



REBEL RUNNER

Editor: Jake Oberlin, Sophomore

-Sponsored by UNLV PGM Student Association

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PAR FOR THE CURE RAISES \$190,000



Photo courtesy of Lake Las Vegas and Par for the Cure

UNLV PGM takes great pride in supporting community outreach opportunities with the Las Vegas Valley. With opportunities to volunteer and help local courses, charities, and corporations, the UNLV PGM prides itself on philanthropy and giving back. One of the most important partnerships we look to strengthen each year is the Par for the Cure celebrity classic.

Par for the Cure was a concept started 3 years ago by PGA Professional Brain Esposito. When his mother developed breast cancer his vision was to bring the community together through the game of golf to raise money and support for breast cancer research and awareness. Through the support of corporate sponsorships, auctions and visiting celebrities Brian hopes to continue supporting research through the development of these funds.

This year the golf tournament was held at The Falls at Lake Las Vegas, a beautiful golf course that winds through the

mountains, with steep canyons and breath-taking views of the Las Vegas strip. This year's event also included a wine-tasting walk through the beautiful streets of MonteLago Village.

UNLV PGM is proud to be a staple in this yearly event. Being one of our main projects for the year, we begin planning immediately upon arriving at school in the fall. Fundraisers called Beat the Pro are conducted at area golf courses by members of the program to raise funds. Under the direction of Fundraising Chair, sophomore Shawna Richardson, this endeavor was able to raise \$2500 for Par for The Cure.

PGMSA President, senior Reese McCall, had a vision to raise the bar in this year's fund raising. Reese challenged all PGM university student associations to raise more funds than UNLV. The result of this challenge raised an additional \$2000 from Mississippi State, Campbell, and Coastal Carolina PGM student associations.

Besides the fundraising effort, UNLV PGM students assisted in tournament operations, serving as caddies and player service aids on the golf course. Students helped to find yardages and direct players around the golf course while meeting with leading industry professionals and local celebrities.

It was a proud moment for the UNLV PGM program to present a check for \$4500 to Par for the Cure. We look forward to next year's event and implementing new strategies that can raise increased funds for this tremendous cause.

For more information regarding Par for the Cure, please visit: <http://forethecure.com/>

Jake Oberlin, PGMSA Editor, Sophomore

UNLV PGA/PGM™ Program
<http://hotel.unlv.edu/PGM.htm>

Christopher Cain, M.S., PGA
Director
Christopher.cain@unlv.edu

Chris Brown, M.Ed
Internship Coordinator
Chris.brown@unlv.edu

Barbara Hermes
Administrative Assistant
Barbara.hermes@unlv.edu

Brian Soule
PGM Graduate Assistant
Office: (702) 895-2932
Fax: (702) 774-8994



PGA Accredited Program

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The Professional Golf Management program and student association finished what seemed to be the busiest fall semester to date. The semester was full of great social events, competitive tournaments and opportunities to give back to the community. I would like to acknowledge the student association for their commitment to the program and for their continued support. A special thanks goes out to: Vice President, Gary Xavier; Secretary, John Horner; Treasurer, Andrew Ward; Tournament Director, Keith Jones; Senior Representative and Social Chair, Bud Gazaway; Junior Representative, Joe White; Sophomore Representative and Fund-Raising Chair, Shawna Richardson; Freshman Representative, Jeff Kraght; Merchandise Chair, Cris Novich and Editor Chair, Jake Oberlin.

The executive board is hard at work over the holiday break and is planning many new and exciting events. I must also thank Christopher Cain, Chris Brown, Barbara Hermes, and Brian Soule for their hard work and support.

On behalf of the executive board I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season and we look forward to seeing everyone in January.

Reese McCall, PGMSA President, Senior



UNLV PGM IS NOW HOME TO K-VEST

UNLV PGM has taken great strides in the past two years in order to keep itself among a short list of premiere PGM programs in the country. Besides all of its volunteer work and student association activities, the program continues to build and improve one of the top laboratories for learning and teaching in the country. Last year, our laboratory was equipped with the Full Swing golf simulator, used to analyze ball flight, launch angle, and ball speed. This year, another technological addition is sure to improve the lab even more.

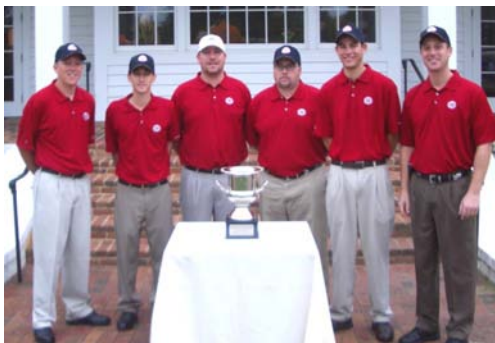
The addition is called K-Vest. This system is one of the most influential teaching aides for golf professionals on the market. It analyzes the golf swing completely from set-

up to impact. K-Vest analyzes and summarizes what transpires in a student's swing in six key areas: target alignment, posture, hip/shoulder alignment, hip movement at the top, hip movement during the swing, and spine movement during the swing. Students are able to view immediate feedback captured from wireless sensors imbedded in the fitted vest, belt and glove. The information gathered will be added to student swing profiles for individual analysis. Student swing files will now include, statistics on ball speed, launch angle, degree and distance off target, video capture and the six key areas from the K-Vest system.

Jake Oberlin, PGMSA Editor, Sophomore



JONES CUP RESULTS



From left to right: Matt Leestma, Evan Ives, Andrew (Ace) Elliott, Mike Quinn, Aaron Dunaye, and Christopher Cain

After selecting five of its hottest tournament players via a 36-hole qualifier, UNLV PGM was able to field a talented team to send to the Jones Cup, a two day golf competition comprising of a field of PGM universities in the United States. Our team this year was comprised of juniors Evan Ives and Aaron Dunaye, and sophomores Matt Leestma, Andrew Elliott, and Mike Quinn.

Played at the TPC Sugarloaf in Duluth, Georgia, the Jones Cup was a great way to build camaraderie among PGM programs. However, make no mistake a competition for bragging rights among all PGM universities was also on the table. UNLV PGM entered the competition eager to see

where we stacked up.

Being a PGA Tour stop, the course set-up was a great challenge. After playing in the practice round with the team our Director, Christopher Cain felt optimistic about our team's chances. "The course was set-up with Sunday pins, and PGA Tour length of 7400 yards. I do not remember the last time I had to take 3 wood out on a par three but I was reminded today. Our students are used to playing long courses out in the desert and under pressure of competition, therefore I feel good about our chances to play well the next couple of days."

UNLV played great on the first day of competition, and was tied for third place going into the second round. Evan Ives set the tone for the team with a one-over par 73 in the first round, stating, "Hitting a lot of fairways and greens was the key to my good score today. I was glad to stay out of trouble on a new course, and I plan to use the same strategy again tomorrow."

The first day of play concluded and dinner was shared by UNLV and Mississippi State (the founders of the Jones Cup). Good food and fellowship were enjoyed by all, and comedic stories by

Mike Quinn are now being told throughout the country as folklore.

Day two of the competition brought inclement weather to Duluth, and ultimately tougher scoring conditions for the field. "It was tough out there today," stated Matt Leestma, medalist in the Cup qualifier. "Poor shots today were accentuated by the wind and rain, and the greens were quite a bit trickier. All-in-all it was a fun two-days though, and I really enjoyed the trip," he said.

The poor weather did not stop Evan Ives from another 73 though, which gave him an individual fourth place finish. UNLV placed tied for sixth place out of sixteen teams. "It was great to represent the program in a competition like this," said Andrew Elliott. "Hopefully we can get even more people to try out next year so we can field the best team possible."

-Jake Oberlin, PGMSA Editor, Sophomore

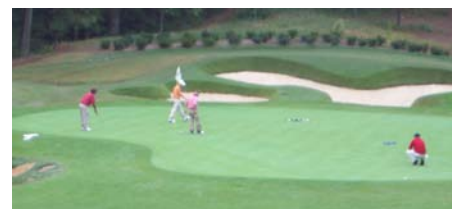


Photo courtesy of TPC Sugarloaf

RECREATION AND SPORT MANAGEMENT FUND-RAISER

At the beginning of the semester the planning and recruitment phases for the inaugural department fund-raising golf tournament was off to a slow start. With a vision in place and expectations to be met the students of the recreation and sport management department took this idea to reality. Just as circumstances began to look bleak the students and faculty seized the opportunity to work together as a team and began to produce incredible results. Through student promotion, faculty recruiting, and student volunteering, the inaugural event brought 110 golfers together for one mission, to help increase exposure and fund-raising initiatives for our new department.

Within the 110 player field the PGM program held their Major golf tournament. With TPC Summerlin being a PGA Tour stop, the PGM students were tested with Sunday pin placements, fast greens and less to be desired rough. From the Tournament Tees, stretched to 7300 yards, sophomore Nick Rodgers took first with an even par round.

TPC Summerlin not only provided our department golf tournament with one of the most desired golf courses in the world but surpassed our expectations with a catered breakfast and lunch buffet. While a good time was had by all on the golf course, the climax of the event was a teaching clinic given by PGA of America's Director of Instruction, Rick

Martino. After an early morning seminar in the clubhouse, Martino gave individual lessons to some of our lucky participants. It was quite interesting and an ideal learning opportunity for the PGM students to see how Mr. Martino went about addressing the root cause or certain swing flaws, as well as how he worked with students of different skill levels and physical capabilities.

The event was tremendously successful and the department hopes to continue this initiative to increase exposure and funding for student needs.

Jake Oberlin, PGMSA Editor, Sophomore

PGA PLAYER'S ABILITY TEST RESULTS

By Las Vegas standards, the morning of November 1, 2007, was rather nippy. While most of the valley was still snuggled in bed, many UNLV PGM students were making the trek to the outer limits of the city for the PGA Playing Ability Test (PAT). Played at Tuscany Golf Club this fall, the PAT is different from a conventional golf tournament in that entrants compete against a score, not each other. On this day, a target score of 155 for 36 hole play was needed to pass the test, one requirement to become a PGA Professional.

Despite the early morning chill, the weather could not have been much better for

the two round battle. Congratulations go out to the following students for taming the Tuscany links:

Freshman, Ben Wallis, 142
Freshman, Casey Barbee, 146
Freshman, Shawn Light, 146
Sophomore, Jacob Oberlin, 150
Senior, Emanuel Radoccia, 151
Senior, Kendall Murphy, 154
Freshman, Kellyn Van Haveren, 154

There were ten students within ten shots of passing. There hopes next semester at Angel park look very promising.



Sophomore, Charlie Greene, featured here, passed his PAT the summer before entering the PGM program. This photo is evidence that even passing the PAT doesn't make you exempt from a stray shot every now and then.

COACH KNIGHT SPEAKS TO UNLV PGM



At the final PGMSA meeting of the year, the association was graced with the presence of Coach Dwayne Knight.

The soft-spoken, quick-witted Knight captivated the room with stories that ranged from his playing days on the PGA Tour to the success of his first National Championship team. Coach Knight, who has coached the likes of Adam Scott, Chad Campbell, Ryan Moore, Chris Riley and Bill Lunde, also shared the trials and tribulations of recruiting and ultimately almost succeeding in bringing Tiger Woods to UNLV as a college player.

Coach Knight's most important message of the evening was to never be afraid to ask or seek out help. He reiterated in many different ways that he believes that no one makes it to the top or achieves his or her dreams without help or a boost somewhere along the way. To surround yourself with good, positive people was something that Coach Knight cited as a reason why his program has tasted so many successes, and hopefully many more to come.

Jake Oberlin, PGMSA Editor, Sophomore

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



From left to right: Barbara Hermes-Administrative Assistant, Chris Brown-Internship Coordinator, Chris Cain-Director, Brian Soule-Graduate Assistant

The PGM staff would like to take this opportunity to wish a healthy and happy New Year to our supporters, families, students, alumni and partnered organizations.

As many embark to set resolutions and goals for 2008 the PGM program has followed suit. The staff is excited to continue our quest to become the premiere PGM program in the country through our continued focus on student needs.

Our goals for 2008 include:

- Increased golf course offerings for playing and practice privileges
- Increased tournament offerings
- Redesign of PGM web site which will allow for increased services for existing students, prospective students, alumni and partnered organizations.
- Development of the UNLV PGM Alumni Affiliate Group to support the efforts of the PGM Program and Student Association.
- Integration of the Full Swing Golf Simulator, J.C. Video and K-Vest systems to allow for increased data collection in student swing profiles.
- Continue fund-raising efforts to produce an endowed scholarship by the end of 2008, while continuing to offer annual PGM Level 1, 2 and 3 student awards.

As we embark on meeting our goals for the 2008 year, we must also be thankful of the efforts from our PGM staff and students that continue to ignite the passion in our pursuit of excellence.

Our Internship program has already placed the majority of our students for summer internships throughout the country. We have continued to exceed the expectations of our partnered facilities receiving more offers than we are able to fulfill.

Our Golf for Business and Life program will experience increased enrollment for the spring and our Player Development Program produced a 50% pass rate for the PAT this fall semester, an increase of 33% when comparing first time participants results throughout the country.

In the fall semester we were fortunate to have Brian Soule, PGM graduate and PGA Member from Clemson University, join the staff as our graduate assistant. Brian's addition provided our students with additional mentorship opportunities and elevated several components of our program. We are thankful for his hard work and dedication. In addition to Brian's assistance in the spring the program will also be joined by another graduate assistant, Mike Pius, coming to us from Penn State's PGM program. We look forward to Mike's certain positive contributions for the future.

Go Rebs.

-Christopher Cain, Director