JACKS WITH HAMMERS
Athletics facilities hurdle the drafting table p.6

MOTIVATED MILLENNIALS
The Class of ’08 breaks the philanthropy mold p.8

ALL GOOD GIFTS
Generous contributions transform the university p.10

ALSO: NAU breaks new ground in research and health care
It is my pleasure to bring you our third annual edition of PINE Progress. So many new and exciting things are happening at Northern Arizona University, including the launch of the first Senior Class Gift. Perhaps a good way to put our programs and goals into perspective for our alumni is to examine the life cycle of an NAU student, bearing in mind how various opportunities might substantially alter a potential future.

Imagine: You are in your junior year of high school, and you are headed to “College Fair Night.” There are a few universities that interest you. When you approach the NAU table, you meet a dedicated and lively volunteer who speaks highly of our university and provides great information. You were considering NAU; maybe it was only on your “we’ll see” list. But now, after spending some time with this enthusiastic volunteer, you change your mind. You apply, you’re admitted and before you know it, it’s your first semester.

While attending classes and getting oriented, you realize money is tighter than you thought it might be, so you speak with a financial aid officer and learn of the many available scholarship opportunities. You apply for and receive assistance (perhaps from the Freeport-McMoRan gift supporting science and engineering students, or the Lilly Moore scholarship providing assistance to education majors). Your life is changing faster than you imagined it ever could, and so is your world view. Success is a two-way street—both give and take—and you feel ready for the work you have to do.

You focus on your studies, meet new friends, make hard choices and reap great rewards. Not only are doors opening for you as you develop new skills and relationships, but you realize that you have the ability to open doors for others. You get to your senior year—and although it throws you into a time of self-involvement with a job search, increased extracurricular activities and maybe even starting a family—you learn of an opportunity to help fellow Lumberjacks through the new Senior Class Gift. You remember the scholarship that expanded your horizons, a watershed moment in your first year that made a difference when you weren’t sure that you could continue. Now, you can help offer that same breath of freedom for another student.

You decide to give to the Senior Class Gift, even though you can only afford a small amount. It just feels right. You pass your finals, finish your term papers and, believe it or not, it’s time to “walk.” Suddenly your mortarboard is airborne. After commencement you drop by the Alumni Office open house. You discover they need volunteers for the Volunteer Alumni Network program. You remember the volunteer at the recruitment fair five years ago. Wasn’t she just a little older than you are now? It isn’t much of a stretch. You realize being a Lumberjack does not end with graduation, and you sign up to help.

It’s amazing how it all comes full circle. A brand-new graduate who contributes to the Senior Class Gift while laboring to pay off student loans and find a niche in the future is an inspiration to us all. These new alumni understand the value of giving back. We hope you do as well.

I hope you enjoy this issue of PINE Progress. Please contact us at 888-NAU-ALUM or visit us online at naualumni.com/volunteer if you are interested in offering your time, or naualumni.com/giving if you would like to financially support NAU. We appreciate being part of your personal and philanthropic life cycle.

Respectfully,

Susan Schroeder,  
Interim Vice President, University Advancement  
Interim President, NAU Foundation
As president of your alma mater, I take a great deal of pride in the important initiatives and research taking place in Flagstaff and throughout the state.

Northern Arizona University is well known in many areas, with world-renowned scientists, scholars, teachers, performers and researchers. To support the research side of the university’s mission, I appointed Laura Huenneke as the vice president for Research.

Now, NAU is on the verge of becoming the institution in the state for educating health professionals by engaging with one of the most exciting programmatic opportunities in its history.

NAU has already realigned its health-care educational offerings by combining our excellent schools of Nursing and Health Professions into the College of Health and Human Services. The realignment, which includes the hiring of Leslie Olmstead Schulz as executive dean, will strengthen our ability to respond to the growing need for more health-care professionals in the state.

We are looking to expand our physical therapy program in Flagstaff and Phoenix, bring our dental hygiene program to Phoenix, and expand nursing in Tucson, Prescott and Yuma. Future plans include our university offering courses and degree options in conjunction with the University of Arizona College of Medicine-Phoenix, in partnership with Arizona State University.

We also are examining the health of our students while they are studying with us, because academic success is directly related to the health and wellness of the student body.

The Arizona Board of Regents has approved a new health and wellness fee, which had already been endorsed by the Associated Students of NAU and supported in a campus-wide student survey.>
The fee will provide for additional health-care staffing; new recreational fields with artificial turfs, lights and restrooms; improvements to the Fieldhouse recreational facilities; construction of 26,500 square feet of space for weight and fitness use; and construction of a 42,600-square-foot addition to the Recreation Center. The new facility will replace the university’s 40-year-old health center and become a Recreation, Health and Wellness Center, providing physical health, mental health, rehabilitation and recreational services.

This impressive offering is a testament to our students, who recognize the importance of this particular initiative for them and for their children, the future generation of Lumberjacks.

Another exciting campus development is the recently released report from the Presidential Task Force on Athletic Facilities. This group studied the needs and wants for our existing and future facilities. A multiyear plan has been presented that not only takes care of our needs for Title IX but also incorporates community needs. See page 6 for more on this issue.

Of course, current Lumberjacks and Lumberjack supporters don’t have to wait for the future to see exciting changes in Flagstaff. Look no further than north campus to see the latest striking addition to NAU.

The High Country Conference Center, a joint project with the city of Flagstaff and Drury Hotels, has opened. The first event, a Flagstaff Symphony Orchestra gala in March, set the stage for decades of conferences, seminars and meetings that will offer academic opportunities to our students and economic development to our community. The official grand opening in June coincided with the Arizona Board of Regents meeting at NAU.

None of our past achievements or future endeavors would be successful without the support of our alumni, friends, faculty, staff and students.

And when I say I take pride in our initiatives, I am most proud of our NAU family.

John Haeger
President, Northern Arizona University

**A multiyear plan** has been presented that not only takes care of our needs for Title IX but also incorporates community needs.
As the song goes, we’re “wild about Harry.” That’s proud NAU alum Harry Hengl, ’76, one of the prime movers behind the Yuma Block Party day he helped coordinate for NAU-Yuma’s 20-year anniversary. A member of the NAU Foundation Board of Directors and a past president of the NAU Alumni Association, already Harry is a stellar volunteer with a thankless schedule, who is sometimes called upon for improbable feats of juggling. Here’s a peek into his diary from Friday, Feb. 22.

5:45 a.m. Go for walk with a buddy.
7:15 a.m. Call Stan’s to order burritos for Saturday morning breakfast reception.
8 a.m. Drive to ALSCO to pick up donated tablecloths, then by Sign Pro to pick up donated banners for the street.
9 a.m. Arrive at my office and actually do some of my “real job.” [Owner of Western Financial]

9:30 a.m. Hear from my daughter that our new grandson, Joseph, is doing just fine today (born Feb. 10, 2008).

10 a.m. Head downtown to Main Street to help stack tables/chairs for booth setup.
11:30 a.m. Get hungry, walk in to have a hamburger at Lute’s.

12:45 p.m. Business phone call, have to step into one of the downtown retail shop doorways to hear.

1 p.m. Meet some NAU volunteers and Dorothy from Heritage Events; get site map of vendors, set up all tables and chairs.

2:35 p.m. Business phone call.
3:05 p.m. Help set up the staging for the long list of bands playing.

4 p.m. Everything set and ready, guests start showing up.

4:20 p.m. Beer tent Rotary workers and Auxiliary group from the Yuma County Sheriff’s Office arrive.

6:12 p.m. Presentation of dignitaries; I am surprised and presented with a handsome poster.

6:30 p.m. During presentation, Regent Bob McClendon speaks and a few of the Maxer’s Axers see Joe and Marie (’41 & ’79) Rolle for the first time in almost 50 years. It is wonderful to witness their emotional reunion.

7 p.m. Hang out at the NAU-RISE grant booth staffed by my wife, Maureen Hengl, part-time NAU faculty.

9 p.m. Pete Hatfield, an ASU alum who bleeds blue and gold, and Nancy Serenbetz, ’75, along with father and son team Art (’69) and Marc (’95) Atonna, help break down the booths, tables and chairs and get them loaded in the truck.

10:15 p.m. Lock up truck with tables and chairs and head home.

10:25 p.m. Back home. Remind myself I need to have the truck keys to Ready Rent at 6:45 a.m. so they can pick up tables and chairs, then pick up burritos at Stan’s and get ready for alumni and community breakfast at my house in the morning.

Thanks to expert harmonizers like Harry, we all get a good night’s sleep. ☺

For information on volunteering, visit naualumni.com/volunteer
Northern Arizona University is embarking on an impressive plan to make over its athletics facilities while transforming the student experience and sports culture on campus. The first results have been rolled out—literally—with a new playing surface installed in the Walkup Skydome.

“The REALGRASS Matrix is the most advanced and exclusive turf available,” says head football coach Jerome Souers. “I am confident this facility supports a safer and more rewarding experience for those who compete on it. We are looking forward to having this as our new ‘home,’ and being able to defend it as our new turf.”

Getting this state-of-the-art surface installed in the Skydome was one of the priorities in a report released in January by the President’s Task Force on Athletics Facilities. The task force, a diverse group of students, faculty, staff and community members, recommended a multiyear plan that called for a major renovation of the Walkup Skydome and construction of a multiuse arena for basketball, concerts and other community activities. Other goals include new facilities for women’s soccer, women’s golf, volleyball, and men’s and women’s tennis, as well as beefed-up facilities for swimming and track and field. Plans also call for additional recreational surfaces to be installed on campus.

“If we want to remain competitive—or even remain in intercollegiate athletics—we have to make improvements to our facilities,” says NAU President John Haeger.
During its annual spring game on April 26, the Lumberjack football team showcased the new surface installed by Hellas Construction of Austin, Tex.

The dome’s new carpet, the Matrix version of the brand REALGRASS, cost close to $1 million. The surface comprises a monofilament spun yarn in two sizes and colors.

The project has the blessing of the Arizona Cardinals football team, which uses the Dome during its spring training camp. The Cardinals hired a turf-consulting firm, CMX, which helped NAU determine the best solution. The surface replaces the Astroturf installed in 2002 that was originally part of the outfield at Tropicana Field, home of the Tampa Bay Rays.

For the Cleat Elite

There are 44 ounces of yarn per square yard of REALGRASS.

The field consists of 28 rolls that weigh 8,700 pounds each.

The project contains 23,400 pounds of fiber synthetic yarn.

The field is filled with 230,000 pounds of ground recycled rubber tires.
Millennial alumni leave their mark on a new giving paradigm

New Age Philanthropy

Senior Class Gift Committee member, Charlene Radsack, ’08, proudly stands for her generation.
They are tech-savvy, self-assured. Too confident? Maybe. Too casual? Perhaps. They like challenges; they’re used to working in teams. But the Class of 2008 is NAU’s newest group of alumni and representative of their peers. Mostly born after 1980 and sometimes referred to as Millennials, these students know what they want: to make an investment by leaving a legacy at NAU.

To prepare for the new Senior Class Gift Program, University Advancement surveyed a number of students on campus. The staff soon learned that behind the cell phones, tattoos and espressos is a group of forward-thinking individuals. They are dedicated to their alma mater, proud to become alumni and definitely up to the challenge of pioneering a giving program that would benefit future NAU generations. In return, they wanted quick action and public recognition.

In March of this year, Advancement launched a simple marketing campaign: website, poster, email, phone call. Graduating seniors proved eager to give to the newly created NAU Senior Legacy Scholarship and other NAU programs and areas. They also were happy to know their dollars would be matched—up to $2,500 by the Office of the President. At the time of commencement, 132 students and student groups had contributed $3,602 in gifts and pledges.

The original Senior Class Gift Committee for NAU’s campaign was made up of three seniors—Nick Mueldener, Charlene Radsack and Patrick Murphy—and two junior representatives, Liz Medina and Jessica Putnam. They recognized the importance of the university’s watchwords, “making a difference that matters” for NAU. “Giving back to the future students of NAU is vital,” says Putnam, an international affairs/pre-law major. “It ensures that another student can fulfill his or her dream.”

These students know that Northern Arizona University doesn’t have a multibillion-dollar endowment to make headlines. But they believe NAU can rank with the most elite institutions by embracing the philosophy of paying it forward. “I realized that universities improve largely from the support and achievements of their alumni,” Murphy says. “NAU has given me a great education and experience during the past four years and I want to give back.”

“I realized that universities improve largely from the support and achievements of their alumni. NAU has given me a great education and experience during the past four years and I want to give back.”

—Patrick Murphy, Class of 2008

To recognize the seniors who have made a permanent mark with participation in the Senior Class Gift, a large plaque will be prominently displayed in the NAU University Union and updated each year. Every contributing class will also be acknowledged publicly at May commencement. Pioneering what promises to become a tradition of philanthropy at NAU, these seniors have left a legacy for the new millennium. NAU posed a challenge, and they ran with it. Impressively? Definitely. That’s the Millennial way.

To make your gift online, visit naualumni.com/giving
In the pantheon of precious metals, copper and gold aren’t just prized for their luster. They’re also among the most malleable and ductile of materials, creating fantastic avenues of possibility for those who mold and wield them; and their conductivity—their ability to convey heat and electricity—makes them ideal energy transmitters.

The recent $500,000 gift to Northern Arizona University from Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold, Inc., is the perfect realization of such versatility and dynamic potential. Designated to boost science and engineering programs at NAU and promote interests in math and science among pre-college students, the gift will mine and polish the talents of new generations.

Laura Huenneke, NAU vice president for Research and former dean of the NAU College of Engineering and Natural Sciences (CENS), lauds Freeport-McMoRan’s vision: “They see the sustained development of local workforce and of the communities in which they do business as both a prudent business practice and a corporate civic duty.”

Freeport-McMoRan’s new contribution will permit several key college initiatives:

- The creation of a dedicated undergraduate mentoring and research office in CENS.
- Funding for an outreach and recruitment coordinator who will encourage enrollment of science and engineering students.

A Winn Is a Win

**Complete Pass:** $40K to NAU Football

**Quarterback:** Greg Winn, father of Thomas Winn, ’04

**Extra Points:** Football program enhancement, including upgrading computer hardware and software, stewardship of the new NAU Letterwinners Club, funding for the NAU Athletic Director’s Leadership Council and the Greg Winn Football Endowment.

**Special Team:** Winn’s son, Thomas, played tight end for the Lumberjack football team from 1999 to 2004. A Jacks supporter and member of the NAU Athletic Director’s Leadership Council, Winn has previously donated to improve locker room facilities and computer equipment.

**Four Kind**

It’s elemental—targeted gifts and grants forge and reinforce university strengths
NAU President John Haeger is honored to commemorate the Freeport-McMoRan gift with their Director of Community Affairs & Corporate Responsibility, Tracy Bame.

**Alpha Females**

**Sorority Pledges:** $11,000 to the Epsilon Xi Chapter of Alpha Delta Pi

**Ladies of Ledger:** Various AΔΠ Alumnae

**A Room of One’s Own:** Organized a sorority fundraiser, Building Our Future at Northern Arizona University, to renovate the chapter room at Mountain View Hall.

**Their Sisters’ Keepers:** The fundraiser was held November 2-3, 2007, during A Time to Re-Member, AΔΠ’s reunion celebrating its approaching 40th anniversary. Alumnae traveled to Phoenix from Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Minnesota, New York and Washington, D.C. Phase I of the chapter room renovation was completed during the NAU winter break.

**Bio Feedback**

**Biological Imperative:** $2.9 million grant for College of Engineering and Natural Sciences

**Benign Vector:** National Science Foundation

**Opportunistic Injection:** The Biotechnology Integration Opportunities for Teacher Education and Content grant, aka BIOTEC, supports graduate students as they pursue innovative research and share knowledge with younger students. Grant recipients will receive support for their research and spend 10 hours a week collaborating with teachers in local K-12 classrooms to improve the instruction of science, technology, engineering and math.

“[This] is a wonderful opportunity to put scientists in local classrooms where they can involve students in the process of science,” says Catherine Ueckert, an associate professor in biology who wrote the grant. Local teachers will receive help with scientific research, curriculum support and workshops. The 2008-09 BIOTEC fellowship package includes a $30,000 annual stipend for up to two years, benefits, tuition and fee waivers, and an opportunity for the students to present their research at the annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

NAU President John Haeger is honored to commemorate the Freeport-McMoRan gift with their Director of Community Affairs & Corporate Responsibility, Tracy Bame.

**The establishment of a high-profile lecture series targeted to engage more young people in scientific and engineering careers.**

This gift represents the latest partnership between NAU and Freeport-McMoRan’s retiring president/COO Timothy Snider, ’79, whose recent personal gift to the university helped equip the new CENS Science Laboratory building with cutting-edge technology—yet another manifestation of the golden rule.
They’re on the RIGHT path!

The NAU Fund: Working to get students from their first class to their future.

The NAU Fund directly supports the programs, the faculty and the ideas that make a Northern Arizona University education an excellent one.

Please make a gift, and help ensure a smooth ride for all students.

www.advancement.nau.edu
1-888-628-2586