



Volume 2 Issue 1

# REBEL RUNNER

Editor: Jake Oberlin, Sophomore

Sponsored by UNLV PGA/PGM™ Student Association

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## FAMILY & FRIENDS KICKS OFF THE SEASON



Master PGA Professional and Director of Recruitment and Community Outreach for the PGA of America, Bill Cioffoletti

After a summer of internships that included sites like Cherry Hills, Firestone, Bandon Dunes, and the PGA Tour, UNLV PGM students returned to campus ready to kick off a new school year with the annual Family and Friends golf tournament and banquet.

This year the field was nearly full with 118 players participating in the golf tournament, and 181 for the banquet. UNLV PGM was honored to have Bill Cioffoletti, PGA Master Professional and Director

The evening also included a silent auction using merchandise donated from the various summer internship sites. The funds raised during the evening will be going back to deserving students in the form of student awards.

The PGM Student Association and program would like to thank all of the family and friends for another successful and fun kickoff to our year, and we hope to see many of you back again next fall.

-Jake Oberlin, PGMSA Editor, Sophomore



Pre-tournament warm-ups at Las Vegas National Golf Club

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PGA Accredited Program

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The Professional Golf Management Program is off to a great start for the 2007-2008 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. I also have to thank the Executive Board and student body for their continued commitment to take the program to the next level.

This year the student association will continue to strive for excellence and we are looking forward to what looks like to be our best year yet. We are looking to improve students in their overall golf knowledge as well as education, teamwork and leadership. I am honored to serve the students this year and I am extremely excited to be associated with one of the best programs in the nation.

-Reese McCall PGMSA President, Senior



Reese McCall, PGMSA President, Senior

## STUDENTS EMBRACE PLAY GOLF AMERICA DAY



Play Golf America Day, Stallion Mountain C.C.

In mid-September, some of PGM's finest had the special treat of being able to support Play Golf America Day. The day was designated to introduce new players to the game, teach new skills, and make the game more fun for every-

one. UNLV PGM students had the opportunity to work closely with the PGA Southern Nevada Chapter Professionals of the Southwest Section and contribute to this PGA growth of the game initiative.

Freshmen Mike Brown and Jeff Kragt were two representatives of the program that were on hand the day of the event. Both Mike and Jeff felt that they had a tremendously positive experience.

"It was a good learning experience to watch professionals giving lessons to other students. I was able to learn teaching strategies that I might be able to use in the future," said Jeff.

Mike was able to give a lesson while being supervised by a PGA professional. "It was fun to be able to work hands-on with the students,"

he said. "It was a special bonus that I had a PGA Professional watching me give the lesson, and he was able to give me some pointers.

In the future, we hope to attract more UNLV PGM students and participants to be involved in similar growth of the game initiatives.

-Jake Oberlin, PGMSA Editor, Sophomore



## PGM WILL SEND FIVE OF ITS FINEST TO DULUTH, GEORGIA



Matt Leestma eying his putt on #1 at National

The UNLV PGM recently held its qualifier to send a team of five students to Duluth, Georgia, for the Jones Cup, a golf competition among PGM programs nationwide. Contested at the TPC Sugarloaf, an annual PGA Tour stop, 2007 will mark UNLV's first year of participation in the competition.

Sophomore Matt Leestma was the only competitor to post red figures on day one of the qualifier at Silverstone's Valley and Mountain courses, battling an afternoon of brutal winds on his way to a one under par 71.

Andrew Elliot found himself alone in second after carding a two over par round of 74, with Aaron Dunaye nipping at his heels a single shot back. The log jam behind the top three included the likes of Charlie Greene, Evan Ives, Brandon Johnson, Casey Barbee, Derek Rush, Jason Montoya, and Mike Quinn, all of whom would have a legitimate chance to snatch up spots on the Jones Cup team in the second leg of the qualifier.

The conditions for the second leg of the qualifier were, in a phrase, golf the way it wasn't meant to be played. With course conditions stressed from overseeding the gorgeous weather was little solace to the competitors. Nonetheless, Las Vegas National was able to provide the stage for excitement and suspense for the second round of the qualifier.

Charlie Greene set the stage posting a 156. Greene's two round total of 156 was the lead in the clubhouse. Two groups later, Evan Ives was able to better the lead by a single stroke at 155. With Ives's playing partners Montoya and Rush failing to beat Greene's 156, six players remained on the course still in contention.

Playing in the group behind Ives, Mike Quinn was able to card back to back 76's to post a new low score of 152, guaranteeing him a spot on the team when his playing partner, Casey Barbee, went backwards after a stellar performance the weekend prior.

In the final group of the day, Brandon Johnson's bid for late heroics came up short when he was unable to make a pair of closing birdies he needed to produce a playoff. Despite an arrant tee-shot on the 17<sup>th</sup> hole, Aaron Dunaye was able to match Quinn's total of 152, ensuring a spot on the team. A mediocre front nine was merely a bump in the road for first round leader Matt Leestma, whose total score of 149 bested the field by three shots.

Needing to make bogey on the final hole of the day, the fourth competitor in the final group, Andrew Elliott, punched his ticket to Georgia when his approach shot held the back of the green after a tee-shot that dissected the fairway. Elliott's score of 155 secured him the final spot on the team.

The team of Leestma, Quinn, Dunaye, Ives, and Elliott bring to the table many accolades: a handful of Western Summit representations, some college golf experience, previous winners and runners-up in the PGM match-play tournaments, state amateur match play appearances, and even some mini-tour experience. UNLV looks to have a promising showing in the Jones Cup.

-Jake Oberlin, PGMSA Editor, Sophomore



## INTRODUCTION OF PATRON SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We are proud to introduce for the 2007 – 2008 school year Patron Sponsorship opportunities. As a student association we host many activities that directly benefit the students of the Professional Golf Management Program. These activities incur expenses from tournaments, guest speaker series and travel to PGA sponsored events. We are hoping to send many students to the 2008 PGA Merchandise Show in Orlando, Florida to provide students within the association increased networking opportunities in other regions of the country. This can be a large expense for our students and the student association would like to assist in these related expenses with the intent to increase participation.

A Patron Sponsorship is a donation by an individual, family member, corporation or

former internship site that has been associated with students in this program.

This sponsorship is comprised of four levels: \$50 donation for a Par Sponsor, \$75 donation for a Birdie Sponsor, \$150 donation for an Eagle Sponsor, and \$250 for a Hole-in-One Sponsor.

As a thank you from the Student Association we will be distributing a certificate to each sponsor for their gracious donation. We would be honored if you choose to display our certificates of appreciation in your home, business, or golf shop. We appreciate your consideration and look forward to updating you on our association's fund-raising goals.



**Checks can be made out to:**  
**Professional Golf Management Student Association**  
**4505 Maryland Parkway, Box 6023**  
**Las Vegas, NV 89154-6023**  
**(702) 895-2932**

*-Andrew Ward, PGMSA Treasurer, Sophomore*

## UNLV PGM IS ACCREDITATION VISIT SUCCESSFUL

The PGA of America recently made a visit to UNLV to evaluate the PGM program. Students of the Executive Board and committee chairpersons met with the members of the PGA Evaluation Committee for lunch.

Some discussion items from the lunch included

- Available access to playing and practice privileges.
- Faculty support to assist students in career goals and instruction of PGA learning objectives
- Student involvement with the program and association.

The students were very pleased to have the opportunity to speak with the PGA's Evaluation Committee. It was very clear to the students that both the PGA and UNLV were committed to continue to take the necessary steps to make UNLV PGM one of the premiere programs in the country.

We had a chance to speak to our Director, Christopher Cain after the accreditation visit. "The visit went well, we are fortunate to be part a sport organization that is so committed to the quality of their members. Between the support received by both the PGA and UNLV we con-

tinue to have only the highest expectations for both this program and the students involved. The PGA and UNLV are truly partners in producing the finest PGA professionals in the world. The administration was very pleased with the outcomes of the visit. We are continuing to position UNLV PGM as one of the premiere programs in the country."

*-Jake Oberlin, PGMSA Editor, Sophomore*



## JUNIORS AND SOPHOMORES CRUISE TO SOFTBALL VICTORY



*Sophomores and Juniors pose for victory photo*

The PGM social committee held its first softball game of the semester on Friday, October 5, 2007. Headed by Senior, Bud Gazaway, the social committee has scheduled softball games every semester as a PGM tradition to promote camaraderie and competition between the upper and lower classmen. As is customary, a barbecue preceded the game, which pitted the freshmen and seniors against the sophomores and juniors.

At the end of an exciting evening of softball action, the sophomore and junior team came away with the victory, 21-8. The freshman and senior team kept the game interesting, coming as close as 6-5 in the middle innings, only to have the sophomores and juniors squash their chances with big innings in the seventh and eighth.

Junior captain, Gary Xavier, pointed to the great pitching of Sophomore, Derek Rush, and a spirited effort from game MVP Sophomore, Kyle Heaton, as reasons for his team's success. The trophy will be back on the line next semester as a date and location that has yet to be determined.

*-Jake Oberlin, PGMSA Editor, Sophomore*

## PGA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SENDS MARTINO TO UNLV PGM



RICK MARTINO is the PGA of America's Director of Instruction. He is one of a few dozen PGA Professionals who holds Master Professional certification in teaching—the organization's highest level of achievement for instruction. Martino created the curriculum for the PGA's first learning and development facility. Before becoming the PGA's Director of Instruction, Martino was the Director at Oakmont Country Club. He is also the former Director of the

University of Pittsburgh's Golf Swing Research Laboratory and has headed several teaching and playing workshops across the country.

Martino has been recognized among Golf Magazine's Top 100 Teachers as well as Golf Digest's Top 50 Teachers. He also has enjoyed commentating on television since 1998.

The PGA Department of Education is sending Martino to deliver a golf instruction workshop to benefit the educational growth of the UNLV PGA/PGM students and the participants of the Recreation and Sport Management Golf Tournament being held Monday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at TPC Summerlin. The event will start promptly at 7:30am and be joined by local PGA Professionals to gather the latest information in golf technique and instruction. Following the workshop a 10:00 am shotgun tournament will follow. Participants will test their golfing ability on the home course of the Frys.com PGA Tour event. A continental breakfast will be offered during Martino's workshop and an awards lunch will follow the golf tournament.

The fund-raising event will benefit the Recreation and Sport Management Department's mission to support the skill development of our students to: manage golf's greatest courses, associations, and companies as PGA Professionals; manage recreation resorts and spas; deliver programs that promote positive youth development; operate recreation programs and centers that contribute to strong, healthy families and communities; serve as stewards of the environment, through natural resource management; coordinate sport and special events that contribute to the cohesion and enjoyment of community members; operate senior and intergenerational programs that promote successful, active aging.