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Inside UNLV

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Purchasing Card Saves Time and Money, Improves Security

By Cate Weeks | Marketing & PR

Since the UNLV purchasing card (p-card) was introduced to campus two years ago, it has proven to be the safest, most efficient way to make purchases, according to Sharrie Mayden, director of purchasing. The program has a growing number of users—more than 560 currently—and is allowing UNLV to move into more modern business practices that have already been adopted by many other institutions, she said.

The most notable features include:

• Quicker transactions—Like LPOs, the p-card enables on-the-spot purchases. Reconciliation of p-cards is less time consuming compared to the required LPO paperwork processing.

• Safer transactions—The potential for misuse is much greater with LPOs, Mayden said. Individual p-cards offer fraud protection and dispute-resolution capabilities similar to those offered by most personal credit cards.

In addition to cost, the p-card’s benefits include:

• Safer transactions
• Quicker transactions
• Easier access
• Improved transaction tracking
• Improved data management

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New Website Helps You Get Your Bearings

By Shane Bevell | Marketing & PR

A new UNLV map website offers students, faculty, staff, and campus visitors an easy-to-use tool for finding their way around campus. It allows users to download and print maps, search interactive maps online, find building information, and get directions to campus.

The most notable features include the addition of maps for the Shadow Lane campus, a new two-dimensional parking and shuttle map, and information on each building on campus, including a list of the academic departments and administrative units located there.

Collaborative Effort

The website marks the second phase of a campuswide initiative that started in June 2004 with the formation of a campus maps task force. The task force brought together individuals from facilities, planning and construction, parking, reprographics/design services, marketing and public relations, and web communications.

In the past, the university had several campus maps that were created with older technology, often making them difficult to update and maintain. The task force consolidated the number of maps, updated the technology used to create them, and developed a comprehensive, easy-to-use map for students, visitors, and faculty and staff.

“With the growth of the university, the construction of new buildings, and the creation of additional campuses, the time was right to pull together a group of people from departments across campus to develop a new system for producing and updating maps,” said Ken Kelleher of the marketing and public relations office who chaired the task force.

“The system we developed will result not only in better maps, but also in a more efficient way to maintain and update those maps,” Kelleher said.

Phase One

The first phase of the project involved selecting a vendor to build new three-dimensional and two-dimensional color maps of both the main and Shadow Lane campuses. Having photographers from UNLV photo services take new aerial photos of both campuses also was part of this phase.

The second phase involved the creation of a new interactive, color, three-dimensional map with improved tools and the construction of a new website with information and photos for each building.

“The result of this effort is what we hope the entire campus and community will find to be a helpful website with features that make getting around campus a little easier,” said Barbara Childs, assistant director of web communications.

Third-phase plans include creating a guided video tour of UNLV.
Kadlubek Captures Hall of Fame Honors

UNLV athletic-academic adviser Vaune Kadlubek recently was inducted into the U.S. Water Polo Hall of Fame.

As the community of such a young campus, we at UNLV have — almost every day, it seems — the unique opportunity to be involved in many university “firsts.” Together we have shared and celebrated firsts in academic programming — from degree offerings to entire professional schools — as well as many firsts in technology, in building programs, and in research and community partnership.

The struggle for women’s water polo was for me.” She enrolled in the FINA World Championship, but never as well,” she said. “We had more than $300 million in commitments and a rising tide of momentum from both our campus and the larger Las Vegas community. I am thrilled to share with you that, with the great and international competition to show the world that water polo was for real,” she said. “To know that we were the teams that led our sport to the Olympics, it’s a great feeling.”

As pioneers we were always fighting for women’s water polo, not just here in America, Holland, Australia, and Canada as well,” she said. “We had world championships, but never as many as in Rome, where I was an assistant referee an international match.

Prior to the 1984 Olympics, Kadlubek was invited to become an original member of the U.S. women’s water polo team after graduating from high school in 1976. She enrolled at UNLV and continued playing; and international competition wasn’t always easy, she persevered.

“As pioneers we were always fighting for women’s water polo, not just here in America, Holland, Australia, and Canada as well,” she said. “We had world championships, but never as many as in Rome, where I was an assistant referee an international match.

Getting Recognition
People are noticing. Your achievements are building UNLV’s reputation within our community and region, as well as nationally. I had the opportunity recently to serve on a discussion panel with a dozen colleagues from institutions ranging from Colgate and Amherst to the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Washington. As we were quizzed by a prominent group of editors and writers from the national media, it was evident to everyone in the room that UNLV already is a standard-bearer for the new, Western metropolitan institution, which takes a central role in the development of our community, not only by providing a bright and talented workforce, but also by dedicating resources to addressing critical issues. Where many older, more insular institutions struggle to change with the needs of today’s students, we have the opportunity to innovate, with each of those “firsts” experienced together helping to set the stage for an exciting future.

Both the awareness and private dollars generated by the Invert the Future campaign will help us continue with our ambitious goals. Each of you contributes to the university’s advancement daily as you mentor students and talk with family members, friends, and neighbors about UNLV — and the entire campaign committee has formed with the objective of furthering those efforts. Please use this bright and energetic time to give and spark an interest in the international community to show the world what UNLV is about.

The aim of the campaign is truly to build your momentum — to enhance the teaching, research, and service you undertake by funding equipment and facilities, as well as development opportunities, special programs, and a host of other needs. As you know, many exciting programs and more of those “firsts” capturing attention on campus today have been made possible through private support. Significant private investment has helped the same president to get us there.”

The strategy is designed to strengthen community engagement with UNLV while raising private funds to enhance our institution at every level.

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Ratchet Up Your Retirement Plan

Two Options Help You Build a Bigger Nest Egg

By Diane Russell | Marketing & PR

Whether it’s approaching at an accelerating pace with the finish line finally in sight or it’s only a dot on your distant horizon, it’s never too soon — and almost never too late — to add to your retirement savings.

Employees already participate in mandatory retirement plans either through the university’s retirement plan alternative (RPA) for faculty and professional staff members or through the Nevada Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) for classified employees.

But, as everyone who reads or watches the news on a regular basis knows, with medical, prescription, and utility costs skyrocketing, those savings may not be sufficient to support the kind of retirement lifestyle many people would like to live.

That’s where supplemental retirement savings come in.

Two Types of Plans

UNLV offers employees two ways to supplement their retirement savings — a deferred compensation plan, also known as a 457 plan, and a tax-sheltered annuity plan, also called a 403b plan. Both are voluntary and require action on the part of the employee to implement.

And either could make a big difference to your future, according to Pat LaPutt, UNLV benefits manager.

“One major consideration is that the contributions employees make to these supplemental plans are done on a pre-tax basis, which means that rather than paying taxes on that portion of your income now, you will pay taxes when you withdraw the money,” she said. For many employees, that is a big plus because they won’t be withdrawing the money until after they retire — at which time their incomes, and therefore their tax brackets, are often lower, she pointed out.

Each year the IRS sets the contribution limits for these plans, LaPutt said. For 2006, employees can contribute as much as $15,000.

“But some employees, depending on their age, on how close they are to retirement, and on the number of years they have worked for the Nevada System of Higher Education may be able to contribute more than that under the “catch-up” provisions available for both 457 and 403b plans,” she said.

Of course, employee contributions to such plans do not need to be as substantial as $15,000 or more per year.

The key, she said, is to take a hard look at your retirement plans and your projected retirement income and determine whether they are in sync. For those who have waited to begin such savings, both types of plans provide catch-up provisions for employees over the age of 50 that allow them to set aside an additional $5,000 for 2006. These limits change yearly.

Choosing Between the Plans

In choosing between a 457 and a 403b plan, you may want to consider what your career plans are for the future, LaPutt said. Are you going to continue employment with a state or government entity, or are you going to continue in higher education? If your plans are to stay in higher education, then the 403b plan is a better choice since most other higher education institutions offer these type of plans, but not all can offer 457 plans.

Interested employees should make an appointment with one or more of the companies that offer the plans. Representatives frequently are on campus for individual consultation; watch the UNLV Information list for dates.

Worth discussing with company representatives are the requirements about how soon and under what circumstances you can withdraw money from a supplemental account and at what age you must begin withdrawing money from your account if you haven’t already begun to do so. And, the premature distribution penalties may be of interest.

Employees who may want to use the catch-up provisions, which take into account several variables, should discuss their situation with the company representatives, LaPutt said.

Beginning Contributions

To begin contributing to such a plan, an employee must fill out forms. For a 403b plan, the forms are a salary reduction agreement and an enrollment form. For a 457 plan, the forms are a deferral form and an enrollment form. Some, but not all, of these forms are available online. Or, if you call the human resources department at ext. 5-3504, the forms will be sent to you.

Which supplemental retirement plan, if any, an employee chooses to participate in depends on a personal decision, LaPutt said.

She has found a relatively painless way of making contributions to her own plan.

“Every time I get a raise, I fill out a new form and send that money straight into my retirement plan,” LaPutt said. “That way I never see the extra money in my paycheck and I don’t miss it.”

More Info: Call benefits manager Pat LaPutt at ext. 5-3958 or one of the benefits counselors at ext. 5-0414 or 5-0413.

Comparing UNLV’s Supplemental Retirement Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan Type</th>
<th>Deferred Compensation Plan, Available to government employees, including employees of public universities</th>
<th>Tax-Sheltered Annuity Plan, Available to select groups, including university employees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Who can use the plan?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax-Deferred?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments are Employee-Directed?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required Distribution</td>
<td>Must start drawing by age 70.5</td>
<td>Must start drawing by age 70.5. If you have multiple 403b accounts, you can choose to draw from just one or from multiple accounts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qualifying Events for Distribution</td>
<td>Separation from service • Retirement • Unforeseen emergency (i.e. unexpected illness) • Death of participant</td>
<td>Separation from service • Age 59.5, even if still employed • Permanent and total disability • Financial hardship (i.e. to purchase a primary residence) • Death of participant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premature Distribution Penalty</td>
<td>Premature distribution penalty may apply except to distributions due to an unforeseeable emergency.</td>
<td>Premature distribution penalty may apply if under age 59.5 at time of distribution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Monthly Contribution</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>$16,67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional Info:

To learn more about beginning a supplemental retirement plan, contact representatives of one or more of these vendors...

- Hartford 862-8096
- ING 562-5094
- AIG-Valic 796-0047
- Fidelity Investments 800-343-0860
- TIAA-CREF 800-842-2776

For more info, call benefits manager Pat LaPutt at ext. 5-3958 or one of the benefits counselors at ext. 5-0414 or 5-0413.

NAACP Leader Highlights MLK Event

Eric Guideng, president of UNLV’s chapter of Delta Chi, presents a plaque to Bruce S. Gordon, NAACP president and chief executive, left, who was also a member of Delta Chi. Gordon was the keynote speaker at UNLV’s second annual Martin Luther King Celebration on Jan. 19. In addition to staff and students, the event brought out community members both young and old.
Across Campus

Business
Southwest CEO to Speak
Gary Kelly, vice chairman and CEO of Southwest Airlines, will speak at the Wells Fargo Distinguished Speaker Series at 10 a.m. March 23 in the Beam Music Center Auditorium.

Kelly joined Southwest in 1986 as controller and was promoted to chief financial officer and vice president of finance in 1989. He became vice chairman and CEO in July 2004. Kelly received a BBA in accounting from the University of Texas at Austin and is a certified public accountant.

Kelly’s presentation is free and is open to all faculty, staff, and students.

The Wells Fargo Distinguished Speaker Series is a forum for dynamic national business leaders to share their knowledge and provide insight into current international and domestic issues.

Through this program, both students and faculty will be better equipped to integrate practical experience into their bases of business knowledge.

Education
Group to Aid English-Language Learners

Advancing the linguistic and academic achievement of English-language learners across campus is the purpose of a recently established college committee.

The English Language Acquisition Committee includes representatives of each of the college’s departments. To promote and support the collaboration, representatives from UNLV’s other colleges, the state Department of Education, and the Clark County School District are being sought.

The committee will initiate and support cross-departmental efforts related to research, grant writing, and course/program development involving English-language learners. The group will explore cultural and socioeconomic factors impacting second-language teaching and literacy, curriculum program initiatives, students with special needs, student and faculty attrition rates, family literacy, parental involvement, and workforce education.

Preliminary tasks include identifying English language services provided in the Las Vegas area, developing a brochure of courses offered by the college, addressing the needs of English-language learners, and developing a committee webpage.

Anyone interested in participating should contact Maria G. Ramirez at ext. 5-4027 or ramirez@unlv.nevada.edu.

Engineering
ISRI Wins Contractor Status with GSA

UNLV’s Information Science Research Institute (ISRI), an internationally recognized institute specializing in document conversion and information access research, recently received contractor status with the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA).

Tom Narker, director of the institute said, “For 15 years, ISRI research has focused on problems of ‘information access’ for the U.S. Department of Energy. ISRI’s new listing on the GSA information technology schedule will make it possible for us to apply this expertise to the information access problems of other government agencies.”

The GSA promotes increased access to its nationwide procurement opportunities. For example, businesses interested in contracts related to the rebuilding of the Gulf Coast can contact the GSA to learn about such opportunities and to find resources to assist them with the bidding process.

Energy Center Has Pulse on the Future

UNLV recently joined the elite ranks of a dozen universities worldwide that research pulsed power.

The EMITION Center (Energy Material Interaction Technology Initiative of Nevada), recently approved by the Board of Regents, will support the needs of government and private industry. The center was developed to conduct research with pulsed power electromagnetic phenomena (electrical, electromagnetic, and optical) and pulsed particle beams interacting with materials commonly used in the biological, medical and environmental fields.

Center director Robert Schill Jr. is pursuing research collaborations with the UNLV School of Nutrition Sciences, studying the sterilization of fruit juices; the Cancer Research Center, to see if cancer cells can be “turned-off” with pulsed power; and with the U.S. Department of Energy to analyze the effect pulsed power has on plastic material.

In addition, the center is pursuing a number of projects with the Desert Research Institute, as well as with colleagues in the College of Engineering.

Fine Arts
February Lineup Includes Classic and Cutting Edge

The Nevada Conservatory Theatre at UNLV presents Inherit the Wind Feb. 10-19 in the Judy Bayley Theatre. By Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee, the play is based on the Scopes “monkey” trial of 1925, and explores the monumental legal clash that resulted from pitting the teachings of Darwinist evolution against Christianity.

UNLV’s Performing Arts Center welcomes the Russian National Ballet for a special Valentine’s Day performance of Sleeping Beauty. The troupe returns to the PAC to perform Russian choreographer Marius Petipa’s masterpiece — a grand and amusing fairytale.

On Feb. 18 the PAC hosts the Alley II dance troupe featuring artistic director Sylvia Waters. This exceptional group merges the spirit and energy of the country’s best young dance talent with the vision of today’s most outstanding choreographers. Formed by dance master Alvin Ailey in 1974, the group showcases the most promising students from his junior company.

Making its first appearance at the PAC on Feb. 26 is the Pipes, Drums, and Highland Dancers of 1st Royal Black Watch & The Band of the Welsh Guards. A fully operational battalion in the modern British army, the Black Watch dates back almost 300 years. The Band of the Welsh Guards regularly performs for Buckingham Palace’s changing of the guard.

For ticket information, call ext. 5-2787.

Graduate
New Degrees, Certificates Approved

Several new graduate degree and certificate programs have been approved recently, including the master of education degree in early childhood education, as well as two advanced graduate certificates for family nurse practitioners and forensic social workers.

Additionally, a dual JD/MSW (juris doctorate and master of social work) will be offered to help meet the increasing need for social work professionals with legal expertise.

The total number of graduate and professional degree and certificate programs is now 118, including 34 doctoral programs.

“We are pleased to see growth in graduate degree and certificate program offerings,” said Paul Ferguson, vice president for research and graduate studies. “UNLV seeks to improve its standing in rankings such as the Carnegie classification system, comprehensive doctoral and professional degree program offerings become increasingly important.”

Ferguson added that the institution is enhancing its graduate program offerings selectively in disciplines of interest to targeted populations in the area. For instance, healthcare that executive and dual degree programs have been approved and continue to be developed to serve working professionals in Southern Nevada.

“The development of this distinctive blend of graduate programs is

Moving Mountains (of Paper)

Beginning next month, Mary Floresta’s cubicle in the controller’s office will no longer be brimming with printouts of accounting reports to be distributed to campus. Campus users can now access their account information — using the balance and activity report and the organization/grant summary report — through the Financial Data Warehouse, a user-friendly online tool.

The change provides account managers more up-to-date information and makes it easier to research account activity, track spending, and export information into Excel spreadsheets. The paper distribution, which was already two weeks out of date by the time it reached campus, required Floresta to sort 50,000 pages of three different reports into 500 inter-office envelopes. For more information on the change, contact Floresta at ext. 5-1160 or mary.floresta@unl.edu.
guiding interest in serving the region, state, and community. The Graduate College is committed to working with UNLV’s colleges and departments to develop excellent graduate-level degree and certificate programs that are well-suited to our area.”

Health Sciences
First Master of Public Health Degree Awarded
In December, UNLV awarded its first master of public health degree. Stacy Rapp was the first to graduate from the School of Public Health in December. Three faculty members recently joined the department: microbiologist Linda Steinberg, biostatistician Chad Cross, and anthropologist Michelle Chino.

The department of health care administration and policy was approved by the Board of Regents in June. Charles Mosely is the chair.

Hotel Industry Leaders to be Honored
The college’s annual Vallen Dinner of Distinction will honor industry leaders for their exceptional contributions to hospitality education.

Being honored are Richard Mirman, senior vice president of development of South Lake Tahoe’s Hotel Casino; Susan Schwartz, president of ConvExx; and Norman Brinker, founder of Outback & Ale, Chili’s, and other restaurant chains.

The dinner event will feature special guest Jerome Vallen, founding dean of the college, and his wife, Flossie. During his time as dean, the college graduated more than 2,400 students. To recognize Vallen’s dedication to the industry, the college is establishing an endowed professorship in his name. The professorship will make funds available to bring distinguished industry or educational leaders to the college.

The event will be held at the Mirage Hotel Casino on April 27 with Don Snyder, retired president of Boyd Gaming, as the master of ceremonies.

Tickets are $75 for members of the college’s Alumni Association, $85 for non-members and spouses, and $650 for tables of eight. For tickets, call Judy Nagai at ext. 5-2934.

Library
Pilot Program Started for Peer Research Coaches
A pilot program to address undergraduate student retention is being launched with the generous support of Libraries Advisory Board member Flora Mason and her husband, Stuart. The program will recruit students and train them to serve as frontline research coaches to their peers.

Professional literature shows that college students who work in libraries, especially assisting in classrooms or at reference desks, find their own research skills and academic performance are strengthened. The program will include mentoring by librarians. Like successful peer mentoring at other academic libraries, UNLV’s program can help address the retention issue by improving the research and interpersonal communication skills of the peer research coaches while also providing role models to other “at-risk” students.

The program will recruit and train at-risk, but motivated, first- and second-year students to serve as frontline research mentors to their peers. By focusing on bright, enthusiastic students who are considered to be at risk of not finishing their degree, it is hoped that the program will make a measurable impact on both the student mentors and their peers.

Detailed program planning is under way to recruit the first cohort of coaches for fall semester.

Two Departments Approved
Environmental and occupational health achieved departmental status in December. Three faculty members recently joined the department: microbiologist Linda Steinberg, biostatistician Chad Cross, and anthropologist Michelle Chino.

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Professional literature shows that college students who work in libraries, especially assisting in classrooms or at reference desks, find their own research skills and academic performance are strengthened. The program will include mentoring by librarians. Like successful peer mentoring at other academic libraries, UNLV’s program can help address the retention issue by improving the research and interpersonal communication skills of the peer research coaches while also providing role models to other “at-risk” students.

The program will recruit and train at-risk, but motivated, first- and second-year students to serve as frontline research mentors to their peers. By focusing on bright, enthusiastic students who are considered to be at risk of not finishing their degree, it is hoped that the program will make a measurable impact on both the student mentors and their peers.

Detailed program planning is under way to recruit the first cohort of coaches for fall semester.
**Spring Semester Brings Computer System Upgrades**

**By: Mannie Peers | OT**

A number of projects designed to improve technology on campus are underway or will be underway in the office of information technology.

### Lotus Notes

In March, the Lotus Notes e-mail and calendaring system will be upgraded. Among the new features that campus users have been requesting are color calendaring and instant messaging.

Users who access Lotus Notes from home will also see improvements. “The web version of Lotus Notes is also far better than what we currently offer,” said Cathy Stevens, manager of the Computing Resource Center. “It looks and functions in a way similar to the desktop version of Lotus Notes,” she said.

Faculty and staff will receive e-mail and paper notification when it’s time to upgrade. Simple instructions will be provided to lead people through the updating process, Stevens said.

### Computer Replacement

Also this semester OT is planning the distribution of new computers to many faculty and staff members in academic areas.

“The provost’s office has promised the academic areas a yearly sum of $50,000 to replace aging desktop machines,” said Lori Temple, vice provost of information technology. “We’re never going to get replenishable funds for technology replacement, and we want to use it wisely. We’ve been working with representatives from the academic area to develop a fair and efficient process by which to distribute new computers.”

### Web Accounts Switch

Faculty and staff web accounts now are handled by OT rather than by the web services section of the office of marketing and public relations.

Faculty and staff members wanting to create new web accounts should contact the Computing Resource Center at ext. 5-0777 or at crchelp@unlv.edu.

### Going Wireless

Wireless Internet access is expanding to the entire Lied Library. Currently, wireless capability is available only in the Book N' Bean Cafe and in the graduate study area. A recent survey revealed that computer access throughout the library is a top priority for campus wireless users.

David Peers, network operations center manager, said the goal is to have the project completed this month.

### Technology Upgrades

During winter break, six computer lab teaching facilities, five in the Classroom Building and one in Frank and Estella Beam Hall, were updated with state-of-the-art audio and video equipment.

“New gooseneck microphones and wall-mounted speakers were installed in each of the teaching labs. The only speakers used in the rooms before were the ones available on the projectors,” said Darrell Long, associate director of campus computing services. “We also installed a new control system that reduces the number of remotes needed in the room from three or four to none. In addition, 12 technology-enhanced classrooms were upgraded in Beam Hall and the McDermott Physical Education Complex. “We installed new multimedia projectors, combination VCR/DVD players, easy-to-use control systems, and audio equipment,” said A.J. Robinson, computing facilities development manager.

**Submit Your News**

E-mail entries to inside.unlv.edu. Items should be no more than 75 words.

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**Tech Savvy**

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**Spring Sports Promise Power Plays**

**Baseball**

Last Year: Under the direction of Buddy Gouldsmith, 2005 Mountain West Conference coach of the year, UNLV won an unprecedented third-consecutive MWC tournament title and advanced to the 2005 Tempe Regional of the NCAA Tournament.

What to Look for This Season: Will the Rebels bring home the MWC tournament title for the fourth consecutive year? With 16 players returning from last year’s championship squad, the team will once again be among the conference favorites.

Don’t-Miss Event: UNLV hosts the defending College World Series champions and preseason No. 1 Texas in a three-game series March 3-5 at Wilson Stadium.

**Men’s Golf**

Last Year: The 2005 NCAA west regional champions finished eighth at the national finals with national player of the year Byran Moore leading the way.

What to Look for This Season: With Moore now on the PGA Tour, the Rebels, who were ranked sixth in the nation as the fall 2005 season ended, will look to senior Andres Gonzales to lead the charge to the team’s 16th NCAA Finals appearance in an 18-year span.

Don’t-Miss Event: Besides the NCAA Championship, the Southern Highlands Collegiate Championship features the best field in college golf. It will take place March 10-12 at Southern Highlands Golf Club.

**Women’s Golf**

Last Year: UNLV won its second-straight Mountain West Conference Championship, led by 2005 league player of the year Elena Kurokawa.

What to Look for This Season: More of the same, as the Rebels return Kurokawa and three other regulars from last season’s title squad.

Don’t-Miss Event: The second annual UNLV Spring Invite is March 13-15 at Black Mountain Country Club in Henderson and will feature 17 teams from across the country.

**Softball**

Last Year: The Rebels put up the third-most wins (44) in school history en route to the program’s eighth appearance in the NCAA Tournament and were led by an All-America performance by freshman Marissa Nichols, who helped rewrite the record book in nearly every offensive category.

What to Look for This Season: The Rebels return 11 players, five of whom earned recognition for their play. Three players were named to the All-West Region team of the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (Caitlyn Paus, Brittany Meade, and Nichols) and a fourth (Maggie Liveri) joined them on the All-Mountain West Conference team.

Don’t-Miss Events: The Rebels host three tournaments in the first full month of play: The Alexis Resort Kick-Off Classic (Feb. 9-12), the Louisville Slugger Desert Classic (Feb. 16-19) and the UNLV Invitational (March 2-5). Additionally, UNLV will host Missouri in a three-game series and the five MWC squads in double-headers.

**Women’s Tennis**

Last Year: Senior Henner Nehles was voted conference MVP as he led UNLV to its most victories since 1997 (16-8 overall), including a first-ever victory against a top-10 team in a 4-3 stunner over Oklahoma State.

What to Look for This Season: Super sophomore Elena Gantcheva’s second straight record-breaking fall performance has her ranked in the nation’s top 10 heading into spring.

Don’t-Miss Events: Top league rivals BYU (March 24) and San Diego State (March 26) come to town during same weekend.

**Track and Field**

Last Year: UNLV sixth at the MWC Indoor Championships and fifth at the outdoor championships and was led by senior Christine Spence, who would go on to earn All-America honors in the indoor high jump, outdoor high jump, and 400-meter hurdles.

What to Look for This Season: This season will be a rebuilding year for the Rebels, led by head coach Barbara Ferrell-Edmonson, who will be working with a young squad.

Don’t-Miss Event: The UNLV Invite is April 1 at the Myron Partridge Stadium and Sheila Tarr-Smith Field.

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> P-Card

Continued from Page 1

- **More flexibility** — Departments can customize their cards with individual single-transactions limits (typically $2,000). Cards can be set up to limit the number of transactions allowed per day, the total amount authorized to be spent per month, and the types of goods that can be purchased.

- **Improved vendor relations** — When using a p-card, vendors are paid immediately. “If one department doesn’t process their LPO paperwork in a timely manner, it can affect vendor relations with the entire campus. That’s not a problem with the p-card,” Mayden said.

- **Easier tracking of purchases** — As with online banking, departments can view up-to-date reports on p-card spending. LPOs, on the other hand, could take weeks to post to a department’s account.

By the end of this calendar year, the p-card will be used for small-dollar purchases instead of the LPO. In the next few weeks detailed information regarding the phasing out of LPOs will be issued to campus.

Purchasing also expects to introduce computer automation to the requisitioning process later this year. “Departments will be able to input their requirements electronically and then track the status of the requisition from initial input, through the approval process, to the issuance of a purchase order.”

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**Getting Your P-Card**

Apply now for a p-card. It typically takes a month after the application is submitted for individuals to receive their cards.

To get yours:

1. Download and complete the p-card application from www.unlv.edu/depts/purchasing/pcard.
2. Get your application signed by the person with signature authority over your accounts. In addition, the paperwork must be signed by your vice president or dean/director.
3. Submit paperwork to the p-card coordinator in Campus Services Building.
4. Attend a two-hour training session and pick up your card.

More info: Contact Tony Calleja in purchasing at ext. 4-2273 or visit www.unlv.edu/depts/purchasing/pcard.
Another Op’nin’, Another Show

Backstage at Nevada Conservatory Theatre

By Diane Russell | Marketing & PR

For every hour a play is performed onstage, dozens of hours are spent in preparation. Sets must be constructed. Lines must be learned. Lighting must be designed. And when the play is a musical there are songs to rehearse and dances to practice.

For UNLV theatre students, the dozen or so plays produced by Nevada Conservatory Theatre (NCT) each year present wonderful opportunities to get experience in their chosen professions. They work on the productions — often as part of their coursework — under the expert guidance of the theatre faculty.

When the seldom-performed musical Carnival! was staged in December, students and faculty worked and rehearsed up until the last minute under the guidance of the show’s director, NCT artistic director Robert Brewer, to get things just right for opening night. The NCT is headed by Charles O’Connor.

Now they are hard at work on the next NCT production, the Scopes “monkey” trial play, Inherit the Wind. Written by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee, the play is based on that famous 1925 trial and explores the monumental legal clash that resulted from pitting the teachings of Darwinist evolution against Christianity.

Professor Robert Benedetti is directing the play, which will star equity actors G. W. Bailey as attorney Henry Drummond (the character based on Clarence Darrow) and Steve Vinovich as attorney Matthew Brady (the William Jennings Bryan character). The show runs Feb. 10-19. For tickets, call ext. 5-2787.

(Above) Robert Brewer, artistic director of Nevada Conservatory Theatre and director of Carnival!, talks with an actress from the production. (Left) Katrina HerHelder, head of the costume shop, puts finishing touches on a hat.

Conductor Kyle Norris (right) discusses the score with trumpet player Dan Johnson.

(Above) Vance McKenzie works the lighting board. (Top right) Student Melody Melendez paints part of the set.