



# NEVADA Silver & Blue

The magazine of the University of Nevada, Reno • SPRING 2006

## Out of Their Minds

Ingenious engineers of Nevada

page 8





## Tight Squeeze

If you were an Italian American growing up in the early to mid-20th century, chances are that you or a sibling or one of your friends was forced to learn to play the accordion. So it was for 9-year-old Al Lazzarone, seen here (third row, third from left) playing with a band in Sacramento in 1932. Lazzarone, who moved to Reno in 1943 to attend the University, contributed this photo and his life story to a massive project being compiled by the University's Oral History Program. It tells the story of the contributions of Italian Americans to northern Nevada's history. *More photos and information about the project can be found on page 8.*





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*By Brandon Stewart '05*

# NEVADA Silver & Blue

Serving the households of 50,000  
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Vol. XVII, No. 4 © Copyright 2006  
[www.unr.edu/alumni](http://www.unr.edu/alumni)

NEVADA SILVER & BLUE is published by the Office  
of Marketing and Communications, University of  
Nevada, Reno.

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## From the President

# This is not permanent

When I recently and reluctantly agreed to spend six or seven months as interim president of the University, several friends reminded me that last time I took the interim job here I stayed for nearly 23 years. A few people made bold to ask whether I might want to mount a similar effort this time around. I'm sure this was a rhetorical question, given that such an undertaking would leave me installed in the president's office until I reach age 95. True, Eliphalet Nott, the fabled 19th century president of Union College, was 92 when he left the presidency, having served for 62 years. He might have been there longer had he not been carried out of the office feet first, enroute to the cemetery.

But fear not! I will be back in the bosom of my family this coming summer, by which time the Board of Regents will have turned the job over to someone else and the individual will be called — in the common but mysterious argot of modern higher education — the "permanent president." He or she will be number 15 in the institution's long history.

Permanency seems an odd mantle for a position whose occupants these days seldom make it to a decade in office, let alone the six of them enjoyed by Dr. Nott. When I began my presidential labors 28 years ago, average tenure among my colleagues around the country was said to be 4.5 years, a statistic also used at that time to describe the average length of service of a running back in the National Football League. The two jobs are not dissimilar.

Whatever the current average may be, and however oxymoronic it is to think of a president's job as permanent, it is certainly important to recognize the importance of the task upon which the regents (and the search advisory committee assisting them) are now embarked. They have discussed the many desired attributes of the person they hope to appoint, understanding that there are few people around to answer that ambitious call. It has long been the wish of those charged with finding a new president that the person finally hired should have, in the too often-used and inelegant phrase, the qualities of God on a good day. It's good to aim high and it is reasonable to expect an impressive group of candidates to apply. Ours is a strong, thriving, attractive institution, after all, full of both rich traditions and great promise. Come July or August, the 15th president will set out to build on those traditions enroute to playing a major role in fulfilling that promise. And, my interimship at that time ending 38 years short of breaking his record, Dr. Nott can continue to rest in peace.

**Joe Crowley**, interim president

*Dr. Crowley returned as interim president in December after John M. Lilley, the University's president since 2001, was named president of his alma mater, Baylor University in Waco, Texas.*



Photo by Theresa Danna-Douglas

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## Starrs named 2005 Nevada Professor of the Year

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) named Nevada geography professor Paul F. Starrs the 2005 Nevada Professor of the Year.

Starrs was selected from nearly 400 professors nominated in the United States and its territories. This year there were winners in 40 states, Guam and the District of Columbia. There were only 40 state



Photo by Jean Dixon

winners because in some states no nominee was deemed worthy of the award.

Starrs' affable personality as well as his near-encyclopedic knowledge of cultural geography makes him very popular in the classroom. In his Introduction to Cultural Geography class, for instance,

**Geography professor Paul F. Starrs, pictured here during commencement last year, was named 2005 Nevada Professor of the Year.**

he has been known to use orange-crate labels from the early 1900s that depicted a golden West of mountains, sunshine and beautiful women to explain how Southern California attracted easterners to what was at the time a poorly developed region.

This is not the first time Starrs has been honored for excellence in teaching. He received the Regents Teaching Award in 2004, the F. Donald Tibbitts University Teaching Excellence Award in 2001 and the University of Nevada College of Arts and Science Alan Bible Outstanding Teaching Award in 1998.

Starrs said, "I am happy to be at an institution that recognizes and rewards good teaching. It's nice to see this great University holding to its roots."

Six University of Nevada professors have previously been honored with the Carnegie-CASE award: Gary Hausladen (geography), Phil Boardman (English), Gene LeMay (chemistry), Dale Holcombe (animal biotechnology), Meggin McIntosh (education) and Gary Norris (civil and environmental engineering).

The Professor of the Year competition takes place in several stages. Each candidate must first be selected from many qualified peers at his or her own institution and nominated. Letters of support and endorsements from current and former students, colleagues, and presidents or academic deans accompany the entries. CASE assembles the preliminary expert judging panels, consisting of deans and professors, education writers, and government, foundation, and association representatives. The Carnegie Foundation assembles the panel that picks the winners.

The Carnegie Foundation is the only advanced-study center for teachers in the world. CASE is the largest international association of educational institutions.

— Jill Boudreaux



## ANNE FRANK A HISTORY FOR TODAY

### Holocaust Center brings Anne Frank exhibit to Reno

The Center for Holocaust, Genocide & Peace Studies brought an educational exhibit, Anne Frank: A History for Today, to Reno from Feb. 1 through March 11 at the Downtown Reno Library.

The exhibit was created by the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam and was one of several copies in various languages touring Europe, Australia, South America, the Caribbean and other parts of the world.

Thousands of middle-school students from districts in northern Nevada and California were expected to view it while it was in Reno.

"The purpose of the exhibit is to promote tolerance for and acceptance of diversity," said Viktoria Hertling, the Nevada center's director, adding that Frank's story holds a special resonance for young people.

Frank was only 15 when she died in a concentration camp after spending 25 months in hiding during World War II along with her family and four others. Their refuge was an annex of rooms above her father's office in Amsterdam.

The panels consist of narrative text and photographic reproductions that tell the story of Frank's life in historical context, enhanced by testimony from Holocaust survivors.

The exhibit was funded in part by City of Reno Community Pride Grants with support from the Washoe County School District, Washoe County Library System, Atlantis Hotel Casino & Resort, Nevada Humanities Committee, Nevada Museum of Art, Truckee Meadows Community College and New York-based Anne Frank Center USA.

In conjunction with the exhibit, the organizers planned a series of community events and an essay/poetry contest. For a complete list, visit [www.unr.edu/annefrank](http://www.unr.edu/annefrank) or call the Holocaust Center at (775) 784-6767.

— Melanie Robbins

**Background:** On June 12, 1942, Anne Frank's parents gave her a small red-and-white plaid diary for her 13th birthday. More than 50 years later, this diary has become one of the most well-known memoirs of the Holocaust. Available in 67 languages, more than 30 million copies have been sold.

# President Crowley pens book on 100 years of the NCAA

Interim Nevada President and former NCAA Membership President Joe Crowley has written a coffee-table book commemorating the first 100 years of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, *In the Arena: The NCAA's First Century*.

The 248-page, lavishly illustrated publication (\$24.95) chronicles the development of the modern-day NCAA with special attention to the last 25 years. Crowley was membership president of the NCAA from 1993 to 1995. He was also a sportswriter for the *Fresno Bee* in the 1960s.

In the book Crowley notes that the association's role in overseeing the activities of athletic teams — some 6,000 in Division I alone — has often been misunderstood. The book pays particular attention to the evolution of major legislation, the increasing role of women and minorities in the association, the effect of litigation



This photo from the book shows the College of New Jersey's women's lacrosse team celebrating after winning the 2005 Division III championship.

and governmental influence, and ongoing changes in rules enforcement.

"The way journalists have viewed the NCAA as detached from its members makes it a ready target," Crowley says. "There are more than 1,100 member institutions and they vote on all issues."

The NCAA plans to distribute *In the Arena* to student athletes participating in all 2006 championships. The book is available for purchase online and at selected book stores. Order directly from the NCAA at <http://ncaa.sportgraphics.biz>.

— Pat McDonnell

## Meet at Joe's

Joe Crowley's name will always be a part of the campus.

The new student union will be named for Crowley, who served as University president from 1978 to 2001 and returned to serve as interim president in December 2005.

"His leadership poised the University for the national reputation it holds today," said former President John Lilley. "Naming our student union after Joe is an appropriate and fitting honor."

Construction of the 165,000-square-foot, \$59 million Joseph Crowley Student Union will begin this spring and is slated for completion in late 2007.

With a variety of food and retail options, offices for student government and activities, and other student and faculty resources, it will be a centerpiece of campus life.

## Nevada's medical school connecting with Southeast Asia

You don't have to look far to find evidence that when it comes to health issues, the world is a very small place. The rapid spread of avian flu across continents and the widely discussed possibility of a global pandemic are just two examples of this connectivity.

"You can't disregard medical issues in one part of the world because you think it doesn't affect you today," says Andrew Eisen, associate professor of pediatrics in the University of Nevada School of Medicine. "By working together with institutions in other parts of the world, we can address healthcare needs more efficiently, more effectively than if we wait until there's something like bird flu in the United States."

Eisen, who is also the School of Medicine's assistant dean for international affairs, has made several trips to Thailand, where the school is forging strong collaborations with Phramongkutkiao Medical College, the Royal Thai Army's medical

school in the capital, Bangkok.

The Nevada-Thailand connection started with Thailand native Pisespong Patamasucon, a pediatric infectious diseases specialist on the School of Medicine's faculty, initiating a relationship with officials at Thailand's largest university hospital, also in Bangkok. Beginning with a visit in 2002, faculty and residents from the Nevada school have visited Thailand annually to conduct training workshops. This spring, the first Thai trainee — a final-year medical student — will come to the United States and do a six-week rotation in internal and family medicine.

When visiting the Thai hospitals, Nevada faculty and residents typically join the residents on rounds. Eisen remembers being shown a child with measles.

"I said, 'Whoa, my residents have never seen a kid with measles, it's uncommon here.' So, it's a potential opportunity to add something to residents' experience."

It's also a chance to see how health

care works in a different culture. For example, in Thailand, third-party payers and malpractice insurance are not part of the medical system.

Eisen also envisions opportunities for clinical trial collaborations.

"This collaboration can really provide some value to us as an academic institution," he says. "The kind of research work we can do in partnership with these other institutions is more than we can do on our own, particularly in getting involved in clinical trials with a hospital that has thousands and thousands of patients rolling through every day."

Eisen says he hopes to establish more international collaborations.

"If you look around the country, all the top-tier medical schools have international collaborations. We're looking at this as a starting point for connections with other schools in the region, including contacts in southern India and South Korea."

— John Wheeler '86, '87 M.A.

# Fulbrights send quake expert to New Zealand, deliver child-slavery researcher here

Three faculty members won prestigious Fulbright awards to teach and study abroad and the University is hosting two visiting Fulbright scholars, from Tunisia and Germany.

The Nevada faculty sent abroad are:

■ **Susan Bender**, director of the Office of International Students and Scholars.

Bender was one of four people chosen for a highly competitive Fulbright scholarship in South Korea for international education administrators. Bender qualified for the scholarship because the University of Nevada has a significant number of South Korean students (45 in fall 2005) and because the University is working to increase student and faculty connections with South Korea.

As a part of the two-week Korean International Education Administration program taking place in June of 2005, Bender traveled throughout the country visiting universities and high schools and attending lectures and symposiums related to the South Korean educational system, economy, history and culture.

"It was basically a program to learn as much as you could about the culture and education system," she says.

Bender says she was struck by the spirit of volunteerism. "The South Korean students have a social obligation to give back to their communities. Each school we visited had programs that support people in need."

■ **John Louie**, associate professor of seismology.

Louie is currently conducting research at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, and develop a computerized earthquake simulation for Wellington, the country's urban area most at risk for earthquake damage. He based his research on a model he developed for Reno and Las Vegas.

■ **Mike Robinson**, professor of curriculum, teaching and learning.

Robinson traveled to Mbarara University of Science and Technology in Mbarara, Uganda, from December 2004 to June 2005 to work in the school's Department of Education. He taught courses in secondary science teaching methods to pre-service teachers in mathematics, biology, chemistry and physics, conducted research on how secondary science is taught in Uganda and how it can be improved, and observed and evaluated secondary pre-service science teachers doing their student teaching.

Photo by Jean Dixon



The visiting Fulbright scholars:

■ **Hatem Ben Jouira** is a visiting scholar from the Laboratory of Molecular Physiology of Grapevines at the National Institute for Scientific Research and Technology in Hammam, Tunisia. He arrived at the University in September 2005 and will be conducting research in conjunction with Grant Cramer, professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, through June 2006. They'll be identifying proteins that make certain types of grapevines resistant to drought and salinity in harsh environments as well as other environmental stressors.

■ **Niki Repanis** of the Catholic University of Applied Sciences, Munich at Benediktbeuern in Germany is the first German Fulbright scholar to study at the University of Nevada. Repanis is enrolled in the master's in social work program. Her research focuses on children trafficked into the Philippine sex-trade industry. For her thesis she spent a year in the Philippines studying the role social work can play in fighting human trafficking for sexual exploitation.

The Fulbright Program, America's flagship international education exchange activity, is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Established in 1946 under legislation introduced by the late Sen. J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, the program's purpose is to build mutual understanding between the people of the United States and other countries.

— Jill Boudreaux

Visiting scholar **Hatem Ben Jouira** holds a sheet that contains protein stains that can be used to make grapevines resistant to environmental stressors.



# \$15 million pledge to propel prodigies

**B**ob and Jan Davidson embrace opportunities in a big way. This past December the Davidsons pledged \$15 million toward construction of a new math and science building and toward the University-based Davidson Academy of Nevada for profoundly intelligent students. Their gift is the largest in the University's history.

The Davidsons have had a profound impact on an untold number of gifted children and their families across the country through the Davidson Institute for Talent Development. Through their gift to the math and science building, the Davidsons will make an impact on another front: the education and development of much-needed scientists.

In his national bestseller *The World Is Flat*, author Thomas Friedman reports on the shortage of scientists and engineers at a time when global competition for people with these skills is on the rise. These data trends, published by the National Science Board, threaten the economic welfare and security of our country.

Dave Westfall, dean of the College of Science, agrees: "Investment in science and math education in this country is imperative."

On the University campus, the last new

building for the natural sciences, Leifson Physics, was added in 1972. At that time the University had 6,500 students, and today enrollment has topped 16,000.

Adding to the need is a stronger emphasis on math and sciences as part of the University's core curriculum. "Virtually all students in all majors will take classes in this building. We want all students — not just science majors — to have an understanding of the scientific method and the limitations and potentials of science," says Westfall. "If this building arrived tomorrow, it would be full."

The Davidsons' gift also will strengthen the foundation for regional economic development. "Both the Davidson Academy and the math and science building will make tangible and significant contributions to the future talent pool," adds John Frederick, University provost. "Prospective businesses in high-paying industries look for this."

The Davidson Academy of Nevada will open in an interim facility in August with approximately 30 profoundly gifted students in its inaugural class. The University's \$50 million math and science building is slated to open in 2009.

Photo courtesy of Jane Kalinovsky



The Davidson Academy, founded by Jan and Bob Davidson, will bring gifted students to campus.

— Jane Tors '82

## Center for Basque Studies hosts distinguished scholar

**T**he first recipient of the William A. Douglass Distinguished Scholar Award has arrived in Nevada from the Public University of Navarre in Spain.

Gregorio Monreal Zia was unanimously selected by the faculty of the Center for Basque Studies to receive the award, which is presented in conjunction with the ministries of Education, Culture and Foreign Affairs of the Basque Government.

Professor Monreal, (pronounced mon-ray-ALL) earned his doctorate in law from the Complutense University of Madrid and has taught at several universities, including the University of Valladolid in Extremadura, Spain, the University of Paris XII and the University of the Basque Country, where he served as the first



Monreal Zia

rector from 1981-85. He served as president of the Society of Basque Studies from 1992-96 and is currently a professor of the history of law at the Public University of Navarre, Spain.

Monreal will be at the University throughout the

2005-06 academic year researching and writing a book on the historical progression and development of Basque political institutions. He also will be organizing conferences on Basque politics, history and law at several universities throughout the country, as well as seminars on the Reno campus. This appointment is a homecoming for Monreal, who spent the 1985-86 academic year in Reno.

The William A. Douglass Distinguished Scholar Award is named in honor of Professor Douglass, who served for 30 years as coordinator of the then Basque Studies Program at the Desert Research Institute/University of Nevada. The award promotes scholarly research in Basque studies and facilitates international

networking of Basque scholars. Renowned specialists in Basque studies will be candidates for the award, based on outstanding contributions in the field, research achievement and scholarly innovation.

The Center for Basque Studies has five full-time faculty and numerous adjunct professors, doctoral students and more than 30 course offerings. The University's Basque Studies Library is known as the most important Basque collection outside of the Basque Country.

The Basque Country is located between France and Spain on the coast of the Bay of Biscay, on both slopes of the western Pyrenees. The territory is linked historically, ethnically and culturally through a common language and territorial administrative government.



## GIVING FORMULA ANSWERS

*Nevada dietitian has crunched the numbers and come up with a key nutrition equation*

**T**wo-thirds of Americans are overweight, with only smoking killing more people than poor diet and exercise habits. So, how do you lose those excess pounds?

You could jump on the Fad Diet of the Month bandwagon, but for many people this is an unscientific and usually unsuccessful venture.

The answer is disarmingly simple: caloric balance. You burn off more calories than you consume. If only there were a formula to estimate how many calories you need? But wait, there is — and it was developed on the Nevada campus.

“I don’t know if the Reno population even knows they contributed to it,” says Sachiko St. Jeor, professor of clinical medicine and chief of the medical school’s Division of Medical Nutrition. “It was developed from data gathered in the first clinical study conducted at the School of Medicine — the Reno Diet-Heart Study.”

The study, which ran from 1985 to 1995, included 500 volunteer participants from the Reno area.

The formula developed estimates of an individual’s specific energy needs. That’s important information if you want to develop and evaluate a person’s diet or nutrition program. By knowing how many calories you need to stay alive and carry out basic functions, and then factoring in calories burned in daily physical activities, you can figure out what level of food intake is needed to lose weight.

The so-called “Mifflin-St. Jeor Equation” was recently found to be the most reliable by an American Dietetic Association expert panel and has become the national standard for calculating resting energy metabolism.

St. Jeor and Mark Mifflin, a former medical student who is now an ophthalmologist in Utah, developed the formula in 1991. It replaced a formula that had been in common use since 1919.

St. Jeor has recently been working on some newer formulae in collaboration with former School of Medicine statistician Gary Cutter. They will be coming out with some new formulae that are based on a larger population, including minorities

— *John Wheeler '86, '87 M.A.*

St. Jeor is also director of the University’s Center for Nutrition and Metabolic Disorders, which offers individuals a range of long-term weight management options.

For more information:  
(775) 784-4474, ext. 16. Or  
[www.unrweightlossforlife.org](http://www.unrweightlossforlife.org)

Photo by Jean Dixon



## Making mosquitoes pee to death

**N**evada researchers have discovered a hormone in the malaria-carrying mosquito that could be used to kill the pest by making it pee when it can’t afford the fluid loss.

The hormone causes a massive loss of sodium chloride, which causes the mosquito to release urine. Stimulation of this process when the mosquito is not feeding could cause it to die.

The discovery, by David Schooley, professor of biochemistry at the University of Nevada College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources, and Geoff Coast of the University of London, was published last fall in the *Journal of Experimental Biology*.

When a mosquito sucks blood from a human — and only pregnant female mosquitoes do this — it takes in twice its body weight in blood. To offset this added weight, the mosquito urinates on its victim.

Coast discovered that introducing one of the two diuretic, or urination-triggering, hormones into the mosquito caused it to excrete fluid rich in sodium chloride, the main salt in blood. Only one particular hormone was found to cause the massive loss of sodium chloride that forces the mosquito to pee when not feeding, Schooley says.

The researchers’ discovery could lead to the development of synthetic compounds that mimic the action of the hormones and would function as an effective pesticide, he says. “[The hormone] only affects lower species such as insects, which suggests it should be very safe to non-insect species.” However, he says development and testing could take up to 10 years.

Schooley and Coast’s research was funded by a \$927,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health.

— *Bob Conrad '95*



Above: The Reno Public Market in 1940. It was opened in 1934 by Guido Pincolini, second from left, and his brother Bruno, far right. Right: The Capurro family in 1926. Patriarch Steve (Stefano) Capurro, front left, emigrated to the Reno area from a village near Genoa, Italy, in 1884. He worked in ranching.



## Oral History chronicles Italian-American influence on northern Nevada

Their footprints are everywhere. Street signs carry their family's names. Their holdings — vast stretches of ranch and farmland in the Truckee Meadows — were, and continue to be, an influential component of northern Nevada's history.

It was only natural, then, that Tom King, director of the Oral History Program, saw an opportunity to tell an important story: that of the area's Italian-American families. Beginning in summer 2004 with a \$47,000 grant from the E.L. Wiegand Foundation, King and the program embarked on a project to record the Italian-American experience. It was one of the most ambitious projects in the program's history, involving 51 chroniclers, or interview subjects, as well as videotaping and still photography.

The numbers of the project are staggering: 4,500 pages of transcript, 20 hours of video, more than 140 historic photos from chroniclers' personal collections and 100 contemporary digital photos. King said that when editing, formatting, printing and binding are completed, the

transcripts will emerge in a multi-volume set, copies of which will be placed in the university libraries in Reno and Las Vegas. The Oral History Program will also make copies available to the public, either in hard copy or on CDs.

"This will be a wonderful thing for our community," says King, director of the program since 1983.

Jean Guisti Carbon, development director for the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources, was one of the chroniclers involved with the project. Her Nevada roots are deep — her grandfather, Joe, arrived in Nevada more than a century ago, and her father, Marshall, was a Reno City Councilman.

"These people were such tremendous role models," Carbon says. "They had a philosophy that was unique: They were always grateful for what they had, and they were always willing to give some of it back to their community. In many ways, these Italian-American families made Reno what it is today."

— John Trent '85, '87, '00 M.A.

For more information regarding the Italian-American project, go to Oral History's Web site, [www.unr.edu/cl/oralhist/](http://www.unr.edu/cl/oralhist/), or phone (775) 784-6932.

## Extension specialists join mite fight

Diamond Valley is a jeweled oasis tucked into the wider expanses of Nevada's sagebrush desert in central Eureka County. There, hay farms produce top-quality cool-season grass hay for high-end markets in the U.S. and Pacific Rim. However, a major glitch occurred in 2002 when a large attack of tiny mites (inset, below) caused severe economic losses to the hay crops.

"The combined losses in this valley totaled about \$5 million," estimates Mark Moyle, an alfalfa and hay grower for more than 20 years and vice president of the Nevada Hay and Forage Growers Association. "We had no effective pesticide labeled (legally permitted) for use against this pest."

Willie Riggs, Eureka County extension educator, says the county has little livestock production, so when the mining industry slumps, the local economy depends on hay production.



Faced with the need for a registered pesticide to control the mites, an area forage/alternative crops specialist for the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, Jay Davison, was asked to help petition the federal Environmental Protection Agency. Davison, Riggs and the growers association were successful in getting the miticide Acramite approved, one of only 15 such approvals granted nationwide from 350 applications that year. Another miticide is working its way through the testing and approvals process, and Davison and Riggs are working with researchers in the Nevada Department of Agriculture and other Western states to develop integrated pest management techniques for cool-season grasses as well as forage crops.

— Vikki Ford '88 M.A./Cooperative Extension



From left: Central/Northeast Cooperative Extension Area Director Jerry Buk, Provost John Frederick, Cooperative Extension Area Forage/Alternative Crops Specialist Jay Davison and Extension Educator Willie Riggs inspect the impact of mites on hay in Diamond Valley in north-central Nevada.



# Bookshelf

The following books are all recent releases by the University of Nevada Press. University of Nevada Press titles are now available for purchase online: [www.nvbooks.nevada.edu](http://www.nvbooks.nevada.edu)

## ▶ ANOTHER FIRST FOR CONGRESSIONAL PIONEER VUCANOVICH

In a career that has encompassed many firsts, Nevada's first female member of Congress, Barbara Vucanovich is still chalking up notable achievements at age 84. Nevada has had a total of 32 different people represent the state in the House of Representatives, but she's the first to write a memoir.

Encouraged by the University of Nevada Press, Vucanovich, who holds an honorary doctorate from the University, sat down at weekly sessions with her daughter, Patty Cafferata, for more than five years. The result was *Barbara F. Vucanovich: From Nevada to Congress and Back Again*.

"Fortunately, when I was a member of Congress, I kept a lot of records," says Vucanovich, who donated her congressional and campaign papers to the University library's Special Collections.

Cafferata, a practicing attorney who won races for district attorney in three different Nevada counties, says her mother's book is more than just a memoir.

"It's a wonderful history of Nevada because she talks about the people, the lifestyle here," Cafferata says. "Then, of course, there's all the political stuff, which is what people know about her."

Encouraged to run in 1982 by Nevada Senator Paul Laxalt, Vucanovich, who was then 62, became the first Nevada woman ever elected to a federal office. She retired in 1996 having served seven terms.

"One of the things I learned very early on is that you have to have your own convictions," Vucanovich says. "You don't sell your soul for a vote or even to be re-elected."

When Vucanovich was first elected there were just 19 women serving in the House; today there are 61 congresswomen. She remembers her early years as a time when Washington politics, although fiercely partisan, was much less confrontational than today.

"When you think about it, Ronald Reagan

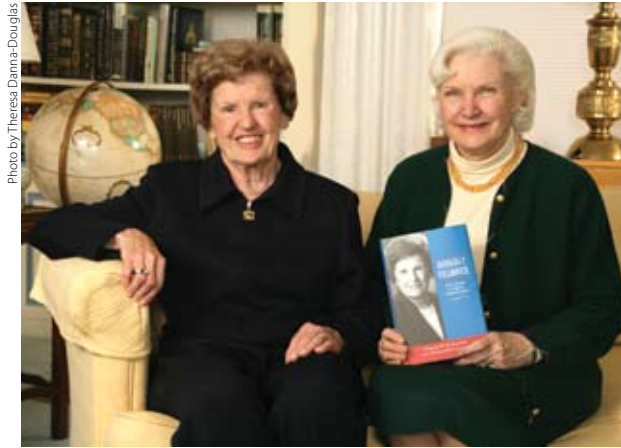


Photo by Theresa Danna-Douglass  
Former Congresswoman Barbara Vucanovich (left) teamed with daughter Patty Cafferata to write the memoir.

got along with (Senate Majority Leader) Tip O'Neill like nobody's business," Vucanovich recalls. "You didn't have to be disagreeable to disagree."

Vucanovich remembers Reagan fondly. "He was the president I respected and liked the most," she says.

Vucanovich is still energetically involved in public service, serving on the Commission on White House Fellowships and the board of Casa De Vida, a shelter for pregnant teenage girls.

Although Cafferata did much of the writing in the book, she also sought help from her own daughter, Elisa Maser ('91 MBA), who is the third woman in the family to seek political office. She is running for Washoe County Commission.

—John Wheeler '86, '87 M.A.

The exhibit *Public Lives in Personal Papers: Barbara Vucanovich, Nevada's First Woman in Congress* is currently on display in the University's Special Collections Department, Getchell Library room 291.

- The collection highlights Vucanovich's professional life and draws from the extensive materials she donated to Special Collections.

- The exhibit is scheduled to run until March 31. Hours for the department are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

## ▶ AMERIKANUAK: BASQUES IN THE NEW WORLD

By **William A. Douglass**, initiator and former coordinator with the Center for Basque Studies at the University of Nevada, and **Jon Bilbao**, former instructor with the University's Center for



Basque Studies.

An introduction to the history of the Basque people and their five centuries of involvement in the New World. Research for the book took the authors through 10

states of the American West, Mexico, Colombia, Peru, Chile, Argentina, Brazil and Venezuela. As they trace the story of the Basques back to their mysterious origins in prehistory, they provide background for understanding the Basques' character and their homeland in the Pyrenean mountains and seacoasts between France and Spain.

## ▶ BLACK ROCK

By **Peter Goin**, foundation professor of art, and **Paul Starrs**, professor of geography.

Nevada's silent and isolated Black Rock Desert has been the focus of study and exploration by scientists, explorers, outdoors aficionados and artists. In *Black Rock*, photographer Goin and geographer Starrs investigate this environment and reach out to the reader through photographs, detailed historical maps and text.

## ▶ IN THE DESERT OF DESIRE: LAS VEGAS AND THE CULTURE OF SPECTACLE

By **William A. Fox**, independent scholar, cultural geographer, essayist, poet and travel writer.

Fox examines how Las Vegas' culture of spectacle represents one of the world's most lavish displays of private material wealth in all its forms while at the same time providing minimal funding for local public amenities such as museums and zoos.

—Cecelia Ghezzi '05

# NEVADA INGENUITY

THESE ENGINEERING FACULTY AND ALUMS ARE TURNING THE WORLD UPSIDE DOWN. STOMACHS TOO.

**Y**ou might not have heard of Ron Toomer, but you've seen, and maybe experienced, his handiwork.

Dubbed the "sovereign of steel coasters" by *Encyclopedia Britannica*, Toomer ('61 mechanical engineering) pioneered the development of the steel roller coaster. During his 30-plus years in the industry, the now-retired engineer designed more than 80 "scream machines" – the gravity-defying steel coasters that are icons of amusement parks worldwide.

Like Einstein dreaming of an undulating universe, Toomer took pieces of bent wire and shaped them into his vision for a new kind of roller coaster. He was able to harness his engineering skills to a vision.

So have countless other engineering college faculty and alums. Here's a closer look at several.

## RON TOOMER

'61 Mechanical Engineering

**I**n one of life's little ironies the man responsible for modern roller coaster technology admits he suffers from motion sickness and rarely rode his own rides.

"I've never cared for the things," says Ron Toomer. "It's kind of a joke in the industry. I've ridden a few of them, but I get really sick. As a child, I could hardly ride in a car."

Toomer adds that he developed the ability to "feel" what riders might experience as he designed his rides. In the early years, before computers became commonplace, all the calculations were done by hand.

Toomer's long list of "firsts" includes developing the first steel coaster, the first upside-down coaster, and the over-the-shoulder restraint bar. Other contributions to the industry include suspension cushioning, air-actuated braking systems, and the first track with a corkscrew turn. Although the tasks were complex, he often used a simple design tool.

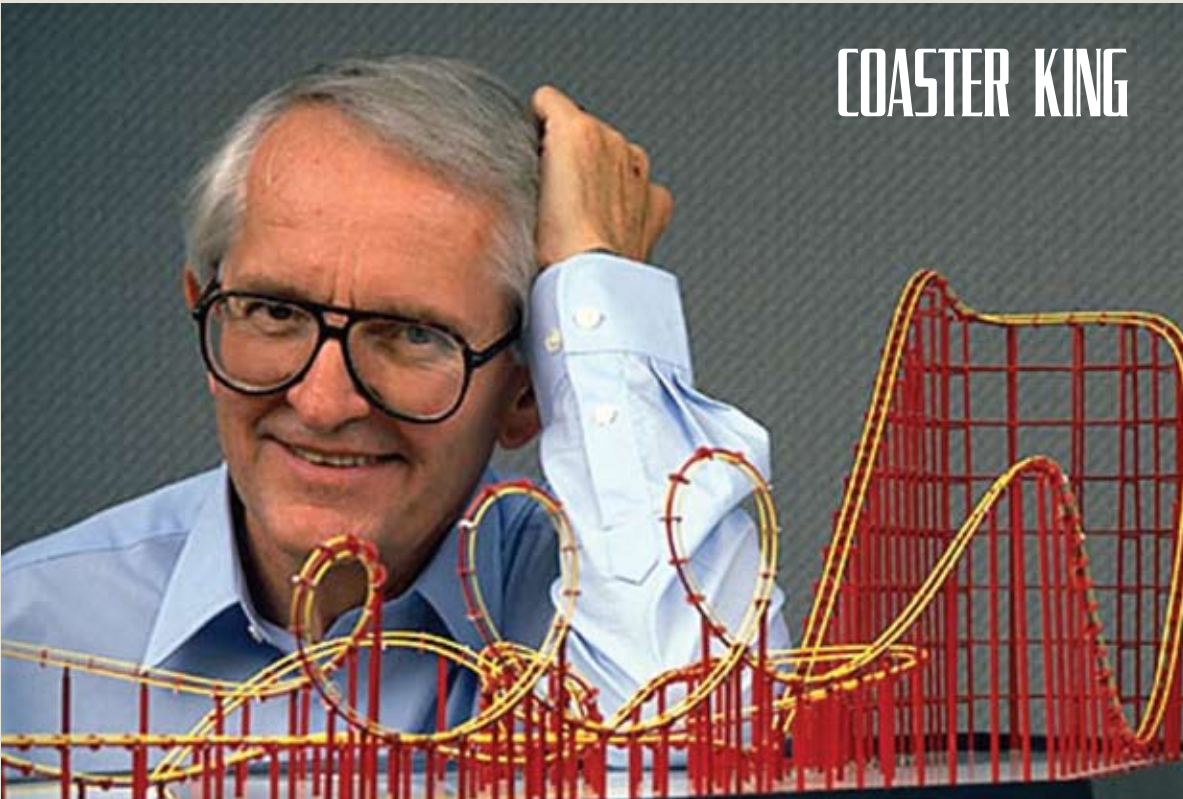
"Bending wire was a good way to visualize what we were trying to do," Toomer says. "We sort of pioneered the whole upside down thing that really changed the amusement ride business forever."

Toomer's career includes other legendary engineering projects besides roller coasters. He worked on the Minuteman missile as well



## COASTER KING

Photo courtesy of Ron Toomer



as on an important component of NASA's Apollo space capsule: char-rate sensors for the heat shield.

Modestly, Toomer, who grew up in Pasadena, Calif., during the Depression, credits much of his career to luck.

"Being in the right place at the right time has a lot to do with getting jobs," he says. "At a time when a company I was involved with went into bankruptcy, a welder friend recommended me to the people at Arrow Dynamics, who happened to be looking for a mechanical engineer at the time. They had a company, Six Flags Over Texas, looking for a roller coaster, so they needed some help with that. That's how I got started — from the bottom, because none of us knew all that much about roller coasters."

That original coaster is still in operation near Toomer's home in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

In 1984, Arrow went into bankruptcy, and Toomer and some of his co-workers took the risky step of taking over the business.

"It was kind of a crazy thing to take over a company with no cash behind us," Toomer says. "It turned out that several people in the amusement parks were just waiting to see what was going to happen. The Kings Island people in Cincinnati jumped out of the woodwork and ordered a big coaster. That got us going. I think we had \$10 million in sales that first year and about \$15 million the next. By the third year, we had \$20 million in sales."

With Toomer serving as "president, chief salesman and bottle washer," as he describes it, Arrow would continue to be a power in the amusement industry for another decade. Toomer says, "One day I was sitting there and I thought to myself, 'My God, I've done more of this than anybody in the world has ever done until now.'"

"During our best years, we were probably the leading company in the world," he says. "It's been a great thing for me. I wish everybody could have a job that they enjoyed so much."

— John Wheeler '86, '87M.A.

### WHERE TO FIND A RON TOOMER-DESIGNED COASTER

The Ron Toomer-designed "scream machine" nearest to Reno is at Paramount's Great America in Santa Clara, Calif. In southern Nevada, there is a corkscrew looping ride inside Circus Circus. Not far from Las Vegas is the Desperado, a 225-foot thriller at Primm, Nev.

Toomer's creativity led to the development of more than 80 rides worldwide. Some of the best known include:

■ **THE CORKSCREW**, Knott's Berry Farm, Buena Park, Calif., and also Cedar Point, Sandusky, Ohio. Notable because this was the first coaster to turn its riders upside down three times.

■ **THE MAGNUM XL-200**, Cedar Point. This out-and-back coaster was the first to top 200 feet.

■ **BIG BAD WOLF**, Busch Gardens, Williamsburg, Va. The first suspended coaster.

■ **SPACE MOUNTAIN**, Disneyland, Anaheim, Calif. Toomer worked on this complicated ride for about two years.

# ALLEN GATES

*professor, department chair, mechanical engineering*

**I**t's not easy being green — especially if you're algae. In fact, it's downright schizophrenic.

Up at Lake Tahoe, algae are vilified as the main culprits in the notorious "greening" of the lake and its subsequent diminished clarity. A few miles away, at the foot of the Mt. Rose Highway, algae are being tabbed to play a starring role in the "greening" of America — and that's a good thing, according to Allen Gates, mechanical engineering professor and department chair.

"You can probably produce enough biodiesel from algae or desert plants to replace maybe 20 to 30 percent of the fossil fuel diesel used in the state," Gates says.

The University's chemical and mechanical engineering departments have joined a consortium with Oak Ridge National Laboratory and Ohio University to launch a research program aimed at producing biodiesel. It's one of several cutting-edge renewable energy research initiatives under way at the University, including geothermal energy and the use of hydrogen power. All these programs will come together under one roof at the new Renewable Energy Center to be housed at the University's Redfield Campus.

Biodiesel can be made from

two cheap and potentially abundant sources in Nevada: weeds and algae. The state has plenty of room to grow oil-rich plants similar to sagebrush and then process them into a material that can be turned into biodiesel. However, Gates says, it's our new best friend, algae, that offers the most promise.

"You can grow algae in a reactor with a much smaller footprint," Gates says. "It would take a lot of acreage to grow enough desert plants."

The Renewable Energy Center, a public-private partnership, is set to be a world-class re-

search, education and outreach center for the development and application of geothermal and renewable energy. The campus itself will be a showpiece for these technologies, being totally "green," thanks to its use of geothermal electricity piped from the nearby Ormat geothermal power plant at Steamboat Springs. It will be the only campus in the world to be powered entirely by geothermal energy. Although there are other renewable energy centers around the country, the confluence of geothermal, solar and biomass potential in Nevada makes the center unique.

More information on the University's Renewable Energy Center: [www.unr.edu/geothermal/UNRREC.htm](http://www.unr.edu/geothermal/UNRREC.htm)

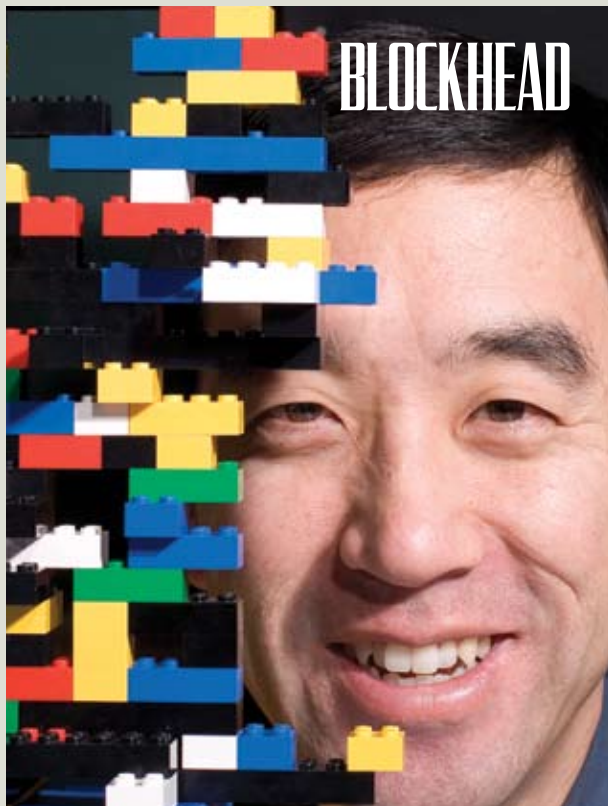


Photo by Matt Theissen '03

# ERIC WANG

*associate professor, mechanical engineering*

**I**n Eric Wang's freshmen mechanical engineering classes, students play with Lego brand toy-building bricks, pit "bots" against each other on a battlefield in Palmer Engineering, and never have to buy a textbook.

That's because Wang (pronounced Wong) is one of the gurus of Lego robotics.

The associate professor of mechanical engineering has written the only book on the programming language ROBOLAB and teaches educators how to introduce engineering design concepts via the Lego Mindstorms family of robot-making kits.

The book, *Engineering with LEGO® Bricks and ROBOLAB™*, was first published in 2003 and has sold nearly 10,000 copies worldwide — a large number for an educational text. The second edition was published in January 2005 and has been translated into simplified and traditional Chinese and Korean; Spanish and Japanese versions are in the works.



## TIME HAILS ALUM'S COCONUT CLOTH

What do you get when you cross a coconut with some yarn?

In Greg Haggquist's case, you get recognized by *Time* magazine for creating one of the most amazing inventions of 2005.

Haggquist, who earned his doctorate in physical chemistry at the University in 1991, figured out a way to embed activated carbon, derived from coconut shells, into fiber and yarns. A cycling jersey made by Cannondale is the first product to use this technology.

Why coconut shells? "They have the proper physical qualities that we need," says Haggquist, who created his own company, Traptex, to develop and market such innovative products. "I was looking for activated carbon to absorb odors and the question was how to get it into the polymer and keep it active. That was the invention that had to happen for us to get to this product."

Haggquist says developing different products using composites technology has been the focus of his career, which includes a postdoctoral stint in Japan and work for Lexmark International. "I'm always thinking of how to put things in something and get something new out of that material."

Since the *Time* recognition, Haggquist says he's been inundated with inquiries.

"We can't produce enough samples to get things out to the people who want to try this stuff out."

— John Wheeler '86, '87 M.A.

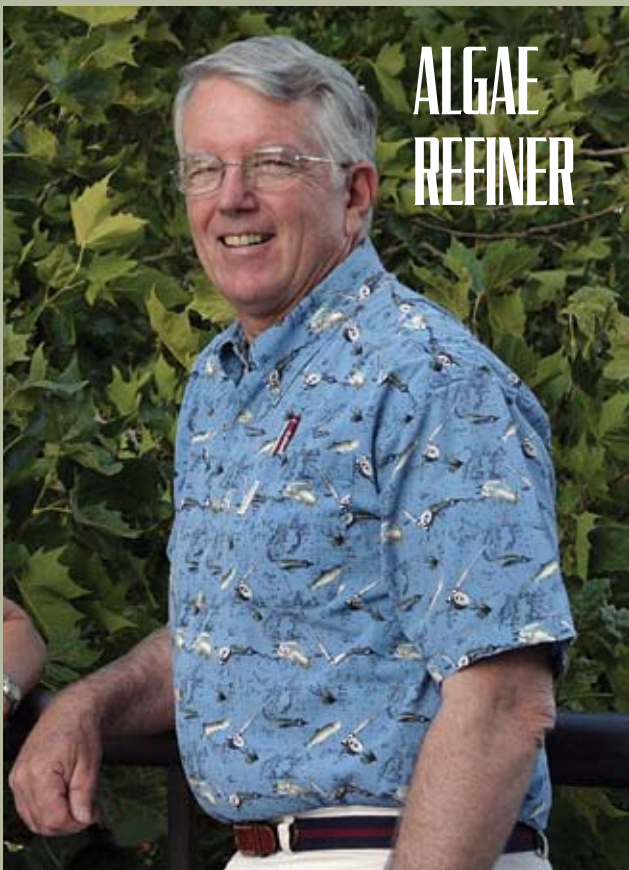


Photo by Jean Dixon

## ALGAE REFINER

hydrogen. Gates says producing hydrogen from fossil fuels doesn't make sense because it takes almost as much energy to produce as you get back.

Biofuels production is more like recycling, Gates says. The energy to grow the algae comes from the sun. The algae convert solar energy into chemical energy.

"Then when you produce biodiesel and burn it, you release that chemical energy. All algae does is serve as an energy-storage device."

— J.W.

Gates plans to focus the center on the thermal applications of solar energy, specifically geothermal and biomass, with a view to producing

Additionally, Lego Europe wants to distribute the book.

The book evolved from Wang's hands-on courses at the University in which freshmen buy a Lego kit rather than a textbook and design a "battlebot" for their class project. The course culminates in a competition to see which robot can wreak the most destruction and survive the longest on the "battlefield," an indoor ring.

While Wang, winner of the 2003 F. Donald Tibbitts University Distinguished Teacher Award, was on sabbatical during the 2003-2004 academic year at the University of Canterbury, Christchurch, in New Zealand, Lego Education contacted

him and asked if he would give workshops in that country and Australia. The company wanted him to show educators how to teach science and engineering using robotics. Now he travels the globe for Lego.

But he doesn't earn a penny from the company. Even money from the book is donated to charities, including the University of Nevada Foundation. The royalties help fund learning activities within the College of Engineering.

"That's a personal philosophy," he says. "I believe that since the University is paying me to do work, they deserve the money."

— Melanie Robbins

# TIM CASEY

'86 Electrical Engineering

**T**im Casey has come full circle. He's back at Nevada forging a future, but this time it's for students, faculty and the community.

As executive director of the Institute for Innovation and Informatics (I-Cubed, as it's fondly called), Casey seeks to enhance the University's range

of study programs in "informatics," the blending of information science and information technology. He's also the University's director of economic development, which requires him to search out opportunities for students and faculty to develop commercial ventures, and for companies to collaborate with the University.



Photo by Jean Dixon

"We are trying to find ways to take ideas that are being generated at the University and turn them into local business opportunities so that we can spur economic growth and development in our region."

I-Cubed, Casey says, won't teach classes or have academic faculty. Rather, the institute's role is to make sure the existing colleges provide opportunities for the study of informatics, a discipline that Casey says crosses all fields. "Everybody needs to store, manipulate and process data in some fashion."

Casey has the background for both jobs. After earning his Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering at Nevada and a law degree at Santa Clara University School, he went into intellectual property law. He served as director of intellectual property for Silicon Graphics Inc. and as chief technology counsel and senior vice president and assistant secretary for MCI Communications Corporation/WorldCom Inc., among other appointments. Most recently, he was senior partner and chair of the Intellectual Property & Technology Law Department at the Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson law firm in Washington, D.C. His expertise has been sought by such organizations as the United States Congress, the *Wall Street Journal* and CNN.

While at MCI he also invented a kind of reverse caller ID that has been patented. Instead of the called party being able to see who's calling, the caller can verify that the number he or she dialed is about to connect to the intended location. He also is the co-inventor and has a patent pending on a device that allows one's personal digital assistant (PDA) to interface with a system in a store to help find items.

Casey says another of the I-Cubed's objectives is to spread innovation and entrepreneurship. The colleges of engineering and business administration already offer courses that promote entrepreneurship, he says. "But there need to be more opportunities."

—M.R.

*Melanie Robbins is a writer-editor and John Wheeler '86, '87 M.A. is the senior writer in the University's Office of Marketing and Communications.*

## E IS FOR ENTERPRISING

Some other accomplished Nevada engineering alums

■ **CHARLES COE** ('48 mechanical engineering) — former NASA scientist, researcher and administrator who helped develop and test the heat-shielding tiles on the space shuttle; now a temporary consultant for Boeing.

■ **JOHN KLEPPE** ('61 electrical engineering) — professor and chair of the Department of Electrical Engineering who in the mid-'70s created an engine that ran on liquid nitrogen; named 1985 Inventor of the Year by Nevada Innovation & Technology Council; founded Scientific Engineering Instruments; driving force behind the Smithsonian's Lemelson Center for Innovation, Invention, and Entrepreneurship.

■ **ROBERT "BO" EWALD** ('69 civil engineering) — named by *Science Digest* as one of America's brightest scientists younger than 40 in 1993; long associated with Cray Research and the Los Alamos National Laboratory; interim CEO for Silicon Graphics in the mid-1990s.

■ **HENRY BUNSOW** ('71 electrical engineering) — leading intellectual property attorney in the Bay Area; in 2002 won a jury verdict for more than \$61 million in an infringement case against the telecommunications giant Ericsson Inc.

■ **ALI SAFFARI** ('82 electrical engineering) — senior vice president of engineering for International Game Technology; oversees engineering efforts for IGT gaming devices and MegaJackpots systems internationally.

■ **STEPHANIE LUONGO** ('05 electrical engineering) and **BEN HAAS** ('05 electrical engineering) — won the inaugural Donald W. Reynolds Governor's Cup Award last year for the best business plan. Their proposed venture? Raising shrimp for the hotel-casino industry using geothermal energy.

■ **ROBERT WORRELL** ('05 computer science and engineering) and **DAVID LEISTIKO** ('05 computer science and engineering) — won the computer gaming Independent Games Festival's 2005 Student Showcase with an action-puzzle game called Squirrel Squabble.



# Beyond the Flesh

Medical professor asked to investigate ways to add spirituality to curriculum

**D**enise McKee thinks spirituality has a place in medicine. So does the George Washington Institute for Spirituality and Health, a division of George Washington University Medical Center in Washington, D.C. It has awarded the University of Nevada School of Medicine doctor a three-year, \$30,000 grant to conduct a study on integrating spirituality into the training of resident physicians.

"It's an aspect of academic medicine that's not being addressed," McKee says. "We are tripartite beings – physical, emotional and spiritual – but we don't address the spiritual needs of our patients."

McKee, a professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine, previously authored a landmark article on spirituality and medical care that was published in the *Journal of Family Practice* in 1992. She says spiritual issues in medicine are controversial, in part, because many people tend to equate spirituality with religion. She defines spirituality more broadly than that.

"You don't have to believe in a higher power to be a spiritual person," she says. "It means different things to different people. Religion is just one component. It might mean a walk in the woods. For another person, science might even be their spirituality."

Over the next three years, McKee and her colleagues will create and test a spirituality curriculum for family medicine residents at the School of Medicine.

"This is very timely," she says. "Patients want their physicians to be open to different types of alternative medicine that are not taught in medical school."

With studies showing that one in three Americans use some form of alternative medicine and don't tell their primary physician for fear of being ostracized, there's a clear communication gap.

Photo by Jean Dixon



**School of Medicine professor and family practice physician Denise McKee thinks doctors should adopt a holistic approach to health care — one that includes patients' spiritual needs.**

the void that you can't control," McKee says.

She says studies have shown that as many as two-thirds of people who come to doctors with a physical complaint really have deeper psycho-emotional diseases that manifest in a physical ailment.

"If a patient is depressed, for example, you can measure that their T-4 cells go down, making them more susceptible to colds and flus," she says. "If you only look at the physical manifestation, you're just putting a Band-Aid on the problem."

That type of holistic thinking is common in Eastern medicine but less so in the West, McKee notes.

"Western medicine looks at things from a very physically oriented organ-system point of view," she says.

While for some people alternative and complementary medicine is still a controversial area, McKee says she is comfortable investigating further. She is a certified acupuncturist whose previous research includes the use of acupuncture to treat young adults with acne. She notes that a number of well-respected medical schools teach alternative health modalities.

"Schools like the University of Arizona, which offers a degree in alternative medicine, and Harvard are paying attention to this," she says. "Medical students are asking for it and patients are asking for it. People want their physicians to be open to different modalities of alternative medicine."

— John Wheeler '86, '87 M.A.

For example, physicians need to know if a patient is taking herbs that could interact with the medicines they're taking.

"Whether a physician or primary care provider embraces alternative medicines or not, they need to know because their patients are doing it," says McKee, who received her undergraduate and medical degrees at the University.

McKee's team for this project will include campus experts in psychiatry, health ethics and pastoral care. Her study is supported by the School of Medicine's administration. She hopes medical schools will increasingly introduce spirituality into the training of doctors.

"I'd like to see this forward-looking approach incorporated into what are already effective curriculums," she says.

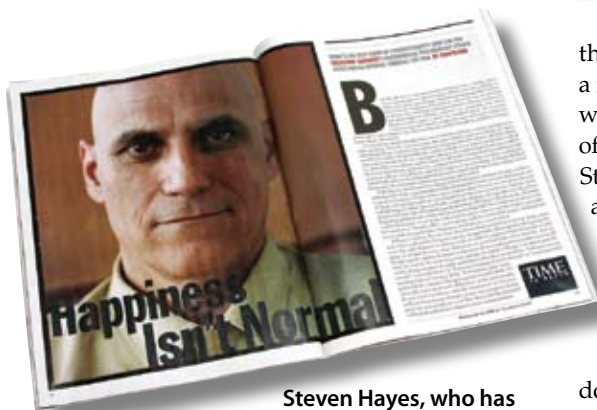
For many people, spirituality comes to the front burner when they have to deal with mortality issues, such as end of life.

"When things get beyond your ability to control them, then you start looking outside of yourself for something to fill

# Happiness is Not Normal

By John Wheeler '86, '87 M.A.

*Psychology professor has new take on human existence*



Steven Hayes, who has developed a new branch of psychology, was the focus of an in-depth story in the Feb. 13 edition of *Time* magazine.

Are you stressed? Burned out? Well, for a cure, how about heading off to Tibet for six months? Or perhaps a 10-day meditation retreat would do the trick? Well, maybe it would, but for most of us that's just not possible.

"Most busy Western people need things that will make a difference in a matter of minutes and hours, not weeks or months," says University of Nevada psychology professor Steven Hayes. "Meditation practices are helpful but they can take time. We've been able to develop some related technologies that can make a difference in just a day or two."

Sound too good to be true? Hayes doesn't think so. He explains the system in a new, workbook-size paperback, *Get Out of Your Mind and Into Your Life: The New Acceptance and Commitment Therapy*. The book and Hayes' perspectives have been receiving national media attention, including life coach Martha Beck's column in the February issue of *O, the Oprah Magazine*.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse awarded Hayes a three-

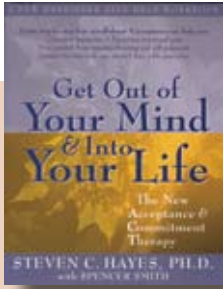
year, \$1.5 million grant to look at weekend workshops for reducing the impact of the negative thoughts and feelings that can overwhelm addiction counselors who work with difficult clients.

"If you are working with people who are extremely dysfunctional, leading very destructive lives, any human being is going to start talking to himself about how unlikely it is that these folks are going to succeed," Hayes says. "The next thing you know, you're judging them and you're stressed about work. It's just a natural human process."

So how do you deal with these negative thoughts? Hayes says a therapy he developed called Acceptance and Commitment Training (ACT), along with expanding one's awareness of people's different cultural backgrounds, is effective in teaching therapists to notice their negative thoughts and feelings in a way that is similar to meditation. When that happens, these negative experiences lose their punch and begin to fall away.

"It's exciting," Hayes says. "It's one of a family of therapies that are essentially trying to bring this





FROM STEVE HAYES' *GET OUT OF YOUR MIND & INTO YOUR LIFE*

### **HUMAN SUFFERING IS UNIVERSAL**

Often many people we meet in our daily lives seem to have it all. They

seem happy. They look satisfied with their lives. You've probably had the experience of walking down the street when you're having a particularly bad day, and you've looked around and thought, "Why can't I just be happy like everyone around me? They don't suffer from chronic panic (or depression, or a substance abuse problem). They don't feel as if a dark cloud is always looming over their heads. They don't suffer the way I suffer. Why can't I be like them?"

Here's the secret: They do and you are. We all have pain. All human beings, if they live long enough, have felt or will feel the devastation of losing someone they love. Every single person has felt or will feel physical pain. Everybody has felt sadness, shame, anxiety, fear, and loss. We all have memories that are embarrassing, humiliating, or shameful. We all carry painful

hidden secrets. We tend to put on shiny, happy faces, pretending that everything is okay, and that life is "all good." But it isn't and it can't be. To be human is to feel pain in ways that are orders of magnitude more pervasive than what the other creatures on the planet Earth feel.

### **THE SHARK TANK POLYGRAPH**

Suppose you were sitting over a dunk tank full of sharks while you were wired up to the world's best tuned polygraph. You have a very simple task: don't get anxious at all. If you do, the seat will flip you over, and into the tank you'll go.

What do you think would happen? It seems extremely likely you would be anxious. This is exactly what happens during a panic attack: First you feel a twinge of anxiety, then you imagine the horrors that can arrive, you react to those, and, in a matter of seconds, boom. You're in the shark tank.

### **THE METAPHOR OF THE HUNGRY TIGER**

Imagine you wake up one morning and just outside your front door you find an adorable tiger kitten mewing. Of course you bring the cuddly little guy inside to

keep as a pet. After playing with him for a while, you notice he is still mewing, non-stop, and you realize he must be hungry. You feed him a bit of bloody, red ground beef knowing that's what tigers like to eat. You do this every day, and every day your pet tiger grows a little bigger. Over the course of two years, your tiger's daily meals change from hamburger scraps, to prime rib, to entire sides of beef. Soon your little pet no longer mews when hungry. Instead, he growls ferociously at you whenever he thinks it's mealtime. Your cute little pet has turned into an uncontrollable, savage beast that will tear you apart if he doesn't get what he wants.

Your struggle with your pain can be compared to this imaginary pet tiger. Every time you empower your pain by feeding it the red meat of experiential avoidance, you help your pain-tiger grow a little bit larger and a little bit stronger. Feeding it in this manner seems like the prudent thing to do. The pain-tiger growls ferociously telling you to feed it whatever it wants or it will eat you. Yet, every time you feed it, you help the pain to become stronger, more intimidating, and more controlling of your life.

more constructive, more spiritual, Eastern-oriented sensibility into a Western science approach."

Hayes says the therapies he developed at Nevada work well not just with therapist burnout but also with many other common problems.

"Worldwide, there have been nearly 20 randomized trials conducted on ACT in the last five years, so we have evidence that these processes are helpful for most kinds of problems you can think of, from dealing with chronic diseases such as diabetes or epilepsy, to coping with chronic pain and traditional mental health problems such as depression or substance abuse."

The popular media are also

starting to latch on to acceptance and commitment therapy, in part because of Hayes' book, which teaches life-enhancing strategies anyone can adopt.

"We wanted to set it up so that people don't necessarily have to go to an ACT therapist to see if this type of work might be helpful to them," Hayes says. "The book is structured so that you can apply an ACT approach to most common problems, such as work stress, obsessive thoughts, anxiety, or depression."

Hayes says stories about the pervasiveness of psychological problems appear in the media all the time, but he has a different response from most people when he reads them.

"There are stories about the unbelievably large numbers of people who have, say, been abused, or have an addiction problem, or struggle with relationships, or have a mental disorder, or who are just stressed at work," Hayes says. "To see the truth of the claim I make in my book, all you have to do is stop and say, 'Hey, wait a minute. What if we added up all of these problems? How many people would fail to be in one 'abnormal' grouping or another? When you craft the question properly the answer hits you in the face: it is pain and struggle that is normal, not happiness."

*John Wheeler '86, '87 M.A. is the senior writer in the University's Office of Marketing and Communications.*

**On the Web: <http://www.acceptanceandcommitmenttherapy.com>**

# The Judge's Eyes

*Steven Kosach looks deeply into the character of those convicted in his courtroom before deciding their immediate future.*

By Mike Sion

Strange thing, he's an optimist. Believer in humanity's basic goodness. Patron of the second chance.

Washoe District Court Judge Steven R. Kosach ('67 political science) has a front-row seat to bad behavior. Accused drug abusers and dealers, thugs and thieves, molesters, rapists, killers — they parade before him weekly and have since his 1990 election to the bench. Yet his reputation into his third six-year term is not of a by-the-book jurist who automatically imposes the sentence

He'll have read the report from the Department of Parole and Probation, prepared by professional staff based on interviews with the subject and a background check. He'll consider their recommendation as far as a sentence. Many veteran judges simply follow the recommendation. Sometimes he doesn't.

"[T]here still are human factors — something about the defendant's demeanor, attitude," he says. "If there's an addiction, can the court help with diversion or drug court? Is there family support? Was this out of character?"

In his first year on the bench, Kosach faced a 19-year-old, Roberto Nerey, who'd pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit murder. Nerey was riding in a car following rival gangbangers. A 15-year-old in the backseat cradling Nerey's rifle opened fire, hitting an enemy in the head. Prosecutors wanted the six-year maximum. Kosach gazed at Nerey — a father, a community-college student — and said two years. *Go in like a man, come out a better man. Help your community.*

Nerey did. Now a criminal justice major at Nevada, he heads the nonprofit group Unlimited Intervention, which

attempts to steer youths away from gangs.

"There was something about the eye-to-eye contact," Kosach says. "I saw a decent kid who knew he'd screwed up. He was going to prison for a good reason, but I didn't throw away the key."

Retired District Court Judge Peter Breen ('60 history), who served 32 years on the bench, says he hears about Kosach from bailiffs, deputies,



Photo by Jean Dixon

**Steven R. Kosach has been a district court judge in Reno since 1990 and a baseball fan all his life. The hollow ball on his bench holds paper clips.**

prosecutors seek. Nor does he suffer "black-robe fever": judicial hubris.

After a guilty plea, Kosach, 60, tries to divine underlying truths. Dark eyes scrutinize the convict for some sign to justify leniency.

"Ninety percent of the time, I know what sentence I will impose," he explains one afternoon in his chambers in the Washoe County Courthouse.



lawyers, even drug offenders assigned for treatment. He says they talk about how Kosach has insight into people struggling after bad decisions. "He's willing to give people an opportunity to improve themselves."

That hopefulness hardly stems from ignorance of the capacity for evil. The son of first-generation Slavic Americans, Kosach was raised with the history of the bloody Balkans. Then came a tour of duty in Vietnam.

Kosach, who attended Nevada on a baseball scholarship and played on the 1965 conference championship team, was also in ROTC and shipped out to the war in June 1968 as a first lieutenant with the Americal Division. He was the replacement for none other than Lt. William Calley, head of the 1st Platoon of Charlie Company, 11th Brigade, which massacred hundreds of unarmed civilians in the village of My Lai in March 1968. After the story broke, Calley was court-martialed. It proved to be a turning point in opposition to the war.

Kosach's company was stationed along the South China Sea and central highlands. Jungle warfare; firefights almost daily. By October, the commander killed, Kosach found himself in charge of 100 men, mostly blacks, Chicanos and non-citizens serving to gain U.S. citizenship.

"It was a day-in, day-out fight for survival. I didn't see any progress. All I saw was the poor Vietnamese people getting killed by North Vietnamese, Viet Cong or us. It was a year of survival."

Kosach dug his own foxhole, walked point with his M16. "I never asked any of my men to do something I wouldn't do myself." He was wounded by sniper fire in the leg, grenade shrapnel in the back.

In July 1969 he left the war with the Bronze Star for valor, two Purple Hearts and the Silver Star for heroism after pulling two wounded mates out of a creek and then leading eight others to wipe out the attackers.

Kosach says he believed then in the American cause in Vietnam. Not anymore. Talks should have settled the conflict earlier, he says. The civilized way.

While convalescing, he took the Law School Admissions Test. Later he enrolled at the McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento.

"There was something in me that said, 'I can do this and I can help people,'" he says of launching a career in law. "It sounds Pollyanna, but I still say it: I'm probably a judge because I can help."

After graduation Kosach became a prosecutor in the Sacramento County District Attorney's office. He returned to Reno in 1974. While studying for the Nevada bar he worked at Paul's Payless Liquor on Arlington Avenue and Second Street

downtown. On New Year's Eve, a young woman walked in and bought a bottle of tequila.

"I carded her," Kosach recalls. "It's a good way of meeting girls."

The purchaser, Gail Elmore, a former student at the University, was home from her caseworker job in Sen. Paul Laxalt's office. She wrote a check for the purchase. A half-hour later she phoned to say she'd accidentally written the check to Ben's Liquor instead of Paul's. Kosach told her she'd have to come down and give him a new check "or else I'll have to eat it." She came down. He asked her out. They married in June 1975.

After a stint as a deputy Reno city attorney, Kosach went into private practice in 1976, specializing in civil litigation. From 1986-88 he was managing partner of a large firm, traveling and working long hours. He was unhappy spending so much time away from his family. A judgeship seemed ideal, so in 1990 he decided to run for the Department Eight seat on the Washoe District Court.

The campaign was a family affair.

"All the kids pitched in," Gail Kosach recalls. "The boys put up signs on the weekends. (Daughter) Keri and I walked all the new precincts west of McCarran (Boulevard). We started campaigning the minute it was allowed and didn't stop until the day of the election."

Kosach says the types of young people he saw coming before him as a judge reminded him of his unit in the military.

"I'd dealt with kids like [them]. Even now, I can ask some kid a question, 'Why did you rip the car off?' or, 'What did you beat your girlfriend's door down for?' The same kind of thing that I would have asked one of my troops," he says. "When a kid's standing before me in chains, pleading guilty to destruction of his girlfriend's property, I ask, 'Is it worth it? C'mon, man, you got to grow up.'"

After 15 years on the bench, Kosach confesses to acquiring some cynicism. There's a flip side to being willing to give people a second chance, he admits. He's more prone to being conned.



**Kosach attended the University on a baseball scholarship and was a member of the '65 conference championship team.**

Continues next page



The future judge (left) with Lt. Terry Gallagher in Vietnam.

From page 19

“Even if I order the most lenient of possible sentences — giving a chance at redemption and rehabilitation — [I wonder if] this individual . . . [will] wind up back in front of me facing charges related to a similar, or worse, crime.”

It happens. One time, a 38-year-old with numerous felonies was out on bail for car burglary. The next month, he and another man robbed a teenage couple at gunpoint at a park. The man out on bail drove off with the girl and raped her. During his trial he told the jury the girl had “wanted him.” During sentencing, the prosecutor brought forward another woman who testified he’d raped her.

“When I gave him an opportunity to speak,” Kosach recalls, “he wouldn’t look at me. He mumbled something. I got up from the bench and walked down in front of him, where he stood at the defense table, and asked him to repeat his statement.

“‘It doesn’t matter,’ he said. I leaned on the table, glaring at his face — possessing authority to put him away for a good, long time — so he could experience severe intimidation. ‘I want you to feel what those girls felt,’ I said. Then I sentenced him to life without the possibility of parole. Some people you just have to warehouse to protect society.”

Kosach, who played minor-league baseball for the Philadelphia Phillies’ affiliate in Bakersfield, Calif., before heading to Vietnam, sees baseball as a metaphor for civilized society. Hard work, discipline, playing by the rules — they’re rewarded in baseball, as they are in society. Or should be. And in both realms there are only so many outs.

Even for an optimist.

Freelance writer Mike Sion is a former editor of this magazine.

# The News is Not Good

*Dwindling audiences and declining influence have traditional journalism worried. A new grad program searches for solutions.*

By Brandon Stewart '05

Sensing it was losing readers to Web sites, blogs and other manifestations of the Internet, the *Los Angeles Times* last June experimented with what it called “wikitorials,” editorials written specifically for online consumption and with an interactive dimension.

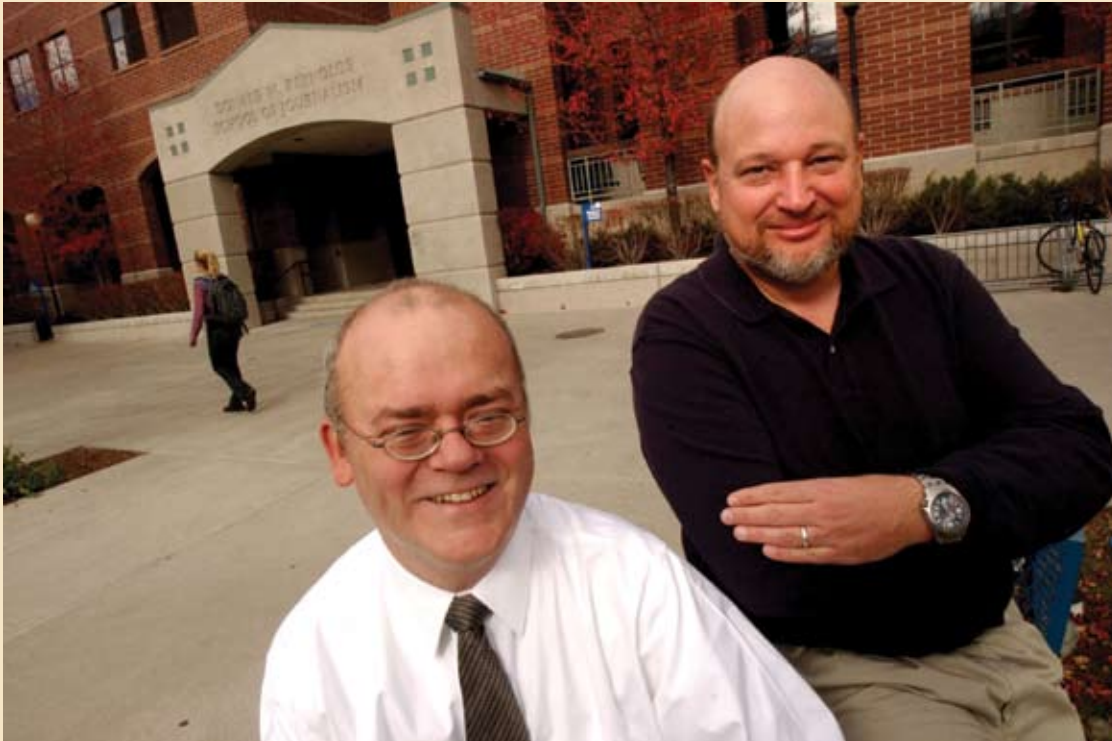
With a few mouse clicks and keystrokes (“Wiki” is Hawaiian for quick or fast) visitors to the *Times*’ site could comment on, add to, or even correct information in a wikitorial. The paper hoped the innovation would spark a more participatory sort of journalism, which might, in turn, strengthen the paper’s impact on the public consciousness, maybe even restore journalism’s influence to bygone days.

It didn’t work. Three days after the wikitorials debuted the site was taken down because, as the paper reported, “a few readers were flooding the site with inappropriate material.”

The wikitorial experiment stands as a prime example of what has been vexing news organizations for some time: dwindling public influence (and profits) coupled with confusion over whether to combat or enlist emerging technologies to turn things around.

The Reynolds School of Journalism’s retooled graduate program, launching this August, aims to find and share solutions. The intensive 10-month program, which will seek to enroll experienced journalists, will examine the current and potential interplay between new media and community decision making. Environmental affairs decision making will be the focus, at least to start. Course titles include Journalism and Public Judgment, Fundamentals of Exploratory Journalism and Fundamentals of Participatory Journalism.





Cole Campbell (left), dean of the Reynolds School of Journalism, and Larry Dailey, professor of media technologies, will begin leading seasoned journalists through the school's retooled graduate program in August.

"Journalism needs to be re-conceptualized," says Cole Campbell, dean of the Reynolds School and former editor of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. "It needs to harness the deluge of digital technology and rediscover its role as a crucial contributor to democracy."

Donica Mensing, journalism professor and director of graduate studies, says the new graduate program, as well as some new undergraduate courses, will act as a kind of "skunk works," a place where seasoned journalists can brainstorm new ways to gather and report news. The curriculum also will examine emerging news conduits like *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart*. The satirical pseudo-news program on cable TV's Comedy Central has built a huge youth following, and studies indicate that for many in the viewing audience it's their only source of news.

Another faculty member, Larry Dailey, associate professor and Reynolds Professor of Media Technologies, plans to teach a course titled "Game Theory and Journalism."

"Game design, where you design an online game around current events, is probably the most interactive type of new journalism," says Dailey, a former multimedia producer for MSNBC.com. "It allows people to explore the news rather than just read it."

The *Reno Gazette-Journal* used just such a device in 2003 to help its readers understand the complexities of balancing Nevada's budget. Requiring readers to appropriate funds to competing interests like education and law enforcement gave them a new perspective on the state's economic realities.

Wikitorials notwithstanding, Ed Lenert sees a

more participatory journalism as the wave of the future. The journalism faculty member and Fred W. Smith Professor of Critical Thinking and Ethical Practices likens the idea to eBay's successful model of online auctions. On eBay, buyers and sellers communicate freely in an atmosphere of trust, brokering deals in the millions of dollars. He envisions an online news community in which readers can ask reporters additional questions or contribute facts and commentary to stories already published. The end product could be greater, more accurate coverage of an issue. Lenert hopes that would lead to a more responsive public and a better society.

To illustrate what he means, Lenert says he felt baffled watching news coverage of the devastation wrought by Hurricane Katrina.

"The journalists correctly stated in advance of the Category 3 hurricane that if it hit New Orleans there would be very serious consequences. Everybody knew that, but why didn't anything happen?"

Many observers accused government officials of negligence, and large numbers of people will always be apathetic to events any farther away than their own backyard. But Lenert suspects something deeper played a role: a "disconnect" between journalistic activity and public action.

If the public doesn't understand the danger of a problem, he says, journalists need to adapt and find new ways to get people to understand.

The question is how.

*Brandon Stewart is a public relations specialist in the Office of Marketing and Communications.*

## Surprise: stomachs have pacemakers

It might not be the most fun thing to talk about, but disorders of the digestive tract are a major problem for millions around the world.

In America, it's estimated as many as 45 million people, about two-thirds women, suffer from irritable bowel syndrome — and that's just one of the many gastrointestinal disorders that exist.

For more than 20 years, researchers at the University of Nevada have specialized in studying the gastrointestinal tract and have made a number of important discoveries. The most recent finding, published last October in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, builds on a key discovery University researchers made a decade ago.

"In the stomach, there is a pacemaking mechanism that coordinates contractions of the gastrointestinal tract," says Sean Ward, a professor in the Department of Physiology and Cell Biology. "In 1994, we were the first to demonstrate the importance of certain cells in the generation of pacemaking activity that regulates the contractions of the muscles within the gut. Now, we have demonstrated that these specialized cells have a role in gastric-muscle contraction that was previously thought to be driven by the brain and nervous system within the gut."

Ward explains that the pacemaking cells of the gut wall work in a fashion similar to those in the heart.

"The heart has a pacemaker region that coordinates activity of the heart," he says. "Similarly, the gut has specialized cells that coordinate the specialized motor activities of the gastrointestinal tract."

This research is important because the University's team is trying to figure out the basis for a lot of the gastrointestinal disorders that exist, including disorders associated with diabetes and those that afflict young children and elderly individuals. The smooth-muscle research program at the University's Department of Physiology and Cell Biology has achieved a worldwide reputation and has been designated a prestigious center of excellence by the National Institutes of Health.

Other researchers are now studying these specialized pacemaking cells, which were discovered by University researchers, and starting to realize the significant role they play in gastrointestinal disorders. Cells similar to the pacemaker cells in the gastrointestinal tract are now recognized in many organs in the body, such as the urinary and reproductive tracts and blood vessels.

— John Wheeler '86, '87M.A.

# 2006 Alumni Association Award Nominations

## PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

— An alumnus/alumna of the University with an outstanding record of career accomplishments.

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE AWARD

— A friend or graduate who has demonstrated dedication, commitment and service to the University.

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SERVICE AWARD

— A friend or graduate who has rendered special and outstanding service to the Alumni Association.

## OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNUS AWARD

— A graduate who is not more than 15 years past graduation and has an outstanding record of career accomplishments, and/or whose dedication, commitment and service to the Alumni Association has significantly enhanced alumni programming.

## ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

— A graduate who has rendered special and outstanding service to the University and by personal achievement has brought distinction to the University.

## Awards Nomination Form

Please include supporting material of no more than four pages with this form.

Nominee's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Year \_\_\_\_\_

Suggested Award: (check one)

- Professional Achievement Award
- University Service Award
- Alumni Association Service Award
- Outstanding Young Alumnus Award
- Alumnus of the Year

Nominee's Address \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out the nomination form, along with no more than four pages of supporting material by May 15, 2006. Please mail to:

**Alumni Association Awards**  
**Morrill Hall Alumni Center/164**  
**University of Nevada, Reno**  
**Reno, NV 89557**

You can also nominate online at

[www.unr.edu/alumni/](http://www.unr.edu/alumni/)



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

## Alumni membership connects you with Nevada

Dear Nevada Alumni and Friends,

**W**hy am I a card-carrying member of the Nevada Alumni Association? The answer is not, as many of you may suspect, because I work at the University.



I am a Lifetime Member of the Association because as an alumna, I have a passion for my alma mater and can personally help support programming for our constituents as a dues-paying member.

The membership program is a critical piece of our organization's mission, which is "to foster and cultivate a common bond of pride, affinity and connection among alumni, students, prospective students and friends of the University of Nevada through quality programs, services and events". Membership dues help provide the financial assistance necessary to produce quality activities and help alumni and friends stay connected to the University.

In return for the generosity of our members, the Association has the ability to offer benefits and services from many campus, local and international partners. For example, our members can take advantage of free career services offered by the University's Career Development Office, discounted vacation packages through RCI International, discounts at local restaurants, and much more.

We realize one size does not fit all. That's why we offer a variety of membership options, from Senior Annual Memberships to Lifetime Memberships. And with our Friend of the Association Memberships, you don't even have to be an alumnus to join.

In February, the Nevada Alumni Association launched a membership drive. I encourage you to become a dues-paying member and take advantage of all our program has to offer. To learn more, please visit our website at [www.unr.edu/alumni](http://www.unr.edu/alumni).

Sincerely,

**Amy J. Carothers '01**  
*Director of Alumni Relations*



### INSIDE

- ▶ [President's Message](#)
- ▶ [Alumni Chapter Updates](#)
- ▶ [Event Calendar](#)
- ▶ [Membership News](#)
- ▶ [New Benefit Partner](#)
- ▶ [Pack at Work  
National Council of Juvenile  
and Family Court Judges](#)
- ▶ [Class Chat](#)

**Association calls for more chatter!**

Tell us about your life achievements, reunions or any other notable news. E-mail your story and photos to [nvalumni@unr.edu](mailto:nvalumni@unr.edu) for Nevada Silver & Blue Class Chat.

[www.unr.edu/alumni](http://www.unr.edu/alumni)

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**FROM THE NEVADA ALUMNI COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

Dear Nevada Alumni and Friends,

The University of Nevada, Reno Alumni Association is a vibrant organization, and I am excited and honored to be the 2006 Alumni Council president.

My goal this year is to provide guidance and vision while re-energizing our four task forces charged with overseeing the Association's programming: Membership and Marketing, Student Involvement, Volunteer Involvement and Community Outreach. As we provide these groups the support they need, our alumni base will be better served with strategically planned events, activities and more ways to stay connected to their alma mater.

January marked the first Alumni Council board meeting of 2006. As the council embarked on a new year, the theme "Elevation Nevada — Taking it to the Top" seemed an appropriate direction for the council to continue the momentum achieved over the past year and propel the Nevada Alumni Association forward in the coming months.

Task forces identified goals for the upcoming year and discussed the best ways to achieve these goals. We came out of the meeting with a plan to better serve the University, the Nevada Alumni Association and our constituents.

Finally, why am I a card-carrying member of the Nevada Alumni Association? The University of Nevada is a vital part of northern Nevada's growing economy and has played a significant role for me personally and professionally. Giving back to the institution through the Association's membership program allows me to support an organization that I'm deeply tied to. And what's more, I receive discounted benefits and services at businesses I visit every day! I hope you will join me in 2006 as a member of the Nevada Alumni Association.



Sincerely,

**Julie L. Ardito '89**

*President, Nevada Alumni Council*







▲ Congressman Jim Gibbons and Washington D.C. Chapter alumni celebrate the publishing of former Congresswoman Barbara Vucanovich's new book, *Barbara F. Vucanovich: From Nevada to Congress, and Back Again* (University of Nevada Press). From left: Joseph Guild ('69 History), Ashley Carrigan ('99 International Affairs), Vicki Soberinsky ('91 International Affairs/Political Science), Mac Bybee ('99 Political Science), Barbara Vucanovich, Congressman Jim Gibbons ('67 Geology), Alexis Bayer ('03 International Affairs), Ryan McGinness ('99 Political Science), Ronda Bybee ('95 Political Science), Marilee Joyce ('85 Journalism), John Lopez.



▲ Kate Hurst ('94 Health Science), John Miramontes ('93 Finance), Sandra Ginger ('87 Mathematics), Molly Miramontes, Paul Miramontes ('92 Accounting, '01 Counseling & Educational Psychology) and Tami Miramontes ('94 Accounting) get ready to cheer the Pack to victory at an Alumni Association pregame party in Las Vegas.



▲ Don Marchand and Tom Allen of ESPN Radio stop by the Alumni Association pregame party in Las Vegas before the Nevada-

UNLV basketball game on Nov. 26.

## Alumni Band Chapter

Contact: Kiara Wolf  
kiara\_j@hotmail.com

A small but enthusiastic group turned out for Homecoming 2005 and the 9th Annual Alumni Band reunion. We participated in a variety of events, including Pack the Little Wal' Night, the Nevada vs. Idaho Homecoming football game and a family pizza party.

As we reminisced, we pondered many questions: Why don't more Alumni Band members turn out for chapter events? What changes can be made to generate more attendance? What kind of communication works best? And whatever happened to Mike Gibbel?

If you know the answers to any of these questions, please contact Dawn (Etch-

every) Miller at demiller@washoe.k12.nv.us or Kiara Wolf. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, have a fabulous idea for the Alumni Band, or know where to find lost alumni, we would love to hear from you as well.

## COBAAA Chapter

Contact: Russ Gardner  
rgardner@nevadacpa.org

All COBA alumni and supporters are invited to participate as players and sponsors in the 15th Annual COBAAA Golf Tournament — COBAAA's largest fundraiser of the year — on May 4, 2006, at Lakeridge Golf Course. For more tournament information, please contact Ro Lazzarone at

rjlazzarone@ft.newyorklife.com.

Tournament proceeds will be used to support the Association's 20/50 Looking to the Future program, which was established in celebration of the 20th anniversary of COBAAA and 50th anniversary of COBA. Program goals include raising funds to support scholarships and student organizations, remodeling the college's student lounge, helping the college prepare for future capital improvement needs and establishing a COBA Career Services Center. For information on how you can be part of the 20/50 campaign, please contact Nick Butler at (775) 688-6650.

For updates or to participate in alumni chapters events, please visit

[www.unr.edu/alumni](http://www.unr.edu/alumni)

## International Chapter

Contact: Zaneta Janiczak  
zanetaj@unr.edu

When asked, international students most often say they come to the University of Nevada because a friend, relative or acquaintance recommended it to them. As alumni, you play an important role in helping us spread the word that our University is a great place to study, experience the United States, and grow professionally. The OISS assists with international recruitment and admissions, so please direct interested students to our Web site at [www.unr.edu/oiss](http://www.unr.edu/oiss) or to our

Continues next page



USAC members and officers enjoy a day in the sun at SBC Park in San Francisco.

First row, from left: Amelia Christian, Jonathan Buescher, Bradley Shochat, Pamela Sinclair. Second row: Stacy Kinion, Brenna Bynum, Jake Vela, Kayla Bilher. Third row: Taso Dimitriadis, Marika Dimitriadis ('02 Spanish/International Affairs, '05 Political Science).



## Nevada Alumni Cheerleaders

Contact: Andres Leon • [nevadacheer@unr.edu](mailto:nevadacheer@unr.edu)

Nevada Alumni Cheerleaders pose for a photo during their Homecoming reunion Oct. 8. Top row, from left: Tammy (Horst) Miceli, Lisa Lyons Maloney ('88 Medical Technology, '97 Medicine), Nic Conroy ('03 Criminal Justice), Terry Ferrar, Eric Lahmn, Chris Gunckle. Bottom Row, from left: Nikki Singler, Nicole Shimabuku ('03 Psychology), Travis Weise, Katrina Carlsson, Kelly Sims, Becky Quigley, Jessica Slatin, Nicole Tyler, Jenny Sanger ('05 Nursing), Andres Leon ('05 General Studies)

coordinator of international admissions, Zaneta Janiczak. The chapter is open to all with an interest in connecting to an international community in Nevada, in the United States and abroad. Please join online on the Nevada Alumni Association Web site!

In addition, please note that there are many Nev. alumni in Turkey. The Office of International Students & Scholars and International Alumni Chapter encourage you to update your information on the alumni Web site and assist us in promoting our university to high-quality students in Turkey.

### University Club

Contact: Larry Kirk  
[landvk2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:landvk2@sbcglobal.net)

The University Club is looking for new members. If you would like to meet nice people and enjoy good fellowship, food and stimulating pro-

grams, you should consider the University Club. Remember, you do not have to be an alumnus. Any friend of the University is eligible for membership. We meet the third Wednesday of the month with the exception of the July and December meetings, which are on the second Wednesday. No meeting is held in August. Dues are \$25 per couple and \$15 for individuals. For more information, please contact Kristin Burgarello with the Nevada Alumni Association at [kburgarello@unr.edu](mailto:kburgarello@unr.edu) or (775) 784-6620.

### USAC Alumni Chapter

Contact: Marika Dimitriadis  
[marika@unr.edu](mailto:marika@unr.edu)

The University Studies Abroad Consortium Alumni Association anticipates that spring 2006 will offer an event calendar as full as fall 2005. The final events of the

fall included the organization of the World Market International Potluck in November, which showcased cuisine, coffee, crafts, and clubs from around the world. USAC alumni volunteered as discussion-group leaders at the annual USAC orientation for spring semester students. USAC also hosted the Belly Delights, which included international dessert tasting and belly dancing lessons for all. USAC has held two recent events at the Rink on the River in downtown Reno, including a

semester kickoff Feb. 4. If you would like to be a part of the USAC Alumni Club or would like more information about our association, please don't hesitate to contact us at (775) 784-6569 or [marika@unr.edu](mailto:marika@unr.edu).

### Washington D.C. Chapter

Contact: Ronda Bybee  
[crashrb@alumni.gwu.edu](mailto:crashrb@alumni.gwu.edu)

Washington D.C. Chapter alumni enjoyed a fun year in 2005 cheering on the Pack men's basketball team at Crystal City Sports Pub in



# ATTEND AN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EVENT!

## MARCH

- 1 Fallon Chapter meeting, noon.
- 1 YAC meeting, 6 p.m.
- 8 CABNR meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- 9 Alumni Council Executive Committee meeting, 11:45 a.m., Morrill Hall.
- 14 COBAAA meeting, 8 a.m.
- 14 Sacramento Chapter meeting, noon
- 15 University Club lunch meeting, 11:30 a.m.
- 16 Homecoming Committee meeting, 12 p.m., Morrill Hall, Prupas Room
- 17 University Club board meeting, 11:30 a.m.

## APRIL

- 5 Fallon Chapter meeting, noon.
- 5 YAC meeting, 6 p.m.
- 11 COBAAA meeting, 8 a.m.
- 11 Sacramento Chapter meeting, noon
- 12 Friends & Alumni of CABNR meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- 14 Young Alumni Chapter BeerFest, 6 p.m., Eldorado Hotel Casino
- 19 University Club dinner meeting, 6 p.m.
- 20 Homecoming Committee meeting, noon, Morrill Hall, Prupas Room
- 21 University Club Board meeting, 11:30 a.m.

- 22 Alumni Council meeting, 8:30 a.m.

## MAY

- 3 Fallon Chapter meeting, noon.
- 3 YAC meeting, 6 p.m.
- 4 COBAAA Golf Tournament, Lakeridge Golf Course.
- 4 Graduation Celebration, 11:30 a.m., Quad
- 6 College of Education Golf Tournament, Lakeridge Golf Course
- 9 COBAAA meeting, 8 a.m. Sacramento Chapter meeting, noon
- 10 Friends & Alumni of CABNR meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- 11 Alumni Council Executive Committee meeting, 11:45 a.m., Morrill Hall
- 17 University Club lunch meeting, 11:30 a.m.
- 18 Homecoming Committee meeting, noon, Morrill Hall, Prupas Room
- 19 University Club Board meeting, 11:30 a.m.
- 19 Golden Reunion dinner program, 6 p.m. JTSU Auditorium
- 20 Golden Reunion Breakfast & Class Photo, 8:30 a.m. Morrill Hall Alumni Center
- 20 Spring Commencement, 10:30 a.m., Quad
- 20 Washington D.C. Chapter Family Picnic, Washington D.C.



Thomas Kerns ('87 Management), Bob Taelour, Russ Gardner ('90 Journalism, '96 Business Administration), Larry Johnson, Stan Peck, Tom Taelour, Lance Van Lydegraf ('69 Prelegal) relax at the Alumni Association pregame party at JT Schmid's in Anaheim prior to the Wooden Classic.



Brenda Pesek ('93 Criminal Justice), Eric Videau ('01 General Studies) and Stephanie Pesek ('97 Animal Science) enjoy some vino at the Southern Nevada Chapter's Wine Tasting Event on Jan. 19 at the Bleu Gourmet in Summerlin.

Arlington, Va. (now affectionately dubbed "Lawlor East"), rooting for the Washington Nationals in their inaugural season, spending an evening with former Congresswoman Barbara Vucanovich to celebrate the publication of her new book, and celebrating Nevada Day at a reception hosted by the Nevada State Society. Heartfelt thanks go out to the officers of the society for including Nevada alumni in their events.

More events are planned for 2006, including a family picnic in Washington, D.C. on May 20 and the annual baseball outing on Sept. 16. Area alumni are also encouraged to gather at "Lawlor East" any time the

Pack is on national television. For information on the D.C. Chapter and to sign up for event emails, contact Ronda Bybee.

## Young Alumni Chapter

Contact: Ro Lazzarone  
lazz3333@yahoo.com

In December, the Young Alumni Chapter packed a bus and headed out of town for our annual Mystery Bus Dinner. This year's trip took us to Walley's Hot Springs for dinner and the Old Genoa Bar for drinks. A number of new members attended, which made the event even more fun. Special thanks to our

outgoing president, Stephanie Clemo, for all of her hard work in 2005. On Jan. 1, we began implementing a \$5 annual membership fee, which will be used to help us keep better track of our database and ensure we're getting more alumni involved. Members will also receive \$5 off all events that we sponsor, so membership will more than pay for itself. If you're interested in joining, please contact Ro Lazzarone. And be on the lookout for information about BeerFest 2006, Friday, April 14 at the Eldorado. It's sure to be the best BeerFest ever.



Recent alumnus Murat Aybek promotes the benefits of studying at the University of Nevada at an education fair in his home city of Istanbul, Turkey. From left, Aybek ('05 International Affairs); Susan Bender, director, Office of International Students & Scholars ('03 Political Science); Burcu Gokgoz, local volunteer and interpreter.

To find out about the Nevada Alumni Association's next pre-game party, visit [www.unr.edu/alumni](http://www.unr.edu/alumni)!

**FROM THE NEVADA ALUMNI MARKETING & MEMBERSHIP TASK FORCE**

Dear Alumni and Friends,

I'm the new chair of the Membership and Marketing Committee. As a student I served as president of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada (ASUN) and a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. I am a Lifetime Member of the Nevada Alumni Association and currently serve on the Alumni Council.

Why am I a card-carrying member of the Nevada Alumni Association? I have a very strong connection to the University of Nevada and enjoy giving back. Recently my wife and I decided to upgrade our membership to a Joint Lifetime membership. The new payment options make it easier for all alumni to make the same commitment.

Join me as a member of the Nevada Alumni Association today!

Sincerely,

**Carlos Ledon '01**  
 Vice President for Membership and Marketing



**Current Membership**  
 Lifetime Members: 133  
 Annual Members: 738



[www.unr.edu/alumni](http://www.unr.edu/alumni)

*Check Out Our New Member Benefit Partner!*

**Need a vacation?**



Your Nevada Alumni Association can help. Check out our new partner, University Alumni Travel Benefits. Indulge in a daydream - search the online database for rental specials starting from \$349 a week! Travel to wonderful destinations all over

the world, and save money, too! And, in addition to enjoying great savings, every reservation you make helps support your Nevada Alumni Association.

**Call (888) 729-3842 or visit [www.alumnitravelbenefits.com/unr](http://www.alumnitravelbenefits.com/unr) — Code: ANV-002**



# 10 Reasons to Join the Nevada Alumni Association Today!

## 10. Silver and Blue Pride

Membership is the perfect way to support alumni programs that help bring alumni, friends, students and faculty together to build a stronger university.

## 9. Hobnob with the University President

Members receive invitations and discounts to select University events and programs such as pregame parties for athletic events and the Homecoming Gala.

## 8. Cheers to You!

Free pitcher of beer with the purchase of a large pizza at Pub 'N' Sub. Enjoy big savings with many other local and nationwide businesses.

## 7. Are You A Smarty Pants?

Choose your own adventure and continue to learn through Pack Tracks Travel and Alumni College.

## 6. Show Me The Money!

Take advantage of free career services so you can earn more money to put in a new Sierra Pacific Federal Credit Union savings account.

## 5. Can't Let Go?

To stay connected with fellow alumni, log on to our alumni directory or get involved with one of our volunteer committees.

## 4. YAC it Up at Beerfest

The Young Alumni Chapter (YAC) is just one of more than 20 regional, special interest and college chapters supported by the Nevada Alumni Association.

## 3. We've Got Your Back

With GEICO auto insurance, AIA Grad Med health insurance and Nelnet student loan consolidation.

## 2. Put it on My Card

We now offer Lifetime Memberships on a three-year payment plan.

## 1. Finally Recoup Money You Spent at the Bookstore

Save 10% on all apparel in the ASUN Bookstore.

## BENEFITS FOR CARD-CARRYING MEMBERS

Show your Pack Pride and start saving when you join today!

Discounts are offered for the following:

### ON CAMPUS

- ASUN Bookstore
- Alumni Association Events

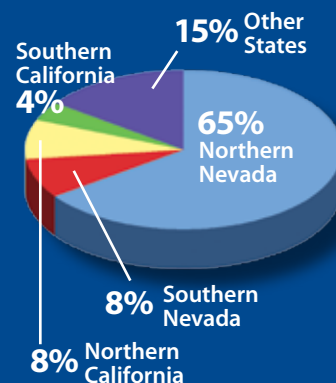
### RECREATION, DINING, AND TRAVEL

- NEW! Vino 100
- NEW! University Alumni Travel Benefits
- Dinners Ready!
- Nevada Museum of Art
- J.J.'s Pie Co.
- Wild Island Family Adventure Park
- Cactus Creek Bar & Grille in the Bonanza Casino
- Bicycle Warehouse
- Eclipse Running
- Double Diamond Athletic Club
- National Automobile Museum, The Harrah Collection
- Whitehall Lane Winery
- Pub 'N' Sub
- Whispering Vine Wine Company
- La Quinta Inn and La Quinta Inn & Suites
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car

But wait! There's more!

This is just a partial list of our Benefit Partners. For a complete list of partners and discounts offered, please visit our Web site: [www.unr.edu/alumni](http://www.unr.edu/alumni)

## WHERE DO OUR ALUMNI RESIDE?



# EXPLORE NEW PLACES WITH PACK TRACKS TRAVEL

ALUMNI AND FRIENDS ARE INVITED TO ENJOY OUR NEW LINE-UP OF TRIPS!

**ALASKA'S COASTAL WILDERNESS** May 19–May 26, 2006  
or May 26–June 2, 2006 (with optional Denali extension)  
Priced from: \$4,390 per person, plus air

**PASSAGE OF PETER THE GREAT** June 6–June 18, 2006  
Priced from: \$2,195 per person, plus air

**MAGICAL CHINA 4 NIGHT YANGTZE CRUISE AND 3 NIGHTS IN HONG KONG**  
September 10–September 25, 2006  
Priced from: \$3,434 per person, plus air

**ITALY'S MAGNIFICENT LAKE DISTRICT** September 19–September 27, 2006  
Priced from: \$2,195 per person, plus air

**IRELAND – ENNIS & KILKENNY** October 9–October 20, 2006  
Priced from: \$2,395 per person, plus air

**IN THE WAKE OF LEWIS & CLARK** November 2–November 8, 2006  
Priced from: \$2,200 per person, plus air

**NEW YORK SHOPPER'S HOLIDAY** November 21–November 24, 2006  
Priced from: \$1,229 per person, plus air

**TULIP TIME CRUISE VISIT HOLLAND AND BELGIUM IN THE SPRING!**  
April 21–April 29, 2007 (dates subject to change in 2007)  
Priced from: \$2,161 per person, plus air

**INTRIGUING SOUTHEAST ASIA THAILAND, CAMBODIA, VIETNAM  
AND SAIGON WITH MEKONG RIVER EXCURSION**  
June 22–July 6, 2007  
Priced from: \$3,321 per person, plus air

Call (888) NV ALUMS or email  
[packtracks@unr.edu](mailto:packtracks@unr.edu) for more  
information or to sign up for trips.

Itineraries can be found online  
at [www.unr.edu/alumni](http://www.unr.edu/alumni).



## Class Chat

**Elmer Isaac** ('39 Electrical Engineering) was employed by Pacific Gas and Electric Company in San Francisco, Calif., for 40 years. He retired in 1979 as the superintendent of five construction departments. Elmer is married with five children, 12 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. He turned 92 in February 2006.

**Mary (Higgins) Reed** ('42 English) is coordinating a Writing for Fun class at Highland Senior Center in Highland, Calif., and contributes to a weekly column in the *Highland News*. Mary has been the organist at her local church since the mid-1960s and continues to enjoy friendships with many of the members.

**James Warriner** ('43 Arts & Science) is 86 years old and still enjoying life. He has 12 great-grandchildren and a nice relationship with 83-year-old **Ruth (Mary) Noble Wattles** ('44 Home Economics).

**Marian LaVoy** ('44 Life Diploma, '71 English) has retired after 16 years on the University's Friends of the Library Board. She still volunteers each week at the Book Nook. Marian is the secretary in the Reno Rose Society and is active in the Nevada Military Officers' Wives Club & Chapter T-PEO. She is also writing the memoirs of her Elko County pioneer grandparents.

**John Cantlon** ('47 Biology) entered the University in 1939 and left at the end of his junior year to spend four years as a naval aviator in World War II. John returned to graduate from the University in 1947 and later earned his Ph.D. at Rutgers. He was a faculty member at George Washington University and senior ecologist at Boston University. Eventually John went to Michigan State University, where he became vice president of research and graduate studies before retiring in 1990. John married during WWII and had four children, the oldest of whom was killed in action during Vietnam. John now has seven grandchildren. Last summer John celebrated his family reunion in Sparks.

**Genevieve (Swick) Paroni** ('48 Chemistry) and her husband, Walter, have started two scholarships at the high school where Genevieve taught science for many years. These scholarships help give one boy and one girl from the high school a college education each year. Scholarship criteria include excellence in studies and plans to major in science, engineering or medicine.

**Jean Hagenbuch-Ellis** ('50 Psychology) has been volunteering for her local women's jail, taking inmates out and helping supervise as the inmates do volunteer work within the community. In addition, Jean is the personnel director for a regional nonprofit mental hygiene board.



# the pack at work

## Alumni making a difference

Headquartered on the University campus, this independent organization provides training, technical assistance and research for those judges, administrators and other professionals involved in our nation's court systems. University alumni working at the National Council and furthering this mission are:



Front row, from left: David J. Gamble ('91 Educational Specialist, Ed.S.), Sophie Gatowski ('99 Social Psychology, Ph.D.) Mary (Volpa) Mentaberry ('70 English), Amy Pincolini-Ford ('97 English), Tourine Johnstone ('02 Criminal Justice), Jennifer Emerson ('05 General Studies). Back row, from left: Joey Orduna ('97 Political Science), Deanna Lyons ('85 Business Administration), Shirley Dobbin ('99 Social Psychology, Ph.D.), Jill D. Comcovich ('89 Journalism), Dorothy Hall ('77 Education), Cindy Davis ('93 Business), Iris Key ('91 Criminal Justice), Carol Guarino ('91 Business Administration), Danny Nguyen ('04 Marketing), Jackie Ruffin ('93 Journalism), Sherrie Riley ('80 Arts and Science). Not pictured: Sue Dansie ('95 Counseling and Educational Psychology, M.A.), Kim Taitano ('91 Social Work, M.A.), Ruby White-Starr ('98 Speech Communication), Julie Wise ('99 Criminal Justice).

## National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

**Warren Welsh** ('50 Animal Science) worked with Rutgers Extension from March 1950 until April 1985. During his time he had much to do with the Sussex County Farm & Horse Show, now the New Jersey State Fair. The event has steadily grown in popularity through the years with approximately 200,000 people attending the 10-day event in August 2005.

**Eppie Johnson** ('51 Business) was given a Lifetime Achievement Award by the California Restaurant Association's Sacramento Chapter in October 2005. The award recognized Eppie's contribution of more than 40 years in the food-service industry, which included building his own restaurant and serving as the president and director of the California Restaurant Association. In May 2005, Eppie was presented the

prestigious Ellis Island Medal of Honor. The National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations presents this award to Americans of diverse origins for their outstanding contributions to their own ethnic groups and to American society. Eppie is also the founder of Eppie's Great Race, the world's oldest triathlon.

**Thomasine (Kurtis) Spore** ('52 Arts & Science) will be in Reno in 2007

to celebrate the 100th birthday of St. Thomas Cathedral. Thomasine's great uncle, Thomas Turman, built the church and resides there as dean.

**Katherine (Meyer) Nye** ('53 Education, '99 Applied Music) taught music and strings to Washoe County School District elementary students for 31 years. She received her bachelor's degree in 1953, a Master

Continues next page



**William G. Cobb**  
(’71 Economics)

of Elementary Education from Brigham Young University in 1980, and an additional bachelor’s in applied music from the University in 1999. During her time with the school district, Katherine taught the Suzuki Strings Pilot Program and was honored with the Mr. Holland Award. She also taught private violin lessons for several years after retirement and has directed her church choir for many years. Katherine enjoys spending time with her five children, 12 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

**Joanne F. (Ortiz) Petre** (’57 French) has retired from her teaching career. She continues to substitute teach and enjoys spending time with her two grown sons, Vinton Bryan Burkholder and Michael Petre. Joanne also enjoys European travel.

**James Lansford** (’59 Business) is enjoying retirement from his career as an auditor in the State Insurance System.

**David Longacre** (’62 Management) is happily retired and living in San Francisco.

**Bob Backus, M.D.** (’63 Political Science), is a family physician with a full-time practice in rural Vermont. He devotes one month each year to volunteer work in the Brazilian Amazon. Bob considers himself blessed to be alive and well with a wonderful family and to be doing what he loves.

**Larry Struve** (’64 Political Science) has edited

a book of memoirs of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy’s Class of 1965. Black Rock Press has published the book, titled *In the Shadow of Camelot*. Larry attended Fletcher on a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship he earned while a student at the University.

**John Spann** (’68 Political Science) is pleased to announce that his daughter, **Jennifer Spann**, recently graduated from the University with a degree in nutrition (dietetics).

**William G. Cobb** (’71 Economics) had his article “Defending the Informed Consent Case” published in the *Defense Counsel Journal*, the law review of the International Association of Defense Counsel. The article addresses issues facing attorneys defending a health care provider in a malpractice action. Cobb is senior partner of the law firm of Erickson, Thorpe & Swainston Ltd.

**Stan Goodin** (’71 Marketing) attended New York Life’s 2005 Chairman’s Council meeting in West Virginia. Chairman’s Council agents rank in the top 4 percent of New York Life’s sales force of over 10,000 agents.

**George Hardaway** (’71 Physical Education) is assistant principal of Reed High School in the Washoe County School District. He is an active member of the alumni council and enjoys giving time to the community through volunteering and mentoring.

**Robert Fregoso** (’72 Criminal Justice, ’77 Criminal Justice, ’84 Spanish) has retired from law enforcement after working part time at the FBI Academy in Quantico, Va., as a role player. Robert and his wife, Charlotte, live in Spotsylvania, Va. They enjoy traveling and took a cruise to the Eastern Caribbean in October 2005.

**Rayona Sharpnack** (’73 Physical Education) is a contributing author to the new book *Enlightened Power: How Women Are Transforming the Practice of Leadership*.

**Rich Trachok** (’74 Plant Science) won the Gary Nolan Triathlete of the Year award for 2005 of the Reno area’s Triathlete Club. The award is given to the local triathlete who brings dignity, respect, integrity and excellence to the sport of triathlon.

**Roger Wolf** (’74 Physical Education) attended New York Life’s 2005 Chairman’s Council meeting in West Virginia. Chairman’s Council agents rank in the top 4 percent of New York Life’s sales force of more than 10,000 agents. Wolf also qualified for the Chairman’s Cabinet, which represents the top 50 agents of the company.

**Christopher Jay** (’75 Political Science) celebrated his 30th year with Merrill Lynch & Co. in December. Christopher has been featured over the years in national industry magazines as an outstanding broker. He

has served as a member of the board of trustees of Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon, since 1989. Christopher and his wife, Mardra, have three children and have homes in Anchorage, Alaska, and La Quinta, Calif.

**Scottie (Turner) Marable** (’75 Merchandising) is co-owner of Pinnacle Marketing Inc., which just celebrated its 20-year anniversary. She is Washington state chair of NFIB, a national small business advocacy organization, and was chosen by her peers as the first-ever recipient of the Small Business Champion award in Washington for her service on behalf of small businesses.

**Robert Pease** (’76 Geology, ’79 Geology) is the chief geologist for Idaho-Maryland Mining Corp. in Grass Valley, Calif. The company is currently in the exploration and mine design phase. Robert lives in Grass Valley with his wife, Nancy (Foster) Pease (’78 Earth Science), and their 9-year-old twins.

**Mary Anderson** (’77 Medicine) accepted the position of Washoe County District Health Officer. Anderson retired from her position with the U.S. Navy as commanding officer of the Naval Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory early in 2004.

**Kathie Hoxsie** (’82 M.A. Journalism) and her recently retired husband, Joe, have taken their small travel trailer on the

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# Get back to your Nevada roots!

Grandpa  
Frank  
(’58 Agriculture)

Grandma  
Josie  
(’59 Business  
Administration)

Poppa  
Miller  
(’54 Arts &  
Science)

Grammy  
Miller  
(’54 Elementary  
Education)

Mom  
(’87 Civil  
Engineering)

Dad  
(’83 Secondary  
Education)

Me  
(Veterinary Science, Class of 2022)

How many University of Nevada, Reno alumni make up your family tree? Let us know, and you could all be featured in the next issue of the Silver & Blue. For details, visit <http://www.unr.edu/alumni> or call (888) NV-ALUMS.



FAMILY  
TREE  
CHALLENGE





**Mary Anderson** ('77 Medicine)

road full time. They are now "live-ons" for San Diego County parks. They sold their Tahoe residence that was Joe's home for 50 years and Kathie's for 30.

**Greg Bortolin** ('86 Journalism) was named communications director for the Jim Gibson for Governor campaign in September after serving as director of communications and press secretary for Gov. Kenny Guinn the past four years. **Candace Bortolin** ('84 Social Work) joined the School of Social Work in June. Last fall Greg and Candace's son, Nicholas, became a third-generation Bortolin to attend the University. Nic, a music-education major, is in the Pride of the Sierra Marching Band, the Wind Ensemble and Jazz Lab.



**Nick Brunson** ('88 Business Management)

**Michele Lowney** ('86 Food & Nutrition) is employed by Sun Microsystems in the Accessibility Office making software work for disabled people. Her position takes her to far-off places like Paris and Brussels. For vacations, however, she prefers to spend time at home in the Colorado mountains.

**Brian Sandoval** ('86 Foreign Affairs) has been confirmed by the Senate as a federal judge.

**Nick Brunson** ('88 Business Management) has joined Ferrari-Lund Real Estate. Nick has more than 15 years of real estate and marketing experience. He specializes in selling homes, custom lots and investment properties, representing both buyers and sellers.

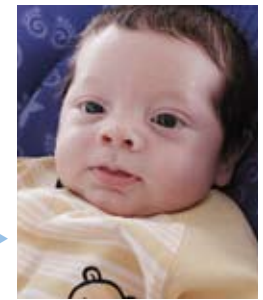
**Randy J. Brown, CPA** ('89 Accounting), was elected chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Children's Cabinet. The Children's Cabinet is a community-based program aimed at ensuring that every child and family has the services and resources to meet fundamental development, care and learning needs.

**Pamela Fortner** ('90 Journalism) has been writing a weekly column and monthly special feature article for her local newspaper, *The Union*, in Grass Valley, Calif., for the past four years. She also writes book reviews for a bimonthly national magazine, *Women's Touch*.

**Darin Lynch** ('90 Biology) and his wife, Crystal, welcomed a son, Bryce Thomas Lynch, on Aug. 2, 2005.

**Ginger (Graves) Kuykendall** ('92 Criminal Justice), her husband, Kenny, and son, Caden, are pleased to announce the birth of Zane River Kuykendall on Sept. 9, 2004. The family has purchased property in Montréux and plans to move back to Reno within the next two years.

**Melissa (Hahn) Krall** ('92 Social Work) was recently promoted to director of community outreach for the Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (REMSA) in the Reno area. In her new position, she will be



Class of **1956**, it's your

# Golden Reunion!



Gail (Altenburg) Trounday '56, JoAnn (Foster) Elston '56, Paula Gray (Lyons) Rigdon '56 and Jim Wright '56 – members of the Golden Reunion Committee – ask you to mark your calendar for **Friday, May 19th, and Saturday, May 20th**, for a weekend of reunion festivities.

For more information or to be a part of the reunion committee, contact the Nevada Alumni Association at **(888) NV ALUMS** or **nvalumni@unr.edu**.

We hope to see you in May!



responsible for coordinating the preventable injury program for the community.

**Pete Krall** ('92 Journalism, Criminal Justice) recently made detective with the Sparks Police Department.

**Raquib U. Khan, Ph.D.** ('92 Mechanical Engineering), has recently been inducted into the Seagate Technology Hall of Fame for the third time. Each time a Seagate employee accumulates 10 patents the employee is eligible for induction. He now holds 33 U.S. patents. Khan has worked as a scientist for Seagate Technology since 1993, and his formulated lubricants are in hundreds of millions of hard drives all over the world.

**Kelly Wolf** ('92 Music Education) and **Kiara Donohue Wolf** ('92 Music, '97 Elementary Education) are proud to announce the official addition of their daughter, Karissa Alexis Wolf. Karissa and her big sister, Karina, cheered on the Wolf Pack at Homecoming 2005 and both girls proudly wear their Nevada Blue all over Las Vegas. Kelly is currently the controller at the Golden Gate Hotel & Casino, and Kiara teaches fifth grade for the Clark County School District.

**Robyn Campbell-Ouchida** ('93 Journalism) was recently named editor of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas' William F. Harrah College of Hotel Administration's magazine, *Premier*. She owns All Write Public Re-

lations with her husband, Kurt, and is the mother of 3-year-old Jace.

**Clinton Crookshanks** ('93 Mechanical Engineering) and his wife, **Kristen (Shields) Crookshanks** ('92 Geography), are pleased to announce the birth of a daughter, Taryn Syd Crookshanks, on Aug. 4, 2005.

**Amy Gelber** ('93 Business Administration/Textile and Apparel Merchandising) and her husband, Phil, are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Claire Ruby, on May 11. Amy earned her master's in education at DePaul University and loves teaching the third grade. Phil is the vice president of product development at WMS Gaming.

**Neal Hyman** ('93 Criminal Justice) and **Julie Mayer-Hyman** ('97 Health Science) announced the birth of their second daughter, Ava Marie Hyman, on Nov. 14, 2004. Sophia Marie Hyman, their first daughter, was born Sept. 20, 2002. Neal, Julie, Sophia and Ava have lived in Henderson, Nev., for six years. Neal is a lawyer with his own firm, The Law Offices of Neal Hyman, and Julie is a full-time mother, fitness presenter for Powder Blue Productions (Turbo Kick) and aerobics instructor for 24-Hour Fitness Clubs and Las Vegas Athletic Clubs.

**John Miramontes** ('93 Finance) and **Tamara (Brundin) Miramontes** ('94 Accounting) keep busy with their two sons, Jack, 6, and Daniel, 3.

John is a controller for Wells Cargo Construction and coaches soccer at the downtown Las Vegas Soccer Club. Tamara is a partner with Kafoury, Armstrong & Co. CPAs. John and Tamara just celebrated 10 years of marital bliss.

**Sylvia Ontaneda-Bernales** ('93 Journalism/Social Psychology, '97 Journalism) has moved to Maryland after spending four years in Washington, D.C., pursuing a law degree. She now makes her home in Baltimore and works downtown as a staff attorney for Oberkaler, handling construction law and litigation. She also assists with health issues and with immigration and naturalization matters. Two of Sylvia's children – **C. Sean Savoy** ('01 Spanish) and **S. Jamila Savoy** ('00 Art) – are University of Nevada graduates. Sean is a Reno resident. Jamila currently resides in Lima, Peru, with her Peruvian-born husband, Alfonso Seoane.

**Sharon Byram** ('94 Business Administration) is currently attending the William S. Boyd School of Law in Las Vegas. She expects to graduate in May 2006.

**Katie Meier-Hurst** ('94 Health Science) is practicing physical therapy in Las Vegas. She and her husband, **Larry Hurst** ('90 Prephysical Therapy), have two daughters, Lauren, 6, and Erin, 3, and are expecting their third child in May.

**Jennifer (McCooley) Vaughan** ('95 Journalism) and her husband,



Brian, recently celebrated the birth of their third child, Chase Robert Vaughan, on May 10, 2005. She is the public relations director for the College of Fine Arts & Performing Arts Center at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She would love to hear from any old friends. Her email address is: jennifer.vaughan@unlv.edu.

**Peter Gustafson** ('95 Master of Business Administration, '91 Management) is living in Nashville, Tenn., with his wife, Kristin. He is working for the State of Tennessee in the Department of Human Services as information systems manager.

**Daniele (Woodward) Espinosa** ('96 Psychology) and **Shawn Espinosa** ('95 Resource Management) are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Joseph Woodward Espinosa, in May 2005.

**David Margolis** ('96 Counseling & Educational Psychology) and his wife, Diane, are relocating to Illinois.

**Sage, Clinton** ('93 Mechanical Engineering), Taryn and Kristen Crookshanks ('92 Geography)

Continues next page



**Nicole Moschetti Vance** ('96 Finance)

**Nicole Moschetti Vance** ('96 Finance) joined the Reno office of Hale Lane. Prior to law school, Vance served as an extern to Sen. Harry Reid in Washington.



**Nicole (Germain) Drake** ('98 Elementary Education) and **Billy Drake** ('98 Business Administration, Logistics)

**Randy Barnes** ('97 Premedical, '03 Medicine) is employed at UCSF-Fresno as a resident physician in emergency medicine.

**Kirsta (Craig) Houchin** ('97 Animal Science) and Brian Houchin were married Oct. 8, 2005, in Spokane Washington, where the couple reside. Kirsta and Brian met at the Spokane County Jail, where Kirsta has been employed for five years as a sheriff's technician. Brian is a bondsman for All City Bail Bonds.

**Dennis Clare** ('98 Metallurgical Engineering, '00 M.S. Metallurgical Engineering) and Shelley Carolan were married Oct. 9, 2005, in Summit, New Jersey. Dennis is a metallurgist and Shelley is a pediatrician. The couple currently reside in Hawthorne, N.J.



**Michael Anderson** ('99 Electrical Engineering, '03 Business Administration) and **Holly Hamperle** ('03 Nursing)

**Nicole (Germain) Drake** ('98 Elementary Education) and **Billy Drake** ('98 Business Administration, Logistics) were married Aug. 3, 2005. The wedding was a surprise ceremony on the beautiful Mendenhall Glacier near Juneau, Alaska. The couple live outside Orlando, Fla., where Billy works for Coca-Cola North America as Base Place USA's materials manager.



**Patricia Hescocock** ('98 Spanish, Speech Communications) resigned her position with Johnson & Johnson the day before her 29th birthday to travel the world for a year. She's enjoyed adventures in Argentina, Uruguay, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Turkey, Jordan and Syria. She dined with the Syrian ambassador at his home, missed an Al-Qaeda rocket attack by hours at the port of Aqaba, Jordan, and trekked the Himalayas amid Maoist rebel activity. She also came into contact with other alumni, including **Cindy Lehmann** ('99 Journalism), who was in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on business. Patricia completed her year-long adventure in October 2005 and celebrated her 30th birthday at home.

**Jon Walker** ('98 Geography) and his wife, **Diana (Wilkins) Walker** ('93 English), announce the birth of their daughter, Adia Ruth Walker, on Sept. 25, 2005.



**Michael Anderson** ('99 Electrical Engineering, '03 Business Administration) and **Holly Hamperle** ('03 Nursing) were married in Lake Tahoe on July 23, 2005. Mike is currently a business turnaround professional and teaches business classes at the University. Holly works as an emergency and trauma nurse at Washoe Medical Center. They are preparing for a long, wonderful life together.

**Joe Cap** ('99 Health Education) is a biology teacher and head wrestling coach at Sierra Vista High School in Clark County, Nev., Joe received his M.S. in exercise physiology and M.Ed. in secondary education from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

**Tara (Faber) Weinberg** ('99 Journalism) married Marty Weinberg on Oct. 30, 2005. They make their home in Las Vegas.

**Zoe Asimakis** ('00 General Studies) has recently retired after working at Children's Behavioral Services for 13 years. Prior to her position with Children's Behavioral Services, Zoe worked for the University from 1969-83.

**Jeanne (Bleeker) Freeman** ('00 Nutrition) has accepted a position as an assistant professor at California State University, Chico. She and her husband, **Kevin Freeman** ('00 Recreation), recently moved to Chico, Calif.

**Kellie (Bozzuto) Paul** ('00 Speech Pathology)

and her husband, **Ryan Paul** ('96 Political Science), are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Braedan Burroughs Paul. Braedan was born Aug. 29, 2005, and he joins his two older brothers, Ethan and Dillan.

**Kristen (Durrwachter) Vuckovic** ('00 Elementary Education/Special Education) and **Chris Vuckovic** ('00 Political Science) were married in 2000 and have one child, Sloane Elizabeth Vuckovic, born in 2005.

**Rajan Zed** ('01 MBA) has been selected International Professional of the Year for 2005 by International Biographical Centre of England.

**Nicole Baldassaro** ('03 Journalism) was hired at Blanchard Schaefer Advertising & Public Relations as account coordinator. Baldassaro will focus her efforts on supporting the agency's healthcare clients, serving as the day-to-day contact and media buyer.

**Christina (Viloria) Chaney** ('04 Political Science) married Daniel Chaney in June 2005. Christina is excited to begin a career in the criminal justice field, helping foster youth in San Diego.

**Julie Cousins** ('04 Art) recently celebrated her first wedding anniversary with her husband, Walter Weis III. Julie is embarking on a new career in advertising, and her future plans include working with her hus-



band at WWIII Creative Services in print, radio and television.

**Monica Myles** ('04 Journalism) was recently hired as the events and public relations coordinator at John Ascuaga's Nugget. Myles will work with both the events manager and the public relations manager to organize special events and assist with media promotions. She will also handle internal communications.

**Amy Bond Veloz** ('04 Journalism) has been named public relations specialist at Consultants in Marketing Inc. In this role, Bond Veloz is responsible for communicating with the media, writing and distributing news releases, coordi-



**Rajan Zed** ('01 MBA)

nating internal communications, project research, organizing seminars and speaking engagements, and preparing and implementing special events.

**Joshua Wenner** ('04 Finance) has recently relocated to Hermosa Beach, Calif. He spends



**Nicole Baldassaro** ('03 Journalism)

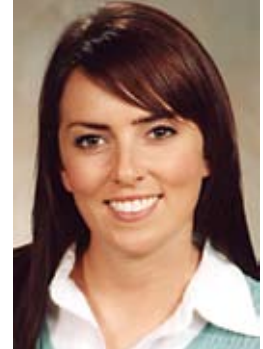
time playing on the beach and is preparing to launch two new clothing lines.

**Ryan Browne** ('05 Construction Sciences) was hired at Clark & Sullivan as a project engineer for the northern Nevada office. In his new role, Browne is respon-



**Amy Bond Veloz** ('04 Journalism)

sible for overseeing and managing various aspects of projects under way and assisting in the field as necessary to support that role. He is currently working on the new parking garage at Washoe Medical Center's main campus.



**Monica Myles** ('04 Journalism)



**Ryan Browne** ('05 Construction Sciences)

## Remembering Friends

**Pete Evezich** ('60 Geological Engineering, '68 MBA) died Oct. 2, 2005, at his home in Fountain Valley, Calif. Survivors include his wife, Lois ('60 Education), daughters Elisabeth Farnsworth, Stephanie Scott and Alexandra Evezich, and three grandchildren. Pete was president of a group of independent students (not affiliated with Greek system) in the late 1950s. He was also a member of the varsity tennis team and Coffin and Keys.

**Peter Kelley** ('40 Journalism), a longtime Nevada journalist, veteran and consultant to numerous Nevada political leaders, died at his home in Washoe Valley. He was 86. A native of Eureka, Nev., Kelley began his newspaper career at the *Lassen Advocate* in Susanville, Calif. He later joined the Army and served as a field correspondent and editor during World War II. Following the war, he became editor of the *Carson City Daily Appeal*. He next entered politics and worked for Nevada Sen. George Malone, Gov. Charles Russell and Sen. Chic Hecht. Kelley was inducted into the Nevada Newspaper Hall of Fame in 2000.

**Clarence A. Heckethorn** ('40 Journalism, '67 Management) died Oct. 23, 2005. While at the University he was a member and president of the Press Club, editor of the *Sagebrush*, member of Blue Key, member of Coffin and Keys, president of Sigma Nu fraternity, and a member of the boxing team. In World War II he served as company commander in a tank-destroyer battalion and later as a staff officer in seven European-Middle Eastern campaigns, including the D-Day landing in Normandy. He was awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart and Unit Citation Badge. He later commanded a service unit in Las Vegas and retired with the rank of colonel. Following his war service, Heckethorn became the first sports editor of the *Las Vegas Sun*. In 1959, Gov. Grant Sawyer appointed him chairman of the Nevada Industrial Commission (now Employers Insurance Company), where he served two terms. After serving as executive director of Nevada Blue Cross/Blue Shield, he retired in 1985.

**Fausto "Foe" Mentaberry** ('48 Education) passed away Nov. 12, 2005. He was born in 1921 in Winnemucca and came to the University on a scholarship after lettering in three sports at Humboldt County High School. He left to join the Army, only to return to the University, where he met his future wife, Joyce ("Jody"). He was a member of the Sigma Nu fraternity, serving as house manager from 1947-48. He enjoyed being the head timekeeper for 20 years at the University's home football games.

**Paul C. Parraguirre** ('50 B.A., unknown major), longtime attorney and former district court judge, died Dec. 26, 2005, at the age of 82. Parraguirre attended the University and served as student body president. He also attended the University of California, Berkeley, and earned his law degree from the University of Denver in 1954. In addition to his 35 years in private practice, Parraguirre served as Nevada deputy attorney general, chief deputy district attorney of Clark County, and district court judge for the 5th Judicial District Court of Nevada.

# THE SATRES

## Supporting Nevada in many ways

**T**he Community Foundation of Western Nevada recently pledged \$1 million from the Satre Family Fund under the advisement of new Foundation Board Chair Jennifer Satre ('80 M.Ed.) and her husband, Philip Satre. A portion of the gift will fund two endowments — the Satre Family Education Scholarship Endowment and the Satre Endowment for the College of Education Dean's Future Scholars Program. The remaining pledge will go toward an endowment for the School of Arts, construction of the new Math and Science Building, and the John Mark and Geraldine Mills Lilley Presidential Scholarship Endowment.

Long-time friends of the Foundation and University, the Satres have personally

and through the Satre Family Fund generously supported the College of Education, the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center, the Silver and Blue Society, the School of the Arts and other programs and activities. The Philip G. Satre Chair in Gaming Studies in the College of Business Administration honors Philip Satre's distinguished career and leadership in the gaming industry.

Phil Satre served as the top executive for Harrah's Entertainment, a \$4.5 billion, Fortune 500 company, for more than 20 years before retiring in January 2005. When he joined Harrah's in 1980, Harrah's had just two Nevada casinos and a casino under development in Atlantic City. Today, Harrah's operates 40 casinos in the

Photo by Jean Dixon



United States and around the world. In 2002, *Chief Executive Magazine* named Satre one of the nation's top 100 chief executives.

Satre currently serves on eight boards, including Sierra

Pacific Resources, Rite Aid Corporation, the Nevada Cancer Institute, the National D-Day Museum Foundation, and the Board of Trustees of his alma mater, Stanford University.

For information on College of Education scholarships and programs contact Gretchen Alt, development director, at (775) 784-6914 or [galt@unr.edu](mailto:galt@unr.edu). For information about the Philip G. Satre Chair contact Stefanie Scoppettone, ('96 Ph.D.), development director, at (775) 784-4912 or [scops@unr.edu](mailto:scops@unr.edu).

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## Wells Fargo Scholarship assists generations

**T**he annual Wells Fargo First Generation Scholarship luncheon was held Nov. 8 at the William J. Raggio Building to honor this year's scholarship recipients. During the luncheon, Chad Osorno, Wells Fargo senior vice president, presented Shannon Ellis, University of Nevada vice president for student services, with a check for \$50,000 to continue the program next year. The First Generation Scholars are graduates of Nevada high schools and are the first in their family to attend college. Five members of the freshman, sophomore, junior and senior classes are chosen each year. Recipients complete 10 hours of community service per month. Since 1997, Wells Fargo has donated more than \$360,000 to assist 117 University of Nevada First Generation Scholars.

For information on corporate giving and endowments contact Lynda Buhlig '84, executive director of development, at (775) 784-1352 ext. 2231 or [lbuhlig@unr.edu](mailto:lbuhlig@unr.edu).



2005 Wells Fargo First Generation Scholars: from left Tammy Nguyen, Chris Westin, Jasmine Troop, Brianna Burns, Anabel Andrade, Joshua Wiltse.



# New Endowed Scholarships

## ► M. Bashir and Julie C. Sulahria Scholarship Endowment

M. Bashir ('69 M.S.) and Julie C. Sulahria ('72 M.S.) have established this endowed scholarship in the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources with a gift of \$15,000. The initial award this fall will go to first-generation college students pursuing a degree in agriculture production or water resources. M. Bashir Sulahria worked for the Bureau of Land Management in Carson City before retiring in 2000. Julie C. Sulahria retired from the Airport Authority and the Nevada Department of Transportation and is a water colorist and docent at the Nevada Museum of Art in Reno.

## ► Betty Jean Crowley Memorial Endowment for Piano Students

The Marie Crowley Foundation has established this scholarship fund in memory of Betty Jean Crowley, a great lover of piano and organ music. Until her death, Betty brightened holiday festivities at women's clubs, nursing homes and hospitals with her piano

playing. The initial gift of \$10,000 will provide assistance to undergraduate students pursuing a Bachelor of Music in Performance or in Education with an emphasis in piano.

## ► Lowell C. and Frances W. Bernard Scholarship Endowment



Bernard

Lowell Bernard ('48 business administration) was president of the Nevada Society of Certified Public Accountants and the University's Alumnus of the

Year in 1994. He was also a Foundation trustee from 1993 through 1998. He passed away in 2005. His wife Frances "Billie" Bernard ('48 education) has chosen to honor him through this endowed scholarship, to be awarded to an outstanding accounting major each year.

## ► Crawford Family Scholarship Endowment

Leon Crawford, an internationally traveled engineer with Reno roots, planned far ahead to support the University through the Crawford Family Scholarship. In 1995, he designated part of his estate to assist disadvantaged students in gaining a college education. After he passed away in 2004, the Crawford Family Scholarship was established according to his instructions. A recent distribution from his trust brought the total Crawford Family Scholarship fund to more than \$373,000.

A native of South Dakota, Mr. Crawford came to Reno in 1942, when his family moved here from Montana. His father, Merwin "Bud" Crawford, was a teacher and school administrator in the Reno school system for 27 years. His mother, Mildred "Milly" Crawford, worked as a private legal secretary. Leon attended Mount Rose Elementary School, Billingshurst Junior High and Reno High School, graduating in 1953. He went on to Stanford University, receiving a bachelor's in 1957 and a master's in 1962, both in civil engineering. He retired at the end of 1990 after 23 years with Bechtel Corporation of San Francisco. His career focused primarily on construction projects overseas.

Thanks to Mr. Crawford's generosity and foresight, generations of deserving students will be helped to achieve their educational goals.

**Do you see the name of a friend, a mentor, a cause that appeals to you in the list above? The University of Nevada, Reno Foundation accepts gifts of any amount from anyone who would like to support deserving students in pursuing their educational goals.**

*Send donations to: University of Nevada, Reno Foundation, Mail Stop 162 Reno, NV 89557 or contact Keiko Weil ('87 business administration), director of donor relations, at (775) 784-1587 or kweil@unr.edu.*

## NEVADA PARENTS FUND

— *because there's more to student life than studying*

The Parents Fund was established in 2004 to benefit the Nevada student body. Hundreds of parents and friends have contributed amounts ranging from \$5 to \$1,000. The fund supports student-centered projects and programs.



**To donate to this or any Foundation scholarship fund, contact Colin Beck '01, coordinator of annual giving, at (775) 784-1268 or colin@unr.nevada.edu, or go online at <http://giving.unr.edu/> and click "Give Online."**

# ON THE BALL, UNDER THE KILLS

Christine Harms is perfection in her major and close to it on the volleyball court

*Senior Christine Harms plays libero, a defensive specialty position, on the volleyball team and last fall dug out a school-record 473 kill attempts by opponents. She's also an engineering major with a perfect 4.0 grade-point average, which helped her become one of only 18 volleyball players nationally to make ESPN The Magazine's Academic All-America team.*

*Writer Pat McDonnell interviewed Harms in late December, soon after the Wolf Pack had competed in its third NCAA tournament in the past four years (and lost in the first round).*

**Q: What's it like to be named an Academic All-American?**

"It's very exciting. I think it's cool to be honored for academics and athletics because academics are, ultimately, going to take you further. I have one year of school left (plans to graduate in May of 2007)."

**Q: What would you like to be doing down the road in civil engineering?**

"I'd like to get my master's in structural engineering and do research in environmentally friendly structures."

**Q: You're not the only person in your family who's made big news over the years. Your parents (Dwayne "Peanut" Harms and Tena Kendall Harms) were inducted into the University of California-Davis Athletic Hall of Fame, right?**

"My mom and my dad are both long-distance runners. My mom (who held the American record in the 3,000-meter and 20-mile runs) went to nationals while in college and competed for the U.S. cross country team in England while in juniors. My dad coached the Nigerian national team (from 1974-76), and last year he was the national cross country team coach and went to France."

**Q: Has college athletics helped you to expand your world?**

"There have definitely been opportunities I wouldn't have had if I wasn't in sports. I wouldn't have gone to Hawaii each year of my college career. I think the whole athlete group here (at the University) is really tightly knit, and all the relationships with other athletes in other sports I wouldn't have experienced. That's an often-overlooked part of college athletics. It's a whole family you're part of once you're an athlete in college."

**Q: Did you know you'd be good with the books at an early age?**

"School is always important in my family. From as early as I can remember, my mom would be sitting at the table with us (Harms has three sisters) working on our homework, making sure we were understanding everything. I think from an early age, my teachers tried to keep me out of trouble by giving me additional work (she laughs). So I guess that was kind of a benefit for me without me realizing what was going on. I've always enjoyed learning new things."

**Q: Tell me how it's worked with your coach, Devin Scruggs. She was an**

**outstanding student at the University of Pacific. Did she share some tips with you?**

"The biggest thing she offers is understanding because she was a student athlete. She knows the amount of time it takes to be successful in the classroom. She definitely understands the importance of academics, which has been fabulous."

**Q: Obviously, one of the keys in your life must be balance. How do you achieve it?**

"I don't know. Some people would say I haven't achieved balance (she chuckles again) because there isn't very much social life. I think it's time management. When you sit down to study, you've got to be ready to get it done."

*In addition to Harms, 15 Wolf Pack student athletes competing in volleyball, football, soccer and cross country earned spots on the fall Western Athletic Conference All-Academic squad.*



Photo courtesy of Nevada Athletics Media Services/John Byrne





Eighteen-year-old Peccole Park has a new FieldTurf artificial surface with simulated grass blades (see inset). The durable playing field will be used for 30 Wolf Pack baseball games this season, as well as the home schedule for the new A-level Golden Baseball League's Reno Silver Sox.



Photos by Teed Cook

## Snowy days to melt away at Peccole thanks to new FieldTurf

Nevada baseball coach Gary Powers only had to look out the window of his office on a cold, snowy January afternoon to explain the benefits of the latest Peccole Park renovation project. Over the winter, Peccole's grass was replaced with an artificial surface called FieldTurf.

"It snowed all morning, and there's still snow on some roads, but the sun has come out and already the field is completely clear — thanks to our new surface," Powers, in his 23rd season, said.

FieldTurf differs from previous generations of artificial turf in that it has blades of simulated grass. Older forms of artificial turf were more like carpet and had seams that sometimes contributed to injuries.

The \$1 million surface renovation became necessary following the record snowfall of 2005. The Pack couldn't access its own playing field for nearly two months.

"One, this is going to give us the opportunity to work out that much more often," Powers said. "We lost so much practice time in 2005 due to the condition of the field after all that snow hit. And, two,

environmentally, as the community continues to grow and water is at a premium, this gives the University an opportunity to save water so that it can be used in other areas."

The durable surface will allow Peccole, which opened in 1988 and seats 3,000, to play host to more events, such as serving as home field for the new A-level Golden Baseball League entry from Reno, the Silver Sox. The Sox will debut on June 2. Increased Peccole use will create an added revenue stream for the Pack baseball program, Powers said.

The veteran Pack coach added that the new surface only enhances what is already one of the best venues in the country to watch baseball. In nine of the last 10 seasons, Peccole has been among the nation's leaders in attendance.

"Peccole has a whole different look," Powers said of the appearance with the FieldTurf. "In many ways, this is going to be a brand new park. When people walk in and take their first look from the stands, they're going to be pleasantly surprised."

— John Trent '85, '87, '00 M.A.

### FIELDTURF FACTS

- Synthetic field with a subsurface of sand mixed with rubber recycled from old sneakers.
- Used predominantly on football fields, such as at Nebraska, Penn State, Oregon, Georgia, Ohio State and Florida (as well as Nevada's Mackay Stadium).
- Is expanding into baseball; used on home fields of Major League Baseball's Toronto Blue Jays, Minnesota Twins, Tampa Bay Devil Rays.

# LOOK FOR THE WOLF ON THE COVER

Ex-Pack QB Dutton stars in Arena Football and on video-game box

By John Trent '85, '87, '00 M.A.

John Dutton's football career has carried him in many different directions, to many different locales. But it is Dutton's latest home — on the cover of the box for EA Sports' new Arena Football video game and as spokesman for the game — that has even the easy-going Southern California native wondering what unexpected turn his career will take next.

"It's crazy, it really is," says Dutton ('00 physical education). "It's quite an honor, but at the same time, there's going to be some added pressure associated with this. I'm going to have to live up to all the hype of being the first Arena League player featured on a product like this."

Dutton began his collegiate career at Texas and transferred to Nevada, where he was Big West Conference Offensive Player of the Year and led the Pack to a victory in the 1996 Las Vegas Bowl. He was chosen in the sixth round of the 1998 NFL draft by the Miami Dolphins, spent time in the preseason in 1999 with the Atlanta Falcons and Cleveland Browns then turned to the Arena Football League.

Arena football is an indoor sport featuring a 50-yard field with padded walls along the sidelines, eight players to a side and wild plays that can include players smashing into and over retaining walls while chasing after the ball.

Since leading the San Jose SaberCats to the ArenaBowl title in 2002 and being named MVP of the title game, Dutton has quarterbacked the Colorado Crush, owned by former Denver

Broncos great John Elway, for the past four seasons. In 2005, he led the Crush to the team's first Arena League title. Dutton has been the Tom Brady of the Arena League postseason, compiling a 7-1 record in playoff games.

"Even when I was younger, I've always worried more about wins than stats," says Dutton, 30. "I've always measured my success through wins, as well as the relationships I've developed with my teammates and my coaches. That's always been very important to me."

Dutton is married to former Wolf Pack track and field and swimming standout Terina Cook ('02 physical education), a

versatile Nevada athlete who competed in the 2000 Olympic Trials in swimming and helped the Pack to the 2000 Big West swimming and diving title. The couple have two sons, Zachary, 4, and Drew, 1. They live in Denver.

"Terina's a full-time mom, and our kids are everything to her," Dutton says. "We're very blessed. I love the fact that my son's favorite type of football, of course, is Arena Football. He knows all of our touchdown dances, and he even uses our couch as a wall, just like the way we use the wall during games. We might have to start breaking him of that habit — the couch takes a pretty good beating."

Dutton adds that many of his best memories of teammates and coaches revolve around Nevada.

People appreciate the kind of discipline, pride and work ethic that (Nevada) Coach (Chris) Ault ('69 physical education) instills in his players," he says. "It was great watching them turn things around this season. (Crush and former Nevada teammate) John Peaua and I have been pulling out all the Wolf Pack gear we can find this winter."

*John Trent, who holds bachelor's degrees from the University in education and journalism along with a master's in journalism, is managing editor for the Custom Publishing Group at the Reno Gazette-Journal. He is also a former sportswriter who covered Wolf Pack athletics for more than a decade.*

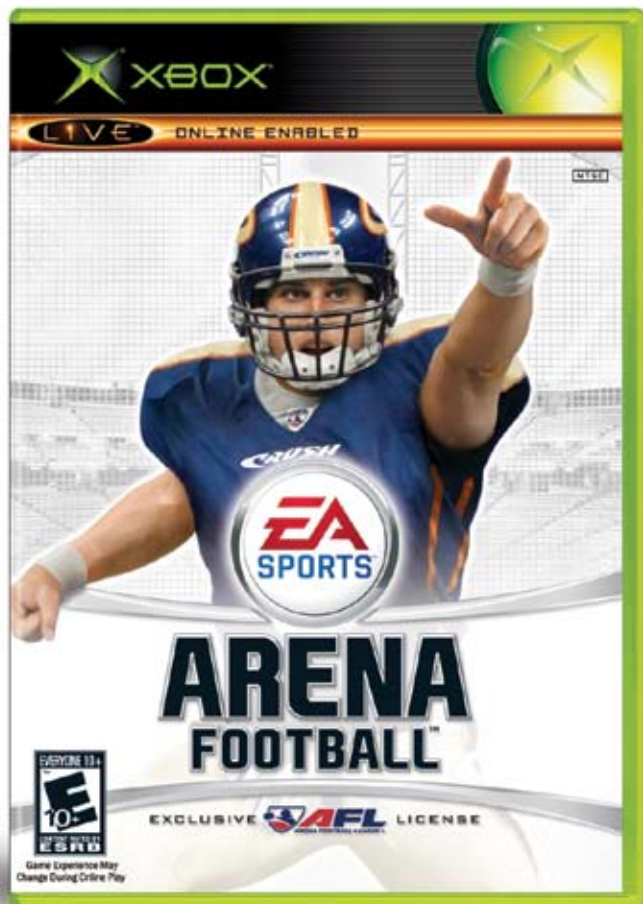






Photo by David Calvert

Freshman butterfly specialist Kim Kabesh started her Nevada swimming career with a flourish, capturing Western Athletic Conference Athlete of the Week honors in her first month of competition. The Sherwood Park, Alberta, student won three events in October at University of California-Davis and garnered five Top 20 finishes in the Pacific Tiger Invitational. Nevada, as this issue went to press, had won 12 of its first 13 dual meets this season and placed second in the 20-team Speedo Cup at Long Beach, Calif.

## NEWSMAKERS

### Nevada to host national college boxing finals

The University will host the National Collegiate Boxing Association championships this spring for the second time in three years.

The tournament will be held April 6-8 at the Eldorado Hotel-Casino in Reno.

The Wolf Pack boxing legacy is storied. Former judge and referee Mills Lane ('63, business administration), the late Pulitzer Prize-nominated novelist Robert Laxalt ('47, English) and *The Contender* television star and professional boxer Joey Gilbert ('00, English), all competed for Nevada. University teams have won four national titles, in 1976, 1978, 1991 and 1993.

Nevada Coach Mike Martino says 132-pound NCBA defending champion David Schacter is the Wolf Pack's leading contender to win a national title in April. Schacter earned the 2005 championship as a freshman.

CSTV Networks, a multimedia company focused entirely on college sports, will air tape-delayed coverage

of the boxing championships in June and July as part of a program focusing on college national championships in various sports.

— Pat McDonnell

### A diverse Pack

Nevada was one of only 10 universities to win a Diversity in Athletics Award this year from the Laboratory for Diversity in Sport at Texas A&M University.

The annual award recognizes Division I-A athletic departments for various dimensions of diversity, including gender and racial diversity of employees and graduation rates for male and female African-American student athletes. Nevada was singled out for its overall excellence in diversity and the gender diversity of its staff.

Earlier this academic year, the University was listed by a political scientist at Penn State-York as the best athletic department in the nation in providing opportunities for women in sports.

Photo by David Calvert



Senior offensive tackle Adam Kiefer and senior defensive end Craig Bailey celebrate with the Sheraton Hawaii Bowl trophy in Honolulu after the Wolf Pack's 49-48 overtime victory against Central Florida. Nevada, which won a share of its first Western Athletic Conference football title, finished the season 9-3.

## The Way We Were



*"Nevada's athletes are certainly not to be compared with birds who are easy prey for every blundering hunter with a shot-gun."*

— Sagebrush editorial, Dec. 1, 1922

# Nevada Sagehens?

By Brandon Stewart '05

Aside from cumbersome, full-length uniforms, University of Nevada cheerleaders in 1921 had another hindrance to their job: "Go, Sagehens!" didn't make for a fear-inspiring yell. Neither did spelling out the team's other nickname, "S-A-G-E-B-R-U-S-H-E-R-S-I!"

Refusing to continue referring to its team as a bush or chicken, the *U of N Sagebrush*, as the student newspaper was known at the time, led a campaign to rename the team beginning in December 1921.

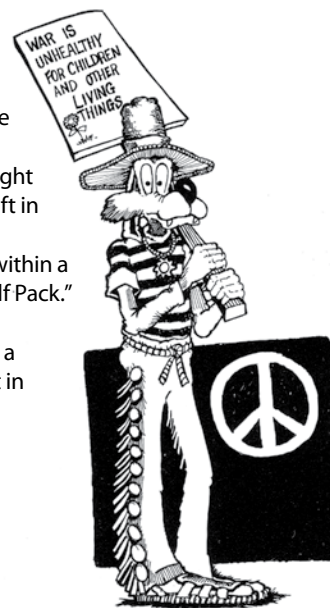
"Nevada's athletes are certainly not to be compared with birds who are easy prey for every blundering hunter with a shot-gun," a *Sagebrush* editorial read. "The meek and inoffensive Sagehen in no way, shape or manner can be construed to symbolize Nevada's fight and do-or-die determination for which her athletic teams have long been famous."

The paper solicited suggestions from students, and several were proposed: Wasps, Mustangs, Rabbits, Miners and Bobcats, to name a few. But the paper was not satisfied. In another editorial published Feb. 16, 1922, the *Brush* put forth its own recommendation: "The Desert Wolf."

"Did you ever see one in his natural state: a silver grey brute of a beast, whose main characteristic is Endurance and who will fight as long as a spark of life is left in him?" the paper wrote.

The name "Wolves" stuck and within a year evolved into the current "Wolf Pack."

Ironically though, experts at the Nevada Division of Wildlife say that with a few exceptions wolves have been extinct in Nevada for many decades.





Honoring a Lifetime of Achievement

## RALPH AND ROSE HOEPER

By Robert Pearson

Even as a teenager, Ralph Hoeper loved to work with telephones.

While growing up in the tiny Sierra foothills town of Butcher Ranch, Ralph, whose last name is pronounced Hooper, built his mother a working telephone — direct to their neighbor's home.



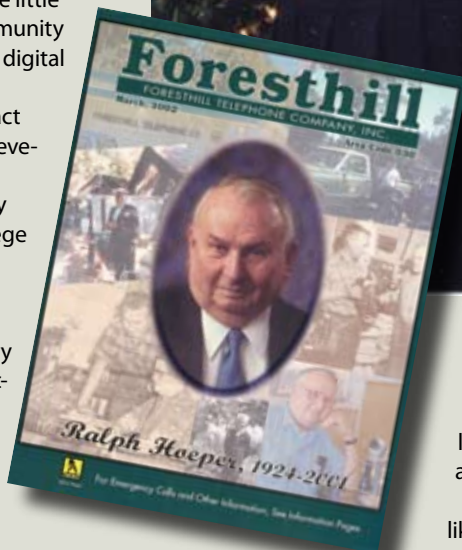
During World War II he served as a communications technician aboard the USS Redfin in the Pacific. After he returned home, he studied electrical engineering through the G.I. Bill, first at Placer College, now Sierra College, not far from his hometown, and

eventually at the University of Nevada, where he received his bachelor's in 1951.

During his time in Reno, Ralph did more than study. Nearly every weekend he drove over Donner Pass to Foresthill, about 10 miles from his boyhood home, and worked for Foresthill Telephone. Even before completing his degree he became part-owner of the company. In 1957 he became sole owner, proprietor, and at times construction laborer and on-call technician for the town's communications link to the world.

In 1960 Ralph married the former Rose Winchell, who later helped at the company office, at times serving as the entire office staff. Over many years of hard work they built the little phone company in the growing community from a handful of lines into a modern digital communications network.

Ralph always appreciated the impact his education had on his life and achievements. The couple kept in touch with events at his alma mater and for many years made contributions to the College of Engineering Annual Fund and the Class of 1951 Endowment. So when Ralph passed away in 2001, Rose decided to honor her husband's memory and their shared appreciation for electrical engineering education at the University by establishing the Ralph E. and Rose A. Hoeper Endowment. A majority of the gift goes toward the Ralph E. and Rose A. Hoeper Scholarship Endowment in Electrical Engineering. The scholarship will support full tuition for approximately 12 top electrical engineering students each year with an emphasis on attracting National Merit Scholars to Nevada. There is also an equipment endowment



for electrical engineering and a faculty award for excellence in teaching and advisement.

Ralph Hoeper, like many engineering alumni,

was an inventor, innovator and entrepreneur. His vision and its realization took hard work, intelligence, education and experience. Says Rose Hoeper: "Ralph accomplished a lot for a small-town person."

Together, Ralph and Rose Hoeper built Foresthill Telephone into a modern communications network in the foothills of the Sierra range. Mrs. Hoeper honored her husband's memory with an endowed scholarship in electrical engineering.



For more information about College of Engineering scholarships and programs contact Melanie Perish, development director, at (775) 784-6433 or mperish@unr.edu.

Meet Nevada Alumni Association Lifetime Member

# WARD HINCKLEY

('54 Arts and Science)

**G**ood classes and great friends. That's how Ward Hinckley ('54 Arts and Science) remembers his time at the University of Nevada.

With a family in the petroleum business, Ward started helping his dad, Wayne Hinckley, at his service stations at just 7 years old. Ward did not graduate or officially enter the business, however, until his return from the Army after serving during the Korean War. What began as a single service station on Second and West streets grew into the company that is known today as Berry-Hinckley Industries. Ward's son Art Hinckley ('78 Accounting) has played a role in the management of the company since graduating from the University of Nevada.

Social activities were important to Ward, who was on the *Artemisia* yearbook staff and a member of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity. Ward has sound advice for today's students: "Get your priorities correct and stick with it. First, study at least two hours for each hour of class, and then you can really enjoy your other activities and social life." Some of Ward's fondest memories while attending Nevada were road trips to San Francisco Kezar Stadium to watch Nevada play St. Mary's and Santa Clara.

Ward continues to cheer on Nevada with season tickets for football and basketball and a Lifetime Membership in the Nevada Alumni Association.



To join the Nevada Alumni Association, visit [www.unr.edu/alumni](http://www.unr.edu/alumni) or call (888) NV-ALUMS.

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