



UNIVERSITY of
DENVER

DANIELS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
School of Accountancy

School of Accountancy Alumni Newsletter | March 2019



Director's Update



Earlier this quarter we hosted the first of two [alumni receptions](#) at the DU v. CC hockey game. The event was sold out and everyone enjoyed cheering on the Pioneers to an overtime victory. Be sure to **register** for the second alumni reception and game on March 8.



The School of Accountancy honors the Alum of the Year at the annual Spring Banquet and we are currently accepting nominations. The Alum of the Year award recognizes exceptional achievements in career, public service and/or volunteer activities that bring honor to the School of Accountancy and the University of Denver.

The nomination deadline is March 15

[Nominate an SoA Alum Today](#)

Best,

Sharon Lassar

Dr. Sharon Lassar, Director, School of Accountancy

Upcoming Events



SoA Alumni Reception and DU v. CC Hockey Game

Friday, March 8, 2019

Don't miss out on the final game of the regular season! Catch up with fellow alums for a fun, casual dinner reception and cheer on your Pioneers as they take on their rivals.

[Register](#)



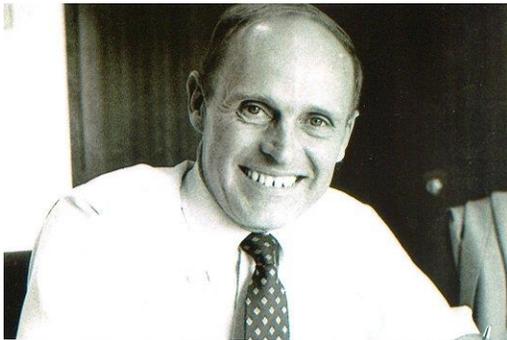
Volunteer with VITA

Beta Alpha Psi's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) is seeking professional volunteers to assist with the 2019 filing season. Sessions will be held Fridays and Saturdays through April 6.

[Volunteer](#)

Get to Know Your Network

Meet Alumnus Roger Kinney (MBA 1963)

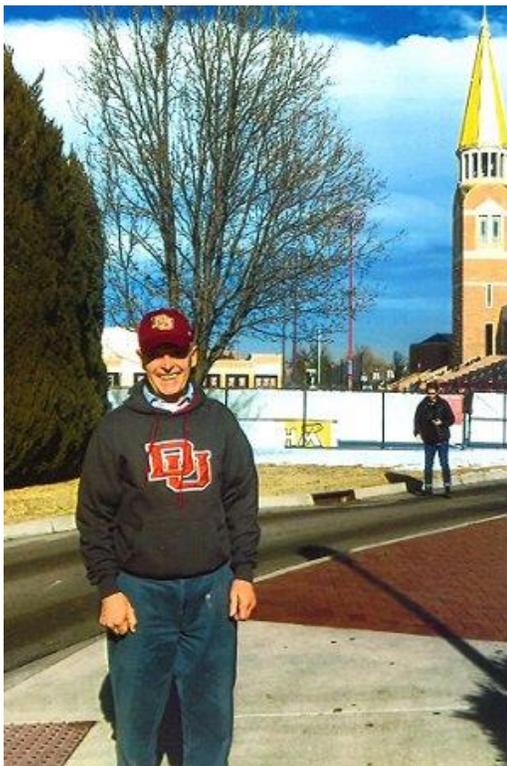


Roger Kinney is a proud Denver native. He grew up in the Park Hill neighborhood and attended Denver Public Schools. Several of his relatives, including Gilbert Frye and Brainard Shay attended DU prior to World War II. "Along with family and friends, I attended the DU football games at the Hilltop Stadium, including some participation in the 'Knot Hole' gang, which was a program fostered by DU to encourage young children to crawl through a hole in the fence and watch the football games," Kinney said. He fondly remembers the Thanksgiving football games that were special holiday celebrations. "Special memories include the game in 1947 when Dick Yates, the 'little monster' led the Pioneers to victory over CU by a score of 26 to 20." Years later, Kinney became good friends with Dick Yates and his family. Kinney developed a strong admiration and respect at an early age for the

outstanding people who represented DU: Vince Boryla, Bill Weimar, Les Pedicord and Bob McCollum.

Accounting was a natural choice for Kinney. After his first job as a member of the internal audit staff at the Kennecott Copper Company and a short tour of duty in the U.S. Coast Guard, Kinney decided it was important to pursue an MBA in Accounting at DU. "The DU Business School and Accounting Department both had excellent reputations and several friends were taking similar studies at that time," Kinney said. He counts himself fortunate to have met Wayne Shroyer, who became his counselor and advisor at DU.

Kinney credits his success to the small class sizes and outstanding professors for courses that were interesting, challenging and, at times, even captivating. "My favorites included professors Kesselman, Phelps, Foster and Shroyer," he said.

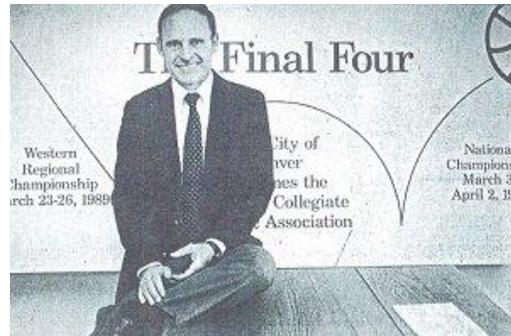


Accounting classes at that time were held downtown, allowing Kinney the opportunity to work part-time during the day and take classes at night. "There seemed to be plenty of time to compare notes and experiences with our part-time jobs," he said. Consequently, friendships developed far beyond the classroom. One of Kinney's part-time jobs, thanks to Wayne Shroyer, was assistant in the accounting department at Centennial Race Track. Kinney said, "Although I knew very little about horse racing, it was a good learning experience and an opportunity to meet various sports enthusiasts, including Ivan Thomas and Larry Varnell.

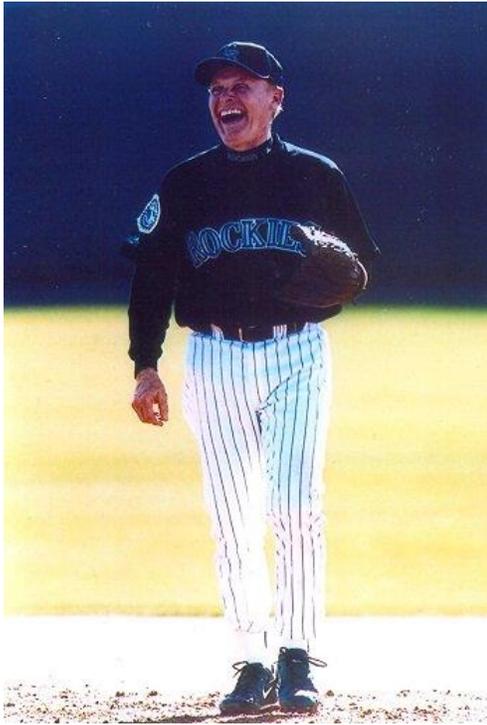
The study of accounting was the guiding force in Kinney's career. After his first full-time job with Haskins and Sells, he became involved in a series of small business ventures. Kinney worked for the McCollum-Law Company, a distributor of major appliances. Along with his brother, Steve Kinney, the pair began to invest in small business and real estate projects. As these projects developed, Kinney was able to combine his interest in accounting,

sports and community activities. “Larry Varnell invited me to join the Metro Sports Committee, a volunteer community group associated with the Denver Chamber of Commerce. After a few years, with recognition of my accounting background, Varnell asked me to be the treasurer. And when he became president of the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame, I became the chairman of the committee, which eventually became the Denver Organizing Committee for the 1990 NCAA Final Four basketball tournament.”

Hosting the national tournament in Denver was a five-year project, with preliminary games and related activities leading to the national championship. Sports fans and business representatives in the region joined in support of the tournament, including many volunteers from DU.

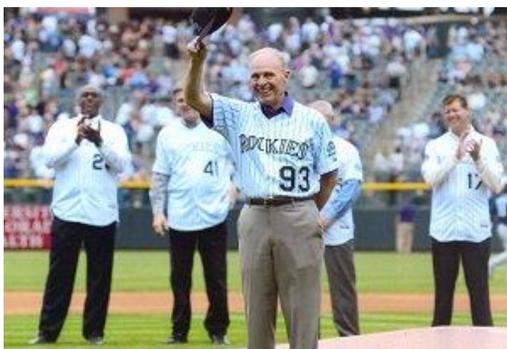


Vince Boryla (All-American, basketball) and coach Floyd Therd played key roles working with the NCAA Executive Committee. Coaches Bill Weimer, Jack Girtin and Joe Talty hosted the visiting coaches and teams. Joy Burns offered and held a major celebration party at the Burnsley Hotel. With help from Deloitte & Touche, office space and accounting supervision was provided as requested by the NCAA. Kinney explained, “On a personal note, my accounting background had led me into a community service project where I could combine business with my passion for sports. I was hopeful that the success of the Denver Final Four tournament would have a positive impact for Denver, especially for future sports events, tourism and the convention business.”



Kinney's business career changed sports shortly after the Final Four tournament. The National League (baseball) announced that they would expand with two additional teams. Kinney offered his help and became a member of the Metropolitan Stadium Authority. Thereafter, Kinney became the director of the Colorado Baseball Commission. As a community project, the commission prepared to meet the qualifications set by Major League Baseball. "After a spirited campaign, the franchise was awarded to the Rockies on July 5, 1991," Kinney said.

Shortly thereafter, Kinney became the first employee of the Club, serving as the executive director of the Colorado Rockies Foundation and director of Community Outreach Programs. "This was an exciting and rewarding time to see the community embrace the new team and participate in our national pastime. The support from the fans and the business community was overwhelming. And now, it is gratifying to envision a bright future for the Rockies," Kinney said. He retired from the Rockies in 2003 (pictured below) and returned to manage the family business.



Outside of work, Kinney and his wife, Sue, enjoy musical programs at the Newman Center and athletic events at Magness Arena. The pair also attend the Colorado Symphony and the Broadway series of shows at the D.C.P.A.

Kinney noted, "We tend to follow Dan Ritchie to support and enjoy all the good programs and benefits he brings to our community." The Kinneys enjoy family outings with their seven grandchildren who are currently spread out from Boston and Hanover in the east, to Spokane in the west, and Dallas in the south. "We enjoy traveling and special holidays when they return to Colorado for visits," Kinney said. They like to golf in the summer and ski in the winter as well as enjoy their cabin in Estes Park where they spend time with family and friends.

As for the future, the Kinneys look forward to rooting for the Pioneers in the quest for another hockey NCAA national championship; and for the Colorado Rockies to win the World Series. "It's fun to watch our grandchildren grow up in this rapidly changing world. I am inspired with the wonderful educational opportunities for young people, and the ongoing educational programs for all ages. I plan to work overtime to keep up to date, to participate, and to enjoy whatever lies ahead," Kinney said.

Faculty Updates



Congratulations to **John J. Gilbert Professor and Director, Sharon Lassar, PhD, CPA**. Lassar received the 2019 Accounting Program Leadership Award for Leadership, Initiative and Service at the 15th Annual Accounting Programs Leadership Group/ Federation of Schools of Accountancy Joint Seminar Feb. 8-9, in Tampa, Florida.

Assistant Professor Adam Greiner, PhD, CPA, attended the 2019 Deloitte Trueblood Seminar for Professors Feb. 13-16 in Westlake, Texas. This seminar provides a venue where experienced partners, professionals and university professors jointly explore the complex issues faced by auditors today in public practice.

Last month, the University published [an article](#) featuring **Associate Professor Lorenzo Patelli, PhD**, as he was recently named the interim director of the Institute for Enterprise Ethics.

HAVE ANY EXCITING NEWS?

Promotions, marriages, new babies, major moves, job changes or awards? Let us know! We'll share the news with your alumni family in the Alumni Notes section of the newsletter.

Email kristen.dimig@du.edu with any updates.



UPDATE CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have a new email address, recently moved, changed employment, got married or have other information to update, please do so [here](#).

On the Lighter Side - Humor from the Grove

Who wore it better?



[View in browser](#)



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