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Inside UNLV

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Inside UNLV

News & Information for UNLV Insiders

APRIL 2008

Deserved Recognition

The 2008 academic recognition ceremony and reception is set for 3:30-5 p.m. April 24 at Ham Hall. The award presentations begin at 4 p.m. Contact Kristene Fisher at ext. 5-5182 for more information.

News You Can Use

Salute to Moyer

The campus community is invited to a ceremony April 23 to dedicate the amphitheater in the south courtyard of the Student Union in honor of former UNLV President Donald C. Moyer.

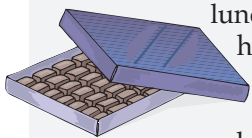
Moyer, who served as president from 1964 until 1969, is scheduled to speak at the 3 p.m. ceremony. A reception will follow.

Immediately following the dedication, a time capsule will be placed under the exterior stairs of the union near Starbucks. The capsule may contain items related to the union, items related to UNLV's 50th anniversary, and letters from past UNLV and CSUN presidents. The event management capstone class in the hospitality department is preparing the time capsule.

Beginning at 1 p.m., a historical display created by the class will be on view at the union and the campus community will have the opportunity to sign a 50th anniversary banner that will be placed in the capsule.

Lunch and Learn

You know chocolate tastes good. But did you know it could make you feel good? Bring your lunch and learn



how chocolate can reduce stress. The

workshop offered by the staff development section of the office of human resources, "Laughter, Chocolate, and Other Lesser Known Stress Reducers," is set for noon April 25 in CSB, Room 212-G.

The workshop is part of the office's spring "brown bag" lunch series. Other sessions will cover dealing with difficult people and the art of communicating clearly.

More info: Call ext. 5-0402 or go to hrfs.nevada.edu/teacup.



Technician Kim Schjang, left, troubleshoots computing problems with student Nicole Morrison at the help desk on the second floor of the Student Union. Every third request ends with a survey, one of the ways OIT continues to solicit feedback to improve services. See "What You Said: E-mail, Security Top Concerns" on page 3.

USI Draws Researchers Together

Education and Research Support Sustainability

By **Shane Bevell** | Marketing & PR

You probably know that energy-conscious habits like switching off lights are part of sustainability practices, but did you know the cologne you wear and your co-workers' healthy habits play into it, too?

UNLV's office of urban sustainability initiatives (USI) is drawing together the many research projects on progressive communities to give us a better picture of the region's sustainability issues.

"It (the USI office) provides leadership and a central location that allows

us to focus on real sustainability issues for the community and surrounding region both now and as we look to the future," said Ron Smith, founding director of the USI office and vice president for research and graduate studies and dean of the Graduate College.

The goal of the USI office is to help build a sustainable Las Vegas, surrounding region, and state. The office draws on faculty and professional staff with sustainability expertise, existing UNLV research and service centers and institutes, and academic colleges that focus on various aspects of sustainability.

It includes areas of the campus not often thought of as being associated with sustainability, such as nursing.

Healthy Community

Barbara St. Pierre Schneider, associate dean for research in the School of Nursing, and faculty colleagues are writing a concept paper about why health care should be at the forefront of sustainability.

"To achieve sustainability comprehensively, green buildings need to have healthy people inhabiting them. You need healthy people to sustain a community," Schneider said.

So research to promote healthy lifestyles and to anticipate the health issues of future generations falls under the sustainability umbrella, she said.

Health also plays into economic

> See **SUSTAINABILITY**, Page 3

50th Anniversary

Part-Time Job Leads to Golden Career

Engineering Prof Marks 50-Year Anniversary Along with UNLV

By **Diane Russell** | Marketing & PR

It started out as something of a short-term lark and ended up lasting more than 50 years.

It was 1957 when Herb Wells agreed to teach a surveying course to some engineering students at what was then the Southern Regional Division of the University of Nevada. The commitment would be temporary and part-time.

After all, the mining engineer had a full-time job at Timet and ideas on how his career would proceed — based in part on advice from a former U.S. president (but more about that later).



Herb Wells sits near the footprints that lead the way to the engineering complex. They are green in honor of St. Patrick, who was an engineer.

Teaching just wasn't part of the game plan.

By 1961 he had joined the faculty full-time. And in 2008 here he still is, teaching engineering students each semester as he has for the past half-century.

"I enjoy the students," he said. "Helping them pursue their education is a pleasure."

Wells remembers well his own student days.

Presidential Advice

Living temporarily with this mother in New York and contemplating a return to college following service in the Army's Engineer Corps, he stopped by New York's Waldorf Astoria Hotel to

> See **WELLS**, Page 2

New Advisory Council Fosters Communication

On a campus with such a large and diverse population, communication is a constant challenge. *Inside UNLV* talked to President David Ashley about two initiatives he hopes will promote a more effective flow of information.

At a recent Faculty Senate meeting, you discussed initial plans to replace the senior advisor to the president position with an advisory council. Why are you making this change?

The senior advisor fulfilled two very important functions. First it ensured that there was a faculty voice in the office of the president and at cabinet meetings. Second, it provided a conduit for people to communicate their concerns to the administration. Other campus groups, however, did not have this same opportunity.

The most important role for the new President's Advisory Council will be to facilitate discussion of issues that cut across divisions and may impact different constituencies in varying degrees.

I expect to meet with its members monthly so important issues can come forward in a timely manner. I also think this group will be helpful in communicating information back to the campus at large. The Focus: 50 to 100 planning process, for example, brought much greater transparency to the budget process. This council is a great opportunity to expand upon that. It will be another avenue for educating the campus about the issues the administration is tackling



David Ashley | UNLV President

and assessing if there are any misunderstandings on campus.

How will you compose the group?

The group will include representatives from each major group on campus: faculty, classified staff, professional staff, undergraduate students, and graduate students. I will work with the campus leadership groups — the Faculty Senate, staff councils, and student government groups — to recommend members. The immediate past chair or current presidents of these groups would be appropriate choices because they already have strong understanding of the university's issues as well as the trust of their colleagues.

In addition, the group will include the chief of staff for my office, once one is appointed, as

well as a faculty member at large. This person will facilitate the advisory council meetings as well as attend cabinet meetings. I will be looking for someone with a fair amount of experience on campus and who can help anticipate and interpret the issues that come up. It will be important for this person to bring objectivity to the position. I would want the campus to trust in his or her ability to put the best interests of the university above any personal agenda.

The advisory council is focused on internal communication. How is UNLV improving external communication?

Until recently, UNLV's communications functions were housed in several different units. I believe that led to both duplication of efforts and to mixed messages about the university. In the fall, we reorganized several external relations offices under the vice president for advancement. The goal is to build a truly integrated and collaborative unit for communicating with alumni, community members, government officials, donors, and the media.

The next step is the hiring of an associate vice president for communications. This person should be on board before summer and will be responsible for educating the various audiences about our mission and challenges. In addition, the AVP will more formally reach out to the communications specialists in the individual colleges.

> WELLS

Continued from Page 1

visit his friend "Pete," whose family kept an apartment there. Turns out that Pete wasn't home that day, but his grandfather was.

That's how Wells came to receive educational advice from former U.S. President Herbert Hoover. His buddy, "Pete," had been given that nickname to distinguish him from the two other Herberts in the family — his grandfather and father.

And it was the other two Herberts who were home the day Wells came to call.

Learning that Wells was considering enrolling at the Colorado School of Mines, the former president, who was a mining engineer before entering politics, shook his head, "no," and asked his son his impression of that school's graduates.

"Herbert Hoover Jr. said, 'They rise to middle management very quickly and then they stay there for the rest of their careers.'" The president concurred and suggested four other schools, including his own alma mater, Stanford, and its archrival the University of California, Berkeley, Wells said. "I chose Berkeley."

UNLV Tradition

Wells held a variety of jobs, including a stint as a mining engineer in the hard-drinking town of Leadville, Colo. (Ask him about the time there was a dead man in the booth where he and business associates were drinking and it took several minutes for anyone to notice.) Eventually he landed in Southern Nevada and UNLV.

"Retire? I am retired. I'm only teaching three classes."

— Herb Wells, engineering professor

Over the years, involvement with UNLV has become something of a Wells family tradition. His wife, two daughters, and a son all have earned

UNLV degrees over the years. Two more sons are expected to receive their degrees in the future.

Wells has seen UNLV through its fight for independence from the University of Nevada, Reno; through the assassination of U.S. President John Kennedy; though the Sept. 11 bombings in 2001; as well as through many other events of historic importance either to the nation or to UNLV. How many more historic events he will witness as part of the UNLV community is impossible to say.

For now, he has no thoughts of retiring. "Retire? I am retired. I'm only teaching three classes."

Picture This: Test Your UNLV Knowledge

You're almost out of time. If you've been meaning to enter *Inside UNLV's* Picture This: 50th Anniversary Trivia Contest, you'd better not put it off any longer. Just for submitting answers to last month's questions, Mora Snyder of the curriculum & instruction department received a gift bag filled with fun 50th anniversary items.

1 This member of the rat pack received an honorary doctorate of humane letters from UNLV in 1976 and organized two benefit shows for the university in the late 1970s.

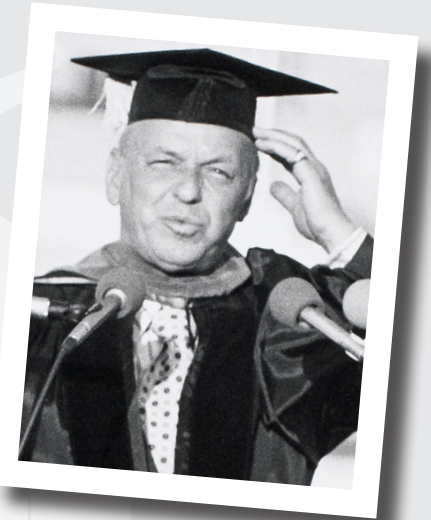
- a. Frank Sinatra
- b. Dean Martin
- c. Joey Bishop

2 Scenes from which movie were filmed in the university's gym in 1964?

- a. *Ocean's Eleven* (original version)
- b. *Diamond's Are Forever*
- c. *Viva Las Vegas*

3 What future U.S. Senator spoke at an antiwar rally at UNLV in 1971?

- a. Ted Kennedy
- b. John Kerry
- c. Al Gore



The answers to last month's questions: Education professor Porter Troutman, who joined the UNLV faculty in 1971, is a Fulbright Scholar and is the founder and state president of the National Association for Multicultural Education. He did not, however, earn his bachelor's degree from Tulane University.

How to Enter

By E-mail – Send your answers to inside@unlv.edu by April 16. To be eligible for the prize you must:

- Include the word "trivia" in the subject line of your e-mail.
- Include your name, title, department, and telephone extension.

By Campus Mail – Cut out this box, circle the answers, and fill out the information below. Then send your entry to *Inside UNLV* at mailstop 1024.

Name: _____
Title: _____
Department: _____
Phone: _____
E-mail: _____

What You Said: E-Mail, Security Top Concerns

OIT Improves Services in Response to Campus Survey

By Mamie Peers | OIT

The office of information technology (OIT) placed improving e-mail and increasing awareness about security among its top priorities after a survey revealed your top needs.


Respondents to the campuswide survey also asked for more information about software licensing and file storage as well as more support for new administrative systems. The survey, which was conducted in the early fall, had 192 responses.

While OIT administrators note that limited resources make it difficult to add new services or increase response times, they have pledged to address many of the concerns during the next 18 months.

E-mail — E-mail was identified as one of the most valued services offered by OIT, which will increase instructional resources for Lotus Notes users. “Like all units, we’re dealing with limited resources. Server space is a critical issue and our initial training materials will offer tips on managing mail,” said Mike Marchand, systems manager leading OIT’s e-mail improvement group.


Communications — Communications this fall will focus on specific security tips as well as software purchasing and file storage (two areas respondents say they know the least about). OIT manages many types of software licenses including several at no cost to the campus community. In the months ahead watch for more information about software services. “We are trying to make obtaining needed technology easier for faculty and staff and students,” said DeAnna Schoendienst, manager of client services. “Our goal is to create multiple resources for information.”

Student Information Systems — Respondents requested more “automated” processes and fewer logins for the system. Several OIT representatives work closely with NSHE’s team on the iNtegrate project, which is very close to selecting a new product for the university. OIT plans to realign software engineers and system administrator positions to better support the new system when the time comes.

Subject	Steps OIT is taking to improve services
 <p>E-mail</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey the campus about Lotus Notes to determine likes and dislikes and then address those issues. • Study help desk calls to address requests for improvement. • Address the syncing of web and client passwords. • Upgrade to Lotus Notes 8, which includes an improved interface and features similar to Microsoft Outlook. • Provide online tutorials and additional educational resources, especially for advanced features and mail management. • Investigate student perceptions of Rebelmail.
<p>Communications</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host second security campaign this fall focusing on specific security tips, such as how to respond to a security breach, increase password security, and lock a desktop computer. • Gather feedback about file storage systems, address specific needs, and communicate about how groups can share and exchange documents more effectively. • Increase communications about software purchasing. • Launch Lotus Notes education campaign.
<p>Student Information Systems</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue work with the NSHE iNtegrate project to select new student information system. The new system should help automate processes related to student information and improve data tracking. • Reorganize OIT to meet the support demands of the new system when it arrives.
<p>Continuing dialogue with campus</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convert annual survey to electronic format. • Create more opportunities for campus to provide input into the design and implementation of new products – OIT will ask the campus to participate in beta-testing and usability studies. • Conduct follow-up surveys on every third help request to improve services. • Conduct service-specific surveys (e-mail and file storage surveys, for example, will be more frequent).

Continuing the dialogue — Administrators encourage all employees to provide feedback this year through its periodic surveys. Additionally, you can volunteer to beta-test programs and participate in usability studies. “We value the feedback of the 192 individuals who responded last fall,” said Lori Temple, vice

provost for information technology, “but are revising our survey format next year to increase response rates.”

 **More info:** To read more details about the survey data, go to oit.unlv.edu and click on “About OIT.”

> SUSTAINABILITY

Continued from Page 1

sustainability, Schneider said. If employees are too ill to work, their productivity and their company’s can be significantly affected.

Educating Students

The USI office also focuses on:

- **Outreach.** Providing urban-focused conferences, forums, speakers, and publications. The inaugural UNLV Urban Sustainability Conference held on campus last fall drew more than 450 attendees. The university is hosting another conference this fall to discuss the future of Las Vegas.

- **Applied Research.** Faculty members are studying water use, water quality, climate change, indoor environmental quality, and sustainable architecture.

Linda Stetzenbach, for example, studied indoor air quality and its link to energy usage in 10 office buildings, 10 schools, and 10 high-performance (green) buildings across the United States. The research looked at energy usage as it relates to lighting, acoustics, and building characteristics such as south-facing windows and thermal comfort, which includes humidity, draft, temperature, and airborne surface mold.

Stetzenbach, a professor in the department of environmental and occupational health in the School of Public Health, also monitored



Mechanical engineering professor Bob Boehm, right, and graduate student Ahmad Abu Heiba look at a hybrid lighting system on the roof of Taylor Hall. The dish captures sunlight and transmits it to the building’s interior.

occupants’ acceptability of distracting noises and odors. “We found that people don’t like to smell odors in their office or in their classroom — odors from the kitchen area, colognes, or potpourris,” she said. “These odors lead building managers to use more energy by increasing the air velocity to get rid of those fragrances.”

- **Education.** Developing academic programs to educate students about urban sustainability challenges and solutions. Among the sustainability courses UNLV currently offers are land use management and global environmental politics.

The College of Sciences is looking

at an interdisciplinary sustainability research course for freshmen, while UNLV’s MBA program is considering a three-course option dealing with sustainable businesses.

The USI office will be offering inaugural graduate assistantships to qualified master’s and doctoral students starting in the fall. Students will work closely with faculty in their majors as well as with the USI office to research and promote sustainability topics.

 **More info:** A listserv of faculty and community experts specializing in urban sustainability issues is available at urban21.unlv.edu.


Faculty Research

Here is a sample of some of the sustainability research being conducted by UNLV faculty.

- **Dale Devitt**, a professor of soil and water science in the School of Life Sciences, studied golf courses and other high-grass areas to determine how high or low to cut the grass, what fertilizer to use, and how much money can be saved. His water research is being used at golf courses.

- **Cynthia Carruthers**, professor in the recreation and sport management department, studied two after-school youth development programs in an effort to enhance social sustainability in Southern Nevada. Her work recognizes that social sustainability requires community members to work together to advance the social good.

- **Keith Schwer** of the Center for Business and Economic Research is researching economic issues associated with sustainability. The topics range from the economic implications of developing renewable energy technology to the costs of improving the high school dropout rate in Nevada.

 **More info:** Go to urban21.unlv.edu to learn more about UNLV’s research efforts.

Business

New Program Helps Managers Take That Next Step

A new program to help business managers and professionals move into upper management now is being offered by the college.

The Business Essentials: Executive Certificate in Business Administration program introduces practicing managers, business owners, and professionals to increasingly pertinent concepts, tools, and techniques taught in today's business schools.

This program is ideal for experienced or high-potential managers and professionals who may not have received formal business education, but who wish to move up the salary bracket by seeking a stronger foundation in current business theory and practice. A high school diploma or college degree is not required for the open-enrollment program.

The program will be taught by professors who have years of experience making business concepts and skills readily understandable and immediately useful. Topics range from leadership and management styles, to business law, to corporate finance education.

Sessions are organized into four, two-day modules focused on people, processes, the environment of business, and money. A new module is offered every month, so students can complete the program in as little as four months or can take up to two years.

More info: Go to bizoutreach.unlv.edu or call ext. 5-3394.

Engineering

O'Toole Named Robotics Competition Volunteer of the Year

Mechanical engineering professor Brendan O'Toole recently was named the 2008 FIRST Las Vegas Volunteer of the Year.

O'Toole is involved in the regional



Student Questions Not Moot

Students from the Boyd School of Law ask questions of members of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals after the panel heard arguments at the Thomas & Mack Moot Court facility. They are, from left, Circuit Judge Marsha Berzon, Circuit Chief Judge Alex Kozinski, and Circuit Judge Jay Bybee. Bybee is a former member of the Boyd faculty.

For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) Robotics Competition, which takes place at UNLV each year.

FIRST engages nearly 30,000 students on more than 1,300 teams in 41 regional competitions for a chance to compete in the national championship in Atlanta. When UNLV was initially awarded a regional competition in 2005, only three local high school teams competed. Last year, 12 local teams competed, and this year there were 15 local teams.

O'Toole's efforts were instrumental in UNLV's success. He conducts an engineering course that requires students to mentor one of the local FIRST Robotic teams. That experience allows the university's students to apply their engineering knowledge to a real-world situation while encouraging high school students to pursue engineering degrees. O'Toole spends hours promoting the profession, mentoring students, and volunteering at several FIRST events. Several of the students he has mentored are now part of the college in professional capacities.

Hosting a regional FIRST competition is part of the college's strategy to recruit students who will be the next generation of scientists and engineers. Despite the high demand for engineers nationwide, American universities struggle to attract enough engineering students to keep pace with other industrialized nations.

Fine Arts

April PAC Events

Theatre professor Robert Benedetti has a new version of Aristophanes' *Lysistrata* running April 4-13 in the Black Box Theatre as part of the Nevada Conservatory Theatre main season. This fifth-century play tells the story of Athenian and Spartan women refusing their husbands sex in order to end the war. *Lysistrata* is not recommended for children under 13.

The Performing Arts Center (PAC) classical guitar series hosts the "guiding light" of the classical guitar world, Roland Dyens, on April 25. His sensitive and colorful approach, combined with his inspirational performance style, places him at the forefront of classical guitarists performing today.

The PAC welcomes multiple Tony Award-winner Christine Ebersole on April 26 as part of the New York Stage & Beyond Series. "Smashing"

(*New York Daily News*) with "torchy virtuosity" (*Newsday*), Ebersole has been wowing audiences for more than 30 years. She won the Tony for best actress for her performance in *42nd Street* and for the dual role of Edith Bouvier Beale/"Little" Edie Beale in *Grey Gardens*.

More info: Call ext. 5-2787.

Graduate

Graduate Assistants Heard

As part of ongoing efforts to support graduate assistants, the college held its first question-and-answer roundtable discussion in March.

The meeting helped the college's faculty and staff get a better understanding of the issues and concerns facing graduate assistants. Eric Lee, director of graduate student financial services, and Rebecca Boulton, the Graduate & Professional Student Association (GPSA) manager, organized the event. Topics included student health insurance, tuition and fee costs, financial aid opportunities, and the quality of the graduate assistant experience.

"The event was successful due to the heavy turnout and involvement of graduate assistants and the GPSA," said Lee. "We look forward to hosting this event again in the near future."

Hotel

Vallen Dinner Set for May 1

The college will recognize select alumni and industry executives at the Vallen Dinner of Distinction on May 1.

The dinner will include a cocktail reception and silent and live auctions. All funds raised will support the Vallen professorship endowment fund, which brings industry executives into the classroom to work with students.

Honorees include:

- Cynthia Kiser Murphey, who will receive the alumna of the year award.

Sciences

College Recognized for Contributions to Biotechnology

The college recently received the

inaugural Harry Reid Biotechnology Award for its contributions to the advancement of biotechnology and life sciences in the state.

The award from the Nevada Biotechnology and Bioscience Consortium (NevBio) was presented at a February ceremony at the Wynn Hotel and Resort. Several faculty members presented their research findings

at the luncheon. Guests included U.S. Sen. Harry Reid and UNLV President David Ashley.

"Most of the advancements in biotechnology that have occurred at universities later become the basis of new treatments for disease, economic diversification, and improvements in quality of life," said John Laub, executive director of NevBio. "We are pleased to honor UNLV's



College of Sciences for the impressive accomplishments it has made in the last few years."

In making the award, the NevBio board cited the college's development of new research infrastructure, increased peer-reviewed funding, greater quality and quantity of faculty scholarship, and community outreach activities.

Ron Yasbin, dean of the college, said the award reflects years of hard work, strategic planning, and commitment to hire and retain a team of excellent, col-

laborative faculty. "UNLV believes it has a responsibility to help Nevada become a leader in biotechnology, and the College of Sciences has long made that goal a priority," Yasbin said. "UNLV will continue to serve not only as a training ground for new scientists entering this exciting field, but as one of the catalysts for future economic growth and diversification across the state."

Education Two Prestigious Journals Raise College Profile

Two highly respected education journals, both with a history of more than 50 years of continuous publication, soon will be housed in the college.

The American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education recently announced that an editorial team of UNLV researchers will guide the *Journal of Teacher Education*, the premiere journal in the field. The team will be led by editors-in-chief Sandra Odell, chair of the department of curriculum & instruction, and M. Christopher Brown, dean of the college. The editorial team includes curriculum & instruction faculty members Elizabeth Spalding, Jian Wang, Cari Klecka,

and Emily Lin.

Additionally, curriculum & instruction professors Thomas Bean and Helen Harper were selected as the next editors of the

Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy. This premiere peer-reviewed journal is a publication of the International Reading Association, which has more than 17,000 members.

These additions will contribute to the rising visibility of a department that has a history of faculty serving as editors of respected journals. Other journals housed in the department or edited by its faculty include the

Journal of Children's Literature (co-editor Cyndi Giorgis), the *Journal of Science Education and Technology* (associate editor Kent Crippen), and *Intervention in School and Clinic* (co-editor Randall Boone).



Kiser Murphey, who earned a bachelor's and a master's degree in hotel administration at UNLV, serves as the MGM Mirage senior vice president of human resources.

- Claudine Williams, who will receive the dean's medal of distinction. She serves as chairwoman of community affairs for Harrah's Las Vegas.

- George Baggot, who will receive an industry executive of the year award. He is the retired chairman of Cres Cor.

- Alumna Paula Eylar, who will receive an industry executive of the year award. She is vice president of technology and systems for Boyd Gaming Corp.

- Joe Steranka, who will receive an industry executive of the year award. He is CEO for the PGA of America.

- Alumnus Gus Tejeda, who will receive an industry executive of the year award. He is vice president of sales for Echelon.

The dinner will take place at the Mirage.

More info: Call ext. 5-2934 for tickets.

Law Celebrating 10 Successful Years

The Boyd School of Law kicks off its 10-year anniversary celebration 6 p.m. April 11 in the Thomas & Mack Moot Court facility.

Other major anniversary events include an alumni and student event in the fall, a gala event during spring 2009, and an ongoing lecture series on an array of issues relevant to Nevada. The history of the law school, faculty accomplishments, and the clinical program will be highlighted throughout the year. Upcoming events include:

- 3-6 p.m. April 11, a forum on the new advertising rules for lawyers. The kick-off celebration will follow at 6 p.m.
- June, a lecture on the state of immigration in Nevada
- September, a lecture on the state of gaming in Nevada
- October, a lecture on the state of social services in Nevada
- November, a lecture on the future of the economy and tax

structure in Nevada

- January, a lecture on the state of legal education and the law in Nevada
- February, a lecture on the state of the legal profession
- April 2009, a gala black-tie cocktail reception and dinner.

Liberal Arts New Program Helps Teachers Master History

A master of arts degree (MAT) in teaching history is in the development

stages and may be offered as soon as fall 2009.

Being developed collaboratively by the history department and the College of Education, the program is designed primarily for high school and middle school history and social science teachers in the Clark County School District (CCSD).

The program is intended to enhance students' content knowledge and further develop their historical research skills for use in the classroom. The idea is to help local teachers become master teachers who recognize history's relevance to contemporary issues and problems.

Students will take some of their history courses within an "examination field" and others within a "teaching field." The teaching field includes an original research project that will serve as the basis for the creation or redesign of classroom units. In addition, students will be able to choose from a range of education courses to enhance teaching effectiveness. Courses will be offered in American, European, and world history.

This new program will not provide teacher certification; that is done through bachelor's and master's programs in the College of Education. Rather, it will offer certified teachers a graduate option that is directly relevant to their work as teachers of history. In helping CCSD teachers of social studies and history gain mastery of their course content and enhance their pedagogical skills, this interdisciplinary, cross-college initiative will facilitate the process by which future UNLV students in Clark County become prepared for university-level history coursework.

Libraries Stardust Memories Alive in Special Collections

The Stardust Hotel may have disappeared in a cloud of dust and debris in March of last year, but its memory lives on in a large collection of historical documents, photographs, and videos that were donated recently to the Special Collections Division of University Libraries.

Materials, including correspondence, memos, brochures, newsletters, news clippings, and ephemera, provide extensive documentation of the hotel's activities as a major force in Las Vegas gaming and entertainment in its almost 50 years on the Las Vegas Strip.

Photographs in the collection document the hotel from its opening in 1958 until its closure in 2006. They depict interior and exterior views of the property, publicity stunts, famous visitors, restaurants, entertainers, and production shows, such as the world-famous "Lido de Paris." Other materials include video and film footage of the hotel in its heyday in the 1960s, as well as footage of various entertainers and shows that were featured at the hotel.

Other interesting artifacts include original hotel bills from the 1960s, postcards, show programs, and menus from a number of the hotel's famed restaurants, such as the Polynesian-themed Aku Aku.

View a variety of digital collections and exhibits at library.unlv.edu/speccol.

More info: Contact Su Kim Chung at sukim.chung@unlv.edu.

➤ See **ACROSS CAMPUS**, Page 6



Cleaning Under Pressure

Leslie Matys, left, zone supervisor for the north side of campus, uses a high-pressure washer, while grounds worker Gilda Holliday assists with the cleaning of a sidewalk.



> **Cheryl Tillotson** (University College) recently was notified that she is the 2008 UNLV undergraduate advisor of the year. She now is eligible for the 2008 Board of Regents undergraduate advisor of the year award, which will be announced within the next several months. She will receive her UNLV award at the campus-wide academic recognition ceremony on April 24. She has worked as an advisor in University College for the past seven years. Before that she was an advisor in the psychology department.

> **Lisa Davis** (Business) and **Peggy Marlow** (CAEO) participated in the February meeting of the Las Vegas chapter of the American Marketing Association. Davis spoke about the mission and highlights of the UNLV MBA program. Marlow shared information on the services provided through the federally funded TRiO and GEAR UP programs housed in the Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach (CAEO). She also talked briefly about the partnership CAEO has with the Clark County School District and the tutoring services provided to all the programs' participants.

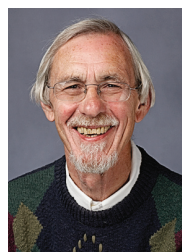
> **Suzanne LaVolpa** (Physical Therapy) was named a classified employee of the month in the administrative category for February. A nine-year UNLV employee, she began her campus career in physical therapy, returning there in November after two years in the office of the dean of the School of Allied Health. An administrative assistant III, she manages the budget, oversees computer data input, and handles purchasing.

> **Bernard Cole** (Police Services) has been promoted to the rank of police detective. Before coming to UNLV, he spent 20 years with the New York City police department where he reached the position of detective second-grade. His career in New York included an assignment as an undercover officer with the narcotics division, an assignment in the intelligence unit, and, ultimately, an assignment on Mayor Michael Bloomberg's personal security detail. In addition, he is a U.S. Air Force veteran with four years of service to his country.

> **Molly Michelman** (Nutrition Sciences) was recognized by the National Institutes of Health/National Heart, Blood, Lung,

and Blood Institute for her work with the We Can! (Ways to Enhance Children's Activity and Nutrition) program. This program is a national effort to prevent obesity in children and families. Thanks to her efforts, Las Vegas is now a We Can! city.

> **Mary Palevsky** (Liberal Arts and Libraries) recently launched an oral history project in collaboration with the Graduate University for Advanced Studies (Japan) and the Kohala Center on the island of Hawai'i. The research explores the intersections of culture, science, and community, focusing on the 13,800 foot Mauna Kea, a sacred mountain of the Hawaiian people and the site of 13 international observatories, including Japan's Subaru telescope. With co-principal investigators, Kenji Ito (Japan) and Yvonne Carter (Hawaii), she is documenting and archiving the voices of Subaru scientists, practitioners of indigenous science and traditional knowledge, Japanese-Americans, and local residents.



> **Joe McCullough** (English) recently learned that his new book, *The Cosmopolitan Twain*, edited with Professor Ann Ryan (LeMoyné College), will be published this year by the University of Missouri Press. Also, he has been re-elected to the executive board of the Mark Twain Circle of America, as well as appointed to the editorial board of *The Mark Twain Annual*, the society's flagship journal.

> **Alan Simmons** (Anthropology and Ethnic Studies) was presented the P.E. MacAllister field archaeology award at the 2007 annual meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research. This is a career award for archaeologists who have made substantial contributions to Near Eastern and Mediterranean archaeology.

> **Carol Kimball** (Music) was recently appointed to the board of advisors of the Lotte Lehmann Foundation. Constituted in 1997, the foundation seeks to perpetuate the legacy of distinguished soprano and teacher Lotte Lehmann and to honor her dream of bringing art song into the lives of as many people as possible. Kimball joins a distinguished list of specialists in the field of classical song — composers, singers, pianists, and educators — among them: Marilyn Horne,

Frederica Von Stade, Thomas Hampson, Graham Johnson, Hugues Cuénod, Warren Jones, Jennifer Larmore, Barbara Bonney, Grace Bumbry, Steven Blier, Lukas Foss, and Lofti Mansouri.

> **Cherisha Gaitor** (Student Life) was named a classified employee of the month in the administrative category for February. A services specialist for student life scheduling and for Student Union facilities, she processes timesheets for student workers, oversees P-card purchases, orders supplies, and performs general offices duties. She is working toward a UNLV degree with a major in broadcasting. She will celebrate her two-year anniversary at UNLV in July.

> **Ann McDonough** (University College) presented a workshop with **Doug Hill** (Theatre) on Applications of the Ten-Minute Play for Senior Adult Theatre at the American College Theatre Festival in February.

> **Stephen M. Miller** (Economics) and WenShwo Fang (Feng Chia University, Taiwan) published "The Great Moderation and the Relationship between Output Growth and Its Volatility" in the *Southern Economic Journal* in January. He, along with Insil Yi (Sogang University, Korea), and Wonil Jeong and Yongil Jeon (both Sungkyunkwan University, Korea) also presented "The Effects of Increased Foreign Ownership on Korean Domestic Banking Industry" at the Southern Economic Association meetings in November.

> **Karl Kingsley, Susan O'Malley, Tanis Stewart, and Katherine Howard** (Dental Medicine) are the authors of the article "Research Enrichment: Evaluation of Structured Research in the Curriculum for Dental Medicine Students as Part of the Vertical and Horizontal Integration of Biomedical Training and Discovery," which was published in the peer-reviewed journal, *BMC Medical Education* in February.

> **Jay Shen, Chris Cochran, and Chuck Moseley** (Health Care Administration and Policy) won the award for the best paper in their track at the annual meeting of the American Society of Business and Behavioral Sciences, which took place in Las Vegas in February. They presented the paper, "Hospital and Market Factors and the Admission of the Seriously Mentally Ill to General Hospitals from the Emergency Department."



> **Melissa Batterson** (Barrick Museum) was named classified employee of the month in the technical/service category for February. A cultural/natural resource technician, she is in charge of collection materials at the museum, maintains the database, and plans museum events. She also handles the purchasing and account balancing. A UNLV employee since August 2005, she will receive a master's degree in educational leadership from UNLV next month.

> **Charlito Dalusong** (Custodial Services) was named classified employee of the month in the custodial category for February. He has worked at UNLV since September 2002.

> **Robin Wood** (GEAR UP) was awarded a \$300 transportation grant from the Geological Society of Nevada. She is the science and technology coordinator for Sedway Middle School. The society offers such grants to assist with transportation costs for earth science-related field trips. Sedway seventh-graders participated in a geological field trip to Forever Earth at the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. The program is conducted through UNLV's Public Lands Institute. During the trip students participated in hands-on activities revolving around geology, including identification of geological land formations and investigation and examination of rocks and minerals.

> **Robyn Raschke** (Accounting) recently presented "Development of a Business Process Agility Index (BPAI): An Examination of BPAI and Process Outcomes" to the 2nd Enterprise Systems workshop in Montreal, Canada. In addition, she is the senior author of the article "Mitigating the Effects of Misleading Graphs on Decisions by Educating Users about the Principles of Graph Design," which was accepted for publication in the *Journal of Information Systems*.

> **Helen Tartaglia** (CAEO) is the new program coordinator in the TRiO adult educational services office. Her area of responsibility will be data management and collection. Before receiving her bachelor's degree in management information systems from UNLV in December, she was a student worker for CAEO. At winter commencement she was recognized as the oldest graduate at that ceremony.

> ACROSS CAMPUS

Continued from Page 5

University College UNLV Student-Athletes Score in Classroom

The office of student-athlete academic services had a record-setting fall semester for its student-athletes.

Among the records were:

- the number of student-athletes set to receive All-Mountain West Conference academic honors: 43.
- the number of football players to be honored: 16
- the number of football players to earn a semester grade-point average of 3.0 or better: 39.

In fall semester, nine student-athletes received a perfect 4.0 GPA, 18 earned their degrees, and more than half of UNLV student-athletes (52.6 percent) posted a GPA of 3.0 or better.

Additionally, nine of UNLV's 17 teams earned a team GPA of 3.0 or better for the semester.

A new program for student-athletes, the rebound initiative, also met great success. Designed by University College and the athletics department, the initiative helps student-athletes develop study skills and provides closer academic supervision to any student-athlete who needs or wants it. Participating students raised their semester GPAs from an average of 2.14 at the end of spring 2007 to an average of 2.47 at the end of fall semester.

Urban Affairs Students Initiated into Journalism Honor Society

The Hank Greenspun School of Journalism and Media Studies initiated its first class of 25 honor students

of Kappa Tau Alpha, the seventh oldest honor society in the nation and the only honor society for students in journalism and mass communication.

Students must be in the top 10 percent of their class and have completed nine credits of professional courses to be eligible for membership. MGM Mirage senior vice president for public affairs Alan Feldman was the guest speaker at the group's initiation ceremony last semester. Professor Emeritus Barbara Cloud serves as the chapter's founding advisor.

Focus the Nation Comes to UNLV

The department of environmental studies participated in Focus the Nation, a climate change education program involving some 1,500 college and university campuses across the nation. Held in January, Focus the Nation offered campus events

including a series of faculty and student presentations on diverse aspects of climate change. Department faculty presenters included Helen Neill and David Hassenzahl.

Part of the Focus the Nation program included two days of teach-ins, in which faculty emphasized environmental issues in their classes. For example, environmental studies instructor Patricia Mynster devoted course time to the subject of global warming. "During my ENV 101 class that week, we were going over the biogeochemical cycles, so I stayed focus on the carbon cycle for one class and explained the greenhouse effect and global warming. During the sustainable development class, we focused on populations and why future carbon emissions from developing countries has everyone so worried," she said.

G'Day, Mate: Fine Arts Takes 'Sin City' Down Under

By **Michelle Mouton** | UNLV Foundation

College of Fine Arts faculty and students brought a little Las Vegas to Australia in March when they participated in the Adelaide Fringe Festival.

Seven faculty members and 28 students participated in the world's second largest fringe festival, presenting pieces ranging from dance, to percussion, to short films. This is the second year the college has participated.

The highlight piece, "Sin City, the Golden Years," was written by film studies professor Sean Clark. Set in

the Moonlight Lounge in Las Vegas on New Year's Eve 1963, this original take on a group of Las Vegas entertainers featured students sharing their talents through song, dance, and comedy.

Clark enjoyed collaborating with the students and faculty from other departments. "(Dance professor) Richard Havey did a great job as choreographer," he said. "All of the students performed incredibly well, which was very rewarding."

Visiting lecturer Tim Jones, a graduate of the University of Adelaide,

said of UNLV's presentations at the festival, "The students are integrally involved with the production from the initial ideas for the show, through costuming, stage design, adjustments in direction, and the rehearsal process, which gives them an appreciation of every aspect of mounting, advertising, and producing a show. The cultural experience and being immersed in an environment rich in the arts gives them perspective of what is going on in the world today."

Faculty members like Jones also

had an opportunity to perform. Jones and Alex Stopa, an Adelaide native and UNLV doctoral candidate, presented a percussion concert for those who could follow their musical journey from Adelaide to Las Vegas. They also interacted with local percussion students at a master class.

The college is able to provide the Adelaide experience for its students in part because of a donation from Las Vegas resident Mary Healey Hayes. Her career spanned six decades in vaudeville, radio, television, and film.

Another Take

Stories by **Grace Russell** | Marketing & PR

Each month, randomly selected UNLV employees will be profiled in Another Take, a section that lets you see another side of your colleagues.

Jason Kabo

Assistant Director of Strength and Conditioning, Athletics Department

Rebel since: 1999

Typical day: It depends on which team is in season. Right now, it's basketball. Throughout the day, the team comes in to lift weights, and I work with each player one-on-one. I also work with the soccer, swimming, and tennis teams. When one team is finished, I prepare for the next. If there's down time, I develop new training programs or I work out.

What does your personal workout consist of?: I try to do everything I make my athletes do. Typically, I work out for about 45 minutes. I start with five sets of bench presses. Other exercises include chest flies, lateral pull-downs, triceps push-downs, and a minimum of three sets of 50 abdominal crunches.

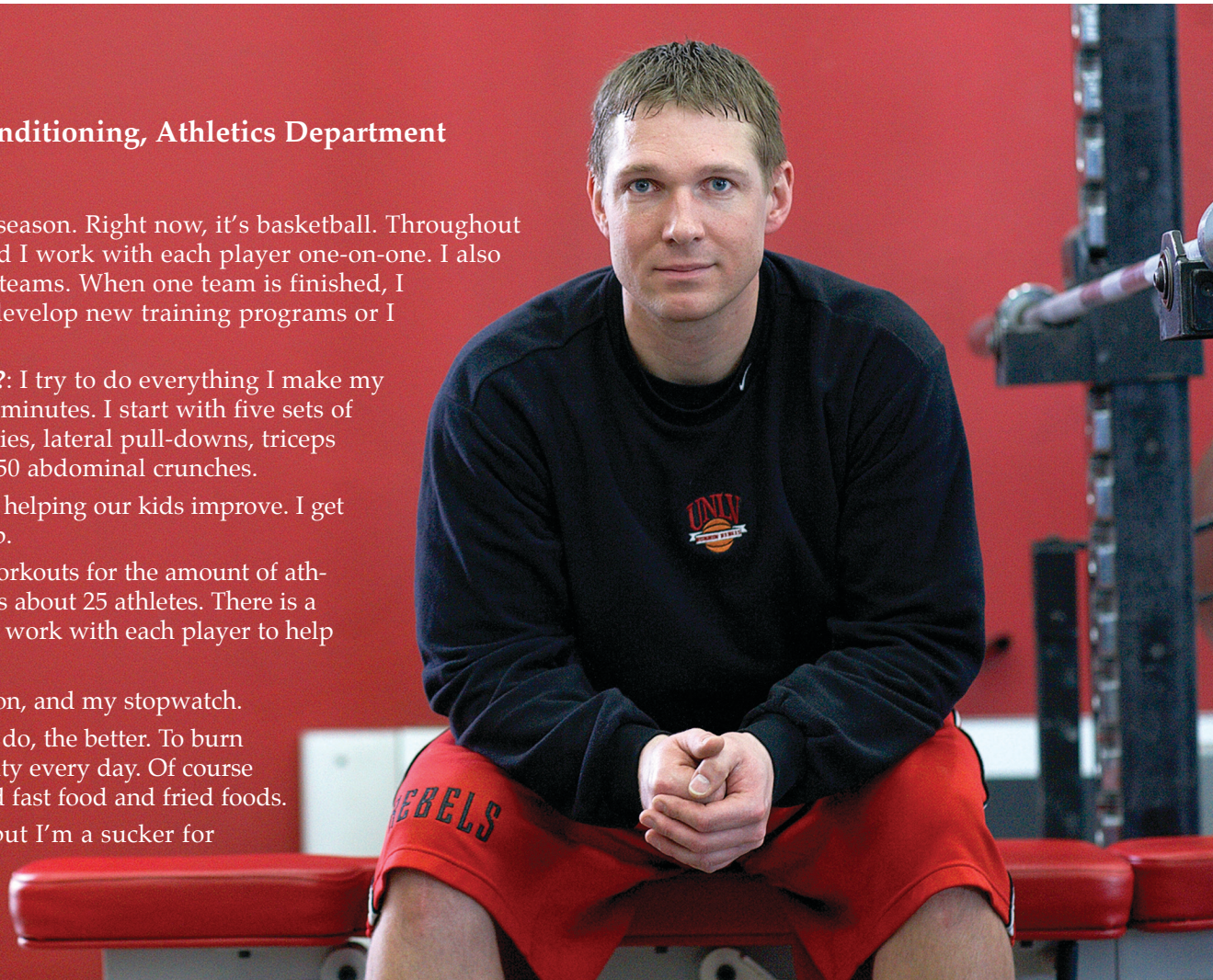
Why you do what you do: I love athletics and helping our kids improve. I get excited when an athlete's vertical jump goes up.

Biggest challenge: It's hard to individualize workouts for the amount of athletes we have. For example, the soccer team has about 25 athletes. There is a general workout for the entire team. But, I also work with each player to help each one meet individual goals.

Can't work without: An open mind, cooperation, and my stopwatch.

Tips for staying fit: Get active. The more you do, the better. To burn calories, engage in some kind of physical activity every day. Of course it also helps to maintain a healthy diet — avoid fast food and fried foods.

Weakness: I usually practice what I preach, but I'm a sucker for barbecued ribs.



David Veith

Turf Supervisor, Facilities Management Department

Rebel since: 1985

Typical day: My day starts at 6 a.m. and wraps up at around 2:30 p.m. to avoid the extremes of the day. Right now, we are fertilizing and aerating, which basically means punching holes in the ground to give it air, water, and nutrients. In a couple of weeks, we will start to mow the lawns and edge the grass.

Perfect day: A perfect day is when the grass is green, all our equipment works, and we get compliments on how nice the lawns look.

Why you do what you do: I care how this university looks. It's a great source of pride for our students, faculty, and staff. So, I want to make sure the campus looks nice for them.

Biggest challenges: Weeds and brown spots.

Can't work without: A lawn mower, an edger, and water.



Fall or spring?: Spring. There is a newness of life that the season brings. Everything turns from brown to green, and you can see the flowers and trees start to bloom.

People would be surprised to know: I enjoy playing video games. Right now I am really into Guitar Hero — I'm an old rocker at heart. I've been playing a lot of Deep Purple lately.

Amei Amei

Professor of Statistics, Mathematics Department

Rebel since: 2007

Typical day: My class is in the evening, so I use the day to prepare for it. This semester, I'm teaching biostatistics. After my class, I usually conduct research.

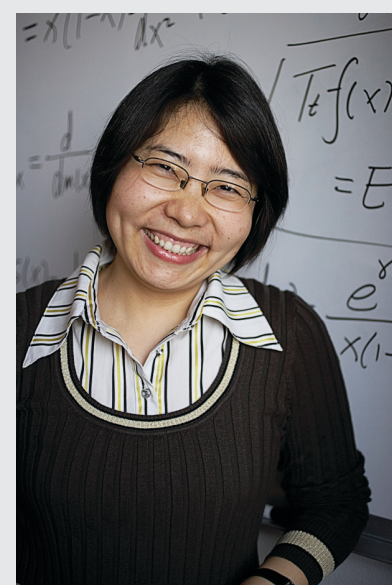
Why you do what you do: I want to show students the beauty of mathematics and statistics and how both can relate to their lives. By using statistics and applying it to biology, I hope one day I'll be able to detect cancer genes within humans.

Can't work without: A pencil, paper, and green tea.

Tips for getting over math phobia: One of my favorite movies is *A Beautiful Mind*. It shows that if you really want something, you have to be persistent. So, if you are determined to get over your fear, at least try it first.

Why the same first and last name?: I am from Inner Mongolia, China. As a Mongolian, your first name is your full name — it's a tradition. When I arrived in the U.S., one of the first things I did was open a bank account. But to do that, I had to give the bank a first and last name. I tried to use "A" as my first name and "Mei" as my last, but I couldn't use just an initial. So, I doubled my first name.

Any luck gambling?: I once played the slots while at McCarran Airport. I put in a quarter and won \$10. But as a probabilist, I don't gamble because I know the odds for winning aren't high.



(Right) English instructor Suzanne Bergfalk participates in "Yoga for Every Body," a class offered by the Division of Educational Outreach and taught by Jennifer McCarthy of the provost's office. (Below) Georgina Corbalan of the UNLV Foundation concentrates during the class.



Focused on Fitness

By Shane Bevell | Marketing & PR

Being fit is an important part of a well-balanced life. But getting a workout in during the hectic workweek can be tough. Some of your colleagues make it part of their daily, on-campus routine.

John Hobbes, a graphic artist in the office of reprographics/design services, joined the Student Recreation and Wellness Center for cardio exercise and weight lifting. His workouts will pay off when he goes on a 12-day, 57-mile hiking and camping trip with his 14-year-old son's Boy Scout troop this summer.

Other employees take advantage of the swimming pool, group fitness classes, and racquetball and basketball courts.

The Division of Educational Outreach offers employees a chance to take sports and fitness classes at a 50 percent discount. For the past five years, Jennifer McCarthy, director of academic and research space, has taught two yoga classes a week.

"Yoga helps people stay fit not only in our bodies, but also in the mind and spirit," said McCarthy, a registered yoga teacher. "People

gain strength and flexibility from the practice, but yoga also teaches us to be present, in the moment, and increase our focus and concentration. These are tools that can be taken off the mat and into our daily lives."

The "sneaker patrol," a lunchtime group of faculty and staff, will reassemble in the fall to walk a two-mile route at lunch every day. "We take different directions around the campus and wear pedometers so we know how far we've walked on the various treks," said member Susan Summers, budget technician in the English department.



(Above) John Hobbes, a graphic artist with reprographics/design services, works out at lunchtime every day at the Student Recreation and Wellness Center (SRWC). His routine includes stretching, sit-ups, push-ups, 30 minutes on the stair machine, and 10 minutes on the treadmill. (Left Top) From left to right, "sneaker patrol" members Michele Sanders and Carol Conder, English department; Tom LaBar, OIT; and Sylvia Blazo and Susan Summers, English department, walk around campus. (Left) Brian Schumacher, left, of the Environmental Protection Agency on campus and Shawn Gerstenberger, right, environmental and occupational health professor, play racquetball every day for an hour at the SRWC with Klaus Stetzenbach, director of the Harry Reid Center, and Marc Pitchford of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.