

# UNLV

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**PGA**  
Golf Management™

Professional Golf Management Newsletter

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## Key Golf and Toro Representatives Visit UNLV



The guest speaker series is a highlight that students look forward to every year. The series is an opportunity for key business leaders to lend insight to our future professionals. The golf business, as we all know, is ever changing and evolving. The opportunities to work within non-traditional settings was apparent in our January PGASA meeting. Students were able to gain knowledge and insight from Toro and Key Golf Management representatives. Both companies play a crucial role in the day to day operation of golf course maintenance and renovation.

During the meeting, students had the opportunity to hear from Kip Wolfe and Mark Doble of Key Golf Management. The company provides complete golf course maintenance for several high-end golf facilities in the Southwest, including Cascata and Rio Secco Golf Club. Mr. Wolfe, co-founder and Director of Operations for Key Golf, explained evolving trends in the golf industry including eco-friendly initiatives and technological advances. Students also heard from Toro representatives, Rick Lohman and Bud Hamilton. The Toro company is one of the leading supplier of golf course maintenance equipment in the country. Mr. Hamilton went through the different kinds of equipment ranging from mowing equipment to turf guard sensors.

To hear from individuals that are not working within a traditional golf setting provides a greater appreciation for the golf industry. Students will be better prepared to manage golf courses, or even one day become an executive of a company such as Key Golf Management or Toro. Our association would like to thank our guest speakers, and extend our gratitude through their commitment and partnership with our advisory board.

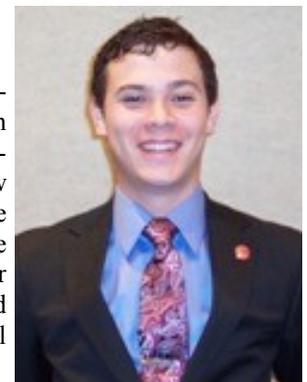
If you would like more information about this partnership feel free to visit [WorldGolf.com](http://WorldGolf.com) (GolfChannel Affiliate)

*By: Adrian Kim, Public Relations Chair*



## President's Corner

As the fall semester came to an end, I am proud to say that it was a successful semester. Our students have worked hard to make this semester successful through volunteering and fundraising opportunities. With the continued support, our students raised \$1,500 for the student association and over \$500 for the Mathew Anderson Memorial Golf Tournament through various Beat the Pro days. The funds raised benefited the Mathew Anderson Memorial Golf Tournament, reduce the cost of tournaments, social events, and provide more opportunities to grow our association. I want to personally thank each and every student for your continued hard work. I am looking forward to the future and I know that the students will continue to strive and make each semester better than the last.



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# Tournament Update

On a chilly Sunday afternoon, our students showcased their playing skills by battling the elements at Boulder Creek Golf Club in Henderson, Nevada. Despite the rain and swirling winds, Senior Patrick O' Hara shot an impressive 73, to edge out current Vardon Trophy title-holder, Daniel Inocencio. Sophomore, Steve Dowling came in third with a score of 80. With the win, O' Hara has firmly secured the top spot for the upperclassman in the Director's Cup team standing.

After the tournament, Junior, Cameron Alford's parents offered their home for a post-tournament barbecue and volleyball match. While students were ready to play some volleyball, Mother Nature had other plans, the match was cancelled due to rain. Overall the tournament was a success, everyone enjoyed the food and camaraderie. Thank you very much to our gracious hosts, the Alford's for a memorable day.



Daniel Inocencio with family after his victory at Highland Falls



Pictured above: Senior, Patrick O'Hara

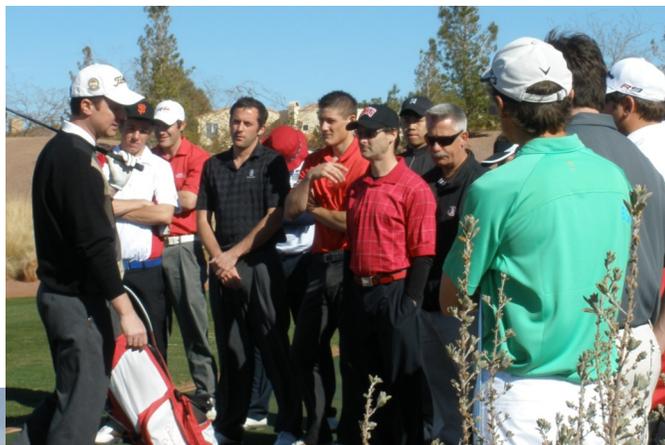
The tournament held at Highland Falls Golf Club proved to be another great event. The field consisted of many new students to our program, as well as alumni. The day proved to be challenging, with winds, tough conditions, and tricky pin placements; the players were forced to be creative.

The day ended around 5 pm, with the sun setting as the last group finished. Sophomore, Daniel Inocencio, was victorious once again. Daniel played very well, shooting 70, two under par for the course. Alumnus, Andrew "Ace" Elliott, came in second shooting 71. After the tournament, Andrew Elliott said, "It is a privilege and honor to be a part of this event. Daniel is a great player, and I always look forward to competing against him". In third place was tournament director, Cameron Alford, shooting two over par. Rounding out the competition was Senior, Jeff Kragt with a 77, Freshman, Sean Kenny with a 78, and Freshman, Eric Glenn shooting 79. With the player's ability test approaching quickly, the competitive environment served as another way for students to sharpen their skills. As the semester continues, everyone is looking forward to future tournaments and events such as Director's Cup and the Southwest Showdown. We would also like to thank the Highland Falls and Boulder Creek Golf Club for two great events.

*By: Adrian Kim, Public Relations Chair*

# Player Development Improvements

The Player's Ability test, also known as the PAT, was in the main focus of many students during the first semester. Many find the PAT to be a very overwhelming task, which could explain the low pass rate among first time participants. Only with a few months to sharpen short game skills, course management, and stamina, students took advantage of many sources. Those taking the PAT, were able to utilize playing and practicing privileges at Rio Secco. Aside from allowing us to play a few weeks on the course, students received help from The Butch Harmon School. The staff dedicated their time and knowledge to help prepare the students through short game and skills analysis. Students



PDP students after a short game clinic at the Butch Harmon School

received beneficial tips on how to become consistent and eliminate costly mistakes. The Player Development class also proved to be beneficial. Students received assignments that took an in depth look at their short game strengths and weaknesses. After many weeks of preparing, the hard work paid off. The pass rate among new students 50% of those who took the test, with a few students shooting under par. For those who passed, the PAT will always be part of their memory, and for those who came close, they are right on the cusp of PAT triumph.

*By: Sean Kenny, Freshman Class Representative*

## Student Association Update

At the December meeting, the student association conducted a toy drive benefitting local children. The toy drive was lead and organized by Vice President, Jeff Kragt. Due to the economic situation in the Las Vegas valley, the need for help was great. The last meeting of the semester before the holiday break, served as a great way to continue our support and involvement with local charities. All toys that were collected were donated to the Toys for Tots organization. The tradition and continued support will continue for years to come. Thank you to all who donated!



Pictured above: Members of the PGASA Executive Board

Students were eager to lace up their sneakers and get their ball on! Last year's winners, Daniel Inocencio, Chase Boberg, and Miles Hohnstein came out with intensity, as they steamrolled through their early competitors, making it to the final round once again. The challengers, Chris Leppard, Brian Friend, and Steve Dowling, were exhausted after playing several games that came down to the stretch. Once they made the finals, they gave the defending champions a good fight. While they gave their best effort, in the end, they were not able to take down last year's winners. Once again the Sophomore team of Chase Boberg, Miles Hohnstein, and Daniel Inocencio came out on top, defending their 3-on-3 title.

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Above: Chase Boberg, Miles Hohnstein, and Daniel Inocencio

defending

*By: Adrian Kim, Public Relations Chair*

## Students Gain Further Knowledge in Club Repair

This past February, our Freshman class participated in a club repair seminar lead by Jim Yachinich, Director of Schools for The GolfWorks. The GolfWorks company was founded by Ralph Maltby in 1976, and has grown into one of the largest golf equipment suppliers. Mr. Yachinich is a master in club repair and design, and has been in the golf business since he was a teenager. We were very honored to have Mr. Yachinich donate his time and supplies to help prepare our students.

The seminars covered the essential information imperative for every aspiring golf professional. The students were ask to re-shaft a golf club; demonstrate the proper steps of removing the clubhead; measure the lie and loft; cut down the shaft; properly re-grip the club; and measure the swing weight and total weight of the club. Throughout the seminar, Jim was able to answer questions that covered different equipment and techniques that are evolving within the golf industry.

Once everyone understood the basics, it was time to build a club from scratch. Students were able to go through the step by step the process of building their own fairway wood to their personal specifications. The seminar was a great way to introduce club repair skills and knowledge. We would like to thank Jim Yachinich for his continued support and dedication to our program.

*By: Shawna Richardson*



Pictured above is our Freshman class with Mr. Jim Yachinich

## Golfathon 2011



Pictured above: Students with Director, Chris Cain at Golfathon 2010

Once again the excitement and anticipation for Golfathon 2011 is on everyone's mind. The event is set to tee off on Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at Angel Park Golf Club. The focus of the event will be to play 100 holes of golf, consistently. Participants will receive donations and sponsorships in order to raise funds for Par for the Cure and the UNLV PGA Golf Management Program. Founded by Brian Esposito in 2005, Par for The Cure is a non-profit organization dedicated to raising funds for breast cancer research. Throughout the past six years, Par for the Cure has helped change many lives through its efforts. The students and staff of the UNLV PGA Golf Management Program are honored and excited to once again be a part of this special event.

In 2010, for the first time students were able to take part in the golf marathon. Through the support of friends, family, colleagues, and fellow golf professionals the group was able to raise over \$13,000. This year, we have increased that goal to \$20,000. The net proceeds will be evenly split between both organizations. The event is one that brings awareness to education and a disease that affects millions of women and families. Through the joint efforts of both organizations, along with friends and families, we will be able to achieve our goal. As a team we can continue to save lives and prepare our future professionals for success.



If you would like to sponsor a participant or donate to the event please visit our website at <http://unlvpgagolfathon.dojiggy.com/>

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