

FOR UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

# Northern

SPRING 2006

V I S I O N

*Former news anchor Tamara Banks '82 is now the neighborhood liaison for the City of Denver.*

## Mile High Success

**Northern Colorado alumni  
are making their mark**

**MUSIC THEATER STUDENTS IN THE BIG APPLE | COLORADO ICON W.D. FARR**





# WELCOME

## TO THE BIG SKY CONFERENCE

Join the University of Northern Colorado Bears  
in NCAA Division I Athletics

For season tickets call 970-351-4TIX or visit [www.uncbears.com](http://www.uncbears.com)





# Northern

V I S I O N

Vol. 3 No. 2

SPRING 2006

## FEATURES

### 12 Mile-High Success

Northern Colorado alumni make their mark in the mile-high city.

### 16 New York State of Mind

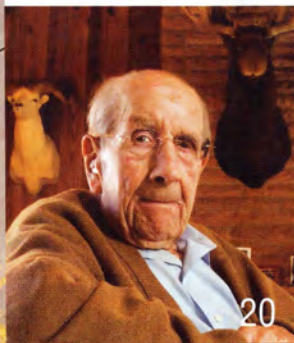
Music theater students travel to the Big Apple with dreams of making it big.  
*Plus: Alumna Illuminates Las Vegas*

### 20 A Colorado Icon

At 95, W.D. Farr speaks on history, the university and the future of Greeley.



12



20



5



16



10



9

## DEPARTMENTS

- 4 Letters
- 5 Northern News
- 9 Faculty Focus
- 10 Bear Sports
- 23 Volunteering and Philanthropy
- 24 Alumni Connections
- 25 Class Notes
- 31 Calendar of Events

ON THE COVER:  
Photo by Adam Welch



### UNIVERSITY of NORTHERN COLORADO



#### EDITOR

Danyel Barnard

#### ALUMNI/CLASS NOTES EDITOR

Margie Meyer

#### COPY EDITOR

Janis Rizzuto

#### CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Nate Haas '04, Anne Cumming Rice, Dan England,  
Jennifer Starbuck

#### CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Adam Welch, Krisanne Johnson, Kevin Moloney,  
Eric Stenbakken

#### DESIGNER

Aggie Kelley

#### UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

Kay Norton

#### FOUNDATION PRESIDENT

Kevin Bean (Interim)

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

Michael Johnson

#### EDITORIAL OFFICE

Judy Farr Alumni and Development Center  
1620 Reservoir Road  
Campus Box 20  
Greeley, CO 80639

#### PHONE

970.351.2551

800.332.1862

#### EMAIL

northernvision@unco.edu

#### FAX

970.351.1835

#### NUMBERS TO KNOW

(area code 970)

Admissions 351.2881

Alumni Relations 351.2551

Athletic Ticket Office 351.4TTX (4849)

Financial Aid 351.2502

Registrar 351.2231

Switchboard 351.1890

Visitor's Center 351.2097

*Northern Vision* magazine is published three times a year by the University of Northern Colorado and the University of Northern Colorado Foundation. The views presented are not necessarily those of the editors or the official policies of the university. All material ©2006 by the University of Northern Colorado and individual photographers.

For change of address, email

northernvision@unco.edu or call 970.351.2551

or 800.332.1862. POSTMASTER: Please send address change to  
*Northern Vision*, Campus Box 20, Greeley, CO 80639.



University of  
NORTHERN  
COLORADO  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
& FOUNDATION, INC.



## Reflections on Glen Murphy

I recently picked up the winter 2006 edition of *Northern Vision*. The minute I saw it, something clicked in my mind. I jumped back 65 years and said to myself, "I know that fellow on the cover!" It was Glen Murphy, who I had not seen since 1942. Although I did not know Glen well, we were in some of the same classes and activities. The story set my mind to reminiscing about life and time in Greeley and at Colorado State College of Education, as it was then named. Thanks for the memories.

—Sylvester Moorhead (BA-42)

Oxford, Miss.

I enjoyed the article about Glen Murphy so very much! I knew Glen in college, but had lost track of him. Now I'll track him down because I have kept in touch with several members of our graduating class of '42. I am sure he would be interested in hearing about them.

—Dorothy Forman (BA-42)

Macomb, Ill.

## In Memory Omission

I noticed in the "In Memory" section of the winter edition of *Northern Vision* that Roger Alan Albert (BS-74) was omitted. I was surprised at the omission, since Roger was a fixture in Greeley for more than 30 years, and his restaurant, Fat Albert's, was frequented by many Greeley residents and Northern Colorado alumni over the years. Roger was also one of the founding fathers of "ALKA-HALL," a house on 11<sup>th</sup> Ave. (now a university parking lot) that created significant social development for some UNC youth in those days. Yes, we all graduated and have achieved success through those experiences in Greeley during the early 1970s.

—Lloyd M. Rinehart, PhD

(BS-76, MA-78)

Knoxville, Tenn.

**We'd love to hear from you. Send letters to [northernvision@unco.edu](mailto:northernvision@unco.edu) or *Northern Vision*, University of Northern Colorado, Campus Box 20, Greeley, CO 80639.**



# northern

N E W S



Joe Alexander, dean of the Monfort College of Business, Kay Norton, university president, and U.S. Secretary of Commerce Carlos Gutierrez gathered in Denver at a luncheon to honor the Monfort College as a recipient of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award.

## Secretary of Commerce Honors The Monfort College of Business

United States Secretary of Commerce Carlos Gutierrez made a special appearance this past January at a luncheon sponsored by the university to honor the Monfort College of Business. Gutierrez addressed a crowd of nearly 500 in downtown Denver, highlighting the accomplishments of the Monfort College, the first and only college of business to receive the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award. The Baldrige Award, administered by the Department of Commerce, is considered the nation's highest for performance excellence.

The secretary also discussed the strength of the U.S. economy, saying that America's economy is growing faster than any other in the world and attributed part of that success to institutions such as the University of Northern Colorado. "The

Monfort College is a great example of preparing young people to succeed," Gutierrez said. University President Kay Norton, U.S. Sen. Wayne Allard and Gov. Bill Owens were also on hand to address the crowd.

Gutierrez immigrated to the United States from Cuba with his family as a boy, became a U.S. citizen and got his first job driving a delivery truck for the Kellogg Co. Fifteen years later, Gutierrez was named CEO and chairman of the board of Kellogg, and he became the 35th commerce secretary in November 2004. As Secretary of Commerce, he focuses on promoting American business at home and abroad and oversees a diverse cabinet agency of approximately 38,000 workers and a \$6.5 billion budget.

## Gift Supports Center for Urban Education

The Center for Urban Education received a grant of \$100,000 from the Daniels Fund to help sustain students with tuition support, a mentorship program and extracurricular seminars.

The mission of the Center for Urban Education is to strengthen student achievement through better teacher preparation and to recruit into the teaching profession individuals who might otherwise not realize their potential and their ability to make a difference in the lives of young people.

Of the first two classes graduating from the center, more than 90 percent are employed in education and are already making their mark in area schools. The Daniels Fund has played a crucial role in supporting Center for Urban Education students since its inception, providing more than \$280,000 in scholarship support since 2001.

Other sources of support for the center include Donnell-Kay Foundation, the Helen K. & Arthur E. Johnson Foundation, the Gates Family Foundation and the Rose Community Foundation. For more information on supporting the center, contact Irv Moskowitz, director of the Center for Urban Education, at [irv.moskowitz@unco.edu](mailto:irv.moskowitz@unco.edu) or 303.365.7631.





Eric Stenbakken

Student scores on this year's nationally administered exit exam for undergraduate business schools were the highest ever by Monfort graduates.

## Monfort Students in Top 5 Percent Nationwide

With the spring scores in, graduating seniors at the Monfort College of Business are now performing in the top 5 percent in the country on a nationally administered exit exam. The top 5 percent is the highest scoring band possible on the exam and marks the highest-ever performance for the college.

The exam is produced by the Educational Testing Service of Princeton, N.J., and is taken by nearly 110,000 students at 513 university undergraduate business programs nationwide. It is designed to test graduating student understanding of accounting, finance, quantitative business analysis, management, marketing, legal/social environment, international business and economics. "I continue to be very impressed with student performance and the dedicated professors who give their all to teach our students," said Dean Joe Alexander. "While the bar has been set high, over the years our facul-

ty and students have proven that they are equal to the challenge. Top 5 percent performance is proof of that."

## University Names New Assistant Vice President for Undergraduate Studies

The university has named Thomas A. Smith assistant vice president for Undergraduate Studies. Effective July 1, Smith will oversee Undergraduate Core Curriculum, Academic Support and Advising, Academic Enrichment, Dean of Students, and Career Services. Smith will also coordinate academic enrichment and support services for minority, first-generation and international students.

Smith is currently associate provost and interim vice president for Student Affairs at Loyola University in New Orleans. He has served on the Loyola faculty since 1988 and teaches undergraduate courses on early Christianity, heresy and world religions; and graduate courses on early Christianity and classical Christian thinkers. Smith holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Washington, a master's from Regent College and a doctorate from Notre Dame.



Thomas Smith comes to Northern Colorado from Loyola University in New Orleans.

In addition to a high institutional score, individual performance was strong. More than 25 percent of the 247 Monfort seniors who took the exam scored in the top 10 percent and more than 80 percent scored at or above the national average. There were also six students who recorded near perfect scores on the exam.

The Monfort College offers the only program of its kind in the Rocky Mountain region, focusing exclusively on undergraduate business education with international accreditation in business administration and accounting. Other respected business schools nationwide that have administered the exam include the U.S. Air Force Academy, Denver University, Colorado State University, University of Wyoming, Georgia State University, Howard University, Drexel University, Rutgers University, Texas A&M University, University of Nebraska, Washington State University and Xavier University.



## University Joins National Campaign to Promote Higher Ed

Even though the University of Northern Colorado won't officially join the ranks of NCAA Division I athletics until this fall, it's already been part of March Madness. When the NCAA men's and women's Division I basketball championships began airing in March on CBS and ESPN, so did three public service announcements about the value of higher education. The ads are part of the "Solutions for Our Future" national campaign launched by the American Council on Education. Northern Colorado is one of more than 400 colleges and universities working with the campaign to demonstrate the value of higher education. "The campaign messages resonate with recent discussions in Colorado higher education," said President Kay Norton. "Colleges and universities produce the bedrock of our society. We help build the strong, diverse human infrastructure our state and nation need to remain competitive," Norton said. "The value of higher education is evident in the success stories of our alumni, students, faculty and staff." Most colleges and universities, including Northern Colorado, are not providing funding.

### Science Institute

The 48th Annual Frontiers of Science Institute (FSI) will be held on campus June 12-July 21. FSI is a six-week program designed to boost scientific aspiration and achievement levels of Colorado's rising high school juniors and seniors. The program immerses students in an exciting, hands-on science curriculum. Scholarships to attend FSI are available through the university. For information, contact Lori Purdy at [lori.purdy@unco.edu](mailto:lori.purdy@unco.edu) or 970.351.2976.



The university is working to establish the National Center for Nursing Education, which will offer graduate-level academic programs in nursing education.

## UNC Hosts Public Hearing on Nursing Educator Shortage

U.S. Reps. Marilyn Musgrave and Jon Porter invited the public to a House Subcommittee on Select Education field hearing this past fall at the University of Northern Colorado to address the shortage of nursing educators.

Musgrave and Porter believe Colorado's collaborative approach to correcting the state's nursing shortage may provide a national model. Central to Colorado's approach is the nonprofit Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence, which creates partnerships among universities, community colleges and health care organizations to develop and support the state's nursing workforce.

The hearing focused on how a shortage of nursing faculty in higher education contributes to the national nursing shortage and how the number of qualified nursing

instructors has not kept pace with nurse education programs that are expanding to address the shortage.

The hearing featured testimony from experts including Sue Carparelli, president and CEO, Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence; Elise Lowe-Vaughn, operations director, Colorado Department of Labor Workforce Development Programs; and Lynn Dierker, RN, director for community initiatives, Colorado Health Institute.

University President Kay Norton also spoke about how the university is working to establish the National Center for Nursing Education, which will offer graduate-level academic programs in nursing education and professional development opportunities for nurse educators.



## The Rosenberry Writers' Conference Hosts Award-Winning Authors

The University of Northern Colorado Rosenberry Writers' Conference, themed "A Present Language: The Literature of History," hosted five award-winning authors this past winter, including Connie Willis, Bill Tremblay, Kathleen Cambor, Yusef Komunyakaa and Avi, an author of books for young adults.

Now in its fifth year, the conference is named in honor of the late philanthropist and English teacher Walter Rosenberry, who generously supported the conference and nonprofit organizations throughout Colorado. Conference events included a reading and book signing with each author, readings by winners of the third annual campuswide student literary contest, several midday presentations and late-night writers' workshops.

Each of the 2006 conference authors unites literature and history. "So much of

literature is embedded in history," says Mark Leichliter, a principal conference organizer and English professor who teaches fiction and essay writing. "Even writers who aren't making a direct connection to historical events are, in some way, answering their predecessors." For example, Cambor's novel *In Sunlight, In a Beautiful Garden* interweaves the lives of real and fictional characters to tell the story of the Johnstown Flood of 1889.

The Rosenberry Writers' Conference connects readers with writers and fosters collaboration among academic disciplines. It draws a broad audience from across campus and the community, and gives students and faculty opportunities for classroom conversations with featured writers.

More information about the conference and featured writers can be found at [www.unco.edu/writersconference](http://www.unco.edu/writersconference).



Second-year music theater major McKayla Marso performs "There's No Business Like Show Business," choreographed by assistant professor John Leonard, during the 2006 Gala Benefit.

## book marks



### Faculty and Alumni Books of Note

*Antisemitism and Its Opponents in Modern Poland*

Edited by Robert Blobaum (BA-74)

From the Middle Ages until World War II, Poland was host to Europe's largest and most vibrant Jewish population. By 1970, the combination of Nazi genocide, postwar pogroms, mass emigration, and communist repression had virtually destroyed Poland's Jewish community. Although the Poles themselves were subjected to enormous cruelties in the 20th century, questions about the extent of their antisemitism and its role in the fate of Polish Jewry are today hotly disputed. *Antisemitism and Its Opponents in Modern Poland* serves as an effective guide to some of the most complex and controversial issues of Poland's troubled past. Fourteen original essays by a team of distinguished Polish and American scholars explore the different meanings, forms of expression, content, and social range of antisemitism in modern Poland from the late 19th century to the present. Published by Cornell University Press.

*Blobaum is the Eberly Family Professor of History at West Virginia University.*



## Play Hard, Teach Hard

The director of the Jazz Studies Program finds success as a teacher and musician.

BY DAN ENGLAND

As a child, Dana Landry, director of the University of Northern Colorado's Jazz Studies Program, played out fantasies to ease the boredom of waiting for his grandma while she worked as the church secretary. First he played the piano for a while and then he stood at a blackboard and pretended to teach class. He didn't know it at the time, but he was acting out his future.

Now Landry is a jazz pianist and a devoted teacher—and he's pretty talented at both.

Recently, Landry's first solo album, *Journey Home*, featuring legendary jazz vibraphonist Gary Burton, made the top 20 in national jazz airplay. It also garnered a Grammy nomination for best instrumental composition. And in his fourth year at Northern Colorado, Landry is working hard to uphold the university's perennial mark as one of the top five jazz programs in the country. Northern Colorado recently snagged top national honors from *Downbeat* magazine, including "Outstanding Performance for Jazz Combo I" in 2004 and "Best Big Band" in 2005.

Landry's father is a jazz drummer, and his parents started him with piano lessons when he was 7. Landry first considered music as a career in the ninth grade, when his sister recommended him as the

piano player for her high school's musical production of *The Fantasticks*. The director was skeptical about whether such a young player could tackle the complicated parts—until he heard Landry play.

### Landry's Jazz Influences

- Oscar Peterson: Hearing *Oscar's Choice* made Landry realize he wanted to play jazz.
- Bill Evans: Evans played with just about every jazz legend out there. He played on Miles Davis' landmark album *Kind of Blue*.
- James Williams: An alumnus of Art Blakely and the Jazz Messengers, Williams was a good friend and mentor to Landry while he was attending Berklee.



Dana Landry's album, *Journey Home*, made the top 20 in national jazz airplay.

Still, Landry wasn't sure he wanted to play jazz. "I liked jazz a lot, but I also thought it was older people's music," Landry says. "It wasn't hip enough at the time. I liked Steeley Dan." He changed his mind after hearing pianist Oscar Peterson in

a recording of "Give Me the Simple Life." Peterson was playing by himself, yet there was so much to it, "as if he was an orchestra making the music sweep across the keys," Landry says.

Landry went on to Berklee College of Music in Boston for his bachelor's degree, fell in love with the program and decided he wanted to teach as well. He then got his master's degree at Northern Colorado. "I still feel

that I'm a player who teaches," Landry says. "But I love working with students and seeing how much growth there can be. It's very rewarding."

Despite his success as a pianist, Landry won't give up teaching. He points to Burton, who played on *Journey Home*. Burton just retired a couple years ago as a longtime instructor at Berklee. Burton took teaching seriously and Landry does, too. He loves to play, but he also loves conducting the top vocal and jazz ensembles at Northern Colorado. He is a piano player and a teacher, and though it's no fantasy, sometimes it seems too good to be true. "This is a career where you play music and you talk about it, and you learn from the students as well as your colleagues," Landry says. "It's the best place to be."

Dan England covers entertainment and acts as outdoors editor for the Greeley Tribune.

Darin McGregor of the Greeley Tribune



# S P O R T S bear

## Big Sky Face-Lift

Student-supported updates to athletic facilities are set to begin.

BY NATE HAAS '04

An ambitious \$16.1 million plan approved and funded by Northern Colorado students will dramatically change the landscape of the university's sports facilities by this fall.

Construction will begin in mid-May. Upon completion, the university will boast one of the state's premier soccer complexes, a true arena atmosphere for basketball and volleyball teams at a renovated Butler-Hancock Sports Pavilion, additional practice fields for varsity, club and intramural sports teams, and another gym at the Campus Recreation Center. It's the largest single investment in sports and recreation upgrades since the Campus Recreation Center was built for \$8.7 million in 1996. Students voted in April 2005 to increase their student fees by about \$88 a semester to fund the project. Here's an overview of the sports facilities project, much of which will be finished in time for the Bears' inaugural season in the Big Sky Conference:

### JACKSON FIELD

The project will transform the former football field into one of the premier soccer grounds in the state and Big Sky. Two lighted natural turf fields, one for competition and one for practice, will be home to the women's soccer team. The complex will include updated bleachers, concessions, restrooms and a large fieldhouse with designated rooms for sports medicine and team meetings. Northern Colorado's marching band will use the area for prac-

tice and intramural and club sports teams will use the facilities for competition and practice. It's anticipated that community soccer tournaments will also be held here.

About Jackson Field: The stadium was built in 1927. Locker rooms were added in 1976, the last time the area was renovated.

Cost/Timeline: \$4.2 million. Planned completion date is Aug. 16. The fieldhouse will be finished Oct. 1.

### BUTLER-HANCOCK

Amenities will be added with the spectator in mind. Renovations include arena-style seating for 2,800 with chair-back seats, a new sound system and ticket offices, and updated restrooms and concession stand. The court will be framed by new sections of seating on each of the arena's ends.

About Butler-Hancock: There have been few changes to the building since it opened in 1972. The last renovation came in 2002, when an addition to the wrestling room and storage space were constructed.

Cost/Timeline: \$2.4 million. Planned completion date is Aug. 16.

### BUTLER-HANCOCK FIELDS

Four natural turf fields will be renovated and two artificial turf fields will be added to meet the demands of intramural, club sports and intercollegiate athletics. All six will be lighted, and bleachers and restrooms will be added. Additionally, the softball complex will receive lights and the tennis courts will be upgraded. Six courts will be replaced with



An architect's renderings of a new facade for Butler-Hancock Sports Pavilion (above) and a new fieldhouse at Jackson Field (right).

post-tension concrete.

About the area: The fields are situated southwest of Butler-Hancock.

Cost/Timeline: \$4 million. Planned completion date is Aug. 16.

### CAMPUS RECREATION CENTER

A National Collegiate Athletics Association regulation court will be added to the Campus Recreation Center to provide a practice court for basketball and volleyball and to alleviate crowding at the center's existing gyms. Restrooms, storage space and air conditioning will also be added.

About the center: Opened in 1996. Supported by student fees.

Cost/Timeline: \$2.2 million. Planned completion date is July 2007.

*Nate Haas (MS-04) works in the university's Office of Communications and Media Relations.*



## Big Sky Update



Northern Colorado's foray into the Big Sky Conference begins in July when the Bears officially become a member. Beside the renovations to facilities, the biggest changes to the program involve the Big Sky's required additions of men's cross country and men's and women's indoor track. The additions bring the university's sports offerings to 19, second only to Sacramento State's 20. The affiliation with the Big Sky provides stability for Northern Colorado's intercollegiate athletics, including consistency in scheduling, leading to the development of rivalries and a slice of the conference's revenue pie distributed by the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

### OTHER NOTABLE CHANGES INCLUDE:

- Due to Northern Colorado's reclassification to Division I, Bears teams must forgo postseason play for one more year as part of a mandatory NCAA requirement. Volleyball and wrestling teams, however, have been granted an exemption by the governing body of intercollegiate sports that clears the way for these two teams to compete in the postseason beginning this fall. All other sports will be eligible for conference championships and bids in national tournaments beginning in fall 2007.
- Five sports will not be part of the Big Sky since the conference doesn't sponsor softball, swimming and diving, men's golf, wrestling and baseball. The university is currently seeking conference affiliations for these sports.
- Northern Colorado Athletics must offer 63 football scholarships as mandated by the Big Sky by 2008. This fall, 57 will be offered, up from 44 last season. —N.H.

*For more information, visit [www.uncbears.com](http://www.uncbears.com).*



## Smith Adds World Title to Résumé

Former Northern Colorado player, Aaron Smith reached the pinnacle in professional football in his seventh NFL season.

The All-Pro defensive end, who still holds Northern Colorado's team record for sacks, helped lead the Pittsburgh Steelers on a storybook journey through the playoffs capped by a historical Super Bowl XL win over the Seattle Seahawks. The Steelers became the first No. 6 seed to advance to and win the world championship. "It seemed unreal to me," Smith says of the title following the game. "I wasn't sure if I should laugh or cry."

It marked the second straight year a former Northern Colorado student-athlete appeared in the Super Bowl. Dirk Johnson,

Smith's teammate on Northern Colorado's back-to-back Division II national championship teams (1996 and 1997), was the starting punter for the Philadelphia Eagles in their loss to the New England Patriots in Super Bowl XXXIX. Smith, 30, joins fellow defensive lineman Dave Stalls as the only other former Northern Colorado player to win a Super Bowl. Stalls won championships with Dallas (1978) and Oakland (1984). "That's quite a group to be in," Smith says. Smith, who recorded three tackles against the Seahawks, was drafted by the Steelers in the fourth round in 1999. —N.H.



Aaron Smith celebrates with his daughter, Ellaina, after the Pittsburgh Steelers defeated the Seattle Seahawks 21-10 in Super Bowl XL.

Pittsburgh Steelers / Mike Fabus



# Mile High Success

Northern Colorado alumni are making their mark—and

living up to the university's mission of preparing leaders for today and tomorrow.

BY JENNIFER STARBUCK  
PHOTOS BY ADAM WELCH

**C**olorado was built by people who realized the great potential this area held. Throughout the history of this state, there were abundant opportunities for success in business, communications and in creating communities where people cared for their neighbors. Such opportunities still exist today, and the University of Northern Colorado is preparing leaders in their fields who seize the moment, effect change and make a difference. Here are just a few of the successful alumni who are leading the way.

## April Zesbaugh (BA-92)

Co-host and News Anchor,  
850 KOA's morning news

**After spending most of your workday on** the airwaves, it's not that easy to turn off your radio voice. Sometimes, April Zesbaugh's husband or friends gently remind her to tune up an octave or two for conversation mode. "It's so much a part of me," Zesbaugh says of her familiar voice that airs as co-host and news anchor on 850 KOA's Colorado Morning News show.

Zesbaugh, who graduated in 1992 with a degree in journalism and English, has been with KOA for 10 years. She started out mostly reading the morning news, but her role has

blossomed into co-hosting a live show. With the live format, content changes at a moment's notice when news happens, interviews fall or come through, or even when technical problems arise. "I wake up every day and it's different," she says.

Zesbaugh interviews diverse newsmakers in politics, sports and entertainment. It's all business when she hears she's going to talk to people such as Dick Cheney, Rush Limbaugh, John Elway, and South Park creators Matt Stone and Trey Parker, among others. But sometimes, after



April Zesbaugh

the interview, she has time to gush. "Oh my gosh, I just got off the phone with Peter Jennings," she says, recalling an interview with her journalistic hero.

Zesbaugh says she has the university to thank for success in both her professional and personal life. She got her start on the airwaves with an internship at 91.5 KUNC public radio. And she met

her husband during her freshman year in a sociology class. Throughout her 10 years at KOA, Zesbaugh has covered big stories, such as the first anniversary of the Sept. 11





Stan Koniz

bombing from New York. And she also reports her own feature stories on local people that air during the show. That diversity in coverage keeps her job fresh every day—and that keeps her happy. “How did I get so lucky?” she says.

## Stan Koniz (BS-81)

Deputy Manager of Aviation for Business and Technology,  
Denver International Airport

**Perhaps the most inspiring part of the** workday for Stan Koniz is early morning when he drives east on Peña Boulevard and catches sunlight glistening on the white

tips of the distinctive Denver International Airport. “It’s beautiful,” says Koniz, the deputy manager of aviation for business and technology at the 11-year-old airport.

Koniz, who graduated from Northern Colorado in 1981 with an accounting degree, couldn’t have imagined his far-reaching role at the sprawling complex during 14 years as financial manager for Public Service of Colorado and a stint as market development manager for Cyprus Amax Coal Co.

The airport brings in annual revenue of \$650 million, with the biggest moneymaker being leasing space to airlines and concessionaires. But being situated on 53 square miles enables the airport to lease

land for other ventures, including oil and gas exploration with 50 oil wells, farming of 16,000 acres and a residential subdivision. And Koniz oversees it all. Not bad for a certified public accountant who simply answered an advertisement in a newspaper for DIA’s finance director in 1999. “If you dwell on it, it becomes overwhelming,” Koniz says of his role at the world’s 10th biggest airport.

Koniz was promoted to his current position in February 2005. He manages a workforce of about 300 people and says the biggest change is that he serves more as a policy maker and spokesman than a point person for a specific function. “You realize you can’t do anything by yourself





Tamara Banks

anymore," Koniz says. "You have to manage everything through someone else." With United Airlines emerging from bankruptcy, and most other airlines struggling to survive in a post-Sept. 11 world, Koniz says the future of any one airline may be bleak, but the airline industry will remain strong. "People are always going to be flying," he says, "and they are going to need airports to get connected."

## Tamara Banks (BA-82)

Neighborhood Liaison for the City of Denver

A large poster of Frederick Douglass hangs on the wall above Tamara Banks' computer in her office, just a few doors down from Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper in the Denver City/County Building. After 13 years as a WB2 News anchor and reporter, Banks says the Civil War-era abolitionist and journalist continues to inspire after her career change almost a year ago to neighborhood liaison for the mayor.

Banks is one of two neighborhood policy advisers whose job is twofold: Represent and inform the mayor and then help residents work out their issues in areas such as crime and safety, graffiti, development, traffic, and even immigration. Banks says a

few people have commented about how different her career in broadcast journalism and her mayoral appointment must be. But really, she says, they both focus on solving problems and getting residents involved.

"It's about civic engagement and how can you as a neighbor step up and be part of the solution," she says. "What's exciting is this administration is not government as usual. It is run more as an efficient business with a lot of accountability and a lot of response."

Her new job also relies heavily on communication. On a typical day, Banks says, she'll answer dozens of phone calls and emails and attend several meetings. Banks says her past visible journalism career may make minority residents feel more comfortable calling her, an African-American, even if she can only refer them to another official for help. On those busy days when Banks wonders what she got herself into, she just looks up and thinks of Douglass. "If he can free himself from slavery and become one of the best communicators in history," she says, "then I can do this."

## Timothy Padilla (BS-82)

Senior Vice President,  
Wells Fargo Bank

**Timothy Padilla's not afraid to be a pitchman** for Wells Fargo—after all, he says, he is in sales. He can easily tick off national accolades: *Fortune* magazine's No. 1 "most admired" bank in the nation; No. 1 Small Business Administration lender; Moody's Corp.'s only AAA-rated bank in the country. "If you're not in banking, you might not get as excited as I do," says Padilla, who is Wells Fargo's senior vice president and business banking sales manager for the Denver metro area. "But I've been in banking for the past 24 years, and if you're in banking, this is the place to be."

Padilla got into the industry because he was good at math. But Wells Fargo's innovations in areas such as online banking products, commercial lending and treasury management have kept him enthusiastic about the industry. "Banking seems a little mundane, but our financial products are not just about the old loan lines and deposits," he says. After graduating with a finance degree in 1982, Padilla worked for the



Timothy Padilla

Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. during a U.S. economic nightmare of savings and loan failures, an oil and gas bust and small-farm foreclosures. It was a bad time for the U.S. economy, but a good time to learn the banking industry, he says.

During his five years at the FDIC, he was a nomad, living in places such as Dallas and





Sandy Rufenacht

Chicago and flying every week to take care of different bank failures and foreclosures.

"Outside of the nuts and bolts, it taught me how to deal with people, all kinds of people, from the farmer in Iowa to the oil and gas executive in Dallas," he says. "It really taught me how to listen." He's quick to say that the university gave him the foundation for his career, but no matter where you go to school, it's all what you do with your education. "I think for a small-town boy out of Pueblo, Colorado," he says, "I didn't do too bad."

## Sandy Rufenacht (BS-87)

CEO, Three Peaks Capital Management

**The yellow prairie of western Nebraska** seems to have little in common with the purple peaks along the Front Range, but Sandy Rufenacht sees similarities every day.

Rufenacht, CEO of Three Peaks Capital Management in Denver, worked in his dad's Ford dealership growing up in Imperial, Neb. "He made me and my brother think we were in business together," Rufenacht says. He was just a kid working Saturdays and summers, but his entrepreneurial fire was lit in his dad's shop.

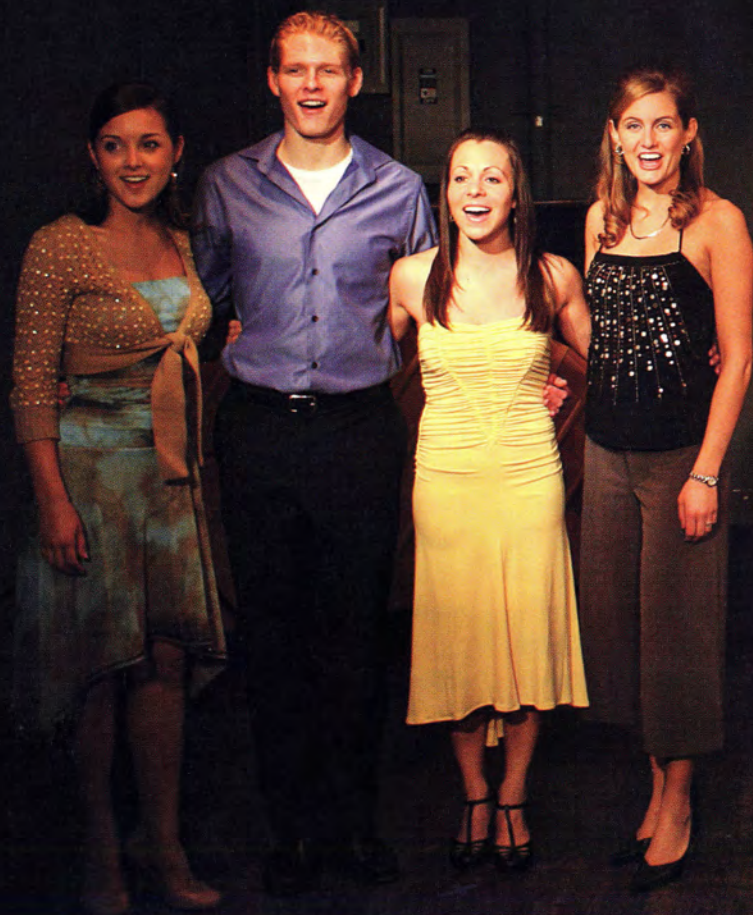
In 2003, Rufenacht founded Three Peaks, a money management firm with more than \$300 million under management. Previously, he worked for 14 years at Janus where he had become one of the top-ranked high-yield fund managers in the country. Rufenacht says he had some help from mentors like Tom Marsico, who managed the Janus Twenty Fund, and Jim Craig, who was the chief investment officer. Rufenacht was the 42nd person hired by Janus in 1990, and he wants to model his own firm after what he says was a golden time for the company. "Be small and recognize you're supposed to be managing money, not people," he says of the key to Janus' initial success.

Because his life was enriched by mentors, Rufenacht is now working to make his own contribution. He sits on the Monfort College Dean's Leadership Council and a council for the University of Colorado School of Medicine. He is also establishing an internship for University of Northern Colorado students and tries to make contact with them frequently. Rufenacht says Northern Colorado graduates typically are ready to work, which may have something to do with the no-nonsense business school and middle-class parents, like his own, who just want their children to get good jobs after school. "I know lots of graduates from Yale, Harvard, Stanford who took time off to 'find themselves,'" he says. "I don't see that at UNC."

Jennifer Starbuck is a freelance writer who lives in Denver.



# New York State





# of Mind

Photos by Krisanne Johnson

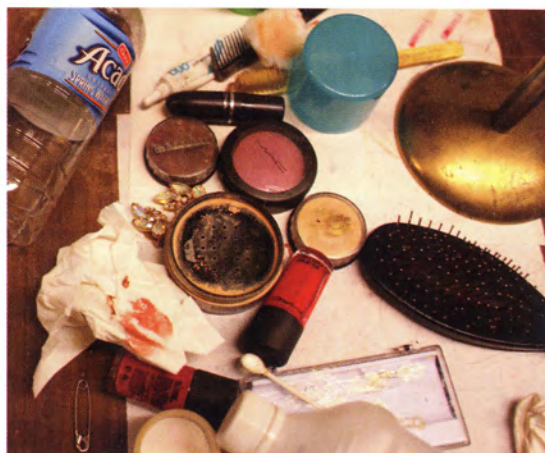
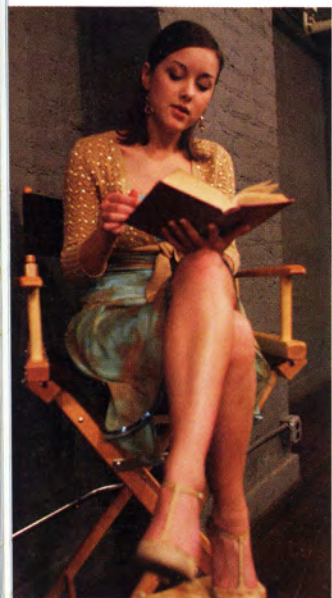
**Musical theater students  
travel to the Big Apple to  
perform, woo agents and get  
a taste of life off Broadway.**



**W**alking down the bustling streets of New York City, there is no doubt that these students are a long way from Greeley. But unlike the tourists who meander slowly through Times Square, entranced by their surroundings, these students walk with purpose, matching the intense pace of the Manhattanites. These seniors in the University of Northern Colorado prestigious Music Theater Program have come to the city to begin their quest to make it big. For two days and nights, they will perform a showcase for agents, casting directors, and representatives from major TV networks in hopes of being discovered. Here, in images, is the story of their experience. ►

From left are the students in this year's Senior Showcase in New York City: Kasey Christel, Aaron Young, Rachel Rosenberg, Kelly Knight, Laura Parrish, Beth Trollman, Colin Harrington, Emily Van Fleet, Sara Rosenberg, Katie Riffe, Brianna Shewbert, Michael Holmes and Natalie Sachse. The showcase is directed by Vance Fulkerson, director of the Music Theater Program.





Clockwise from top left: Kasey Christel reviews her lines backstage at the Studio Theater, part of Theater Row on 42nd Street; tools of the trade; Aaron Young center stage during one of the three performances attended by more than 25 agents and casting directors; Brianna Shewbert warms up with music director and accompanist Michael Ruckles; students greet alumni after the show; Natalie Sachse touches up her makeup; students "coming in for call" at the theater.

*At press time, the students had received more than 35 calls from agents and casting directors representing productions such as The Producers, Cats and Hairspray.*





# ILLUMINATING Las Vegas

**A Northern Colorado alumna takes the stage in the latest block-buster to hit Vegas.**

**F**rom Rat-Pack haven to family-friendly destination to “what happens here, stays here,” Las Vegas is a metropolis that thrives on reinventing itself. In its latest incarnation, nightclubs are being transformed into state-of-the-art theater venues to make room for world-renowned theater artists. When Andrew Lloyd Webber (*Cats*, *Evita*) and the 20-time Tony Award-winning director Harold Prince set up shop, you know a town is legit.

This June, one of the most successful theatrical endeavors of all time, Webber's *Phantom of the Opera*, directed by Prince, joins an array of hit shows to up Vegas' ante as a true theater town. That's where Elena Batman (MM-87) comes in, cast as the show's lead soprano, Carlotta. Prior to this grand opportunity, Batman's experience includes eight years in New York on Broadway's *Phantom* and appearances at City Opera and the Ravinia Festival with Maestro James Levine.

Now the longest-running show in Broadway history, *Phantom of the Opera* has played to more than 100 million people in 22 countries. But no matter how breathtaking the design, how phenomenal the new \$30 million venue at The Venetian, *Phantom* cannot soar without a world-class cast.

Currently, Batman is completing the doctoral program at Northwestern University in Chicago, where she lives with her husband and their 3-year-old daughter, Alyssa. Pursuing a PhD is an unusual choice for someone at the top of her performing career, but Batman considers performance and education to be of equal importance. At Northern



Elena Batman (MM-87)

Colorado she earned her teaching degree concurrently with a master's degree in music. Batman explains. “On Broadway, you learn how to sing when sick and to make your body work eight shows a week. That's valuable, but in school, you learn to be a true singer. You can improve technique without worrying about giving a performance. And I want to learn how to teach so I can pass on what I've learned.”

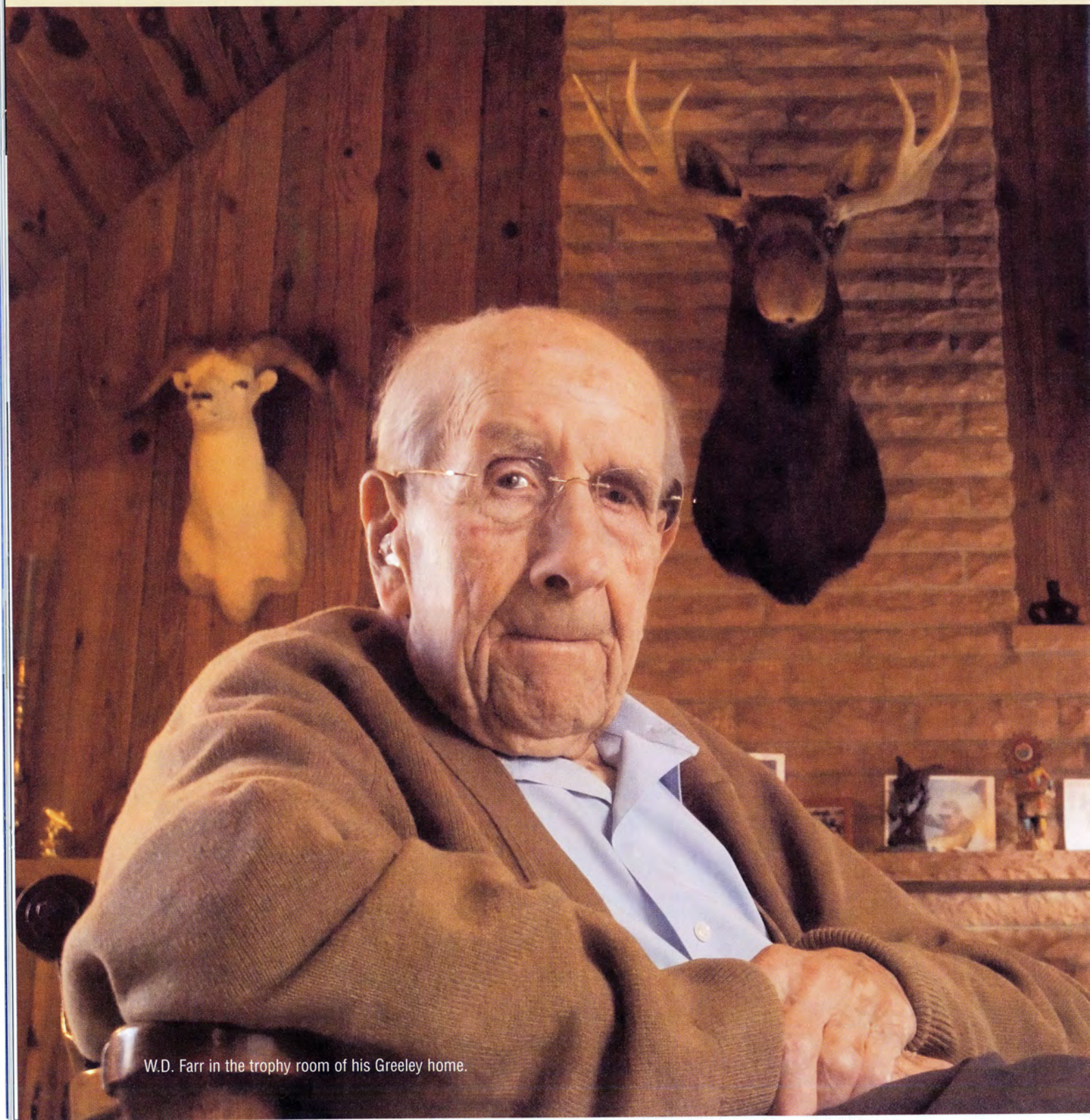
Clearly Batman values higher education and enjoys the relative calm of family life in Chicago, so the question stands: What do you do when the gods of theater summon you to the new musical mecca? Batman doesn't bat an eye. “To be part of an original cast is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. You don't know if you'll get that chance again no matter how good you are.” She adds, “And Vegas is the new hot thing in live theater.” Her decision to uproot her steady life is softened by the fact that the role of Carlotta has been double-cast and the new production has a running time of only 90 minutes. Brevity is vital in a town where theatrical extravaganzas must fit between five-course gourmet meals and at least a few hours of obligatory games of chance.

As Batman packs her bags, enrolls her daughter in preschool, and prepares for the temporary challenges of a commuter marriage, you can hear her alter ego, super-diva Carlotta, lilting: “Andiamo. Tutti...Bye-bye, dancing girls...See you later, because I'm going now.” The curtain closes on Chicago and opens to a twinkling strip of lights somewhere in the middle of a pitch-black desert.

—Erika Higgins Ross



# A COLORADO



W.D. Farr in the trophy room of his Greeley home.



# ICON

**At 95, W.D. Farr speaks on history, education and the future of Greeley.**

## INTERVIEW BY DANYEL BARNARD

**V**isionary William Daven Farr is a legendary businessman, cattleman and family man. A true pioneer, Farr was instrumental in securing water rights for Northern Colorado, and in formulating the method for year-round cattle feeding. A longtime supporter of the University of Northern Colorado, Farr received an honorary doctorate in 1988. At 95, Farr shares his perspective on the water, the university and the community.

### **Northern Vision: How have things changed over the years?**

*Farr:* I've lived in Greeley all my life, so I've seen a lot of changes. When I was a boy there were just gravel streets with wagons and horses. The railway was extremely important because it was the only way to move things—there were no highways. At that time, the university gym was a narrow wooden building on 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. and 18<sup>th</sup> St. Now Greeley is getting to be a small city.

### **NV: What role has the university played in this development?**

*Farr:* The university has always brought a variety of people to the area. It used to host a summer school for teachers from all over the country, so we had a lot of educated people in town at that time of year, and this influenced the community a great deal.

Now there are 12,000 students in the mix, with people from all around the world to some extent. The university has grown so much, and I've had a chance to know a lot of people who helped build the institution. I am a believer in the university and feel that it's on the right track for the future. There is good leadership in place and it will continue to have a positive influence on the community.

### **NV: What are the future challenges for this community?**

*Farr:* That is a difficult question because the world is changing at such a rapid pace, and just how this will affect the university and Greeley is yet to be seen. One thing that's sure is that more people will come. This is a desirable place to live with the sunshine and the mountains and all the outdoor activities. Like California, we will continue to take agricultural land out of production to use it for people.

Another challenge for the area will be dealing with bilingual education in the school system. If this is not addressed it could hold the community back.

### **NV: What's happening with water rights?**

*Farr:* Colorado has one of the oldest water rights laws in the U.S. Our laws are different from other states—tougher. In Greeley, we've got more water than we need today, but this might not be the case in 10 years.

We are still buying water rights, but they are much more expensive than they used to be. Our costs are still in the lower third of the state, so this area is favored because of that fact. I think that this will be a huge advantage for Greeley in the future...but I was chairman of the Water Board for 40 years, so I am probably biased.

### **NV: What are you involved in today?**

*Farr:* Two things still take a lot of my time these days—water and cattle. I always realized that water was a finite resource and now this has been proven, so I follow it closely. I am director emeritus of the Northern Colorado Conservancy and I like to know what's going on.

Cattle have been a part of my life since

I was young. When I was 17, I worked as a cowpuncher on the western slope in the summers. There were just two of us and 1,000 cattle. I started working for my father's lamb-feeding business in 1929, and later we got into the cattle-feeding business. I also joined the National Cattlemen's Beef Association in 1938 and was its president from 1970-71.

I've spent a lot of my life with cattle and they are very dear to my heart. The cattle industry is a complicated business, and it's been highly entertaining to see it grow and change.

### **NV: What do you like most about living in Greeley?**

*Farr:* I built my house near campus on 14<sup>th</sup> Ave. in 1937 and I've really enjoyed life in Greeley. Its roots and the people who live here are what make Greeley special. I have good friends and partners here, as well as two of my sons, the oldest and the youngest.

I have a deep, sincere love for the area—partly because I poured a lot of time and energy into its growth.

### **NV: What are your hopes for the future of this community?**

*Farr:* We will always be a fine city and the university will keep growing because education is more and more important every day. Ultimately the university will save Greeley because it is gathering stature all the time.

People need to take ownership in the community again. I really hope we can get back to the spirit of working together, the spirit that built Greeley, to make this community all that it can be. 



# THE LEGACY OF JUDY FARR

**In more than 64 years of marriage, W.D. Farr says he learned one important** thing about his wife, Judy Farr: She was, and still is, the most unique woman he ever met. Together, W.D. and Judy traveled the world, from China and Russia to Europe and Africa. They hunted elk, fished for trout and raised four successful boys. Judy never willingly missed a Broncos football game—she and W.D. held some of the original season tickets. An avid gardener, Judy enjoyed an extensive rose collection and was admired for her bountiful tomato crops.

It was that adventurous spirit and a love for her alma mater that spurred Judy to become the first president of the University of Northern Colorado Foundation. W.D. recalls that his wife, along with other university and community leaders, decided in the mid-1960s that it was time for the university to have a foundation to seek private support to supplement state funds. “Judy pushed it,” W.D. says. “The university meant so much to her and she wanted it to be a bigger and better place.”

Starting in 1966, Judy served as the first president of the foundation, a position she held for a decade. She saw the foundation through some tumultuous times, from the meager beginnings, through financial crisis, to the hiring of the first foundation director in 1974. Although there were many growing pains, Judy was a consistent and committed leader. “After a while, when she thought she’d done all she could, she decided it was time for someone else to take over and some new ideas to come in,” W.D. recalls. “But the foundation was always tremendously important to her.”

W.D. admits that the university holds a special place in his heart for another reason: it was where he first met

Judy on a blind date when she was a student living in Tobey-Kendel Hall. “She was a freshman, and a friend of mine went to UNC and said I should meet her,” W.D. says. “I remember picking her up, watching her come down the stairs, and then getting lectured by the house mother about proper date conduct.”

Judy received a teaching certificate from Northern Colorado in 1933 and an honorary doctorate in 1988. Although Judy died in 1997 after a long battle with Alzheimer’s disease, the Farr family has continued to be one of the university’s greatest supporters. Another great honor came when the foundation board agreed to name its building near the intersection of 20<sup>th</sup> St. and 17<sup>th</sup> Ave. after Judy. The new Judy Farr Alumni and Development Center is now a welcoming on-campus home for alumni and friends, honoring the past as the university moves energetically into the future. —Theresa Myers



Eric Stenbakken





From left are Linda Carbajal, Cumbres director; Karla Carmona, Cumbres administrative assistant and student; Laura Lara, graduate assistant and second-year doctoral student; and Jerry Martinez, graduate assistant and first-year graduate student.

### Cumbres Program Update

The Cumbres program at the University of Northern Colorado prepares Hispanic and bilingual students to become role models and leaders in the educational community. The program started the 2005-06 school year with a total of 45 new freshmen and transfer students, bringing the number of students served by the Cumbres program to 169. In total, Cumbres has graduated more than 100 bilingual and ESL graduates who are now working in communities across Colorado and the nation. The program was also featured in the magazine *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education* this past October.

For information about supporting Cumbres, contact program director Linda Carbajal at [Linda.carbajal@unco.edu](mailto:Linda.carbajal@unco.edu) or 970.351.2410.

### Supporting Student Research

The College of Natural and Health Sciences hosted its first-ever Student Research Celebration this spring. Alumni and friends gathered for a reception and dinner at the University Center to honor

exceptional undergraduate and graduate student researchers and noteworthy faculty research mentors. Proceeds from the event will go to the College of Natural and Health Sciences' Student Research Fund, which supports research in the areas of Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Earth Sciences, Human Sciences, Mathematical Sciences, Nursing, Physics, and Sport and Exercise Science.

For more information on the Student Research Fund, contact Ben Barnhart, associate director of development for the College of Natural and Health Sciences, at [ben.barnhart@unco.edu](mailto:ben.barnhart@unco.edu) or 970.351.4339.

### Call for Volunteers

Supporting your alma mater doesn't always involve a financial investment. You can give back by volunteering your time and talents as well. It's as simple as assisting at an alumni event or a college fair in your area.

Volunteering is fun and can help you reconnect with old friends or make new ones. Your support can really make a difference in the life of the university. Call the Alumni Association for more information or to let us know that we can count on you to help with student recruitment, a football tailgate, the alumni summer reunion or Homecoming Weekend.

### Leave a Lasting Legacy

Thanks exclusively to generous private contributions, the University of Northern Colorado Foundation and Alumni Association have a permanent home at the Judy Farr Alumni and Development Center. To raise the balance of the funds needed to pay for the renovations, supporters of the university now have an opportunity to help "set in stone" the final vision for the center. For a designated contribution, a limited number of engraved stone tiles will be made available exclusively to alumni and friends. The stone tiles, prominently displayed on the Alumni Terrace of the center, signify a commitment to supporting the University of Northern Colorado.

If you would like to leave a legacy, honor someone special, or create a memorial through a tile on the Alumni Terrace, please contact the Alumni Association at 800.332.1862, 970.351.2551 or [alumni@unco.edu](mailto:alumni@unco.edu).

### Fraiser Society

The Fraiser Society was created to acknowledge individuals who have made planned gifts to the University of Northern Colorado. The society is named in honor of one of the university's longest serving presidents, George W. Fraiser, who exemplified the commitment to excellence

in education that remains the hallmark of the University of Northern Colorado. Becoming a member of the Fraiser Society is as simple as including the university in your estate or trust planning. For more information, contact Kevin Bean, vice president for development, at [kevin.bean@unco.edu](mailto:kevin.bean@unco.edu) or 970.351.1380.



## Join the Bear Alumni Stampede!

Join the stampede back to the Northern Colorado campus for the first-ever "Bear Alumni Stampede—A Summer Reunion Bash" in Greeley on July 3-4. Come back to reminisce about your college days, reconnect with old friends and revel at the world-famous Greeley Stampede.

Festivities include a BBQ, live music, golf, rodeos and fireworks! Accommodations will be available in campus residence halls or at local hotels offering Bear Pride Partner discounts. And don't miss breakfast with the Alumni Association or the Greeley Stampede Independence Day Parade. Contact the Alumni Association at [alumni@unco.edu](mailto:alumni@unco.edu) or 970.351.2551 for more information or to register for the inaugural Bear Alumni Stampede.

## Homecoming 2006 October 13-14

Come back to campus this fall for Bears Football and a "Vegas" themed Homecoming Weekend. As part of the celebration, representatives from the Class of '56 have eagerly accepted the challenge from the Class of '55 to return to Greeley for their 50-Year Reunion—a fun and exciting event complete with campus tour, reception, luncheon and induction into the 50-Year Society. Save the dates of Oct. 13-14 to reunite, reminisce and create lasting new memories at this year's Homecoming.

## Student Alumni Association News

Sponsored by the Alumni Association, the Student Alumni Association (SAA) is a new student organization to get students involved, bring them together and cultivate Bear spirit. In its first year, SAA hosted tailgate parties, ice cream socials and a ski trip, and contributed to the community through philanthropic events, such as disaster relief fundraisers and Habitat for Humanity work.

For more information, contact Allie Steg (BA-03), assistant director of the Alumni Association and the SAA advisor, at [allie.steg@unco.edu](mailto:allie.steg@unco.edu) or 970.351.1638.



From left are Mike Johnson, executive director of the Alumni Association; Joe Glenn, head football coach at Wyoming and former Northern Colorado coach who led the Bears during the National Championship years of 1996 and 1997; and Tom Beck, quarterback for the 1996 National Championship team.

## Honored Alumni Awards

Each year the Alumni Association honors an exclusive group of individuals whose achievements and professional successes are a credit to their education and the university. Selected by the Alumni Association Board of Directors, we are proud to announce the 2006 Honored Alumni award recipients, who will be recognized and honored during Homecoming Weekend.

Rodger W. Bybee '66, '69  
Kenneth P. Cook '80, '84  
Steve R. Forness '63, '64  
Miles M. Ishigaki '78  
Cheryl DeConde Johnson '76, '82  
David A. Newton '64  
Gerald Shadwick

Distinguished Alumni Award  
Distinguished Alumni Service Award  
Distinguished Educator Award  
Creative Achievement Award  
Trailblazer Award  
Distinguished Alumni Award  
Honorary Alumni Award

*Mark your calendars now to attend the Honored Alumni banquet and awards presentation on Friday evening, Oct. 13, 2006.*

## Bear Pride Partners Membership Discounts

Take advantage of great benefits and discounts by becoming a member of your Alumni Association. A gift of only \$40 (individual) or \$60 (couple) helps support the university and qualifies you for substantial discounts at some locations of these local Bear Pride Partners.

### RESTAURANTS

Armadillo  
Jackson's All American Sports Grill  
Margie's Java Joint  
Orange Julius  
Rio Grande Mexican Restaurant  
Silver Mine Subs  
Sugar Shack  
Union Colony Dinner Theatre

Coldstone Creamery  
Palomino Mexican Restaurant  
Salvador Deli

### LODGING

Best Western Regency  
Country Inn and Suites  
Days Inn  
Greeley Guest House  
Sleep Inn

Sod Buster Inn Bed and Breakfast  
Super 8

### MERCHANDISE

All Season's Pro Golf Shop  
Barnes & Noble College Bookstore  
Bear Images Hair Care  
Bear Logic  
Brass Heart and Key Clothing  
Dragon's Cache

GoJo Sports  
Greeley Golf Store  
Gypsy Treasureville  
Lehrer's Flowers  
Lolly's Hallmark Gift Shop  
Mariposa Plants and Flowers  
The Book Stop

### SERVICES

Aileen Grayce, Massage Therapist  
Greeley Computer Services  
Greeley Mini Storage  
Lawrence Nelson Photography  
One-Hour Photo Express  
Phil's Auto Services  
The Car Spa  
The Move Center

Visit [www.uncalumni.org](http://www.uncalumni.org) to learn more about the value of membership and how your business can benefit by becoming a Bear Pride Partner.



# NOTES class



Christopher Tomlinson, The Daily Sentinel

Tilman "Tillie" Bishop (BA-55, MA-56), Grand Junction, now serves as Mesa County commissioner after 28 years as a Colorado State lawmaker. The Tilman Bishop State Wildlife Area near Palisade was named by the Colorado Division of Wildlife in honor of Tillie's long career in public service.

## 1920-1929

**Elizabeth (Hammer) Benatti** (LC-26), Kit Carson, celebrated her 100th birthday in March. She taught school in Colorado for 35 years and also served as superintendent of schools in Park County. She continues to gather and sort information for a family history book she is writing.

## 1930-1939

**Melissa (Larsen) Trezise** (LC-31, BA-55), Eagle, is Eagle's oldest resident and served as the grand marshal of the Flight Days Parade in 2005. Since retiring from teaching in 1976, she enjoys making quilts and helping others with quilting projects.

**Laura (Forsberg) Swanson** (AB-37), Craig, has accumulated more than 5,000 hours of volunteer service at Memorial Hospital. Her 28 years of volunteering in the hospital's laundry room and gift shop followed a 27-year teaching career.

## 1940-1949

**Imogene Riddle** (BA-49), Greeley, celebrated her 100th birthday in March. After a long teaching career in Colorado and New Mexico, she retired in 1970. Imogene learned to play the piano by ear at age 9 and still enjoys playing music for her family and friends.

## 1950-1959

**Alvin Anderson** (BA-54), Brighton, has retired from Pueblo County District Court where he was the first probate registrar.

**Betty Byron** (BA-59), Paradise, Calif., moved from Magalia, Calif. Her daughter, Rhonda, graduated summa cum laude from the California State University at Northridge.

**J.J. Paolino** (BA-59, MA-60), Monument, serves as the president of the Northern Colorado alumni and friends chapter in Colorado Springs.

## 1960-1969

**Raymond Biondo, MD** (BA-60), Sherwood, Ark., received the 2005 CareLink Senator David Pryor Award, which recognizes people over age 60 who continue to make significant contributions in their communities. Raymond hosts the Arkansas alumni reunion each summer in Little Rock.

**Michael Homyak** (BA-60), Denver, graduated from the University of Denver Law School in 1995 with a JD degree. Since retiring in 1999 as a chief administrative law judge for the Colorado Public Utilities Commission, he enjoys travel, golf and tango.

**Harold Grimes** (BA-61), Tyler, Texas, is owner of Tyler Real Estate College, which he founded after 30 years in the real estate field. He also spent 15 years as a teacher, counselor, chairman and director in community colleges throughout California, Montana and Texas.



**Gordon Snowbarger** (BA-61, MA-64), Farmington, N.M., received his PhD from Colorado State University in 1974, and is now retired.

**Douglas Hammond** (BA-64), Syracuse, Utah, served in the Air Force for 21 years and is a retired hospital administrator. He is a state delegate for the Republican Party and member of the Deseret First Federal Credit Union Board of Directors. In February 2006, he fulfilled a lifelong dream of climbing Mount Kilimanjaro.

**David (Dick) Canterbury** (BA-65, MA-66, EdD-73), Spokane, Wash., retired after working for 20 years as chief of communicative disorders for the state of Alaska. He is a two-time recipient of the American Speech and Hearing Association's Outstanding Clinical Achievement Award for developing clinical services for rural and remote areas of Alaska.

**James Cantrell** (MA-65), Bardstown, Ky., contributed to the 225th birthday celebration of Bardstown by displaying 225 pieces of his artwork created from 1971-2005. The art was on loan from private and public collections.

**Bobbie (White) Adams** (BA-66), Maryville, Tenn., taught school for 24 years at Adams County District 27-J. After substitute teaching grades K-12 and assisting with special needs classes in Blount County Schools in Maryville, she retired in August 2004.

**Sandy (Everitt) Whelchel** (BA-66), Parker, has published six nonfiction books. Her first novel, *Hide and Seek*, will be released in April 2006.

**Norman Kuehl** (MA-68), Hot Springs, S.D., and his wife, Viola, will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary in June.

## 1970-1979

**Janet Brooks-Gerloff** (BA-72), Aachen-Kornelimünster, Germany, was inducted in the European Academy of Arts and Sciences.



**Cindy Hogan** (BS-79), Denver, was appointed vice president of PACE Operations at Total Longterm Care. PACE is "Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly." Cindy also serves on the Board of Directors of the Colorado Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (CAHSA), is a certified strategic planning facilitator, a licensed nursing home administrator, and a retirement housing professional.

**Alex Kubik** (BA-74), Santa Monica, Calif., co-starred in the film *Be Cool*, which has now been released on video. He also guest starred on the television series *ER* in 2005, and has written and produced two scripts.

**Maxine (Loy) Brooks** (MA-75), Pharr, Tex., taught special education in the Denver area and was selected as a meritorious graduate from Chapman (Kansas) High School in 2002. Since her retirement, she sews, teaches chime and bell classes, and performs in orchestra and string ensembles.

**Thomas Blakeney Jr.** (BA-76), Everett, Wash., is currently commander, Naval Reserve Readiness Command Northwest, where he has also completed individual augmentation assignments as chief of staff,

Navy Region Southwest Asia, and chief of staff joint maritime component commander, Joint Task Force Katrina. He is a master explosive ordinance disposal technician and a Naval parachutist whose awards include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

**John Lefebvre** (BS-76), Thornton, chairs the College Access Network Board, overseeing government-guaranteed student loans in Colorado. He has also been reappointed to the 17th Judicial Review Commission.

**Gloria Velasquez** (BA-78), San Luis Obispo, Calif., has been named San Luis Obispo's eighth poet laureate. A published writer and poet, Gloria has received numerous awards and honors and is currently professor of modern languages and literatures at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.



**Arthur Terrazas** (BA-75, MA-77), Evans, retired after teaching for more than 32 years at Aims Community College in Greeley. He continues to serve on special assignment as the college's diversity, outreach and retention specialist. A

member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, Art is also involved in the Greeley Police Department's Latino Advisory Committee, Greeley Chamber of Commerce Education Task Force, Hispanic Leadership Council of Weld County, Greeley-Evans School District #6 Strategic Planning Council, and Aims Community College Criminal Justice Advisory Committee.





**Sarah MacQuiddy** (BS-78), Greeley, is the proud owner of Champion Scentasias Howlaway Semper Fi, T.D., or Louie, a 3-year-old otterhound. Louie recently won the title of "Best in Breed" at the 130th Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show at Madison Square Garden in New York.

### 1980-1989

**Cathy (Evers) Murphy** (BSN-80), San Carlos, Calif., is vice president of human resources for Blue Shield of California in San Francisco. She completed her MSN and Adult Nurse Practitioner degree from the University of California San Francisco and remains active as clinic faculty at UCSF Graduate School of Occupational Health Nursing. Her daughter will attend her first year of college in Europe and her son hopes to pursue college baseball in Nebraska.

**Mary Ann (Andreatta) Roe** (BSN-81), Fountain, retired from nursing after 25 years in surgery and case management. She has been married to her husband, Mike, for 23 years, and their son, Joshua, plans to attend Northern Colorado in fall 2006.

**Ruth Morley** (BA-84), Kirkland, Wash., retired from the federal government and

civilian forces. She travels and teaches nutrition, cooking and basic home economics at senior centers with the RSVP program and local food banks.

**Camila Alire** (EdD-84), Albuquerque, N.M., is dean of library services for the University of New Mexico. She is currently serving as president of the Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association, representing more than 13,000 academic and research librarians and interested individuals in North America.



**Phillip Tiffany** (BA-87), Fort Lupton, is the fire chief of the Fort Lupton Fire Protection District and has served the community for 19 years. His wife,

## Bears After Hours



From left are Karen Wood (parent), Bill Hertneky (friend) and Larry Wood (parent); Diane Miller (MA-94), Robert Drennan and Phyllis Drennan (emeritus faculty); Royce Danford (BS-05), Allie Steg (BA-03), assistant director of Alumni Relations, and Sam Penn (BA-00, MA-02); Kevin Bean, vice president of development for the Foundation, Stu Wright (parent), Valerie Hunt, associate director of development, and Bill Hertneky.



**Rajean (Gabel) Tiffany** (BA-88), is an associate manager for Amgen in Longmont. The couple has three children.

**Eric Lee** (BA-88), Cheyenne, Wyo., was a contestant on the television program *Who Wants to be a Millionaire* and is a member of Who's Who Among American Teachers.

## 1990-1999

**Monica (Ike) Kasel** (MME-90), Granite Falls, Minn., is the recipient of Luther College's Carol A. Sperati Award in recognition of meritorious achievement in the field of instrumental music. She is completing her 28th year of teaching instrumental music at Yellow Medicine East

High School in Granite Falls.

**J. Patrick O'Toole** (BA-90), Madison, Wis., accepted a position with the University of Wisconsin as the director of development for research.

**Michelle Hultine** (MA-91), Roseland, Neb., maintains an active private rehabilitation practice, serving clients with vocational barriers.

**Thomas Den Boer** (EdD-93), Janesville, Wis., is the CEO of the Family YMCA of Northern Rock County.

**Diane (Wilmarth) Miller** (MA-94), Greeley, retired from college administra-

tion at Aims Community College. She currently serves on the University of Northern Colorado Foundation Board of Directors and the First Congregation Church Board of Trustees.

**Joe Aschenbrenner** (BA-95), Fullerton, Calif., was promoted to district director with the Orange County Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

**Lydia (Wiedeman) Champeau** (BA-95), Denver, works in sales for a software company. She and her husband, Kieran, expect their first child in April.

**Michael Kelly** (BA-95), Danville, Calif., is an account manager with Allied Barton Security Services in San Francisco. He is pursuing an MBA degree at California State University East Bay and is a volunteer instructor for the American Red Cross. Michael and his wife, Angela, have twin daughters, Athena and Octavia.

**Stephanie (Mitchell) Torrez** (BA-95, MA-04), Greeley, accepted a position as Northern Colorado's director of Academic Support and Advising. She is completing her second term on the Alumni Association Board of Directors, where she served as vice president and was active on the committees for programs and services, and awards and scholarships. Stephanie is involved with the Women's Fund of Weld County and the North Colorado Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Foundation. She and husband **Brandon Torrez** (BA-99, MS-02), a Greeley West High School mathematics teacher, have two sons, Isaiah and Elijah.

**Deborah Bland** (MA-96), Thornton, sells real estate in north Denver with Keller Williams Realty.

**Christopher Anderson** (BS-97), Bothell, Wash., is a business analyst for Microsoft in

## Announcing our Upcoming Alumni Directory

Stop wondering about your old friends and find out what they are doing today through the upcoming Alumni Directory. This invaluable resource will include information to help you network and reconnect with long-lost friends.

Don't miss your opportunity to be a part of this important project. When you receive your questionnaire, take a few minutes to update your information. *Thanks!*





Seattle, and serves as vice president of the Alumni Association Board of Directors. Chris and **Jennifer Anderson** (BS-96) and their son Zach moved from Castle Rock to Washington in March 2006.

**Jason Pina** (MA-96, EdD-97), Weston, Mass., has been named associate dean for diversity and director of international and multicultural student affairs at Roger Williams University in Rhode Island. He previously served as director of student activities and Roche Commons at Stonehill College in Easton, Mass., and associate director of campus life at Babson College in Babson Park, Mass.

**Nancy (Weber) Sylvester** (BS-97), Tucson, Ariz., works as a massage therapist. She and her husband, Steve, are parents of a daughter, Hope, born in May 2005.

**Ryan Stone** (BA-99) and **Susan (Trukenbrod) Stone** (MA-02), Englewood, celebrated the arrival of their son, Tyler Edwin, in November 2005.

## 2000 — present

**Sara (Kutter) Martin** (BS-00), Milliken, works for Comcast Spotlight in Fort Collins as an account executive and serves on the Alumni Association Board of Directors. Sara and **Darrel Martin** (BA-96), a PT/ATC at North Colorado Sports Medicine in Greeley, have two children, Walker and Rylee.

**Melissa (Perry) Holmberg** (BS-00), Denver, is the corporate sales manager of Lehrer's Flowers and head gymnastics coach at Cherry Creek High School. Melissa is serving her second term on the Alumni Association Board of Directors.



Northern Colorado alumni gave back to their alma mater at a recent Career Day on campus sponsored by the Office of Career Services.

**Joseph Scholl** (MA-00), Elko, Nev., is the vice principal and director of special education at Independence High School in Elko.

**Michele Tyson** (BA-00, MA-02), Greeley, is associate director for orientation in Northern Colorado's Office for Academic Support and Advising. She and her husband, **Dave Stutman** (MA-04), welcomed their first child in spring 2006.

**Todd Doleshall** (BA-01, MA-02), Eaton, was voted regional chairman of the Middle School Forensics League board of governors. His forensics team at Greeley's Brentwood Middle School won first place in the Middle School Forensics League National Tournament in San Antonio, Tex., in 2005.

**Noah Wertheimer** (BA-02), Greenwood Village, serves as president of the Northern Colorado alumni and friends chapter in the Denver metro area.

**Kulwa Manega** (BA-05), Greeley, is pursuing an MPH degree at Northern Colorado in preparation for a career in international public health.

## IN MEMORY

### 1930-1939

Helen V. Keyes (LC-37)

### 1940-1949

Minnabeth (Thomas) Garrison (BA-40)

Thelma F. Shew (BA-40)

Esther (Abell) Denton (MA-44)

Josephine M. Wesner (BA-44)

John Brennan (AB-47)

John L. Beynon, MD (BA-49)

James R. Ledford (BA-49)

### 1950-1959

Louis O. Bechthold (BA-50)

Ruby Jean Carroll (BA-52)

Glenn W. Swift (BA-52)

Gladys Bolander (BA-55)

Lawrence A. Martin (BA-57, MA-64)

Lloyd D. Frakes (BA-58)

### 1960-1969

Nadine L. Blackman (BA-60, MA-69)

Lowell Estel Thomson (MA-61, MA-67)

John B. Stone (BA-61)

Judith Ann Briggs (BA-62)

Eldridge A. Erickson (EdD-62)

Douglas J. Frederiksen (MA-65, MA-71)

Richard L. Weinmeister (BA-65)

Robert J. Stout (EdD-69)

### 1970-1979

Robert L. Evans (BA-70)

Kenneth P. Schmidt (BA-73)

Esther (Purdy) Divney (EdD-76)

### 1980-1989

Mark W. Felton (BS-84)

### 1990-1999

Nancy C. Newman (BS-96)

### Emeritus Faculty

Charles T. Blubaugh (1964-82)

Lawrence Levenson (1973-89)



## In Memory

### Samuel G. Gates

Former dean of the University of Northern Colorado's graduate school and Honored Alumnus Samuel G. Gates, 86, died Jan. 24, in Estes Park. He was raised in Denver and received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Colorado State College of Education, and his doctorate from Stanford. Gates was an Army Air Corps instructor pilot during World War II before becoming a teacher and principal at CSCE's Lab School. He served as dean of the graduate school from 1955-66 and director of Wisconsin State University System until 1972. Gates retired in 1976 as executive director of the Trustees of Colorado State Colleges and was inducted into Northern Colorado's Centennial Hall of Fame in 1989.

### Duane E. Henderson

Emeritus faculty member Duane E. Henderson, 75, of Estes Park, died Feb. 5. He received an EdD degree from Northern Colorado in 1969. A former professor of psychology, Henderson also held various other administrative and teaching positions from 1966-83, including registrar, assistant dean of students, director of academic research, assistant vice president for academic affairs and associate dean of education.

### Sanford A. Linscome

Former professor of music Sanford A. "Sandy" Linscome, 75, died Feb. 14 in Greeley. He was raised in Texas and Louisiana and received his bachelor's degree in music education from McNeese State College in Louisiana and then toured professionally with the Robert Shaw Chorale. He received his master's degree in music from the University of Illinois and his doctorate of musical arts from the University of Texas. Linscome taught music at Northern Colorado from 1965 until his retirement in 1987. His wife, Mary, is the former director of archival services at the Michener Library.

## CLASS NOTES • northernvision@unco.edu

*Please Print*

|                                                    |             |                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Name _____                                         |             | Maiden Name _____                             |
| Major _____                                        |             | Degree/Graduation Year _____                  |
| Student activity involvement _____                 |             |                                               |
| Address _____                                      |             |                                               |
|                                                    |             | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if new address |
| City _____                                         | State _____ | ZIP code _____                                |
| Home Phone _____                                   |             | Work Phone _____                              |
| Cell Phone _____                                   |             | Email _____                                   |
| Spouse's Name _____                                |             | Spouse's Maiden Name _____                    |
| Spouse's Major/Degree/Grad Year if alumna/us _____ |             |                                               |

I am pleased to share the following news to be published in Class Notes:

---



---



---

*Clip and return this form to NORTHERN VISION, Campus Box 20, Greeley, CO 80639 or email to northernvision@unco.edu.*



# calendar

## E V E N T S

*This calendar represents only some of the events sponsored by the University of Northern Colorado. For comprehensive and up-to-date listings, visit us on the web.*

**University Events:** [www.unco.edu](http://www.unco.edu) and click on "calendar"

**Alumni Events:** [www.uncalumni.org](http://www.uncalumni.org)

**Athletics:** [www.uncbears.com](http://www.uncbears.com)



### MAY

- 5** Graduate Commencement, 7 pm,  
Butler-Hancock Field House
- 6** Undergraduate Commencement, 10 am,  
Nottingham Field
- 10** Greeley Chamber Business Before Hours,  
7:15 am, Judy Farr Center

### JUNE

- 1** Bears After Hours—Greeley, 5:30-7 pm,  
Jackson's, "Meet the New Basketball and  
Football Coaches"
- 23** Newton-Marasco Foundation/Dreier-  
Newton Endowed Scholarship Benefit  
Golf Challenge, 8 am, Pelican Lakes  
Country Club, Windsor, Colo.

### JULY

- 3** Bear Alumni Stampede  
9 am—Summer Bash Swing  
Shotgun Golf Outing  
3 pm and 4 pm—Campus Tours  
6 pm—Reunion Reception  
7 pm—BBQ and Garden Theater Concert
- 4** Bear Alumni Stampede (Cont.)  
7 am—Breakfast  
9 am—4th of July Parade
- 14** Alumni Night at the Game and Fireworks  
6 pm—Picnic, 7:05 pm—Sky Sox vs.  
Fresno Grizzlies

### AUGUST

- 3** Bears After Hours—Denver

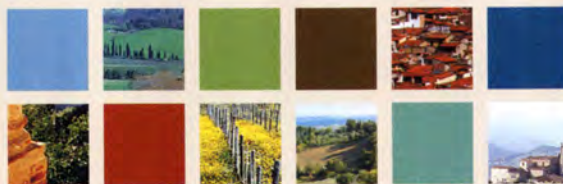
### SEPTEMBER

- 2** Bears Football vs. UC Davis,  
Nottingham Field
- 7** Bears After Hours—Greeley
- 9** Bears Football @ Portland State and  
Alumni Association Tailgate Party
- 16** Bears Football @ Texas State
- 23** Friends and Family Weekend  
Bears Football vs. Western State,  
Nottingham Field
- 30** Bears Football @ Weber State



Discover the Treasures of  
**ITALY**

**Join the Alumni Association and the Tourin' Bears** to explore the enchanting landscapes of Italy. Starting with the charming spa town of Chianciano in Tuscany, go on to discover the historic beauty of Florence, Assisi and Fiuggi, before memorable visits to monumental Rome and ancient Pompeii. **September 7-15, 2006.**



[www.uncalumni.org](http://www.uncalumni.org)

**Don't miss this exciting Tourin' Bears travel opportunity.  
Call 1-800-332-1862.**





# SAVE THE DATE FOR THE FIRST-EVER BEAR ALUMNI STAMPEDE - A SUMMER REUNION BASH JULY 3<sup>RD</sup> & 4<sup>TH</sup> 2006

Join the stampede back to the Northern Colorado campus to reminisce about your college days, reconnect with old friends, and revel at the world-famous Greeley Stampede. Enjoy a BBQ, live music, fireworks, rodeos and one huge parade!

Go to [www.uncalumni.org](http://www.uncalumni.org) for registration details and information on reunion and Greeley Independence Stampede events.

*Once a Bear, Always a Bear*



University of  
**NORTHERN  
COLORADO**  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Sponsored by the University of Northern  
Colorado Alumni Association

UNIVERSITY of  
NORTHERN COLORADO



501 20th St.  
Greeley, CO 80639

Change Service  
Requested

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 5377  
DENVER, COLORADO