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September/October 2009

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## EDITORS NOTE

### Here's to ever-expanding horizons...

Hello, as you may have noticed, Las Vegas Sports Magazine has turned another chapter in its illustrious history as, for the first time ever, our Publisher, T.J. Love, has relinquished his role as Editor-In-Chief to the very capable hands of myself, Isaac Kuhlman. Las Vegas Sports Magazine and the Love Media Group have been undergoing many significant changes over the last year with even more creative people and ideas, and it is my privilege to accept the role of Editor-In-Chief of Las Vegas Sports Magazine.

We now get away from the scorching heat of the summer months into the more manageable temperatures of the fall, and many big-time sporting events come to the Las Vegas Valley. In the next few months, Las Vegas will host the NBA, NHL, and PGA. Las Vegas has also been chosen as one of the few cities to host a United Football League team--named the Locomotives.

Las Vegas Sports previews some of these events, chronicles a few recent events, and takes a look at some interesting sports stories in the area. On the cover, we profile Justin Timberlake and his charity, The Shriner's Children's Hospital, as the PGA stops in Las Vegas for a celebrity pro-am event in October. We also have details on Randy Couture's G.I. Foundation's "Operation All In" poker tournament that raised \$42,000 dollars for wounded soldiers. In addition, Couture's son, Ryan, is moving up the ranks in mixed-martial arts.

Tann Summers brings local golf stories and as locals see them to help golfers in the community and tourists alike understand what Las Vegas golfing is truly about. I hope our missions and ideas make for an even more enjoyable Magazine and more and more fans show their support to all of our local teams, promotions, and athletes.

Sincerely,



Isaac J. Kuhlman  
Editor-In-Chief

# LAS VEGAS sports

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Las Vegas Sports Magazine is a family oriented sports periodical with a focus on the prolific sports activity in our rapidly growing community. It offers general sports coverage within the youth, amateur, and professional levels of sports. Las Vegas Sports Magazine is committed to highlighting these sports in Las Vegas to make our community ever stronger.

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# September/October 2009 Activity Directory

All activities are subject to change. List is not all-inclusive. Call centers near you for complete list of classes and activities. Most activities require advance registration. The Summer 2009 Leisure Guide is available online at [www.lasvegasparksandrec.com](http://www.lasvegasparksandrec.com).

## FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Red Bull Vegas AmJam Skatepark Competition Series Round 10 & Concert (ages 6-adult) Saturday, Sept. 19, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Registration and practice will begin at 10 a.m. Police Memorial Park, 3250 Metro Academy Way. **Fee: \$10** to compete; spectators are free. Helmet required for competitors. Free concert featuring local bands during the competition. For more information, visit [www.VegasAmJam.com](http://www.VegasAmJam.com) or call (702) 229-2296.

Free Halloween Carnival (ages 2-12) Friday, Oct. 23, 5 to 7 p.m. Robison Community School, 4794 Harris Ave., (702) 229-2542. Free games, prizes, candy, fun and more.

Halloween Carnival & Haunted House (all ages) Friday, Oct. 23, 4 to 7 p.m. **Fee: \$5 wristband** Mirabelli Community Center, 6200 Hargrove Ave., (702) 229-6359. Bring the whole family to enjoy the annual carnival. Cosponsored with Johnson Community School.

Howling Halloween Carnival (all ages) Thursday, Oct. 29, 6 to 8 p.m. **Fee: \$1** Doolittle Community Center, 1950 N. J St., 229-6374. Have a ghoulish good time in costume contests, carnival games, the Haunted Hallway, and more!

## YOUTH & TEEN ACTIVITIES (not sports)

Free America Reads, Counts Program (ages 5-11) 4:30 to 8 p.m., dates to be determined. Clark Community School, 3074 Arville Street, (702) 229-3686. One-hour tutoring sessions improve English reading and writing skills. Call 895-4663 to register and for dates.

Princess Tea Party (ages 3 months - 10 years) Friday, Sept. 4, 5 to 6:30 p.m. **Fee: \$20** Molasky Community School, 7801 W. Gilmore Ave., (702) 229-5345

Kids Night Out (ages 5-11) Friday, Oct. 2, 6 to 10 p.m. **Fee: \$15** Cimarron Rose Community Center, 5591 N. Cimarron Road, 229-1607. Children enjoy playing games, making crafts, watching a movie and eating pizza

Air Hockey Tournament (ages 7-14) Friday, Oct. 16, 4:30 to 6 p.m. **Fee: \$2** Doolittle Community Center, 1950 N. J St., 229-6374.

## YOUNG ADULT AND ADULT CLASSES & ACTIVITIES

Free Parenting Solutions Class (ages 16-adult) Tuesdays, 6 to 8:30 p.m. Becker Community School, 9110 Hillpointe Road, (702) 229-2482.

Free GED Preparation (ages 16-adult) Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Stupak Community Center, 300 W. Boston Ave., (702) 229-2488. Call 799-8650 for information and to register.

Beginning and Intermediate Computer Classes (adults) Tuesdays and Fridays 4 to 6 p.m., 6 to 8 p.m. **Fee: \$20 for 6 classes, plus \$2 annual membership fee.**

Dula Gymnasium, 441 E. Bonanza Road, (702) 229-6307. Beginner classes on Fridays teach basic computer usage and Microsoft Word Pad software. Intermediate classes on Tuesdays learn Microsoft Works, Microsoft Word and using the Internet. Instructor Carlos Pavon limits class to 8 people.

## FITNESS & MARTIAL ARTS (all ages)

Fitness Memberships (18+) Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. -9 p.m.; Friday 8 a.m.-8 p.m.; and Saturday 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. **Fee: \$3/day, \$15/month, \$70/6 months, or \$105/year. Couples discount available.** Doolittle Community Center, 1950 North J Street, (702) 229-6374.

Jazzercise (ages 12-adult) Mondays and Wednesdays 6:45 to 7:45 p.m., and Saturdays, 9 to 10 a.m. **Fee: \$30 per month**

Lied Community School, 5340 West Tropical Parkway, (702) 229-5072.

Zumba Class (ages 14-adult) Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 8 a.m.; Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. and Friday at 5:15 p.m. **Fee: Included with membership or \$3 per day. Pre-registration not required.** Minker Sports Complex, 275 N. Mojave Road, (702) 229-6563. Expect a fitness class with a Latin beat and plenty of fun cardio movement.

Diodatics Weight Training for Women (ages 16-adult) Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:15 to 7:15 p.m., beginning Sept. 8. **Fee: \$59 for six weeks.** Cimarron Rose Community Center, 5591 N. Cimarron Road, 229-1607.

## LEAGUES, SPORTS & SWIMMING (all ages)

Open Badminton (all ages) Monday, Wednesday and Friday, noon to 3:30 p.m. **Fee: \$2** Mirabelli Community Center, 6200 Hargrove Ave., (702) 229-6359.

Open Volleyball (ages 16+) Tuesdays, 6 to 9 p.m. **Fee: \$2 daily per player** Mirabelli Community Center, 6200 Hargrove Ave., (702) 229-6359.

Summer Pool Season (all ages) **Daily fees at all pools are \$1 for ages 4-17; \$2 ages 18-49; \$1.50 ages 50+; free ages 0-3. A Summer Pass costing \$40 for an individual, \$60 for a family of up to 8, \$20 for an adult age 50+,** may be used through Sept. 7 at Carlos L. Martinez and Darrio J. Hall Family Pool at Freedom Park,

Doolittle and Municipal pools during free swim hours (not for special events or separately priced activities).

Men's Basketball League Open Division (ages 18+) Tuesdays, 6 to 9 p.m., beginning Sept. 8. Advance registration required. **Fee: \$250 team registration only.** Veterans Memorial Leisure Services Center, 101 N. Pavilion Center Drive, 229-1100.

Coed Division C+ Volleyball League (ages 16-50) Wednesdays, 6 to 9 p.m., beginning Sept. 9. **Fee: \$150 per team; plus \$10 referee fee per game** Mirabelli Community Center, 6200 Hargrove Ave., 229-6359.

Middle School Competitive Basketball League (ages 11-14) Thursdays, 6 to 8 p.m. beginning Sept. 10, **Pre-registration required. Team Cost: \$250 plus \$17 per game officials' fees** Becker Community School, 9110 Hillpointe Road, (702) 229-2482. An eight-week league to learn basketball basics and sportsmanship

## ADAPTIVE RECREATION ACTIVITIES

Camp Cal (ages 22+) Monday through Friday, Sept. 14-18. Advance reservations required. **Fee: \$400** Calabasas, Calif. Five-day, four-night adult residential camp with activities that help promote independence and social skills. Activities include sports, arts, crafts, hiking and daily trips to Zuma Beach. Call (702) 229-5177 for information and reservations.

Free Paralympic Academy (ages 5-18) Wednesday, Sept. 16, 5 to 8 p.m. Advance registration required. Garside Middle School,

300 S. Torrey Pines Drive. This is an introductory program for children with a physical disability, such as a spinal cord injury, visual impairment, etc. Call (702) 229-4796 for information and registration.

F.L.O.A.T. (ages 3-adult) Forming Leisure Opportunities using Aquatic Techniques is an adaptive aquatics program for people with and without disabilities. One-on-one swimming lessons are held at city of Las Vegas pools for ages 3 to adult, priced at \$100 for six 30-minute lessons. Call for dates and times (702) 229-1710.

Free 18th Annual Disability Awareness Day (all ages) Saturday, Oct. 10, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sammy Davis Jr. Festival Plaza in Lorenzi Park, 720 Twin Lakes Drive Meet representatives from organizations throughout the valley serving individuals with disabilities. Learn about independent living, the Americans with Disabilities Act, recreation, employment, housing, legal service, transportation and much more. For more information, call (702) 229-4796.

SPARK (ages 3-8) Social Play and Respite for Kids is a free Saturday morning program for children ages 3-8 with special needs. It provides a fun, exciting and safe environment where children may engage in social play with peers while participating in on-site recreational activities such as arts and crafts, games and outdoor play. Call Rebecca Allen at 229-1710 for fall session information.

## THE SUMMER BRINGS HOOPS: SO, WHERE'S OUR TEAM?

BY ISAAC KHULMAN



**It's a long, teasing, finger-tip desire for all the locals, and a passion that a lot of fans would love to see come to fruition.** Basically, for 2 months in the summer, Las Vegas is where basketball happens. The other 10 months of the year, however, Vegas is as deserted of basketball as it is of precipitation.

The National Basketball Association Summer League and USA Olympic Basketball's mini-camp just rolled through our sun-squelched city this summer as they have consistently in recent years. In addition to the NBA and Olympic affiliation, there are several off-season training camps held in Las Vegas where big-name players come to keep in shape and hone their skills. Also, many of the top high-school hoops squads gathered for Reebok's Summer Championships. As if that wasn't enough, we will see another installment of the Los Angeles Lakers taking on the Sacramento Kings at the Thomas and Mack Center right before the NBA season gets started.

Let the 3's rain on the hardwood to nourish the fans with sport when the winter brings a chill. Bring the thundering dunks to electrify the crowd as the bright lights revel in the glory of an above-the-rim assault. Take all those lights and freeze them in the timeless moment of a last-second shot that stops the hearts of an entire arena with terrifying anticipation as the ball tickles the twine. Bring the game to one of the fastest-growing and largest markets in the country. Double that with the immense tourism that would be willing to drop an extra dollar or two to watch the games while on vacation. It seems like a win-win situation.

It's true Vegas does not have a modern-sports arena, and, as of right now, the NBA is not expanding. This does not mean it can't or won't happen. Oklahoma City now has a team. The state of California has 4 teams. It's not as if there aren't teams struggling for a franchise facelift (cough, cough...Clippers...cough). Yeah, I know it's hard to sell a team that has been futile somewhere else to a new market, but if the Clippers or Grizzlies or another team wants to be successful, it may be as simple as relocation.

President of Basketball Operations and General Manager for the Phoenix Suns, Steve Kerr, said in regards to Vegas attracting a professional team that the city is "probably more equipped than most cities."

Kerr pointed to the fact that the city is lacking an NBA-ready arena which makes it hard to get interest from the league as well. This was a sentiment that league commissioner, David Stern, reiterated after the 2007 NBA All-Star game when asked of Las Vegas as a possible home for an NBA team. The world's largest gaming corporation, Harrah's Entertainment, has made it widely known that they are saving space in the city for an arena if Las Vegas can get serious consideration for a pro team of any sport.

In a 2007 interview President and Chief Executive of AEG (the company that would partner with Harrah's on the arena), Timothy Leiweke, said, "It just so happens 2010 is an opportune time for an expansion team in Vegas for either or both [leagues]." He was referring to the NHL as the other league in conjunction with the NBA.

2010, huh? Maybe Leiweke saw something that others didn't at the time, because the public interest is growing, and, in my honest opinion, there are 4 teams in the NBA right now that could easily be heading to Vegas in the next season or two.

There is still the issue of the arena. On the other hand, local Las Vegans know how fast things can be built. It's not like the Midwest where it's below zero in the winter and impossible to continue construction. My guess is that an arena could be built within nine months if given the green light. Not that I am an engineer by any means.

I think the biggest thing that is lacking is demand. The support of the residents is present. What is missing, though, is the roaring outcry for a major sports franchise to come to Vegas. It could be the year-after-year let down of talks that lead fans to get complacent, but if a league or team is ever going to take the city seriously, there is the need for an urgent anticipation of a Vegas constituency before an agreement will be reached.

So, let the fans unite. Let all the cheers be directed toward a home team instead of a nearby counterpart. Let basketball be brought to form in one of the most glamorous stages in the world. Bring basketball to Vegas. Rise up, Vegas, rise up!





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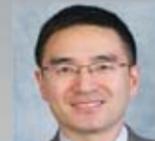
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## ODDS TO WIN THE 2010 BCS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

Team	Open	Team	Open
Virginia Tech	20/1	Notre Dame	30/1
Florida	2/1	Miami-Florida	35/1
Oklahoma	9/2	Florida State	35/1
Texas	11/2	California	35/1
Southern California	6/1	Georgia	40/1
Ohio State	12/1	FIELD	40/1
Alabama	15/1	North Carolina	50/1
Louisiana State	20/1	Oregon	50/1
Mississippi	25/1	Nebraska	50/1
Penn State	30/1	Georgia Tech	50/1
Oklahoma State	30/1	Clemson	50/1

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL FUTURES FOR LVSM

By Mark Franco • [FRANCOSPORTS.COM](http://FRANCOSPORTS.COM)



and will be played on October 17th in the new Dallas Cowboys Stadium.

In week two of the season (September 12th) Pac-10 power-house Southern Cal will head east to take on the best the Big-Ten may have to offer in Ohio State. "We opened this game at USC -3, and the better are taking the chalk as we now have the Trojans at -3 1/2."

Another game involving USC is getting action at the Hilton. It will be played on October 3rd when the Trojans head to Berkley to take on the University of California Golden Bears. USC opened at -4 and has now been bet up to -5.

Florida is a double-digit favorite in every game on the Hilton board with the exception of their trip to LSU for a night game on October 10th. The Gators are currently an 8 1/2-point chalk but that number should rise when Florida gets off to a hot start.

When looking at season wins totals Graham said "the public has been betting both Penn State over 9 1/2 wins (-110) followed by Virginia Tech over 9 wins (-110)"

Good luck cashing your tickets in college football this year.

Here is a look at odds to win the national championship by Las Vegas Sports Consultants.

**The defending national champion Florida** Gators sit atop the preseason USA Today coaches' football poll, and Las Vegas Sportsbooks have started to post numbers for the first week of the college football regular season.

Over at the Hilton Superbook the betting public has already started to get down on wagering on the posted "games of the year" and "season win totals". If you have a keen eye you may find some great values on games that will be played in the upcoming months of the season.

I stopped by to speak with Race and Sports Coordinator, Chris Graham, to see what kind of college football action the Hilton is getting in the middle of August.

"As far as our games of the year, the Texas/Oklahoma matchup has gotten the most attention as far as the number of tickets and money written on the game." Graham said. "We are still hanging this number at a pick but that can change as we get closer to game day"

This game could have national title implications



Brigham Young	60/1	Wake Forest	100/1
Pittsburgh	60/1	Arizona State	125/1
Rutgers	60/1	Colorado	125/1
South Florida	60/1	Cincinnati	125/1
Texas Tech	60/1	Connecticut	150/1
Texas Christian	60/1	East Carolina	150/1
Tennessee	60/1	Auburn	150/1
West Virginia	60/1	Baylor	150/1
Team	Open	Boston College	150/1
UCLA	75/1	Nevada	150/1
South Carolina	75/1	Michigan	150/1
Boise State	75/1	Minnesota	150/1
Arkansas	75/1	Kansas State	150/1
Michigan State	75/1	Kentucky	150/1
Illinois	75/1	Houston	150/1
Iowa	100/1	Louisville	150/1
Kansas	100/1	Maryland	150/1
Missouri	100/1	Vanderbilt	150/1
Arizona	100/1	Virginia	150/1
Southern Miss	100/1	Texas A&M	150/1
Oregon State	100/1	Stanford	150/1
North Carolina St.	100/1	Purdue	150/1
Utah	100/1	Washington	200/1
Wisconsin	100/1	UNLV	500/1



**VOLLEYBALL**

The Rebels had 10 student-athletes on last year's Fall Academic All-Mountain West Conference Team.

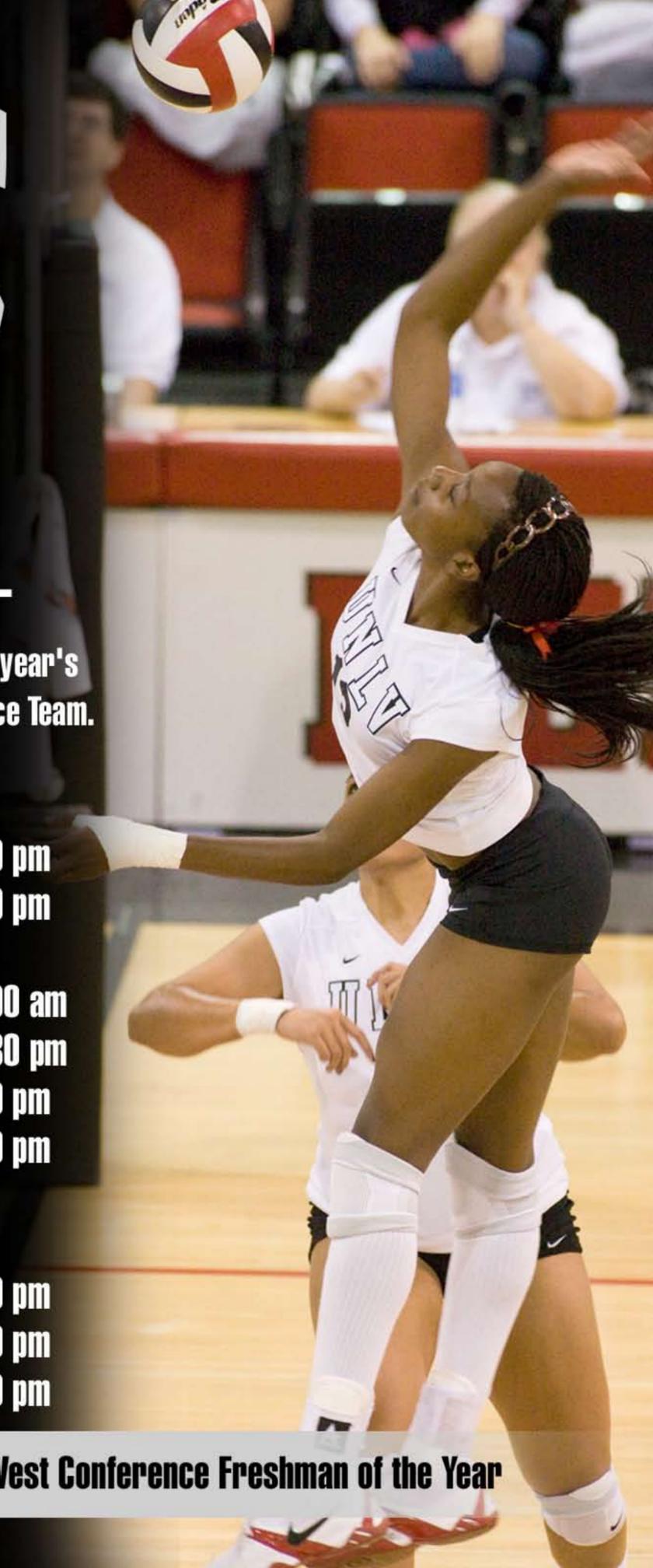
**Alexis Park Classic (Sept. 4-5)**

Sept. 4 LMU vs. Idaho 4:30 pm  
 Sept. 4 UNLV vs. UCLA 7:00 pm

Sept. 5 UCLA vs. LMU 10:00 am  
 Sept. 5 UNLV vs. Idaho 12:30 pm  
 Sept. 5 Idaho vs. UCLA 4:30 pm  
 Sept. 5 UNLV vs. LMU 7:00 pm

**Alexis Park Invitational (Sept. 10-12)**

Sept. 10 UNLV vs. UCSB 7:00 pm  
 Sept. 11 Oregon State vs. UCSB 6:00 pm  
 Sept. 12 UNLV vs. Oregon State 4:30 pm



**CURSTY JACKSON - 2008 Mountain West Conference Freshman of the Year**

# A SAGGING GOLF CLIMATE

## Las Vegas-area courses scramble for survival

By Tann Summers

**The economy continues to take its toll on Las Vegas Valley businesses,** and the golf community isn't immune.

"It's tough out there, but we're getting through it," said Steve Moore, general manager at Troon Golf's Badlands Golf Club. "We're strengthening relationships with hotels and catering to locals with discounted rates and offers."

Between McCarran International Airport and Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority reports, it's clear tourism numbers are continuing to decline creating fewer customers for area courses. Since several airlines charge per-bag fees each way, many tourists are opting to leave the golf clubs home.

Several companies, including VIP Golf Services ([www.vipgolfservices.com](http://www.vipgolfservices.com)), aren't letting the troubling times deter its business.

"Business is certainly 20 to 30 percent slower than year's past," said Justin Rubenstein, owner and president of the four-year-old company that offers discounted tee times to more than 50 courses, club rentals, transportation and more to tourists and locals alike. "But, we're finding opportunities for our customers, who typically are now looking for last-minute deals."

Matt Utter, director of sales at Silverstone Golf Club, said although business is down compared to last year, the course is finding ways to attract golfers and business. A few examples include offering food credits and a sleeve of Titleist ProV1 golf balls with rounds.

"We're adding value to our rates," he said. "It's working, and we see business coming back in September and October, especially with group business."

Within the last year, three area courses have closed including Stallion Mountain, The Falls and Reflection Bay for various financial reasons. According to Rubenstein, those closures impact the entire valley.

"When courses close, it looks bad for the whole town," he said.

Rubenstein said he is trying new marketing aspects as well to spur business. VIP Golf Services now produces promo/rack cards for distribution around tourist corridor businesses. "We're seeing some business from those," Rubenstein said.



According to Moore, this economic climate lends itself to more marketing to keep in front of golfers. He too said advertising is more important at this time.

"We're also advertising more," he said. "We're watching budgets and trying to be more efficient in business."

Tom Vold of The Legacy Golf Club and OB Sports candidly states, "We are doing what any prudent business manager would do in this economic situation, continue to do our best to maintain the product (course condition) and maintain the proper service levels that will allow us to provide an incredible experience at a value that all our players demand. That being said, due to the fact that overall play is down along with revenues, we must reduce--or in some cases--eliminate certain procedures and or amenities. Careful planning and execution of these reductions are extremely important as to not lower the overall perception a player has towards the facility."

Vold continues, "We have created many new cost savings opportunities for our card holders, resident and non-resident golfers throughout the past year. The Text Club, Early Super Twilight and other programs have been offered to attract golfers to the course. Paramount in these times is to be operationally responsible to the facility owners. We always are actively investigating all revenue streams and expenses."

Being more efficient is part of the game for Dan Hammell, general manager and director of golf at TPC Las Vegas, as well.

"Overall due to the economy, the resort golf rounds have dropped, so we have adjusted our staffing levels, implemented a cost-savings program for the remainder of the year," said Hammell. "To get through, we have created some programs (like our Summer Pass Program) for the local community. We are also promoting 'Golfing for Groceries' which is a PGA TOUR initiative teaming up with President Obama to create awareness and to replenish our food banks."

Valley golf management executives said they are reporting greater success and traffic from the Internet.

"We have increased our internet presence which has helped us dramatically, even in difficult times," said Hammell. "With a best-rate guarantee by going directly to our site, guests can be assured they are receiving the best possible price to play our facility."

At Troon Golf's Badlands, Moore concurred. "Online bookings are increasing," he said. "That's an area really improving."

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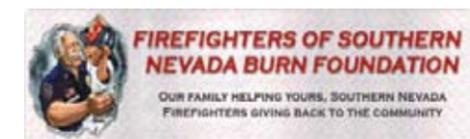
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## TIMBERLAKE, PGA TOUR RETURNS TO VEGAS

Moore leads list of players with local ties

By Tann Summers

**Ryan Moore was the “can’t miss kid.”** After winning everything in college – he attended UNLV -- including five major amateur championships in 2004, he was labeled for stardom on the PGA Tour by players, coaches, golf industry experts and insiders. During his first couple of PGA Tour seasons, the four-time All-American managed some close calls and near victories, but fell short and then slowed down from various injuries. Some wondered if his window of opportunity was slipping by.

That all changed after Moore birdied his way to his first PGA Tour victory in late August by winning the Wyndham Championship with a birdie in a three-way playoff.

“After today, (Moore) can add PGA Tour champion next to his name and all of us at UNLV are so proud of that,” said UNLV golf head coach Dwaine Knight.

The logo-less Moore birdied five straight holes in Sunday’s back-nine rally moving to the top of the leader board. The victory moved Moore into the Tour’s FedEx Cup Playoffs and earned him a two-year playing exemption including invitations to the Masters, PGA Championship and Players Championship next season.

For Moore, it also stabilizes his confidence as the PGA Tour heads into the Fall Season, rich with second-victory opportunities including the Justin Timberlake Shriners Hospitals for Children Open in Las Vegas.

Event host Timberlake, several celebrities from film, music and sports along with 120 professional golfers sashayed into Las Vegas for the annual PGA Tour event.

Now in the second year of a five-year deal with Timberlake, the revamped Justin Timberlake Shriners Hospitals for Children Open tees off October 12-18 with Marc Turnesa as defending champion. This year marks the 27th straight year the Tour has competed in Las Vegas.

TPC Summerlin plays host to all four rounds again this year. PGA Tour player practice rounds are Monday, Oct. 12 and Tuesday, Oct. 13. The festivities also feature a celebrity pro-am Tuesday, Oct. 13, with stars from the sports and entertainment worlds, and a championship pro-am Wednesday, Oct. 14.

“I’m looking forward to an exciting tournament,” said Ed Vance, a long-time event supporter and TPC Summerlin resident. “This is Las Vegas’ time to shine and an opportunity to show off our wonderful course.”

The Vegas tour spot has been friendly to first-timers with players making Las Vegas their first career win for the last five years (Turnesa 2008, George McNeill 2007, Troy Matteson 2006, Wes Short Jr. 2005 and Andre Stolz 2004).

### ATTRACTING MORE CROWDS

The Hill, a 22,000-square-foot tented area complete with plasma TVs, bars and lounge furniture, returns for a third year in row with tournament officials expecting thousands of fans to participate daily.

After the 2007 tournament announcement, Timberlake said “I’m going to make it my duty to sort of recruit as many (celebrities), who will come out (and play).”

Again this year, Timberlake is expected to deliver. Timberlake “put himself on a platter” last year attracting plenty of national media attention including an interview on ESPN radio’s “Mike &

Mike in the Morning” show and a plug on the “The Ellen DeGeneres Show.” He also hosted a benefit concert Friday night at Planet Hollywood and co-hosted a youth golf clinic Saturday--complete with hundreds of youngsters and parents from the First Tee program. No word yet from tournament officials if the 2009 schedule includes similar events.

The sold-out concert featured some of Justin’s friends including Rihanna, 50 Cent, and the Jonas Brothers and raised more than a million dollars for the charity.

A number of celebrities participated last year including film star Luke Wilson, Olympic Medal-Winner Amanda Beard, and actors John O’Hurley and Greg Kinnear. Timberlake, who played with Fred Couples in the Celebrity Pro-Am, is also scheduled to play in the 2009 version.

At the time of this article, the list of 2009 events and celebrities commitments was not yet available. As for the PGA Tour players scheduled to appear, players have until the Friday, Oct. 9 to commit.



Last year's results included several big names in the Top 10 including Davis Love III, Chad Campbell, Mike Weir, Zach Johnson and Chris DiMarco. Other notables in the field featured Couples, YE Yang, David Duval and Billy Mayfair.



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For additional information about the Shriners, please visit [www.shrinershq.org](http://www.shrinershq.org).

**TOURNAMENT SEEKS VOLUNTEERS**

The tournament is looking for volunteers age 18 and older to assist with admissions, greeting, caddie services, transportation services and more.

Cost is \$40 and includes a tournament jacket, golf shirt, hat, weekly access badge, and a ticket to the volunteer party. Volunteers also receive free meals during their shift. Those interested in participating can

For more information about the tournament, volunteering, tickets, etc...visit [www.jtshrinersopen.com](http://www.jtshrinersopen.com) or call (702) 873-1010.

contact Donna Millwood at (702) 589-4945.

**LOCAL PLAYERS EXPECTED TO HIGHLIGHT FIELD**

Las Vegas Sports Magazine researched the players with Las Vegas ties expected to participate this year. Here is a summary of the players and their performance history:

**RYAN MOORE**

Best Las Vegas Finish: T16 in 2005

Prediction: Flirts with the lead, finishes Top 20

Headlining the crew of players with Vegas ties (schedule of players is subject to change) is Ryan Moore, who is expected to commit along with Chris Riley, Chad Campbell, Charlie Hoffman, Scott Piercy, Webb Simpson and Bill Lunde.

With four second-place finishes in his career, Moore has made the cut in more than half of the events he's played this season. He has five Top 10 finishes including a T-10 at the U.S. Open. Driving the ball has been his best stat this year ranking 42nd on Tour averaging 295.5 yards.

**CHRIS RILEY**

Best Las Vegas Finish: T7 in 2001

Prediction: Hasn't played well here the last few years so could miss cut

Riley, who battled his way back to the PGA Tour this year, was in the final group Sunday at the Wyndham Championship before shooting 4-over-par and finishing tied for 13th place. On the bubble for the FedEx Cup Playoffs, Riley bolted into the playoffs with his efforts.

With one career Tour victory to his credit, Riley ranks 11th in driving accuracy percentage hitting more than 70 percent of the fairways in regulation and 6th in putts per round at 28.24. Coming into the FedEx Cup Playoffs, Riley was playing his best golf of the year, making the cut in five straight events and getting his best finish (T7) at U.S. Bank Championship in Milwaukee.



*Chad Campbell*

Best Las Vegas Finish: T3 in 2008

Prediction: Based on last year's effort in Vegas expect a Top 10

Thanks to a brilliant week at Augusta, Campbell almost became the first player with Vegas ties to win a major, but lost in the playoff against Angel Cabrera and Kenny Perry.

With four Top 15 finishes this year including a T9 at the 50th Bob Hope Classic in Palm Springs, Campbell could contend in Las Vegas. He finished tied for third last year shooting 65-67-67-67 and made the cut in 5 of the last 6 tournaments before the Playoffs. He also ranked 14th on Tour in greens in regulation percentage with 68.63.

With four career titles under his belt, Campbell is a threat to win every week.

**CHARLEY HOFFMAN**

Best Las Vegas Finish: T5 in 2006

Prediction: After a great year, struggled lately so could miss cut

With five Top 15 finishes this year, Hoffman continues to mature his game. He finished second earlier this year at FBR Open in Phoenix, losing in a playoff. With one career victory (2007), he generally plays well in warm-weather environments especially in the southwest part of America.

Ranking 9th in birdie average with almost four per round, Hoffman is a threat to win in Las Vegas, if he puts it all together. After making 17 straight cuts to start the year, Hoffman missed cuts in 3 of 4 tournaments heading into the Playoffs.

**WEBB SIMPSON**

Best Las Vegas Finish: 1st Visit

Prediction: Based on Barclays FedEx Cup Playoff run, makes the cut.

A Las Vegas resident and former Wake Forest stand-out, Simpson turned some heads in this his rookie season. With five Top 20 finishes including a T5 at the 50th Bob Hope Classic.

Simpson flirted with his first PGA Tour title at the Barclays – the first event in the FedEx Cup Playoffs. He was in the final group Saturday but finished 8th overall.

Learning the PGA Tour courses, Simpson made the cut in about half the tournament this year. He ranks 4th on Tour in sand-save percentage at 60.71. But, this marks his first time playing the Las Vegas event.

**BILL LUNDE**

Best Las Vegas Finish: T44 in 2007

Prediction: Should be near the cut line, having missed 4 of his last 5 cuts.

Having played a few years on the Nationwide Tour including 2008, Lunde tied for 6th at the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am earlier this season for his only Top 10 finish. Lunde, who makes Las Vegas his home, has made the cut in half of his events this year.

This marks his third appearance at the Las Vegas event. A former UNLV standout, Lunde ranks 46th in total driving on tour.

**SCOTT PIERCY**

Best Las Vegas Finish: T44 in 2006

Prediction: Local knowledge helps him make the cut.

With two wins last year on the Nationwide Tour, Piercy battled his way to a PGA Tour card for 2009.

Making 13 of 23 cuts on Tour this season, Piercy is enjoying his best season as a professional. The local Las Vegas resident earned his way into the FedEx Cup Playoffs with a pair of Top 10 finishes (T5 at The Honda Classic and T6 at FBR Open) earning more than \$800,000.

He made the cut twice in three tries at the Las Vegas event and ranks 13th on Tour in driving distance at 300.7 yards.

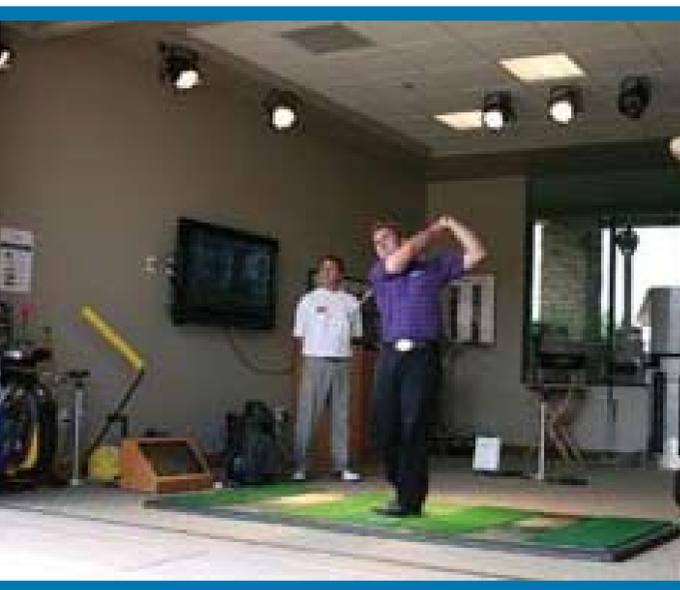


## NICKLAUS ACADEMY OF GOLF AT DRAGONRIDGE

Golden Bear's practice facility offers hi-tech help

By Tann Summers

**Golf is a difficult game, but there is help for all of us. Combining today's latest technologies with the proven fundamentals that helped Jack Nicklaus capture 18 major titles, the new Jack Nicklaus Academy of Golf is open for business in the Las Vegas Valley.**



### THE FACILITY

The academy, which opened in mid-May this year, is located at DragonRidge Country Club, 1249 MacDonald Ranch Drive in Henderson, Nevada. Although DragonRidge is a private course, the Nicklaus Academy is open to the general public.

"We're ideal for any level of golfer that is looking to take their game to the next level," said Dustin Simons, an instructor at the facility.

Las Vegas marks the fourth location for Nicklaus Academies joining Yucatan Country Club in Merida, Mexico, Pronghorn at Bend, Oregon, and The Ledges of St. George in St. George, Utah.

The climate-controlled facility features state-of-the-art training equipment and utilizes proprietary and integrated analysis. Just one step into the facility and guests can see the high-speed cameras, pressure/

balance mat and Doppler radar ball flight monitor. For video-game gurus and tech-friendly golfers, the facility's MotionGolf 3-D Imaging Studio is the only public one of its kind. "We utilize MotionGolf's 3-D

Imaging System to provide the ultimate in analysis allowing our professionals the ability to view and dissect the swing, the body, and the club from virtually every angle and view imaginable with the data to back up the analysis for positive change," said Ted Simons, Nicklaus Golf Academy's president and CEO. "Everything about the club and MacDonald Highlands matches with our high level of quality and personalized level of service. We are able to provide our custom instruction program in the setting that encourages every student to perform at their highest level."

According to Simons, the Nicklaus Academy takes a different approach than many other teaching facilities.

"We do not teach a swing. We teach results so every student can enjoy this great game," he said. "Our proven philosophy is based on Jack Nicklaus' approach to how the game is played at its highest level. The Nicklaus philosophy allows our certified instructors to apply our applications to every level of player."

While full-swing analysis – complete with a hitting bay – dominates the teaching landscape in the golf world, the Nicklaus Academy also tutors the most important part of the game – putting.

"Our computerized putting lab offers players plenty of feedback," said Dustin Simons.

The TOMI Putting lab technology – featuring high-speed cameras - captures a number of key putting components including alignment at address, stroke path, shaft angle, stroke rotation and even a player's stroke tempo. The analysis also denotes alignment and path-at-impact along with speed-at-impact.

### THE STAFF

Based on the teachings and philosophy of Jack Nicklaus, the academy features an excellent staff of professional golf instructors including Mike Malaska, a recognized Top 100 Golf Instructor in Golf Magazine, and Seth Glasco, director of instruction and 15-year Nicklaus-Flick Veteran.

"Not only great instructors, (the staff) are also passionate about the game and improving

every student's experience," said Simons. "Each instructor has been trained and certified in the Nicklaus Academy philosophy and our exclusive Jack Nicklaus Coaching Studio."

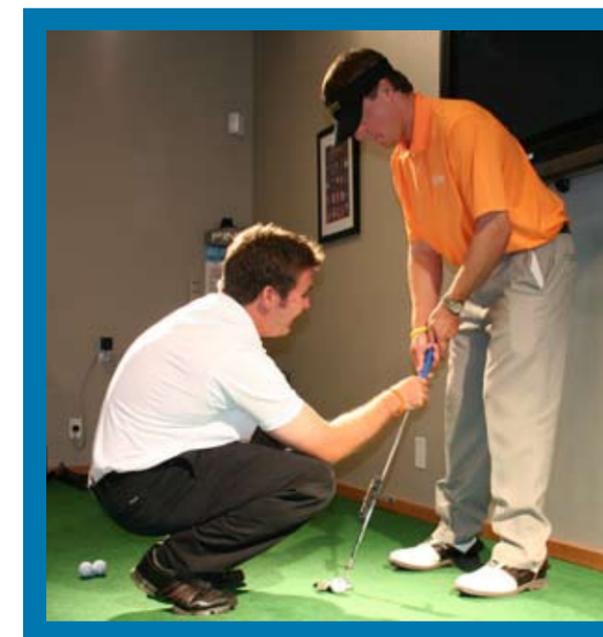
### THE PROGRAMS

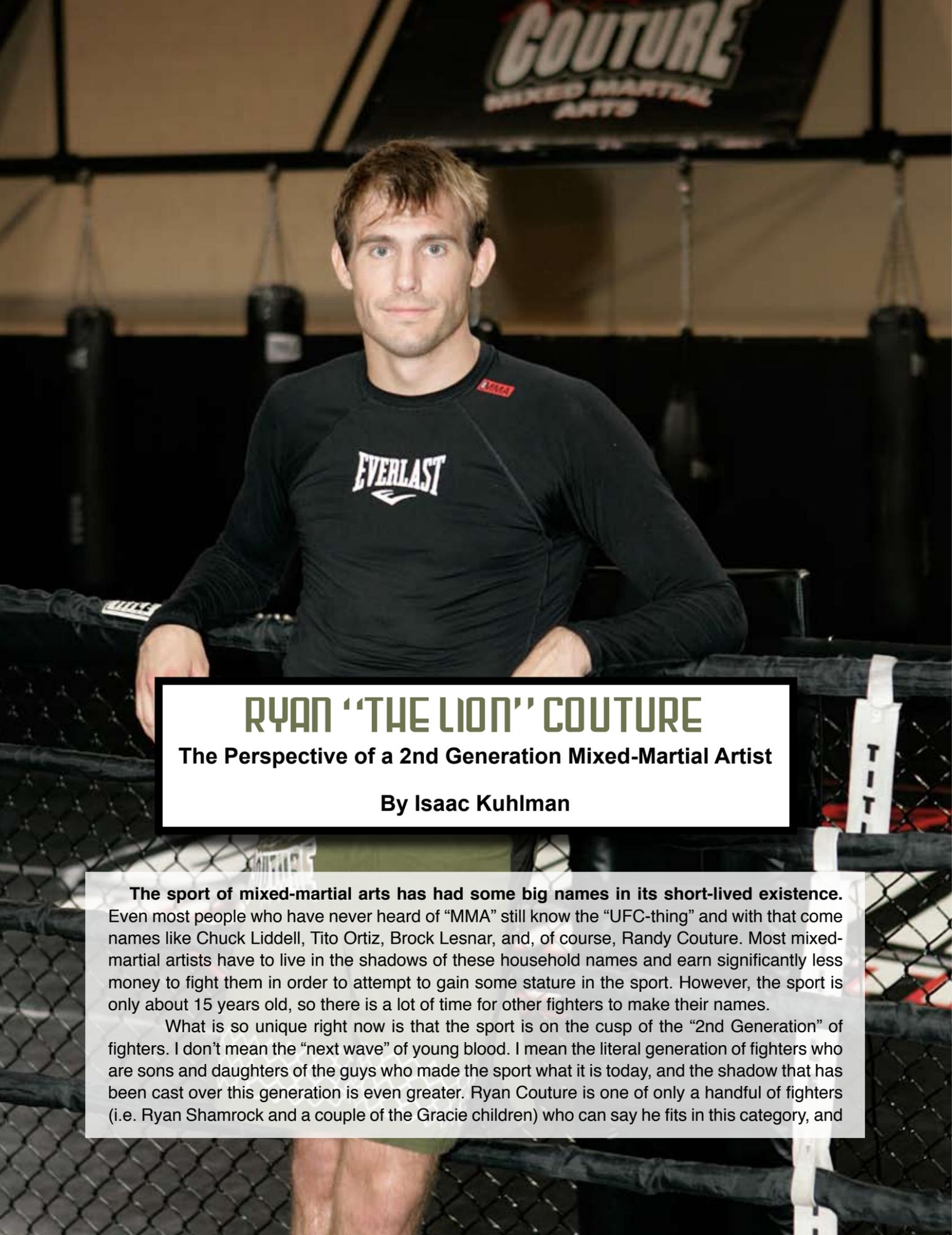
Catering to tourists and locals alike, the facility has a bevy of instructional opportunities including private and group instruction, junior programs, and ½- to 3-day golf experiences.

Players can also take advantage of the Nicklaus Academy's custom programs with MotionGolf 3-D sessions, custom club and ball fitting programs, and integrated golf and fitness programs. Program prices vary and are competitive, according to the staff. As an example, a 30-minute analysis on the TOMI runs less than \$80.

Students often overlook putting lessons, said Dustin Simons. "People lose shots on greens," he said. "They need to understand that. And, this (putting analysis and lesson) will reduce three putts and drop their scores immediately."

**Interested in a lesson? Contact Nicklaus Academies at (208) 939-7300 or visit [www.nicklausacademies.com](http://www.nicklausacademies.com).**





**RYAN "THE LION" COUTURE**  
**The Perspective of a 2nd Generation Mixed-Martial Artist**  
**By Isaac Kuhlman**

**The sport of mixed-martial arts has had some big names in its short-lived existence.** Even most people who have never heard of "MMA" still know the "UFC-thing" and with that come names like Chuck Liddell, Tito Ortiz, Brock Lesnar, and, of course, Randy Couture. Most mixed-martial artists have to live in the shadows of these household names and earn significantly less money to fight them in order to attempt to gain some stature in the sport. However, the sport is only about 15 years old, so there is a lot of time for other fighters to make their names.

What is so unique right now is that the sport is on the cusp of the "2nd Generation" of fighters. I don't mean the "next wave" of young blood. I mean the literal generation of fighters who are sons and daughters of the guys who made the sport what it is today, and the shadow that has been cast over this generation is even greater. Ryan Couture is one of only a handful of fighters (i.e. Ryan Shamrock and a couple of the Gracie children) who can say he fits in this category, and

being the son of one of the greatest fighters in MMA history only adds to the intensity of the situation.

Ryan Couture was just like most kids growing up. The only difference is that he had a famous father. This may have been a little confusing, because as he says, "It was hard to know who my true friends were."

It's understandable, because, with kids, the most popular children have something that all the others don't. For example, friendships could've been based on a new toy or even something as simple as a tire swing. Being Randy Couture's son must have been like having all the new video-game consoles and a roller coaster in your backyard.

However, in recent years, the younger Couture has started to make a name for himself in the world. He graduated from Western Washington University with a degree in Mathematics and worked as a banker for a few years after school. After realizing that banking was not what he wanted to do for a career, he packed his bags and headed to the exact opposite environment in Las Vegas, NV. A move he calls "night and day different. In everything from what people talk about to the schedule's they keep to what their priorities are. It's a bit of a culture shock, but I like it down here. It's starting to feel like home."

Couture agrees that the move was absolutely beneficial saying, "My fighting skills have increased dramatically. There are so many more people to learn from, and the level here is so high as far as training partners and the level of intensity that everyone here is a professional, whereas, up there it was obvious that people just couldn't devote the time that everyone here seems to be able to."

The once-in-a-lifetime perspective that Ryan Couture has been witnessed to in his life has only been available to a couple other people in the world. The perspective as a fan

and a fighter to see a new sport grow from a pay-per-view sensation to a legitimate modern sport with a blood relative being one of the most revered athletes in said sport has been Ryan's perspective over the last 12 years roughly.

As Ryan Couture says, "It's been a huge privilege to see it from such a different perspective. Watch it grow. Watch how his experience has changed as its gotten bigger and bigger. It went from us being able to do whatever we want to not be able to being able to take him anywhere without people stopping us. We had to plan extra time just to get from the car to get into the movie theater. The only thing I can say that has been difficult is to have any identity for myself outside of being "Randy's kid" because there's always someone who is quick to point that out."

Now that he is following in the proverbial fighting footsteps of his hall-of-fame father, even Randy says that it is a sport that is difficult enough to get into without "having to drag my name around with him." To this Ryan Couture says, "There was a time that it stressed me out, but it's not really been an issue as it felt like at first."

In the week between August 22nd and August 29th, the Couture family experienced a bond that most families never get the chance to have. Ryan "The Lion" Couture fought in Tuff-N-Uff's Future Stars of MMA event where he defeated Jimmy Spicuzza by first-round armbar in a very exciting amateur MMA fight. Then, on August 27th, Ryan celebrated his 27th birthday. To top the week off, Randy Couture brought the family with him to Portland, OR where he fought Antonio "Minotauro" Nogueira at UFC 102. Father and son fighting actively in the same week in the sport of MMA on two completely separate levels and stages is something that the sport may start to see more of. Stay tuned.

# The Perfect Place

Wildhorse Golf Club is home to one of the toughest golf holes in the Las Vegas valley as well as a great venue for golfers of all abilities. Originally built in 1959, the course was redesigned in 2004 by architects Brian Curley & Lee Schmidt, featuring several holes guarded by shimmering lakes. The championship, par 70 layout is a local's favorite, offering an enjoyable round of golf at an affordable price.



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“I think, basically, it was a vision of Mask (Charles Lewis Jr.) before he passed away. He kind of wanted to step into the next level of MMA,” says TapouT R&D’s sales manager and mixed-martial arts enthusiast, Eric Thatcher, about how the gym took TapouT’s clothing-brand name and moved into the training center business. “This was an existing training center (Throwdown), and the owners had a relationship with the TapouT crew, and it came to fruition in February.”

TapouT began as a clothing company in 1997 to help promote the sport of mixed-martial arts. The word “tapout” is used to describe the action a

fighter takes when he submits to his opponent in their fight—the fighter literally taps on the canvas or on the other fighter to end the fight. It’s a common word now, but, 12 years ago, it was just a cool-looking logo to most people. TapouT’s website has a message from the late co-founder, Charles “Mask” Lewis Jr, that says:

“Life is full of influences; It’s your application that sets you apart. That’s something I wrote to myself and completely believe in. You can’t be scared to set out to do something in life because you believe it may be similar to something, or because you don’t know the clear cut path on how

you’re going to accomplish your goal or dream! Just take a step towards your belief daily - fearlessly, wholeheartedly, digging and dreaming within yourself, believing that as you push on through sacrifice, you will one day stand alone on top of a hill that you created that now encour-

# TAPOUT R&D:

Las Vegas’ New State-of-the-Art MMA Facility

By Isaac Kuhlman

ages and inspires others to chase their dream. Knowing that through tenacity and patience anything can be achieved.”

Mask died in March in a high-speed car crash in Los Angeles, but his legacy and words still reach out to all of his friends, employees, family, and millions of fans worldwide. The vision Thatcher refers to is the vision that Mask set forth to make MMA a dominant world phenomenon in every aspect of the sport. TapouT had a reality show on the Versus channel where the “Crew” (founders Punkass, Mask and Skyscape) traveled the country looking for MMA talent to give them a shot at sponsorship. The TapouT Research and Development Training Center in Las Vegas is another extension of that vision.

TapouT R&D is not a typical gym, however. It is truly a research facility where the newest products in MMA are tested and rated by the athletes and trainers who use the products everyday. “That’s exactly what they wanted. They wanted to test out new products, put them in the gym, and see how people responded to them. There are a few bags that I’ve never even seen before,” continues Thatcher. “We’re the guinea pigs for it.”

Another feature that sets this gym apart from its counterparts is that it will be part of a franchise of TapouT “clubs”. The clubs are actually a partnership with Gold’s Gym where, much like yoga classes or other fitness groups organize, TapouT has MMA training facilities inside of Gold’s Gyms. Las Vegas has a TapouT Club in

the Gold’s Gym at 7501 W. Lake Mead Blvd. “The concept is that we’re the central hub, and we’ll do Gold’s Gyms in other cities,” Thatcher explains.

Thatcher points out the benefits of conditioning in the mixed-martial arts styles. He says, “Overall, we don’t look at this as just an MMA gym. This is more of a fitness training center with a focus on MMA. We want to offer more to the average person sitting in their office, because in reality there is no better conditioned athlete than a fighter.” It’s hard to argue against that theory, plus the training offers the abilities to defend oneself when fighting is the only option.

The center itself is an impressive 18,000 square feet (expanded after initial opening). It is one of (if not) the biggest MMA gyms in the city, and has a training regiment for everyone. Thatcher pointed out the wrestling mats in the back of the building are used for a lot of college and high school wrestling teams including Bishop Gorman’s boys. Also, he mentioned the idea of expanding the weight area into a much larger part of the center to allow for people to be able to focus on strict weight-training routines.

It seems that a man known to be “masked” may have had better vision than most when it came to the ever-expanding business venture that is known as the sport of MMA. It was through his eyes that competitors and like-minded entrepreneurs see mixed-martial arts grow from a no-holds barred “human cock fight” into a universally recognized sport.



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Randy Couture standing by a poker table signed by members of Xtreme Couture



Poker pro, Eric Seidel (black hat), sits at the same starting table as UFC's Dan Henderson (white hat)



Xtreme Couture's Operations Director, Valerie Haney (right of dealer) looks to take down the competition



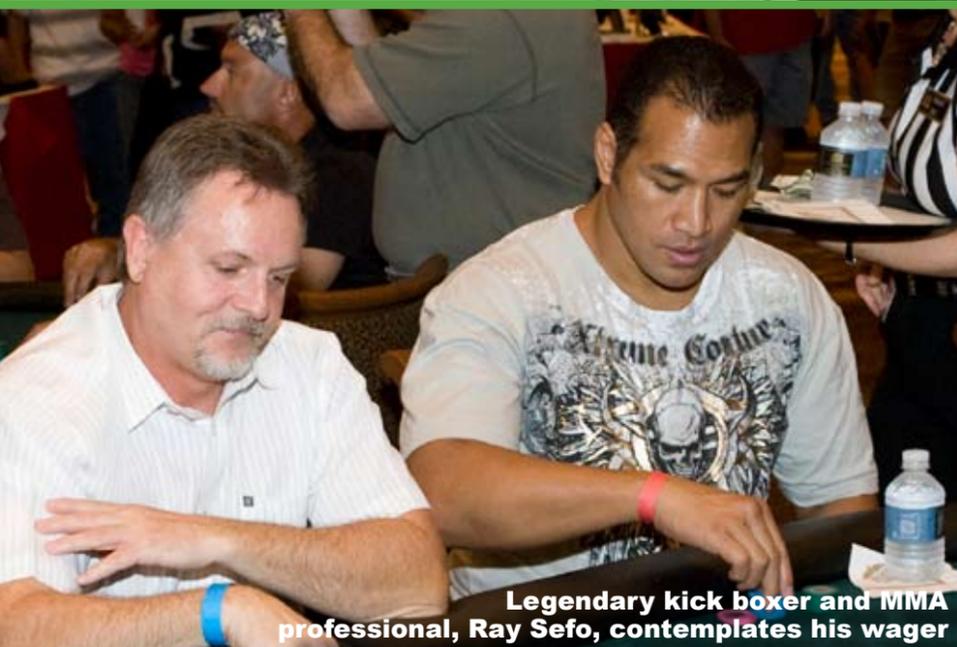
Lovely Xtreme Couture ladies offering their support



M.C. of the event and poker pro, Robert Williamson III, and TV's, Montell Williams, posing for photos



One of the many memorabilia tables



Legendary kick boxer and MMA professional, Ray Sefo, contemplates his wager



"Shuffle up and deal..." as they say

# XTREME COUTURE "OPERATION ALL-IN"

Randy Couture and friends teamed up to help raise \$42,000 dollars for Couture's G.I. Foundation--a foundation created to help wounded soldiers get accustomed to life after war and injury through direct donations. The celebrities, fighters, and poker pros all played along side willing participants to help raise funds for the charity. Couture also will be hosting a charity golf tournament and charity paintball day for the G.I. Foundation in September and October respectively. To find out how you can be part of these exciting and charitable events please visit [www.xtremecouturegifoundation.org](http://www.xtremecouturegifoundation.org).

## AF2 ArenaCup X Successful With Grass-Roots Advertising

*Other Sporting Events Can Learn From It*

- A Letter From the LV Sports Staff

Late in August the AF2 (Arena Football 2) league held their championship game at the Orleans Arena. There was a lot of talk on sports radio and cross chatter about how the game was NOT being marketed and advertised. Well, we at Las Vegas Sports beg to differ. We worked with the marketing department of the Orleans Arena and AF2 in molding an inexpensive and direct-competitive-marketing campaign. Through our media services and the Las Vegas Sports Leagues that our parent corporation Love Media Group operates, we helped raise awareness of the event by targeting the specific groups and demographics that the ArenaCup X was looking to attract, and the cost was much more affordable than putting up radio ads, billboards, and handing out promotional tickets.

The fact is that neither team in the game was from anywhere relatively close to here (Washington and Pennsylvania), and that the attendance reached approximately 5,800 is pretty impressive. A lot of companies will spend more on advertising than necessary hoping that they can get the attention of fans. That does not seem like a very good business plan from where we are sitting. Other companies



hope that their reputation alone will insure the sale of tickets. That's a little risky if you ask us.

The real "state of the union" in this economy and with budgets being cut all across the boards is to enlist the help of groups with multiple connections and endeavors who can reach out to the masses (but in a demographic-specific sense) and alleviate the exorbitant overhead costs associated with traditional radio, print, and television advertisements. The real solution is direct contact.

Las Vegas Sports Magazine, Las Vegas Sports Leagues, and Love Media Group have those types of connections and contacts. Whether it is by running booths at the flag football fields that our corporation operates or by advertising through our Website, Magazine, and weekly E-Newsletter, we get the word out by sending it directly to fans of sports and companies associated with these types of events. In short, we get results when companies need them.

So, when teams like the United Football League's Las Vegas Locomotives and a possible AF2 team or other professional franchise comes to town, it would be beneficial to start from the community level and work their way up. It's not as if there will not be talk about the teams, but what really matters to fans is how they are treated by their teams.

Whether the teams win or lose, the fans will be supportive for a much longer period if the teams show that they are truly interested in the fans. Come rain or shine, if you have a friend that can stand there with you, both people benefit. It may be a bad metaphor, but it applies to this scenario.





The health benefits of exercise are numerous. However, so is the risk of injury due to the repetitive motion necessary to perform athletic movement. Swinging a golf club, tennis racquet, or baseball bat, throwing a ball, lifting weights, and swimming are all examples of repetitive motions that can lead to injury and problems over time. There are four ways to prevent these injuries.

# 4 Ways *to* prevent *exercise/athletic* injury



By Dr. Angela Cherniawski

1. Warm up and cool down before and after an exercise routine or sports event. Taking a five to 10-minute walk is perhaps the best way to prepare the body for more intense physical activity and to relax the body following activity.
2. Warm up and cool down before and after an exercise routine or sports event. Taking a five to 10-minute walk is perhaps the best way to prepare the body for more intense physical activity and to relax the body following activity.
3. Participate in a variety of activities. Doing different activities on different days allows the body to recover following an exercise routine or sports event. For example, while swimming everyday may lead to injury, taking a walk or jogging twice a week, participating in a weight lifting class twice a week, and swimming twice a week breaks up the monotony and repetitive nature of doing the same thing every day.
4. Be proactive and take the necessary steps to stay physically healthy. Chiropractic philosophy says that if the body is in proper physical alignment, it will function properly. Like a cavity that develops in a tooth, misalignments in the body often go undetected until a chiropractor performs a proper examination. Once physical misalignments are corrected, repetitive motion is less likely to cause problems. Also like a cavity, if misalignments are corrected early, injury, pain, and loss of function is less likely.

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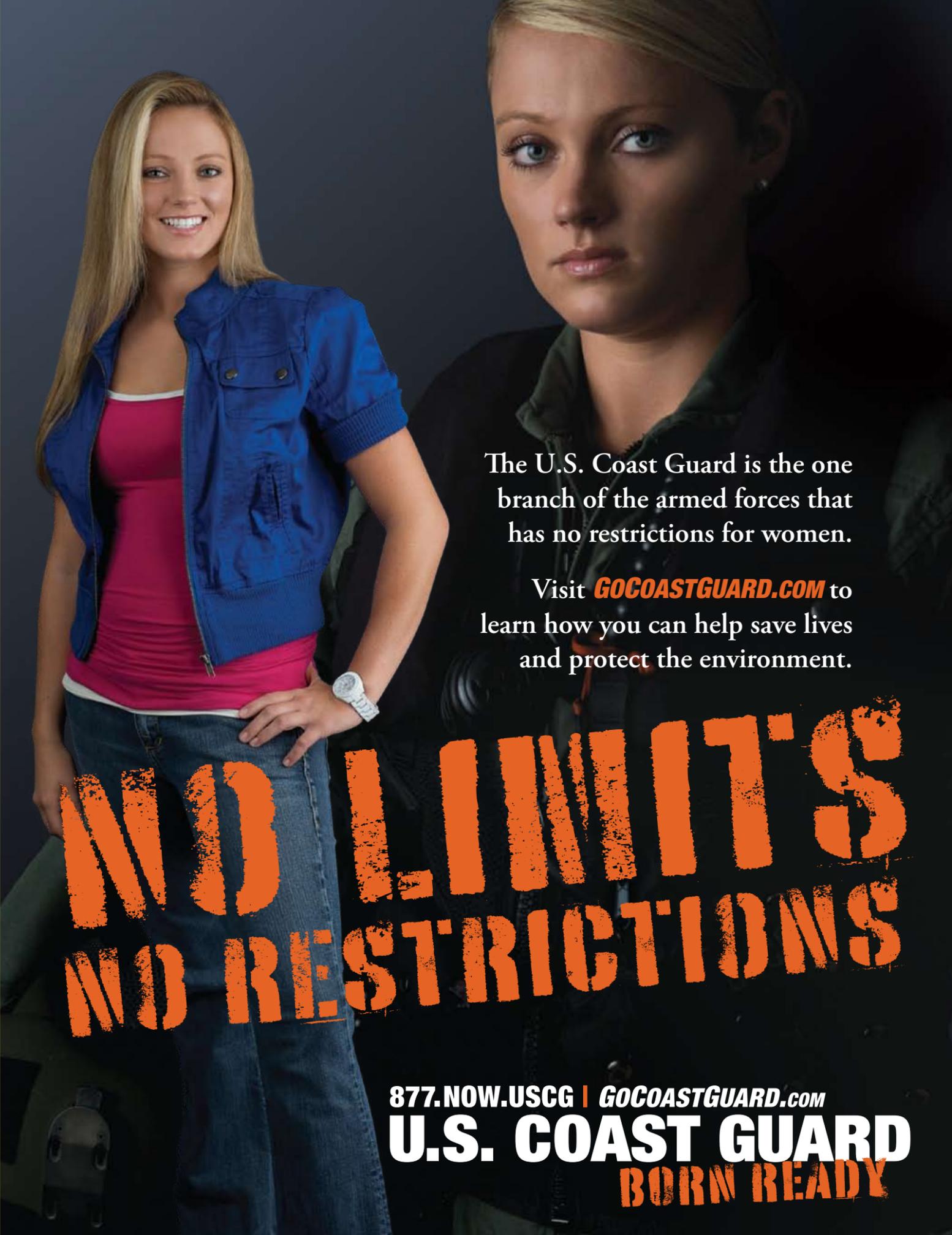


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# REBELS ON THE THE RISE

## 2009 UNLV FOOTBALL

### 2009 SCHEDULE

<b>Sept. 5</b>	<b>SACRAMENTO STATE</b>	<b>7 pm</b>
<b>Sept. 12</b>	<b>OREGON STATE</b>	<b>8 pm</b>
<b>Sept. 19</b>	<b>HAWAI'I</b>	<b>6 pm</b>
Sept. 26	@ Wyoming*	12 pm
Oct. 3	@ Nevada, Reno	TBA
<b>Oct. 10</b>	<b>BYU*</b>	<b>7 pm</b>
<b>Oct. 17</b>	<b>UTAH* (HC)</b>	<b>7 pm</b>
Oct. 24	@ New Mexico*	5 pm
Oct. 31	@ TCU *	1 pm
<b>Nov. 7</b>	<b>COLORADO STATE*</b>	<b>7 pm</b>
Nov. 14	@ Air Force*	3 pm
<b>Nov. 28</b>	<b>SAN DIEGO STATE*</b>	<b>6 pm</b>

### SEASON TICKET PRICES

Sidelines - \$185

End Zone - \$100

### INDIVIDUAL GAME TICKETS

Individual game tickets go on sale June 15.  
Check [UNLVRebels.com](http://UNLVRebels.com) for pricing.

### REBEL FUN PACK\*\*

Purchase the Rebel Fun Pack and receive 4 end zone tickets, 4 hot dogs and 4 small sodas for **ONLY \$50!**

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For more information call 895-1223.

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\*\*Not available for games vs. Hawaii or BYU