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NEVADA INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION BRINGS ITS GOLF CHAMPIONS IN AS VOLUNTEERS FOR LEGENDS AT SPARKS MARINA RENO-TAHOE OPEN

Innovative Program Puts State Champion Golfers as Standard-Bearers

RENO, Nev. (Aug. 2, 2008) – In one of the more creative, community-oriented programs – a program created during a conversation between Chairman of the Reno-Tahoe Open Foundation John Sande III and Ed Bonine of the Nevada Interscholastic Athletic Association -- the Legends at Sparks Marina Reno-Tahoe Open has teamed with the NIAA to bring the state's best high-school golfers inside-the-ropes experiences for the PGA TOUR event.

Led by state champion Alexandra Borcherts of Centennial High in Las Vegas, the state champions from each of the NIAA's four classifications, will serve as standard-bearers and walking scorers.

"We're very excited to have these young athletes out here with us at the Legends Reno-Tahoe Open," said Sande, who along with Bonine – the executive director of the NIAA – came up with the idea during a plane ride. "By getting these kids out on the course next to some of the greatest athletes in the world, we're giving them the opportunity to learn from the pros, seeing first-hand how professional athletes deal with the pressures of performance and learning that through hard work and dedication they can achieve their goals. "

Borcherts, who will play for the University of Nevada-Reno this season after graduating from Centennial with a 4.6 grade-point average, will carry the standard for Sunday's final group. She captured the Nevada 4A State Title last October in a playoff, was the Nevada NIAA Player of the Year as a junior and a four-time, All-State selection.

"We are excited that our member schools' golfers are being given the opportunity to be a part of such a prestigious event," Bonine said. "Those Nevada State Champions who exercised their chance to be inside the ropes, and get an up close and personal view of professional golfers, are no doubt getting an experience of a lifetime. On behalf of the NIAA and our member schools' golf programs, we extend our gratitude to all of those that made this opportunity a reality."

By inviting these champions to volunteer in the Legends Reno-Tahoe Open, Tournament Director Michael Stearns said, "This is a wonderful story of the community coming together to further enhance our youth experiences in preparation for their adult lives. These champions will be able to see first-hand how the professional golfer plays their game."

The 10th anniversary of the PGA TOUR event will have its final round showcased live on Golf Channel Sunday from 3:30-6 p.m. (PT). That will put the stunning Alpine setting of the Montréux Golf & Country Club on display to an international audience for the \$3 million event.

For more information on this year's Legends at Sparks Marina Reno-Tahoe Open, including ticket sales, volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, visit www.LegendsRenoTahoeOpen.com or contact the tournament office at 775-322-3900.

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NIAA GOLFERS TEAM WITH LEGENDS RENO-TAHOE OPEN FOR INNOVATIVE VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The Legends at Sparks Marina Reno-Tahoe Open, an official PGA TOUR event, celebrates its 10th anniversary July 28 – Aug. 3, 2008 at Montrêux Golf & Country Club in Reno, Nev. As the PGA TOUR's only West Coast summer venue, the tournament is a regular full-field stop on the TOUR schedule and is part of the FedExCup series, a points competition for PGA TOUR professionals. The nationally-televised tournament brings in millions of dollars in coverage for the region through its affiliation with The Golf Channel as it follows 132 PGA TOUR professionals competing for a share of the \$3-million purse. The Legends Reno-Tahoe Open is operated and managed by the Reno-Tahoe Open Foundation, comprised of its members including Eldorado Hotel Casino, EMPLOYERS, Montrêux Development Group, RED Development, LLC, Reno-Tahoe, America's Adventure Place and Sierra Pacific Resources.

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