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FOCUS

ABOUT THIS ISSUE:
Boise State women are helping lead the way in the classroom, the research lab, and in administration, and in the process they are playing a pivotal role in shaping the culture and goals of a university that is on the move in the 21st century. In this issue of FOCUS, we profile some of BSU’s outstanding women, who include, from left, Stacy Pearson, vice president of finance and administration; Cheryl Schrader, engineering dean; Sona Andrews, provost; and Diane Boothe, education dean. Cover photo by Carrie Quinney.

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Women make their mark at Boise State

Those who have followed recent developments at Boise State University with even a passing interest know that major changes are afoot on our campus.

For confirmation, look no further than the articles on the pages that follow in this issue of FOCUS: a record spring enrollment; two new doctoral programs, one in electrical and computer engineering and the other in geosciences; a new executive MBA; a major infusion of federal funding for research projects, including $4 million aimed at national security research; the completion of a $9.5 million state-of-the-art indoor sports facility; current construction on a $14 million classroom building; globe-trotting faculty; new development officers; the early stages of a comprehensive fund-raising campaign; a research partnership with Harvard, Auburn, Purdue and Cal Berkeley; a new football coaching staff; our ongoing efforts to establish a community college in southwest Idaho — and the list goes on.

The driving force behind these impressive achievements and ambitious plans is simple: As the Treasure Valley grows in size and sophistication, so grow the demands on Boise State. In other words, the university’s academic offerings, research initiatives, services, and buildings and facilities must continue to expand and improve in order to meet the higher expectations of its constituents.

In this space in the previous issue of FOCUS, I wrote about our long-range master plan, which is designed to help us meet those demands. This blueprint for the future is just one component of our elaborate plans to ensure that we meet our operational objectives.

In union with the master plan is a strategic vision titled “Charting the Course.” Spearheaded by Sona Andrews, our provost and vice president for academic affairs, this strategic planning process “will collectively define the path and means to move us from our current state to where we aspire.” This journey maintains an emphasis on the learning environment and our scholarly/creative work to expand the boundaries of knowledge. Specifically, the characteristics we seek are:

- Public engagement
- Academic excellence
- A vibrant culture
- Exceptional scholarship

For more on our strategic planning process, go the Boise State Provost’s Web site and click on “Charting the Course.”

Another reason that Boise is well on its way to transforming itself into a metropolitan research university of distinction is the hard work and leadership of its talented staff, many of whom are women. There are dozens of dedicated and talented women who serve as professors, administrators and staffers who help make Boise State the thriving institution it is today. Allow me to briefly introduce Dr. Andrews and the three other top-level administrators who grace the cover of this issue of FOCUS and are featured in the opening article in the special section on the women of Boise State.

Joining Dr. Andrews are Stacy Pearson, vice president for finance and administration; Cheryl Schrader, dean of the College of Engineering; and Diane Boothe, dean of the College of Education. Together, they personify the attitude of excellence at Boise State.

Dr. Andrews, who joined Boise State in 2004 after serving as vice president for academic affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, is an indefatigable advocate for Boise State and, in my opinion, one of the nation’s top academic officers.

Pearson previously served as associate vice president for finance and administration before being promoted to her current position as Boise State’s chief financial officer. Stacy prepares and presents Boise State’s budget, master plan and related issues to the State Board of Education. Her expert grasp of university finance has distinguished Boise State before the Board and Idaho Legislature.

Dr. Schrader joined Boise State around the same time I did in 2003. Like her three colleagues, she is a dynamic leader who is the right person at the right time to lead the College of Engineering through a period of dramatic growth and development. Her recent White House award (page 25) illustrates her considerable skills as an educator.

Dr. Boothe, the newest of our deans, joined Boise State from the State University of West Georgia last summer with impressive credentials (“Boise State names new VP, education dean, radio GM,” FOCUS, Summer 2005). A former public school teacher who speaks both English and Spanish, she has written more than 50 scholarly articles, reports and columns, and has received a dozen grants.

Sadly, Diane’s start at Boise State was marred by the loss of her husband, Lee Boothe, who died unexpectedly from a massive stroke just a few weeks after she joined the university. Despite her devastating personal loss, Diane has admirably provided the College of Education with a steady hand and consummate leadership.

These four leaders embody the dedicated group of people who make Boise State the rising star it is in higher education. Thanks to these women and others like them, Boise State is poised for greatness.

— Bob Kustra, President
Momentum builds at Boise State

These are heady times at Boise State. Dynamic, vibrant, ambitious, up-and-coming, thriving ... those are just some of the words used to describe the atmosphere on campus these days. The reasons? Here are just a few:

- **More and better students** — With the most stringent enrollment standards among Idaho's public institutions, Boise State's spring 2006 enrollment of 18,031 is a 2 percent increase from last year and the first time the university has exceeded 18,000 students in a spring semester.

- **A major increase in graduate students** — Graduate enrollment had a particularly robust showing this spring with a headcount increase of 23 percent and a full-time equivalent (FTE) increase of 11 percent.

- **Two new doctoral programs** — In December the State Board of Education approved Boise State's Ph.D. program in electrical and computer engineering, and in February the Board OK'd a Ph.D. program in geosciences, giving the university its third and fourth doctoral programs (page 19). In addition, the Board also approved BSU's new executive MBA program.

- **New buildings** — The $9.5 million Caven-Williams Sports Complex, an indoor practice facility, was recently completed, and construction on a $14 million, four-story Interactive Learning Center is well under way and due for completion in May 2007.

- **Record-setting research funding** — On the heels of last fiscal year's school-record total in federal funding for research and sponsored projects, the university's first-half report for the current fiscal year indicates it may enjoy another record-breaking performance in fiscal year 2006 (page 10).

- **The community college buzz** — As FOCUS went to press, Boise State awaited the Idaho Legislature's action following Gov. Dirk Kempthorne's proposal for $5 million in seed money for a community-college network and the J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation's decision regarding funding for BSU's proposal to establish a community college in the Treasure Valley.

- **An ambitious Campus Master Plan** — Approved by the State Board of Education last fall, the plan would,
among many other initiatives, add 25 new buildings and nearly double the size of Boise State’s main campus (“2005 master plan calls for future campus expansion,” FOCUS, Fall 2005).

“Boise State stands uniquely positioned in Idaho as a metropolitan university empowered by a dynamic, high-tech economy and one of the most attractive regions in the nation,” says President Bob Kustra. “Our future lies in the convergence of our metropolitan character, excellence in undergraduate education, and the research of our faculty, focused as it is on the regional and state economy and public policy, the Western landscape and the challenges of science.”

Kustra says the Master Plan builds on the existing institutional values and core beliefs and creates opportunities for students and their future, developing partnerships, prioritizing academic programs, building research potential, and defining Boise State’s identity.

How will Boise State pay for all this? First, the Master Plan is a long-term initiative and will be put into action as such, Kustra says. He adds that it will need to be approved and supported by the state’s leaders and policy-makers and implemented with a thorough and prudent — yet entrepreneurial — funding strategy that will take a decade or two.

The Master Plan will make Boise State an exciting new force in the Pacific Northwest, Kustra says. But at the same time he acknowledges that there is much work ahead.

“Communicating this metamorphosis from Boise Junior College into an energetic university focused on innovation and groundbreaking research to stakeholders and the university’s 50,000 active alumni, however, proves to be a continuing challenge,” he says.

Another challenge is the community college issue, which was further complicated in the wake of maneuvers by Ontario, Ore.-based Treasure Valley Community College and Twin Falls-based College of Southern Idaho, both of which expressed an interest in establishing a two-year school in southwest Idaho. Like Boise State, TVCC met with the Albertsons Foundation to discuss funding for a community college.

“For well over two years, Boise State has called attention to the need for a community college in southwest Idaho and has repeated its commitment to do all it can to provide an initial presence on the BSU West campus and at other locations in the Treasure Valley,” Kustra says. “Now, two other institutions have expressed an interest in setting up a two-year college in our service area. My hope is that this competition does not turn the opportunity to provide much-needed community college offerings to our citizens into an expensive duplication of services without appropriate accountability from the Idaho State Board of Education. As I have stated previously, much of what happens depends on the support of our legislators and how they respond to Gov. Kemptthorne’s community college initiative.”

At press time, Boise State put a restructured proposal before the Albertson Foundation, requesting $11 million to open a two-year school that would increase the number of students enrolled from early projections of 600 to 2,000 this fall and to 3,000 by 2008.

— Bob Evancho

GOV. CELEBRATES DAUGHTER’S GRADUATION WITH COMMENTS AT WINTER COMMENCEMENT

Those who attended Boise State’s 2005 winter commencement ceremonies were presented with a surprise address from Gov. Dirk Kempthorne, whose daughter, Heather Myklegard, a health promotion major, was among 550 graduates who took part in the Dec. 16 event in Taco Bell Arena.

During his speech Kempthorne commented on the high quality of a Boise State education and told members of BSU’s winter Class of 2005 that their diploma “denotes to anyone in the world that you are a graduate of one of the finest institutions in it. You can now compete with anyone in the world.”

The governor also took a moment to praise the leadership of President Bob Kustra, calling him “one of America’s great university presidents.”

In all, 1,306 students qualified to earn 1,376 degrees or certificates. A total of 198 students completed their programs with honors: 25 summa cum laude, 51 magna cum laude and 122 cum laude.

Eight students received their Ed.D. in curriculum and instruction, making the 2005 winter class the largest doctoral class in school history.
BSU’S ‘ARBITER’ NAMED AMONG NATION’S TOP COLLEGE PAPERS

The Arbiter, Boise State’s twice-weekly independent student newspaper, received the prestigious Pacemaker Award recognizing it as one of the 25 best college newspapers in the country. The Pacemaker is one of the top accolades given to college newspapers nationwide.

The Arbiter received the award at the annual convention of the Associated Collegiate Press for 2004-2005. The ACP and the Newspaper Association of America Foundation have co-sponsored the Newspaper Pacemaker competition since 1971. ACP began the award in 1927. Judges select Pacemakers based on coverage and content, quality of writing and reporting, leadership on the opinion page, evidence of in-depth reporting, design, photography, art and graphics.

BRUDENELL RECEIVES STATE NURSING EDUCATION AWARD

Ingrid Brudenell, a Boise State professor of nursing, was named the 2005 Idaho Nurse of the Year for Academic Education by the March of Dimes, Idaho Chapter. Nurses from throughout Idaho were nominated in categories ranging from nursing management to emergency care.

A Boise State faculty member since 1981, Brudenell’s research interests include qualitative research, evidence-based practice, policy development, substance abuse recovery and health promotion. Brudenell was instrumental in the implementation of evidence-based nursing practice during a joint appointment with St. Luke’s Regional Medical Center.

On Campus…

First Editions

Following are selected new books and book chapters written by members of the Boise State community:

**MEMORY, COMMUNITY, AND ACTIVISM: MEXICAN MIGRATION AND LABOR IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST**

Chapter by Errol D. Jones

In this book dealing with Mexicans in the Pacific Northwest, history professor Jones co-authored a chapter titled “A Long Struggle: Mexican Farmworkers in Idaho, 1918-1935.”

The book is a collection of essays by leading scholars on the Mexican experience in the Northwest. Based on archival research from Mexican and Idaho archives, Jones’ chapter demonstrates how Mexican farmworkers struggled against discrimination and exploitation to feed their families and contribute to Idaho’s agricultural growth.

**MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF CHRONIC ILLNESS**

By Annette Totten, et al.

Totten, director of the Center for the Study of Aging at Boise State, co-authored this book addressing the current deficiencies in care for chronic illness and exploring avenues of improvement.

Published by John Hopkins University Press, the book looks at the components necessary to reorganize and reform health care. Totten and her coauthors call on policy-makers, health-care providers and educators to address one of the greatest challenges facing the health-care system.

**GUIDE TO POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS IN AMERICA**

Chapters by Gary Moncrief

Published by CQ Press, a division of Congressional Quarterly Inc., this book includes two chapters written by Boise State political scientist Moncrief — one on campaigns for local and state legislative offices and another on gubernatorial campaigns.

**READINGS AND CASES IN STATE AND LOCAL POLITICS**

Chapter by Gary Moncrief

This anthology of articles, essays and case studies published by Houghton Mifflin includes Moncrief’s “The Evolution of the State Legislature: Institutional Change and Legislative Careers.”

**GOING WITH THE FLOW: MAKING LITERACY LEARNING LIKE LIFE**

By Jeffrey Wilhelm

Educators and parents looking for hands-on help in getting teenage boys (and girls) engaged in reading have a new tool in this book by Boise State English professor Wilhelm and his coauthor. *Going with the Flow* (Heinemann Publishers) offers classroom-tested lessons and activities that get adolescent students, especially boys, reading, writing and involved in literacy learning.

Samuel Pisar

International lawyer and Holocaust survivor

“Global Flash Points: Clash of Cultures,” 22nd annual Frank Church Conference on Public Affairs, Nov. 3, 2005

“There I stood in Boise, next to a statue of Anne Frank, feeling a little guilty that she had died while I had lived.”
New deans appointed; Eastman retires

Boise State has two new deans—one to lead its largest college and one to head the university’s Albertsons Library.

Marty Schimpf, a professor of chemistry and the BSU College of Arts and Sciences associate dean since 2001 who had served as interim dean since Phil Eastman’s retirement in December, was promoted to dean on a permanent basis.

Schimpf has a distinguished record of research, with 15 straight years of funding and 77 publications. He has held appointments on two international scientific committees, and been published in journals of chemistry, physics, polymer science, pharmaceutics, geosciences and archaeology.

Marilyn K. Moody, associate university librarian for information and research services at the University of California, Santa Barbara, has been named dean of libraries and professor. In her position at UCSB, Moody administered the public service areas of the school’s libraries. Moody will join Boise State on May 1.

Eastman served as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences since 1994. He earlier served as associate dean of the college, as director of the Interdisciplinary Studies Program and as a professor in the Department of Mathematics.

On Campus...

Seymour Hersh
Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist


“What happened to the press in 9-11? We flinched, just like everybody else.”

Ninth annual Gene Harris Jazz Festival Set April 6-9

The Gene Harris Jazz Festival is set to bring another celebration of jazz music to Boise April 6-9. Poncho Sanchez and his Latin Jazz Band, a favorite from years past, will be the headliner. Also featured will be singer Niki Haris, the daughter of the late Gene Harris, and her quintet. (“Sanchez, Haris to perform at 2006 Gene Harris Jazz Festival,” FOCUS, Fall 2005).

Tickets for the ninth annual festival are on sale now and are available through Select-a-Seat at (208) 426-1494 or through the Qwest Arena box office at (208) 331-8497.

Poncho Sanchez and his Latin Jazz Band will perform Saturday, April 8, at Qwest Arena. Sanchez is a Grammy award-winning percussionist and the leader of his own ensemble for 25 years.

Haris will appear Friday, April 7, at Qwest Arena. Haris is a multi-faceted performer, and has worked as a singer, dancer and backup vocalist.

This year’s schedule includes:

• Student Clinics and Competitions. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. April 6-7 in the Student Union Jordan Ballroom.
• Club Night. 5:30-10:30 p.m. April 6 in downtown Boise. Visit www.geneharris.org for a complete list of Club Night performers.
• Singin’ and Swingin’. 7:30 p.m. April 7 at Qwest Arena. Featuring Haris, trumpeter Marvin Stamm and the Boise State Big Band.
• Gene’s Jazz Party. 7:30 p.m. April 8 at Qwest Arena. Featuring Sanchez and Angela Hagenbach.
• Gospel Sunday. 2 p.m. April 9 in the Student Union Jordan Ballroom. The event is free.

The festival is named after the late jazz piano great who lived in Boise the last 23 years of his life. For more information on the Gene Harris Jazz Festival, visit www.geneharris.org.

DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES
FEATURES ECONOMIST, EDUCATOR

A Nobel Prize recipient in economics and a public education advocate and award-winning author will speak at Boise State later this year as part of the Distinguished Lecture Series.


Jonathan Kozol, public education advocate and winner of the National Book Award for Death at an Early Age, will speak on Oct. 10.

Both lectures are at 7 p.m. in the Student Union Jordan Ballroom. The lectures are free and the public is invited. No tickets are being issued; seating is limited and doors open at 6 p.m.

Stiglitz was a member of the Council of Economic Advisers from 1993-1995 during the Clinton Administration and served as chair from 1995-1997. He then became chief economist and senior vice president of the World Bank from 1997-2000. The author of The Roaring Nineties and other books, Stiglitz is credited with helping create a new branch of economics.

Kozol described his first year as a teacher in the Boston Public Schools in his award-winning Death at an Early Age. He is the author of a number of other award-winning books and the recipient of two Guggeheim fellowships. Kozol was described by The Chicago Sun-Times as “today’s most eloquent spokesman for America’s disenfranchised.”

F O C U S  S P R I N G  2 0 0 6
John Stossel

ABC’s 20/20 co-anchor and correspondent

“Freedom and Its Enemies,” Brandt Foundation Lecture, Feb. 6, 2006

“When the government squanders your money … no one is fired, no one is even reprimanded. And the government just goes out and asks for more money.”

‘FOCUS’ writers, photographer win CASE awards

“BRONCO FOOTBALL: A WINDOW to the University,” a special section in the Spring 2005 issue of FOCUS, received a Silver award for team writing in the 24th annual competition sponsored by the Northwest district of the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education.

The writing team consisted of Janelle Brown, Kathleen Craven, Bob Evancho, Sherry Squires and Frank Zang.

In addition, photographer Carrie Quinney, a member of the Communications and Marketing staff, was selected to receive the 2006 Rising Star Award for CASE’s District VIII, which covers schools in the Pacific Northwest and western Canada.

The Rising Star recognizes the outstanding work of an advancement professional who has been in the business for three to five years.

Boise State receives record $17.8 million for research and sponsored projects during first half of fiscal 2006

Boise State continues to make significant and impressive progress in the area of dollars awarded for research and sponsored projects, and the university’s first-half report for the current fiscal year indicates it may enjoy another record-breaking performance in fiscal year 2006.

The university received a record $17.8 million for research and sponsored projects during the first half of fiscal year 2006 — a 32 percent increase over the total for the first half of the previous fiscal year.

In addition, the university set a new record for the total number of awards received during the first half of fiscal ’06 with 154 awards. That’s a 17 percent increase over the 128 awards received in the first half of fiscal ’05.

The good news follows a record-breaking year for research and sponsored projects at the university.

During fiscal 2005, Boise State received $24.2 million in external awards, the largest one-year total in the university’s history (Boise State receives record $24.2 million for research,” FOCUS, Fall 2005).

“Both the quality and quantity of awards received so far this fiscal year have been outstanding,” says Jack Pelton, interim vice president for research and dean of the Graduate College. “We are looking forward with anticipation to what the second half of fiscal ’06 will bring.”

‘IDaho YesterDAYS’ HONOred

The Idaho Heritage Trust honored Idaho YesterDAYS, the state’s official journal of history and culture, at a February reception in Boise.

Todd Shallat, Boise State history professor and director of the Center for Idaho History and Politics, is production editor; Laura Woodworth-Ney, a history professor at Idaho State University, is editor.

The popular journal devoted to the history of the Gem State debuted in 1957 and served as a valuable academic journal of Idaho history for 45 years. Due to state budget cuts, the publication was discontinued in 2002. In fall 2004, Boise State, Idaho State and the Idaho Historical Society joined forces to revive publication of Idaho YesterDAYS.

“The original founders of the trust and those who are once again publishing Idaho YesterDAYS epitomize the trust’s goal of saving historic Idaho for tomorrow,” says Suzanne Schaefer, chair of the Idaho Heritage Trust.

ALUM NAMED 2006 IDAHO TEACHER OF THE YEAR

A statewide committee named Boise State graduate and Parma High School science teacher John “Mick” Sharkey the 2006 Idaho Teacher of the Year.

Sharkey, BS, biology/secondary education, ’89, has taught at Parma High for the past 18 years. He will be Idaho’s nominee for 2006 National Teacher of the Year.

Sharkey worked in the grocery industry for more than a decade before deciding to switch careers and enroll at Boise State. While at Parma High, he has worked tirelessly to upgrade the school’s science equipment and worked with a local university on a program to allow high school students to receive college credit for advanced biology classes.

In 2002, Sharkey was listed among the nation’s top 5 percent of biology teachers by the Dolan DNA Learning Center in New York.

In addition, photographer Carrie Quinney, a member of the Communications and Marketing staff, was selected to receive the 2006 Rising Star Award for CASE’s District VIII, which covers schools in the Pacific Northwest and western Canada.

The Rising Star recognizes the outstanding work of an advancement professional who has been in the business for three to five years.
Boise State professors in the national media spotlight include the following:

- **Marni Allen**, nursing, was quoted in an article about mandatory overtime for nurses in the *American Journal of Nursing*. Allen said working rotating shifts is a large factor in nurse fatigue.
- **Linda Petlichkoff**, kinesiology, was quoted in a *New York Times* story on the benefits of working fitness activities into everyday routines. Petlichkoff said that exercise doesn’t have to fall into the “no pain, no gain” category.
- **Ferdinand Schlapper**, Health, Wellness and Counseling Center director, and **Jim Weatherby**, public policy and administration, were quoted in an Associated Press story on a proposed campuswide smoking ban. The story got wide play in more than 100 media outlets across the U.S. and as far away as Australia. Weatherby, who also serves as director of the Social Science Research Center, was quoted in a number of stories about the center’s 17th annual public policy survey. The story ran across Idaho and the region, and as far away as New York.
- Expert testimony by **Charles Honts**, psychology, was featured in a *Newsday* account of the second trial of a man accused of killing a teenager in 1984. Honts testified that the accused man easily passed a polygraph in 1984, despite reports that he had failed.
- Research on platonic male/female friendships by **Heidi Reeder**, communication, was quoted in a Dec. 19 story in *USA Today* on the rise of those friendships in the younger generation.
- **Amber Beierle**, a graduate student in the Center for Idaho History and Politics under the direction of **Todd Shallat**, history, was quoted in an Associated Press story about the 100th anniversary of the assassination of former Idaho Gov. Frank Steunenberg. The story received wide play across the United States, including *The Los Angeles Times*, *Washington Post*, *Arizona Daily Sun*, *Forbes*, *CBS News*, and the *Seattle Post Intelligencer*, and as far away as Australia.
- Kinesiology professor **Werner Hoeger**’s second Olympic run as a luger for Venezuela played on the front pages of *The Idaho Statesman* and the *Miami Herald*, and the story worked its way into newspapers and Web sites around the globe (page 13).
- **Gary Moncrief**, political science, was quoted in a *USA Today* story on the difficulty in finding candidates for large U.S. Senate districts, such as parts of rural Montana. Geographic challenges combined with term limits have made some district seats hard to fill, he said.
- An Associated Press story about a Boise State study quoted **Phil Kelly**, Center for School Improvement. The study looked at the 6.5 percent of Idaho children who are not enrolled in school.

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**NEWSMMAKERS**

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**Legislative caucus helps forward university issues**

Treasure Valley lawmakers got a jump on the 2006 legislative season at a breakfast meeting held on the Boise State campus in mid-December. President Bob Kustra kicked off the third year of the university’s legislative caucus with a brief outline of the key issues facing Idaho’s largest university.

The caucus is comprised of state senators and representatives from the Treasure Valley, where Boise State’s role and mission serve the educational and economic development needs of the area. The goal of the caucus is to allow legislators and university officials to work together on goals and initiatives that will benefit the valley.

“It is important to build a strong legislative caucus because the issues that affect the Treasure Valley and Boise State transcend party and philosophical lines,” says Mark Dunham, director of government relations at Boise State. “A strong unified caucus from this area could be incredibly effective, and we appreciate the commitment and interest of our legislators. It’s a productive, strong and growing partnership.”

While much of the discussion focused on the area’s need for a community college, other topics were also addressed, including state employee compensation and funding inequities among state higher education institutions.

Gov. Dirk Kempthorne’s State of the State address in January mirrored those concerns. Among other proposals, he recommended a $5 million allocation for community colleges.

Caucus members will continue to meet throughout the session.

— Kathleen Craven

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**Charlayne Hunter-Gault**

CNN Johannesburg bureau chief and correspondent

“Making a Global Dream: From Jim Crow America to Apartheid South Africa and Beyond,” Martin Luther King Jr./Human Rights Celebration keynote speech, Jan. 20, 2006

“Affirmative action in South Africa is not a dirty word, it’s government policy.”
The Dan Hawkins era at Boise State ended on a losing note with a 27-21 defeat at the hands of Boston College in the MPC Computers Bowl, but the Bronco FOOTBALL team still won its fourth straight Western Athletic Conference championship in 2005.

BSU’s bowl loss to BC halted the Broncos’ 31-game home winning streak and marked the end of Hawkins’ five-year stint as head coach. In December, he accepted the head coaching position at the University of Colorado. Bronco offensive coordinator Chris Petersen was named as Hawkins’ replacement (page 14). Hawkins finished 53-11 at Boise State and led the program to national prominence. Boise State finished the 2005 season 9-4 and 7-1 in the WAC, earning a share of the league title with Nevada.

Junior Quinton Jones received second-team All-America honors from The Sporting News and CollegeFootballNews.com as a kick/punt returner. Offensive tackle Daryn Colledge, linebacker Kory Hall and defensive tackle Alex Guerrero were first-team All-WAC selections and wide receiver Driesan James, running back Lee Marks, defensive tackle Andrew Browning and safety Marty Tadman received second-team All-WAC honors.

In CROSS COUNTRY the Boise State men finished 19th at the NCAA Western Region Championships and the Bronco women placed 21st. Ty Axtman earned first-team All-WAC honors, while Cody Eaton was a second-team All-WAC selection. Women runners Becky Guyette and Breanna Sande both earned second-team All-WAC honors.

In VOLLEYBALL junior middle blocker Cameron Flunder was named first-team All-WAC for the second year in a row. As a freshman in 2003 she was a second-team all-conference choice. Boise State finished the year 8-18 overall and 3-13 in the WAC.

In SOCCER BSU finished 10-8-2 overall. Sophomore Allison Tsuchida was a second-team All-WAC selection.

SUPER WIN FOR KIMO: With Pittsburgh’s 21-10 win over Seattle in Super Bowl XL, Steelers defensive lineman Kimo von Oelhoffen, celebrating a defensive stop in the title game, became the second former Boise State player to win pro football’s most coveted prize. The other ex-Bronco to play on an NFL championship team was Markus Koch, who was a member of the Washington Redskins when they won Super Bowl XXIII in 1988. A native of Hawaii, von Oelhoffen played for the Broncos in 1992 and 1993.
As an older competitor in a sport dominated by younger athletes, Werner Hoeger was certainly an anomaly at the recent Turin Winter Olympics. But his age was only part of the reason he caught the attention of the media covering the 2006 Games. Although he finished 32nd out of 36 places while competing for his home country of Venezuela in the men’s luge singles, the Boise State kinesiology professor’s story was covered by media outlets such as NBC, CNN/Sports Illustrated.com, Reuters, the Associated Press, *The Miami Herald* and *The New York Times*, among others.

Seems a 52-year-old college professor and former world-class gymnast who carried the flag of his country — a nation not usually associated with winter sports — during the Games’ opening ceremonies, then competed in an event that has its competitors lie on their back and hurl themselves down an icy trough at speeds of up to 90 mph, made for a good story.

Hoeger, who also represented Venezuela in the luge competition at the 2002 Winter Games in Salt Lake City, was the second-oldest competitor at Turin. The honor of being the oldest ’06 Olympian went to 54-year-old Scott Baird, an alternate on the U.S. team in men’s curling — a sport a bit less dangerous than the one in which Hoeger competed.

In the two-day event, Hoeger pilot-ed his sled through four runs down a course that drops 274 feet, curves 19 times and sent eight athletes to the hospital in its inaugural week of trials last year. Hoeger says his age was not a deterrent. “Just because I am getting older doesn’t mean that I have to accept a sedentary lifestyle,” he says. “One has to have goals in life to stay motivated and keep moving ahead.”

A nationally known exercise physiologist and author of nine textbooks, Hoeger began his athletic career not as a winter athlete, but as one of the most decorated gymnasts in Venezuela’s history. As the national all-around champion from 1970 through 1975, he clinched 34 individual event titles, an achievement that earned him a scholarship to Brigham Young University. His prowess was more than enough to have qualified him for the 1972 and 1976 Summer Games. But when the Venezuelan squad failed to qualify as a team both times, Hoeger’s Olympic vision went unreal-ized. That is until he saw Iginia Boccalandro, Venezuela’s first Winter Olympian, compete in the luge in 1998.

“I love to compete, and I’m drawn because I missed out on the opportunity as a youngster,” he told the Associated Press. “At first I didn’t think I could do it.”

Inspired by Boccalandro and her ability to reach the Olympics in a sport relatively unknown in their homeland, Hoeger and his children, Chris, Jonathan and Julianne, attended a luge clinic conducted by former Olympian Jon Owen the following summer. Months later, at Owen’s suggestion, Hoeger and Chris traveled to Calgary, Alberta, Canada, for a trial run arranged by the International Luge Federation, an attempt that left Hoeger with a concus-sion and a broken ankle. Despite his injuries, he was hooked and later qualified for the 2002 Olympics along with Chris, making the pair the oldest and youngest male luge competitors at the Salt Lake City Games. Father and son finished 40th and 31st, respectively.

And the elder Hoeger came back for more at Turin. What about the 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver, British Columbia?

“I don’t know,” he told Reuters. “I have to pay for it myself and I’m not getting any younger, but I have to say I’m really having fun.”
In December Chris Petersen was selected to lead the Boise State football program following Dan Hawkins’ departure to Colorado. From 2001-05 Petersen, 41, was the team’s offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach under Hawkins and is generally considered the mastermind behind the high-scoring, nationally rated offense that helped the Broncos win four straight Western Athletic Conference championships. Petersen (left) began his coaching career in 1987 at UC Davis, where he was a second-team All-America quarterback in the mid-1980s. He was the quarterbacks coach at Pittsburgh in 1992 and at Portland State in 1993 and ’94. Prior to joining BSU, he was the wide receivers coach at Oregon from 1995 to 2000. He has twice been a finalist for the Broyles Award as the nation’s top assistant coach. Petersen recently sat down with FOCUS editor Bob Evancho for an interview:

Q: Most people who follow Boise State football know you and Dan Hawkins are close. How are the two of you most alike and how are you different?

A: I think probably the core values that we have are very similar — how we believe in treating players, the coaches, other people. I think all that is very much the same. I think another key similarity is winning; we both know how to win, but our styles are quite different. There is a certain similarity in the way that we work where we really try not to focus so much on the wins and losses — although we know that’s what this job is really all about — but operate day to day and do the best job we can, whether it’s in the classroom, whether it’s in the weight room, whether it’s conditioning sessions. If we do things the right way Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during practices, then Saturday kind of takes care of itself. That’s where Hawk and I are probably very similar. We really try to focus on the process, and the product will take care of itself.

Q: You obviously played a major role in the Broncos’ success under Hawk, but now you’re the main guy. What do you think Boise State’s fans are going to expect from you?

A: The bar has been set very high and I think that they expect us to continue what we’ve done the past five years, and that’s play at a very high level, compete hard, and represent Boise State. That’s our expectation as well.

Q: What do you expect from the fans?

A: I hope they continue to make Bronco Stadium one of the tougher places to play. I also hope they have some patience because the things that we’ve done here in the past five years have been pretty spectacular, and it doesn’t always go like that. I mean, you can be a very good football program, but not always be the leading scoring offense in the country or have the best defense in the WAC, but you can still be pretty darn good. So I think the thing that we hope is that the fan base continues to build. We love our fans, and we think they’re very passionate and care tremendously about what happens on the blue.

Q: What do you think
the pressure will be like now that you’ve been selected as the person to lead the program?

A: There’s a big difference going from an assistant to head coach. There are many more avenues that you’re dealing with. … But I will tell you this, the pressure is really all self-induced. I’ve put tremendous pressure on myself the last five years. I just kind of focused in on one side of the ball, but felt tremendous pressure and responsibility to get things done. But whether we win 10-0 or 50 to something, the bottom line is for us to win as a team and play well.

Q: As head coach, how do you plan to keep the program winning at the same pace it has while you were the offensive coordinator?

A: First, you have to hire great people and have great kids around you, and I think we’ve done that. You’ve got to trust those people and let them operate, and things will usually work out as they should. The assistant coaches have tremendous ownership in this program. I think we’ve put together an A-plus staff, and it’s really a testament to where Boise State football is and where the city of Boise is because that’s why these guys are here. And we’re only going to be as good as our staff; one guy cannot carry this flag. Two guys cannot carry it. It’s got to be all 10 of us together. When I hired our staff I was very slow and thorough. I feel very good about who we have hired. Take Sean [new offensive line and assistant head coach Sean Kugler, who came from the NFL’s Detroit Lions] for example. What’s happening in Boise and at Boise State is why he’s here. These coaches wanted to live in a good place for their families. I think that this place is very special in those terms. I mean, to get a guy [like Kugler] to come out of pro football, where the money’s way better, where the exposure’s going to be much different, where the resources are completely different and better, and he still wants to come here. That says a lot about what’s going on here.

Q: What do you think you will enjoy most about your new position?

A: The best part of the job is dealing with the players and dealing with the staff. Our staff is very diverse itself; the fun part of the job is dealing with the different personalities.

Q: How important is it for the Broncos to recruit and coach not only good players, but also good people?

A: It all starts with character. We’re looking to recruit talented guys, but good players character-wise and personality-wise, too.

Q: Speaking of getting quality players, how will the recently completed indoor practice facility and planned expansion of Bronco Stadium, and the Broncos’ success help with your recruiting efforts?

A: It’s critical. It all starts when they walk into the stadium. I was even blown away coming from the University of Oregon, which I think is one of the best football setups in the country. When you walk into Bronco Stadium before a game, it’s electric. When you come into this stadium, which is probably half the size of Oregon’s with ends that are open, and a track around it, you don’t expect to feel that same electricity from the fans and that intensity. But I was very surprised walking in here the first time. It was very similar [to the atmosphere at Oregon], and I think opposing teams feel that as well, and that’s what players and coaches want to be part of.

Q: It’s been pretty well documented that you weren’t really interested in a head coaching position, but that Boise State was perhaps the lone exception. Is that accurate?

A: The coaching profession is tough. I knew that from the time I was growing up. My dad was a coach, an assistant and later the head coach for a few seasons at Yuba College [in California], and I really saw a lot of the hardships and time requirements that can go on in coaching. … But I learned from him how to handle some of those demands.

Q: Like Hawk, you played at and began your coaching career at UC Davis. He often speaks of how his time there greatly influenced him as a coach. How about you?

A: Every step along the way in my career, I have had coaches who have influenced me tremendously. But [former UC Davis coaches] Bob Foster and Jim Sochor are two of the main reasons why I’m sitting here today as the coaching profession. After watching some of the things my dad went through, at first I didn’t think that’s what I wanted to do. But then I saw their [Foster’s and Sochor’s] perspective on things, and it really changed my way of thinking about coaching. And Paul Hackett [another Davis product who hired me as an assistant at Pittsburgh] is one of the greatest teachers that I’ve ever been around. Take the football part out of it, and this guy would be a great biology teacher or a physics teacher just in terms of imparting knowledge.

“…In four or five, 10 years, this place is going to be much different and even more impressive, and now is the time to jump on the bandwagon.”

Q: What other coaches have influenced you?

A: [Portland State’s] Tim Walsh, for how he deals with players. I had great coaches at Oregon, from [head coach] Mike Bellotti and the coordinators who I worked with, from Al Borges, who’s at Auburn, [current Arizona State and ex-BSU head coach] Dirk Koetter and [current Cal head coach] Jeff Tedford. And then certainly Hawk.

Q: If there was one message you could convey to FOCUS’ readers, what would it be?

A: I’d say that this is just such an awesome time to be a Bronco. You can feel the change happening, but not just in the athletic program. Equally impressive are the changes that are occurring on campus. The academic programs that are being started and the buildings that are going up at this place are very impressive. It’s a great place to be right now. In four or five, 10 years, this place is going to be much different and even more impressive, and now is the time to jump on the bandwagon.
Consider the following two hypothetical scenarios:

• A man is charged with a felony after DNA tests confirm that his blood was found at the crime scene. The man insists he’s never even been to the crime scene and that he’s innocent.

• At a national border crossing, immigration officials fail to detect that a well-dressed woman is entering the country illegally. She doesn’t arouse suspicion, even though she has a fake passport.

No, these aren’t scenes from the hit TV series CSI. They are actual research questions that Boise State scientists are pursuing as part of new projects funded by the U.S. Department of Defense.

The university recently received nearly $4 million in funds aimed at national security as part of the Fiscal Year 2006 Defense Appropriations Bill. The funds will support three research projects at Boise State, including two that will boost forensic science research at the university. A third project involves innovations in microchips that could be used as part of sensors to detect bioterrorism threats (opposite page).

Boise State biology professor Greg Hampikian heads the DNA Safeguard Project, a research effort that will ensure that reference DNA samples collected as part of routine sampling could never be mixed up with forensic DNA samples collected from crime scenes. The innovation would prevent accidental contamination of evidence that might occur at labs that handle both types of samples. It would also prevent evidence such as blood from being “planted” at a crime scene.

Hampikian, working with Boise State colleagues in computer science, chemistry and biology, has developed a novel approach to labeling blood or saliva samples by adding an artificial DNA code called a “marker” to the sample. The marker, made up of the same chemicals as DNA, would consist of a gene sequence not found in nature. The marker’s presence in the sample would immediately identify it as coming from a voluntary or reference standard, such as might be given as part of a hospital test, investigation or military registration.

Hampikian is working with co-principal investigators Tim Andersen, computer science, Ken Cornell, chemistry, and Jim Smith, biology, on a computational-based approach developing artificial DNA codes for the marker. Computer science professor Amit Jain and his students are also involved with the project.
Inside Amy Moll’s laboratory, researchers and students work to develop and test microchips that can be stacked vertically in what might be termed a “skyscraper model,” instead of spread out in a single layer. The innovation would increase functionality and reduce size, and has many applications for the microelectronics industry, including the development of sensors for detecting bioterrorism threats.

Moll, chair of the BSU Department of Materials Science and Engineering, received $1.8 million as part of the Fiscal Year 2006 Defense Appropriations Bill for Characterization, Reliability and Applications of 3-D Microstructures. The research Moll is conducting could be used as part of sensors that would detect bioterrorism threats such as anthrax. Her innovations would allow the silicon-based circuitry and sensors to be housed separately in a small package, thus protecting the circuitry from exposure and possible damage by the biological agents.

“On Sept. 11, there were 19 people on those planes that went down and every one of them lied to an official at least twice … Not one of them was caught.”

“Just last month in New Jersey, a judge had to free a convicted rapist because of concerns over possible DNA contamination at the crime lab,” Hampikian adds. “Since there was no safeguard marker in his reference sample, we will never know if it was his DNA found on the victim. Either he was accused of a horrible crime that he did not commit, or a guilty man is going free. In either case, it is tragic and could have been prevented with DNA Safeguard.”

Psychology professor Charles Honts is the principal investigator on a second project, the Credibility Assessment Research Initiative, which is designed to enhance national security through efficient and accurate credibility assessment, including improvements in polygraph testing.

“We’re not very good at telling when people are being truthful or when they are lying,” Honts says. “That becomes critical at places like our portals where passports and visas can be faked pretty easily.” Because most border workers don’t have specialized training in credibility assessment, the issue becomes even more critical.

“To put it into perspective,” Honts continued, “on Sept. 11, there were 19 people on those planes that went down and every one of them lied to an official at least twice — once when they came into the United States and once before they got onto an airplane that morning. Not one of them was caught.”

CARI researchers will work to create a fully computerized polygraph test as well as a non-computerized assessment tool that border workers can use to determine whether or not a person attempting to enter the United States is telling the truth. Researchers will also work on an automated portal credibility assessment test suitable for use at transportation and immigration portals.

Researchers at Boise State will develop infrastructure for the project, which will begin with the development and field-testing of a standardized state-of-the-art automated test of credibility. Based on current polygraph technology, the new test will also address the National Research Council’s concerns about examiner bias and the lack of standardized testing techniques.

The new grants position Boise State to become a leader in forensic science research and education, Hampikian adds.

“Our thriving research programs in forensics, bioterror detection, and credibility assessment form the nucleus of a regional center in forensic technology development,” he says. “This is a very exciting time to be at Boise State University.”

Biology professor Greg Hampikian heads the DNA Safeguard Project, which could prevent illegal evidence from being “planted” at crime scenes.

“This really is an important protection for the public, the accused, and the hard-working police and forensic scientists who protect us,” says Hampikian, who is acting director of the Boise State office of the Idaho Innocence Project.

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Several other faculty and more than a dozen graduate and undergraduate engineering students work with Moll on the project.

— Janelle Brown
Got a burning question about human resource management issues in Latvia, French-speaking writers in Mexico or Irish dramatists? Ever wonder about early burial practices in Guyana or how Eurasian cheatgrass made its way into your back yard?

For answers to these questions, check, respectively, with Boise State professors Gundars Kaupins, business management, Jason Herbeck, modern languages and literatures, Helen Lojek, English, Mark Plew, anthropology, and Steve Novak, biology. They are among the university’s researchers who regularly travel to all corners of the globe in search of answers to these and other questions.

Outside of academic circles, such travel and culturally specific areas of research may seem trivial. But global travel opportunities not only provide faculty with a chance to advance their own research, they also allow them to act as ambassadors for the university and for Idaho.

“Abroad we explain Idaho to the world. At home, we explain the world to Idaho,” says Todd Shallat, a history professor and director of the Center for Idaho History and Politics, who last fall delivered a lecture on the New Orleans levees at The Hague in the Netherlands. “Universities, our embassies, disseminate cultures and customs in a language that prepares our students for the global market-places. As a faculty, we pride ourselves in the university’s ability to touch the remotest corners on Earth.”

Honors College Director Greg Raymond agrees. His research in the fields of foreign policy and world politics has taken him throughout Europe, Asia and Latin America.

“Whenever I lecture abroad or consult with foreign officials, I enthusiastically tell the story of Boise State Uni-versity and its Honors College,” he says. “In an age of accelerating globalization, I have the opportunity to make connections that can serve Boise State students as well as the larger community.”

Students also benefit when professors from outside the United States bring their cultures to Boise. Xabier Irujo, a specialist from the Basque country who grew up in Venezuela, shares his culture with Idaho students enrolled in the Basque studies program. “It is important to open our minds to other cultures, societies, economies and ways of living,” he says. “I think that we can give all that to our students so they understand how important it is to travel in order to know ourselves.”

Following is a brief sampling of Boise State faculty whose travels enrich their research and teaching.

- Music Department chairman and pianist Jim Cook has been to China three times to teach at the Shanghai Conservatory. In addition, he is a specialist on performance practice styles and has toured Europe, performing chamber music and solo concerts in Paris, Munich and Vienna. He was also a featured artist at the International Haydn Festival in Fertod, Hungary.

Studying and teaching abroad, Cook says, helps us view our world as one diverse culture and allows us to appreciate the art and culture of other civilizations. “It makes for better understanding and
Ed McLuskie, a communication professor, recently taught in the Republic of Georgia as a Fulbright Scholar.

Closer relations between people,” he says. The downside is that broadening one’s horizons can lead to impatience with those who view the world in a smaller compartment. “Perhaps individuals have to demonstrate a natural curiosity before they are able to expand their thinking and realm of experience,” he says.

- Communication professor Ed McLuskie (“Prof’s photos help apprehend would-be presidential assassin,” FOCUS, Fall 2005) is a two-time Fulbright Scholar — to the Republic of Georgia and to Austria — who has also lectured at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. His expertise is in critical theory and the social philosophy of communication.

International experience, he said, is essential for the university, its faculty and its students to understand the big picture. “Our faculty and students aim also to connect with the world, as a cosmopolitan university whose own locale must become increasingly fluent in the give and take of international experience,” he says. “Experience with other cultures on their turf is indispensable.”

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- Nancy Napier, executive director of the Global Business Consortium (“The business of creativity,” FOCUS, Summer 2005), has taught or conducted research in Vietnam, Japan, Myanmar, Sweden, Germany, Austria and Mexico. She has also traveled to England, China, Ireland, Slovenia and the United Kingdom.

When teaching abroad, Napier says, it’s important to try to integrate local views with North American perspectives in order to increase understanding and further partnerships. In addition, her work in Vietnam reminded her that as Westerners, we often forget that others have valuable knowledge and experiences to share.

“I realized how often the ‘learners’ can teach the ‘experts,’” she says. “The Vietnamese have knowledge and skills that were useful to those of us who worked with them — from negotiation skills to entrepreneurial attitudes to knowing how to deal gracefully with turmoil and change.”

- Anthropologist John Ziker studies land and resource use, demography, and cosmology among the Dolgan and Nganasan in the western Taimyr region of Siberia. Specifically, his research examines the dynamics of indigenous households and their relationship with the environment.

“Boise State is promoting internationalization, meant to educate competent and culturally sensitive citizens as active participants in society,” he says. “My travel to Siberia provides students an international and cross-cultural perspective when pursuing degrees at Boise State. [In addition] my research adds to understandings of cooperation, global interdependence, human rights, and diverse cultural, social, political and economic systems in the Arctic.”

Boise State receives $500,000 for wind energy research

Boise State is the recipient of a $500,000 appropriation from the U.S. Department of Energy to fund wind energy research in Idaho. The funds will enable the university to develop new technologies aimed at reducing the costs of producing electricity on wind farms and at distributed locations.

Boise State will partner with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and other public and private agencies on the Wind Energy Research Laboratory.

The focal point will be the development of wind turbines that would harness the area’s low-velocity winds for distributed power systems.

Two new doctoral programs, executive MBA approved

At its February meeting, the State Board of Education unanimously approved Boise State’s new doctoral program in geosciences and a new Executive MBA program.

The new Ph.D. is the fourth doctoral program to be offered at Boise State, and the second to be approved by the State Board this academic year. In December, the State Board approved a Ph.D. in electrical and computer engineering.

Students in the electrical and computer engineering Ph.D. program were admitted this semester. The university will admit the first students to the geosciences Ph.D. program in fall 2006 while the new Executive MBA program is now accepting applications from potential students.

Boise State joins FAA project

Boise State recently dedicated a new FAA Center of Excellence for Airliner Cabin Environment Research.

BSU joins Harvard, Auburn, Purdue, UC Berkeley and two other universities and a national lab on the center to study cabin air quality and conduct an assessment of chemical and biological threats in airliners.

The U.S. Department of Transportation established the center last year, with Auburn University as the lead institution.

BSU’s part of the project involves the development of sensors and instrumentation to monitor air quality and detect contaminants.
They’re smart, they’re savvy, and they’re leading the way at Boise State University. For (clockwise from upper left) Provost Sona Andrews, College of Education Dean Diane Boothe, College of Engineering Dean Cheryl Schrader, and Vice President of Finance Stacy Pearson, being female and being at the top brings both challenges and opportunities.
During a roundtable discussion, these Boise State leaders talked about their careers, their inspirations, and what they’ve learned over the years with FOCUS writers Janelle Brown, Kathleen Craven and Sherry Squires. Below are excerpts of what they had to say. For a complete version of the interview, visit news.boisestate.edu/focus.

**What is it about Boise State and its culture that seems to encourage women to take leadership roles?**

**Schrader:** Every day I read of a university appointing a first woman dean or first woman provost or the first woman vice president, and Boise State has passed that. I think that part of what attracts women, or anybody to Boise State and Boise, is that it’s rather entrepreneurial. It has that western culture and you have a group of very creative and active people who are looking for a place to make a difference.

**Andrews:** I think it is pretty remarkable at Boise State that we have a number of women in a variety of positions of leadership at different levels. So it’s not just at the vice president level, or just at the dean level or just at the department chair level but throughout all the levels. That’s not unique to Boise State, but it certainly puts us in a class that is different than many other institutions.

**Pearson:** In my career at Boise State, I have felt this institution has been very open to women progressing in their careers and encouraging and providing professional development training. I have really liked the environment and wanted to stay here.

**Boothe:** And it’s not just women. We have a variety of diverse ethnic groups and the opportunity to work with socioeconomic levels that are diverse as well. So I think that when women are in these roles, there are many opportunities for them, and then they are supported once they are in that role.

**Andrews:** Bob Kustra actually creates an environment here at the very top that makes this a very hospitable climate and environment for women and all kinds of individuals. That tone gets set at the presidential level, you know. I think Bob’s hired two female vice presidents, and that speaks really highly of him. He works with women no differently than the way he would work with men.

**How would you describe your leadership style?**

**Boothe:** I can start on this one because being dean of the College of Education is unique in that we serve a multiplicity of constituencies, and it’s important to develop strong public relations with our public and private school agencies and educational partners. So my leadership style is collaborative, academic, encouraging people to high ideals, and then making an effort to motivate others while also being sure that I exemplify the goals and expectations that I have for them.

**Pearson:** My role in administration is understanding how we need to move the university forward. So I need to listen to everybody, find out what the goals are and then figure out a way to make that happen from a resource standpoint. It is very important that it be a collaborative relationship and also that we go through the difficult task of setting priorities for when and how we want to do things. It requires quite a bit of listening, interaction, feedback, processing information, putting it out to the rest of the leadership team to help us make decisions and move forward.

**Andrews:** I’m not sure I have a particular leadership style. But I can tell you the kinds of things I try to pay attention to. As provost, I try to make sure that I continue to keep a vision for everybody, and that I make sure, as Stacy mentioned, that I listen. I ask a lot of questions and if I were to characterize a style, it would be one where I try not to get too much in the way — at least I hope I don’t. I’ve got two deans at the table to tell on me. I try to make sure that I understand where the institution wants to go and I help other people get to the capacity they need to be at in order to do the things that they want to do. And sometimes I just try to stay out of the way.

**Schrader:** As dean of the College of Engineering, I really think there are four parts to my role. One is catalyst, to help formulate a vision. One is a facilitator, which is to try and make it possible for people to achieve their goals. The third is being an advocate for the college and the university, and the fourth is really the ambassador role outside of the university, with the community and industries and government.

**Everyone’s heard about the superwoman — the woman who earns the bacon, fries it up in the pan and does everything else. Was that ever an intimidating idea for any of you?**
Pearson: Well, I was intimidated by it. I came through my education period when it seemed like the people who I looked at in my profession were doing it all. They had these jobs, and they had these families and all these responsibilities, and they led these glamorous lives, but they never said how it is that you did all that. So I had to go out and try to do it and there was a time period when it was pretty tough. It wasn't until somebody else said to me, “You really can’t do it all, and you know what, maybe you don’t have to,” that I was really able to take a look at that and make some changes in my life.

Boothe: I never really considered the term superwoman. I was always busy and high energy and spent time with a career, raising a family, furthering my education. I'm critical of myself, so when I don’t do well, that would bother me. But, I think it's something that we just did because it needed to be done, and so sometimes we tried to be all things to all people. But then we just had to step back and take a look and regroup and move on again.

How real is the glass ceiling? How have you broken through it?

Schrader: I think there is a glass ceiling. I actually think there is always another one, so there are many levels of them. It’s like the Bertram Russell story with the turtle: The world is on the back of a large tortoise, but what's the tortoise standing on? The old lady says, “Very clever, young man, very clever, but it's tortoises all the way down.” I think that when you bump up against these glass ceilings, they move. I don't know that they necessarily shatter and are completely gone, but the whole point of bumping up against them is there's usually a little more room next time, for you or for somebody else.

Pearson: I think that's a really good point. I agree with that, but in my profession there are a lot of women in business and accounting and finance, and it was always presented to me as, “You do good work, you learn your profession, you put out a quality product and you’ll do fine.” So it seemed to me that that was really true. I don't know that I've found myself inhibited much. The other part of that is considering, “What is my glass ceiling? How high is it that I want to go?” I've always been pretty satisfied with my career path, but sometimes I just wanted to do something different. You know, break out of the mold. So that was tougher for me, because I felt like, well, this is the profession you're in, and if you want to try something like this, you’re going to have to get another degree or you’re really going to have to take a risk. I've always just wanted to grow and learn new things and have something new to look forward to, so for me the glass ceiling was more just getting in a place where I wasn't growing or learning something new.

Boothe: In my area, I've certainly bumped up against it, but it hasn't been in the way or it hasn't made my experiences extremely difficult. I think it's something that I've addressed in the field of education by gaining all the experience that I could, by pursuing a doctorate and working on higher education experiences, and by networking within the community and within the academic field. Those are all tools for addressing that problem.

What message would you give to other women to help them achieve success?

Boothe: Believe in yourself.

Schrader: Be yourself. Set your goals thoroughly and determine what is necessary and pursue those goals. Stick with them, persevere. Find out what your interests really are, not what other people tell you they should be. Do what you love.
Pearson: You’re responsible for your own happiness, and if something isn’t working, you need to find out what it is and make the change, and not wait for someone else to do it.

Andrews: And don’t let somebody discourage you and tell you that you can’t do something. I mean, I’ve had that happen a number of times in my life where people have said, “Oh, well, you’ll never be able to do that.” And that just sort of makes me feel like I want to do that. Just simple things, like the first time I told somebody I was going to run a marathon, they said, “Oh, you’ll never be able to do that.” Well, you know what? Of course I’ll be able to do that if I train and do the right things.

What do you see as the biggest challenge in your career in the next year?

Andrews: We all work for the same place, and I think that the challenge that many of us face is that there are so many opportunities for Boise State right now. So many. And the challenge is trying to figure out how to have the time and the resources to be able to do them all. There are incredible things going on at this institution. Every time I hear of an idea that one of the faculty, staff and students has, I want to say, “I’d really like to spend time for us to think about that, to plan for that and to find the resources.” That is the most challenging and frustrating part of our jobs. We are fortunate to be in an organization that is not short of ideas and not short of energy and not short of potential.

Boothe: I would certainly say advancing the goals of the College of Education. This is a dynamic forward-moving institution and we want to make sure that we keep pace, and that during the next 10 years we keep up that momentum as well.

Schrader: I agree absolutely with Sona’s description. So much potential, so many ideas, great opportunities. This is the perfect time to advance, but that’s also what’s frustrating, because you would love to be able to do it all. Think of where we could go, and think of the people who could have their dreams turn to reality.

Pearson: For me it’s how to operationalize all of this. We have just fabulous ideas and we work on solutions as to how get them going. But they are often competing with each other, and I’m the person who oftentimes has to bring in the, “OK, this is what we can do with this amount of money or resources.” That’s the frustrating part, because I know that this other one is just as important, but this one is a little more doable now. We have to make those choices even though sometimes I wish we could do them at the same time.

Schrader: You know the exciting thing about this is that often you come up with very creative ways of getting where you need to go, that you might not have taken the time to consider. That’s exciting to me here, because when folks get frustrated, you know, when I’m worried, there is the opportunity to think outside of the box. I think that’s encouraged here at Boise State, probably because we’ve had to do that.

What about your job do you find most rewarding?

Schrader: Helping other people achieve their goals. I think that it has to do with servant leadership. There’s just nothing better than finding that way to help a person move forward.

Andrews: I would agree. I think that for me the biggest highs in this job, the things that make me smile and at the end of the day make me realize I’m going to come back the next day and want to do it all over again, are when things happen to the people who work and study here. When a faculty member ends up getting something published because we made it possible for them to have the piece of equipment that they needed. Or a student at graduation just cheering because they got their diploma and walking across the stage. I think you do this because you really are interested in doing things for other people.

Pearson: I think I’m very similar. The people I work with, the people’s lives we impact … I think that this is a very honorable profession to be in, working on something that is going to improve lives in our community and the community itself. And it’s very fun to be a part of that, everything from a student who graduates successfully to an employee who has gotten a promotion or learned something new in the faculty publications. Because I know I am the administrator, but I get to be included in all of the great things that are going on here. And I feel like my role is helping remove the obstacles for some of those things to happen, and it’s very satisfying.

Schrader: Definitely the people. Engendering a shared commitment to excellence, students, working with the caliber of women that I work with. Also, collaborating with all faculty members and staff members who make our profession one in which we can all be proud.
They’re professional, accomplished and among the best in their fields. Over the past eight years, three Boise State women have been named Idaho Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching: Stephanie Witt, political science, won in 1998; Pam Gehrke, nursing, in 1999; and Alicia Garza, Spanish, in 2003. This prestigious award honors the best and brightest college and university teachers who are not only stars in the classroom but also in the lives of their students and in their communities.

With more than 43 years of combined teaching experience, these three women work in very diverse fields. Even so, they have at least one thing in common — a desire to help students, both men and women, find their own success in life despite the challenges that may stand in the way.

“The students here are fantastic,” says Witt, who currently teaches a graduate-level class in public policy while also fulfilling the role of associate vice president of academic affairs. “They aren’t pampered, by and large. Most are working and have more life experience than the people I knew in college. I’ve grown to really like working with that kind of student.”

“It’s a different type of student,” says Garza, a professor of Mexican American literature and culture who is the daughter of Mexican immigrants. Comparing her students to the more affluent group she taught at the University of Arizona, she says, “Here students work and have families. They are more responsible, more accountable, and they want to get their money’s worth.”

While teaching these types of students requires more effort, it also reaps more rewards, the women say. And that’s a good part of what keeps them here in Boise. But all three women also cited their colleagues as key to helping them achieve success in both the classroom and in their fields of research. They look to their coworkers as role models and supporters.

When Witt first came to Boise State in 1989, she met women like sociologist Pat Dorman, who was instrumental in paving the way for a women’s studies program, and other strong women who became her mentors. “These women fought the fights so people my age didn’t have to any more,” she says.

“When I look at other women here at Boise State, I’m so impressed,” Garza says. “They’re so good at what they do.” Researchers like Susan Shadle in chemistry and Helen Lojek in English, and colleagues like Heike Henderson, who battled cancer, had a baby and earned tenure all in the space of a few years. “All these women could be working at some big research institution, but like me they are here balancing teaching and research.”

That balance can be tough, all three women say, especially with the added demands that accompany today’s tech-savvy students. Gehrke does most of her teaching online, requiring hours of e-mails and discussion boards in addition to time spent on office hours and lesson preparation. And it doesn’t stop there.
“I get really involved,” says Gerhke, who teaches a class on public health policy and politics. “I have to have hands-on projects, not just reading. My students go to policy meetings related to nursing, and they just produced an electronic newsletter out of those meetings.”

Witt also places value on activities beyond the classroom walls. “I used to tell my students that it’s not like an I.V. where the knowledge just drips in. They have to get out of neutral to learn. I use case studies to apply materials, as well as short papers, small groups and applied projects.”

But when things get tough, these women have a strong support network they can fall back on. And that’s important when there’s a family added into the mix, Gehrke says. “At times I’ve had a kid on a little hospital bed crushed into the corner of my office,” she says. She also recalls times when she and her colleagues covered for one another, watching a sick child so the other could go teach a class.

These experiences don’t detract from teaching, Gehrke says. Instead, they can help build empathy and compassion for students who may be juggling similar personal and professional demands.

Another key to their success, all three say, is that their fields of interest were a perfect fit with Boise State. “I came here because the job looked like it was written for me,” Garza says. “It’s a luxury to teach in your area of expertise.”

And it’s the good fortune of Boise State students to be surrounded by professors who are so dedicated to their jobs. Noting the university’s proximity to Idaho’s Capitol and other government offices, Witt asks, “What better place than BSU for a political scientist?”

Luckily, for Boise State students, the answer is none.
Pennie Seibert's eyes light up when she talks about what she's learned about the human brain and how it functions.

“It used to be when someone had a stroke, there wasn’t much that could be done. Now we know stroke victims can make dramatic improvements,” says Seibert, a professor of psychology at Boise State and director of research for the Idaho Neurological Institute at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise.

Seibert’s research into the brain’s so-called “neuroplasticity” — its ability to repair and regenerate — is helping scientists find new ways to treat strokes, neurological injuries sustained in accidents, and conditions such as Parkinson’s disease, sleep disorders or back pain.

“It’s an incredibly exciting field of study because our understanding of the brain is constantly changing,” Seibert says. “The potential is unlimited for what we might be able to do.”

Seibert is one of many Boise State women professors who sustain active and productive research programs while teaching college courses and interacting with students in both the classroom and the lab. They say being female in what are often male-dominated fields makes them appreciate the value of diversity, and the importance of serving as mentors to all their students.

They also say they love the challenge of their work — and the opportunity to make a difference.

“What gets me going is having a burning question I want to answer,” says Michelle Sabick, a mechanical engineering professor and co-director of the Center for Orthopedic and Biomechanics Research.

Sabick studies how human joints respond to forces — such as when a
basketball player leaps high and lands hard — by using the same animation technology that the film industry uses to create characters such as Gollum in The Lord of the Rings. Her innovative research could lead to a new understanding of how to prevent sports-related injuries, and how to rehabilitate athletes when injuries occur.

“It’s an incredibly exciting field of study because our understanding of the brain is constantly changing,” Seibert says. “The potential is unlimited for what we might be able to do.”

“I always knew I would be an engineer of some kind, and combining biology and engineering is perfect for me,” says Sabick, who played soccer in college.

For chemistry professor Tomoko Fujiwara, sharing her enthusiasm for research with her students is important. “I want my students to understand how exciting science is, how fantastic it is to do this kind of work,” says Fujiwara, who worked in the pharmaceutical industry in her native Japan before enrolling at the Kyoto Institute of Technology as a nontraditional student and earning a bachelor’s, master’s and Ph.D.

Fujiwara is developing new biomaterials that could someday lead to more effective ways to administer chemotherapy and other drugs. In her laboratory, Fujiwara is working to synthesize cavity-shaped molecules that would serve as “capsules” to deliver drugs to a targeted area of the body. After the drugs are released at a tumor or other site, the biodegradable molecules would then harmlessly disintegrate.

Fujiwara says she finds cultural differences between Japanese and American approaches to research and education. She looks for ways to build on the strengths of both systems “I’m very flexible. I want my students to find their own dreams, and then to pursue them,” she says.

Biology professor Julie Oxford also takes a flexible approach to encouraging her students. “I’m not a sink-or-swim kind of person. Given the proper guidance, anyone can learn to do science. It’s the process of learning that is essential,” says Oxford, who conducts research that may someday help scientists find cures for ailments ranging from early onset arthritis to fetal alcohol syndrome, retinal detachment, cleft palate and cartilage degeneration in knees.

Inside Oxford’s lab, student technicians dressed in colorful lab coats chat easily with each other as they run tests and record results. Oxford counsels her students to take their time on experiments, and to get it right.

“There’s reward in designing and carrying out experiments to the best of one’s ability. I tell my students, you can’t rush things,” she says.

Like others interviewed for this article, Amy Moll understands that she is a role model simply because of who she is and what she has accomplished. Moll, chair of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, runs a thriving research program that involves developing new materials to make microchips smaller and more powerful (page 17). More than a dozen students work with her in her lab.

“I try to provide support for my students and help them achieve their goals,” Moll says. A former Hewlett-Packard engineer and manager, Moll also helps her students hone skills they will need to succeed in the workplace, including communication skills. “If you can’t clearly explain what you’ve accomplished, then your work won’t have the impact it should,” she says.

Moll says she’s been pleased to see an increasing number of women students enroll in the materials science program, both at the undergraduate and graduate level. Having more women working in engineering and the sciences benefits everyone, she says.

“More diversity means you gain more approaches to solving problems,” says Moll. “Different people bring different strengths.”
Jane Buser is in her 33rd year with Boise State. She began her career on a relatively quiet little campus where everyone knew one another.

“We are now a large metropolitan institution,” she says. “This is certainly the most exciting time in my career with the university. Being open to change creates wonderful and exciting opportunities.”

Many of those opportunities — and the responsibility for incorporating vast changes on campus — fall to the leadership of Boise State’s non-academic units. Buser’s counterparts across campus have learned to work in an ever-changing environment to make Boise State a better place to learn and work.

Part of Leah Barrett’s role is to help students feel connected to a growing campus. As executive director of the Student Union and Student Involvement, Barrett oversees the Women’s Center, Cultural Center and Children’s Center and serves as an adviser to student leaders, among other duties. She works to build community among Boise State’s students.

“Today, we talk about community being paramount to student success and we invest in ways to intentionally build it,” she says. A new campus Recreation Center and planned expansion of the Student Union are two examples.

As leaders in Boise State’s financial offices, Chris Rosenbaum and Jo Ellen DiNucci deal with the university’s fiscal needs and help pave the way for Boise State’s success.

Rosenbaum says that takes a full understanding of the campus and its unique and complex needs.

“On a daily basis my staff and I connect with dozens of people across campus to discuss policy, resolve budget concerns, interpret financial
information, and report financial outcomes for decision making,” she says. “I’ve learned that it’s critical to ensure our goals are sustainable and that there’s buy-in for the shared outcomes.”

Marcia Belcheir is the coordinator of Institutional Assessment and associate director of Institutional Analysis, Assessment and Reporting. “I love trying to anticipate what information would be valuable to help guide Boise State University to the next level, then figuring out a way to get it,” she says. “Change is inevitable, so you might as well anticipate it when you can and find the benefits after it’s occurred, even if you didn’t anticipate it.”

Lisa Parker, senior associate athletic director and the senior female administrator in the Department of Athletics, joined Boise State in 2003. She says it was the excitement of all of the changes that first drew her to the university.

Parker says she thrives in an environment where she is part of the change and where she finds herself surrounded by many talented and motivated individuals. As a leader, she sees part of her role as helping to give those around her a sense of calm in the midst of all of the change.

“I think leading by example is foremost for me,” she says. “You have to be willing to roll up your sleeves and dive in with the task yourself before you can ask someone else to do something.”

Barbara Fortin’s office has helped the university grow with increased enrollment as well as higher admission standards. As director of Admissions, she says in the midst of all of the expansion she has found it most challenging to remain nimble with limited resources. But she has found that leading with good communication and follow-through has helped her unit charge forward.

“Even if resources are tight, if you are able to empower a creative group of people, you can accomplish amazing things,” she says.

As director of International Programs, Sabine Klahr’s mission is to internationalize the campus. Klahr says it is sometimes difficult to balance being an advocate for her area and understanding where the rest of the university is coming from.

“You really have to know the university and all key players extremely well and have really good diplomacy skills,” she says. “The stress sometimes comes from working across all entities. It’s easy to get bogged down in my world of internationalization and think that everyone understands our goals.”

For Kara Brascia, director of the Service-Learning program that facilitates community-based learning for students, finding ways to cultivate change in a large institution has been a learning process. But she has a sense that her work is making a real difference and she enjoys finding creative and innovative ways to get things done.

She comments that a leader must “be able to manage her own strengths and weaknesses to remain productive, efficient and interpersonally effective.”

As one of a number of women in leadership roles at Boise State, Bookstore director Kim Thomas says she believes whether intentional or unintentional, she and others serve as role models.

“It never hurts to assume you are shaping others, as it makes you more conscious to be better yourself,” she says.
One of Boise State’s better-known ambassadors doesn’t have a prestigious title tacked to her office door. In fact, she doesn’t even have an office door. But mention her name on or off campus in circles ranging from nonprofit organizations to arts groups, and you’re sure to get a reaction. The same holds true in the Statehouse. In fact, after she offered advice to lawmakers on solutions to the Medicaid crisis, The Idaho Statesman named Kathy Kustra, the wife of Boise State President Bob Kustra, as one of the most influential people in the Idaho Legislature for 2005.

Not bad for the new kid in town. The Kustras moved to Boise in July 2003 when Bob Kustra became Boise State’s sixth president. Before the move, Kathy Kustra was special adviser for Medicaid under Kentucky Gov. Paul Patton, a position that capitalized on her years of experience in both the public and private sectors. As director of the Illinois Department of Public Aid years earlier, she managed a $5.2 billion budget and 9,000 employees. That experience came in handy when her first assignment in Kentucky was to dig out of a $600 million Medicaid deficit.

These days she is juggling a different load, albeit one she finds just as challenging and rewarding. Although not an employee of Boise State, Kustra does take seriously her role as a representative of the university.

Whether she’s attending a black-tie gala, a gallery opening, or a Bronco football game, she’s always “on” in her role as the president’s wife. That’s not to say it’s all work and no play. “I get to attend a lot of interesting and impressive events in the community and at the university,” she says, “events I might not be invited to otherwise.”

Kustra is also active off campus, serving as a board member for the Idaho Humane Society and the Idaho Shakespeare Festival. She and her husband try to support as many community events as possible, including the Log Cabin Literary Center, the Idaho Humanities Council and Ballet Idaho, to name a few.

“Kathy is a great addition to the Festival board first because she loves the theater,” says Mark Hofflund, ISF managing director. “She is a tremendous advocate for public support of art, education and the pillars of our culture.”

Between events, she’s a sounding board for presidential issues and activities ranging from addresses to the faculty to Bob Kustra’s successful radio show, New Horizons in Education.

“My role with Bob is like that of 99.9 percent of spouses,” she says. “We have been bouncing things off of each other since the beginning. We just trust each other’s intellect and judgment, I guess.”

Her real joy, however, comes when this self-described “foodie” combines her passion for cooking with her many entertainment duties. Two dinners with the Kustras recently garnered bids of $5,000 each to support the Bronco Athletic Association; another dinner was auctioned off for the Boise Athletic Association. The winning bidders got a meal cooked by Kathy Kustra and served by Bob. The couple also hosts numerous gatherings at their home to welcome new vice presidents and deans to the university, gather Foundation board members, entertain lawmakers, and more.

“Everywhere we go we are representatives of the university,” she says. “It’s been an extremely enriching experience.”
Foundation promotes 2, adds 2

AS BOISE STATE GEARS UP FOR its first-ever comprehensive fund-raising campaign, the BSU Foundation promoted two development directors and added two new directors to its staff.

Rika Clement has been named executive director of campaigns and Jennifer Neil has been appointed executive director of planned giving and director of board relations. In addition, Barb Myhre was named health sciences development director and Barbara Ferguson is the new director of donor relations.

The moves, announced by Rick Frisch, vice president for University Advancement, are part of Boise State’s heightened effort to raise private funding for student scholarships, endowed faculty chairs, new buildings and resources for research and other programs.

Nagel Foundation continues support of nursing scholarships

The late Mildred Nagel and her family are still making their presence felt among nursing students at Boise State.

In 1990, Nagel, a former nurse and wife of the late founder of the Boise-based Nagel Beverage Co., founded the John F. Nagel Foundation to honor the memory of her husband and late son, both of whom were named John Nagel.

Along with charitable contributions to youth sports and other organizations, the Nagel Foundation has provided nearly $1 million in nursing scholarship support to Boise State.

Mildred Nagel, who passed away in 2003, believed it was important to support nursing students who otherwise would not have the financial means to attend college. The Nagel Foundation’s annual gift provides two full years of fees and tuition for 16 nursing students who have a minimum grade point average of 3.0. Since its inception, approximately 160 nursing students have received Nagel Scholarships.

“Both Rika and Jennifer are professionals with the utmost dedication,” says Deb Riedel, chair of the Boise State Foundation board of directors. “Their roles strengthen the organizational structure and will provide direction for the ambitious fund raising that will be necessary to support our goal of becoming a metropolitan research university of distinction.”

Prior to her promotion Clement worked with the College of Business and Economics, College of Engineering, College of Education and the College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs. Before her promotion Neil was the development director for the College of Health Sciences and the College of Arts and Sciences (“Foundation names new development directors,” FOCUS, Fall 2003).

Myhre previously worked as the director of alumni and major gifts from 1994-2004 at Minot State University in Minot, N.D. Ferguson is responsible for event management including planning and producing corporate sponsorships, and volunteer and donor special events. She previously worked as the director of events management for the Oppenheimer Companies from 1994-2004, for Washington Group International as a senior international recruiter and the Idaho Botanical Garden as an event/site leasing manager.

NORCO DONATION FUNDS THREE NEW NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS

Norco, a Boise-based medical-supplies firm, has donated funding for three new nursing scholarships at Boise State.

The scholarships are designed to assist nursing students who struggle financially with the rising cost of higher education and thus help ease the looming nursing shortage, says Norco chairman and CEO Jim Kissler.

The Kissler Family Foundation will fund the $15,000 scholarships; two are aimed at baccalaureate students and one is earmarked for an anticipated master’s program.

Under a matching fund program established by the Boise Industrial Foundation in 2003, each of Kissler’s three $10,000 donations received $5,000 in matching funds.

INAUGURAL VOLUNTEER CONGRESS DRAWS 100

President Bob Kustra and Bruce Flessner, a national advancement consultant, were the keynote speakers at the inaugural Volunteer Congress in November.

Approximately 100 supporters of Boise State came together for the event, which was emceed by news anchor Dee Sarton.

Kustra painted a compelling picture of Boise State’s future as a metropolitan research university with expanded research, teaching, programs and facilities. He set an ambitious agenda for the university and invited the volunteers in attendance to help Boise State create its future, in part through the university’s first comprehensive campaign.

Flessner addressed the role of volunteers in advancement and in a major campaign.

FOUNDATION HOSTS BOOSTERS AT MPC COMPUTERS RECEPTION

More than 100 guests attended a reception for board members of the Foundation, Alumni Association and Bronco Athletic Association plus the Coaches Club, Barnwell Society and sponsors before the MPC Computers Bowl on Dec. 28, which pitted the Bronco football team game against Boston College.

The event was a collaborative effort between the Foundation, BAA and Alumni Association.
PHILANTHROPY

PHONATHON RECEIVES LARGEST SINGLE PLEDGE
Augmented by the largest single pledge in its history, the Boise State Phonathon raised $213,924 during its fall 2005 fund-raising drive. More than 3,240 alumni and friends of the university contributed to the annual pledge drive, which is administered by the BSU Foundation.

Phonathon ’05 donors included northern California resident Doyle Heaton, who pledged $10,000 to help establish construction management and business scholarships at Boise State. The donation by Heaton, who graduated from Boise Junior College in 1961, is the largest single pledge the Phonathon has received. Heaton subsequently pledged an additional $50,000 over the next five years to be added to the scholarships.

THE GREAT INDOORS: Boise State unveiled the Caven-Williams Sports Complex and the Keith and Catherine Stein Band Hall earlier this year with a reception honoring the donors who paid for the $9.5 million indoor practice facility. From left: BSU President Bob and Kathy Kustra, athletic director Gene Bleymaier, Larry and Marianne Williams, Jerry and Muriel Caven, Larry and Karen Arguinchona, Linda Yanke, Barb and Don Gile, Catherine and Keith Stein, Bonnie and Bob Schwenkfelder, and Lori and Duane Stueckle. The reception included comments from Gov. Dirk Kempthorne, President Kustra and new head football coach Chris Petersen, who introduced the members of his staff. Approximately 200 people attended the event. Bronco sports teams will have first priority for use of the facility, but it will also be made available to other BSU students for recreation and intramurals. Community members will also have the opportunity to rent the training facility and the rehearsal room in the band hall.

What does Boise State have in common with Harvard, Auburn, Purdue and Cal Berkeley?

Boise State is among the nation’s top universities conducting research as part of a Federal Aviation Administration Center of Excellence. Engineering professor Sin Ming Loo and his students are developing sensors and instrumentation to study cabin air quality and assess chemical and biological threats in airliners.

www.boisestate.edu
Larry Arguinchona says he hoped to jump-start a couple of proposed projects when he and his wife, Karen, gave more than $900,000 to Boise State in December. “BSU and its mission are important to the well-being and development of the state of Idaho and particularly the Treasure Valley,” he says. “It is vital that those who have benefited from the university remember to support and give back to it.”

About $423,000 of the Arguinchonas’ gift was an advance payment on a planned suite in Bronco Stadium, $250,000 is earmarked for a new College of Business and Economics building, and $250,000 went to Boise State’s recently completed Caven-Williams Sports Complex (photo, opposite page).

“This gift will benefit Boise State students in so many ways for years to come,” says Rick Frisch, vice president for advancement at Boise State. “We are most grateful to the Arguinchonas for their generosity.”

The Arguinchonas have been long-time supporters of Boise State and are deeply involved in the community.

Arguinchona vividly remembers growing up in a Basque boarding house run by his parents located near the present-day Boise Centre on The Grove. He attended Boise Junior College and, after completing his education at the University of Idaho, worked for the state of Idaho for the next 15 years for four different agencies. While working in education, he was one of the first people to ever work in Boise State’s current Business Building.

Arguinchona formed Idaho Financial Associates, a business that worked with student financial loans, which he later sold to Nelnet Inc. He also helped found Syringa Bank in 1995 and serves as its chairman of the board.

He has served on the Boise State Foundation board since 2001 and is currently serving as president of the Bronco Athletic Association.

“An active involvement with the university has offered me the opportunity to see the dynamic growth in all of its programs,” he says.

— Sherry Squires
From coast to coast, Broncos gathered in recent months to reminisce, meet new friends and learn more about Boise State’s unprecedented growth at social events sponsored by the Alumni Association.

In addition to hosting gatherings in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho Falls, Twin Falls, Burley and, of course, Boise in its home state of Idaho, the Alumni Association also coordinated events in Portland and Corvallis, Ore.; Spokane and Seattle, Wash.; San Francisco and Fresno, Calif.; Salt Lake City and Logan, Utah; Athens, Ga.; and Washington, D.C.

The Alumni Association hosted events at major league baseball games, restaurants, museums, banquet halls, college football stadiums and more. Some events were small while others attracted hundreds. But all events had two things in common — a shared fondness for Boise State and an abundance of blue and orange apparel.

“It’s great to see Broncos at every stop we make across the nation,” says Lee Denker, Alumni Association executive director. “We have alumni from coast to coast who care a great deal about this university who look forward to coming to events with fellow Broncos.”

The Alumni Association has plans to coordinate future events in locations beyond the Treasure Valley. Upcoming gatherings include stops in Seattle and Twin Falls this spring. Alumni are encouraged to contact the association if they have an interest in helping to coordinate a Boise State gathering in their area.
Alumni Center hosts tailgates for bowl game, regular season contests

One benefit of hosting a football bowl game on campus is that alumni don’t have to change their tailgate plans. Hundreds of cold and damp Bronco fans found shelter and Bronco excitement at the Alumni Association’s pregame party in December before Boise State played Boston College in the MPC Computers Bowl.

The Alumni Center and parking lot were the center of activity for Boise State as the site of both the Alumni Association tailgate party and a social event hosted by University Advancement.

Student research highlights

More than 50 of Boise State’s brightest students put their research work on display at the Idaho Statehouse in January for the Alumni Association’s annual Boise State Day at the Legislature.

Legislators had an opportunity to learn more about each project by viewing displays and talking directly with the student researchers, deans and President Bob Kustra. Each of Boise State’s colleges was represented at the event. Above: Student Jill West explains her physics research to Rep. Steve Smylie (R-Boise).

December grads honored by Alumni Association

The Alumni Association’s annual winter graduation celebration was held the morning of winter commencement in Bronco Gym. Hundreds of graduates and their friends and family members attended and enjoyed a continental breakfast, special photo areas, music, and a Student Alumni Association supply booth.

Winter graduation celebration is one element of the association’s student relations program that prepares students for a life of active alumni involvement with Boise State.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI BANQUET SCHEDULED APRIL 18

The Alumni Association will host the Top Ten Scholars & Distinguished Alumni banquet at 6 p.m. April 18 in the Student Union.

Each year the Alumni Association celebrates academic excellence by recognizing 10 members of the senior class as top scholars. The 10 students each select a faculty member who significantly influenced their education to join them in receiving honors. The banquet will also feature the awarding of the association’s annual Distinguished Alumni Award.

Tickets are available for $20 per person by calling Renee White at (208) 426-1831.

ANNUAL MEETING SLATED FOR MAY 3; ALL MEMBERS INVITED

All alumni and members of the Alumni Association are invited to the association’s annual meeting at 4 p.m. May 3 at the Alumni Center. The meeting will feature the election of new directors and officers, reports, and the presentation of the Alumni Service Award.

The 2006 recipients of the service award are Ed Hedges (’52) and Carol Hoidal (BA, history, ’72).

Contact Donna Conner at (208) 426-1959 for further information.

IDAHO SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL TO HOST BOISE STATE NIGHT

Join the Alumni Association for a performance of A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum during Boise State Night at the Idaho Shakespeare Festival on June 22. The evening will feature a backstage tour and brief director’s discussion exclusively for friends of Boise State.

Discount tickets are $25 for reserved lawn and chair seating or $20 for reserved hillside seating, available by calling (208) 336-9221. Refer to promotional code No. 804 when calling.

Alumni Association first vice president Susie Schumacher, who received her master’s degree in December, is congratulated by Rhiannon Horn, associate director of alumni relations, at the winter graduation celebration.
LIFETIME MEMBERS OFFERED APPAREL

Lifetime members of the Alumni Association have new options for wearing their Boise State pride on their sleeves. A new line of apparel has been created exclusively for lifetime members.

Items include sweatshirts, fleece jackets and vests. In addition, all new lifetime members will receive their choice of apparel options as a gift of membership. Contact Rhiannon Horn at (208) 426-1284 with questions about lifetime member apparel or general membership inquiries.

VARSITY B CLUB SEeks NEW MEMBERS

Former Bronco athletes, band members, cheer squad members, Maneline Dancers, athletic support staff, and parents of student-athletes are invited be part of the growing team that wants to continue its involvement with Boise State athletics.

To join the Varsity B Club, contact Michel Bourgeau at (208) 426-5405 or michelbourgeau@boisestate.edu.

Alumni Association Calendar of Events

March
15-17 — “Official Ring” marketing days, Student Union
25 — Seattle alumni reception, Chateau Ste. Michelle

April
18 — Distinguished Alumni & Top Ten Scholars Banquet, Student Union
28 — Student Alumni Association School Pride Day

May
2 — SAA Recognition Banquet, Student Union
3 — Alumni board of directors annual meeting, Alumni Center
9 — Twin Falls alumni reception and graduation celebration
12 — Spring graduation celebration, Student Union

June
22 — Boise State Night at Idaho Shakespeare Festival
For Boise State graduate Bill Laurance, tripping over a king cobra during a research expedition in Africa's Congo Basin and then getting chased by a herd of forest elephants is all part of a day's work.

“I was amazed how fast the elephants charged us,” says Laurance, a senior scientist with the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, based in Panama. “It was very loud and very sudden. We scattered and ran as fast as we could.”

Laurance (BS, biology, ’82), a leading world expert on the effects of fragmentation of tropical systems, is president of the Association for Tropical Biology and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. His studies have taken him to Brazil’s Amazon Basin, central Africa, northern Queensland in Australia and other exotic parts of the globe.

Laurance (left, in Central Africa) has published more than 200 articles in scientific journals, provided expert testimony at international hearings, and written several books, including the memoir *Stinging Trees and Wait-a-Whiles: Confessions of a Rainforest Biologist* (“Biology grad pens rainforest epic,” FOCUS, Winter 2001).

While the size of the world’s rainforests sounds impressive — the Amazon rainforest is about two-thirds the size of the continental United States — deforestation is occurring at an alarming rate, Laurance says. And that has serious repercussions for everything from global warming to extinction of species to discovering new drugs to treat disease.

“The rainforest has had millions of years to develop biological compounds,” he says. “Ninety-nine percent of plants haven’t been explored yet for pharmaceutical benefits.”

Pressures to develop rainforest lands are both huge and complex, and it will take the support of many nations to effectively address the issues, Laurance believes. “The world isn’t as big as we once thought; our systems are all connected,” he says.

— Janelle Brown
Our policy is to print as much “In Touch” information as possible. Send your letters to Boise State Alumni Association, 1910 University Drive, Boise, ID 83725-0335, or send e-mail to bsualum@boisestate.edu. In addition, if you know someone who would make a good feature story in our “Alumnotes” section, contact the office of University Communications at the same address.

’60s

NELSON KENT AVERILL, BA, marketing, ’68, has joined Acordia Mountain West Inc., a national insurance broker- age owned by Wells Fargo.

’70s

GARY W. STIVERS, BS, physical education, ’70, retired in October from his position as executive di- rector of the State Board of Education.

PATRICK B. VAUGHN, BA, general business, ’70, is the new president/CEO for Boise Telco Federal Credit Union. Vaughn has extensive experi- ence in the financial services market. Most recently, he held a position at Key Bank as vice president and senior relationship manager. He has a certificate of completion from the Pacific Coast Bank- ing School at the University of Washington.

CATHY ELLEN THOMAS, BBA, business education, ’73; MA, secondary education, ’80, Averill has 37 years of experi- ence and professional designa- tions of certified insurance counselor and accredited adviser in insurance.

The Boise State Bookstore serves the students, faculty, staff and community as the campus retailer, fostering academic success, university allegiance, and provides student scholarships.

The Boise State Bookstore provides relevant products and services that contribute towards academic success, promote institutional pride, and serve convenience needs. The Bookstore offers everything from art and school supplies, general books and textbooks to Boise State apparel and gifts available at the Bronco Shop. BroncoTEC offers the very latest technology, electronics and computer hardware and software products. Bronco Express is the processing and pick-up location for all on-line orders and offers select shipping services.

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W-F........8:00am-5:30pm
Sa..........10:00am-5:00pm
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208.426.BOOK (2665)
www.boisestatebooks.com
has retired after 32 years of working in elementary counseling and secondary education.

MICHAEL JOHN RENNER, BA, psychology, ’77, has accepted the position of provost and vice president for academic affairs for Mansfield University of Pennsylvania. Previously, Renner was the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and a professor of psychology at Nazareth College in Rochester, N.Y.

Marilyn T. (Tate) Shuler, MPA, ’77, is the former director of the Idaho Human Rights Commission, president of the Idaho Human Rights Education Center and part of the teams that established the Northwest Coalition Against Malicious Harassment, the Idaho Black History Museum and the Idaho Anne Frank Human Rights Memorial. She was awarded a Silver Medallion from Boise State in 1998 and was a Top Ten Scholar in 1978.

Rodney ray daugherty, BM, music education, ’78, recently joined Manhattan Associates as the senior director for demand intelligence products.

Jennifer Williams, MA, art education, ’78, a Boise State adjunct art professor, supervisor of art student teachers, and the 2002 Idaho Teacher of the Year, was named the Idaho Art Teacher of the Year for Higher Learning at the Idaho Art Education Association Conference in October. In addition, Williams’ art textbook, Art 2: Pottery, Sculpture, Batik, and Three Dimensional Design, was recently published by Teaching Point. She has also been nominated to be a member of the national assessment board for university teacher education programs and will begin her tenure this year. Williams and her BSU art student teachers were also featured on the show What a Great State when they took Project “Van Go” on the road to teach art to children in rural Idaho.

BRENT N. WINGER, BBA, accounting, ’90, has been appointed vice president for finance and administration at the University of Mary in Bismarck, N.D.

Wayne m. bagan, BS, geology, ’80, accepted a position as geophysics manager for Omnimex Resources Inc. in Fort Worth, Texas.

DONNA M. (PRICE) SHINES, BS, physical education, ’80, is the director/CEO of the Mentoring Network Inc., a school-based mentoring program for students in the Caldwell, Nampa, Parma, Homedale and Vallivue school districts.

Richard Craig Tidwell, BBA, real estate, ’80, has been promoted to vice president and branch manager of the Idaho Banking Co.’s Meridian branch. Tidwell joined Idaho Banking in 1999 as a commercial loan officer.

Shannon M. (Asplund) BLAINE, BBA, marketing, ’81, joined Stinker Stations as a controller. Blaine previously worked for Albertsons in its corporate office and has more than 26 years of finance experience in the retail industry.

Kenneth Joseph Stark, BBA, finance, ’81, founded Stark and Associates Commercial Real Estate. His company specializes in industrial, office, retail, land and investment properties, and is a full service brokerage and development company.

Steven R. Appleton, BBA, management, ’82, was awarded the 2005 Intercollegiate Tennis Association Achievement Award in New York at the U.S. Open. The award is given to former college tennis players who have excelled in their subsequent careers. Appleton played tennis for Boise State from 1978-82. He is the CEO of Micron Technology in Boise.

Peter J. Job, BBA, accounting, ’82, joined Harris Dean Insurance in Coeur d’Alene as a licensed commercial property and casualty agent.

Darla K. (Vannortwick) Strong, BA, elementary education, ’83, retired after 35 years of teaching in Boise, Kuna and Melba.

Donald D. Baldwin, BBA, marketing, ’84, was appointed CEO and chairman of the board of Blue Water Technologies. Baldwin previously held several senior executive positions at Micron Technology.

Karl E. Wirkus, BS, geology, ’85, has been selected to serve as the new deputy regional director for the Bureau of Reclamation’s Pacific Northwest region. Wirkus started with the Reclamation’s Water and Power Resources Services in 1981 as a physical science aid in Boise.

Sandra Lee (Holmes) Viau, BBA, accounting, ’86, was promoted to chief financial officer for development for the Lake at Las Vegas Resort.

Patrick K. Brubaker, BA, English, general literature emphasis, ’88, accepted the position of workflow manager for Oliver Russell. Brubaker’s job experience includes operations manager at Idaho WiFi Inc., senior op-

NEW Lifetime Members!

The following became lifetime members of the Boise State Alumni Association between Sept. 1 and Dec. 31, 2005. Our thanks to these alumni and friends for showing a lasting interest in our university and its alumni association. For more information on becoming a lifetime member, contact the Alumni Association at (208) 426-1698 or join online at http://alumni.boisestate.edu.

Mary Rigg-Fletcher, Boise, ’54
Thomas Rhodes, Boise, ’55
Gary Piva, Meridian, ’69
Janice Bean, Boise, ’72
Dennis Ward, Olympia, Wash., ’73
James McCallum, Aurora, Colo., ’74
Curt McKeen, Boise, ’74
Allen Lockhart, Boise, ’75
Maria Maus, Boise, ’76
Donald Dunn, Gooding, ’77
John Perkins, Boise, ’77
Mary Schofield, Boise, ’77
Steve Cope, Boise, ’78
James Morrison, Laurel, Md., ’78
Rodney Simon, Boise, ’80
Karen Cope, Boise, ’81
Carol Teater, Boise, ’81
Douglas Teater, Boise, ’82
Janet Fellows, Mesa, Ariz., ’83
Robert Maloney, Twin Falls, ’83
S. Jenne Johnson, Boise, ’88
Judith Nissula, Cascade, ’88
Philip Johnson, Boise, ’89
Janis Goodheim, Atlanta, Ga., ’90
Pieter Ytsma, Boise, ’90
Kellee Sharples, Gainesville, Va., ’91
Mary McCallum, Aurora, Colo., ’92
Jay Woody, Boise, ’92
Bob Evanche, Boise, ’93
Sue Evanche, Boise, ’93
Ginger Beall, Boise, ’94
Randy Peirce, Boise, ’94
Seth Rounds, Boise, ’94
Nancy Dunn, Gooding, ’95
Rory Hammersmark, Boise, ’95
Elizabeth Woody, Boise, ’95
Charles Eddy, Boise, ’97
Keith Feldman, Boise, ’97
Eric Henscheid, Boise, ’97
Jonathan Hopkins, McCall, ’97
Sarah Hart, Nampa, ’98
Christopher Pillott, Eagle, ’98
David Claiborne, Meridian, ’99
Rainer Keller, St. Inigbert, Germany, ’99
Dirk Rosenbaum, Boise, ’99
Shaun Hammersmark, Boise, ’01
Lisa Kolesar, Boise, ’02
Erin Willis, Haymarket, Va., ’02
Kimberly Burghalter, Filer, ’03
Darrald Bean, Boise
Lorne Braun, Boise
Albert Fellows, Mesa
Terry Key, Mukilteo, Wash.
Vivian Klein, Boise
Brandon Kurtz, Haymarket, Va.
Robert Leaverton, Costa Mesa, Calif.
Diana Leaverton, Costa Mesa, Calif.
Errol Maus, Boise
Ayan Nur, Eagle
Carol Perkins, Boise
Sandra Piva, Meridian
Larry Polowski, Boise
Phillip Price, Boise
Sharon Rhodes, Boise
KIRBY JOEL ROBERTSON, BBA, marketing, ’89, joined the Mountain West Bank construction lending team. Robertson will serve as a construction loan specialist in the Southern Idaho commercial loan center. He has more than 16 years of experience in residential lending.

DIANNA L. BARTLOME, BS, physical education, ’92, has assumed responsibilities for fleet account and wholesale fuel sales for Stinker Stations. She has 13 years of experience in the fuel industry.

TIMOTHY W. TYREE, BA, English, ’93, is the newest partner of Hawley Troxell Ennis & Hawley LLP, the oldest and largest private law firm in the state of Idaho. Tyree’s practice focuses on real estate transactions including the buying, selling, leasing and financing of real estate throughout Idaho. He also serves on the board of directors for the Boise State Alumni Association, is president of the City Club of Boise, and has volunteered for the American Cancer Society for the past 15 years.

KRISTIN MICHELE INGRAM, BA, elementary education, ’94, has joined the Community Education Center at the College of Southern Idaho as an enrichment class instructor; she will be teaching computer courses. Ingram received a master’s degree in educational administration from the University of Idaho.

CINDY LOU ROBERTS, BA, elementary education, ’95; MA, early childhood studies, ’96, is the new principal at Shadow Butte Elementary School. Roberts has an education specialist degree and will soon receive her Ph.D. from the University of Idaho.

REBECCA J. FOWERS, BBA, finance, ’99, was promoted by Idaho Banking Co. to assistant vice president and assistant branch manager for its Eagle branch. She joined Idaho Banking Co. in 2000 as a credit analyst.

AARON MICHAEL HUTCHINGS, BBA, general business, ’99; BAS, computer networking ’05, was named a PC technician for The Network Group. Hutchings started with The Network Group in 2004 as a student intern. He provides on-site support services to clients in the Treasure Valley.

SOO YONG KANG, BA, history, ’00, joined the law firm of Elam & Burke as an associate. Kang earned his law degree from the University of Idaho in 2003. He served
a one-year clerkship for District Judge Cheri Cosey and one year under Idaho Supreme Court Justice Daniel Eismann. Kang is an active member of the American Inns of Court No. 130 and the Idaho State Bar. He primarily practices in the area of civil litigation.

GREGORY LYNN COX, MBA, ’01, has joined First Federal and is currently in the management trainee program.

JOEL DAVID YORK, BA, mass communication, ’01, has accepted a position as fleet account manager with Michelin Tire Corp. He will be responsible for the fleet accounts for the state of Idaho.

JON SCOTT MANGUM, BBA, operations management, ’02, was promoted to operations manager for Stinker Stations. He has been with Stinker Stations for 18 years and will be responsible for the supervision and day-to-day operations of more than 45 retail locations.

THOMAS WILLIAM FASSINO, BS, political science, ’03, recently joined Pathway Development as a project coordinator and urban land planner. In his new position he will be responsible for managing various research projects and public policy development for the firm’s clients.

BRANDON DAVID FIALA, BA, communication, ’03, has been hired as the editor for the North Side News in Jerome. Fiala previously worked for the Times-News as a reporter and page designer.

NICOLAS HISASHI KAWAGUCHI, BBA, finance, ’03, joined Northcity Mortgage as a home loan consultant. He serves on the board of directors for Junior Achievement of Idaho.

MINDY LEE PATTERSON, AAS, marketing management, ’04, has been hired by CTA Architect Engineers as a receptionist. She will be working in the firm’s Boise office.

CHRISTOPHER S. BLANCHARD, BS, social science (economics and history), ’05, has been appointed the administrative assistant to the Boise City Council. He performs policy and budget research, coordinates administrative functions for council members, researches model legislation and investigates solutions to special issues or problems. Blanchard previously served as a legislative staff member in both the Washington State House and Senate.

DAVID JAMES BOWERS, BS, criminal justice, ’05, has been commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He will be assigned to serve on active duty or in the National Guard or Reserves.

JENTRY ANN FIFE, TC, dental assisting, ’05, has joined North College Dental Group as a certified dental assistant.

HEATHER MARIE GRIBBLE, BFA, graphic design and marketing, ’05, recently joined Closed Loop Marketing and Advertising in the firm’s production design department.

HEATHER A. JASPER, BA, French, BA, Spanish, ’05, has accepted a two-year assignment with the Peace Corps and will serve as a youth development volunteer in Morocco. Jasper will work with host country nationals to provide participatory educational opportunities to enable youth to create and sustain positive changes in their communities. The work will focus on outreach to teenage girls, as well as teaching English classes.

JAMIE RAYE MCGINNIS, BA, elementary education bilingual, ’05, opened a bilingual kindergarten inside Stepping Stones Learning Center in Coeur d’Alene.

RYAN WILLIAM NIXON, BS, psychology, ’05, was named director of recruiting and training for Franklin Building Supply. Previously, Nixon worked for Body Basics as a personal trainer.

SEAN VICTOR SPAGNOLO, BS, physical education, ’05, will teach math at Jerome Middle School and plans to coach wrestling or track.

BETH BABCOCK and Joshua James Filzen (Boise), April 9.

JENNIFER RUTH WOLLEN and GREGORY ALAN BRIDGES (Boise), June 10.

ISLA MARIE STEVENSON and CHAD THOMAS NELSON (Boise), June 18.

CRYSTLE DEONE WALLIN and Jeff Vance (Boise), June 25.

DAVIANNE “ANNE” DAVENPORT and Travis Riddle (Boise), June 26.

MELISSA ANNE GOFF and William Reilly (Shotteswell, England), July 2.

MOLLY MARIE HARTNETT and Brady Richmond, July 22.

MARY ALICE BIELENBERG and Rudolph Joseph Sanchez (Moscow), July 23.

HOLLY ELIZABETH BARNES and Joel Gandara (Boise), July 29.

LUCY FATINA BRAZIL and Dr. David B. Wilkes, July 30.

Weddings

JAIME ANNE CREA and Shayne Allen Ephraim (Boise), April 9.

LISA MARIE TEMPLETON and BRENDEN H. MILLARD (Lewis- ton), May 14.
BROOKE J. GREEN and JEREMY DAVID BYINGTON (Garden Valley), Sept. 4.

TAMARA LEIGH ROSS and John Hess (Stanley), Oct. 15.

JENNIFER LYNN BECK and Jason Freeman (Charleston, N.C.), Nov. 11.

DEATHS

LESLIE L. ANKENMAN, diploma, arts and sciences, ’60, died Oct. 10. He was 66. Ankenman spent the last 20 years of his career in Cascade as the Valley County engineer where he helped establish the Building Department, Planning and Zoning Department, Solid Waste Department and numerous other projects.

WILFRED “RICK” BAKER, BA art education, ’86; MA education, ’93, of Boise died in a skiing accident Feb. 2. He was 54. He served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War. He worked as a junior high art teacher in Boise from the mid-1980s until his death.

ALYSON L. BILLINGS, AAS, accounting, ’97, died Nov. 6. Billings, 46, served more than nine years in the Navy. She was honorably discharged in 1986 and is registered in the Women in Military Service Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C.

VONDA CARROLL, BA, criminal justice, ’03, died Aug. 30. Carroll, 29, spent the past several years working as a secretary at Boise State.

FRANK ROBERT COCHRAN, AA, arts and sciences, ’47, died Sept. 2. He was 81. After high school, Cochran joined the Army and was assigned to the 527th Armored Infantry Battalion during World War II. He was awarded the Bronze Star for heroism during the Battle of the Bulge. Cochran graduated from the University of Southern California in 1950 with a BS in business administration. He held a position as a contracts administrator in the aerospace industry. Cochran retired in 1988 from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

KENNETTE L. ELLIOT, BFA, art education, ’80, died Sept. 24. Elliot, 48, graduated from Nampa High School in 1975 and was awarded a full scholarship to Boise State. Elliot was an accomplished artist with numerous paintings to her credit.

DOROTHY R. (LENDFEST) GAUS, AA, arts and sciences, ’34, died Nov. 18. Gauss, 91, was in the first graduating class from Boise Junior College and completed her college education at the University of Idaho. She was an active member of her college sorority, Kappa Alpha Theta, and was highly involved with the Head Start program in New York and in Illinois.

CHRISTINE JOHANNA GILMORE, AS, nursing, ’78; BS, nursing, ’84, died Oct. 19. Gilmore, 65, obtained her master’s degree in nursing from the University of Texas. She served as a nurse practitioner for the U.S. Embassy in Somalia and joined the Naval Reserve in her late 40s. She opened her own practice, the Red Flag Medical Clinic, which was designed to provide high-quality, low-cost medical treatment in Boise.

REX E. HEATH, AAS, semiconductor manufacturing technology, ’04, died Oct. 20. He was 50. Heath worked for Hewlett-Packard for 24 years.

VIRGINIA ETHEL (HOUSE) LOVELESS, AA, arts and sciences, ’43; BA, elementary education, ’68, died Oct. 10. Loveless, 82, taught second grade at Lowell and Madison schools for 28 years. She was a member of the teachers’ sorority Delta Kappa Gamma. After retirement, she volunteered at St. Luke’s Regional Medical Center.

DIANA L. (CHENEY) MILES, CC, dental assisting, ’72, died Nov. 11. Miles, 53, was active in the Payette PEO chapter and the Fruitland Boosters. She worked in the special
education program at Fruitland Middle School and North Junior High in Boise.

STEVEN ELWIN PETERS, BBA, business and economics, ’88, died Sept. 29. Peters, 46, was an Idaho native and worked on many ranches in Idaho, Arizona and Wyoming.

HARLEY ARTHUR SULLIVAN, AA, arts and sciences, ’37, died Nov. 10. He was 89. While attending Boise Junior College, Sullivan was a member of the basketball and track teams, was president of the BJC club, and served as a member of the student tribunal. Sullivan enlisted in the Navy in 1942 and was honorably discharged in 1946.

JOHN R. TAKAGI, CC, heavy-duty mechanics, ’80; BAS, applied science, ’97, died Nov. 21. Takagi, 46, worked as a diesel mechanic and math teacher and owned and operated Boise Driving School.

KATHLEEN ALICE TIJERINA, BA, elementary education, ’01, died Nov. 26. Tijerina, 42, was a member of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society while she was a student at Boise State.

EVELYN JOYCE WAKEFIELD-TYREE, AA, arts and sciences, ’56, died Oct. 28. She was 79. Wakefield-Tyree lived in Alaska where she was an administrative assistant with the U.S. military, serving under four commanding generals and three chiefs of staff.

KENNETH DALE WHITWORTH, BA, social work, ’99, died Sept. 21. Whitworth, 58, was a local leader in the fight to prevent child abuse and was one of two Idahoans to represent the state on the national Keeping Children Safe Panel.

STEVEN DOUGLAS WOOD, an employee in Boise State’s department of Facilities, Operations and Maintenance, died Nov. 18. Wood, 46, served in the U.S. Navy for 22 years, retiring as a senior chief machinist’s mate in 1998.

JOHN SHAE ZAPP, AA, arts and sciences, ’57, who served as head of the American Dental Association from 1993 to 2001, died Oct. 12. Zapp, 73, spent three years in the U.S. Marine Corps and earned a Purple Heart in the Korean conflict. Dr. Zapp earned his dental degree in 1961 from Creighton University School of Dentistry. In 1964, he was recognized as one of Oregon’s “Ten Outstanding Young Men,” and was named special assistant for dental affairs within the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare in 1969. He was chief of the American Medical Association’s lobbying efforts before he took over as director of the ADA. Dr. Zapp was one of the founding members of the Friends of the NIDCR (the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research) and served as its president from 2001-03. In 1994, he was awarded a Distinguished Alumni Award from Boise State. In 2002 he was listed in FOCUS magazine as one of BSU’s “Outstanding 70” graduates.
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