John L. Harvey Field Donations Continue to Roll In

The Greater Nevada Credit Union has donated $50,000 to the WNCC Foundation with the understanding that the funds will be earmarked for the construction of 400 new stadium seats at John L. Harvey Field. Wally Murray, Chief Executive Officer of Greater Nevada, and Helalene Jesse, Vice President of Institutional Advancement for WNCC, made a joint announcement on September 12. The Greater Nevada Credit Union has had a long-standing interest in Western Nevada Community College and has sponsored the college’s annual golf tournament.

The entire baseball field project is financed privately through corporate, organizational and individual donations. Over $1.4 million has already been donated by nearly 20 companies and individuals. Two companies that have been particularly generous and instrumental in the success of the project are Cinderlite and Basalite, both located just a few miles from the college in Carson City. Greg Lehman, owner of Cinderlite, and Kyle Holt of Basalite have been at the forefront of nearly every project at John L. Harvey Field.

“The Greater Nevada Credit Union’s donation will change the entire feel and atmosphere of the field,” said Coach Whittemore. “The addition of stadium seats made possible through their generosity turns the field into a stadium.”

The $50,000 donation also helps the entire college come one step closer to the ultimate goal of keeping the community in the community college. The stadium will attract hundreds of fans to each home game which will increase the visibility of WNCC within the community.

Stadium seats are going to be sold to individuals for $1,000. Individuals who purchase a seat will have first choice on seat location and their name will be engraved on the back of their seat. Seat holders will have five year lease on their seat and season tickets to all games during that time span. Over 20 seats have already been purchased.

INFORMATION/ PURCHASES
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John L. Harvey Field opens

September 11, 2005, marked the first game for John L. Harvey Baseball Field. Although it was just a fall scrimmage game and did not count in the standings, more than 200 fans came out to support the Wildcats Baseball Team. And the home crowd went home satisfied. The Wildcats put on an impressive performance, beating the visiting team from Lassen Community College of Susanville, Calif. 8-3 in the opener and 7-4 in the finale.

There were several performances of note, but none more impressive than the pitching staff. Eight Wildcat pitchers combined to walk only one batter in the two contests. Jake Bottari of Wells was particularly impressive getting six outs on less than 20 pitches. Bottari was last year’s Single A State MVP and led his team to the state championship. Ryan Iodence continued his dominant fall by throwing two-plus innings of shutout ball. Iodence has earned the early claim to the team’s closers role by dominating every time he stepped on the mound this fall. Iodence is no stranger to big games but has been a member of three state championship teams while at Faith Lutheran High School in Las Vegas.

The offense was nearly has impressive, led by Humberto Rodarte’s four for five performance. Rodarte hit two triples and two doubles in the double header. Brad Carlsen was his usual self swatting four hits on the day as well. Carlsen’s bat has proven to be one the team’s most valuable assists and will should find himself hitting in the top of the order all year.

Lassen College of the California Community College Conference swung aluminum bats during the doubleheader to prepare for their spring season in which all the contests use aluminum bat. The Western Nevada Wildcats of the Scenic West Conference swung wood bats in preparation for their spring season that calls for their 40 conference games to be played with wood bats.

Baseball Charity POKER TOURNAMENT

Coming Up

In an ongoing effort to raise funds needed for the operations of the baseball team, the WNCC baseball coaching staff is hosting its first No-Limit Poker Charity Tournament.

The WNCC fund-raising tournament is set for Thursday, Nov. 10, at 7 p.m. in the Tahoe Ballroom of the Peppermill.

The room, tables, dealers, chips, and expert tournament direction is being donated by the Peppermill Hotel-Casino on the eve of its nine-day fall poker tournament.

The tournament is the brainchild of Wildcats Pitching Coach Dennis Banks of Dennis Banks Construction. Banks has been a highly visible and extremely generous business leader in northern Nevada for the past 20 years and during that time has attended fund-raisers of all sorts. Coach Banks believes this will be the most fun anyone who attends will ever have at a fund-raising event.

He said, “People will have so much fun they will actually forget that they are there to raise money.”

The No-Limit Texas Hold-em Tournament’s entry fee will be $200 and allow each player the opportunity to re-buy/add-on for $200 more. Each player will start with $1000 in chips and the tournament will last until one skilled (lucky) player has all the chips. The tournament will last approximately three hours, according to the Peppermill’s poker director. Free beer will be provided to all participants during play.

LIMITED TO THE FIRST 150 REGISTRANTS

RESERVATIONS
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Aaron Demosthenes has been hired to coach the Western Nevada Wildcats hitters. He will also serve as the team’s third base coach. Coach Demosthenes brings a wealth of coaching experience with him to the Wildcats staff. Coach “Demo,” as he is known on the field, has a simple goal of making each hitter the best he can be. He does not believe in cloning hitters, but rather in improving the swing players bring into the program.

Coach Demosthenes was born and raised in Reno and has deep ties to northern Nevada. He attended Wooster High School and later the University of Nevada, Reno. Coach Demosthenes graduated from the University of Nevada with a bachelor of arts degree in speech communication. While attending Wooster, Aaron started in football and baseball and had the opportunity to play for two of the finest colleges in Nevada.

While playing baseball for Ron Malcolm at Wooster, Coach Demosthenes helped the Colts to the Northern AAA regional championship in 1990.

While playing football for Joe Sellers, Aaron attracted the attention of the University of Nevada and accepted a full-ride scholarship after his senior season. Unfortunately his career was shortened at Nevada due to an injury.

Demo’s coaching career began in 1992. Since then he has worked as a coach for youth leagues and high school. In 1996, coach Demo coached his first of three straight Nevada Babe Ruth Championship teams. In 1998, his Babe Ruth all-star team finished in second place in the Pacific Southwest Regional.

In 1998, Demo began coaching at the high school level, first the Galena High School junior varsity team and later assisting at the varsity level. In 2001, Coach Demosthenes helped the Galena team capture the Northern Nevada AAAA regional championship. The 2001 team ended up finishing second in the state to the powerful Green Valley Gators.

Coach Demosthenes also boasts six seasons coaching the Sierra Sundevils, northern Nevada’s premier 18-and-under team. The Sundevils routinely churn out the best pro and college prospects the area has to offer. Twice, coach Demo helped the Sun Devils to National Joe DiMaggio Championships (2002 and 2003). In addition, Aaron has worked for the Colorado Rockies major league team as an associate scout for the last six seasons.

Besides his passion for coaching, Demo has a passion for teaching the game to players of all ages. Since the inception of WB Baseball School in 1999, Aaron has worked as an instructor and in 2002 purchased 50 percent of the business and acts as the managing partner. WB Baseball has an impressive list of clientele over the past six years and has helped further the careers of many college and professional players.

Aaron resides with his wife and three young children.

Aaron Henry

Aaron Henry is a potential Division I player and could possibly earn a paycheck playing professionally one day because of his speed. He is the fastest player on the team and has run 6.5-6.7 seconds in the 60-yard dash. Aaron has good bat speed and can get to any fastball on the inside. He is working to match his ability to turn on the ball with an opposite field approach. He has a good arm in the outfield that should earn him a few assists next spring.

Aaron is a very good base runner and will be a threat to steal every time he is on. He has the potential to hit in the leadoff spot.

Aaron Henry

The Western Nevada Community College Wildcats baseball program has completed its first scrimmages. The Wildcats compiled a 7-6-2 record over the fall. The team played good competition with four games against the Reno Astros, a semi-pro team, and the other games against California community colleges.

The Wildcats started the fall by beating Lassen Community College, the opening weekend, in a two game series. The following week, the team headed to Reno to play the Astros. The Wildcats took the first game on Friday night, but lost its next two games in the Saturday doubleheader. The following weekend, the team headed to Susanville, Calif. to play Shasta College and Lassen again. The team went 1-1 in the Saturday double-header. The loss came in the top of the ninth when Shasta hit a double to score three runs and win 4-3. But the Wildcats showed heart in the second game, scoring a run in the top of the ninth to beat Lassen 7-6.

The Wildcats then headed home to play two games against Modesto College. After winning the first game on a Thursday afternoon with a score of 14-8, the team gave up a late inning run and settled for a tie on Friday.

The team headed to Sacramento to take on American River College for a Saturday doubleheader. The team split the Saturday doubleheader, losing the first game 4-3 and winning the second game 11-6. The Wildcats led 3-2 heading into the ninth inning of the first game, but American River was able to push two runs across in the bottom of the ninth for the victory.

The final weekend of the season was played at home against the Las Vegas Metro Stars and the Astros.

The Wildcats beat the Metro Stars on Friday afternoon by a score of 7-4. However, the Wildcats failed to win on the final day of the fall losing 7-4 to the Metro Stars and against the Astros.

The experience gained this fall will allow the team to head into the offseason with confidence.

Aaron Henry