Inside

Nevada Alumni Council President’s Message .................. 44
Class Chat ...................................................... 45
Writings on the Wall ........................................... 48
Kickin’ it with K-von | Schehera-DAD ......................... 49
Chapter Updates ............................................... 54
Gatherings: Commencement/Herz Gold Medalist ............... 56
Gatherings: Golden Reunion/MacLean Observatory Opening/
Alumni Night at Aces Ballpark/Alumni Recruitment ........... 58
Family Tree Challenge ........................................... 60
Remembering Friends ............................................ 62

Photo by Jeff Dow
From the President

Dear Nevada Alumni,

It’s summertime at the University, and we are busier than ever with Alumni Association activities and preparations for the fall season including Homecoming. We’re also coming off one of the most exciting times of the year—Commencement on the Quad!

In May, the Nevada Alumni Association was proud to host more than 90 alumni and guests from the Class of 1961 as they returned to campus for their 50-year Golden Reunion. This wonderful group toured the campus and attended several festivities in honor of this milestone. We also welcomed the new Class of 2011 graduates to our proud alumni family.

This past spring, the Alumni Association once again partnered with the Office for Prospective Students on several recruitment receptions, visiting Sacramento, Las Vegas, Elko and the East Bay. Invites included students who had applied to Nevada and their families. They were given the opportunity to meet University administration, college deans, as well as many alumni. In 2010, these events resulted in more than 400 new students choosing Nevada, and we’re anticipating similar results for fall 2011.

This summer, don’t forget to bring family and friends to campus for the ever-popular Pack Picnics on the Quad. These free, family-friendly activities run every Wednesday from July 6 through Aug. 10 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. As always, there will be music, bounce houses, face painting, balloon animals and more!

Following what can easily be described as one of our most amazing seasons ever, Wolf Pack Football is right around the corner! The association’s first home pregame party will be held Oct. 8, as Nevada takes on UNLV. We will once again be in Legacy Hall two hours prior to kickoff before every home game.

Also this fall, we’ll celebrate Homecoming 2011, Oct. 9-15! Traditional activities include the Homecoming Gala and Awards Dinner, Old Guys Night, various chapter events and the football pregame party.

Finally, I’d like to thank all of our dues-paying members. Your support is critical to the success of the Nevada Alumni Association, the institution and its current students. If you’re interested in joining or renewing your membership, please visit our website at www.unr.edu/alumni or call 888. NV ALUMS.

Sincerely,

Julie Rowe ’94
President, Nevada Alumni Council
Felicia (Record) O’Carroll ’76 (accounting) has been named shareholder in charge of the accounting firm of Kafoury, Armstrong and Company’s Reno office. Felicia will oversee administrative activity, manage shareholder responsibilities and continue her work with the firm’s clients. She has been with Kafoury, Armstrong and Company since 1976 and was the first woman in the firm elected to shareholder status. Felicia also serves as president of the Nevada State Board of Accountancy, executive committee member of the University of Nevada, Reno Foundation and treasurer of the Food Bank of Northern Nevada.

William McLeod ’78M.A. (school administration) is currently the superintendent of schools for Dillingham City School District in Dillingham, Ala. William has held this position since 2010.

Ed Bangs ’79M.S. (natural resources/wildlife management) who worked for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on the Kenai Wildlife Refuge in Alaska from 1975-1988 and has been the wolf recovery coordinator for the Nevada Alumni Council meets three times per year and is the governing body of the Nevada Alumni Association. To be considered for the Council, alumni must be current dues-paying members of the Association.

Nominations for the Nevada Alumni Council are now being accepted through August 1, 2011.

Name ____________________________________________ Class year ____________

Address ____________________________________________

City __________________________ State __________ Zip Code __________

Occupation ____________________________________________

Telephone __________________________ Email __________________________

Please use a separate sheet for additional nominations.

DO YOU BLEED SILVER & BLUE?

Nevada Alumni Association  |  www.unr.edu/alumni  |  775.784.6620  |  888.NV ALUMS
northern Rocky Mountains for the past 23 years, retired in June. You can learn about the wolf restoration program at http://western-graywolf.fws.gov.

’80s
Alan Krause ’80M.S. (geological engineering) is transitioning into the position of chief executive officer of MWH Global. Alan is currently the president and chief operating officer of the environment engineering firm, with offices in 36 countries on six continents. Alan joined MWH Global in 1997, when Terramatrix, a firm that he founded, merged with MWH Global.

Ruth (Couldren) Reese ’85M.S. (nursing) is working in case management at Mercy San Juan Medical Center in Carmichael, Calif.

Dianne Bellenger ’88 (anthropology), ’96 (conservation biology) has just had a historical fiction novel, A Woman’s Way, published by Piraeus Books under the pen name of Sofia Diana Gabel. The novel is about Maria Deraismes, a 19th century French feminist who fought for equality and became the first woman to be initiated into the all-male order of Freemasons.

Gary Grossman ’88M.D. has three sons. Gary’s oldest two, Dyllen and Brandon, are biology and pre-medicine majors at Nevada.

Geoffrey Schumacher ’88 (journalism) has been promoted to publisher of the Ames Tribune in Ames, Iowa. He also oversees six weekly newspapers in surrounding areas.

Michelle (Groy) Johnson ’89 (English), ’01M.A. (English) recently accepted an administrative faculty position as the quality improvement officer in the University’s Office of Human Research Protections. Michelle currently resides in Sparks with her husband, Michael, and four of their seven children.

’90s
Mark Oglesby ’90 (history) is one of three recipients of the 2011 American Civic Education Teacher Awards, recognizing exemplary work preparing young people to become informed and engaged citizens. The awards

Wolf cubs

Natalie (Burke) Ghysels ’99 (journalism) and Aaron Ghysels ’00 (geography) are excited to announce the birth of their daughter, Grace Mattison Ghysels born May 10, 2010.

Kathleen (Slaboch) Kirkpatrick ’00 (journalism) and her husband, Jay, welcomed Aaron Michael Kirkpatrick to their family in January 2011. Aaron joins his big brother, Jimmy, S.

Heather Penrod ’00 (English literature), ’03M.A. (English literature) and Nathan Penrod ’05 (computer and information engineering), ’08M.S. (computer science) would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Addeline Alana Penrod, born Sept. 24, 2010.

Seema Donahoe ’02 (hydrogeology) joyfully welcomed their first child Priya Regina Rose on Dec. 3, 2010.

Kara (Ross) Bailey ’04 (health ecology), ’11M.S. (health care administration) and Derrick Bailey ’03 (psychology) are proud to introduce their twin daughters, Ashtyn and Brittyn, born April 1, 2010. The girls join their big sister, Cortlyn, 3.

Brooke (Westlake) Kelley ’07 (criminal justice) and Scott Kelley ’04 (journalism) are happy to announce the birth of their son, Grant Scott, born May 5, 2010.
are given annually to elementary and secondary teachers of civics, government and related subjects who have demonstrated exceptional expertise, dynamism and creativity in motivating students to learn about the Constitution, Congress and public policy. ACETA is sponsored by the Center for Civic Education, the Center on Congress at Indiana University and the National Education Association.

After earning a master’s degree from Eastern Michigan University, Mark has been teaching for 18 years and currently teaches social studies at Howell High School in Howell, Mich.

Hing Chow ’91 (mechanical engineering) has been the principal at Monterey Vista Elementary School in Monterey, Calif. since 2003. Hing and his wife, Linda Situ Chow, have two children, Wilson and Heidi.

Julia (Briggs) Burkhardt ’94 (natural resources) received the 2010 Governor’s Award for Excellence in Agriculture / Environmental Stewardship. Idaho Governor C.L. “Butch” Otter presented the award to Julia and four others for their contributions to Idaho’s agriculture. Julia was chosen for the award because she was instrumental in forming a local cooperative weed management area. As a soil and water conservation district supervisor, Julia is overseeing an ambitious riverbank restoration project in her community.

Vince Illia ’96 (speech communications) has accepted a position as truck sales manager at Peterbilt of Las Vegas. Vince will be responsible for supervising sales personnel, developing all marketing and advertising campaigns for the dealership, and managing the inventory and sales of new and used trucks.

Denise Duarte ’99 (general studies) has been accepted into the master of fine arts program for community arts at the Maryland Institute College of Art. Denise and her partner will be moving to Baltimore this summer. She will have two public art projects completed this year: *Flourish*, a 12 block urban trail sidewalk enhancement in the city of Las Vegas along the Cultural Corridor and three rapid transit stations for the Regional Transportation Commission in Reno.

L. Erin Russell ’00 (journalism and political science) graduated from UNLV in May with her doctorate in public affairs.
Nevada Alumni Association What was your best or favorite summer job while you were in college?

Dale Placey ‘67 (metallurgical engineering), Amherst, N.Y. Buying/selling used cars at a lot just south of Meadowood Mall long before it was there, in 1965–66. Weekend trips to San Francisco, L.A. and Palm Springs to buy cars and then drive them back. Spent nights sitting in the office doing homework and selling a car if someone came on the lot.

Anne-Marie Sharkey ‘03 (biology), Incline Village. Sand Harbor lifeguard!

Sarah Dickens LeMay ’90 (sociology), Boise, Idaho. I worked in a skateboard and T-shirt shop in Lake Tahoe—best summer job ever!

Jonnie Walker ’98 (geography), Reno. Racing ... I mean, driving, rental cars for Budget Rent-a–Car at the Reno airport!

Calvin Ginyard ’00 (political science), Lauderhill, Fla. Working for Pepsi, doing sampling.

Vicki Duncan Pillers ’92 (mathematics), Sparks. Lab “grunt” in the environmental engineering department and getting to work in the field along with a lunchtime swim in the Truckee.

Jen Komaromi ’95 (anthropology), San Pablo, Calif. Worked as an archaeologist for Tahoe National Forest—it was actually the head archeologist there that told me to transfer to UNR!

Pete Anderson ’86 (chemical engineering), Reno. Tending bar at the dearly departed Beer Barrel. Most wonderful job ever.

Steve Martarano ’79 (journalism), Sacramento. Working for buildings and grounds at UNR the summers of ’77 and ’78 ranked right up there. I had several areas I was in charge of, including Manzanita Bowl. The campus was a lot smaller then. It didn’t pay much, just over three bucks an hour, but it was very cool.

Don Morrissey ’78 (premedical), Salt Lake City. Harrah’s Reno had a great deal for UNR students. Work Fri, Sat, Sun during the school year and work five days during the summer, playing 21 or blackjack and getting paid to “gamble.” Tips were good and they had LOTS of 21 tables in those days ... I did it from 1979–80.

Stacy Hosking ’89 (veterinary science), Reno. Summer job at the S–Bar–S Ranch out in Wadsworth, Nev. Free rent and grub, and we could take our paychecks to town Fernley, for some fun. Also gave me some much needed experience working on large animals to help me get into veterinary school!

Bill Chaffin ’66 (political science), Carmichael, Calif. Pricing women’s underwear at the Sears warehouse.

Like this feature? Share what’s on your mind at www.facebook.com/nevadaalumni and your post could be featured in our next issue. Comment • Like • Share
Aaron Fricke '02 (logistics management) has joined Brownstein Hyatt Farber as an associate in the litigation group. Most recently, Aaron was an associate at Maupin, Cox and LeGoy in Reno. He received his law degree from the University of Notre Dame Law School. Aaron is a member of the American Bar Association, and he served in the U.S. Navy from 1994-96.

Michael Matthews ’03M.S. (secondary education) recently received the University of Nebraska at Omaha Outstanding Teaching Award, which honors distinguished teaching in the classroom. Michael is an assistant professor in the Department of Math, College of Arts and Sciences. He is involved with several initiatives targeting the content knowledge and pedagogy skills of Nebraska teachers. Michael holds a master's of science and a doctorate in mathematics from the University of Iowa.

Julie Terrell ’04 (animal science) has joined the accounting team at the Bosma Group, P.C.

Mary Allen ’00 (management) is living in Carson City. Mary works for the state of Nevada in the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy.

Kickin’ it with K-von | Schehera-DAD

As kids, my younger brother and I asked far too many questions, and our parents’ methods of dealing with this differed. My mother would encourage us to conduct our own research, an academic approach that required effort on our part. While factual, it deterred us from bugging our mom, which was perhaps the desired effect.

My father, on the other hand, would never admit to not knowing an answer. Unbeknownst to us, he would simply just make something up. This led us to believe Dad was a wealth of information on just about any subject.

“Dad, why is the sky blue?”

“Because God painted it with a giant brush.”

“Why do boys and girls have different parts?”

“Girls used to have one, but when they put on a dress it fell off.” The horror! My brother and I vowed to never try on Mom’s clothes; the risk was just too great.

Similarly, when it was time for bed, our mother would give us good reason to get our rest, yet we would defiantly refuse ... and that is when Dad would come in the room. “If you don’t want to sleep, you don’t have to ... just close your eyes very tight so the sleep can’t get in.”

Now that sounded like a fine idea. Most nights we were treated to a bedtime story. We were all in the same configuration: my brother and I in our bunks and my dad lying on the floor looking at the ceiling, as he spun crafty tales in the darkened room.

Always a new story, always fascinating, and always ending just too soon, leaving us wanting more ... like a real-life Scheherazade, the wily Persian storyteller from “One Thousand and One Nights” who kept herself alive by basically inventing the cliffhanger ... but better. He was our very own Schehera-DAD!

His stories were bold, exciting, full of plot twists. Some tales were scary and mysterious, while others were educational, teaching us the pitfalls of human ego and greed. I came to believe I had the coolest dad in the whole world. In comparison with my school friends, I found that, while their fathers may have read a story to them here and there, my dad was the only one to actually make one up each and every night, reciting it with no text to draw from. Can you imagine the creativity and ingenuity that took? And, they were good stories.

One of my friends wasn’t so sure. As I retold one of Dad’s masterpieces about an ex-Green Beret who fought his way through the jungles of Vietnam armed only with bow and arrow and a large hunting knife, my friend interrupted ... “That’s Rambo.”

Indeed it was, but how did this young man know my father’s fierce tale of the great John Rambo?! “Because it’s a movie, you idiot,” was his reply. I was astonished.

Had my father been so humble that he sold a number of his tales to Hollywood to be made into blockbuster movies? This was unbelievable. We were always so poor, what was he doing with the money? Boy, was Mom going to be mad when she discovered this new tidbit of information.

It was not long after the Rambo discussion with my friend, that I put it all together, had an aha! moment, and realized that my dad was no Scheherazade, and these were not his stories at all. In fact, this was why he had such strict rules about not letting us watch any R-rated movies. It had nothing to do with the question-able content. His censorship was in place so he could continue watching the movies himself and retelling them to his mesmerized audience of two.

Although the jig was up—as it had already been for the Tooth Fairy and Santa—even as a kid you know that sometimes it’s best to feign ignorance, keep your mouth shut and continue to be on the receiving end. That night, I let Dad tell us his newest story and enjoyed it as always, without objection. “Goodnight boys, and if you behave, tomorrow I’ll tell you the story of RoboCop.”

“Sounds good, Dad. Can’t wait!” Then with a smile, I rolled over and closed my eyes tight so the sleep couldn’t get in.

K-von ’03 (marketing) is a Nevada alum and comedian. Currently you can see his videos and tour schedule on www.K-vonComedy.com and Facebook.com/KvonComedy.
Senior Scholars

The University of Nevada, Reno and the Alumni Association recognized eight outstanding graduates with one of the most prestigious awards given by the University, the Senior Scholar distinction, on May 12. The top graduating student and his or her faculty mentor from each school and college were honored at an awards ceremony in the Joe Crowley Student Union.

**College of Education**

- **Amber Burroughs** - GPA 3.98
  Mentor: William Sparkman

**Reynolds School of Journalism**

- **Katherine Taylor** - GPA 3.952
  Mentor: Bob Felten

**College of Science**

- **Kerry Csiga** - GPA 4.00
  Mentor: Elena Pravosudova

**College of Engineering**

- **Tsvetan Komarov** - GPA 4.00
  Mentor: Sergiu Dascalu

**Division of Health Sciences**

- **Evan Raps** - GPA 3.977
  Mentor: Amy Fitch

**College of Business**

- **Margaret Doolittle** - GPA 3.964
  Mentor: Henry Amato

**College of Liberal Arts**

- **Jennifer Kielhofer** - GPA 4.00
  Mentor: Geoffrey Smith

**College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources**

- **Matthew Polasko** - GPA 4.00
  Mentor: Kenneth Hunter
As a staff accountant, Julie’s responsibilities include research, preparing tax returns and financial statements, and supporting the staff.

Justin Thomsen ’05 (accounting/information systems), a senior associate with Muckle Anderson CPAs, a full-service tax, audit and financial services firm based in Reno, recently earned his Certified Public Accountant (CPA) certification. Justin joined the firm in 2005. He specializes in preparing individual and corporate tax returns, compilations, and compliance and financial audits for gaming properties. He also assists with the firm’s IT and web services. Justin also holds certification as a Certified Information Technology Professional, (CITP). Justin currently serves as vice president of development for the College of Business Alumni Board, is a member of Nevada Bighorns Unlimited and volunteers with the Reno Rodeo Association.

Scott Kagele ’06 (management) graduated from Carrington College with his associate of science in nursing and has accepted a position at Salt Lake Regional Medical Center as a telemetry nurse. His wife, Dominique (Olivares) Kagele ’04 (biology), ’07 (biochemistry), ’10Ph.D. (cellular and molecular biology) has accepted a position as a post-doctoral scholar at the University of Utah School of Medicine. They welcomed the birth of their daughter, Savannah, on June 25, 2010.

Timothy Mullin ’06 (journalism/political science) was recently promoted to executive director at Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth, a Las Vegas nonprofit organization that helps homeless teens. During Tim’s tenure, he has raised more than $1 million for the partnership, expanded services to youth by 25 percent, opened a new drop-in center for transitional youth clients, and launched an emergency shelter and intermediate independent living program. Tim co-founded the Young Nonprofit Professionals Network of Southern Nevada and serves as the chairman of the Community Development Block Grant Program Advisory Board for Henderson, Nev. Tim is a recent graduate of the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce’s Leadership Las Vegas program.

Scott Carey ’07 (geography) has been awarded the 2011 Excellence in Tourism Award from the Nevada Commission on Tourism for his work attracting tourism to Pyramid
Lake and Nevada’s Indian Territory. Scott has served as the tribal planner for the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe since 2009 and oversees both the economic development and planning departments of the tribe.

Alex Thayer ’07 (accounting), ’08MACC (master of accountancy), an associate with Muckel Anderson CPAs, a full-service tax, audit and financial services firm based in Reno, recently earned her Certified Public Accountant (CPA) certification. Alexis provides audit services for both private and nonprofit organizations, in addition to performing individual and corporate tax returns. She joined Muckel Anderson in 2009.

Alex Bybee ’08 (accounting), a senior associate with Muckel Anderson CPAs, a full-service tax, audit and financial services firm based in Reno, recently earned his Certified Public Accountant (CPA) certification. Alex specializes in tax, internal auditing, reviews and compilations for individuals and private companies in various industries. He also performs compliance for gaming properties. He joined the firm in 2006. Alex is active in the community volunteering with the Reno Rodeo Association.

Jenna Hubert ’11 (journalism) has been hired by KPS3 Marketing as a junior graphic designer for the full-service marketing communications agency. Jenna will support the creative team in producing traditional and digital marketing material for the brands KPS3 manages.

Submissions are due
July 25, 2011 and can be sent to: chatter@unr.edu. We edit all submissions for style, clarity and length.

Music alumni amplify inspiration

Hosted by the University, the annual Reno Jazz Festival welcomes some of the best jazz students, musicians and educators in the country and draws hundreds of school bands to perform at this popular event. The 49th annual festival was held April 7-9 on the University campus, and this year there were more than 100 performers at all levels. The festival provides an opportunity for students to hear a variety of faculty and guest artists, and to network with and learn from other students from around the country.

Many jazz students are inspired by the music they hear at the festival. Landrus, a woodwind specialist, currently lives in Brooklyn, N.Y., working as a freelance musician, composer, producer and educator, and has recently started his own record label, BlueLand Records. Walker, a Grass Valley, Calif., native, now lives in Paris and is the leader and saxophonist for The Kandinsky Effect, a progressive jazz trio. Minaie is an electric and upright bass expert, who has toured extensively around the world.

“Landrus plays baritone saxophone, bass saxophone, bass clarinet, bass flute and alto flute. ‘The entire faculty helped by teaching me all the fundamentals, yet still allowing me to pursue my own voice,’” he adds. “I can’t imagine a better setting to learn and grow.”

Landrus praises professors Ed Corey, David Ake, Larry Engstrom, Peter Epstein, Hans Halt ’99 (applied music), ’01M.M. (music), Andy Heglund and Leonard Neidhold for his early success and motivation.

These faculty members currently make up the Program in Jazz and Improvisational Music in the music department. They lead by example through their work as researchers, writers, composers and performers. Many perform together in the faculty group, The Collective, and have formed many trios and other small groups using a variety of instrument combinations. In addition to producing several CDs featuring original music, some have published books. Their productivity is an inspiration to the students in the program.

Walker says: “The faculty at Nevada are incredible. They helped me find my own voice on my instrument and in my work as a composer.”

Walker is considered a rising star in the European jazz scene. In addition to The Kandinsky Effect, he performs with a duo called Duplex, and a quartet called Dirty Elegance.

Minaie, who has taught at other universities since graduating from Nevada, says his experiences at Nevada were invaluable and essential to his musical development:

“The jazz program and faculty at the University of Nevada, Reno are extremely well rounded. They are open to new ideas, yet tied into the tradition.”

With an eye toward the future, jazz faculty member and director of the Reno Jazz Festival Larry Engstrom looks forward to continuing the program’s successes. “I am really proud of the work of our faculty and the success of our students,” Engstrom says. “It is an honor to have worked with so many talented students.”

—Nonie Wainwright ’08
# Home Football Tailgates

**Spice Up The Game**  
Serving Size 1 : 100% Fun Factor

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sat., Oct. 8</td>
<td>Nevada vs. UNLV</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat., Oct. 15</td>
<td>Nevada vs. New Mexico</td>
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<td>Sat., Oct. 22</td>
<td>Nevada vs. Fresno State</td>
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<td>Sat., Nov. 12</td>
<td>Nevada vs. Hawaii</td>
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<td>Sat., Nov. 19</td>
<td>Nevada vs. Louisiana Tech</td>
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<td>Sat., Dec. 3</td>
<td>Nevada vs. Idaho</td>
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**JOIN US IN LEGACY HALL ON THE SOUTHWEST SIDE OF MACKAY STADIUM.**

All home tailgate parties begin two hours prior to kickoff.

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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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SIERRA PACIFIC FEDERAL CREDIT UNION AND BUCKBEAN BREWING COMPANY.