

Exclusive hiking boot fitting in Tahoe City

Alpenglow Sports and Tecnica Boots will host an Italian-styled happy hour and custom boot fitting event with famous designer Federico Sbrissa on May 2 from 5-7pm.

Tecnica has recently released Forge technology, the first ever thermo-moldable custom hiking, backpacking and trekking boot technology. Forge has revolutionized custom boot fitting and has been awarded the coveted Editor's Choice Award from Backpacker magazine as well as Outside magazine's Best in Show.

To celebrate the launch, Tecnica is flying in Italian boot designer and creator of Forge technology Federico Sbrissa from Italy. He has a long and storied career in product design, will be on hand to custom fit boots with two cutting-edge fit stations.

Alpenglow and Tecnica will celebrate the event by providing prosecco, prosciutto, melon, gelato and other Italian treats, as well as other adult beverages from Sierra Nevada Brewing Company.

The Forge comes in either a leather or synthetic version.

CHP helicopter rescues hurt hiker in EDC

By Benjy Egel, Sacramento Bee

A hiker was rescued via helicopter Sunday after falling off a trail near the north fork of the American River in El Dorado County.

California State Parks and El Dorado County Fire personnel found the hiker but couldn't safely retrieve him or her, according to a Facebook post by California Highway Patrol – Valley Air Operations. The agencies called CHP and requested a helicopter, which a pilot landed on a small sandbar just off the river.

Read the whole story

Migratory bird policy undermines century of conservation

By Amanda Rodewald, The Conversation

The Trump administration has announced a position on protecting migratory birds that is a drastic pullback from policies in force for the past 100 years.

In 1916, amid the chaos of World War I, President Woodrow Wilson and King George V of Great Britain signed the Migratory Bird Treaty. The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) wrote the treaty into U.S. law two years later. These measures protected more than 1,100 migratory bird species by making it illegal to pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill or sell live or dead birds, feathers, eggs and nests, except as allowed by permit or regulated hunting.

This bold move was prompted by the decimation of bird

populations across North America. About 5 million birds, especially waterbirds like egrets and herons, were dying yearly to provide feathers to adorn hats, and the passenger pigeon had just gone extinct. Fearing that other species would meet the same fate, national leaders took action.

Now the Interior Department has issued a legal opinion that reinterprets the act and excludes “incidental take” – activities that are not intended to harm birds, but do so directly in ways that could have been foreseen, such as filling in wetlands where migrating birds rest and feed. Why? For fear of “unlimited potential for criminal prosecution.” As the argument goes, cat owners whose pets attack migratory birds or drivers who accidentally strike birds with their cars might be charged with crimes.

But the MBTA has not been enforced this way. It is applied to cases of gross negligence where potential harm should have been anticipated and avoided, such as discharging water contaminated with toxic pesticides into a pond used by migratory birds. This new reading of the law means that companies will escape legal responsibility and liability for actions that kill millions of birds every year.

Pollution, development and habitat loss kill birds

Purposeful killing is only one of many threats to migratory birds. Habitat loss, invasive species, pollution and collisions with buildings take heavy tolls on many species. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, every year more than 40 million birds are killed by industrial activities or structures such as power lines, oil pits, communication towers and wind turbines. The 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico killed more than 1 million birds in a single event.

Seventeen former Interior Department officials representing every presidential administration from Nixon through Obama

have written a memo expressing deep concern about the new policy. As they explain, the MBTA has given industries a strong and effective incentive to work with government agencies to anticipate, avoid and mitigate foreseeable death or injury to birds.

For example, it prompted energy companies to install nets above pits where they store waste fluids from oil drilling. Because these pits look like water sources, birds often land on them and can become trapped and die. Installing nets over the pits has cut annual bird deaths from roughly two million birds yearly to between 500,000 and 1 million. Not perfect, but a meaningful improvement.

Global citizens, global consequences

Because migratory birds don't recognize international boundaries, the consequences of reinterpreting the MBTA may be felt across borders. In one year, an individual warbler may spend 80 days in Canada's boreal forests, 30 days in the United States at resting and refueling sites during migration, and over 200 days in Central America.

At the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, we have constructed maps and animations using data collected by volunteers for eBird, the world's fastest-growing biodiversity database. These references illustrate how migratory birds connect countries. Many spend the year in locations that span the Western Hemisphere.

The eastern-breeding magnolia warbler, for example, spends winters in areas in the Yucatan Peninsula and Central America that are fractions of the size of its breeding range. Seeing how densely these birds are clustered in their winter habitat shows us that each acre of that territory is important to their survival.

Similarly, most populations of the western-breeding western tanager overwinter in Mexico. By identifying where bird

populations winter in this way, we can better target conservation actions to protect species throughout their annual cycles.

Still at risk

Today we know much more than early conservationists did about the value of birds. Healthy bird populations pollinate crops and help plants grow by dispersing seeds and preying on insects. Migratory birds also contribute billions of dollars to economies through recreational activities like hunting and birdwatching. And they connect us with nature, especially through the dazzling spectacle of migration.

Conserving migratory birds requires effective protection both in the United States and through international agreements and partnerships. The most important threats are loss and degradation of habitat, which can be caused by land conversion – for example, clearing forests for farming – or by climate change.

In the 2016 State of North American Birds report, an international team of scientists assessed the conservation status of 1,154 birds across Canada, the United States and Mexico. They found that over one-third of all North American bird species are at risk of extinction without meaningful conservation action.

Birds associated with oceans and tropical and subtropical forests year-round are in the most dire straits. More than half of North American seabirds are declining due to pollution, unsustainable fishing, energy extraction, pressure from invasive species and climate change. Birds that rely on coasts, arid lands and grasslands also are in serious decline.

There are no easy solutions, but new science is supporting responses. Transformational citizen science projects like eBird are developing vast data sets to help pinpoint where conservation action should focus. Bird conservation groups and

government agencies have formed international teams to eradicate invasive predators on islands that are critical to breeding seabirds and drafted multinational agreements to clean up large floating mats of garbage in our seas that can choke, trap or poison seabirds and other animals.

Birds are a shared resource among nations. Where governments have acted, they have successfully protected migratory birds and the habitat they depend on. In my view, the Trump administration's shift would abdicate U.S. leadership on migratory bird conservation and undermine public good for private profit.

Amanda Rodewald is a professor and director of conservation science at Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Cornell University.

Drones, e-bike restrictions in Tahoe basin

Technology like drones and e-bikes are restricted in some areas of the Lake Tahoe Basin.

Drones are prohibited from all Nevada and California state parks.

Wilderness areas are also drone-free zones. Locally this would pertain to Desolation, Mt. Rose and Granite Chief wilderness areas.

The Federal Aviation Administration also has a ban of drones in a five-mile radius from an airport, which includes Lake Tahoe Airport and Truckee-Tahoe Airport.

Drones are permitted on U.S. Forest Service land assuming it

does not conflict with the above criteria.

When it comes to e-bikes, the Forest Service allows them on trails where other motorized vehicles are permitted. However, the maximum speed is 20 mph.

The Tahoe Rim Trail and Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park do not allow the electronic bikes.

– *Lake Tahoe News staff report*

Tahoe City Golf Course celebrating 100 years

By Kurt Althof

Tahoe City Golf Course, the oldest course at Lake Tahoe, will celebrate its centennial anniversary during the 2018 season with a variety of events and specials.

Designed by May “Queenie” Dunn-Webb, golf pro and course manager in 1918, this year’s celebrations pay tribute to female athletes, pioneers and North Lake Tahoe History.

To kick off the special season, May 11-13 green fees for 9 holes will be 50 cents, a typical rate for golf after the turn of 20th century.

On June 8, the course will host putting and driving contests for all ages using hickory stick putters and throwback equipment. Following the contests, Tahoe historian Mark McLaughlin will deliver a historical presentation on the Tahoe City Golf Course. Admission is free and subject to space available.

On June 9, the course will host the Two Bills Heritage Golf Tournament with proceeds benefiting the Red Cross and the Tahoe City Recreation Association.

On Aug. 19, in a nod to female-influenced beginnings, the greatest female golfer of this generation, Annika Sorenstam, will provide a junior golf clinic and demonstration followed by a Q&A and photo session.

Following the demonstration, the course will host its inaugural family golf tournament encouraging generations to come together and form teams for this special community event.

Throughout the season, every Tuesday (excluding July 3) will be May Dunn Day, offering a 9-hole lady's rate of \$19.18. Similarly, every Thursday (excluding July 5) is Throwback Thursday with 9-hole pricing of \$19.18 all day for all golfers.

In addition to specials, the course will be the temporary home to a portion of golf historian Rick Lund's extensive collection of historical golf equipment and memorabilia. The exhibit's centerpiece will be a junior golf club made by and carrying the May Dunn-Webb name.

Tahoe City Golf Course, originally the Tahoe Tavern Links, has a rich history in the Sierra. At the turn of the century, a railroad spur line brought guests to the Tahoe Tavern in Tahoe City. As the Tavern and the sport of golf gained in popularity a portion of the Tavern's extensive holdings were set aside for a golf course. The Tahoe Tavern commissioned the course in 1917, designed and built by May "Queenie" Dunn-Webb of the infamous Scottish golf family, the Dunns. First built as a 6-hole course with sand greens, the Tavern Links became 9 holes and 2,765 yards in 1921. The 9-hole tract has remained ever since, although the actual layout was altered in the 1940s.

The Tahoe City Golf Course was host to big money games in the

1950s, with players such as Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, the Mills Brothers, Ken Venturi, Harvey Ward, Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr. and Andy Williams.

For 100 years the course has provided a fantastic golf experience for everyone, from the rich and famous to aspiring junior golfers. The course has also given back to the community since its inception, hosting numerous charity events, including the first ever fundraising tournament benefiting the Red Cross in August 1918.

Through several sales of the Tahoe Tavern, its outlying and separately deeded parcels were divvied up among the partners. Through this process the golf course became the property of Gordon and Pat Hyde in 1946. Just two years later, in 1948, the Hyde's sold to Carl Bechdolt Jr. and wife Elsie. The course remained with the Bechdolt family until February 2012 when a consortium of public agencies led by the Tahoe City Public Utility District purchased the course, converting it into a public municipal course for the enjoyment of the community and its visitors.

Kurt Althof works for the Tahoe City Public Utility District.

Tahoe athletes inducted into ski hall of fame

Three Tahoe area athletes were inducted into the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame this month.

The locals were:

- Six-time X Games gold medalist Shaun Palmer of South

Lake Tahoe.

- Steve McKinney, a legendary world-record speed skier from Squaw Valley. He was honored posthumously.
- Hermann Gollner, a skiing pioneer and coach at Sugar Bowl and Squaw Valley.

The five other inductees were ski mountaineering brothers Michael and Steven Marolt of Aspen; world freestyle champion Ed Ferguson of Washington; U.S. cross country coach Marty Hall; and U.S. Ski Team trustee and foundation leader Thom Weisel.

Sierra mountaintop lab tracks some of the worst weather in U.S.

By Mike Wolterbeek

Winds that tear weather gauges from their mountings and blizzards that bury chairlifts – this is the kind of weather that hits Donner Summit, and holds great interest to climatologists, meteorologists, hydrologists and water supply managers as well as creates one of the best regions for skiing in the world.

While this winter has been mild in comparison, strong winter storms like the 10 atmospheric river events that moved through the Northern Sierra Nevada region during the 2016-17 winter season are not uncommon. Those systems regularly generated 173-mile per hour winds and delivered more than 700-inches of snowfall, with the snowpack reaching depths of more than 20

feet. The extreme weather was recorded in part by new instruments and technologies placed on a mountaintop in a collaboration between the UNR's Nevada State Climatologist's Office and Sugar Bowl Resort.

Scientists at the College of Science and officials at the Lake Tahoe area ski resort partnered to study regional weather and the impacts of climate change in the Northern Sierra by way of installation of three weather stations at the resort. The installation collects and provides important weather-related information that can be viewed by the public, updated every 10 minutes, and is shared with the National Weather Service, U.S. Forest Service and Sierra Avalanche Center daily. It can be viewed **online**.

In addition, the data collected provides Sugar Bowl Resort with important details relevant to their avalanche control and slope grooming operations.

"Less than an hour from the university's campus in Reno, the nearly 8,400-foot summit of Mt. Lincoln is an ideal location for high-elevation climate observations," said Douglas Boyle, associate professor in the Department of Geography in the College of Science and director of the Nevada State Climate Office.

"The university is interested in long-term monitoring of the weather and climate variables with the primary goal of observing changes in atmospheric winds, the associated high-elevation orographic-based precipitation, and the snowpack; the primary source of water for rivers, reservoirs, aquifers, agriculture, and millions of people in northern California and the east side of the Sierra Nevada."



Nevada State Climatologist and Associate Professor Doug Boyle, and graduate student Paul Fremeau inspect one of three extreme weather stations at the crest of the Sierra Nevada at Sugar Bowl. Photo/UNR

The Donner Summit area, where Sugar Bowl is located, has climate records that go back to the late 1800s and there are twice-daily records at the Sugar Bowl Ski Resort that go back for decades. It is one of the longest continuous ski resort snow-recording sites in the country, and the ski resort continues the record keeping.

The new weather stations are operated by an internet-based system that uses the university's AlertTahoe private high-speed microwave linked system that transmits real-time data,

photos and video to scientists, public safety officials and Sugar Bowl's professional ski patrol. The high-definition cameras have been installed at all three weather station locations at the resort. The mid-mountain station is at 7,558 feet and the base station is at 6,978 feet. These locations were selected in coordination with the Sugar Bowl Ski Patrol to best represent areas with snow across the entire resort to assist in decision-making for avalanche control and forecasting throughout the region.

"Sugar Bowl benefits from this partnership by gaining access to accurate real-time observations of weather and snow conditions that can assist with our operational decision-making and communications to our guests," Greg Dallas, president and CEO of Sugar Bowl Resort, said. "Science-based snow reporting also offers the most consistent and authentic data available. We intend to use it to be even more transparent as it relates to our daily snow reporting. We also appreciate the value it brings to our entire region as the university team and other organizations receiving this data study the impacts of climate change in the Sierra."

The partnership between the university and Sugar Bowl dates back to May 2014 when the university's climate office was granted a 10-year permit to conduct high-altitude climate monitoring within the privately held property of the Sugar Bowl Corporation along the Sierra Crest near Donner Summit. Part of the 10-year permit includes the opportunity for university faculty to take advantage of this high-elevation climate observation network for educational purposes.

"This project has, and will, continue to serve as an excellent outdoor laboratory for studying mountain weather and climate," Boyle said. "Since 2014, dozens of undergraduate and graduate students from the University have had the opportunity to visit and work with our weather sites at Sugar Bowl to learn about monitoring extreme weather and climate conditions. Feedback from students has been overwhelmingly positive."

Since October 2016, the science team has been observing and recording air temperature, relative humidity, wind speed, wind direction, barometric pressure, precipitation, snow depth, water content and snow surface temperature automatically at the three Sugar Bowl Resort sites. Automated precipitation sensors were installed this year and the installation of automated water content, snow depth, and net solar radiation sensors will be installed early this summer.

“Sugar Bowl has been an amazing partner and collaborator on this project,” Boyle said. “Together, we have already learned a lot about the challenges associated with keeping these real-time observations available during extreme weather conditions, including transmitting microwave signals through 30- to 40-foot snow drifts, AC power outages, and heavy ice riming issues on the mountaintop equipment.

In spring 2016, the climate office partnered with Graham Kent, a geosciences professor and the Nevada State Seismologist at UNR, to include these weather/climate sites at Sugar Bowl Resort in the Nevada Seismological Laboratory’s multi-hazard monitoring and communications network that includes earthquakes, wildfire and extreme weather observations.

The state-of-the-art camera system, part of the AlertTahoe fire camera network, also provides real-time data, photos and video to first responders, scientists, public safety officials and other interested parties, and offers the ski area access to weather-related data that assists with their avalanche forecasting and mitigation, and snow reporting accuracy. UNR’s Climate Office installed, maintains and operates the equipment.

The wilderness internet network includes 25 fire cameras along the Sierra crest as far south as Mammoth Lakes and BLM lands in Northern Nevada. Another 10 cameras have already been funded and slated for installation this spring and summer. The addition of the extreme weather observations in the network

will provide much needed real-time weather information to better understand avalanche conditions in the Sierra, snow levels over mountain passes, and aviation conditions in the region.

Mike Wolterbeek works for UNR.

Waterfall season at Tahoe a roaring sensation



Glen Alpine Falls is at the far end of Fallen Leaf Lake.
Photo/Kathryn Reed

By Kathryn Reed

With the burst of moisture in March and April, it is making waterfall season rather glorious right now.

The peak runoff usually doesn't hit until later in May in the Sierra, so the rush of water should be flowing strong for several weeks, if not well into June. Plus, the temperature is supposed to be in the high 60s this week, which will just make the snow melt all that much faster. That's a good thing for waterfall enthusiasts.

On the South Shore there are several waterfalls worth seeing. And not all of them require putting on a pair of hiking boots.

Glen Alpine Falls is raging. The multiple strands of water tumble down in ribbons across a wide swath of granite.

https://www.laketahoenews.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/IMG_1243.mp4

To get there, take the bumpy Fallen Leaf Lake Road until the falls come into view. Last weekend it was passable without four-wheel drive, but the El Dorado County maintained road is in horrible condition. Lots of other people last Saturday had the same idea, so it was a bit crowded at this gateway to Desolation Wilderness.

Up the road on Highway 89 is Eagles Falls. The lower falls are just off the road and descend into Emerald Bay. The upper falls are on the other side of the highway and require walking.



AJ runs out of trail at Hawley Grade Falls. Photo/Kathryn Reed

With this being the off season, it was surprising to see all the vehicles parked in the provided parking, along the highway and in ways that could have kept tow trucks busy.

Another fall that is worthy of a short hike is Hawley Grade Falls. It, though, also requires going down a poorly maintained county road in Meyers. Take South Upper Truckee Road almost to the end. There's parking on the right.

Don't let the mild river coming down the trail deter you. The reward at the end is well worth the climb – about a 900-foot elevation gain. Plus, it's not that far. The few patches of snow are easy to traipse over with trail shoes.

The water is coming from Echo Lake, crossing under Highway 50. It empties into the Upper Truckee River, which in parts was raging a week ago.



The Hawley Grade trail is wet in many parts, with the red manzanita branches adding color.
Photo/Kathryn Reed

It looks like it will be a while before mountain bikers can safely cross Hawley Grade Falls to get to the other side. In summer, this is a popular trek.

The Hawley Grade was part of the Pony Express Trail in 1860. A granite plaque at the start of the trail explains some of this history.

For those who want easy drive-by falls, there are two along Highway 50 through the American River Canyon. One is Bridal Veil Falls. People often can be seen there taking pictures as well as filling up on water. Horsetail Falls is visible while

driving west. This body of water comes from Aloha Lake and looks like a horse's tail.

UCLA helped break the color barrier in college athletics

By James W. Johnson

The arrival of five athletes, all African American, on the UCLA campus in the late 1930s would prove to be a moment of destiny, not just for college sports but for the United States.

These five men could have been called the original Fabulous Five. And that designation was no exaggeration, because they went on to change the cultures of professional athletics, entertainment, the civil rights movement, and politics.

The athletes who played together in the 1939 school year were:

- Jackie Robinson, who would break the color barrier in Major League Baseball in 1947 and become a prominent advocate of racial equality after his baseball years.
- Kenny Washington, who took down the color barrier of the National Football League when he played for the Los Angeles Rams in 1946.
- Woody Strode, who would join Washington with the Rams and later become an accomplished actor in movies such as "Spartacus," "Sergeant Rutledge," and "The Professionals."
- Ray Bartlett, who would go on to serve on the Pasadena Police Department (at that time, only the second African

American) and as a prominent Los Angeles area civic leader.

- And then there was the fifth, Tom Bradley, who would transform Los Angeles into a global city during his 20 years as mayor. He also would make history as L.A.'s first black mayor, and the first in a major city that had a white majority.

At UCLA, these athletes came to know each other, creating a bond of fellowship that lasted their entire lives.

The decision to recruit a roster of African-American football players came after UCLA had experienced a 20-year drought on the gridiron. At the time, this recruiting decision represented a bid for competitive advantage, since most schools, including rival USC, were uninterested in recruiting black players in that era. Washington and Strobe came first to UCLA in 1936, and were followed by Robinson, Bradley, and Bartlett, who would team up in 1939.

Their recruitment helped create an accepting atmosphere at UCLA for African Americans. That was a challenge. African Americans numbered only 50 of the university's 9,600 students that year. At the time, the campus was predominantly a commuter school. All five athletes lived at home, as no blacks were allowed to reside in Westwood, the neighborhood surrounding the campus where some students lived. For social activities, they would attend a club for African Americans called the Sphinx.

Nonetheless, the school was an oasis in a more hostile environment. "UCLA was the first school to really give the Negro athlete a break," Bartlett said. Strobe later said: "Whatever racial pressure was coming down in the city of Los Angeles, the pressure was not on me in Westwood. We had the whole melting pot, and it was an education for all of us. [...] I was just like any other athlete. And I worked hard because there was always the overriding feeling [that] UCLA really

wanted me.”

Bradley was convinced that UCLA played a vital role in setting a standard of acceptance for black athletes, and ultimately for African Americans as students and leaders. “Some of the schools with which UCLA had an affiliation did not permit blacks to compete on the same teams,” he said. “And UCLA administration made the decision that no school that would discriminate against its athletes could any longer compete in athletics with us.”

But Jackie Robinson wasn’t so sure that all was as cozy as Bartlett, Strode, and Bradley saw it. He remarked during his UCLA years that he was treated like a hero when playing in front of a huge crowd on the football field, but as soon as the game was over he was simply Jackie Robinson, the Negro.

What is clear is that that recruitment of the athletes was news off campus as well. Nationally, by the late 1930s, no more than 38 African Americans suited up for major college football across the country—none in the South.

“Three African-American players out of eleven in the starting lineup was highly unusual for the time,” says Kent Stephens, curator and historian for the College Football Hall of Fame in South Bend, Ind.

UCLA’s roster of black players on the football team made it the most racially integrated squad in college football history.

“We have yet to find another single coach in the history of football that has had the guts to play three of our race at one time and have [four] on the squad,” a reporter for the Chicago Defender, a newspaper for black readers, wrote later in the year.

In contrast to the four football players, Tom Bradley, who had been an all-city football player at John H. Francis

Polytechnic High School, received an academic scholarship. He eventually decided against playing for the football team, preferring to focus on competing in the 440-yard run, the 880 races, and the 1,600 relay in track. That race fit perfectly his tendency to be something of a loner. He later said: "The whole business of competition—in track, particularly, because you're kind of one-on-one in track—involves a kind of discipline you have to develop for yourself ... I think it really became part of my lifestyle."

But Bradley did have teammates on the track-and-field team, including the four star football players, who competed in track during the spring. There were three other black runners on the team—Tom Berkley, Bill Lacefield, and James LuValle, who ran at the so-called Nazi Olympics in 1936 and became a scientist and an administrator at Stanford. These athletes formed lifelong fellowships that included several reunions.

The best athlete of the group, Jackie Robinson, lettered in four sports at UCLA, the only Bruin to accomplish the feat. Robinson won the NCAA championship in the long jump (then called the broad jump) while also leading the Pacific Coast Conference in scoring one year for the basketball team. His worst sport was his future professional avocation: baseball, in which he batted .097 and committed 10 errors in his single season.

Many of the other athletes excelled in multiple sports. Bartlett also played four sports but didn't earn a letter in all like Robinson. Washington threw the shot put, and Strode the discus and shot put. Washington played baseball as well. Rod Dedeaux, who coached USC baseball for 45 years and scouted for the Dodgers, said he thought Washington had a better arm, more power, and more agility than Robinson. (Washington got a tryout with baseball's New York Giants in 1950, but by then he was past his prime.)

Each of the athletes had his own life, shaped by the fact that

they lived at home and held down part-time jobs along with other personal responsibilities. Robinson tended to avoid social activities on the UCLA campus. Bradley and Strode joined different black fraternities, while Bartlett and Washington concentrated on academics, as did Bradley. None of the athletes graduated in four years. What held them together was their dedication to sports.

Of the five, Robinson was the one who most vigorously battled racial discrimination throughout his entire life. The other four, while acutely aware of the racial climate in their lives, adopted a more passive approach of “going along to get along,” which was the safest mode of operation in those days.

Robinson devoted a great deal of his life after he broke the color barrier in baseball to working for civil rights. Strode had little to do with the civil rights movement. He believed that what he accomplished on the field and life was the best way to break down prejudice. Bradley fought discrimination in the Los Angeles Police Department and as mayor, while Washington and Bartlett worked within the political system to seek racial equality.

Some relationships among the five were closer than others. Robinson and Bartlett, who grew up together in Pasadena, were lifelong friends. (Bartlett represented Robinson, who died in 1972, as grand marshal of the 1999 Rose Parade.) Strode and Washington were like brothers; Washington was emphatic that the Rams sign Strode if they wanted him to play. And Bradley and Bartlett were in frequent touch as they became policemen and civic leaders in Los Angeles.

Their legacies remain strong today.

James W. Johnson is the author of “The Black Bruins: The Remarkable Lives of UCLA’s Jackie Robinson, Woody Strode, Tom Bradley, Kenny Washington, and Ray Bartlett” (University of Nebraska Press, 2018).

Nevada's wild horse giveaway plan fizzles

By Benjamin Spillman, Reno Gazette-Journal

Nevada's controversial plan to find a private owner for more than 2,500 horses roaming near Reno fizzled out.

The Department of Agriculture this week announced it received zero responses to a request for proposals from private groups interested in taking ownership of horses living on the Virginia Range.

With no one willing to take ownership of the animals, the decision for how best to manage them will go back to the state's Board of Agriculture.

[Read the whole story](#)