Former Major Leaguer
Charley Kerfeld Coming Home

Former Carson High School baseball star and Houston Astros first round pick Charley Kerfeld will be the keynote speaker at Western Nevada Community College’s third annual Wildcats Athletics Benefit. The three-course prime rib dinner and auction will be at the Peppermill Hotel Casino in Reno, Wednesday, May 3, at 6 p.m.

Kerfeld pitched for the Carson Senators from 1979-1981, and was selected in the first round of the major league baseball draft in 1982. In 1986, he finished fourth in the National League Rookie of the Year voting over fellow rookies Barry Bonds, Will Clark and Andres Galarraga. He compiled an impressive 18-9 career record in four seasons with the Astros and Atlanta Braves.

After his playing career ended, Kerfeld went on to manage the Beaumont Bullfrogs, Abilene Prairie Dogs, Grays Harbor Gulls, Western Warriors, Reno Blackjacks, and Chico Heat. He won 421 career games as a manager, including a Western Baseball League Championship in 2002. Kerfeld then became a scout for the Seattle Mariners and San Diego Padres, and is currently the special assistant to the general manager of the Texas Rangers.

Proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit all WNCC athletic programs, including the men’s baseball team, women’s soccer team, and co-ed rodeo team. WNCC receives no state general funding for expenses and must support the teams through private and corporate donations.

TICKETS
$75 each • $500 for a table of eight

CONTACT
WNCC Foundation . . . 775-445-3240
Bristlecone Building
2201 West College Parkway
Carson City, NV  89703

Wildcat
Diamond News

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www.wncc.edu/athletics

Justin Garcia is the team’s number one pitcher. Garcia is no stranger to the spotlight or pitching in big games. Garcia was the ace of the team a year ago in Las Vegas at Sierra Vista High School, winners of the 2005 AAAA State Championship. He followed that championship with an American Legion Western Regional Championship last August. Garcia was named Nevada’s most valuable player.

Garcia has a mid-eighties fastball to go along with a breaking ball and a good change-up. Garcia has average “stuff” but more than compensates for it with outstanding command and an understanding of how to pitch. He has all the intangibles that make a winner on the mound - presence, the ability to field his position, ability to hold runners, and savvy to know which hitters can and cannot beat him. The team allowed only 11 total runs in Garcia’s seven starts.

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Andrew Patterson - Outfield/First Base Coach

Andrew Patterson is a recent graduate of the University of Michigan. In the winter of 2004, Patterson earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics in just 3 1/2 years of study. Patterson plans to start working on his master's degree after a short hiatus from school. He has recently applied to the Chicago School of Business.

A lifetime resident of Las Vegas, Patterson played high school baseball at Bishop Gorman. He played outfield and third base, and was part of two straight division championship teams. As a student at Bishop Gorman, Patterson displayed the same commitment to excellence he showed on the ball field by finishing second in his class. After high school, he chose to attend his father's alma mater in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Patterson brings two years of coaching experience to WNCC. He served as the outfield and hitting coach for the Las Vegas Knights, an American Legion team, in the summer of 2002, and again in 2003. Patterson helped the 2002 team to a third place finish in the Nevada state championships. As both outfield and first base coach, Patterson gained valuable experience that will translate into a successful collegiate coaching career.

Patterson is excited about building a tradition of academic and athletic excellence at Western Nevada Community College. He helps with all aspects of running WNCC's program including recruiting, fund raising, counseling, students, developing practice plans, placement of players at four-year schools, and teaching the offensive and defensive strategies of the team.

Head Coach D.J. Whitemore announces the signings of (from L-R) Roman Davis, Kyle Smit, and Davis Banks.

First Half of Season Brings Success

The Western Nevada Community College baseball team has completed the first half of its inaugural season. The Wildcats won 15 of their first 28 games to finish the first half with an overall record of 500. The Wildcats finished above 500 in conference play as well, with a 9-7 record.

WNCC has battled some of the top teams in the country, and their first 12 games were non-conference. The Wildcats beat 2002 NJCAA National Champion Central Arizona 8-0, 2003 National Champion Community College of Southern Nevada 6-3, and California's No. 2 ranked team 8-2 in pre-conference games. In total, Western won six and lost six non-conference games, with eight of the games being against ranked opponents.

The Wildcats opened conference play at CCSON, the defending Scenic West regular season champions, and took one of four games. All four games were tightly contested with WNCC dropping two one-run contests.

Western then hosted Colorado Northwestern Community College for four games in Carson City. WNCC swept CNCC and did not allow a run until the fourth inning of the last game.

The Wildcats then traveled to St. George, Utah, to play No. 13 Dixie State College. WNCC split the four game set, winning 6-4 in nine innings, and 3-2 in the fourth game of the weekend.

Most recently, the Wildcats hosted Salt Lake Community College for four games. The Wildcats endured their worst day of the season on March 17, as they were swept in two contests and only managed to score one run.

They battled back on Saturday and Sunday to earn a split, allowing only one run in the two contests. On Saturday, the Wildcats showed a flair for the dramatic, winning 2-1 on a two-out, two-run single in the bottom of the seventh. On Sunday, the Wildcats pitchers flexed their muscles and won a beautifully played game 1-0.