



REBEL RUNNER

PGA GOLF MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

Zaanan Tell schow, Editor

M.G. Orender visits UNLV

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UNLV PGA Student Association President, Gary Xavier, and Vice President, Shawna Richardson, present PGA Past President M.G. Orender with a plaque in appreciation of his dedicated support.

The guest speaker series has been a highlight throughout the UNLV PGA Golf Management's history. Our program has been visited by many inspirational and motivating speakers. Butch Harmon, as well as CEO of the PGA, Joe Steranka, and Honorary President of the PGA, Brian Whitcomb, have all shared their valuable knowledge.

To kick off the spring semester, our program was yet again visited by one of the industry's leaders, Past President of the PGA of America, M.G. Orender. M.G. has been a leader and innovator in the golf industry for over thirty years. During his career, M.G. has served as the Secretary, Vice President, and President of the PGA of America.

Through his experience as a PGA Professional, M.G. offered our students valuable advice. He stressed the importance of doing what you love to do and finding a way to set yourself apart. The current state of the golf industry and the economy was another topic. Even though the economy is affecting the golf industry, he made it clear that it is important to stay positive.

M.G.'s inspiring and motivating advice will be with our students throughout their careers. The future leaders of our program will continue to strive for greatness because of the support and advice from industry leaders like Mr. Orender.

-Shawna Richardson
UNLV PGA Student Association Vice President



2008 Jones Cup Team



Nick Rodgers, Jon Horner, Ryan Mitchell, Evan Ives, Kevin Wong, Chris Cain

During Fall semester The UNLV PGA Golf Management program was proud to send five of our finest players to compete in the Jones Cup in Port St. Lucie, FL. The five competitors were chosen by a 36 hole qualifying tournament in which all UNLV PGA students were invited to participate. This year's team was comprised of Freshman Ryan Mitchell, Sophomore Kevin Wong, Junior Nick Rodgers and Seniors Jon Horner and Evan Ives.

At The Jones Cup these students have been able to establish and maintain relationships with other PGA students, some of which may last well into their professional careers. We believe in facilitating camaraderie among our other PGA accredited universities across the country, and the Jones Cup serves as a wonderful venue to support this initiative. We would like to thank our players for representing our program with dignity and professionalism. The 2008 UNLV Jones Cup Team finished tied for ninth place out of twenty teams.

"This year's Jones Cup was absolutely one of the best the PGA has ever had," said Bill Cioffoletti, director of recruiting and community outreach for The PGA of America. "The competition between the student-players and universities this week was at a very high level, and we are extremely proud to host this tournament and showcase the top talents from the PGA Golf Management programs."

"Golf is not a game of great shots.
It's a game of the most accurate misses."
Gene Littler

-Zaanan Tellschow

President's Corner

The Spring 2009 semester has begun with a full load for our students and administration. The number one priority for our program every Spring is checkpoint testing. Our program prides itself on having students who are eager and willing to put in the effort and pass Levels I, II, or III the first time they take them. This series of testing speaks volumes about the caliber of student we have here at UNLV and the level of commitment they have given to our program. I would like to personally wish all students taking checkpoint this Spring good luck and remind them to always maintain focus on the end result of becoming a PGA Professional.

I would also like to discuss the topic of transformation. Most of our students come to us at a young age; however, there are some who have had many different life experiences and who add their own unique perspective to this program. We are a program of teenagers, married men, veterans, and minorities. It is our unique blend of students that bring about the transformation our students go through. From early in the beginning of the program our students are exposed to management skills and fiscal responsibilities. They are informed of the reality of our industry and economic impacts of a spiraling economy. This message was made perfectly clear by our first guest speaker of the 2009 Spring semester, PGA Past President M.G. Orender. Mr. Orender offered our stu-

dents a way to look at the world unlike that of many of our peers graduating at this time. Mr. Orender painted a picture of a nation that has been through tough times before. In his speech Mr. Orender said that "hard times create huge opportunity." He continued on the topic of opportunity and told our students that some of the wealthiest people made their fortune during times of economic downturn.

We have seen the effects of our current economic condition ripple into levels of our collegiate atmosphere. We are seeing our university face budget cuts that threaten programs and valuable learning opportunities. However, there is a growing belief that those individuals who remain steadfast and diligent will weather this storm. I personally look at this situation as the greatest time for our students to create a new era in American golf. This is our students' time to reinvent our industry. It must begin with us if we hope to see a change in coming years. I see our students as the architects of our new future as long as we have the courage to go out and build it.

Humbly and Respectfully,

Gary Xavier
UNLV PGA Student Association President

Leestma wins Vardon Trophy



The Vardon Trophy was named after Harry Vardon who was a professional golfer from the 1890's to the 1920's. He popularized golf knickers and the overlapping grip that is used by most professional golfers today. Harry Vardon still holds numerous records including fourteen consecutive professional wins and six career Open Championship victories. He was a member of the first group of inductees into the World Golf Hall of Fame with greats by the names of Hagen,

Hogan, Jones, Nelson, Nicklaus, Ouimet, Palmer, Player, Sarazen and Snead. For the second consecutive semester, we would like to congratulate Matt Leestma for winning the Vardon Trophy. The UNLV PGA program awards the Vardon Trophy to the student with the semester's lowest scoring average.

Matthew Leestma	76.0	Fall 2008
Matthew Leestma	73.6	Spring 2008
Nick Rodgers	73.0	Fall 2007
Nick Fogle	75.3	Spring 2007
Andrew Kam	77.6	Fall 2006
Evan Ives	75.1	Spring 2006
Evan Ives	74.3	Fall 2005
Michael DiMeglio	76.2	Spring 2005

Play Golf America University

As an official Play Golf America University (PGAU), UNLV has increased its programming to include more golfer development programs than ever. PGAU programs are designed to teach and engage students in the game of golf through PGA Professional instruction and other fun, exciting golf programs. Administered through the PGA Golf Management program, UNLV's PGAU efforts have grown substantially in the past few years.

This semester, two sections of Golf: For Business and Life, the original and core element of the PGAU curriculum,

are being offered at UNLV with a total enrollment of 24 students. PGA Professional, Brian Soule, is teaching the class, which involves instruction on the history and origins of golf, as well as a thorough introduction to the fundamental skills of playing the game. Students will learn the basics of the game, and will benefit from video swing analysis. Also, students are learning how to use golf as a business tool from local businesspeople, adding an invaluable lesson to the class.

UNLV is also proud to be conducting four Play Golf America Days on- and

off-campus this semester. The first event is scheduled for March 4th on UNLV's North Field from 11:00 until 3:00. It will feature equipment from almostGOLF™, and will be a drop-in, relaxed format. The second Play Golf America Day is scheduled for March 18th at Angel Park Golf Club in Summerlin from 5:00 until 8:00 PM. This is always a fun event under the lights, and instruction will be provided both on the range and on the putting course. A third event is tentatively scheduled for mid-April on campus, and the fourth and final event will be held in conjunction with GOL-FATHON on May 1st at Las Vegas Golf Club.



Finally, the PGA Golf Management program is working in conjunction with the UNLV Campus Recreation Center in an effort to promote golf around campus. We are laying the groundwork for a Club Golf Team, and we will be working closely with the Summer Golf League in 2009. All of these PGAU initiatives are helping to grow the game of golf in the Las Vegas Valley, and UNLV is excited to be a part of this movement. Please join us for any of our wonderful events! More information can be found online at www.playgolfamerica.com or on the UNLV PGA Golf Management's site.



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1000holesofgolf.com



Friday, May 1st 2009, Christopher Cain, Director of The PGA Golf Management program at The University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) and Brian Esposito, Founder of Par For The Cure will attempt to play 1000 holes of golf in a 12-hour period.

The event will benefit the UNLV PGA Golf Management program and Par For The Cure*. It will take place at the oldest golf course in the Las Vegas Valley, Las Vegas Golf Club. Patrons of the event will be able to watch Chris and Brian race each other around the front nine at a pace close to 85 seconds per hole. You will also be able to test all the new golf equipment at Las Vegas' largest Demo

Day, receive FREE golf lessons from local PGA Professionals and the PGA Golf Management students. Participants will also try a wide range of food from various Las Vegas area restaurants.

We ask for your support in sponsoring and/or donating towards our goal of \$100,000. Currently, we have received donation amounts from \$10 to \$200 and our sponsorship opportunities range from \$2,000 to a \$5,000 Title Sponsorship.

The event is working very closely with UNLV, local and national media to enhance the marketability of this event. We anticipate it will bring great attention to our supporters and ultimately the benefiting organizations. Please help to spread the word to all your friends, family and work associates. For more information visit our website, at www.1000holesofgolf.com

**Proceeds from the event will be equally shared between the UNLV PGA golf management program and Par for The Cure, benefiting breast cancer research.*

