in 1969 at the U.S. Bureau of Mines until he resigned in 1983 to manage a metallurgical laboratory in Sparks for Bateman Engineering. In 1986 he founded McClelland Laboratories, Inc. Gene's business was successful and he remains president and CEO. Currently, McClelland Laboratories, Inc. employs about 50 people, including many Nevada graduates. Gene has authored more than 100 publications and obtained several metallurgical process patents used by mining companies throughout the world during his 40-year career. Gene is a volunteer in several community activities: director, Reno Rodeo Association (27 years); organizing committee of the Legends Reno Tahoe Open (11 years); organizing committee of the Ronald McDonald House Charities Golf Tournament. Gene and his wife, Patti, were freshmen at Nevada when they married in 1967.
Dear Nevada Alumni,

Bleeding blue is a habit that sticks. For the past 20 years I’ve been to every University of Nevada, Reno Homecoming.

During my first Homecoming week, two decades ago, I had a small part in a skit about student politics in Wolves Frolic. I helped build a float as a pledge of Sigma Nu Fraternity. I tailgated with new friends in the south parking lot. During the game I sat with thousands of other students in seats behind the band on the 50-yard line. We learned what bleeding blue was all about.

As a freshman you can’t imagine approaching 40 and still having a connection with the person you were at 18. Being part of the Nevada Alumni Association makes it easy.

This year Homecoming week is Oct. 16-24 and the events offered continue to grow. The week includes reunions at the Lil’ Wal, a scavenger hunt, pancake breakfast, bonfire, gala, parade, wine tasting, pregame party, live music, barbecues and a football game. Nevada will take on Idaho, and I will be sitting almost where I was 20 years ago—on the 50 yard line of Mackay Stadium.

This year I had the wonderful honor of serving as president of the Alumni Council. I work with an amazing staff and board who truly have the best interests of future and past students in mind.

The Alumni Association has spent the last year aiming to make events more family-friendly. We started an alumni night at the Reno Aces and skate night at Roller Kingdom. We continued successful events such as Pack Picnics, pregame parties and the Easter Egg Hunt.

We also are using alumni resources and chapters to attract new students. And we never stop looking for ways to make being a card-carrying member of the Alumni Association a great deal by partnering with local businesses to offer discounts.

I’ve changed a bit since 1989 and my first Homecoming, but it’s nice to know some things stay the same. Although I’m glad I won’t have to stay up all night to help build a float and that I can get in the ‘Wal’ as myself.

As a Nevada Alumnus, I want everyone to know I’m proud to say, Mike Dillon bleeds blue. Thank you for supporting the Nevada Alumni Association.

Sincerely,

Michael F. Dillon, Jr. ’94
President, Nevada Alumni Council
‘70s

Douglas Piirto ’70 (renewable and natural resources) continues as a professor and department head for the Natural Resources Management Department at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, Calif. Douglas has been appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger to serve on the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection. He and his wife travel to Finland often to provide guest lectures and to do applied research at Seinajoki University of Applied Sciences. His grandparents were born and raised in Finland prior to immigrating to the United States.

Edwin Schenk ’72 (agriculture) is enjoying retirement after working for City of Reno Parks and Recreation for more than 25 years. Edwin spent his years before retirement as park planning manager where he helped acquire and develop more than 15 new neighborhood parks around the community.

Steve Jones ’73 (geology) has joined the staff of the commercial brokerage firm Fennell & Associates as an associate who specializes in retail. Steve previously worked as a professional geologist for 31 years in the mining industry in North America, South America and Europe.

‘80s

Mark Foree ’80 (civil engineering) was recently named general manager for Truckee Meadows Water Authority, the largest water purveyor in the area. He is a registered professional civil engineer in Nevada and California and has 28 years of experience in planning, design, operation and maintenance of complex water treatment and distribution systems.

Paul Strickland ’80 (English) was invited to provide comment for the federal review of Labour Standards in the Canada Labour Code overseen by Human Resources and Social Development Canada.

Edward Farrell ’88 (accounting) has joined America’s largest casino, Foxwoods Resort Casino, as senior vice president of finance. Edward will support Mashantucket Pequot Gaming Enterprises President Michael Speller in directing the financial strategy of the company and analyzing opportunities for expansion. In this capacity, Edward will oversee all company accounting practices including preparing budgets, financial reports, and tax and audit functions, and will direct the projection of future company growth.

Pintor Sirait ’88 (general studies), a sculptor, has finished a made-of-steel, 9-meter-high monument. It will become the icon of the first-ever World Ocean Conference/Coral Triangle Initiative in Manado, North Sulawesi.

Bob Devereux ’89 (journalism) was recently transferred with State Farm Insurance to Sacramento, Calif. Bob is now responsible for California Media Relations. He has worked in State Farm’s California Public Affairs Department since joining the company 11 years ago. Bob and his wife of 19 years, Holli Kingsley Devereux, and their two children, Alex, 15, and Katie, 12, now reside in Rocklin, Calif.

Carol Gilman ’89 (art), ’04 (interior design) opened her own interior design studio, Clio Design. She provides residential interior design services that help people feel great about their home. Friends can contact her at info@cliointeriordesign.com. She currently resides in northern Nevada with her husband Guy Farmer ’89 (English), ’02M.S.W. (social work).

‘90s

Jocelyn (Gault) Lantrip ’90 (marketing) has joined the Food Bank of Northern Nevada as public relations officer. Jocelyn will handle media relations and

Wolf mates

Kim Wujcik ’04 (journalism) and Adam Carter ‘06 (journalism) were married May 16 in Las Vegas.
communications for the organization as well as advocacy and education for direct service programs and partner agencies. She brings more than 18 years of public relations, marketing and communications experience in the Reno/Sparks area to the position.

Kathy Apple ’93M.S. (nursing) has been selected to serve on the International Council of Nurses Observatory on Licensure and Registration. The observatory consists of a small, invited cross-sectional group established to provide the ICN with feedback on emerging and future trends in regulation, strategic initiatives to be undertaken and policy stances ICN should consider.

Heidi Ayarbe ’95 (English) won the Young Adult Fiction award for Freeze Frame, a psychological exploration into the death of the teenage protagonist, Kyle’s friend Jason, by gunshot wound. Kyle, who was with him at the time, is tormented by the loss and not knowing exactly what happened. It is Heidi’s first book and was published by Laura Ger- linger Books, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers. She has traveled or lived in 25 countries, loves movies and lives in Colombia with her husband and daughter.

Donato Cabrera ’96 (applied music) was named the assistant conductor of the San Francisco Symphony and Wattis Foundation Music Director of the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra beginning in September.

Shyle Irigoin ’99 (history), a teacher at Edward Pine Middle School in Reno, has been awarded a James Madison Fellowship by the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation of Washington, D.C. in its eighteenth annual fellowship competition. A total of 55 fellowships were awarded in 2009. James Madison Fellowships support further study of American History by college graduates who aspire to become teachers of American history, American government and social studies in the nation’s secondary schools, as well as by experienced secondary school teachers of the same subjects.

’00s

Lori Kolbert ’00 (journalism) has been promoted to the regional sales and marketing director for Wells Fargo’s Mid-Atlantic region. In this new role, she will lead the company’s sales and marketing efforts in Virginia, Maryland and Washington, D.C.

Douglas Buck ’01 (civil engineering) recently joined Bowling Mamola Group, a civil engineering firm. A licensed professional
In these tough economic times it’s always nice to save funds whenever possible. Right about now you are probably asking, “I’m doing everything I can, how can I possibly be more efficient in my everyday life?!” Do not fear, I shall help you get on the right track. Here are some ideas I have come up with along with a few from friends who choose to be financially responsible right down to the last penny.

BEGINNERS:

- Don’t waste money buying binoculars; simply stand closer to the object you wish to view.
- Clip supermarket coupons. Saving 30 cents here and 20 cents there quickly adds up to $12 by the end of your life.
- Pets are expensive and hard to care for. Instead, start naming the mice and insects that frequent your home.

INTERMEDIATE:

- Only take your dates to Dutch restaurants. When the bill comes, casually explain that time-honored tradition and culture calls for the other person to pay their share.
- Save money on water by only using the bathroom facilities at work. For advanced savers, learn to bathe in the sink at work, as well.
- Why buy hangers? Take the radio antennae off your coworkers’ vehicles and bend them into the shape you need.
- Who needs a pesky professional stylist? Learn to cut your own hair. I recommend the buzz cut for its timeless simplicity. It’s hard to mess up and don’t worry ladies: you’ll eventually get used to your new look.
- Dumpster diving for aluminum is risky and competitive. Instead, set out in your neighborhood each week before the recycling truck arrives, quickly collect all the cans that are waiting in the curbside bins, and turn them in yourself for profit.

ADVANCED:

- Can’t afford contact lenses? Cut small circles out of saran wrap and press them into your eyes.
- Gas is pricey. Three or four times a week while commuting to work, turn off your car, turn on the hazards, and ask Good Samaritans for a push to the nearest exit.
- Many of us have old gift cards lying around for places we do not want to shop. Time to turn those into valuable cash. Go to those stores and ask each customer inside if they would consider buying them from you. Try to make the transaction before security throws you out.
- Men, invest in high heels, a wig, and some inexpensive makeup. Take advantage of ladies night at your favorite bar. You may look ugly to the untrained eye, but be confident in yourself because we all know that saving is sexy.

K-von ‘03 (marketing) is both a Nevada alum and comedian. He now performs standup comedy across the nation and is preparing for his fall ’09 tour dates including an appearance in Reno during the University of Nevada, Reno’s Homecoming week festivities. Be sure to check out K-von’s schedule and look for a show near you on www.K-vonComedy.com

KICKIN’ IT WITH K-VON | TOUGH TIMES

Niki (Champ) Ewing ‘00 (marketing) and her husband, Brandon Ewing are proud to announce the birth of their twin sons, Tanner and Parker, on Oct. 26, 2008.

Jason Houston ’95 (Journalism) and Ellen (Wofford) Houston ’96 (Journalism) ’05 M.A. (Counseling & Educational Psychology) are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Eva Leigh on March 2, 2009. She joins big sister Lily Marie, 2.

Tracy (Benson) Shane ’00 (animal science), ’06 M.S. (environmental and natural resource science) and her husband Ryan Shane ’04 (environmental and natural resource management), ’08 M.S. (environmental and natural resource science) are very pleased to announce the birth of their first child, Anna Marie, on April 11, 2009.

Kristy (Barainca) Baker ‘94 (social work) and Brian Baker ’95 (mechanical engineering) are happy to announce the birth of their son, Adam Keith on April 13, 2009.

Jamie (McKillop) Peterson ’03 (education) and Jeff Peterson ’07 (MBA) would like to announce the birth of their son, Evan, on June 12, 2009, he joins big sister, Ellie, 2.
engineer, Doug’s career experience includes planning, design and construction of potable water, reclaimed water and sanitary sewer facilities for the City of Sparks, Truckee Meadows Water Authority, Washoe County Department of Water Resources and Silver Springs General Improvement District.

Meghan McGowan ’02 (criminal justice) received her master’s in organizational sciences from George Washington University, located in Washington, D.C.

David Mrowiec ’03 (civil engineering) has joined Pennoni Associates as lead professional engineer diver and senior engineer in its Transportation Technology Department. David has more than five years’ experience with the Nevada Department of Transportation, as well as seven years’ experience as a commercial diver. Davis has also conducted salvage and construction operations and diver in rotation for projects located around the world, as well as non-destructive testing and destructive testing in underwater environments and on submerged structures. He will lead teams on bridge and underwater inspection projects for a variety of clients.

Paul Klein ’03 (criminal justice) has been appointed as a liaison to the City of Reno Arts and Culture Commission. Paul is also the vice-chairman of the City of Reno Recreation and Parks Commission, which reviews acquisition and development plans and maintenance practices for the park system.

Kyle Conder ’04 (history) was promoted to assistant provost for athletics compliance at Tulane University in New Orleans. In this capacity, he manages all aspects of Tulane’s athletics compliance program for 14 Division I sports teams and more than 250 student-athletes.

Melissa Molyneaux ’06 (marketing), an associate with the Reno office of Colliers International, has earned her Certified Commercial Investment Member designation. A CCIM is a recognized expert in the disciplines of commercial and investment real estate.
## Home Football Tailgates

**Spice Up The Game**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, Sept. 25</td>
<td>Nevada vs. Missouri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, Oct. 3</td>
<td>Nevada vs. UNLV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, Oct. 9</td>
<td>Nevada vs. Louisiana Tech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, Oct. 24 (Homecoming)</td>
<td>Nevada vs. Idaho</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Oct. 31</td>
<td>Nevada vs. Hawai’i</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Nov. 14</td>
<td>Nevada vs. Fresno State</td>
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**Lifetime Members:** FREE  
**Annual Members:** $10 per person  
**Non-Members:** $15 per person  
**Children 12 and under:** $5

For more information, visit [www.unr.edu/alumni](http://www.unr.edu/alumni) or call 775.784.6620 or 888.NV ALUMS.

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**SPECIAL THANKS TO:**

- GEICO
- Siskiyou Federal Credit Union
- Buckeye Bank

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All home tailgate parties begin two hours prior to kickoff. Space is limited, so stop by early. Located in Wolf Pack Alley north of Mackay Stadium under the big blue pavilion.
Alumni & Friends of the Reynolds School
Kristin (Ghiggheri) Burgarello ’97, kburgarello@unr.edu

Alumni & Friends of the Reynolds School served popcorn and watermelon at the July 29 Pack Picnic on the Quad featuring Guitar Woody & the Boilers. This outreach event for the J-school welcomed all alumni and friends to join our chapter. For more information or to join, please visit www.unr.edu/alumni/connect and select Alumni & Friends of the Reynolds School. Dues are $15 per year.

We keep members connected to the Reynolds School through alumni mixers and student outreach programs. Join us for our next alumni event during Homecoming 2009 as we honor three J-school alums: Frank McCulloch ’41; Janet Trefethen ’71 and Robin Joyce ’83, ’04. Visit the school’s website at journalism.unr.edu for more information on this event.

In addition to visiting the school’s website, we invite you to join one of our social networking sites for alumni, students and friends at rsjsoup.ning.com, LinkedIn or Facebook.

Alumni Band
Kiara (Donohue) Wolf ’92, ’97, unrbandalum@hotmail.com

Did you march with the Wolf Pack band for at least one semester? If yes, did you receive a reply piece in the mail from the Alumni Band? If so, please send it back. If not, that means you are not coded as an Alumni Band member. You can correct this by joining the Alumni Band Chapter for free at www.unr.edu/alumni/connect. We miss you!

Please join us for the 13th Annual Alumni Band gathering at Homecoming 2009. We will be having our events Oct. 23-24. To participate you only need memories and enthusiasm. Oh, and a shirt. (We are still a band, so it’s all about the uniform!) You can get more information by emailing Kiara Wolf or checking us out on Facebook.

COBAA
Russ Gardner ’90, ’96, 4plymouth@ixcglobal.net

On May 14, COBAA held its 18th Annual College of Business Alumni Association Golf Tournament at Lakeridge Golf Course. This year’s tournament was another great success thanks to the outstanding support of the following individuals and companies: Photo Sponsor: U.S. Bank. Hole Sponsors: The Artisan Group, Buckbean, Granite Construction, Holland & Hart - Jim Newman, ISU Stetson Beemer Insurance, The Lazzarone Group, Muckel Anderson, Nevada Cement, Pangborn & Associates, Reno Green, Sierra Nevada Corporation, Waddell & Reed. Private Donors: Bill Helig/WCH Enterprises, Dwayne Landenberger, Grace & Co. Raffle/Product Donations: First Independent Bank, New West Distributing, Port of Subs and Silver Peak.

On July 22 the College of Business Alumni Association co-sponsored the Disney-themed Pack Picnic on the Quad. In keeping with tradition, COBAA was on hand with complimentary popcorn, lemonade and cookies for the many alumni, family and friends in attendance.

Honors Program Alumni Chapter
Tamara Valentine, tvalent@unr.edu

The Honors Program is initiating a mentorship program for honors alumni to guide and assist honors students with their post-college endeavors. Through this program, honors students can find honors graduates who share their interests and career goals. In turn, honors graduates can provide students with advice for activities such as applying to professional schools, auditioning for theatrical performances or becoming freelance writers. To become a part of the mentorship program, honors alumni will electronically submit their names, email addresses, undergraduate major(s) and an update of what they are currently doing. Honors students can then log on to the mentorship program section of the Honors Program website, search for...
graduates who best match their interests and goals and begin the rewarding mentee-mentor relationship.

International Alumni Chapter
Susie Bender ’03, bender@unr.edu

International students, friends and family members gathered May 17 to celebrate the completion of their academic programs. The International Student Graduate Reception, hosted by the International Alumni Chapter, Nevada Alumni Association and International Students & Scholars, attracted approximately 30 participants from Bangladesh, Nepal, France, Romania, Ukraine, Japan, Taiwan, Brazil and the United States. Ninety-two international students graduated from the University in Spring/Summer 2009, representing 29 countries; of these, 48 completed an undergraduate degree, 28 received a master’s and 16 received a Ph.D.

Native American Alumni Chapter
Sherry Rupert ‘05, srupert@nic.nv.gov

On July 1, the Native American Alumni Chapter co-sponsored the summer’s first Pack Picnic on the Quad. Members had a great time handing out cookies, popcorn and lemonade to picnickers, while enjoying the sounds of SoLJibe. The chapter also hosted its Summer Mystery Bus Trip on July 11. Twenty attendees headed to Sand Harbor to enjoy the Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival. Alumni and friends were treated to an excellent meal and enjoyed “Much Ado About Nothing” under the somewhat wet, but beautiful, Lake Tahoe sky. The experience was unforgettable and all were great sports considering the unpredictable weather.

The chapter will host a Homecoming tailgate Oct. 24, featuring barbecue favorites, the opportunity to visit with new and old friends and the Homecoming football game. The chapter meets monthly at various locations. If you are interested in joining or want to receive event information, please contact Kari Emm ‘01 at (775) 784-4936 or kemm@unr.edu, or Sherry Rupert ’05 at (775) 687-8333 or srupert@nic.nv.gov.

Nevada Football Alumni Chapter
Jim Farley ’99, jfarley47@verizon.net

The Nevada Football Alumni Chapter held its 26th Annual Golf Tournament May 29 at Lakeridge Golf Course. More than 120 former players, coaches and football supporters played in the tournament. A special thanks to our hole sponsors, players and contributors for another successful tournament.

At each home football game, the Nevada Football Alumni Chapter will hold tailgates in the northwest corner of the stadium. Please join us for good food and fun. If football alumni are interested in joining the chapter, please email Jim Farley.

Northeastern Nevada Alumni Chapter
Danny Gonzales ’90, ’95, ’04, dannyg@gwmail.gbcnv.edu

The Northeastern Nevada Alumni Chapter held its first membership event in August to highlight the organization of the new chapter and provide membership information to interested alumni and supporters. Our next event will take place in the fall in conjunction with a Wolf Pack football game. Please contact Danny Gonzales for additional information about joining our new chapter or to learn more about upcoming activities.

Orvis School of Nursing Alumni Association
Jan (Pritchard) Brady ’63, lcrrsswrds@aol.com

OSNAA members toasted the last days of summer at Whispering Vine Sept. 9, tasting fine wines and catching up. We had an exciting update by Dr. John McDonald, vice president of the Division of Health Sciences, and Patsy Ruchala, director of the Orvis School of Nursing, on the new Health Sciences Building. We hope to host a “hard hat walk-about” in fall 2010. The building will accommodate the medical students and the nursing students under one roof, sharing facilities for the first time.

This fall we also experienced another exciting “first.” The OSNAA granted its first scholarship to a level 4 nursing student! If you are an Orvis graduate, we urge you to join OSNAA for networking opportunities, social events, staying up-to-date and, above all, to support the nursing profession. Your dues make it possible for OSNAA to award a yearly scholarship to a deserving nursing student. Join online at www.unr.edu/alumni/connect.
Chapter Updates

ResLife Alumni Chapter
Jeanette Smith ’04, ’07, jsmith@unr.edu

Alumni Chapter’s monthly meeting July 9 at Chevy’s on the River.

Sacramento Alumni Chapter
Steve Park ’99, spark@ccarey.com

We are moving into the 21st century! Under the guidance of journalism graduate Barry White ’05 of News 10 in Sacramento, the Sacramento Alumni Chapter plans to be online by Sept. 15 at www.NevadaAlumniSacramento.org. We will be linked to various social networking sites and the University. The plan is to provide networking for alumni in the greater Sacramento area on both a business and a social level, plus post jobs, events and news. Video space for business and social interests will be available.

Our Homecoming convoy leaves for Reno Saturday, Oct. 24 from the Horseshoe Bar & Grill. For information, contact Bill Chaffin ’66 at chaffin1@larsenchaffin.com or (916) 367-0777.

The chapter meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at Cornish & Carey Commercial at (916) 367-6345 or spark@ccarey.com.

Southern California Alumni Chapter
Marilyn Eisinger ’88, eisingerm@yahoo.com

The Southern California Alumni Chapter met for its 88th annual reunion June 6 with a delicious luncheon in Newport Beach. Fifteen alumni attended, including 2005 Alumni of the Year Frank Randall ’56.

Jim Wright ’56 shared historical information about our group, including pictures of past events. It was a wonderful lunch with many regular and some new attendees, including two young couples from San Diego. There was much discussion about how to make it easier for those living in the vast geographic area of Southern California to meet, especially San Diego County residents.

For the first time, the board awarded scholarships to four University students from Southern California. It is our focus to promote the University to local applicants, while keeping our brethren connected and supported.

Our monthly board meetings are open to all alumni in Southern California. Please contact Chris Polimeni ’85 at cpolimeni@fwg.com for details.

YAC ALUMNI Chapter
Melissa Molyneaux ’06, yacpresident@gmail.com

The UNSOM Alumni Chapter would like to encourage all alumni to participate in the 40th anniversary of the school’s founding this September. We hope you can join us Sept. 24 for the alumni reception, where we will present the inaugural Outstanding Alumni Award to Dr. Susan Desmond-Hellman ’82. After the reception, the celebration continues at the Foundation Banquet, which will feature Dr. Atul Gawande, an internationally renowned surgeon and writer. Please visit www.medicine.nevada.edu/alumni/news.asp for a full schedule of events.

You are an important part of the school’s legacy through your individual career and achievements. We encourage you to give back to the school and its students by being an active member of the UNSOM Alumni Association. Please visit www.unr.edu/alumni/connect to become a member. For more information on any of the above, please contact Christina Sarman in the UNSOM alumni office at christinas@unr.edu or (775) 784-6009.

Young Alumni Chapter
Melissa Molyneaux ’06, yacpresident@gmail.com

YAC members have been making plans for Homecoming 2009 and our Fall Membership Drive. Alumni are invited to attend Old Timer’s Night Oct. 23 at 5 p.m. at The Wal’. Mingling with grads until we caravan to campus for the Homecoming bonfire, we’ll return to The Wal’ afterwards to pep up the Pack for their victory over Idaho!

YAC was named Outstanding Chapter of the Year by the Nevada Alumni Association. In addition, Melissa Molyneaux ’06, YAC president, and Stephanie Faust ’01, ’08, past president, were named Young Alumni of the Year. Please join us to celebrate at the Homecoming Gala Oct. 22.

YAC members supported Alumni Night at the Aces July 30! Thanks to our volunteers and attendees of YAC’s Pack Picnic on the Quad Aug. 5 featuring Sol’jibe. Visit www.NevadaYAC.com to learn more about YAC and upcoming events, including an membership and leadership info session Oct. 7 at The Wal’.

What’s For Dinner

Billie Brewer, Stacy Phillips ’05, ’07, Jessica Halverson, Mike Sankuer ’07, Jeannette (Goree) Smith ’04, ’07 and Matt Smith smile for the camera in front of Sierra Hall after watching the 2008 Homecoming parade.

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO SILVER & BLUE FALL 2009
The Nevada Alumni Association and ASUN encourage you to catch the “Blue Flu” on Friday, October 23 from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Leave work for an hour or two, and attend our Free Community BBQ at the Joe Crowley Student Union Plaza!

For a complete list of Homecoming events, go to www.unr.edu/alumni.
From silver mines to the silver and blue.

The roots of the Sielaff Nevada family tree trace back to the glory days of the silver boom. It all started in the 1870s when August and Alwine Sielaff moved to Virginia City. Together they raised a family as August worked the silver mines of the Comstock, with son Gustav being the first to don the silver and blue in 1900. Sibling Clara met and married Arthur “A.D.” Radcliffe not long after, and their kids continued the Nevada tradition. Since then the families have branched out to nearly every educational field—from home economics to nursing to engineering to botany—and all share a passion for both their University and the Silver State that shaped them.
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 Nevada Silver & Blue. For details, visit www.unr.edu/alumni or call 888.NV ALUMS.
### Remembering Friends

**O. Richard Norton**, former University employee, died on May 17, 2009 at Hospice House in Bend, Ore. after a long illness. A life-long educator and the author of popular books and articles about meteorites, astronomy and planetariums, Richard discovered his life’s passion when he built his first telescope at 14. His love for the sky and all things astronomical led him from an after-school job at Cape Optical Company in Long Beach, Calif., to a career in public science education.

While studying astronomy and meteoritics at the University of California, Los Angeles, he was a lecturer at Griffith Observatory and Planetarium in Los Angeles. In 1957, he worked at the Nevada Test Site as a field researcher for the Atomic Energy Commission. There he witnessed the last 10 above-ground nuclear explosions and conducted research at the test site on the ecological effects of radiation. After graduation in 1960, he worked briefly as an optical engineer at Northrop Corporation and Tinsley Laboratories.

But he soon returned to his beloved planetariums. After two years at Morrison Planetarium in San Francisco, in 1963 he became director of the University of Nevada, Reno's Fleischmann Planetarium, where he also taught astronomy. Richard designed the world's first 35mm fisheye motion picture system, called the Atmospherium, which was used to project realistic time-lapse motion pictures of developing weather systems onto the interior of a planetarium dome.

His first book, *The Planetarium and Atmospherium, An Indoor Universe*, was published in 1969. He was a planetarium design engineer and consultant for Minolta Camera Company in Osaka, Japan. Richard became the founding director of the University of Arizona's Flandrau Planetarium in 1973, where he continued teaching and co-designed a fisheye projection camera system which flew on the Space Shuttle Challenger in 1984, producing the first full sky motion pictures from space.

In 1978, he started Science Graphics, a company that manufactured sets of teaching slides in astronomy and other sciences for use in college level courses.

Richard loved teaching and sharing his enthusiasm for astronomy, the space program, photography, geology and telescope making. He gave public lectures and taught community education classes, even venturing into the Arizona State Penitentiary to teach in maximum security and protective custody. He led field trips to Cape Canaveral, where he had his fisheye cameras at most Apollo launches, and on solar eclipse trips around the world, from Mexico to Romania.

In 1986 he moved to Bend, Ore. where he taught astronomy at Central Oregon Community College for 7 years. In Bend he rediscovered his early passion for meteorites. His book *Rocks from Space* was published in 1994, followed by *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Meteorites* in 2002. His wife Dorothy Sigler Norton, who is a scientific illustrator, produced the illustrations and cover designs. The Field Guide to Meteors and Meteorites, published in 2008, was co-authored with Bend geologist Lawrence Chitwood. Many of Richard's meteorites are on display at the Sunriver Nature Center in Sunriver, Ore.

Richard loved classical music and had studied piano since the age of 7. In Bend he started a series of concerts called the Four Seasons, which were held for more than 10 years at the Norton home on the equinoxes and solstices.

Richard is survived by his wife, Dorothy, his sister, Gloria, three children from previous marriages and a granddaughter.

**Irvin R. Wanke ’36** (civil engineering) died April 17, 2009 at the age of 94 at his home in Warwick Forest. Born in Sparks, in 1914, he graduated valedictorian from Sparks High School and went on to earn his master's in Civil Engineering from the University of Nevada in 1936.

With the outbreak of World War II, Irv joined the U.S. Army and was assigned to the Engineer Section, U.S. Army Headquarters, China/Burma/India Theater of War, and New Delhi, India. It was there that he met Dorothy Vera Smith, fifth generation of the British Raj. At the conclusion of the War, he and Dorothy were married and returned to the United States. From there he served in Taegu, Korea, during the Korean War; Sendai, Japan; and Fort Meade, Md. In 1959, after 11 years of service he retired from the Army as a lieutenant colonel, accepted a civil service position at Fort Monroe, and relocated to Newport News. In 1965, Irv retired from civil service and devoted the next 40 years to golf, gardening, enjoying music and the arts, managing his investments and traveling the world with Dorothy.

Irv was a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, Society of American Military Engineers, Masonic Lodge, Retired Military Officers Association of America, James River Country Club, Christopher Newport University LifeLong Learning, and St. Stephens Episcopal Church.

Irv is survived by his wife of 63 years, Dorothy; son Bob (Janice); daughter LaVerne (Rob); three granddaughters, Kim, Trisha and Karin; and six great-grandchildren.

**Lenoar “Len” Foster ’74** (history), ’77Ed.D. (educational administration/higher education) died on July 3, 2009 at the age of 57. Len was born on Dec. 18, 1951, in Selma, Ala., to Percy Morton and Elise Foster. He grew up in Pensacola, Fla., where he graduated from high school in 1968. He attended college at Xavier University in New Orleans, La., where he received his bachelor's degree. Len became a member of an order in Reno, called the Brothers of the Holy Rosary. While there, he completed his master's and doctoral degrees at the University of Nevada, Reno. He engaged in advanced studies at Stanford University, where he was a William C. Fellows in American History.

His many accomplishments included editing *The Black College Review: Research, Policy and Practice*. He was active in the National Association of Secondary School Principals and chaired its National Task Force on Principal Preparation from 2004-2006. In 2007, he won the National Service Award from Division A (Administration, Organization and Leadership) of the American Educational Research Association. He was a former high school principal and curriculum coordinator.

Len was named interim dean of the College of Education at Washington State University and immediately provided tremendous leadership to the college during a difficult time. He joined the faculty of the Department of Educational Leadership and Counseling Psychology in 2003. He served as associate dean for three years, overseeing administration, research and graduate studies. He was a nationally known researcher whose interests included school principals, school reform, social-cultural influences in schools, higher education and historically black colleges and universities. Len loved to read and he enjoyed the arts, music and dance.

Len is survived by his brother, Robert, and a nephew, Gregory, as well as a close family friend, Bob Cashell of Reno,
Patrick "Pat" Brady

University of Nevada football hall of famer died July 14, 2009 at the age of 83. A native of Seattle, Wash., Brady came to Reno in 1949 and met and married the love of his life, Odile (Frost) Brady, while attending the University of Nevada. Pat dedicated his life to his Nevada home and family in Reno.

He began his distinguished athletic career at O’Dea High School in Seattle where he was recently inducted in the 75th Anniversary Hall of Fame. Following his graduation from Everett Junior College, Pat enlisted in the U.S. Army. While in the Army, Pat served as an M.P. at the Hanford Nuclear Research Center during the development of the nation’s nuclear program and continued to play football for the U.S. Army Air Corps. Pat came to Reno as a walk-on at the University of Nevada. Pat dedicated his life to his Nevada home and family in Reno.

In 1951 and Brady went on to finish his college football career and graduate from Bradley University in Peoria, Ill. where he was also inducted into Bradley University Athletic Hall of Fame. After a brief stint with the Canadian Football League, Pat signed with the Pittsburgh Steelers in 1952. As the NFL’s premier punter for three seasons, he led the league in punting. Art Rooney, Sr., famed owner of the Pittsburgh Steelers, remained his lifelong friend and often said of him, “Brady was the best punter in the National Football League or anywhere else for that matter.” In 1962, Pat was selected as a member of the Pittsburgh Steelers 50th Season Dream Team and was honored in 2007 as a member of the Steelers’ 75th Anniversary Legend’s Team.

After his football career ended suddenly due to injury, Pat returned to Reno and launched a successful career as a distinguished business leader in Northern Nevada. He joined his family to operate the Reno Printing Company and in 1971 was appointed Nevada State Printer by Governor Mike O’Callaghan. Brady served on the 1973 committee for the National Governor’s Conference and was appointed to the Nevada State Boxing Commission. After leaving state service, Pat became a partner and proprietor in one of Reno’s most well-known local establishments, the Bonanza Casino. Pat’s personal humor and flare for entertainment helped launch the Bonanza Casino into the early notoriety it still enjoys today.

His love for racing inspired him to become an inaugural member of the board of trustees of the Reno Air Races serving the event for more than 40 years. Pat was an active member of the Nevada Chapter of Ducks Unlimited, a member of the Nevada Civil Air Patrol and past president of The Sons of Erin. Over the years, Pat was a staunch supporter of the Wolf Pack athletic program. He was a member of both the National Football League Alumni Association and the University of Nevada, Reno Alumni Association.

Pat is survived by his wife of 58 years, Odile; his five children and their spouses including, Mary, Joanna (Eric), Pat Jr.(Julee), Elizabeth (Robert) and William (Laura); his sister, Helen; 13 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Pat loved the Nevada outdoors and supported every effort to preserve Nevada wildlife. He also had a deep appreciation for abandoned and abused pets and was known to bring home stray puppies. The family requests that in lieu of flowers donations be made to the Nevada Chapter of Ducks Unlimited or the Northern Nevada Humane Society.

The Nevada Legacy Society honors a special group of individuals who are partners in planning for the future. By designating “Nevada” as a recipient of deferred gifts through their financial and estate plans, these thoughtful alumni and friends are helping to build our endowment, which provides a never-ending source of support to help increase student success.

We invite you to become a member of the Nevada Legacy Society by making a future gift to Nevada. We are grateful for gifts of any size. If you have already planned such a gift, please let us know. This allows us to plan for the future and thank you today by including you in this special circle of friends.

In recognition of their vision and generosity, members are guests of honor at an annual Nevada Legacy Society event, receive invitations to other key University activities, receive a copy of our Nevada Legacy Planner newsletter and are listed in our annual Honor Roll of Donors publication (unless anonymity is requested).

Special thanks to the following members who have included the University of Nevada, Reno Foundation in their financial plans.

To learn more about options for planned giving and how you might become a member of the Nevada Legacy Society, contact Lisa Riley or Bob Eggleston at (775) 784-1352 or plannedgiving@unr.edu. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

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Helen Eddy Rutherford was a great Nevadan and a longtime friend and supporter of the University of Nevada, Reno. The University’s Foundation recently received a major gift from Rutherford’s estate that will provide support for students, research and community outreach programs in the Division of Health Sciences.

In 1991, Rutherford established an endowed scholarship fund for Nevada nursing students. Over the past 18 years, more than 120 nursing students have received financial assistance from the Helen Eddy Rutherford Nursing Scholarship.

Kristie Essa ’94 (human development and family studies), a second-year nursing student, says it is a ‘great honor” to be the current Helen Rutherford Nursing Scholarship recipient:

“Having women like Helen Rutherford in the world, who through their generosity and thoughtfulness enable people like me the opportunity to pursue their dreams, is truly a gift. Although I never had the opportunity to meet and personally thank Mrs. Rutherford, her gift is appreciated, and through my education, her spirit of giving and helpfulness can be immortalized and hopefully, one day, paid forward.”

Patsy Ruchala, director of the Orvis the School of Nursing, says: “Helen was so generous, definitely in support of our nursing program, but in addition, with her time, her smiles, and how she cared for all of those around her. One of her greatest delights was attending our convocation ceremony and counting the number of graduates crossing the stage who had received a Helen Rutherford Nursing Scholarship. Her smile seemed to grow as the number of recipients increased. Someone once said that ‘great leaders are like the best conductors—they reach beyond the notes to grasp the magic in the players …’ Helen was, indeed, a leader among women, a loving and caring friend, a great conductor, and one of the magical players.”

In addition to her nursing scholarship, Rutherford also provided major gifts to support construction of the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center, and the nursing collection is named in her honor. The Board of Regents awarded her the Distinguished Nevadan designation in 1996 by and in 2001 she was inducted into the Honor Court by the University of Nevada, Reno Foundation.

For more information on supporting the Division of Health Sciences, please contact Stefanie Scoppettone, director of development, at (775) 682-9143 or scops@unr.edu.
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HOMECOMING '09

October 16-24

Oct. 16 Vintage Nevada • Reno Events Center
Oct. 18 Homecoming Kick-Off Scavenger Hunt • University of Nevada Campus
Oct. 22 Homecoming Gala • Joe Crowley Student Union Ballroom
Oct. 23 Blue Flu Free Community BBQ • Joe Crowley Student Union Plaza

Family Pep Rally & Bonfire • North of Peccole Park, University of Nevada Campus
Old Guys’ Night • Little Waldorf Saloon

Oct. 24 Homecoming Breakfast • Joe Crowley Student Union Plaza
Homecoming Pregame Party • Wolf Pack Alley

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