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WORKING FOR NEVADA

Construction of a new 1,950-space parking garage continues off North Virginia Street, north of Lawlor Events Center. The project is an important undertaking for mid-campus development and for increased handicapped parking, part of a larger effort on campus to meet Americans with Disability Act requirements. The project is scheduled to be open in fall semester 2004.

On the Cover

Wartime correspondence from Evelyn English's husband, George, that inspired an original musical composition by Alan Smith, music professor at USC. *Photo by Jean Dixon*

NEVADA Silver & Blue

Serving the households of our 50,000
University of Nevada alumni and friends.

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Saying goodbye to 'The Hill'

This is my last issue as editor of *Nevada Silver & Blue*. A tremendous career opportunity came my way in February, one that was too enticing to pass up. Nevadans know Gov. Kenny Guinn well; perhaps not as well known is the fact that a number of notable University of Nevada alumni, including Chief of Staff Michael Hillerby and Press Secretary Greg Bortolin, are key players in the Guinn administration. It will be my distinct pleasure to work with Gov. Guinn, Mike, Greg and a number of others as Gov. Guinn heads down the homestretch of his career in Carson City.

Leaving here is not easy, though. In many ways I grew up on this campus. My late father, John, was a professor in the College of Education for 20 years. On many weekends, as I was growing up, this campus was my playground. I delivered mock lectures in the dusty basement of Frandsen Humanities. I chased the geese at Manzanita Lake. I sprinted up and down the Quad, pretend football in my hand, imitating the hip-swiveling moves of the great early 1970s Pack running back, Earnie O'Leary.

As I grew older, the campus became my home. I learned in the mid-1980s that this wasn't just a fun place to play; it was a great place to learn. I never took a class that I felt was a waste. I never had a professor that I didn't admire. I like to think of myself as a positive person; much of this is directly related to the endless encouragement I received from so many wonderful professors when I was a young man, growing up on our campus.

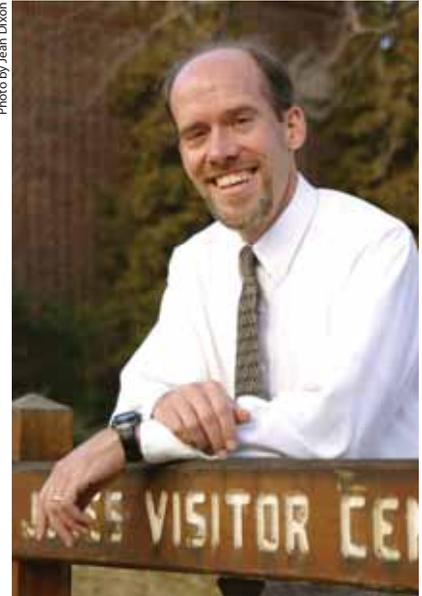
In 1998 I returned to the university, joining the staff of the Office of Communications. It's been a great place to work. I will be forever indebted to the woman who encouraged me to join her staff, Sandy Rogers, and the many talented writers, editors, designers, office staff and students who have worked in our office over the past six years. In particular, I'd like to single out Communications "alumni" Sandy, Greg, Carmen Jeschke and former NSB editor Mike Sion; as well as current staffers Elaine Casey, John Wheeler, Jean Dixon, Pat McDonnell, Louise Eikleberry, Melanie Supersano, Cathy Osterhout, Lucy Walker, Claudia Ortega-Lukas, Brandon Stewart, Amanda Gango and Jennifer Sanzi for their hard work and goodwill.

Silver & Blue has become a total team effort, and I'm indebted to all of the above people for their enthusiastic commitment to this magazine.

It's been a great run, and I've enjoyed every minute of it. My life will now be focused on Carson City, but don't be surprised if some fall afternoon you see a balding, middle-aged man running down the middle of the Quad with a pretend football in his hand. True success, as Robert Louis Stevenson wrote, is always in the labor, the hope of travel and change, rather than one's final destination. All of our journeys never truly end; and happily for many of us, they often intersect here, on our beautiful campus on The Hill.

— John Trent

Photo by Jean Dixon



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Nevada Silver & Blue welcomes your letters but reserves the right to edit for space and clarity. Send your comments to NSB Editor, Jones Visitor Center/108, University of Nevada, Reno, NV 89557-0129 or e-mail: silverblue@unr.edu.

New era of marketing and communications

During my time here at Nevada, I have constantly preached to our faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends that our story is one of the best-kept secrets in the nation.

We know we have a great institution. We know that through strategic planning our university will become an even stronger center of excellence. Yet being a “best-kept” secret is hardly something to make the hearts of our faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends collectively sing.

Nevada recently entered a new era in marketing and communications with the hiring of Cynthia Pollard as our vice president for marketing and communications.

Cindy’s experience in marketing and communications is extensive, and her accomplishments are noteworthy.

Since joining Tufts University in 1998, she and her public relations team have more than doubled media coverage of her institution, in major outlets such as *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *USA Today*, *Boston Globe* and *The Times (London)*. She has provided top-level communications strategy and support for Tufts’ development division, which achieved two history-making gifts during its most recent capital campaign.

Another of her early innovations — a daily “E-News” Web site and electronic newsletter — now reaches more than 50,000 subscribers worldwide and has been recognized as a “site to watch” in higher education.

But perhaps more than anything else, Cindy brings with her a reputation of being an agent of change. She talks often of “possibility thinking” here on our campus — the notion being that our faculty, staff and students see not barriers, but rich potential for Nevada. My hope is that through her considerable communications and marketing acumen, Cindy will help take us to the national audience that our university so profoundly deserves.

In the coming weeks and months, Cindy’s charge will be to develop a thoughtful and cohesive integrated marketing plan for our entire university. She will be looking to competitively position our university by finding the attributes that differentiate the Nevada experience from other higher education options. She has a clear understanding that successful competitive positioning must be credible, consistent and compelling — and, interestingly, these are personal characteristics that Cindy possesses in great abundance.

Please help me welcome Cindy as we begin this new era of marketing and communications at Nevada.



Cynthia Pollard, director of public relations at Tufts University in Massachusetts, has been named Vice President for Marketing and Communications. She is a graduate of the University of Missouri School of Journalism and holds a master’s degree in international communication from American University in Washington, D.C.

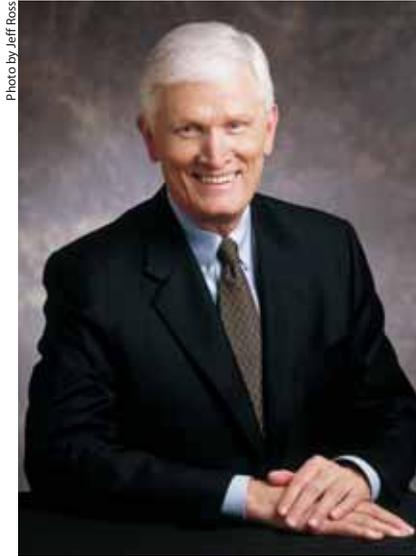


Photo by Jeff Ross

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John M. Lilley".

John M. Lilley, President

Antonuccio challenges antidepressant hype

By John Wheeler

David Antonuccio has some remarkable things to say about the drug industry and, in particular, the efficacy of its number one product: antidepressants. In a nutshell, the University of Nevada School of Medicine professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences says: antidepressant drug effects may be far smaller than touted and side effects far greater; there's no persuasive evidence that a deficiency of brain serotonin causes depression (the rationale for using most antidepressants); financial and political interests have biased research and medical education; and psychotherapy appears to be as effective as antidepressants in treating depression and even better at preventing relapse.

In an article in the December issue of the journal *American Psychologist*, co-written with School of Medicine colleague William Danton and Terry Michael McClanahan of Permanente Medical Group, Antonuccio details the extent of the pharmaceutical industry's influence on medicine and proposes practical steps that could be taken to preserve the credibility and integrity of scientific research.

"I don't think the word has gotten out about this wealth of data showing the small advantage of these medications," Antonuccio says.

For example, Antonuccio says somewhere between 20 percent and 35

percent of antidepressant studies are not published, and of those, it looks like as many as 90 percent may have unfavorable or neutral results.

In other words, many studies show antidepressants are no better than a placebo and get buried by the drug companies. Antonuccio is able to track these unpublished studies through the Food and Drug Administration's database. The FDA requires submission of all research data, but doesn't require publication. Data analysis such as this is Antonuccio's stock in trade. His conclusions, although based on meticulously documented analysis — often drawn from drug companies' own data — are not always welcomed, even within his own profession.

"One of the reasons might be that the beliefs that are challenged by the data I present are strongly held and it's upsetting that things might be different than people have believed for so long," he says. "Fortunately, I work in a department and at a medical school that celebrates scientific curiosity and intellectual diversity."

Antidepressants are the top selling drug category, with as many as one in eight adult Americans having taken one in the last 10 years.

"One of the theories is that depression is a chemical imbalance," Antonuccio says.

Photo by Jean Dixon

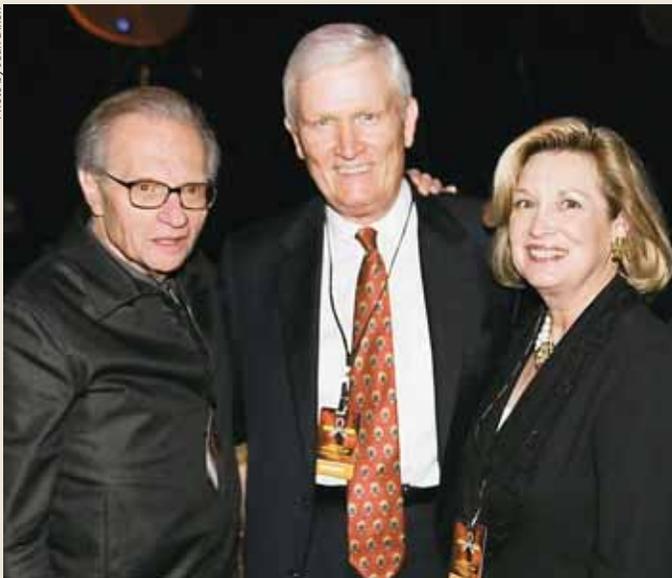


David Antonuccio, professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences.

"But ... there's no convincing data that show any sort of biological imbalance causes depression. That's not to say there are not chemical changes associated with depression and there may be immune system changes. We have to carefully think about making the logical leap that because something is associated with depression or anxiety, it is actually the cause of it."

An expanded version of this story can be found on the university Web site: <http://www.unr.edu/nevadanews/detail.asp?id=800>

Photo by Jean Dixon



Rockin' for a good cause in Las Vegas

On hand for a recent gala concert at the Mirage featuring the Eagles to benefit the Nevada Cancer Institute: (left to right) Master of Ceremonies Larry King, University of Nevada President John Lilley and Gerrie Lilley. The gala, "Rock for the Cure," raised \$2.6 million toward the institute, which is currently under construction in Las Vegas. Eight Nevada faculty currently hold adjunct positions at the institute, which aims to eventually have facilities in both Las Vegas and Reno. When built, the non-profit institute will be the state's first comprehensive cancer research and treatment center.

— John Wheeler

NEW, NEWER WORLD?

Goebel challenges theories about origins of first Americans

The New World may be considerably newer than experts previously thought, according to Associate Professor of Anthropology Ted Goebel. New evidence discovered by a joint American/Russian team led by Goebel and reported in *Science* journal, calls into question the commonly held theory that the first Americans came from Siberia across the Bering Land Bridge.

By analyzing evidence from a key site on Ushki Lake on Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula, Goebel's team has determined that the site is 13,000 years old — nearly 4,000 years later than previously thought. That difference is important because it rules out the Ushki Lake inhabitants as the ancestors of the so-called Clovis people, believed to be the first Americans. Archeologists are able to identify sites inhabited by the Clovis because they left distinctive fluted projectile points, which were first discovered near Clovis, N.M. — hence their name.

"It's a unique technology that these Clovis people used to prepare spear tips," Goebel says. "Humans never did that anywhere else in the world and at any other time, so it's a highly distinctive quality."

Goebel's research shows Ushki Lake wasn't occupied until about 600 years after the Clovis people were already busy hunting mammoths in North America.

The Siberian site has long been considered a crucial link in the theory that Asian big-game hunters crossed Beringia — the Bering Land Bridge linking

Photo by Jean Dixon



Siberia with Alaska — during the last ice age. Ushki was thought to have been a stopping off point before departure. While the new research challenges that assumption, it doesn't rule out the possibility that the migrants departed from other sites.

— John Wheeler

Ted Goebel, associate professor of anthropology, and part of the department's collection of casted skulls from around the world.

Gordaninejad wins Gunnerman Award

Innovations in "smart," ultra-fast, controllable shock absorbers for vehicles and large structures have won Professor Faramarz Gordaninejad the 2003 Rudolf W.

Gunnerman Silver State Award for Excellence in Science and Technology. The award, established by Reno area industrialist and inventor Rudolf Gunnerman,



Gordaninejad

includes a minted medal and \$25,000 prize and recognizes scientific and technological achievements that are based on work conducted primarily within the state of Nevada. The

Gunnerman Award program is administered by the Desert Research Institute.

Gordaninejad's work has led to the development of new quick-reacting, controllable shock absorbers that provide fail-safe vibration control for aircraft, HMMWVs (High-Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles), autos, motorcycles and bicycles. The advances are also used for controllable, smart slip-differential clutches for sport utility vehicles, shock and vibration absorbers of submarine weapons systems, as well as high force smart dampers for bridges and buildings to protect them from earthquakes and strong storms.

In addition to his research and teaching at Nevada, Gordaninejad is president and CEO of Advanced Materials and Devices, Inc., a Nevada corporation

he co-founded and which has received major Department of Defense contracts to improve the safety and performance of nuclear submarine operations and land vehicles carrying heavy payloads.

Gordaninejad, a Foundation Professor of Mechanical Engineering, has been on the College of Engineering faculty since 1984. He is a Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. Gordaninejad has more than 150 publications in the areas of smart materials and structures and advanced fiber-reinforced composites. He received four patents and has nine more patents pending. He is the director of the internationally recognized Composite and Intelligent Materials Laboratory at Nevada.

— John Doherty

Carson Valley residents learn value of 'Living on Land'

After running a motel at Lake Tahoe for 25 years, Mike and Robin Catherwood escaped from the hustle and bustle and purchased their own 5-acre

slice of heaven at the base of a beautiful range in the Carson Valley. Robin took up horseback riding, and has three horses.

There is an increasing desire in the West to own 1-acre to 40-acre parcels, like the Catherwoods'. Yet, many of us don't know much about managing these properties. And, research shows that

good land stewardship is directly related to good water quality. Needs assessments have shown that more landowner education of landowners is needed to improve water quality in the Carson River, which is on the EPA's 303(d) Impaired Waters List because of its turbidity, temperature and phosphorus levels.

The Catherwoods and more than 900 other Carson Valley residents are learning how better to manage their properties with the help of University of Nevada

Cooperative Extension's "Living on the Land" program. Cooperative Extension's Susan Donaldson and colleagues from eight other states collaborated to develop a curriculum with 15 lessons on topics such as well and septic care, pest and pasture management, and efficient irrigation, many of which directly affect our water quality. The curriculum is being used all over the West. Donaldson and Cooperative Extension colleagues Steve Lewis, John Cobourn and Mark O'Farrell have taken the program to the Carson Valley, providing 19 workshops to 924 participants last year. Nevada Division of Environmental Protection provided \$91,328 to fund the two-year program, and Carson Valley Conservation District and Western Nevada Resource Conservation and Development are also partners in the program.

Is it making an impact? Although it's too early to measure the effects on water quality, Carson Valley residents like the Catherwoods are definitely taking the lessons to heart. They have implemented several of the best management practices (BMPs) taught in the workshops. "Fortunately, the same land management practices that lead to healthy landscapes and productive pastures also help to protect our valuable water resources," O'Farrell says.

— Claudene Wharton

Photo by Jean Dixon



Mike and Robin Catherwood have learned many best management practice techniques for their 5-acre Carson Valley parcel thanks to the efforts of University of Nevada Cooperative Extension educators.

The Women's Studies Program presents

GENDER & IDENTITY IN FILM 2004

Wednesdays at 2:30-5:15p.m. ■ Presented by: Professor Mary White Stewart

Wednesday, March 3

■ YIDL MITN FIDL

Introduction by Deborah Achtenberg,
Department of Philosophy

Wednesday, March 10

■ STRUCTURES OF EVERYDAY LIFE

Introduction by Peter Goin,
Department of Art, and Pam Henning

Wednesday, March 24

■ BLUE VELVET

Introduction by Jeongwon Joe,
Department of Music

Wednesday, March 31

■ DAUGHTERS OF THE DUST

Introduction by Ann Keniston,
Department of English

Wednesday, April 7

■ EAST IS EAST

Introduction by David Fenimore,
Department of English

Wednesday, April 14

■ FAST RUNNER

Introduction by LaVerne Jeanne,
Department of Anthropology

Wednesday, April 21

■ HI, ARE YOU ALONE? (Hola, Estas Sola?)

Introduction by Joseba Gabilondo,
Center for Basque Studies

Wednesday, April 28

■ Film TBA

Introduction by Susan Chandler,
School of Social Work

Presentations are shown in the Getchell Library, Projection Room 5 • All are welcome on a "space-available basis"

DRIVING THE EXTRA MILES

Provost tours Nevada's rural communities

Nevada's agriculture is one of the top three industries for many of the state's counties. Agricultural-related issues — weed infestations, drought, pests, grazing debates and water rights — are at the forefront of discussions in Nevada's rural areas, but the importance of these issues often goes unnoticed in Nevada's largely urban areas.

To the University of Nevada, the realities of Nevada's rural communities were conveyed recently to the university's provost and executive vice president, John Frederick, as he toured Nevada to get a firsthand look at what issues the regions are facing as the state becomes increasingly more urbanized.

"The intention of visiting some of the communities was to achieve a better understanding of rural Nevada and the ways in which the university interacts with rural Nevada," Frederick says. "I learned an awful lot about stewardship of the land and a lot about the people in the state who care about the state's future, its economies and the future of agriculture and education."

Frederick traveled with administrators from the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources and met with local University of Nevada Cooperative Extension faculty in Lyon, Churchill, White Pine and Eureka counties. The visits left an impression on Frederick, that he says affirms the need for the university to continue reaching out to each county.

"I was really impressed with the willingness of some people to drive hundreds of miles in some cases to come to our meetings," he recalls of the visits. "I was also impressed with the interconnectedness of the people who would know each other well sometimes three counties away. People may live miles apart but they clearly keep in touch."

The provost visited with high school administrators and Native American tribal leaders, and held meetings with ranchers and other

Photos by Bob Conrad



▲ At the Duckwater Shoshone Indian Reservation, nursery manager Kip McAlexander is helping to cultivate sagebrush seedlings in the tribe's greenhouses. Sagebrush is used by mines for reclamation projects and, as a commodity, helps to generate income to the tribe. L-R: The College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources' Rangesan Narayanan, associate dean of outreach, looks on with the college's dean David Thawley, and Provost John Frederick.

▲ Frederick visits with a student in Yerington High School's DNA class, possibly the only high school DNA class in the country. The class is conducting DNA analysis of sage grouse. The research helps determine the hen's population, which is believed to be in decline. Efforts have been made to have sage grouse listed under the Endangered Species Act, a listing that would have significant economic consequences for rural Nevada.

agricultural producers to discuss the role of the university in Nevada's communities.

"My lasting impression is that there is an incredible amount of intellectual talent in these areas, and the university needs to do a better job of communicating the opportunities of higher education to the students," Frederick says. "As Nevada's land-grant institution, we need to continue to make efforts to reach out to the rural areas."

"We have an obligation to serve them as well as the urban populations. Sometimes that means driving those extra miles to see people."

— Bob Conrad

Terawatt Facility assembles 'world-leading' team

The study of High Energy Density (HED) matter, recently dubbed "the X games of modern science" by the National Research Council, is one of the most exciting frontier areas in modern physics — and one in which the University of Nevada Department of Physics is determined to be a major player.

"We have assembled a world-leading team of HED researchers, including two of the top recognized experts in advanced computer simulation worldwide: Dr. Hartmut Ruhl and Dr. Yasuhiko Sentoku," says Tom Cowan, director of the physics department's Nevada Terawatt Facility (NTF). "Their expertise complements the unique experimental capabilities of the NTF, which has a high-power-pulsed power machine that will be coupled to an ultra-high intensity, short-pulse laser presently under construction."

The NTF will pursue a broad program of advanced HED science including high-

intensity laser-matter interactions, creation and study of astrophysical plasmas in the terrestrial laboratory, fusion energy research, and the development of the next generation of particle accelerators for research and medical applications.

"Under the direction of Dr. Ruhl, the NTF has begun developing a massively parallel supercomputer, and has made a breakthrough in the computational efficiency of computer codes that simulate complex plasma phenomena," Cowan says. "This has led to research collaborations with many international and national laboratories for the University of Nevada to provide state-of-the-art computer modeling for their research programs."

These collaborations include working with Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and Osaka University, Japan.

— John Wheeler

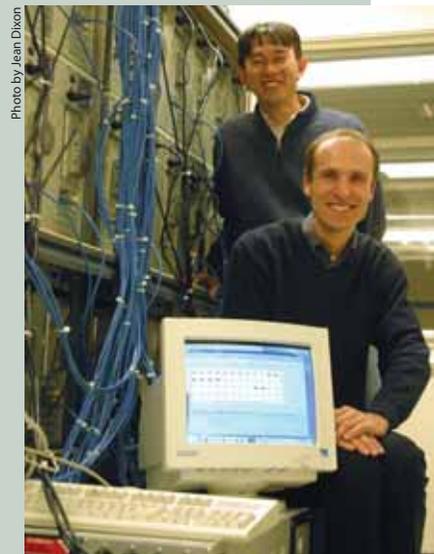


Photo by Jean Dixon

Nevada Terawatt Facility researchers Yasuhiko Sentoku, left, and Hartmut Ruhl.

4-H alumni return to the scenic shores of Tahoe

It was déjà vu for the 200 4-H alumni, leaders, youth and friends who gathered on the shores of the State 4-H Camp at Lake Tahoe in October at the first statewide Nevada 4-H Reunion. The attendees had, collectively, more than 1,000 years of 4-H membership, representing youth education in eight states. Some of the families boasted several generations of 4-H members.

A big drawing card was the opportunity to revisit the historic camp where many alumni spent childhood summers, dating back to the 1930s when the camp was acquired by the university. In those days, the sleeping facilities were outside.

"The 4-H program has grown from several hundred members in the early 1900s to more than 63,000 today," says Karen Hinton, a former 4-H'er and dean of University of Nevada Cooperative Extension,



Attorney General Brian Sandoval shows off the 4-H Camp to his son, James (top) and nephew, Tanner.

which develops a wide array of programs at camp, in clubs, and during and after school.

The 4-H experience has shaped thousands of lives, producing many notable Nevadans who have become state leaders and important contributors to their communities. Nevada Attorney General and alumnus Brian Sandoval, a "farmer at heart" who raised sheep as a youth, proudly showed his son and nephew the cabins he occupied during summer camp in the 1970s.

— Alice Good



A group of 4-H Reunion attendees who were 4-H members in the 1940s.

Photos courtesy of Cooperative Extension



A group of 4-H Reunion attendees who were 4-H members in the 1950s.

Geography professor's book receives good review

Geography Professor Gary Hausladen's book from the University of Nevada Press, *Western Places, American Myths: How We Think About the West*, received a highly favorable review in the book section of the Los Angeles Times.

Hausladen's book includes 13 writers who contributed essays about the American West. The Los Angeles Times

review, written by Jonathan Kirsch, a regular contributor to the Times' Book Review section, states that Hausladen's work helps define an essentially undefined West: "The point of this collection is to explore the different, often conflicting ideas that arise when we utter the word 'West.'"

One of Hausladen's contributing writers, University of Nevada Department of Geography colleague Paul Starrs, also earned high marks from Kirsch.

Kirsch notes that Starrs' essay, "An Inescapable Range, or the Ranch as Everywhere," is a "brilliant example of the alchemical blend of geography and mythology. (Starrs) reminds us that ranching has always been confined to the least desirable stretches of the Western wilderness — 'a sizable void where night lights illumine not.'"

Hausladen, throughout a distinguished 16-year career at Nevada, has proven to be equally adept as a classroom instructor or writer. *Western Places, American Myths*, is the latest in a series of published works that have focused on a wide variety of topics, from Russia to the sense of place in murder mysteries.

Hausladen has earned the Regents Teaching Award, the Alan Bible Teaching

Photo by Jean Dixon



Gary Hausladen, professor of geography, continues winning honors for both his teaching and writing.

Excellence Award (top instructor in the College of Arts & Science), and the Tibbitts Award (awarded to the university's top teacher). His interests — and teaching and writing content — run the gamut from geography to literature to film.

Western Places, American Myths, is 360 pages, \$49.95, and is published by the University of Nevada Press.

— John Trent



THE NEW COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS PRESENTS

Election Year 2004

The University of Nevada invites you to join in the dialogue

MICHAEL BESCHLOSS

- Noted Presidential Historian; Author: *The Conquerors*
- Contributor to PBS' "News Hour with Jim Lehrer" and ABC News

Sponsored by: NICHOLS CONSULTING ENGINEERS & KNPB CHANNEL 5

DATE: Wed., April 21, 2004

TIME: 7 p.m.

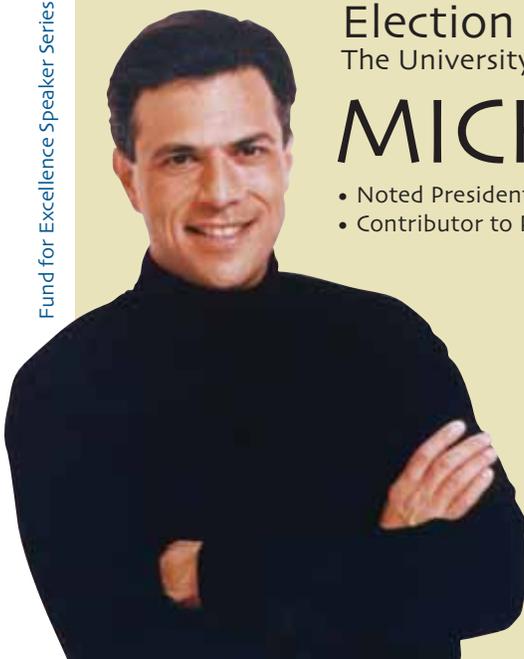
LOCATION: Nightingale Concert Hall, Church Fine Arts Building

TICKET PRICES: \$35 general admission. \$25 for Alumni Association members, KNPB members and faculty*.

Tickets: Box Office in the Church Fine Arts Building, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Friday. Remaining seats go on sale one hour prior to the event. Major credit cards accepted. (775) 784-6847.

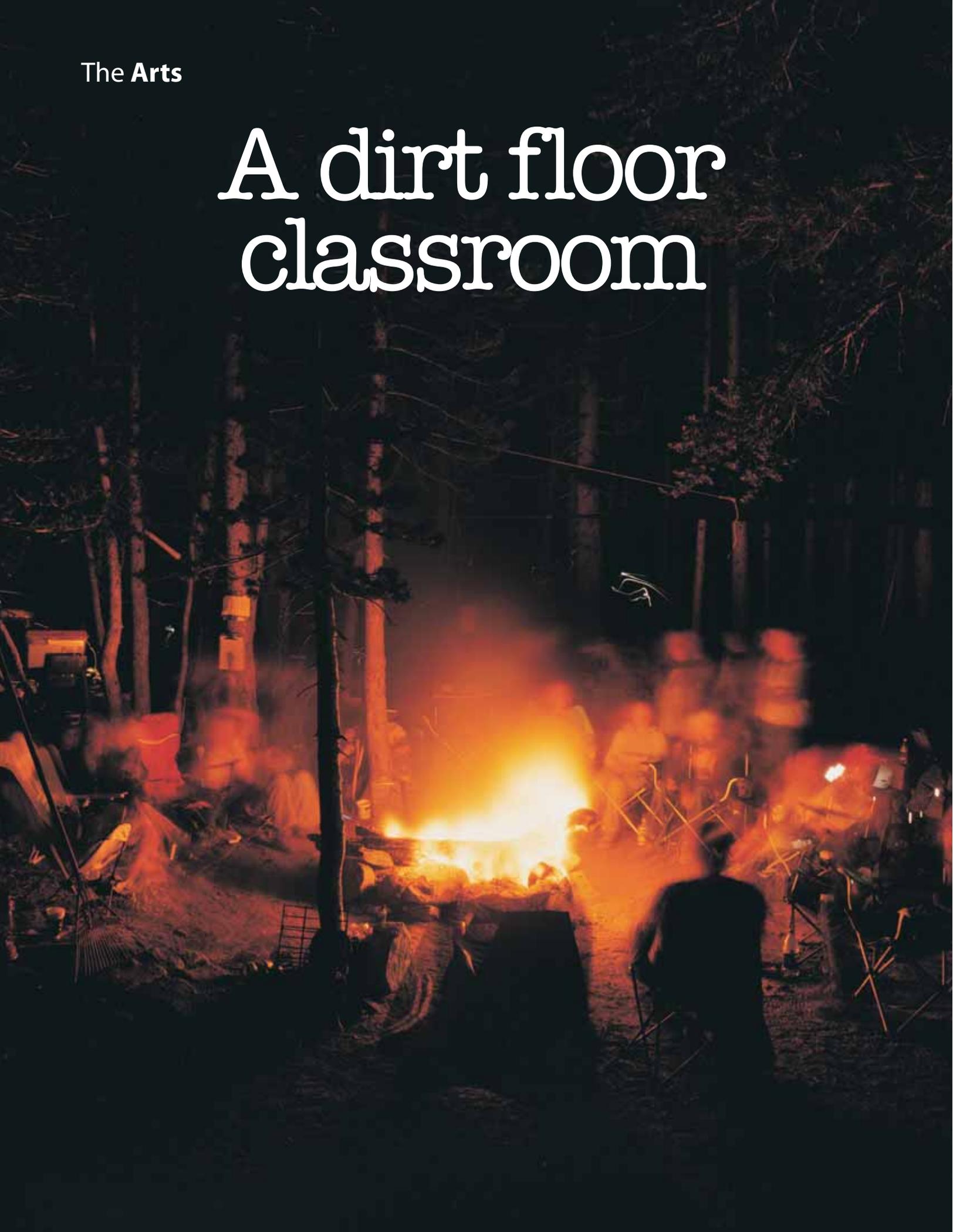
* Advance purchase only; alumni or KNPB MemberCard required when purchasing tickets or at Will Call.

Fund for Excellence Speaker Series



The Arts

A dirt floor classroom



Peter Goin, professor of art, uses body language in telling a nighttime story.

Story by Peter Goin

This classroom floor is hardened dirt nestled by a scattering of pine needles. Not only that, but students had to bring their own chairs.

A varied lot of chairs it was, too: some chaise lounges and other hard-back beach chairs combined with a couple of camping stools, and one student forgot to bring a chair, or didn't have one. And this classroom had no walls but it did offer a ceiling of stars, shining brightly through the thin

mountain air. Our classroom light was provided by flashlights and by the light of the warming fire, necessary by itself given the crisp air

after sunset. While it was late June in the Hoover Wilderness, heavy April snows, including one last significant summer snowstorm the week before, made this mountain workshop a place for the telling of stories.

Let the stories begin! Like the wind, the speaking weaves through the forest: Imagine for a moment swimming in snow-melt lakes that are sufficiently cold that Chris claimed after screaming at the top of his lungs "...I'm worried



A full service classroom — Lona Cavallera greets the day.



ABOVE: A must-have wilderness item: insect repellent.

DETAIL, FAR LEFT: A taped toe shows the perils of long hikes.

OPPOSITE PAGE: Peter Goin's time exposure of the class campsite at the east end of Green Lake in the Hoover Wilderness has an 'other world' feel.

All the b/w photos were exposed, processed and scanned by Courtney Gresham-Green

Continues next page

On the Move

From previous page

about having children after that cold dip....” or Kami, who nearly hallucinated from the myriad of mosquito attacks, artfully turning the experience into a dance around the fire, and, too, a photographic project. Then Emma hiked every mountain, accepting the compliments of Eric and Mat, who were suitably impressed and tired in pursuit. If wilderness is defined by that area where a cell phone doesn’t work, Mark will crack open a satellite phone and then later prove his acumen at public performance. Kellyn, a steady, firm hiker, discovered a strategy of visual literacy in the mountain, almost as if it were a spiritual quest. Rebekah, Amber and Courtney learned the coyote yell, and felt it reverberate across the valleys. Janine documented pathways as if each step marked a new beginning. Lona talked along the trail, speaking to the trees and the animals. Julie became part of nature, and made photographs as evidence of the spirit of the place.

Amy Chatowski organized the pack trip, working with Matt Taylor and the Virginia Lakes Pack Outfit, where 13 students, one professor, 12 or more mules and as many horses rode into one of this country’s eldest wilderness areas. Amy was camp goddess, momma wilderness, and right-hand camp girl, and her stories electrified the classroom, trees, mosquitoes, squirrels, deer and all. If you want to hear all of these stories, you will have to visit the classroom where wild things roam.

(Editor’s note: This brief article derives from Professor Peter Goin’s summer 2003 fieldwork workshop in photography conducted within California’s Hoover Wilderness, next to the Yosemite Wilderness area. Students were required to participate in telling stories and performing, while during the light of day, photographing. These photographs derive mostly from Courtney Gresham-Green’s focus on the classroom itself. The exhibit of a few of everyone’s photographs was held in Interim Dean Eric Herzik’s College of Liberal Arts office in the Ansari Business Building. The work of Goin and his students is an ongoing feature this year in Nevada Silver & Blue.)

Nevada researcher thrilled to be part of **MARS MISSION**

By *Melanie Supersano*

She doesn’t have a Mars clock, but Wendy Calvin, University of Nevada Arthur Brant research associate professor of geophysics and one of 50 scientists on the Mars Exploration Rover (MER) mission’s science team, is living on Mars time.

Calvin is currently bunkered down at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif. with her MER mission colleagues, shifting back to Earth time when she comes back to Reno every two Martian weeks (a Mars day is about 40 minutes longer than an Earth day) to check in at home and take care of graduate students.

Calvin is also mentoring a recent grad, Alicia Fallacaro (’03 MS Geology), who is among about 100 science affiliates with the MER program. “Alicia is doing a downlink role and is covering for me when I’m not there,” Calvin says.

Since Spirit and Opportunity, the twin robotic rovers that landed on different sides of the Red Planet in January, started sending back data, scientists have confirmed that Martian soil includes hematite, an iron ore associated with water. If Mars once had water, it’s possible it once had life.

“It’s why we went there,” Calvin says. “We would have been surprised if we didn’t find it.” Calvin, whose specialty is infrared spectroscopy using the “mini-TES” or Thermal Emissions Spectrometer onboard both rovers, explains that a larger TES instrument on the Mars Global Surveyor satellite orbiting Mars had already identified hematite on the surface.

A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, Calvin says being part of the MER team is “a career highlight.”

Photo by Jean Dixon



Wendy Calvin spent 10 hours assembling a LEGO version of the Mars exploration rover. She is a participating scientist on the Mars Exploration Rover Mission team. You can purchase a LEGO rover at lego.com.

“I’ve worked for 15 years on data sets from other planets. To actually be there when the data is coming down is really thrilling.”

Spirit and Opportunity are larger, more mobile and better equipped than the 1997 Mars Pathfinder rover. Each carries a sophisticated set of instruments. Both rovers were launched from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Fla. last year.

In Pasadena, a watchmaker has made Mars watches for some of the mission members. Calvin, however, is using a software program to keep track of her interplanetary schedules.

More information and photos of Calvin can be found at:

www.unr.edu/ur/calvinrelease.htm

More information about the Mars rover mission is available on the Internet:

<http://marsrovers.jpl.nasa.gov/home/index.html>

Image credit: NASA/JPL/Cornell



This image, captured by the Mars Exploration Rover Opportunity’s camera, highlights the puzzling rock outcropping that scientists are eager to investigate. These layered rocks measure only 10 centimeters (4 inches) tall and are thought to be either volcanic ash deposits or sediments carried by water or wind.

Internet Pioneer

Tim Casey spearheads Web law evolution

By Melanie Supersano

For a guy who changed majors to avoid having to take a foreign language, Tim Casey hit the international diplomatic scene without breaking stride, shaping global Internet law and helping determine the future of intellectual property law in the United States as a primary author and negotiator of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA).

"I started out as a pre-med major, but decided that wasn't the thing for me," Casey says. "I was very bad at foreign languages. I decided I was better off moving to a major that didn't have a foreign language requirement," he recalls.

So he switched to electrical engineering, graduating from Nevada in 1984.

It was this degree that ultimately led Casey to become a leader in high-tech law, both nationally and internationally. Now a partner and chair of Intellectual Property & Technology Law in the Washington, D.C. office of Fried Frank, an international law firm based in New York City, Casey remembers the route that started in Nevada and landed him in Geneva, lobbying United Nations world leaders to implement fair copyright protection laws and, ultimately, save the Internet as we know it.

The College of Engineering first helped Casey find an internship with a local company, Lynch Communications, which made PBX systems. Unfortunately, the demand for its products wasn't strong and Casey and a number of other employees were laid off, which made a strong impact on the budding electrical engineer.

"Getting laid off was very disturbing. I was very concerned — is this what it's going to be like in the real world?" he remembers.

But Casey wasn't a typical student on a single career path. He ran for office and became a student body senator for engineering. He interned with a state senator and found himself working the halls of the legislature in Carson City, both for the senator and in his capacity as a student representative for the university.

"I would have my intern badge on and an education bill would come up; I'd put on my lobbyist badge and go and testify. Only in Nevada could this have happened," he muses.

Through his legislative connections, he was granted an interview with E.M. "Al" Gunderson, chief justice of the Nevada Supreme Court. Gunderson was an adjunct professor at University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento and offered Casey the chance to apply to McGeorge with his recommendation.

But the transition from engineering to law was still difficult. "Law school exams are all essay exams. I hadn't written an essay exam in a long time."

After a disastrous first two quarters, "I thought for sure I had flunked out," he remembers. Work seemed like the only alternative.

Casey landed a job at a disk drive company in San Jose. The job was an eye-opener, showing him what an exceptional education he had received at Nevada.

Tim Casey's electrical engineering degree led to a high-powered career as an intellectual property lawyer.

Continues next page

Photo by Jacquelyn Fuzell Casey



On the Move

SIDE NOTES:

• As a result of Tim Casey's global effort to affect Internet laws, publisher John Wiley & Sons asked Casey to write a book, *ISP Liability Survival Guide: Strategies for Managing Copyright, Spam, Cache, and Privacy Regulations*, which it published in 2000.

• Casey was a Sigma Nu fraternity brother while attending Nevada.

• While at Santa Clara University School of Law, Tim Casey distinguished himself by publishing an award-winning paper about trademark law and becoming the first part-time student to serve as editor-in-chief of the *Santa Clara Computer & High Technology Law Journal*.

"There were recent grads from MIT, Stanford and Cal-Tech — some of the well-known engineering schools. I found that I knew as much or more than they did. I certainly had a better grasp of the practical things that you needed to know as an engineer. I realized, 'Wow!' my education at Nevada was really first rate."

Casey was enjoying his work as an engineer, but as it turned out, he not only recovered from his difficult start at McGeorge, he managed to place in the top 20 percent of his class.

"I had to make a decision," he recalls. On the one hand, he wanted to pursue a law degree, on the other, he wanted to keep his engineering job. So he worked out a transfer to Santa Clara University School of Law that allowed him to be a full-time engineer and a part-time student.

"I didn't go to law school with the intent of becoming an intellectual property attorney, I just thought my background would be a good combination," he says. "I saw all these high technology companies with lawyers with political science and English majors — wouldn't it be a good idea to be an engineer and a lawyer who could understand both the technology and the law?"

A good idea it was. While in law school, he studied for and passed the patent registration examination, a federal requirement to represent inventors before the Patent Office. Passing this exam led him to leave his engineering job for a full-time job clerking and writing patent applications for the law firm Rosenblum, Parish & Bacigalupi. After graduating, Casey worked for the firm, then for leading Silicon Valley companies such as Apple and Silicon Graphics, Inc. (SGI), working with some of the best engineers in the world and staying at the forefront of the latest in high-tech innovations.

"At Apple, I worked on numerous advanced technology projects, such as handheld computers, software technologies, and the Power PC microprocessor, which was a joint development project between IBM, Apple and Motorola. I was one of the attorneys who put that deal together," he says.

SGI was a startup company known for inventing graphics technologies used to create the special effects in movies, design cars and predict weather when Casey became its head intellectual property counsel. Through SGI, Casey became involved with the White House Information Infrastructure Task Force, the Clinton administration's response to the nascent Internet.

"The Internet was becoming something and thanks to the World Wide Web, it became easy to use and began to grow significantly. Along with that growth came concern that copyrighted content would be easily copied and distributed over the Internet. The content companies — the movie industry, the recording industry — were very worried about the impact the Internet would have on their businesses," Casey recalls.

SGI was, at that time, working on an interactive television project with Time Warner, one of the top content companies.

"Time Warner was pressuring SGI to support them within the Task Force for legislation that would modify copyright law to make Internet service providers (ISPs), the access and network operators of the Internet, liable for infringing material put on the Internet by users."

Then Casey took a job at MCI — the dominant ISP. "So suddenly, I went from a company that wasn't going to have liability as a result of this legislation, to a company that was going to have most of the liability."

But MCI, along with other communications companies, was busy concentrating its lobbying efforts on the Telecommunications Act, which eventually passed in 1996. Casey seemed to be the only person concerned about the pending copyright bill.

"This bill will kill the Internet," Casey remembers thinking. If ISPs were held liable for anything that their customers put on a Web page or sent in an e-mail, the price of using the Internet would skyrocket to offset the litigation and liability the ISPs would surely face.

Taking the lead from a case in which the Church of Scientology convinced an ISP to remove infringing customer material when the church complained, Casey formulated an amendment to the legislation based on a concept he dubbed "notice and take down."

A lobbyist at MCI introduced Casey to U.S. Rep. Rick Boucher from Virginia, who accepted the amendment and connected Casey with a group of people interested in supporting notice and take down. As a result, Casey became the co-founder of the Ad Hoc Copyright Coalition, a group sustaining this effort on behalf of all ISPs, telephone and software companies, universities and a variety of other entities. One of the Coalition's hardest tasks was explaining to people what the Internet was and how it worked. As the only engineer involved, this task largely fell to Casey. "We fought like mad and really worked the issue," says Casey, recalling



Photo by Jacquelyn Fuzell-Casey

Tim Casey and Jacquelyn Fuzell-Casey recently celebrated their 16th wedding anniversary. They met on a blind date 20 years ago and since then “she has been my key adviser and partner,” says Casey. Fuzell-Casey is a photographer, heads a children’s charity and stays at home with their son, Skyler, who will be 13 in March.

the David vs. Goliath struggle. This effort led to the bill’s defeat — a victory in itself.

But, as the bill lost steam, the content community started working on an end run around Congress that involved the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), a standing body of the United Nations. WIPO had spent years working on an international treaty intended to update copyright laws to protect digital works around the world, and thanks to the content community’s last-minute efforts, it did so without regard for ISP liability.

WIPO’s treaty would undo, on a global scale, everything Casey and his coalition had achieved in the U.S. But the treaty was in its eleventh hour and Casey’s coalition didn’t even have the nongovernmental organization (NGO) status that was required to attend WIPO meetings.

“What can we possibly do?” Casey remembers thinking.

Moving quickly, Casey and two colleagues flew to Helsinki to meet with the Finnish government official responsible for drafting the final treaty.

The official had sympathy for the ISPs, but would only put a vague reference to the coalition’s concerns in the draft.

It was enough. Now the coalition only needed to get enough countries to support its position during negotiation of the treaty at a diplomatic conference to take place in Geneva in late 1996.

The coalition received NGO status, but too late to attend or make progress at the Asian, American and European regional conferences. That left the African conference.

“The Africans usually splinter along historical lines; they rarely vote as a block,” Casey remembers, so his goal was to urge them to support the coalition and try it one time. In return, the coalition promised to help Africans use copyrights to protect their oral histories, their folklore, which the content community, ironically, had been stealing.

In the end, after almost a month of negotiation, all African countries attending the conference and a number of other countries stepped up to support the coalition’s amendments to the treaty and it passed.

Back in the United States, Casey then helped negotiate and write the DMCA, which was passed in October 1998 in response to the treaty.

Casey also worked with the European Commission to help draft language for their E-Commerce Directive, extending the notice and take down concept to any content on the Internet, not just copyrighted works, which was passed by the European Union. Notice and take down has now been widely implemented around the world.

Casey lives in McLean, Va., with his wife, Jacquelyn Fuzell-Casey, and son, Skyler.

College of Education leads **Literacy Studies**

Teaching children to read can be a daunting task. Luckily, budding readers are getting top-quality support from faculty at the University of Nevada. *By Pat McDonnell*

The overarching, three-decades-running mission embraced by five professors in the university's College of Education, as part of a nationally recognized Literacy Studies team, has helped Nevada become a U.S. leader in reading education and undergraduate teacher preparation. Now, those efforts have helped play a key role in bringing 16,000 of the nation's teachers to Reno this spring.

From May 2-6, the International Reading Association, with a general session of 10,000-plus, will convene in northern Nevada for its 49th annual convention at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. Literacy Studies team member Diane Barone, past editor of the premier research journal in the field, *Reading Research Quarterly*, will be a featured speaker on early literacy.

"It is amazing that we attracted it here," she says, noting that IRA officials moved the convention from Toronto. "It is just a huge, huge event."

The National Commission on Excellence in Elementary Teacher Preparation for Reading Instruction, in an IRA-authorized study, recognized Nevada as one of eight U.S. higher education institutions with exemplary credentials for preparing reading teachers. The report praised the university, which has been leading a three-year, statewide \$26 million Nevada Reading Excellence Act grant, for its ability to develop highly appropriate field experiences in the schools for its undergraduate education students.

Barone, local convention chair, says fellow speaker Nevada Gov. Kenny

Guinn will kick off a busy program. IRA president-elect Richard Allington of the University of Florida and University of Illinois at Chicago researcher Taffy Raphael, National Reading Conference past president and IRA teacher education award-winner, are also convention speakers.

In preparing learners for life experiences through their reading, the team of Barone and Literacy Studies colleagues Cindy Brock, Shane Templeton, Donald Bear, and Julie Pennington, employs a variety of techniques that translate extraordinarily well to both classroom and one-on-one tutoring environments.

Elementary school children participate in highly specialized reading programs at the college's E.L. Cord Foundation Center for Learning and Literacy. Bear, the center's director, said research-based assessments, such as the

Ginny Holmes, Jan Rumball, Robin Kauffmann, Patricia Franklin, Lisa Keilty, Kim Warren and Kelley Clare were among 14 students in the first group to receive the university's new master of education degree in literacy studies Dec. 6.



Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS), identify children who are having difficulty with reading fundamentals and assist teachers in matching instruction to children's development. In addition to his extensive work with PALS screenings, Bear's research on civic literacy with Nevada professor Kathryn Obenchain has helped expand their work worldwide, leading to a cooperative program in the field with the University of Babes-Bolyai in Cluj, Romania.

Brock, meanwhile, has worked on several research projects of international scope, including one with College of Education colleague Lynda Wiest through the campus' University Studies Abroad Consortium. The two professors have been exploring how Nevada education students and current teachers learn about the complexities of instructing children from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds.

Barone, leading a statewide \$26 million "Reading First" grant, is inviting distinguished speakers in the field to Nevada, enhancing professional development opportunities for educators specializing in early literacy instruction and learning. Her work on the literacy development of children prenatally exposed to crack and cocaine has been widely published.

Pennington, with expertise in high stakes testing and reading as well as critical race studies, examines how institutions and teachers construct and define literacy within a rigorous assessment environment. Her studies on how race is socially constructed in classroom literacy practice and teacher education add depth to the team's research.

Graduate students in the College of Education also have access to a new layer of instructional techniques and professional development that dramatically increases their range of teaching skills. The 40-credit Master's in Literacy Studies program, founded in fall 2000 with the support of longtime

Nevada benefactor Dorothy Lemelson and her Lemelson Education Assistance Program (LEAP), expanded to its fourth cohort of 25 Washoe County teachers this spring. Currently,

100 teachers, from schools selected by the Washoe County School District and the university, have been sharing research-based 'best practices' for literacy instruction.

Teachers at Anderson, Libby Booth, Rita Cannan and Sierra Vista elementary schools in Reno, Esther Bennett in Sun Valley, Desert Heights in Stead and Sparks' Lincoln Park, Kate Smith and Florence Drake are the latest program participants.

Fourteen students from the inaugural cohort, established in Incline Village, graduated from Nevada Dec. 6. Graduate Barbara Everman, a 70-year-old Incline Village resident, says Lemelson and the university have given her a gift beyond belief.

"Mrs. Lemelson made it so easy," says Everman, a 1957 graduate of Pepperdine University who is teaching 18 second-grade students at Incline Elementary. "The professors came up here to us and tuition was free. I said to myself, 'Someone is telling me something. Follow the dream.' I feel like a brand new teacher."

Templeton, who with lead author Bear has co-written a best-selling book in education, *Words Their Way*, an examination of word study, phonics and spelling, says Everman and the other teachers in the cohort are "trailblazers." The new graduates are eligible for endorsement as kindergarten through 12th-grade reading specialists with the state of Nevada.

Templeton, a member of the Usage Panel for American Heritage Dictionary since 1987, says the younger teachers in the group were realistic

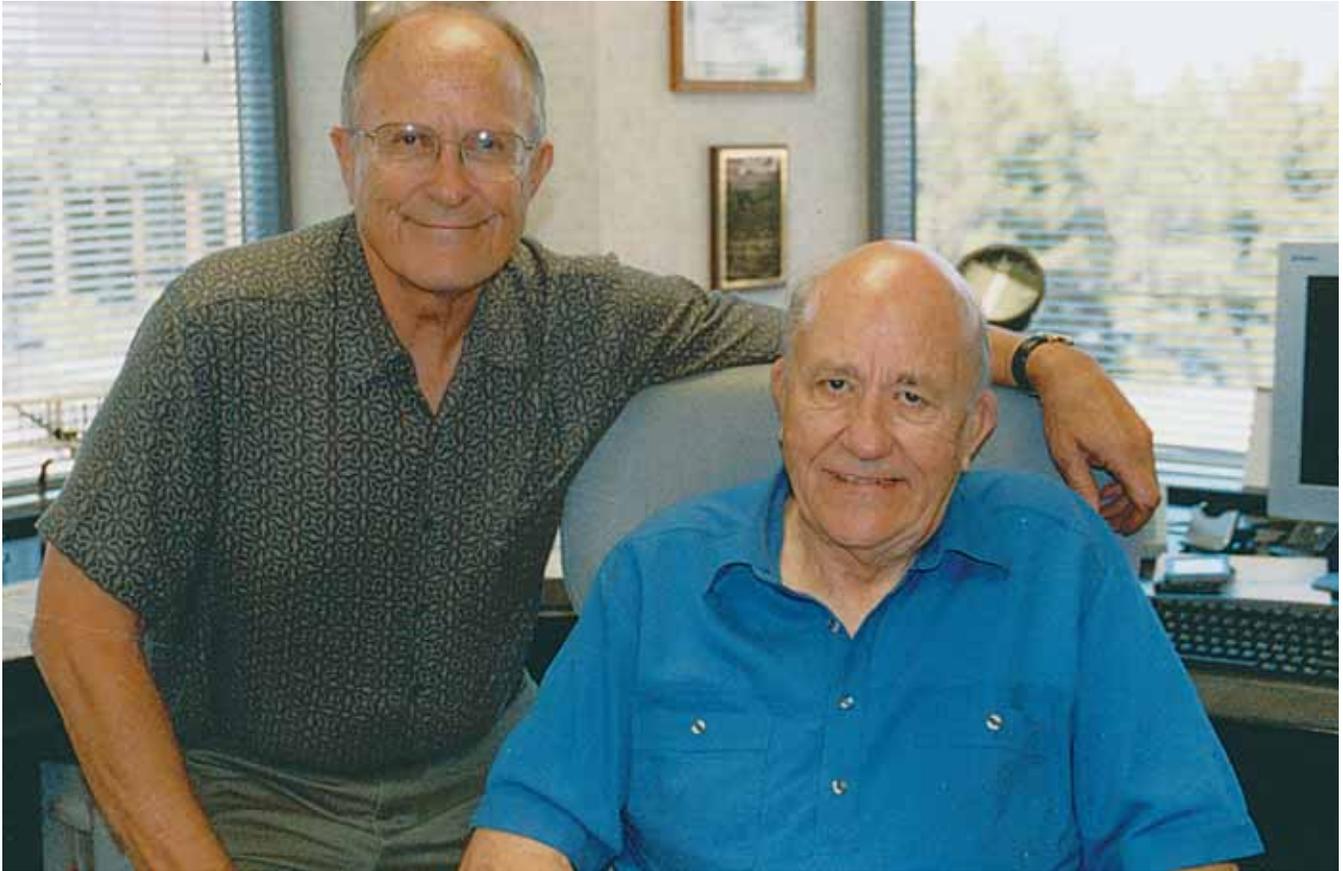
idealists with the energy to immediately instill the concepts they were learning in their classrooms. The older students were remarkably dedicated, understanding how well they could blend their own life experiences with these new teaching tools.



FACES OF LITERACY
From top: Dorothy Lemelson, Shane Templeton and Diane Barone have joined literacy studies team members Donald Bear, Cindy Broch and Julie Pennington in leading reading education.
On the Internet: E.L. Cord Foundation Center for Learning and Literacy Web site: <http://www.unr.edu/cll/>



Photo by John Wheeler



GIBSON FAMILY

maintains strong Nevada orbit

From the nation's space program to state politics, the Gibson family has recorded a half-century of achievement and public service. (From left) John Gibson and Fred Gibson Jr.

by John Wheeler

During the first two minutes — or to be exact 122 seconds — of each ascent, America's space shuttles are lifted out of the atmosphere with the assistance of a white powder, a solid fuel propellant that has more than a little silver and blue mixed in.

"There's slightly less than two million pounds of our stuff on every flight," says Fred Gibson, Jr. (Mines, 1951), who, along with his father, Fred Sr., in Henderson, Nev., in 1955 perfected and patented a method for making a fuel ingredient that would revolutionize the aerospace field.

Two minutes is all it takes to burn off two million pounds of ammonium perchlorate, but it's enough to send the shuttle on its way. For the accomplishment, the younger Gibson received

the Distinguished Public Service Medal, the highest civilian honor awarded by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Fred Gibson Jr. is retired now, but his brother John (Metallurgical Engineering, 1964), is the current president and CEO of American Pacific Corporation, the company that ultimately evolved in 1982 through mergers with several other chemical companies whose genesis dates back to the end of World War II. Fred succeeded his father as president in 1966 and held the position until 1997 when brother John took over.

It's a notable success story, but one that was marred by tragedy. The name of the company that merged with American Pacific was Pacific Engineering & Production Co. or PEPCON. For many long-time Nevadans, the acronym still

evokes somber memories. On May 4, 1988, PEPCON's Henderson chemical factory erupted in a thunderous explosion, destroying the facility, taking two lives and injuring hundreds. It could easily have been the end for PEPCON and American Pacific.

"Absolutely," Fred says. "The thing I focused on was persuading the government to help support us in rebuilding. My statement to them was that we would have this thing in production within the year. We established our credibility with the government and that's still to our benefit."

With federal help for the strategically important operation, the company rebuilt its plant in Utah and has prospered in the subsequent years. "It was a huge challenge," Fred says. Today, American Pacific has more than 200 employees, mostly in Utah, with a couple of dozen at the company's Las Vegas headquarters, located in a business park a stone's throw from the Strip.

The Gibson family's roots lie deep in the Nevada soil, but also extend across it. In the 1950s, Fred Sr. bought 600 acres of land in what is today the geographical heart of Henderson. Back then, it went for \$100 to \$200 an acre. The brothers have successfully developed most of this land, with about half used for residences and half for a business park. Gibson Road, named after Fred Sr., is home to the world's largest auto mall.

"My dad was prescient," says John Gibson. "You would not know it [the 600 acres] as we knew it. I actually have an envelope with a letter from my grandmother that was mailed to Master John Gibson, Las Vegas, Nevada. No street address or anything and it was delivered."

John came to American Pacific after a 28-year career with U.S. Steel. Between 1986 and 1992, he was responsible for the \$500 million modernization of the Pittsburg, Calif., plant as part of a joint venture between U.S. Steel and

Pohang Iron and Steel Ltd. (POSCO) of South Korea. Through this position, he visited South Korea dozens of times to train managers.

"It was a great adventure," he says. "They taught us orderliness. You can walk on a blast furnace floor in Korea in your street shoes. If you did that in America, I'm not sure your street shoes would survive. The other thing is commitment. If you and I shake hands, the trust is implicit. The written document is not as important as a true agreement between two adults. It's a miraculous country."

Fred Jr. and John are two of five siblings. Their brother, Jim, was a Nevada state senator who served for nearly three decades. Then-Gov. Richard Bryan called him, "...the premier legislator in Nevada, without peer." Jim's son, Jim Jr., is the current mayor of Henderson, and tabbed by insiders as a potential governor.

Interestingly, although both Fred Jr. and John have long careers as managers, neither is trained in that discipline.

"But, an engineer can and should make a good manager because one of the important parts of an engineering education is you're taught how to think," Fred says. "That analytical approach to problems is important for managers as well."

The brothers are both heavily involved in a multitude of civic activities. Among them, Fred is chairman of the State Commission on Mineral Resources and president of the Nevada Taxpayers Association; John is on the foundation board for Nevada State College in Henderson. Fred holds an honorary doctorate from Nevada and was named a Distinguished Nevadan in 1985.

The Gibson legacy at Nevada continues. Fred's granddaughter, Maureen O'Bannon, is currently a business major and already an entrepreneur with her own T-shirt business.

Gibson Family's **NEVADA** Connections

■ Five siblings attended Nevada: John*; Fred Jr.; Maisie Gibson Ronnow (English and Secondary Education, 1951); Christina Gibson Little (Nursing, 1973); and Jennilee Gibson Thayer (Mathematics, Elementary and Secondary Education, 1953).

■ John Gibson's wife, Marianne, is another Nevada grad. (Elementary Education, 1963).



Fred Jr.



Maisie Gibson Ronnow

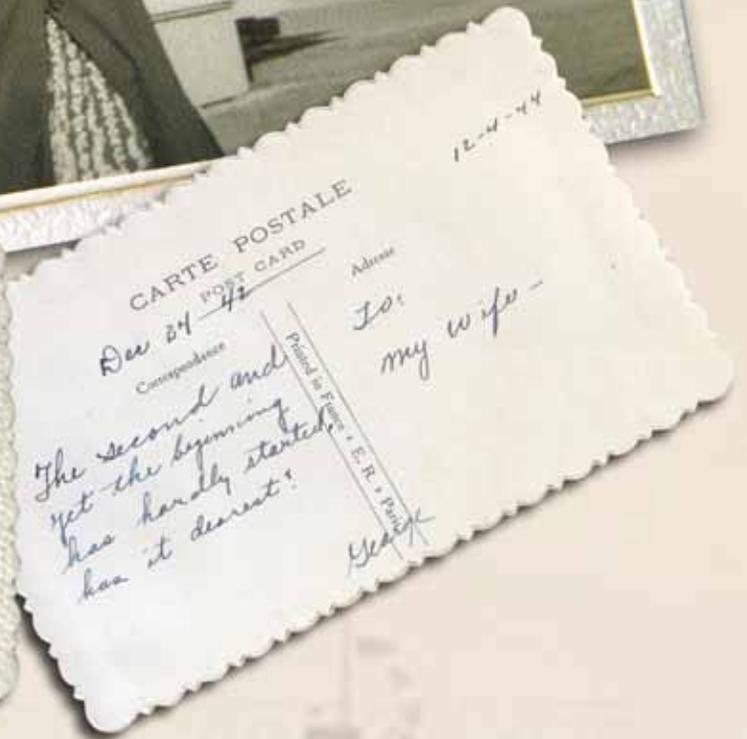


Jennilee Gibson Thayer



Christina Gibson Little

*not pictured



Correspondence from a soldier, dying young, to his Nevada-born bride still resonates more than 60 years later

Love letters for the ages

Story by John Trent

Evelyn English's voice is one of the most distinctive things about a very distinctive woman.

Hers is a reassuring voice, a graceful voice, a teacher's voice. It is also a gentle voice, a voice not of limitation but of possibility. It is a voice that says, "I have a story too, if you'd like to hear about it."

Most of all, though, at age 88, her voice is that of a woman who has loved and who continues to love all that there is to life. She has seen her share of triumph ... and, unfortunately, her share of tragedy. She is the last of a group of six remarkable children from John and Louise Semenza still living, and each day she remembers the faces of her beloved brothers and sisters, their memory as delicate as an old, yellowing newspaper clipping.

Throughout her life, she has retained a rare nobility, an ability to see good in the most unlikely places. Though she is alone, she is never alone. She is an unrepentant keeper of letters and records, duty-bound in her love for her family to make sure her family is never forgotten.

In *Roots*, Alex Hailey's classic tale of the triumph of an American family, he writes of the tribes of his ancestors, and of the most esteemed of all tribal positions, that of "Groot," or storyteller. The "Groot" holds all stories related to the tribe, and passes the stories on to the next generation through story. In many ways, English is a wizened practitioner of the "Groot" tradition. The stories flow forward from her with a tender thrill. Hardly any of us know the significant events in our lives as they are actually happening, but through the prism of time and understanding, she weaves her stories in a soft-spoken, understated manner.

Of all the memories she has retained, though, one related to a beautiful, yet tragic time in her life, has stood out.

One evening, composer Alan Smith, a music professor at USC, was talking with English, who lives in Pasadena, Calif., about a project he was having difficulty completing. Smith was to compose a song cycle for the Tanglewood Music Center in Massachusetts in celebration of

Continues next page

Cover Story

'I had seen fire go through the young pines in drought season. But it was no more swift than passion's blaze through us. Our hearts were rejoined and we were in each other's arms.

We were pitiful in the bliss and pain of it - so lavish were our loves so strong our need and right of each other and so vigorous and sentient our years.

You will remember, won't you?'

— 1942 letter from England from Lt. George Honts to his wife, Evelyn.



the 80th birthday of the great soprano Phyllis Curtin. English, a 1936 graduate of the university, happened to say that she had held onto all of the correspondence she had received from her late husband, George W. Honts, who was killed during World War II.

What Smith found in the letters was remarkable. Nearly 60 years old, the letters contained a love, both for Evelyn and for life, that was undeniably fresh and real. The love letters have become the centerpiece for "Vignettes: Letters from George to Evelyn from the Private Papers of a World War II bride," which made its West Coast debut in early 2003 at USC's Newman Recital Hall. Inspired, Smith wrote the piece quickly, using lyrics taken directly from Honts' letters, with the telegram informing English of her husband's death forming the emotional center of the composition.

The attraction between the two young people, naturally enough, came at a party at Fort Ord, Calif.... through the sound of a young first lieutenant's voice.

"He had such a beautiful voice," English says. "I didn't have my glasses on and I wondered what he looked like until he came over to me. He was such an attractive man, with such a beautiful voice, and he was so intelligent."

Even through her nearsightedness, she saw a pair of trusting, thoughtful blue eyes smiling back at her. He was a person who loved picnics, and wondered if the young school teacher from Reno would like to picnic on the beach that Sunday.

Evelyn and George were married only a few months later, on Dec. 24, 1942.

George, from Los Angeles, a conscientious objector who had studied medicine, was part of a medical unit that successfully landed during the Normandy Invasion. His letters came regularly to English, who returned to Reno and worked in the Riverside Dress Shop. They read almost like poetry: descriptive and evocative, lyrical in their joyful ode to living.

They usually began in firm, clear cursive: "Bonjour Evelyn — "

"The sun has just come up. It's a beautiful morning. The grassy downs are sparkling like myriads of diamonds. Sheep are placidly grazing around my tent, satisfied with the prospect of getting both food and drink in the same mouthful and displaying their woolly youngsters with great pride.

"From the top of our hill the great sea is as quiet as a lake. The anchored hulls of all the cargo ships



are quietly swaying to and fro keeping rhythm with gentle swells that do not end in surf. This morning my heart goes out to you."

The young doctor survived D-Day, and seemed destined to be reunited with his bride. He was killed in March 1945 — a scant few days before the end of the war — near the Rhine River.

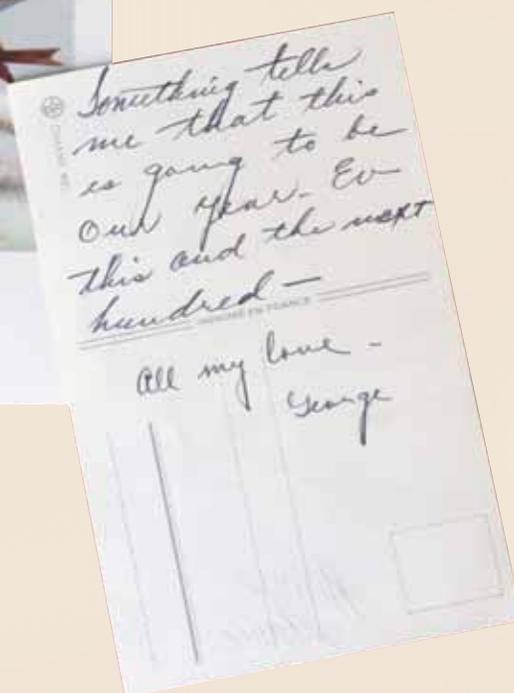
In a cruel twist — almost impossible to imagine in today's information age, with the instant, hyperactive, updated-by-the-minute graphics of the recent Iraqi War — Evelyn continued to receive George's letters in the weeks after she received the telegram with news of his death.

"The Secretary of War desires to express his deep regret that your husband 1Lt Honts George W was killed in Germany 25 Mar 45 Confirming letter follows"

Followed by:

*"My heart, my mind, my soul is yours —
My best to everyone ... Must run now, my sweet—*

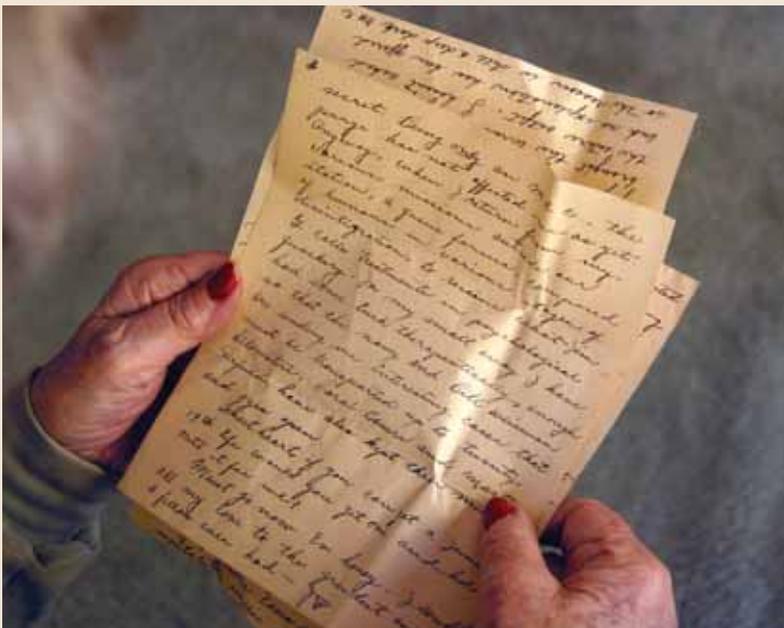
*Gotta run now baby
Love George"*



'Have just come from Luxembourg, where the emotions of new liberation are still highlighted and poignant... In one community we were welcomed by the grand lady of the district. I shall never forget her expression or her words ...

'Let our lives be worthy of their deaths - the thousand never to be forgotten deaths of those who gave us these glorious days. ''

— 1944 letter from England from Lt. George Honts to his wife, Evelyn.



It was as if George was not dead at all, his soothing, carefully crafted words offering a strange, elegiac sense of comfort to his despondent young wife.

Perhaps, just perhaps, they were words that were not meant to die at all.

Everything that dies, perhaps, one day comes back.

It is not surprising, then, that as George's words continued to live in the weeks following his death, they continue to resonate today, more than 60 years later.

Words buried in the bottom of a chest in a closet have taken on new life.

"What Alan did with them was just wonderful," Evelyn says. "I never knew what I was going to do with all of those letters, who to share them with, because I have no children."

During the March 1990 funeral for Evelyn's sister, Nevada, who moved 38 times in her life, those gathered were instructed in Nevada's eulogy to "Don't be afraid to close chapters and start new ones."

All of her life, Evelyn English has known that the first novel a person ever knows is not written by Charles Dickens, or Ernest Hemingway or even J.K. Rowling. Rather, the first novel that a person ever knows is that of family. The chapters of family are begun at birth and end at burial, and wind through disappointment and accomplishment, through the pain and joy of love, through the wonder of life and the finality of death.

And it could be argued that in the telling of the story of her own family, the greatest story of all has belonged, all along, to Evelyn — the one person who for more than 88 years has not allowed the distinctive, remarkable and memorable voice of her family to ever fall silent.

What was I going to do with all of those letters?

Now we know.

Books in brief

■ Reno businessman and Distinguished Nevadan Preston Q. Hale has led a long, complete and notable life, and his thoughtful and well-written memoir, *From Coyotes To Corporations: Pages From My Life In The West*, offers an insightful glimpse into what Reno was and what it could still become. The hardcover book — Hale's second in five years (the first was his well-received novel from the Black Rock Press, *Two Toes: The Coyote Legend of Green River*) — tells the uncommonly rich and productive life of an outdoorsman equally at ease in a corporate boardroom; and of a civic volunteer who has left lasting legacies in his state. In addition to His remarkable career as a U.S. wildlife biologist, Hale's career as a real estate broker, investor and builder helped to reshape northern Nevada's business terrain and skyline. Still going strong at 89 years old, Hale has won nearly every major local civic award for his tireless volunteer efforts to boost the region's economy, redevelop downtown Reno and preserve and protect the area's most precious natural resource: the Truckee River. The book is available in the ASUN Bookstore and at Sundance Bookstore in Reno.

■ *Minerals of Nevada* by Stephen B. Castor and Gregory C. Ferdock (Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology Special Publication and University of Nevada Press, 2003) is 512 pages and features 102 color photos and one map (1:1,000,000-scale). Castor, research scientist for the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology, and Ferdock, owner of CGF Natural Resources and a consulting mineralogist and economic geologist, offer the first synoptic catalog of Nevada minerals, listing every mineral found in the state along with the places they occur. Included are engaging essays by several distinguished scientists and collectors that offer a geologic history of Nevada. Order a copy by phoning Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology at (775) 784-6691, extension 2, or by checking the Web: www.nbmgs.unr.edu/sales.htm

■ The awards keep rolling in for *A Family Affair: Harolds Club and the Smiths Remembered*, compiled from interviews by Dwayne Kling and R.T. King for the Oral History Program. In December, *A Family Affair* was named one of the best gaming books of 2003 by Gaming Today. Reaching 41,700 readers with each issue, Gaming Today is the most prestigious and widely read gaming newspaper in the world. Gaming Today writes of *A Family Affair*: "It's about one of the most colorful and innovative casino owners ever — Pappy Smith and his sons Harold and Raymond. They were geniuses who broke virtually every rule in the book in regard to management and business, and for two decades owned one of the most successful operations in the state."

■ In *Identity, Culture, and Politics in the Basque Diaspora* (University of Nevada Press, 2003), Gloria Totoricaguena, an assistant professor with the university's Center for Basque Studies, thoroughly examines the endurance of Basque identity and culture in six countries of the far-flung Basque diaspora — Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Peru, the United States and Uruguay. Using the results of interviews with more than 800 informants in the diaspora and Euskal Herria (the Basque Country), questionnaire results, plus extensive research in archives and printed sources in all six of her study countries, Totoricaguena reveals for the first time the complex universe of these dispersed Basques.

■ Fans of one of the state's most distinguished photojournalists and editors, C.J. Hadley, will be happy to know that her excellent illustrated book, *Trappings of the Great Basin Buckaroo* (University of Nevada Press), is now in paperback 10 years after its original publication. *Trappings of the Great Basin Buckaroo* is available through your favorite bookstore, or by mail from the University of Nevada Press. To order, call toll free 1-877-NVBOOKS, or visit www.nvbooks.nevada.edu



Making the Alumni Association even better

Dear Alumni,



Richard Daniel,
Director of
Alumni Relations,
(775) 784-6620

Your Alumni Association has been extremely active in the first few months of 2004. We are continuously evaluating and assessing our efforts to provide you with the quality programs, services and benefits deserving of our Nevada alumni.

We are thrilled with the success that our new dues-paying membership program has achieved. To date, more than 800 alumni have joined as either lifetime or annual members. This sincere level of commitment speaks to the willingness of our alumni to give back to their alma mater. The new membership revenue will enable the Alumni Association to closely look at how we support you, our alumni, with respect to programs, services and benefits. As dues-paying members, we want you to stay connected to your alma mater.

In an effort to provide services of significance to alumni, the Nevada Alumni Association will be conducting surveys of alumni to find out your interests and needs. It is important to us that we continue to provide programs, benefits and services that are useful and beneficial.

The Nevada Alumni Association has partnered with specific affinity programs so you can receive products and services at substantial savings. Please refer to our Web site, www.unr.edu/alumni, to review the programs that can benefit you. Also while you are there, please visit the Online Community to update your information for inclusion in our survey.

Stay connected to your alma mater. Keep us informed of the milestones and successes achieved in your life. We enjoy sharing in the many accomplishments of our alumni family.

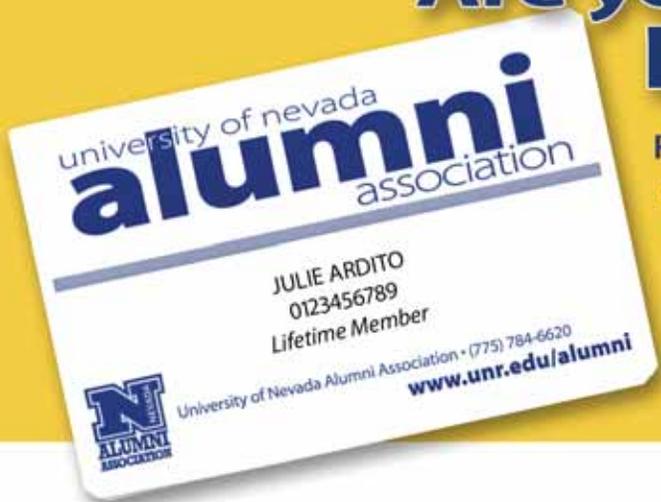
Go Pack!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard Daniel".

Richard Daniel, Ph.D.
Director of Alumni Relations

Are you a member?



For more information on becoming a card-carrying member of the Nevada Alumni Association, log on to

www.unr.edu/alumni

and click on Association Membership or call toll-free (888) NV-ALUMS.

SENIORSCHOLAR



Senior scholar Jason Wangler and his faculty mentor Rahul Bhargava, both from COBA, pose with Alumni Council President Wendy Damonte and university President John Lilley after receiving their award.

SEATTLE CHAPTER



Festive members of the Seattle Chapter gathered on one of the parade boats in the beautiful Holiday Ship Festival on the Puget Sound in December. This ship-to-shore holiday celebration has been a Northwest tradition for more than 50 years.

ChapterUpdates

COBAAA Chapter

Schedule a perfect day of golf for you and your foursome on May 6 during the University of Nevada College of Business Administration Alumni Association's (COBAAA) 13th annual golf tournament at Lakeridge Golf Course in Reno. The tournament is open to all alumni and the general public for \$150 per player or \$600 for each team of four. All proceeds will support the College of Business Administration. Your sponsorship of \$250 (for a hole) or any similar tournament sponsorship will be greatly appreciated. For more information, contact the College of Business Administration at (775) 784-4912 or Katie Weigel, (775) 882-5500, ext. 133.

College of Engineering Chapter

The College of Engineering recently had an excellent event in Las Vegas. Kathy Smith, Class of 1981, graciously offered her lovely home for a reception and short program about the college on Feb. 6. A number of Clark County engineering alumni had a chance to visit with each other, Dean Ted Batchman, Smith and other members of the College of Engineering advisory board.

The dean reviewed some of the successes of the college's students, faculty and alumni. He cited the college's growth and discussed keystone programs such as problem-based learning supported by a generous grant from the Bill and Flora Hewlett Foundation. He also talked about the world-class earthquake engineering program that has the Rogers-Wiener Large-Scale Structures

Laboratory bursting at the seams.

The dean also talked about the need for alumni to connect and reconnect with the college and the university. The college is eager to serve alumni who may want to reconnect with classmates, explore continuing education, or find volunteer opportunities such as service on the department advisory boards.

If you are interested in helping with this alumni outreach, please contact Melanie Perish, development director, at (775) 784-6433 or mperish@unr.edu

It's not too early to mark your calendar for the College of Engineering Annual Banquet, which will be held in Reno at Lawlor Events Center on May 5. Contact Rose Johns in the Dean's Office, College of Engineering, at (775) 784-6925 or via e-mail at rjohns@engr.unr.edu.

Seattle Chapter

On Dec. 14, 2003, the Seattle Chapter gathered on one of the parade boats in the beautiful Holiday Ship Festival on the Puget Sound. This is a ship-to-shore holiday celebration that has become a Northwest tradition for more than 50 years.

The ships are decorated with hundreds of shimmering white lights and miles of holiday garland, forming the largest holiday flotilla in the world. Along the way, the parade boats stop to listen to a choir performance for two 20- to 30-minute programs throughout the evening. Children enjoyed arts and crafts and a visit from Santa.

Around the Quad

Compiled by Elaine Casey, (775) 784-4941. Visit our calendar at www.unr.edu.

ALUMNI EVENTS

MARCH

11 — **Alumni Executive Committee.** Monthly meeting of the governing body of the Executive Committee. Amy Carothers, (775) 784-6620.

APRIL

7 — **Alumni Council meeting.** Quarterly meeting of the Alumni Association. Amy Carothers, (775) 784-6620.

8 — Alumni Executive Committee.

Monthly meeting of Executive Committee. Amy Carothers, (775) 784-6620.

ARTS

MARCH

11 — **Toshiko Akiyoshi Quartet.** Akiyoshi has been nominated for 14 Grammys for her work as pianist, composer and conductor. CJ Walters, (775) 784-4046.

APRIL

2 — **Night of all Nations.** One of the biggest events on campus, bringing together international students and scholars from the university with the community. Fumi Matsumoto, (775) 329-5907.

22-24 — Reno Jazz

Festival. Always the best in jazz — concerts, competitions and clinics! See <http://www.unr.edu/rjf/>. CJ Walters, (775) 784-4046.

24 — Chefs for Kids

Annual Dinner and Auction. Sponsored by University of Nevada Cooperative Extension and the Fraternity of Executive Chefs of Las Vegas, this annual dinner and auction raises funds for the Chefs for Kids nutrition education program in Clark County. Four Seasons Hotel, Las Vegas. Marilyn Ming, (702) 222-3130.

ALUMNICHAPTER



The 2003 Alumni College Committee invites all alumni to attend this year's event scheduled for June 9-12.

Participants also brought canned food to donate to Northwest Harvest, a local food bank. Although there were some rough waters, this family event was enjoyed by all and we hope it will be a Seattle Chapter tradition. We would love to see you at our next event. Contact the Alumni Association at (888) NV-ALUMS for more information regarding the Seattle Chapter.

Nevada Journalism Chapter

On a remarkably sunny afternoon in the Ted Scripps Plaza just outside the Reynolds School of Journalism, more than 50 alumni, staff and friends gathered for the annual RSJ Alumni Luncheon in October.

The Nevada Journalism Alumni Association, affectionately pronounced "N-Jaw," hosted the lunch as part of the annual Homecoming celebration.

Interim Associate Dean Jennifer Greer welcomed guests to the 2003 event. She said that it was a great time of year for the school with the opportunity to grow by three faculty positions in the near future.

"By this time next year, the school will have a new dean," Greer said.

Many RSJ advisory board members made it to the event, including Chairperson Nancy Botsdorf,

Greg Bortolin, Eileen Gay, Robin Joyce, Bruce Marr, Marlene Olsen, Jane Tors and Rick Schneider.

Alumni Paul Finch ('56), Arthur Peterson ('54) and Arthur's wife, Gini, enjoyed a conversation about longevity on the job — Finch worked for Associated Press for 20 years and Peterson stayed with the Nevada Association of Reporters for 38 years. Erin Wallace ('02) has worked at the Eldorado Hotel-Casino since graduation and works alongside alumni of nearly 20 years.

The event ended with a raffle for prizes, donated by faculty and other campus organizations. Professor Rosemary McCarthy won a book written by Professor Warren Lerude, which he promised to personalize for the winner. "That's R, O, S, E, M,..." Lerude said jokingly as he inscribed the inside jacket for his colleague.

For more information on the Nevada Journalism Alumni Association, contact the Reynolds School of Journalism at (775) 784-6531.

Southern California Chapter

All Southern California alumni are welcome to help cheer the Wolf Pack women's softball team when they play March 6 during tournament games in San Diego, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Bring coffee, juice, bagels, donuts or some other breakfast item and we'll have a table set up while

we root for the Pack. If you would like additional information please call Marilyn Ryder at (949) 307-2572 or Fran Ryder at (949) 400-1410. See you there!

Young Alumni Chapter

The Young Alumni Chapter has many activities going on and the group welcomes everyone's participation. Young Alumni's upcoming big event is Beer Fest 2004. The event is tentatively scheduled for mid-spring. Location and time will be announced shortly. For additional information, please contact Leonard Wohletz at (775) 982-8644 or e-mail leonard.wohletz@morganstanley.com

USAC Alumni Chapter

Have you previously studied abroad on a USAC program? If so, join other past participants for the upcoming USAC Alumni Chapter meeting. Catch up with fellow students who have studied abroad, as well as have an opportunity to share travel stories with others.

The group had its first meeting on Jan. 28, with a \$100 gift certificate raffled off to a USAC Alumni member. The certificate is to be used for a future USAC program. Future meetings will include an international cuisine night, foreign films, cultural

USAC ALUMNI CLUB



Photo by Maureen Egan

The University Studies Abroad Consortium affords participants a chance to study abroad — and enjoy themselves a little, too.

dancing, as well as picture sharing from your time abroad.

If you are interested in participating in the next meeting, please contact Michelle Cobb at mcobb@unr.edu or at (775) 784-6569.



Travel with the Pack *First-Class Customer Service*

Traveling with the Nevada Alumni Association Pack Tracks Program offers the comfort of knowing you are getting the highest quality travel. The tour companies that handle our trips are the best in the industry. You will also receive first-class customer service from the Office of Alumni Relations. We will be there for you before, during and after your trip.

OFFERING:

- Educational trips and tours
- Domestic and international destinations
- Professional tour guides and lecturers
- Trips for all ages to enjoy

For more travel information, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations **(888) NV-ALUMS** packtracks@unr.edu.



2004 Travel Schedule

<p>APRIL The Call of the Canyon</p> <p>MAY New Orleans Getaway</p> <p>JUNE Canadian Rockies Train Tour</p> <p>JULY Alumni College Abroad — Scandinavia</p>	<p>AUGUST America's Rockies by Rail</p> <p>OCTOBER Music Cities Tour</p> <p>Galapagos Islands and Machu Picchu</p> <p>NOVEMBER Amazon Cruise</p>
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the pack at work

Alumni making a difference



Wells Fargo

Front Row (L-R): Carole Mathisen, Nestor Santamaria, Lori Kolbert, Amy Poggensee, Susan Milani, Laura (Tucker) Rehberger, Amber Kellner, Ashley Greenspan, David Slagle. Back Row (L-R): Rob Thayer, Rich Wells, Sean D. Clark, Natalie Mitchell, Raine Shortridge, Aaron Evans, Justin McDonald.

ClassChat by Elaine Casey

The '80s

Beverly (Ricketts) Silva ('83 Social Work) has completed her master's degree in human resources and organizational development from the University of San Francisco. Beverly has worked in the human resources field for four years as a human resources manager at Synopsys, Inc. She has worked for the company for eight years.

The '90s

Adrienne (Brearley) Bemus ('96 Journalism) and **Stephen Bemus** ('97 Journalism) are the proud parents of Jacob Stephen, born on Sept. 17, 2003.

Victoria Ann Farber ('97 Journalism) was married on June 7, 2003 to John F. Farber in Mammoth Lakes, Calif. They honeymooned in Kauai and recently moved to Portland, Ore.

Kerri Garcia ('96 Business Administration) vice president and director of public relations for the Rose/Glenn Group, received the Gold Spike Award for excellence in public relations at the 2003 Public Relations Society of America (PRSA), Sierra Nevada Chapter Silver Spike Awards ceremony on Nov. 13, 2003. Kerri has more than a decade of experience in the communications

industry with an extensive background in public relations, employee communication, public affairs and project management. Previously she came to the Rose/Glenn Group from Harrah's where she spent five years as director of entertainment and public relations as well as communications manager. At Rose/Glenn Group, she oversees all aspects of the agency's public relations division including team management, business development and strategic planning. Kerri serves on many local boards and committees including Nevada Women's Fund, Truckee Meadows Tomorrow, Community Foundation of Western Nevada, and Northern Nevada Race for the Cure. She is the winner of the 2002 Harrah's Entertainment, Inc. Chairman's Award for community service, and was honored as a Nevada Women's Fund Woman of Achievement by Harrah's in 2000.

Tim Garcia-Jay ('98 Agriculture) and **Joelle (Grupe) Jay** ('92 Education) are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Jackson Donovan, on March 19, 2003. Tim has recently been named regional director for the Human Motion Institute. Joelle is the president of Pillar Consulting, LLC, a leadership development practice providing coaching to business leaders and executives.

Tony Illia ('96 MA English) recently received two Tri-State Pinnacle Awards from the Public Relations Society of America for writing excellence, including "Best Feature Story" and "Best News Story." The annual competition recognizes professionalism and work quality for a three-state area, covering Nevada, southern Utah and northern Arizona.

Hans Jones ('96 General Studies) and **Judy Bruegger** were married Sept. 21, 2003 in Denver, Colo. The couple make their home in Denver.

Walter F. Mandeville III ('90 Veterinary Science) and his fiancée, Beth, have moved back to Reno. Walter is partnering with friend and colleague **Kevin Lazarcheff** ('89 Veterinary Science) to build a new veterinary hospital in the Spanish Springs area. Walt is looking forward to being back home after years spent in federal service, veterinary research in graduate schools, and private and corporate veterinary practices over much of the United States. The new hospital will service small animals, birds, exotics and horses.

Continues on page 33



Beverly (Ricketts) Silva ('83 Social Work)



Tony Illia ('96 MA English)

Alums watch big win

These four 80-year-olds enjoyed watching Nevada beat the University of Washington 28-17 in the comfort of the Don James Center on Oct. 11, 2003. Wearing their Nevada gear, they are (left to right) Dodie Post Gann ('48), captain of the 1948 Olympic ski team, '73 Nevada Athletic Hall of Fame and '01 National Ski Hall of Fame member; Ruth Noble Wattles ('44), hostess; James Warriner ('43), retired general and Dynamics Aerospace official; Katie Little Kolodziejcki ('44), MSW from USC in '58 and Ph.D. from UCLA in '79. Nevada had not beaten a Pac-10 team in 56 years, and the Huskies are still reeling from this loss.

AlumniProfiles by Brandon Stewart

Williams key player in region's water savings

Lori (Smith) Williams, general manager of the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA), found her way to the top without really trying.

"I was never looking to climb (a corporate ladder)," she says. "I just looked for new experiences and opportunities where I could learn or try something new."

Her mode of operation led her from being a water quality student intern at Sierra Pacific Power Company in 1979 to her position atop TMWA last October.

"There were no difficulties along the way, just lots of challenges," she says. "And I love a good challenge."

Williams, a 1983 Nevada chemical engineering graduate, has exactly that. She leads the staff at TMWA, strategically planning long-term water resources for the Truckee Meadows. She also oversees her utility's strategy in terms of facilities, personnel and financial outlook.

And she is well prepared for that challenge. At Nevada, Williams says she was blessed to be a part of an unusually talented class.

"We had a super class of chemical engineers the year I graduated and we had a lot of fun studying and taking field trips together," she says. "This fun culminated in graduation when I was recipient of the Herz Gold Medal. That was great."

Not only was she awarded the university's top undergraduate honor for her 4.0 grade point average, she was also given the Scheid Trophy [highest cumulative GPA over four years] by the Mackay School of Mines.

She maintains a close relationship with the school that she says gave her so much. A member of the Mackay School of Earth Sciences and Engineering executive advisory board, she helps

Photo by Jean Dixon



assess curriculum and direction of the school. She also serves as an advisor to the Department of Chemical Engineering.

"I got a great education at the School of Mines and want to give something back," Williams says. "Curriculums like hydrology are also important to the water authority."

Williams is a Nevadan for life. She was born in St Mary's Hospital, a fourth-generation Nevadan on her mother's side.

"I love Reno and the surrounding area," she says. "I have friends and family here. I have had great career opportunities in Reno. The quality of life here is unmatched almost anywhere in the U.S."

Williams married Craig Williams in 1989, a civil engineer with Sierra Pacific Power Company. The couple has two boys: Travis, 9, and Brett, 7.

"Imagine this — they love to build things," she says about her sons growing up with two engineers as parents.

Lori Williams checks in with water quality chemist Max-Noël Shen at one of TMWA's water quality labs.

AlumniProfiles by Brandon Stewart

Photo by Jean Dixon



Nevada's own 'Karate Kid'

For Arjun Dhingra (Marketing '02), life started with the "Karate Kid." As an 8-year-old who was often picked on for his small size, Dhingra watched the movie trilogy starring Ralph Macchio and was sold on Taekwondo.

Sixteen years later, Dhingra, 24, is a fifth-degree black belt. He is one of the youngest individuals in the nation to hold the rank.

"I saw that movie and was all fired up about it, and I wouldn't stop nagging my parents to put me in some sort of class," he says.

In just three years, he earned his first-degree black belt at age 11. Also at 11, he began teaching Taekwondo to both children and adults. At 17, he and a partner opened their own Taekwondo school. Teaching, he says, is his focus now.

"I like working with the kids and adults, teaching them, helping them achieve their goals," Dhingra says. "When you get to (a fifth-degree belt) you're not in it for the rank anymore."

Practicing the original Korean martial art of self-defense, Dhingra earned his fifth-degree belt on July 12. After six months of training seven days a week, he had to endure a rigorous, three-hour test that included advanced patterns, kicking, a knife defense routine and extensive roof tile and board braking.

He dedicated the test to Matt Pearce, a family friend who had died a few years earlier.

"I considered him to be the epitome of persistence," Dhingra says.

Dhingra isn't sure if a sixth-degree belt is in his future.

"It's nothing that I have my sights on," he says. "I'm just in it to teach. It's just been such a big part of my life. I can't imagine being away from it."

Raymond Oster ('93 Business Management) and **Humma (Rasul) Oster** ('96 English Literature) are proud to announce the birth of their son, Aden Raymond, on Aug. 15, 2003.

Lisa (Reyes) Roman ('91 Spanish) and her husband, Gregorio, have welcomed three beautiful children into their lives: Juniper Elena, born in 1995;

Joshua Anselmo, born in 1997; and Jacob Michaelangelo, born in 2002. The family has lived in Moab, Utah, for almost six years, where Lisa works for the state of Utah as an employment counselor with the Department of Workforce Services. Lisa also writes a monthly feature for a department electronic publication and has been invited to serve on a statewide

committee. In addition, she has taught Spanish at the College of Eastern Utah, serves on the board of her county library, and has been able to share the Spanish language with her children's school classes. Friends can e-mail Lisa at lroman@utah.gov.

Jennifer (McCooley) Vaughan ('95 Journalism) and her husband, Brian, recently cel-

ebrated the birth of their second child, Olivia, on Nov. 18, 2003. Jennifer is currently the public relations director for the College of Fine Arts and Performing Arts Center at UNLV.

Addie Walter ('99 Journalism) and **Sean Horejs** ('99 Journalism) were married on July 12, 2003 in Reno. They currently reside in Corpus Christi, Texas,

where Addie works for CITGO Refining & Chemicals and Sean is the weekend sports anchor for KRIS-TV.

The '00s

Davina Webb ('01 Interior Design) and **Matthew Clay Walker** ('01 Civil Engineering) were married Oct. 11, 2003 in Ketchum, Idaho. Davina was a student-athlete in nordic skiing

Continues on page 35

AlumniProfiles *by Jennifer Sanzi*

YMCA's Taylor works for 'common good'

When 26-year-old David Taylor has free time, when his duties as vice president and chief communications officer for the YMCA of the Sierra, treasurer for the Public Relations Society of America's Nevada Chapter, scholarship coordinator for the Young Alumni Association, and countless other board member responsibilities are taken care of, you might just find the avid sports fan on the basketball court — that is if he isn't busy watching ESPN or a Wolf Pack football game.

A busy schedule is nothing new for Taylor. While attending Lowry High School in Winnemucca, he played basketball, baseball, football, and wrestled. After graduation he came to the University of Nevada and began studies for his major in journalism/public relations and his minor in speech communications.

"People always joke that when you go from rural Nevada to Reno, it's like going abroad," says the 1999 Nevada graduate. "But it's true; it's a real eye-opener."

Taylor began working at the YMCA during his freshman year at Nevada. He worked the front desk and ran the YMCA's youth sports leagues. This job continued throughout college, but Taylor couldn't keep busy enough with just one job and a full class load so he picked up two more jobs. His senior year, Taylor kept his job at the Y, interned with Nevada's sports information department and also interned with Bayer Brown Bauserman (currently Bayer Bauserman & Company, BBC).

"I interned with Jason Houston in sports information and learned about the sports end of PR from him," he recalls. "It really got me fired up about PR; it sparked my interest."

Houston, the assistant director of media relations for the athletics department, knew that Taylor had a knack for the business.

"David was a very good addition to our staff," he says. "He was very efficient in his duties and was polished with the media."

After graduation, Taylor landed a full-time position with BBC as a public relations account executive. He was half of a two-man PR team that coordinated and implemented the agency's day-to-day public relations.

"I went to the Super Bowl, met ESPN guys and went on media tours at Times Square, all at 23 years old," he says. "It was pretty overwhelming because I was so young, but I learned fast."

All that hard work paid off in 2000 when BBC

received 12 awards at the annual Public Relations Society of America Awards Banquet. One of those awards was for "Best News Releases," written by Taylor.

The skills he learned at the university and BBC proved to be invaluable to Taylor when he made his move back to the YMCA. David Warfe, the CEO, called Taylor and asked him if he would be interested in helping the Y with its promotions and marketing.

"I thought it was a great opportunity to be the guy instead of the number two guy," he remembers. "I had gotten to the point where I thought I could handle it."

And he could handle it, but not without a crash course in time management.

"I was totally starting from scratch," he says. "I came in and wrote a to-do list every day and started from there. I learned that you have to do one thing at a time and then move on to the next."

"We deal with children every day, we have swimming pools, and more than 175 employees. Just think of all the different things that could happen," he says. "It is my job to handle those things."

The YMCA of the Sierra is the parent organization of all Y programs in northern Nevada and the Sierra, including the Reno and Sparks branches, two youth centers and numerous community outreach programs. Taylor helps coordinate the public relations and marketing for all of the above.

"I am working for the common good, the quality of life in Reno," he says. "The way I see it, the better job I do in getting the word out to the public about what the YMCA does, the more people we will be able to help."

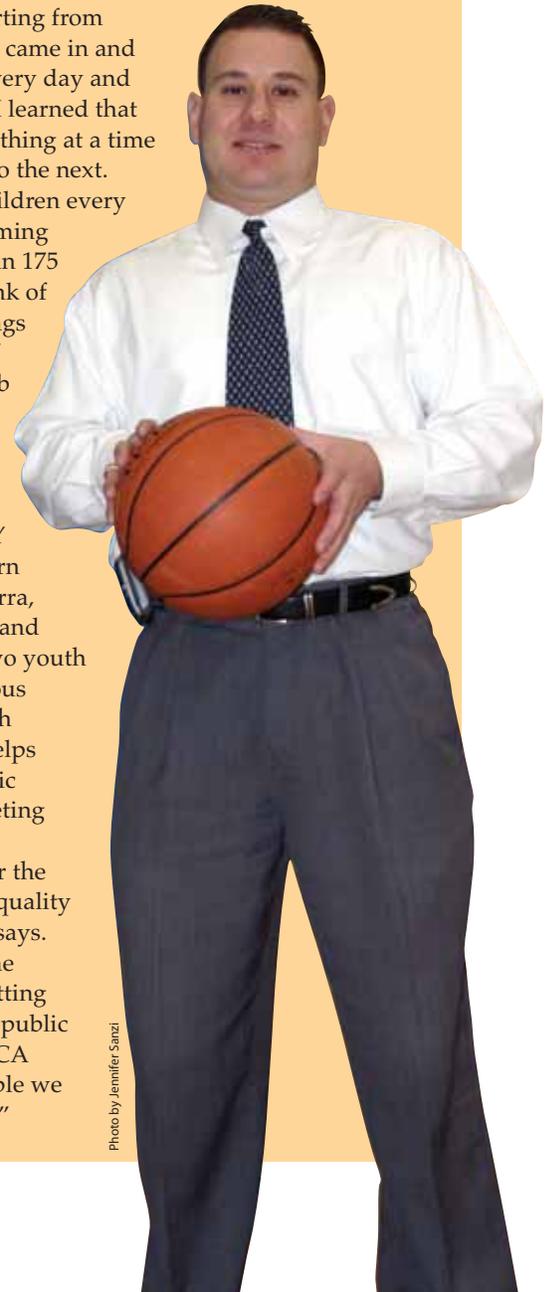


Photo by Jennifer Sanzi

and Matthew was a student-athlete in alpine skiing. The couple is currently living in the Lake Tahoe area.

Jonathan Young ('01 Economics) was commissioned as a second lieutenant through the U. S. Army Officer Candidate School on Nov. 20, 2003. His first assignment will be at Fort Lewis, Wash., after additional training at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

Deaths

Eleanor (Bunny) Underwood Savage ('36 Home Economics) died at home on Dec. 25 at the age of 88. Bunny — a nickname

she acquired in college — was born on the Underwood family farm in McLeansboro, Ill., the ninth and last child of a large and hard-working family. Bunny followed her older siblings and attended the University of Nevada, where she graduated with a bachelor of science degree in home economics. She was a member and life-long supporter of the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority. Bunny loved Lake Tahoe and spent many summers living on the lake's north shore. After teaching for five years in Idaho and Nevada, she married her college sweetheart, William H.

Savage, in 1941. She was preceded in death by her husband 13 years ago, and is survived by her children, William (Woody) Savage of Menlo Park, Calif., and Julie Anne Savage of Stockton, Calif.

Dr. Burton Horowitz, professor of physiology and cell biology in the University of Nevada School of Medicine, passed away on Dec. 19, following a two-year struggle with brain cancer. He was 48. "He was a valued colleague, mentor and close friend to many faculty, students and staff in the School of Medicine," said University of Nevada School of Medicine

Dean Stephen McFarlane. "He was internationally recognized for his pioneering research on the molecular biology of ion channels in smooth muscle and the cardiovascular system." Horowitz received a bachelor of science degree from Rutgers University in 1976, a master of science degree from California State University, Long Beach in 1980, and his doctorate in molecular biology from the University of Southern California in 1985. He joined the faculty of the School of Medicine as an assistant professor in physiology and cell biology in 1989. Horowitz made

ATHLETICS

APRIL

8 — Salute to Champions.

The 9th Annual Salute to Champions Dinner and Silent Auction, presented by Drs. Nazir and Mary Ansari to benefit Women's Athletics at the University of Nevada. Linda Thomson, (775) 784-4870, Ext. 228.

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AlumniProfiles by Jennifer Sanzi

Marlene Olsen: PR Hall of Famer

After 27 years of experience in public relations, Marlene Olsen ('74) is no stranger to success. Nineteen years ago, Olsen opened Olsen & Associates, a full-service public relations firm in downtown Reno. Since then, she has received numerous honors, including four Silver Spike awards from the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) for excellence in her profession. In November 2003, Olsen received another top honor when she was inducted into the PRSA Hall of Fame.

"There is no greater award to me than being recognized by my peers in PRSA," Olsen says. "But, the honor also catches me off-guard, as my staff and I are always striving to attract this kind of recognition for our clients."

The award recognizes one public relations practitioner each year for his or her outstanding contributions to the public relations profession and the community. Silver Spike committee members select the award recipient based on nominations from their peers.

Olsen's public relations career began at the Reno-Sparks Chamber of Commerce where she managed publicity for the area as News Bureau director. She left the Chamber in 1984 to work for a local graphics company, but it was not long before her entrepreneurial spirit came knocking.

"After a year there, I found I didn't have enough work to keep me challenged," she recalls. "So, I went to the owner and offered him a great deal. I told him he could cut my salary in half and save the benefits. I would continue to do the same work for him only he

would be my first client. He went for it."

Olsen's employer became her first client and her second came soon after when she lined up an advertising agency and worked out of her home as its PR department. A lot has changed since then, but Olsen's passion for her profession remains strong.

"I love working with clients and seeing the light bulbs go off as they witness what good, ethical public relations can do for their businesses," she says. "There is nothing better and more satisfying to me."

Olsen has managed campaigns for a variety of clients, including Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA), Reno Downtown Improvement Association, Krispy Kreme Doughnuts, Nevada State Brownfields Initiative, Lockett & Sullivan, and the Great Reno Balloon Race. She is the co-founder of a new business newspaper, Northern Nevada Business Weekly, which is the only paper of its kind in northern Nevada.



Marlene Olsen with a gift from a friend, the Chinese symbol for crisis that combines two characters: danger and opportunity.

enormous contributions to medical and graduate education at the medical school and served as director of the graduate program in cellular and molecular pharmacology and physiology from 1995-2002. He served on numerous peer review committees at the National Institutes of Health and the American Heart Association. He was an avid organizer of fund-

raising activities for the Nevada affiliate of the American Heart Association, and served as director of the association's research committee from 1995-1997. During his tenure at the School of Medicine, he trained six Ph.D. students, 11 postdoctoral fellows, and published more than 74 original research reports and reviews. His two

prestigious National Institutes of Health program grants have provided approximately \$28 million in total research support to the university and School of Medicine. Horowitz is survived by his wife, Nancy, and their daughters, Claire and Stephanie. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, contributions to support the education of

Claire and Stephanie be made payable to the Burt Horowitz Memorial Fund.

Please send contributions to Judy Rodgers (judy@physio.unr.edu) at: Department of Physiology and Cell Biology/ Mail Stop 352, University of Nevada School of Medicine, Reno, NV 89557.

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Track women seeks to complete collection of WAC championships

By Brandon Stewart

After February's Silver State Invitational, no one can deny that the Nevada women's track and field program is running with the momentum of a freight train.

In its first indoor meet since taking the Western Athletic Conference championship last year, the Wolf Pack reassured spectators that despite graduating nine seniors, it had not lost its unmatched depth. Nevada took first with 256 points, leaving Fresno State far behind in second place with 115.5 points.

That win reflects not only the confidence of the returning champions, but also the added fervor brought by the

distance-running women who garnered the university's second WAC title with a cross country championship last fall.

"I'm excited about the new year," coach Curt Kraft says.

"I'm excited about the new season, and I'm excited about trying to repeat the indoor title."

"What those cross country ladies did is put a spark into the rest of the program. They've passed the baton on to the track team. They've got the whole group fired up."

But even with momentum as strong as it is, Kraft says raw effort will still be the deciding factor.

"We're going to work

hard. We're going to be dedicated. We're going to be disciplined," he says. "The ladies have to understand that when they get on the track, they have to perform with consistency and improve every time out."

He is depending on several of the women to fill leadership roles left open after last season. Among his 15 seniors this year, he expects five to play significant roles: sprinter and relay member Sabreena Jones, thrower Stephanie Tietjen, pole vaulters Dana Huesby and Megan Ries, and sprinter/jumper Jamila Carter.

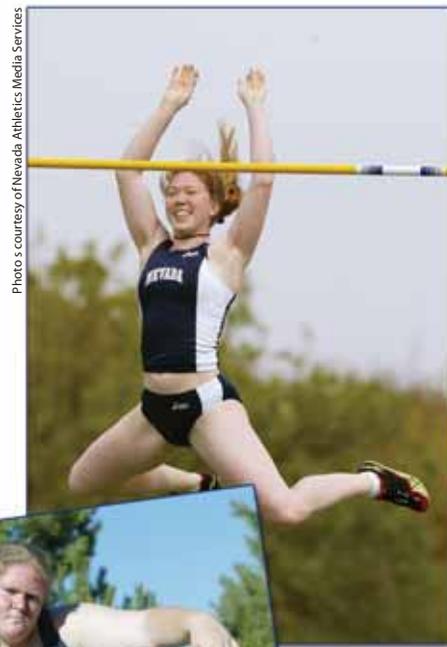
"They have no choice [but to step up]," he says. "That's what they have to do."

Tietjen returns to defend her outdoor shot put title after posting a mark of 50 feet, 11 inches. Also returning is sophomore Jenna Huber who took second at the outdoor championships in the 10,000-meter run with a time of 37:01.

And, learning from last year's second-place finish behind Rice in the outdoor championships (in which Nevada was hampered by injuries), Kraft plans to emphasize injury prevention.

"When we went to the championships last year, there were some people on that indoor team that we didn't have on the outdoor team due to injuries," he says, alluding to what caused the shortcoming. "So it's very important the ladies stay healthy this year and take care of themselves. That is key."

In addition to being a consistent top five finisher in her individual sprinting and jumping events, Jamila Carter adds a valuable kick to Nevada's sprinting relays.



Photos courtesy of Nevada Athletics Media Services

Pole vaulter Dana Huesby (top) began the 2004 indoor season with a 12-foot-6-inch vault for second place at the Silver State Invitational. Stephanie Tietjen (below) began the indoor season as the WAC's leading shot putter.



STEADY AIM

Nevada's unsung sports champions have shot at greatness

By Brandon Stewart

It is the oldest sport at the University of Nevada. The rifle team has won a national championship and produced four All-Americans, two of whom received the honor multiple times. In 2002, the team finished eighth in the nation. In 2003, it finished fourth. In 2004, the Nevada men's and women's rifle team plans to take it all.

Women's rifle team members from left to right: Emily Fernandez, Dawn Tarbet, Amie Stickel and Amanda Dorrrough

"I believe that we could win it all this year or next year," says Fred Harvey, the men's and women's rifle coach. "We've never been stronger, every year we get stronger. We have everything necessary to win a national championship here — truly everything we need."

And Nevada's rifle team has never been far from the top.

Rifle has existed on the Nevada campus continuously since 1889 as part of the academic curriculum,

intramural sports, and since 1995, as an NCAA intercollegiate sport.

Intercollegiate competitive shooting began in the early 1900s and became more formalized in the 1920s and 1930s. The National Rifle Association (NRA) sponsored national collegiate matches and recognized the top 20 collegiate shooters as All-Americans.

The Nevada rifle team won the Intercollegiate National Championship in 1956. Also that year, William Rusk and Terry Katzer were named All-Americans. In

the 48 years since then, three other All-American honors have been bestowed upon Nevada shooters.

The sport is seemingly simple, yet inconceivably complex.

NCAA rifle competition consists of two disciplines: air rifle and small bore rifle. In the air competition (4.5 millimeter), shooters take 40 shots in the standing position at targets 10 meters away (32.8 feet). Small bore competition (.22 caliber) consists of 120 shots from 50 feet in three positions: prone, kneeling and standing.



Shooters are given two minutes to complete each standing shot, one and a half minutes for each kneeling shot, and one minute for each prone shot.

The air targets are printed on sheets of construction paper 12 inches tall and 10 inches wide. On the sheet, there are 12 equally spaced circular targets just under two inches in diameter. The bulls-eye in the center of the target is the size of the period at the end of a sentence. Surrounding the bulls-eye are nine



Harvey

concentric circles spaced about two millimeters apart. Each shot from a rifle makes a four-millimeter hole.

Hitting the bulls-eye garners 10 points. Missing the bulls-eye but still hitting the inner-most circle is worth nine points. The points descend by one for each circle moving outward.

Great shooters average 390 points of a perfect 400. Nevada's three-time All-American and 2004 Olympic hopeful, junior Ryan Tanoue, averages 393.7. He has also shot a perfect 400 twice.

As a team, averaging the shooters' combination scores of air and small bore, Nevada totals a 1,546 average out of a possible 1,600. The top team in the nation, the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, averages only 19 points higher.

With such a quality team, Harvey sometimes has very little to coach. Of the eight

hours of practice each week in the old Navy Reserve Range with his 14 active shooters, Harvey says he really only instructs his top shooters 20 minutes.

"They have a very good idea as to what they need to do and how they need to do it and why they need to do it," Harvey says. "Ninety-nine percent of the time they don't need anything from me and some don't need any instruction at all. In fact, I'm learning from them."

He says this is because most have been shooting for at least 10 years and have an exceptional consciousness of their shooting.

"It is the ability to concentrate," he says. "And that ability, generally speaking, is far above average. You also have to have attention to detail — tremendous attention to detail."

The best analogy to understand how his shooters perform so well is a comparison to baseball players. Harvey likens experts in rifle to baseball players who say they can see the seams of a ball when batting.

"It's like baseball players," Harvey says. "Great hitters can visually slow the pitch down. When a rifle is shaking around, superb shooters can slow that movement down, too. I don't know how they do it."

Having shooters with those types of abilities give Harvey the ambition to take on anyone.

"I take the very best men and the very best women and put them on a Nevada Blue team," Harvey says. "I'll match that team up against anyone on the planet."

OF NOTE

'Varsity Village' earns \$1 million

In his last official fund-raising and facility building endeavor as director of intercollegiate athletics, Chris Ault announced on Jan. 2 the receipt of an anonymous gift of \$1 million to complete the funding needed for "Varsity Village" — a state-of-the-art training and rehabilitation facility, strength and conditioning center and a complete renovation and remodeling of the football offices and equipment area in Cashell Fieldhouse. The project, estimated to cost \$5.4 million, is expected to begin this spring and take 12 months to complete.

— Jamie Klund

Football game times adjusted

Start times for Wolf Pack football home games at Mackay Stadium have been adjusted in an effort to make the games more family-friendly. Kickoff for the first five games of the Pack's season will be at 6:05 p.m. The sixth and final home game of the season against Boise State on Nov. 27 will have a 1:05 kickoff.

"With all the excitement around (coach Chris Ault's) return to coaching, our department received many comments that the evening times were good for busy schedules, but that an earlier (evening) start time would be even better for the younger Wolf Pack fans," says Kurt Esser, assistant athletic director for marketing.

The updated schedule is as follows: Sept. 4, Sacramento State, 6:05 p.m.; Sept. 18, Oregon, 6:05 p.m.; Oct. 16, Rice (Homecoming), 6:05 p.m.; Oct. 23, Tulsa, 6:05 p.m.; Nov. 6, San Jose State (Hall of Fame game), 6:05 p.m.; Nov. 27, Boise State (Senior Day), 1:05 p.m.

— Jamie Klund



Ski Gala set for March 7

2004 marks the 50th anniversary of the NCAA Ski Championships. The first championship was held in 1954 and was hosted by Nevada at Slide Mountain. This year, Nevada again hosts the NCAA Championships, March 10-14, at Sugar Bowl. To commemorate the event, the Nevada Ski Gala will be held March 7 at Eldorado Hotel-Casino. Cocktails start at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m., with a short program at 8 and dancing at 9. For more information on the 12th annual Ski Gala, a prime fund-raiser for the men's and women's ski teams, contact Thomas Hall, (775) 348-7011.

(Editor's note: There will be in-depth coverage of the NCAA Championships' return to Nevada in the May-June issue of Nevada Silver & Blue.)

Stacy Mueller earned a spot on the 2003 Academic All-WAC Softball Team. The human development and family studies major, who posted a 3.42 grade-point average, was joined by five Wolf Pack teammates on the squad.



All-WAC softball player tells foes:

'Don't take us lightly'

By Pat McDonnell

Stacy Mueller, a 22-year-old outfielder for the Nevada softball team, is an energetic leader with a fast-paced conversational style and a confident personality. She helped the Wolf Pack garner a 22-35 record in the team's first season of intercollegiate competition since 1989.

University Relations writer Pat McDonnell interviewed Mueller in December.

Q: I noticed on your bio that you're hoping to teach in a children's hospital after graduation. Could you expand on that?

A: "I love working with the kids there. I'll be seeing kids with terminal illnesses who are pulled away from school for an extended period of time, working as their personal tutor."

Q: Was it a personal experience that motivated you?

A: "No, it just appealed to me. I mean seeing the kids there...they have such high spirits. It's always inspiring to me. I think I can feed off the kids and they can get that back from me."

Q: What interested you in coming up from Central Arizona in 2002 to join the Nevada softball program?

A: "I thought it would be a great opportunity to come in because it was a new program last year. To be the ones to get things going, I saw that as a great opportunity. Coach Gardner, she was great. She made me feel really comfortable. She had high expectations for the program, which was something I was really looking forward to being a part of."

Q: Is there someone in your sport whom you've modeled your game after?

A: "No (she laughs), not at all."

Q: You're your own person then?

A: "I am (Mueller says, and follows the remark with a big smile). It was funny. I always went out and played the game because it was fun. I was never big on following other ballclubs and this or that."

Q: Were you surprised, with Nevada being a first-year program last spring, that the Wolf Pack got off to such a strong start (the team won 11 games in the first month of the season)?

A: "I really wasn't that surprised because we kind of came out with the idea that if you're going to challenge us, we're going to challenge you right back. We played up to the level that was presented to us. I think that's going to be one of our strengths this year. We have a tough schedule. I think everyone just has that drive in them to want to compete."

Q: What kind of a challenge will it be for the program to take on UCLA, the defending national champs, March 7?

A: "We kind of just laughed at first, but everyone is really excited about it. We're going in, obviously, as the underdogs. No one expects anything at all. So it's kind of our opportunity to

say, 'You know we may not be in the Top 10, we may not be considered as one of the elite teams, but we are confident we can go in there and hang with them.' "

Q: How long do you think it takes most people to understand what you're saying when you describe yourself as 'a slapper?'" They would probably think you were a boxer.

A: "Those people who are not familiar with softball have no clue what we're talking about. They kind of give you that look, like slapper, what? Even in the major leagues it's starting to come out. They don't call it slapping, but you're starting to see it more and more with the hitters up there."

Q: Ichiro Suzuki (with the Seattle Mariners) is a slapper. Because of the way he swings the bat, and that he can hit to all fields.

A: "Right."

Q: Do you believe that bylaws should be written to prohibit all high school and college athletes from using nutritional supplements... creatine being one of those?

A: "You know, I think the whole issue is a touchy subject. There's so much research being done on some of it, and there's a lack of research on other (supplements). It's really hard to tell the exact effects of it. It's an issue that I'm personally torn between. As far as specific nutritional supplements, there are some that are fine for athletes to take, but then there are some of them that, I think, give some athletes an extra advantage. It's taking away from your natural ability and the skills that you work at improving."



ABOUT STACY MUELLER

- 5-foot-1 outfielder, a second-team All-WAC selection who batted second in Coach Michelle Gardner's 2003 lineup. Mueller was the only Pack player to start all 57 games last season. She also led the

Wolf Pack in on-base percentage (.402), runs (27), hits (52), triples (5) and sacrifice bunts (13).

- Senior majoring in human development and family studies; transfer from Central Arizona College, where she was named an Academic All-American in 2002.

- Four-year letterman at Mesa High School in Mesa, Ariz., for the Jackrabbits.

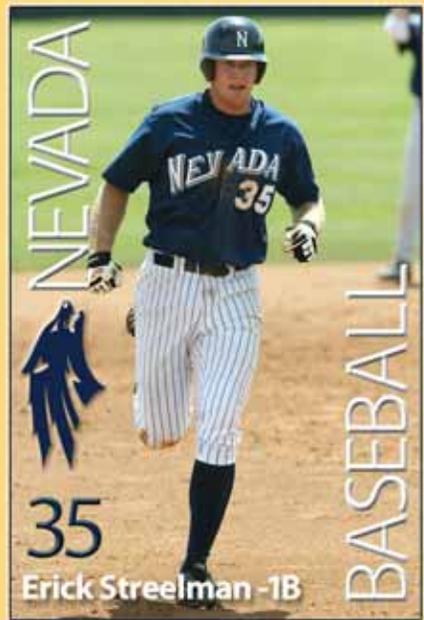
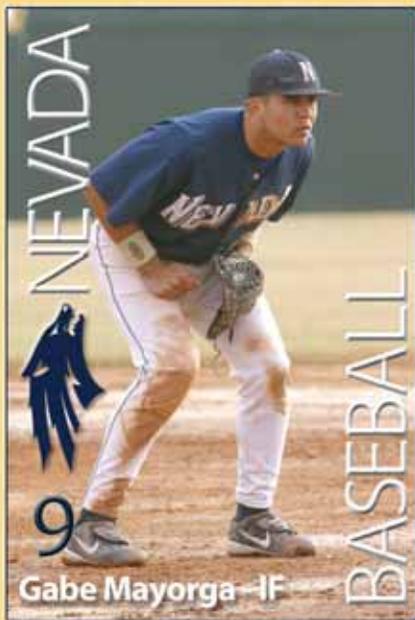
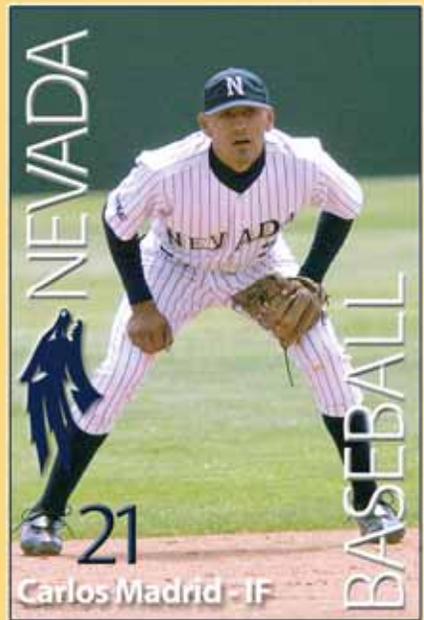
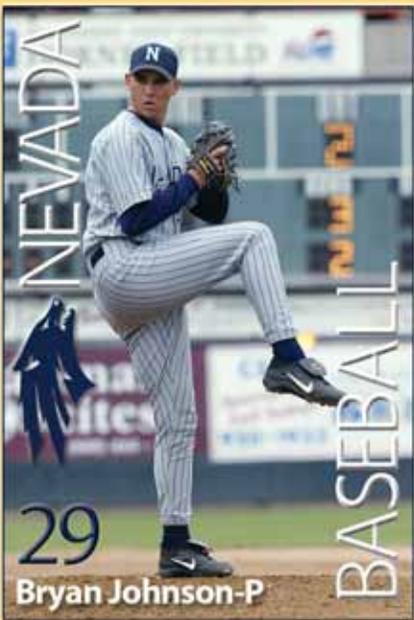
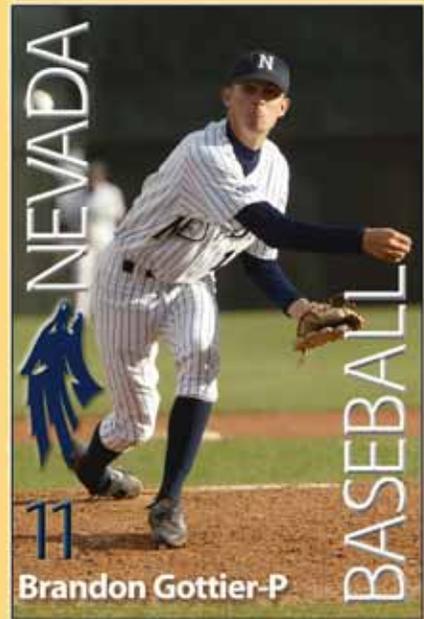
- One of eight children. Her brother, Steve, is serving with the U.S. Army's Stryker Brigade Combat Team in Iraq.

- Perhaps one of the few native Arizonans to have not visited the Grand Canyon. Her ideal vacation spot? A simple cabin in the woods...anywhere secluded and quiet...with a river running by.

- Rooms with two teammates, Carrie Mackey and Jamie Waldron.

'Coach Gardner made me feel really comfortable. She had high expectations for the program, which was something I was really looking forward to being a part of.'

— Stacy Mueller, outfielder for the Nevada softball team



Pack baseball hopes to mature quickly in '04

By Pat McDonnell

Nine players from the 2003 Nevada baseball team entered the professional ranks after the close of the season last May. The wave of departures from the program included Western Athletic Conference Player of the Year Kevin Kouzmanoff, starting pitchers Mateo Miramontes, Justin Sherman and Eddie Bonine, and relief specialist Zach Basch.

"The complexion of our team has changed dramatically," says Nevada Head Coach Gary Powers. "We have to rebuild our entire pitching staff."

The Wolf Pack narrowly missed selection to the NCAA regional tournament last year with a 32-24 overall record and 19-10 second-place mark in conference.

Senior Brandon Gottier, a second-year spot starter who pitched 38 innings in 2003, and junior lefthander Bryan Johnson, with 22 relief appearances, are the returning pitchers with the most experience. Sophomores Darrick Cummings, Travis Sutton, Chris Scott and Ryan Harbaugh will help the staff get through the 30-game conference slate.

"Our pitching staff is the opposite of Rice's," says Powers, named WAC Co-Coach of the Year with the defending national champion Owls' Wayne Graham. "They have everybody back and we have nobody (among the '03 mound regulars) back."

Powers says Rice is expected to be "head and shoulders above" its WAC foes this year. The National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association named four Owls to its pre-season All-America team and the Collegiate Baseball newspaper pre-season poll had Rice rated No.1 with Miami. Three pitchers from Rice's 58-12 WAC championship team return to the lineup.

However, Powers sees the Pack's surplus of new faces on the pitching mound as a challenge Nevada is capable of surmounting.

"It's been a long time since we haven't had one returning starter," Powers says. "But that's OK. It opens the door for others to take the opportunity to succeed at this level."

The talented and savvy catching duo of sophomore Brett Hayes and redshirt freshman

Baker Krukow will help the pack of young pitchers develop faster during the conference season. Hayes was named to the 2003 Louisville Slugger Freshman All-America team after batting .365 with eight home runs and 63 runs batted in. Krukow, sidelined last season by a foot injury, is expected to be another solid player behind the plate who can handle pitchers.

"Brett had a tremendous year," Powers says. "He's really a good athlete who takes pride in playing well."

Junior Carlos Madrid, at third base, and sophomore shortstop Robert Marcial provide the team with strong defense on the left side of the infield. Junior transfer Gabe Mayorga, a former Junior College World Series Most Valuable Player who also competed at South Alabama, handles second base. Senior co-captain Erick Streelman, an All-WAC choice last year, and sophomore Ben Mummy will split time at the first base and designated hitter positions.

Left fielder and co-captain Chris Gimenez and right fielder Jacob Butler, who battled down the stretch as top 10 WAC batting and slugging leaders, are offensive stars who also combined to commit just four errors in 166 defensive chances. Brian Gazerro and junior college transfer Tino Psardelis are slated to man center field.

Powers, who has won 644 games in 21 seasons, likes the way the Pack has prepared, not just for Rice, but for teams like Louisiana Tech and San Jose State, who both struggled in their last run through the WAC.

"I'm really pleased with how hard this team is working, especially as young as it is," he says. "Now we will see how fast we can mature as a team."





Photo by Jean Dixon/Reno Gazette-Journal file

Lag Time

Members of the 1984-85 Wolf Pack basketball team, from left to right, Tony Sommers, Ed Porter and Quintin Stephens, catch up on some quiet time during a layover in the Salt Lake City airport enroute to Albuquerque, N.M., where they met the Wolfpack of North Carolina State in the first round of the NCAA tournament. Nevada lost 65-56, in what was the Wolf Pack's last "Big Dance" appearance.

In the two consecutive years Nevada advanced to the NCAA finals, it met teams toting future NBA players. In 1984, the Pack faced the University of Washington's Detlef Schrempf and Christian Welp, who each signed with NBA teams the following year. Schrempf played 17 years in the NBA with Dallas, Portland, Indianapolis and Seattle. Welp spent three years with Philadelphia, San Antonio and Golden State and was on several European teams.

In 1985, the Pack faced NC State's Anthony "Spud" Webb, a 5-foot-7-inch phenom who was signed by the Atlanta Hawks following the season. Webb is best known for his 1986 Slam Dunk championship.

Playing under head coach Sonny Allen, the Pack finished the 1985 season as Big Sky champs with a 21-10 record.

— Jean Dixon

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