Get to Know Your Network:
Nat Borchers (BSAC, MAcc 2004)

For the typical School of Accountancy alumni, the months of March and April are often filled with long hours of tracking and reviewing tax related documents for individuals or companies. But for alumnus, Nat Borchers, this time of the year finds him outfitted in Real Salt Lake (RSL) gear at the Rio Tinto Stadium in Salt Lake City or other professional soccer fields all over the country. He may argue that his day job may be a little more thrilling than that of the average School of Accountancy alumnus, but he likes to think that his accounting degree is a hedge against his soccer career. "I know that my soccer career won't last forever. However, with an accounting degree from DU I know that I will have a lot of opportunities in the business world. I have a small real estate business here in Salt Lake City and I use the tools I learned while receiving my accounting degree every single day."

Nat grew up in a home where higher education was important. Both of his grandfathers were professors at universities; one was a professor of English at the University of Illinois and the other was a professor of biochemistry at the University of Nebraska. Both of Nat's parents have advanced degrees so it was a "no-brainer" that he would follow the same path. His parents had to study abroad in the Middle East to find each other only to find out they came from the same small college in Minnesota (Carleton College). The best advice his parents ever gave him was "to go to school in a city where you'd like to live one day". Nat did just that as he picked DU for its academics and location. In choosing the School of Accountancy, he noted that he found the SoA to be the most challenging business degree at Daniels. He wanted to find a job right out of college and recognized that the internship opportunities were promising. He also found that the 3/2 program was an option he couldn't pass up.

While at DU, Nat enjoyed the professors most. He recalls, "We had such a wide-range of professors and each one had a different way of teaching accounting. I felt like they all offered something unique and they challenged us in different ways. I'd have to say my favorite professor was Bazley and I miss the soccer conversations we used to have."

When he was 3 years old, Nat's soccer career began. He is a competitive person and he's found that soccer has allowed him to compete every day. "It has to be the best job in the world: I get to paid to play outside, hang out with my friends, sign autographs, and interact with fans." The competition is fierce and Nat has quickly found that professional soccer is unlike most other jobs - "if your not good enough, you can be out of a job very quickly in professional sports." Nat has to do his best every single day which keeps him honest and motivated.
When he's not on the soccer field, Nat is passionate about real estate investing. He's found that it's a great tool for achieving financial freedom. In his spare time he enjoys looking for new deals, talking with other investors and learning how to creatively finance deals. He also spends some time managing his properties. Nat is keeping his career options open and recognizes that his soccer career will come to an end eventually. In the future, he would enjoy financial planning or business ownership and he's not ruling out the possibility of coaching soccer. The career of "father" will soon begin as Nat and his wife Crystal will be welcoming their first child at the end of June.

Nat is looking forward to the 2014 season and hopes that he will be as successful as 2013. Not surprisingly, Nat has proven to be one of the strong leaders on his team. Last season he started in 28 games, placing him second on the RSL in minutes played for the season. From the team's website, Nat is recognized for his, "organizational and tactical awareness to a defense that saw nine different center back pairings last year".

We are proud to have Nat Borchers as an alumnus of the School of Accountancy. We look forward to following him this season and wish him the best of luck. If you would like to follow Nat and his RSL teammates, click here.

Student Corner

VITA Tax Team Ready for a Break
The DU VITA team is ready to put their feet up and take a break after the busy few months they've had. So far, they've filed 207 returns and have helped clients get over $180,000 in refunds. This weekend is their last session so they plan to up those numbers by a bit. Congrats and thanks to our great team and professional volunteers for their time and efforts.

Celebrate 150 Years with the University of Denver

Margery Reed Hall - Grand Opening
Tuesday, April 8
11 AM - Opening Ceremony
11:30 - Open House
RSVP

Don Giovanni
Newman Center for Performing Arts
Thursday, April 17
7:30 PM
Buy Tickets

Click here to see all events and to register.

Class Notes

Steve Betts (BSBA, MAcc 1986) was chosen as this year's School of Accountancy Alumni of the Year. We are excited to honor Steve and thank him for his past service and dedication to the School. Steve served on the School of Accountancy Advisory Board for nearly 10 years, is a fantastic promoter of the School and College and has had much success in his career and family life.
Ingird Grygiel (BSAC, MAcc 2009) has been chosen as the Young Alumnus of the Year for the School of Accountancy. Ingird has served on various committees and councils in the School of Accountancy and Daniels College of Business. She has also been a great supporter of events.

We look forward to honoring Steve and Ingrid at the School of Accountancy Annual Spring Banquet on May 2, 2014.

Jessica Seidlitz (BSAC, MAcc 2001), Mary-Margaret Henke (BSAC 1991) and Jenny Scholz (BSAC, MAcc 2003) have been selected as recipients of the 2014 Women to Watch Awards in the Emerging Leader category. We are thrilled to have so many of our female alumni represented at this special event. The Women to Watch event will be held on Thursday, May 22 from 4:30 - 6:30 PM at the Kevin Taylor’s at the Opera House in the Denver Center for the Performing Arts.