Volume 5, Issue 1 Fall 2010



# REBEL RUNNER

Professional Golf Management Newsletter

#### IN THIS ISSUE:

UNLV PGM Welcomes
National Advisory
Board Members

**President's Corner** 

Brian Ellison Memorial Golf Tournament

**Tournament Update** 

Matthew S. Anderson Memorial Golf Tournament

**PGA Jones Cup** 

Play Golf America Days

#### Christopher Cain, M.S., PGA

Director

christopher.cain@unlv.edu

#### Chris Brown, M. Ed.

Assistant Director/ Internship Coordinator chris.brown@unlv.edu

#### **Barbara Hermes**

Administrative Assistant barbara.hermes@unlv.edu

#### **Zaanan Tellschow**

Graduate Assistant tellscho@unlv.nevada.edu

Office: (702) 895-2932 Fax: (702) 774-8994

http://hotel.unlv.edu/pga/

# **UNLV PGM Welcomes National Advisory Board**

On October 7, UNLV PGA/PGM advisory board members visited the Student Association's monthly meeting. Chef John Gremo prepared the dinner portion of the meeting, which featured home style servings and entrees. At the dinner tables, students were able to interact with the board members in a fairly informal setting, which helped to lower barriers and allow for open, friendly conversation.

During the meeting, Advisory Board members shared their backgrounds and experiences in the golf business. They recounted significant events in their lives and in the golf industry, and how those events affected their paths. Many diverse perspectives were shared, and many valuable lessons were learned. The UNLV PGA/PGM Student Association would like to sincerely thank the Advisory Board for their visit, and for all they continuously contribute to our program.

Eric Dutt, Advisory Board Chair, Vice President of Golf Operations, Harrahs Entertainment Chuck Bombard-PGA, General Manager, TPC Summerlin

Willy Choma, President, WPC Retail Consulting

Mark Doble, Principal, Key Golf Management

Scott Greer-PGA, General Manager, Las Vegas National Golf Course

Butch Harmon, Principal, Butch Harmon School of Golf

Joe Kelly-PGA, Director of Golf, Sun City Summerlin

Gregg Lindquist-PGA, Senior Appraiser, Brekan Nava Group

Charles Packard-PGA, Head Golf Professional, Rio Secco Golf Course

Jerry Roberts-PGA, Golf Professional Emeritus, Spanish Trail Country Club

Paul Robinson, Retired CEO, American Asphalt and Grading Co.

Leo Simonetta, Director of Golf, Hilton Hotel Corporation

Pat Taylor, President, Golf Car Fleet Consulting

Bobby Weed, President, Bobby Weed Design

Kip Wolfe, Co-Founder and Director of Operations, Key Golf Management

### **President's Corner**

The PGA Golf Management Program is off to a fabulous start for the 2010-2011 academic school year. I would like to sincerely thank Chris Cain, Chris Brown, Barb Hermes, Zaanan Tellschow and the Executive Board for there hard work over the summer in preparation for this school year. For the last three years this program has grown exponentially and this year is going to be second to none.

As always the student association will continue to strive for excellence and we are looking forward to our best year to date. I am honored to serve the student association this year and extremely excited to represent one of the most professional and enthusiastic programs in the nation.

Kai Aoki, President UNLV PGA/PGM Student Association





#### **Brian Ellison Memorial**

It is with deep regret that we report the passing of UNLV PGM Sophomore Brian Ellison. Brian was involved in a fatal motorcycle accident on Interstate 15 on the morning of October 19, 2010.

Brian had aspirations of owning a golf practice facility back home in Tennessee. We are all certain that Brian would have been successful in whatever he chose to do. He was always happy to be on the golf course, and to be around his friends. We will remember Brian as a man who loved his family very much, and a loyal friend that could always be counted on.

In honor of Brian's life, the UNLV PGM program has established the annual Brian Ellison Memorial Tournament, which will take place during the first week of November. As we continue to look for ways to pay tribute to Brian and what he believed in, this is just one small way to make sure his legacy lives on.



#### Softball 2010

On Friday October 15, 2010, UNLV PGM students played in the annual Fall softball showdown at Desert Breeze Park. Prior to the match, newly appointed Social Chairperson Stephen Dowling and the Executive Board welcomed students with a barbecue. While spirits were high and festive, everyone was there to do one thing: win! Freshmen and Seniors (along with Director Chris Cain) played against the Sophomores and Juniors (along with Graduate Assistant Zaanan Tellschow) in a highly anticipated match. The softball game lived up to its hype and did not disappoint. Freshman Chris Leppard came through in the clutch with the game winning hit as the Freshman-Senior

# **Fall Tournament Update**

UNLV PGM students have a rare opportunity many other PGM programs cannot experience. Not only can students take advantage of the academic resources available on campus, but they also have the chance to play virtually unlimited golf within a thirty mile radius. The continued support of our program from local facilities has allowed us to conduct many exciting events over the years, and the first half of the 2010-2011 school year has been no exception.

The 2010-2011 tournament season started off with a bang as the Student Associations held its first tournament at The Revere Golf Club. The course was playing especially tough that day as the rough was at least four inches deep. Unfortunately, due to darkness, only fourteen holes were counted; however,

Daniel Inocencio, Chase Boberg, Stephen Dowling, Daniel Chait, and Jamie Carson

the top eight contestants (Jamie Carson, Eric Glenn, Cameron Alford, Lance Buechler, Gavin Butcher, Sean Thornberry, Kevin Wong, and Patrick O' Hara) played like champions. These contestants qualified for a playoff event at the Las Vegas National Golf Club, in which Cameron Alford and Patrick O'Hara secured their positions on the 2010 Jones Cup team.



The Legacy Golf Club in Henderson, Nevada graciously hosted the second tournament of the year. Freshmen Stan Bednarski and Kyle Graham posted rounds of 73 and 74, but in the end 2009-2010 Vardon Trophy winner Daniel Inocencio stood alone at the top of the leader board with a solid round of one under par (71).

On December 5th, the UNLV PGM held the Brian Ellison Memorial Tournament at Primm Valley Golf Club. The weather was brisk but clear and calm, allowing Daniel Inocencio to claim another victory with an impressive round of 68. Kyle Graham won closest to the pin on a brutal uphill 234 yard hole to earn himself the coveted Brian Ellison Memorial putter cover.

# Matthew S. Anderson Memorial Golf Tournament

On October 25, 2010, Red Rock Country Club graciously hosted the first annual Matthew S. Anderson Memorial Golf Tournament and Banquet. Matthew's colleagues, peers, friends, and family members came together to honor Matthew and celebrate his life by playing golf and sharing memories.

Matthew graduated from Faith Lutheran Junior/Senior High School in Las Vegas and was a Senior in the UNLV PGM program until his passing in May, 2010.

During the summer of 2009, Matthew completed a very meaningful internship working with young golfers at The First Tee of Southern Nevada. In remembrance of Matthew's professional aspirations, the UNLV PGM program has worked with the Anderson family and the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation to develop the Matthew S. Anderson Memorial PGM Scholarship Endowment Fund. The Matthew S. Anderson Memorial PGM Scholarship will be offered to PGM students who demonstrate academic excellence, financial need, and interest in youth development.

This inaugural event was an incredible success due to the generous contributions of many sponsors, donors, and supporters. We would like to thank the Matthew S. Anderson Memo-

Matthew S. Anderson August 21, 1985 - May 15, 2010

rial Golf Tournament Committee Members: Debbie Anderson, Bill Benko, Thom Blinkinsop, Christopher Cain, Jeannie Done, Lindsay Hoskins, Judy Nagai, Michael Stroud, and Zaanan Tellschow. We would also like to thank Gerry Montiel and the Red Rock Country Club staff, Robyn Hadden, Barbara Hermes, David Russi, the UNLV Cheerleaders and the many volunteers who helped make this event possible. Thank you for helping us honor our dear friend.

# 2010 Jones Cup

The PGA Jones Cup is an annual competition between all twenty PGA accredited Universities. The Jones Cup is named after Dr. Roland Jones, who was the first PGA Golf Management University Program Director at Mississippi State University from 1985 until his passing in 1997.

Every year, the UNLV PGM begins the Fall Semester by hosting a series of qualifying events to determine which students will represent the program at the PGA Jones Cup. After tournaments at The Revere Golf Club and Las Vegas National Golf Club, our finest players were identified. The 2010 PGA Jones Cup team included Seniors Patrick O'Hara and Ben Wallis, Juniors Cameron Alford and Gavin Butcher, and Sophomore Daniel Inocencio.

We would like to congratulate our players for being selected to participate in this event against the most competitive group of PGM students in the country. We would also like to thank our players for their exemplary conduct and professionalism during the 2010 PGA Jones Cup.



Daniel Inocencio, Cameron Alford, Gavin Butcher, Patrick O'Hara, Ben Wallis, and Christopher Cain at the 2010 PGA Jones Cup reception in Port St. Lucie, FL.



## **Play Golf America Days**

On September 9th, the UNLV PGM program joined the UNLV Campus Recreation department to host a golf expo on campus. The event was held in preparation for the annual Collegiate Golf Alliance (CGA) National Tournament qualifier. UNLV students, faculty members and visitors were welcomed to participate in the event, which featured Almost Golf<sup>TM</sup> balls and targets. UNLV PGM students and Rebel Golf Club members were on location to offer free instruction throughout the day.

On December 4th, the UNLV PGM program held a Play Golf America Day at The Legacy Golf Club in Henderson, NV. The event featured UN:V PGM instructors and was open to the general public. Although the weather was unusually cloudy and cold, many residents and visitors came out and enjoyed the event. UNLV PGM students provided instruction, but visitors interacted with each other to address swing issues and help improve their games. It was very encouraging to see people working together to try to gain an advantage over this challenging game. Our appreciation goes to Tom Vold and The Legacy Golf Club for hosting this event.

For more information about Play Golf America days near you, visit www.playgolfamerica.com.

