



# Rebel Runner

Editor: Andrew Kam, Senior  
 Sponsored by UNLV PGA/PGM™ Student Association

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Photo Courtesy of Las Vegas National GC

This year's UNLV PGA/PGM Program is positioning itself among the top programs in the country. With 23 new students and a fresh new Executive Board, things are looking bright for the year 2006-2007. The year teed off with Friends and Family Day, which featured

the 3rd annual Friends and Family Tournament and Banquet. This was a great opportunity for current students, staff, and new students with their families to get acquainted with each other and enjoy a fun round of golf. Spirits were high throughout the day, and the event was by far the best Friends and Family yet. The program achieved a record attendance at the awards banquet serving 135 family and friends.

Current students, staff, and student officers helped meet, greet, and promote the program at the new student orientation prior to the Friends and Family Tournament. Chris Cain, Chris Brown, Barbara and the new Executive

Board have plans to advance the program to a new level this year. This year's PGA/PGM Program has new students, more avenues for funding, an experienced, qualified Executive Board and a wider network of golf professionals to work with.

The Program also has started a few new activities, such as this newsletter and the installment of a new swing simulator on campus! This laboratory room is currently under construction and will be used to enhance Player Development classes and instruction. *Our next issue of the Rebel Runner will feature a story detailing this exciting addition to the program.*

## President's Corner

Kyle Helms, Senior-

The Professional Golf Management Program is off to a great start for the new academic year. I would like to thank Chris Cain, Chris Brown and Barbara Hermes for their hard work over the summer to prepare for this year. Furthermore, I would like to thank the Executive Board and students for their commitment to taking the program to the next level.

This year our program will strive for excellence in developing and training the new generation of future golf professional. We look forward to improving the student association in all aspects of player development, education and teamwork. With the quality of students this year, this association has the potential to go above and beyond.



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## 1st PGMSA Meeting a Success!

The year's first PGMSA Meeting had a different aura in it for everyone. Most of the upper classmen knew what to expect, and some of them even volunteered to help setup the chairs, drinks, and power points prior to the meeting.

For the new students, many did not know what to expect. Many agendas and plans for the

upcoming year were discussed at this meeting. The appointment of Andrew Kam as the first Editor Chair for the PGMSA newsletter, Rebel Runner, is a new feature added to the Student Association this year. Andrew voiced plans to begin the newsletter and release two issues each semester. The Rebel Runner will be available for view on the web site and plans to be circulated to students within the association, the college faculty, local golf courses, alumni and parents.

Freshman, Lindsey Hoskins, was elected as this year's new freshman representative. Other key issues discussed were the appointments of a fundraising chair, a travel chair, the initiation of upcoming social events, and the upcoming

Par for the Cure Tournament. Brian Esposito was present at the Meeting to discuss Par for The Cure and enlist volunteers for the event which is to be held on October 15th at the TPC Canyons.

The Professionals from TPC Summerlin also visited with us to ask for our help with their Member Guest Tournament October 27-28. We will be sending 30 of our finest students to assist in the operations of this prestigious event. This year TPC of Summerlin has pledged to donate \$2000 to support our program.

## Meeting the New Students

This year's PGM Program welcomed twenty-three new students from all across the country and around the world. This group of students were well recruited and have already proven themselves to be a dedicated group. Some students helped fundraise at Las Vegas National Golf Course while others are already attending E-Board meetings on Thursdays. Nearly all of the freshmen class will represent our

program at the 2006 Par for the Cure Tournament in October, which is a large fundraising event for breast cancer research. The UNLV PGA/PGM Student Association donated \$2500 last year from fundraising efforts.

Not only are these freshman good workers and volunteers, but they love to play! Five of the ten players who represented UNLV in the Western Summit were incoming fresh-

men, and a great majority of players in our first official tournament at Primm Valley GC were freshman!

The upperclassmen are supportive in assisting the needs of our freshman and are always looking for ways to make everybody feel welcomed. Thank you all for participating in our first mentorship golf and BBQ event.

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*"The future belongs to those who prepare for it."*

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## Fundraising Off to a Strong Start

It is still early in the year and the Fundraising Committee, lead by Sophomore Nick Fogle, has already raised a total of \$3,500 for the PGM Student Association! Michael Seiden, former Fundraising Chair and current Treasurer, helped out along with several other students to raise money during "Beat the Pro" at Las Vegas National Golf Club.

The students took shifts on both

Saturday and Sunday to greet players and promote our program. The money raised has proven to be a success in the past and seems to still be the heart of all fundraising efforts for the PGMSA.

Michael Seiden along with other students on the Executive Board are still in the process of developing new ideas for fundraising to eclipse our \$10,000 mark in

last year's efforts. If you have any ideas please see a member of the Executive Team.

Par for The Cure fundraiser is right around the corner, please see a member of the Executive Team or contact Chris Cain on how you can help out. Our program goal is to beat last year's donation of \$2500 for breast cancer research.

# Bud Gazaway Clinches 1st PGMSA Tournament at “Gusty” Primm Valley

The PGMSA first official tournament was hosted at Primm Valley. Kendall Murphy, Tournament Director, had nearly 30 students in the field of competition. A special thanks go out to the staff of Primm Valley Desert Course, and our Tournament Director Kendall Murphy for coordinating this event. We are excited to host our first major of the year, at Las Vegas Na-

tional Golf Course, Sunday, November 5th.

Conditions at Primm were very gusty approaching winds of 40 MPH. Greens were running fast on an already narrow and lengthy Desert Course. Players struggled all day in the wind, which proved to be especially tough on holes #2 and #10, which are both long par 4’s.

In the end, Bud Gazaway ‘s ability to control the trajectory of his ball flight and display sound course management strategies edged out the field and winning over Andrew Kam and Matt Leetsma by a stroke.

### Summary Tournament Results

Bud Gazaway, Junior.....	77
Andrew Kam, Senior.....	78
Matt Leetsma, Freshman.....	78

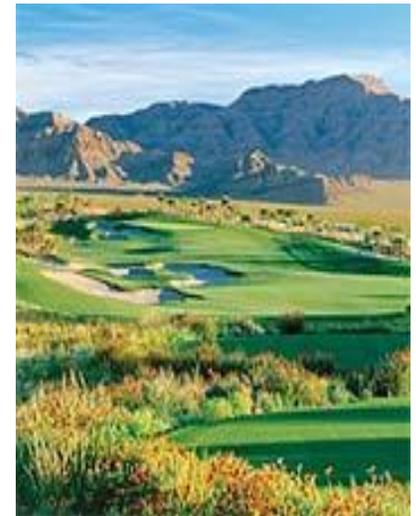


Photo Courtesy of Primm Valley GC



# UNLV Takes Second in Western Summit

This year’s Western Summit featured UNLV, Arizona State, Nebraska, and New Mexico State all challenging each other in a team stroke play for the title of “Best PGM School in the West”.

After UNLV’s dethroning of the New Mexico State Champions last year, the team was out to win sending their best players back once again to compete for the trophy.

New Mexico State’s team carded a combined 11 under par in the first round’s back nine play.

UNLV was 17 shots behind going into the second round of play. The gap was closed to 8 shots after the second round due to stellar play from our second round squad. The trophy has traveled back to New Mexico were it will remain until next

year’s Western Summit. We are already cleaning a spot for the trophy to return next fall.

Congratulations to the following students for qualifying and representing the UNLV team: Bud Gazaway, Matt Leetsma, Evan Ives, Jason Montoya, Matt Henderson, Rance Yanabu, Nick Fogle, Nick Rodgers, Zack Creed, Andrew Elliott.

# Students Succeed at PGA Level I and II Checkpoints

UNLV was the proud host to the PGA’s west coast checkpoint for the second year. This west coast checkpoint is designed to accommodate student needs for retesting PGA Level 1 and 2 checkpoints.

Seventy-eight students from six Universities participated in this examination including UNLV.

We would like to congratulate UNLV’s Kyle Helms for successfully passing Level 2 and UNLV’s Brian Markel for successfully passing Level 1.

Last year the Education Chair and Vice President of the PGMSA, Kyle Helms, organized study group sessions for the spring semester checkpoint.

This year will prove to be no different, with Vice President, Reese McCall already strategizing efforts to conduct checkpoint study groups to start at the beginning of the spring semester.

UNLV is scheduled to hold PGA level 1 and 2 checkpoints in the beginning of March.



*“The road to success is always under construction”*



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## Executive Board Comments

<p><b>Vice President</b>  <b>Reese McCall, Junior:</b></p> <p>“Study sessions to complete Level I and II books will begin soon, followed by checkpoint preparation after winter break.”</p>	<p><b>Senior Class Representative</b>  <b>Alison Lombardo:</b></p> <p>“Stay focused. Make the best of your time. We are almost done!”</p>	<p><b>Social Event Chair</b>  <b>Andrew Rose, Junior:</b></p> <p>“First softball game Vo-Tech High School. Friday the 13th at 8:00PM!”</p>
<p><b>Treasurer</b>  <b>Mike Seiden, Sophomore:</b></p> <p>“So far we are doing good in the area of finances. We hope to raise more funds as the year continues, in hopes of putting on more association events.”</p>	<p><b>Junior Class Representative</b>  <b>Chris Barley:</b></p> <p>“Good luck to the Juniors in softball this week.”</p>	<p><b>Fundraising Chair</b>  <b>Nick Fogle, Sophomore:</b></p> <p>“Beat the Pro was a success this week. Let’s follow it up this weekend at Par for the Cure!”</p>
<p><b>Secretary</b>  <b>Emanuel Radoccia, Junior:</b></p> <p>“As Secretary I hope to play an important part in this association and take on more responsibilities as the year goes on.”</p>	<p><b>Sophomore Class Representative</b>  <b>Gary Xavier:</b></p> <p>“Producing well-rounded golf professionals is definitely a large part of this program.”</p>	<p><b>Merchandise Chair,</b>  <b>Matt Henderson, Junior:</b></p> <p>“New Ping Bag orders are coming soon. We are continuing to look for new merchandise opportunities.”</p>
<p><b>Tournament Director</b>  <b>Kendall Murphy, Junior:</b></p> <p>“Congratulations to all who played well at Primm. Our next event is the first major at Las Vegas National. Hope to see you all there.”</p>	<p><b>Freshman Class Representative</b>  <b>Lindsay Hoskins:</b></p> <p>“It has been a great start to my first year as Freshman Rep., and I’m looking forward to a great experience in this program.”</p>	<p><b>Travel Chair,</b>  <b>Will Bertz, Sophomore:</b></p> <p>“PGA Merchandise Show is coming up, and plans for a great traveling experience are in the works.”</p>