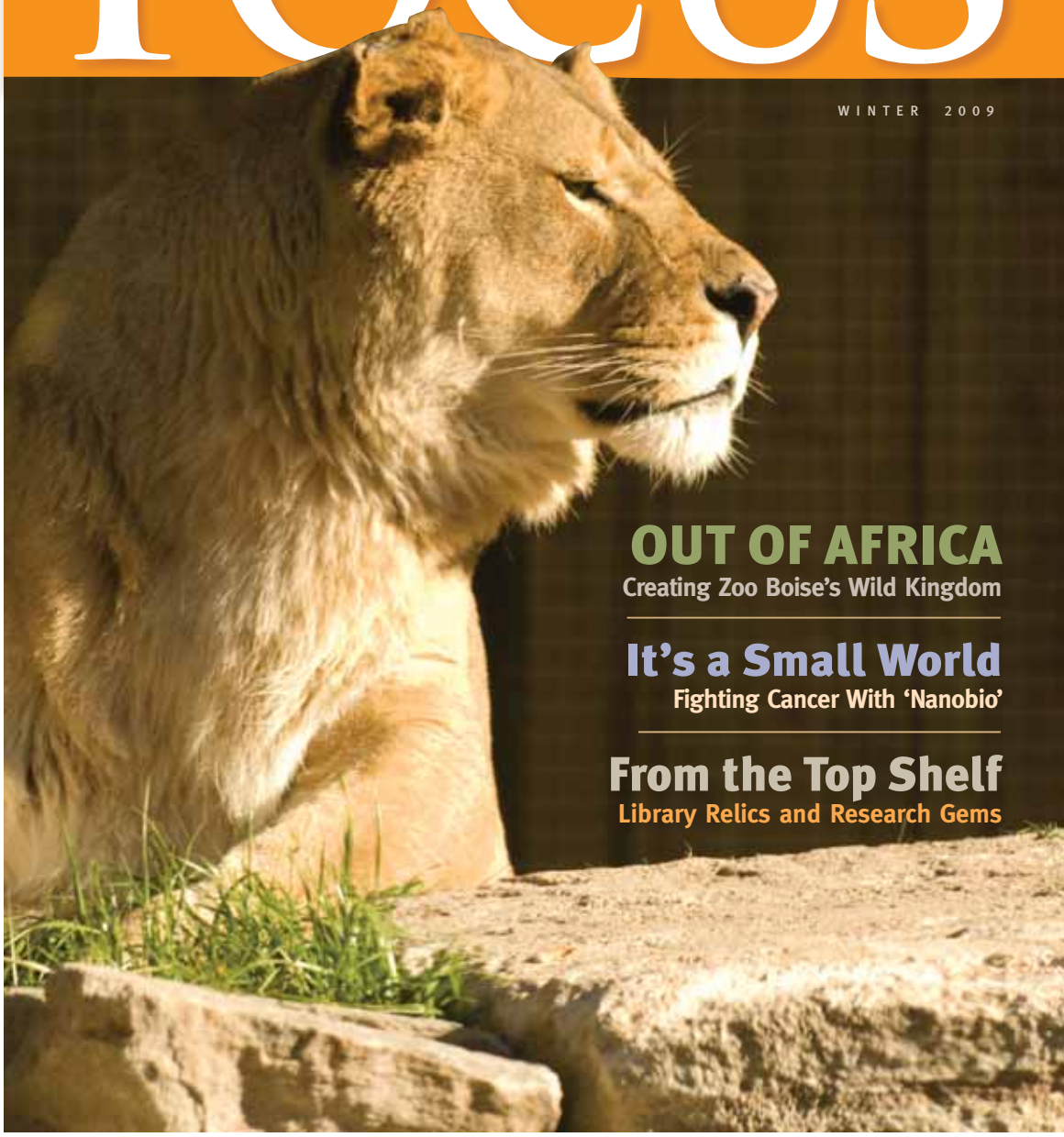


THE MAGAZINE OF BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY

# FOCUS

WINTER 2009



## **OUT OF AFRICA**

Creating Zoo Boise's Wild Kingdom

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## **It's a Small World**

Fighting Cancer With 'Nanobio'

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## **From the Top Shelf**

Library Relics and Research Gems

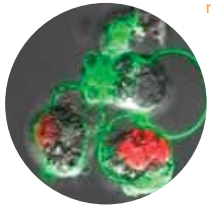
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delve into the realm of nanobiotechnology to explore a world where amazing new medical treatments could lay hidden.



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A group of Boise State researchers set out on a road trip to measure turf injuries across the NFL.



## 20 AFRICAN PLAINS

Boise State Theatre Arts students partner with Zoo Boise to create an African environment for the zoo's newest animal exhibit. Jiji La Miti National Park houses the zoo's African Plains exhibit, which features an African village, lions, a giraffe and other exotic flora and fauna.

Carrie Quimby

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**SALUTE**

**FACT**

A new sculpture titled "Salute" was unveiled as part of the university's Veterans Day events. Crafted by artist Kay Kirkpatrick, the sculpture honors veterans both on and off campus and is part of an extensive Student Union Building renovation.



John Kelly

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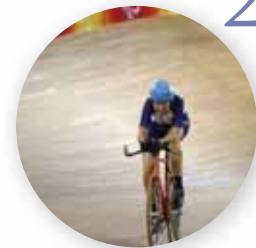
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Winston Moore's \$1.5 million pledge is for the birds, and the Idaho Bird Observatory couldn't be happier.



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Alumna and Paralympian Barbara Buchan earns a gold medal in Beijing in an amazing cycling comeback.



# FOCUS

THE MAGAZINE OF BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY  
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# FIRST WORD

American novelist and historian Shelby Foote famously observed, "A university is just a group of buildings gathered around a library."

True to Foote's insight, Albertsons Library is Boise State's physical and intellectual heart. Directed by Dean Marilyn Moody, the 200,000-square-foot space is home to 576,682 books, hundreds of research databases, thousands of maps, documents, textbooks, microforms, periodicals and other vessels of knowledge.

Perhaps the greatest vessel is a vault. On the second floor of Albertsons Library, the Special Collections Department houses materials both unique and fragile, from a fishing license issued to Idaho outdoor writer Ted Trueblood in 1927 to a biblical abridgment printed in hand-embellished Latin more than 500 years ago.

In addition to rare artifacts, students, faculty and community members have access to about 300 manuscript collections, many of which include primary source materials — the researcher's golden goose. Thanks to the long reach of the Internet and a growing roster of online databases, such materials are a resource for everyone from a doctoral candidate at the University of London to a Texas woman searching for the origin of her name, but they are used most often right here on campus to support the work of our students and faculty.

Emeritus professor of history Robert Sims has traced the experiences of Japanese-American internees during WWII through the Special Collections file on the Minidoka Irrigator, a newspaper produced by individuals who were held at the Minidoka Relocation Center near Twin Falls. Handwritten speeches by Sen. Frank Church have factored heavily in communication professor Suzanne McCorkle's studies of Idaho oratory. And every semester, kinesiology professor Shelly Lucas has her students use old university photos and records to track trends in physical education, recreation and culture through the 20th century.

These are just a few examples of why Special Collections is an essential asset, not only to Boise State's advancement as a metropolitan research university of distinction, but also to the permanent record of life in Idaho. Within its walls are the voices of our past and keys to our future. We have only to open a book.

— Bob Kustra, President

## WHAT THEY'RE SAYING

**MARK RUDIN, BOISE STATE'S VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH, ABOUT THE INCLUSION OF RESEARCH BY GEOSCIENCES PROFESSOR SHAWN BENNER IN THE PRESTIGIOUS SCIENCE JOURNAL NATURE**

"[BENNER'S] RESEARCH ACCOMPLISHMENT AND RECOGNITION IN ONE OF THE TOP SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS IN THE WORLD SAYS VOLUMES ABOUT BOISE STATE'S RESEARCHERS AND OUR GROWING RESEARCH PROGRAMS ALL ACROSS CAMPUS."

**JOHN GARDNER, ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ENERGY RESEARCH, POLICY AND CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY, REGARDING A REPORT ON BOISE STATE'S CARBON FOOTPRINT**

"[BOISE STATE PROVIDES] ESSENTIAL EDUCATIONAL ACCESS TO FAR MORE STUDENTS PER UNIT OF ENERGY THAN MOST INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING. WE ARE POISED TO SHOW THE WAY IN ACHIEVING CLIMATE NEUTRALITY AND DO SO IN A MANNER THAT DOES NOT COMPROMISE OUR CORE MISSION OR VALUES."

**MEGAN FRARY, ENGINEERING PROFESSOR, RECIPIENT OF THE BRADLEY STOUGHTON AWARD FOR YOUNG TEACHERS**

"ONE OF THE THINGS I LIKE ABOUT BOISE STATE IS THAT, IN A LOT OF WAYS, TEACHING AND RESEARCH ARE INTEGRATED. MY ROLE AS A TEACHER ENCOMPASSES NOT JUST THE CLASSROOM, BUT ALSO OTHER INTERACTIONS."



## campus news

# NEW BUILDINGS GIVE RISE TO BOISE STATE'S FUTURE

The coming year will offer glimpses into Boise State's future as construction sites give way to new buildings.

The Student Union — the most frequented building on campus — will open a 67,000-square-foot expansion in January. When complete, it will be a cutting-edge gathering place for both students and the community, as well as a prominent display of Boise State's metropolitan character.

"We plan to celebrate our university in a more visual way throughout the building," says Jack Rahmann, Student Union director. "The new Student Union is really going to be reflective of this growing, dynamic campus. The expansion will offer exciting and lively new areas for students, faculty, staff and visitors to enjoy a wide variety of services and events in the SUB."

Most rooms in the addition will be furnished and open for the start of the spring 2009 semester, with the remodel of 27,000 square feet in the existing building to be finished by June (below).

Construction of the new Norco Building, housing the Student Health, Wellness and Counseling Center and Department of Nursing, got under way this fall and should be complete in a year. The 81,300-square-foot building is taking shape just across University Drive from

the Student Union, directly south of the Student Recreation Center. Designed to be a building of the future, it will be at least 42 percent more energy efficient than building codes require. The high-performance facility is representative of the university's continuing commitment to effective stewardship and campus sustainability.

Just east along University Drive, next to the engineering complex, is the site of Boise State's planned Center for Environmental Science and Economic Development (CESED). Of utmost importance to Boise State's future, it will be the first major building on campus dedicated to research. Home to the departments of Geosciences, Civil Engineering, Public Policy and Administration and Political Science, it will be interdisciplinary and support a Western agenda on the environment, transportation, water, land use and community and regional planning.

The building will be approximately 90,000 square feet and include space to support future growth of the research program.

"CESED will be a high-performance



building in a very visible location in the southeast expansion zone and emblematic of the forward orientation of the university as we build our master plan," says James Maguire, associate vice president for finance & administration, campus planning and facilities.

Construction will begin within a year and should be complete by early 2011.

In the meantime, Boise State developed its first research park off-campus this fall at the former Ore-Ida building on Parkcenter Boulevard. The Ron and Linda Yanke Family Research Park will help meet immediate needs for research space.

All of these projects are part of a master plan for Boise State's future. Fundraising also is under way for a new College of Business and Economics building on the west end of campus; plans are being finalized for a new Alumni Center to be built at the current site (above); and the university is exploring options for additional student housing. ♦



## RESEARCH FUNDING CONTINUES TO RISE

The "drumbeat" of Boise State's advancement as a metropolitan research university of distinction just keeps going and going and going ...

More Boise State University research projects than ever received a record amount of sponsored project funding during fiscal year 2008, continuing the trend of growing momentum and stature for a wide array of research and creative endeavor.

A total of 281 Boise State research projects surpassed \$28 million in sponsored project funding during fiscal year 2008. That far outpaces the previous highpoint for the number of projects funded and set yet another university record for the amount of funding with an increase of \$1.2 million over the previous year.

"There's a continuous drumbeat of progress and growth for Boise State's research programs," says President Bob Kustra. "With each new program and each new dollar in funding, the momentum and stature of Boise State becomes more evident. But more importantly, these programs pump millions directly into the regional economy and directly contribute to the quality of life for which our community is famous."

Boise State research helps the community most by attracting high-value employers, developing new technologies valuable to local firms, incubating start-up companies, developing medical treatments or contributing to the development of public policies that add to the quality and longevity of lives. Direct infusions to the economy include research staff payrolls, the purchase of equipment and supplies, and the hiring of consultants and graduate students, among others.

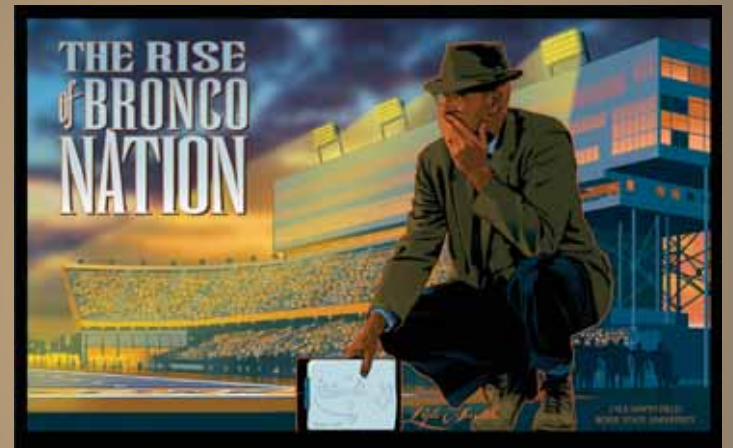


Almost \$14.2 million of Boise State's sponsored project research funding came from federal grants, according to Vice President for Research Mark Rudin.

"Boise State's reputation as a research university continues to grow and create the foundation for our future success," Rudin says. "More research initiatives, better research infrastructure and facilities, stronger research-oriented faculty members and students interested in rolling up their sleeves as part of these programs are all key elements that feed off of one another and help us build a metropolitan research university of distinction."

For more information about Boise State research, go to [www.boisestate.edu/research/](http://www.boisestate.edu/research/). ♦

BOISE STATE ALUMNUS WARD HOOPER CREATED THIS ARTWORK TITLED "THE RISE OF BRONCO NATION" FEATURING LEGENDARY HEAD FOOTBALL COACH LYLE SMITH. THE POSTER PRINT IS AVAILABLE FOR \$20 AND THE LIMITED EDITION NUMBERED PRINTS SELL FOR \$180 EACH AT THE BRONCO SHOP STADIUM STORE ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE NEW FACILITY. IT CAN ALSO BE PURCHASED ONLINE AT [WWW.BOISESTATEBOOKS.COM](http://WWW.BOISESTATEBOOKS.COM).



## campus news

# BIGGER AND BETTER

By Kathleen Craven

As Boise State's reputation grows, so does its student body. Not only has the university set another all-time record for Idaho higher education with 19,667 students, it also has continued its advancement into a metropolitan research university of distinction by attracting more diverse and high-ability students.

This year's student body includes a record 21 National Merit Finalists, including 10 incoming National Merit Scholars. With these new students, the National Merit Scholarship Corporation acknowledged Boise State's commitment to recruiting academically talented students by officially naming the university a National Merit sponsor school. Boise State earned this designation in just two years, the shortest time possible.

In addition, more than 37 percent of incoming freshmen have a high school GPA of 3.5 or higher, and almost 36 percent of newly enrolled freshmen ranked in the top quarter of their high school classes.

"Our strong enrollment numbers point to Boise State's increasing reputation for offering excellent classroom instruction as well as enhanced research opportunities," says Vice President for Student Affairs Michael Laliberte.

Academic excellence — just one more indication that Boise State is, indeed, a New U Rising. ♦



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DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ARTS

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**PIPPIN**  
music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz  
March 5-7 - 7:30pm  
March 6 - 10:00am  
March 8 - 2:00pm  
Morrison Center

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## NO DEBATING

### NEW COACH FOR TALKING BRONCOS

By Nicholas Bock

New Boise State forensics coach David Bailey has some pretty big expectations to live up to. After all, Boise State's speech and debate team, the Talking Broncos, has repeatedly proven to be among the best in the country.

Taking over duties from communication professor Marty Most, who served as the team's coach for more than 20 years, Bailey's approach is straightforward: "Our objective is to try and win every competition."

The focus this season will be the biennial Pi Kappa Delta Tournament in Shreveport, La., which determines the national speech and debate champions. The tournament is analogous to the football team's competition in a major bowl game. The Talking Broncos won the tournament in 2005 and lost the 2007 tournament by only one point.

Bailey earned his Ph.D. from Texas A&M University in 2008 and his MA from Missouri State in 2002.



## ROTC Staffer Named Tops

Keeping up with Boise State's 150 ROTC cadets can be a challenge. Between classes, grades, training exercises and summer camps, there's a lot of paperwork to track. And no one does it better than John Rossi.

For his professional expertise in managing records and tracking training progress, Rossi has been named the Human Resource Assistant of the Year by the U.S. Army Cadet Command, the highest level of command for university ROTC programs. Rossi was selected over 300 of his peers nationwide.

"Mr. Rossi is truly an asset to the Boise State University Army ROTC program, our partnership schools and the U.S. Army Cadet Command," wrote Lt. Col. Phillip Chambers, department chair, in his recommendation letter for the award. "His tireless work ethic and dedication to ensuring the cadets and cadre are set up for success is paramount to the success of this program."

Rossi also serves as an administrator for the ROTC programs at Idaho State University, Brigham Young University - Idaho, Northwest Nazarene University and the College of Idaho. ♦



## EnviroGuard Award Recognizes Commitment to Environment

Boise State was one of three organizations presented with the EnviroGuard Award by City of Boise Mayor David Bieter in October for its commitment to the environment, joining Barger-Mattson Auto Supply and St. Luke's Regional Medical Center.

"It's important to recognize businesses taking unique and creative approaches to ensuring the sustainability and livability of this community," Mayor Bieter said. "We can reduce our environmental footprint at work, home and play. These businesses set the example for others to follow in the workplace."

An independent committee made up of small and large business owners, city and state agencies and business assistance organizations review the applications based on established criteria. The criteria include significant environmental benefits, waste reduction, economic benefit to the company and efficient use of raw materials.

Boise State has developed a long-term plan to make the campus climate neutral. The master plan commits the university to build high-performance buildings and encourages sustainable land use planning. The school has greatly reduced electrical and natural gas consumption along with carbon dioxide emissions. It is estimated that Boise State's electricity savings is enough to power 430 homes per year (calculation courtesy Energy Information Office Web site). The university is purchasing flex-fuel and hybrid electric vehicles, operating two electric trucks in the central fleet and providing free shuttle service to nearby campus housing facilities and outlying buildings. ♦

# THE STORY OF US: INSIDE THE LIBRARY'S SPECIAL COLLECTIONS VAULT

By Erin Ryan

At 68 degrees and 42 percent humidity, Hemingway sleeps on the second floor of Albertsons Library. The iconic American author is buried in Ketchum, but hundreds of definitive books by and about him are stored in the Boise State stacks a few steps from the diary of an unknown schoolteacher. Boise Junior College annuals are on file, as are Senator Frank Church's records of his bid for the presidency. Letters from Martin Luther King Jr., Bing Crosby and Buffalo Bill Cody, photographs of serial murderess Lyda "Lady Bluebeard" Southard and even a metal teething ring that belonged to notable outdoor writer Ted Trueblood tell the story of Idaho, the West and beyond.

Preserving that story is the mission of Special Collections, a department founded in 1974 to house precious artifacts that don't belong on a regular library shelf.

The department's head librarian and veteran archivist, Alan Virta, moved from Maryland for his job at Boise State in 1988. After two decades, he still thrills in the discovery of things that tell us something about who we are.

"The books, photos, manuscripts and archives in Special Collections are important sources for documenting the history, culture and physical environment of Idaho," Virta says. "The

**LIBRARIAN AND ARCHIVIST**  
Erin Passehl and assistant archivist Mary Carter-Hepworth examine posters in the Idaho Shakespeare Festival file in the Special Collections department in Albertsons Library.

Library has assembled not only a comprehensive collection of secondary works but also an irreplaceable archive of unpublished primary source materials, which are the first-person accounts of history, the original papers and documents that chronicle history being made."

Many of these materials are organized in a system of compact mobile shelves that are 18 feet long, seven feet tall and two feet deep. All are packed with 40-pound boxes, one of which holds former Boise State President Chaffee's daily desk calendars spanning more than 30 years.



Carrie Quinroy

“This could be considered archival overkill, but now we know what he was doing and what went on at Boise Junior College on Nov. 22, 1963, when JFK was shot,” Virta says. “The key is knowing what to look for and where to find it.”

“Some of the things I find fascinating are things you’d find mundane,” says assistant archivist Mary Carter-Hepworth, who has worked in Special Collections for 24 years. “It changes everyday. It’s constant learning.”

One of the biggest changes last year was the addition of the John Robert Bittner Collection on Ernest Hemingway. Bittner was a Hemingway scholar and acclaimed professor of journalism and mass communication at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. During his career, he amassed 300 books on Hemingway’s life and writings as well as supplemental works on Spanish bullfighters, Hemingway’s editor Maxwell Perkins and the expatriate experience in Paris during the Roaring Twenties. Bittner’s widow, Denise, who lives in Eagle, donated the collection in September in honor of his dedication to one of the most innovative, influential American writers of the 20th century.

“It doesn’t include Hemingway’s personal papers. Most of those are at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library in Boston,” Virta says, “but it is a very distinguished collection with some hard-to-find works.”

Another recent boon is the expansion of the Basque Collection with a gift of more than 3,000 volumes

previously housed at the University of Idaho and then Boise’s Basque Museum and Cultural Center. Carter-Hepworth is in the process of organizing the collection and gingerly turned the pages of a hand-printed specimen from the 1600s. To her, the scars left by parchment-loving invertebrates are almost as interesting as the meticulous scrollwork.

“There really are bookworms,” she says, smiling.

Virta also is enthusiastic about historically relevant imperfections. One of the prize pieces in Special Collections is “Historia Scholastica,” a biblical abridgement printed in 1479. While the embellished Latin text is a striking example of medieval scholarship, the cursive notes in the margins (also in Latin) equally intrigue Virta.

His most exciting purchase of late is a music book written and bound in canvas in 1864 by an Idaho pioneer named Peter Beemer. He lived in the mining town of Warren and transcribed dance tunes played by travelers and friends.

“It’s a cultural treasure. It comes from the earliest years of Idaho,” Virta says.

Idaho materials in the archives range from Beemer’s book to a first edition comic called “Real Stuff” by Idaho artist Dennis Eichhorn to Janet Dailey’s paperback romance, “Ride the Thunder,” which tells the epic tale of a beautiful huntress trekking through Idaho’s backcountry. Some might think the last piece doesn’t belong in an academic framework, but Virta says anything that speaks to life in Idaho is worthy of consideration.

But Special Collections is not just significant to Idaho. Thanks to the



Archivist Alan Virta displays a 106-year-old letter written by William Frederick “Buffalo Bill” Cody.

Internet, the archives are impacting people all over the world. A doctoral candidate at the University of London recently used primary source materials in his dissertation, and the American Library in Paris borrowed photos and artifacts for a fall exhibit with Boise State ties. The library’s growing list of databases is a wellspring of peer-reviewed research tools, but Virta says nothing compares to the feel of a book older than you are.



A first edition comic book by Idaho artist Dennis Eichhorn.

“It never wears off, the thrill of holding something so authentic,” Virta says. “Sometimes it’s all you have left of an individual, and that’s part of the magic.”

No one knows this better than Olivia Umphrey, a graduate student in the Department of History and former library employee who transcribed the diary of an ordinary young woman named Metta Ellis.

After reading a few pages of the 118-year-old document, Umphrey says the project went from a job to a personal crusade. She felt strangely close to the teacher from Kansas who moved to Boise in 1890 and chronicled what was to be a pivotal year, both for her and for Idaho.

“I think it adds to the fascination that she was a regular person,” Umphrey says. “We have this ‘Little House on the Prairie’ image of life in the 1800s, but then you get to read the words of someone who actually lived it.”

Once she was accustomed to the handwriting, style, dated terminology and curious abbreviations in the diary, Umphrey

was free to focus on the drama of Ellis’ life. In a single year she held teaching jobs in Boise and Sweet and side work as a seamstress and cleaning woman. She rode one of the first trolley cars in downtown Boise, was present the day Idaho became a state and met the wife of President Harrison. She was engaged to a man named Charlie whom she left for a mysterious character known alternately as Will, Dangle, Dankle, D and Dunlap. Umphrey assumes she did this to throw potential diary poachers off the trail, though public records revealed that Metta Ellis eventually became Mrs. William Powell.

Umphrey knows this because she went beyond the walls of Special Collections. The diary ends mid-sentence with the writer’s life in limbo, and Umphrey was too attached to leave things unresolved. A public records search eventually lead her to the microforms in Albertsons Library, where she found a front-page Idaho Statesman story detailing the tragic car accident that took 70-year-old Metta Powell’s life in 1941.

Umphrey was shaken. It’s still hard for her to imagine such a vibrant woman meeting such a terrible end, but Metta



Graduate student Olivia Umphrey holds the 118-year-old diary of a schoolteacher that she transcribed for Special Collections.

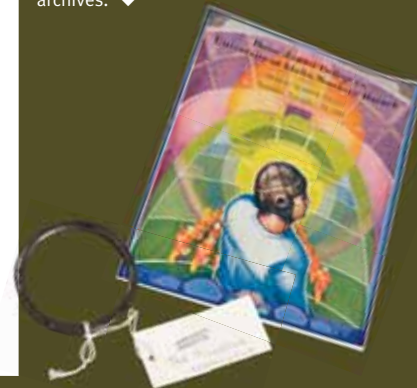
in her own handwriting, in stories of days long past but somehow familiar.

“Reading Metta’s diary, you see how times have changed and how they haven’t, that being human is being human. It’s reassuring,” Umphrey says.

“Special Collections is a great resource for Idaho. I took fourth-grade Idaho history, but I’ve learned a lot more spending time in those archives.” ♦



Left: Former Idaho Sen. Len Jordan’s seat from the senate floor in the state Capitol. Above: A metal teething ring used by Idaho outdoor writer Ted Trueblood; an illustrated BJC college football poster from 1934.



## nanobiotechnology

By Mike Journee

**“Humans are in a war with microbes, and we’re losing.”**

The stark reality of that statement, a quote from the professor of a microbiology class at another university, took Boise State physics professor Charles Hanna by surprise, despite his years of scientific training and a general understanding of its truth.

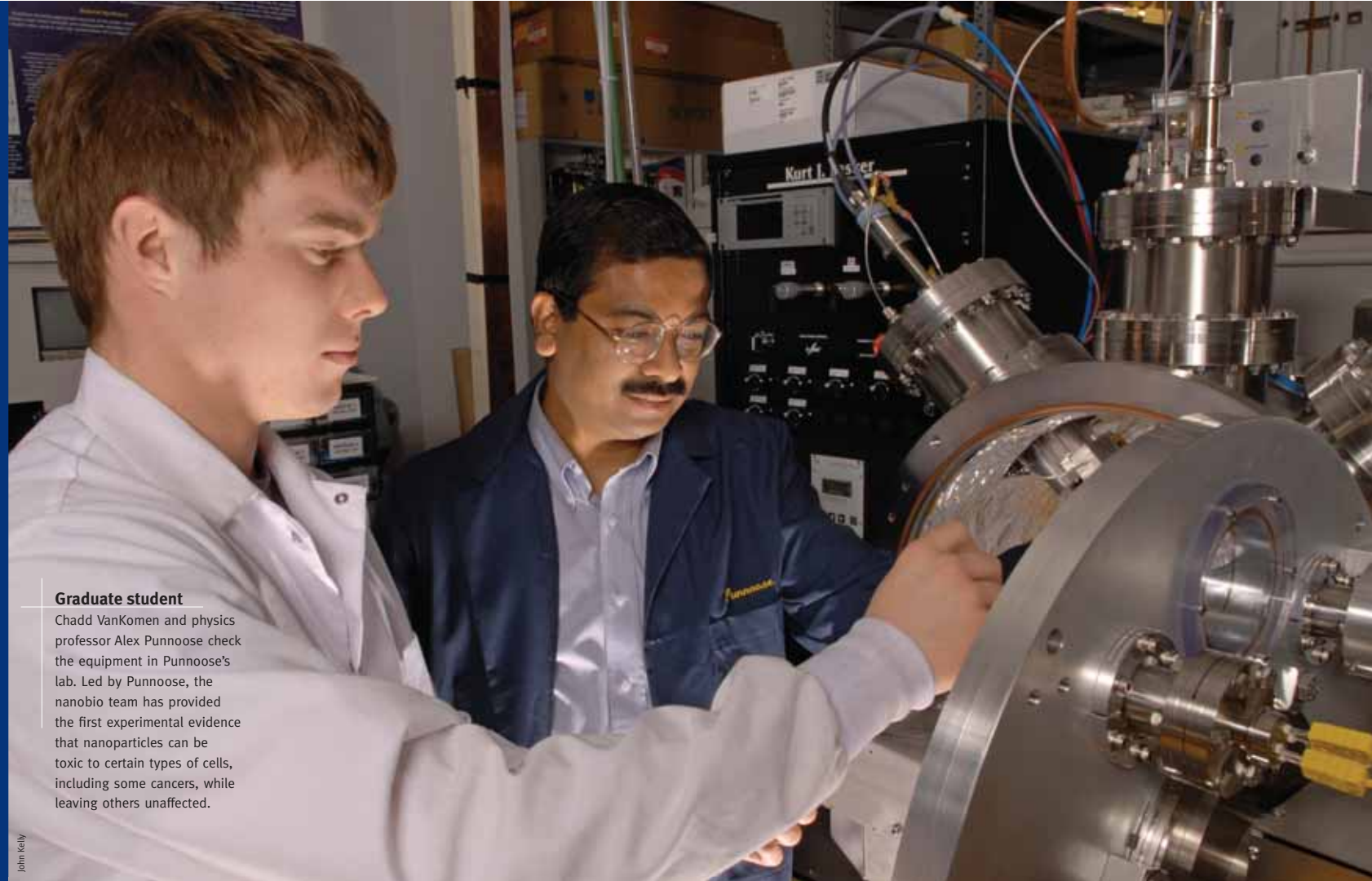
Today, it serves the theoretical physicist as a reality check of sorts. It reminds him that the

task facing a small group of biologists, physicists, engineers and chemists from Boise State is nothing short of monumental. The dizzyingly-fast mutations of bacteria and other microbes – the cause of often deadly infections increasingly plaguing hospitals and their patients – have been perplexing scientists since the invention of antibiotics.

Despite the odds, when Hanna, Alex Punnoose, Denise Wingett, Kevin Feris and other members of Boise State’s “nanobio” group (short for nanobiotechnology) talk about the promise of their work, their eyes light up. They know that their work could one day be the foundation for effective treatments that could save grandparents from infections while being treated for pneumonia and grandchildren from the agonies of leukemia.

They believe that the varied backgrounds, expertise and perspectives of this highly interdisciplinary team of researchers is starting to unravel a new world of possibilities.

They hope that using nanotechnology to answer fundamental questions of biology and medical research will not only help fight mankind’s war against microbes, but aid in our long-standing pitched battle with cancer as well.



### Graduate student

Chadd VanKomen and physics professor Alex Punnoose check the equipment in Punnoose’s lab. Led by Punnoose, the nanobio team has provided the first experimental evidence that nanoparticles can be toxic to certain types of cells, including some cancers, while leaving others unaffected.

John Kelly

# THINKING SMALL . . . IN A BIG WAY





Team members pictured here are (front; left to right) Nathan Dewey, Lydia Johnson, Janet Layne, Andrew Coombes, Cory Hanley, Aaron Thurber, Tommy Chartier, (back row; left to right) Mary Ann Sabetian, Jason Cristensen, Josh Anghel, Alex Punnoose, Denise Wingett, Isaac Coombes, Chadd VanKomen and Madhu Reddy.

The promise of the group's work is built on nanoparticles – very small pieces of often common materials that measure between one and 999 nanometers (a human hair is about 100,000 nanometers wide). At nanoscale size – as the materials become smaller and the ratio of their surface area to volume increases – everyday materials can become fabulously versatile and unpredictable. For example, a sample of copper, normally known for its malleability, becomes super hard in pieces smaller than 50 nanometers in length.

In other words, nanoparticles of familiar materials can do unfamiliar and, under the right circumstances, exciting things. The key, however, is to understand which ones do what.

Nanoparticles aren't just getting attention from Boise State scientists. No matter their fields of expertise, researchers everywhere are beginning to understand that the realm of nanoparticles is a world of great scientific potential where spectacular discoveries almost certainly await.

Led by Punnoose, a physics professor whose synthesis of nanoparticles previously focused on their use in semiconductors and nanoelectronics, the Boise State nanobio team has provided the first experimental evidence that nanoparticles can be toxic to certain types of cells while leaving others unaffected.

Punnoose conducted these initial experiments with Feris, an assistant professor of biology and a microbial ecologist, just over two years ago – marking the informal beginning of the nanobio team at Boise State. Since that time, the group has grown to include seven faculty-level members, two post-doctoral fellows, three graduate students and 10 undergraduate students, each with specific expertise in areas of interest for the group.

Feris and Punnoose's work using zinc oxide nanoparticles to kill certain types of bacteria led to the publication of a well-received paper and the inclusion of Wingett, a biology professor and cancer researcher, in their discussions and experiments.

"Alex thought, 'well, if this works on microbes, what about cancer cells?'" Wingett says.

It was the nanobio group's most celebrated success – the discovery of an effective method for using zinc oxide nanoparticles to preferentially kill immune cell cancer while leaving ordinary cells healthy. It also led to the group's second paper, which created a buzz in the scientific sphere when it was published over the summer.

Wingett blanches at the word "breakthrough" – the experiments so far have only focused on immune cell cancers. Yet the discovery could, one day, become the basis for new cancer treatments that lessen, or possibly eliminate, the debilitating effects of chemotherapy. As the group's cancer expert, she will try to determine whether nanoparticles can be effective against other types of cancer.

It's heady stuff for an all-Boise State team of researchers. These experiments and findings are on the cutting edge of research. These scientists are the first to explore this particular corner of the nanoparticle world and its specific potential for deployment in mankind's microscopic struggle for survival.

"This is an extraordinary opportunity for an emerging research university like Boise State," says Wingett, who serves as the associate chair of the Department of Biology and is a Boise State grad (B.S., chemistry, '86). "Just think of the possibilities."

Nanoparticles inside human cells kill their hosts by disrupting the normal chemical reactions and structures a cell needs to survive. The lethal mechanism is not as clear with bacteria.

"We need to know more about why particular nanoparticles are effective and others aren't," Hanna says. "We need to know what happens when that nanoparticle gets close to the cell."

One idea, introduced by Hanna, is that the atomic charge of zinc oxide changes at the nanoparticle level, creating a fatal reaction with the outer membrane of the bacteria.

Atomic charge is behind another theory the group is working on called "functionalizing." By manipulating the atomic charge and other characteristics of a nanoparticle cluster, the team thinks the cluster can be used to "tow" chemotherapeutic drugs or other medications directly to cancer cells or infection-causing bacteria using a third agent. Using the natural attraction between opposing charges, medications could be delivered with better-than-pinpoint accuracy, allowing for a greatly reduced dosage.

Hanna's role with the group is largely limited to theoretical "what would happen if" kind of work; he quickly points out that the laboratory scientists are the ones doing the heavy lifting. Yet his idea that atomic charge could be one of the contributing factors to zinc oxide's effectiveness is a prime example of the benefits of interdisciplinary research.

"We all bring different perspectives to the problems we face, so it broadens the way we look at solutions," says Hanna. "The really innovative thinking comes from the areas where the outer edges of our various disciplines overlap."

It creates a dynamic where both faculty members and students are moving out of their comfort zones and learning in areas outside of their typical silos. Students particularly benefit from

working so closely with scientists from another discipline.

"Students tend to think about science only through their own area of focus," Feris says. "We have some engineering and physics students who are learning to think like microbiologists. It's really broadening everyone's perspective, including my own."

The various individual researchers bring specific expertise to particular areas of interest for the group.

Hanna, a theoretical physicist, will create "predictive models" to map nanoparticles with specs known to be effective, which can then be manufactured in Punnoose's laboratory. He also provides insight into the physical reactions that biologists observe in their experiments.

Juliette Tinker, a biology professor and microbe specialist, will continue studies on the potential for treatment of increasingly dangerous bacterial infections using nanoparticles.

Wingett and biology professor Kristin Mitchell are starting to work on in vivo or living cell experiments with mice to, among other things, determine the most effective dosage levels for various nanoparticles. These experiments with mice are the first step toward human testing and, ultimately, bona fide treatments using these techniques. If all goes perfectly – a big if – testing and final approval of such treatments could happen in about a decade.

By covering so many areas of specific expertise, the team also will be more likely to attract all-important funding from organizations like the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation, which actively seek opportunities to fund innovatively



Biology professor Denise Wingett works in her lab with graduate student Alma Hodzic. Wingett guides the nanobio group's cancer research, which includes the discovery that zinc oxide nanoparticles can kill certain types of immune cell cancers while leaving other types of cells unaffected.

promise of their work has attracted more than \$1 million in grants to buy equipment needed to expand the scope of their research – just a drop in the bucket for what would be needed to ultimately develop treatments.

"It's really just a matter of time before we rope in a big grant," says Feris, the microbial ecologist who will help the team understand the "environmental fate" of nanoparticles or how their use will impact the environment, a key question if these methods are ever to become widespread.

Moving forward will take a lot of time, sweat and money. "But," Wingett says, "it's worth it." ♦

## discovery RESEARCH HITS THE ROAD

### Turf study teams students and faculty with the NFL

By Erin Ryan

*Fourteen days, 13 nights, 5,244 miles, a half dozen hotels, dozens of restaurants, hundreds of songs on the radio we never want to hear again, the Rocky Mountains, the swamps of the Bayou, the plains of Kansas, the big cities, the small towns, various parking escapades with a 30-foot trailer and van, the sweltering heat and humidity of the southeastern U.S. in August, and we made it! We're alive!*

Blogging from the road last summer, Seth Kuhlman, Ben Cooper and Jackie Forhan summed up a scientific journey that put Boise State research on the map. They were alive and in possession of data that could change professional football where athletes' feet meet the field.

Backed by an NFL research contract worth \$115,641, mechanical engineer and Boise State graduate Kuhlman (BS, '05, MS, '07) designed and built a 1,200-pound instrument affectionately called the "Turf Buster." Hauling it from stadium to stadium, he and his team tested 13 NFL-sanctioned shoes under three movement conditions and simulated pressure on everything from synthetic FieldTurf at the Louisiana

Superdome to old fashioned Bermuda grass at Tennessee's LP Field.

"It was a whirlwind of fun, long days — very long days at times. Looking back, it did kind of fly by," says Cooper, a graduate student in the Department of Kinesiology pursuing a degree in exercise science and sports studies.

The team started at Invesco Field in Denver and went on to LP Field in Nashville, the Georgia Dome in Atlanta, the Superdome in New Orleans and Texas Stadium in Dallas. Testing lasted up to five hours a day, with Kuhlman operating the machine and Cooper adjusting experimental variables while data was processed by Forhan, a senior majoring in materials science and engineering.

Back in the biomechanics lab Kuhlman manages in Boise State's College of Engineering, they are looking for connections between playing surfaces, shoes and common injuries. Ankle and toe sprains and fractures are the biggest threats, and the Turf Buster team hopes to bring science closer to prevention.

Anchoring that team are faculty

members Ron Pfeiffer and Michelle Sabick. Pfeiffer is a kinesiology professor, and Sabick is an associate professor of mechanical and biomedical engineering. Together, they direct the Boise State Center for Orthopedic and Biomechanics Research and designed and led the turf study.

It wouldn't have happened without Michael Coughlin, an orthopedic surgeon in Boise who also is co-chairman of the NFL medical subcommittee and one of Boise State's clinical partners. He suggested Boise State had the resources and talent to pursue a study, and the NFL agreed to support it.

"This project certainly has the most celebrity factor," Pfeiffer says. "We've had larger awards, but as far as a private sector grant, this is the biggest we've been awarded so far."

After the results were analyzed, Sabick and Kuhlman presented a report to the NFL medical subcommittee. One interesting finding suggests that, in general, traction on artificial turf appears to be more dependent on shoe design than it does on natural surfaces. Therefore, the shoes an athlete wears



Above: Researchers arrive at LP field in Nashville, home of the Tennessee Titans. Left: Ben Cooper, Seth Kuhlman and Jackie Forhan pose with the 1,200-pound Turf Buster.

## CULTURE, CAREER COME FULL CIRCLE

By Sherry Squires

### "THERE WILL ALWAYS BE A DITCH IN FRONT OF A PERSON IN A HURRY."

Mohan Limaye has taken this Indian proverb to heart. After teaching business courses for 25 years, the emeritus professor has returned to his first love, ancient Indian literature, and is finding that patience pays off.

Limaye's research paper on the "Mruchhakatika (The Little Clay Cart)" — a play written in India more than 1,600 years ago that he remembers well from his childhood — has been accepted for publication by Indian Literature, a journal of the National Academy of Letters of India.

Limaye was born and raised in India. His father loved literature and drama, and Limaye was exposed to it regularly while growing up. He earned undergraduate and master's degrees in English literature, Sanskrit drama and economics in India. Then while working on his doctoral degree in the United States, he began teaching a couple of courses in advanced writing for executives. His career as a professor of business took off.

He taught in business schools at Colorado State University and the University of Texas before teaching at Boise State for 10 years and

retiring in December 2002. During his time as a business professor, he had 26 articles published in refereed journals in the field of management communication. But none was more gratifying than his recent literary accomplishment.

As an emeritus faculty member, he teaches courses on India in the Honors College. One of Limaye's students, senior Kim Price, helped

research his paper,

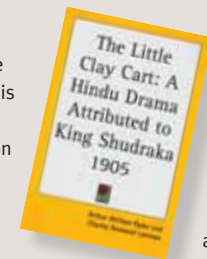
"Mruchhakatika (The Little Clay Cart): The Construction of Gender and Emotion in Act V, 'The Storm.'"

During the course of his research, Limaye examined a conversation in the play between the heroine and

her male companion as they walk through a raging storm. His paper is complimentary of the play, noting that its lyrical poetry serves a dramatic purpose in displaying gender and emotion.

Limaye plans to continue bringing a diverse set of classes on Indian culture, literature and history to Boise State, as well as continue his personal quest in analysis of Indian literature.

"I parted company with the liberal arts for a while," he says. "It's like a homecoming for me teaching Indian literature to college students." ♦



# OUT OF AFRICA

By Julie Hahn

Mike Baltzell beams like a proud papa as he points out the three lions lounging in the warm fall sun at Zoo Boise. He wonders aloud if the sleepy bat-eared fox will peek out from its hiding place during his visit.

And he knows way more than your average theatre arts professor about how weaver birds build their hive-like, hanging nests.

If Baltzell seems protective, it's for good reason. He was essential in transforming the animals' house into a home.

Baltzell teaches design and technical theatre at Boise State. His years of experience designing sets for the Idaho Shakespeare Festival,

Contemporary Theatre and countless Boise State productions were invaluable for the largest project ever in the city of Boise in terms of size: Zoo Boise's new Jiji La Miti National Park, an African Plains exhibit. Over the course of a year, Baltzell, two assistants and a number of students transformed the new addition to the zoo into an African village, complete with a roadside stand, a one-room schoolhouse, a loading dock and much, much more.

"Years ago I thought I would like to do something at the zoo," Baltzell explains as he walks through the completed exhibit, which opened to the public on Oct. 4 — just a year after the project began.

Baltzell got his chance after a discussion between Zoo Boise executive director Steve Burns and Karen Bubb, interim director of the city's Department of Arts and History. As Bubb listened to Burns' vision for the exhibit, she realized that what he really needed was a set designer. She immediately thought of Baltzell, who signed up for the project right away; he was excited not only for himself, he says, but also for the students who would work with him.

"It's really rare for them to find something that can be of service to the community and apply the skills they're learning," he says.

Burns was happy with the partnership for a different reason: hiring Baltzell gave the zoo a chance to keep the project local and sustain a reasonable budget.

Burns and Baltzell traveled to Seattle to visit that zoo's African



JOSEPH, Zoo Boise's 2-year-old giraffe, is part of the new African Plains exhibit designed by theatre arts professor Mike Baltzell, below with African map.

exhibit and consulted with a Masai tribesman in order to keep the look and spirit of the exhibit authentic. Authenticity is key, Baltzell says, so that visitors understand how animals and humans interact in Africa and why conservation is such a critical issue there.

Baltzell and his partners did hours and hours of research for the project, examining the Swahili alphabet and the traditional textiles, structures and living habits of African villagers. They made distressed desks for the schoolhouse and created fake weaver bird nests to hang in the trees. They even "rusted" the tin roofs on the buildings by using a special paint that won't harm the metal underneath.

Burns says that the team worked up until the very last minute, trying to get every little detail right. "I knew that this was a group of people who fully understood the concept of opening night," he says.

Burns couldn't be happier with the results, and he hopes that people who haven't been to the zoo in years will make a return visit to the exhibit. "I can assure (them) that this exhibit doesn't look anything like the zoo used to or anything (else that) we have now," he says. "It's really a step above anything we've done before." ♦

# CREATING FOR THE COMMUNITY

By Julie Hahn

Francis Fox teaches sculpture in the Department of Art and creates strong, impressive works out of materials such as bronze and cast aluminum. But head over to Cassia Park on the Bench and you'll find a deviation into the whimsical: colorful concrete-and-tile reading benches that frames a sandbox, designed with kid-size seats.

The Cassia Park Reading Circle was publicly funded and is part of a network of city-funded art projects that enrich Boise while at the same time challenging the artists who create them. They're plum commissions, and Boise State professors and alumni have competed successfully for a number of them, leading to delightful, thought-provoking and useful artworks stretching from BoDo to the Bench and beyond. It's a partnership that pays off for the city, professors and students.

"Public art helps to create a unique visual identity for a city or a place, like a university campus," says Karen Bubb, public art manager for Boise's Department of Arts and History. "These days, with chain stores or big box megastores that make every place

kind of the same across America, public art is a way that we can create distinction and communicate the character of our cities."

Boise State professors, students and alumni have created strong partnerships with the city. Dwaine Carver, who teaches architecture, recently was awarded one of Boise's largest projects ever: artwork for the new interpretive center at the wastewater treatment plant. Students have created temporary projects as part of their curriculum, and Department of Art chair Richard Young has served for years as an arts commission member. Alumnus Ward Hooper's posters grace bus stops throughout town, and numerous other alumni — including Amy Westover, who created

the circular sculpture on the corner of 9th and Grove streets — have contributed to Boise's public art, as well. And that's just to name a few.

The city has a 1 percent for art policy, which sets aside money from every city-funded project for public art. When a project comes up, artists must compete for the project, submitting proposals and going through a public comment process.

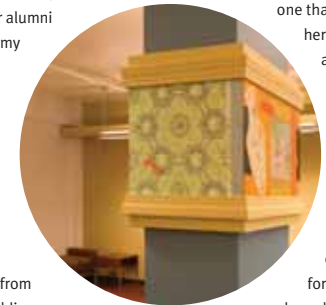
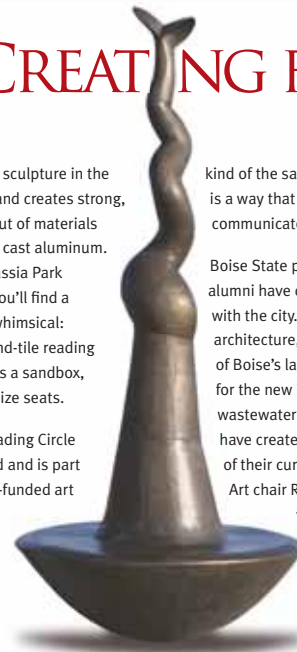
Creating art for your town is both challenging and rewarding, Fox says. "I do believe in starting locally and getting the people who live here excited about art," he says. Another commission, a bronze bench in the shape of a sprout at Morris Hill Park, was designed with the park's trees in mind — but also the beginning and end of life, given the park's proximity to Morris Hill Cemetery.

That kind of site-specific thinking is one of the boons of hiring local artists, Bubb says. "It's another level of uniqueness of our place, that they really understand the place."

Graphic design professor Stephanie Bacon says that she had kept her eye out for public art projects before finding one that both suited her style of work and also allowed her to expand beyond her usual two-dimensional medium. She was given six months to complete art for the Collister branch library. "I felt like I could have worked on it for a couple of years; it was such a great project," she says. "It brought together so many of my interests and strategies."

Those kinds of collaborations — that enrich both the artist and the place — are made easier by having Boise State in the city, Bubb says.

"The city and BSU benefit from collaborating and we are both stronger for it," she says. "What is created defines us." ♦



Clockwise from left: Tiled benches at Cassia Park; a bench inspired by a tree sprout at Morris Hill Park; a column at the Collister Branch Library.

giving back

## BUILDING A CULTURE OF PHILANTHROPY

By Kathleen Craven

Just 13 months after starting its public phase at \$70.2 million, the Destination Distinction campaign has surpassed the \$100 million mark. Thanks to more than 15,000 donors, as of the end of October, the campaign total stood at \$104,833,158 – 59 percent of the \$175 million goal.

What does that mean for Boise State?

\$14.4 million for student support (scholarships, residential life programs, library resources, etc.)

\$49.3 million for facilities support (classroom buildings, creative studio and laboratory space, athletics, etc.)

\$33.2 million for direct academic support (new doctoral and master's programs, research centers and community partnerships)

\$7 million for teaching support (recruiting and retaining faculty and enhancing research infrastructure)

"We are pleased with the progress of the campaign thus far and appreciative of the support of so many Boise State alumni and friends, and we hope the momentum continues," says Howard Smith, vice president for University Advancement.

"We recognize the challenges of the current economic situation and have faith that our supporters will do all that they can to help Boise State become a true metropolitan research university of distinction.

Educating our young people is creating the pipeline for further prosperity for all."

### Thanks to Thousands of Donors

Following are just a few highlights of the people, places and programs that have benefited from the campaign so far:

- In response to the looming nursing shortage, alumni and friends have provided for an endowed nursing chair, construction of the Norco Building to house the Nursing Department and an impressive list of new or endowed nursing scholarships.

- Students now can earn a Ph.D. in either electrical and computer engineering or geosciences, thanks to two new doctoral programs. In addition, several new master's programs also are available in disciplines across campus.

- The new Ron and Linda Yanke Family Research Park, located in the former SUPERVALU building on Parkcenter Boulevard, will be used by several university institutes, centers and offices that support research on campus under the unifying theme of community engagement.

- The Langroise Distinguished Student Endowed Scholarship provides funding for 21 National Merit Finalists, including 10 incoming National Merit Scholars. Thousands of students receive scholarships each year due to the continued generosity of alumni, faculty and friends of the university.

- The Caven-Williams Indoor Practice Facility and Stueckle Sky Club are two shining examples of how the Department of Athletics is benefiting from the campaign. University plans also call for construction of a new building to house the College of Business and Economics and a new Alumni Center.

In addition, a separate goal of \$10 million has been set for future bequests, such as wills, living trusts or retirement plans. To date, that fund is at 75 percent of its goal, with \$7.5 million.

To find out how you can support the Destination Distinction campaign, visit [foundation.boisestate.edu/](http://foundation.boisestate.edu/) campaign. ♦



PEOPLE • PLACES • PROGRAMS

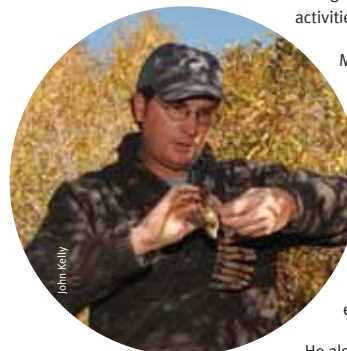
## WHY I GIVE

For the Birds

By Kathleen Craven

For Winston Moore, the Idaho Bird Observatory isn't just about saving migratory birds. It's also about saving kids. The observatory, established above Lucky Peak along one of the largest known raptor and songbird migration routes in the western United States, brings children and others face to face with a variety of birds as they are counted, banded, weighed and measured.

"Kids don't have good role models because too many parents are too busy to pay proper attention to them," says Moore, founder of W.H. Moore Company. Because of this, he and his wife, Diane, support a number of causes that provide children with what he considers "good, clean, wholesome activities."



Moore first visited the IBO at the invitation of his friend Dennis Fitzpatrick, who knew of his love for the outdoors and wildlife. Moore was instantly enthralled with the operation and the chance to hold a raptor or songbird in his hands and look into its eyes. In short, he was hooked.

He also was impressed with the energy and enthusiasm of the Boise State students and volunteers who staff the modest outpost, which promotes public wildlife viewing and environmental education.

Top: Winston Moore visits with a passing raptor. Left: IBO Director Greg Kaltenecker removes a songbird from a net. Right: The view from a blind.



"There are 15-20 young people living up there, sleeping in old trailers and sleeping bags, who love nature and birds," he says.

To help the observatory continue its mission and to ensure that kids have a place to stay involved and avoid the pitfalls of negative peer pressure, Moore and his wife have pledged a \$1.5 million endowment.

"In these times of economic uncertainty, Mr. Moore's gift will provide the stability needed to ensure that our work will continue and that the program will be able to grow indefinitely," says Greg Kaltenecker, director of the IBO.

That's music to Moore's ears. "When they hold a bird in their hands, those kids are just in awe," he says. "I think it's fantastic." ♦



## REMEMBERING A BELOVED PROFESSOR

SCHOLARSHIP

**CONTRIBUTIONS** have steadily been streaming in for a student scholarship fund established in the name of Mary Ellen Ryder, a beloved linguistics professor. Ryder, 56, was killed in a devastating fire that swept through her Southeast Boise neighborhood in August. By early October, close to 40 individuals had contributed to the fund.

Ryder taught linguistics for 20 years in the Department of English at Boise State.

"She is one of the great professors that built this university," said Boise State President Bob Kustra in response to her death. "As a teacher, she has spread the joy of learning and discovery to countless students. She will be missed as a vital member of our campus community."



## giving back

### Congress Renews IRA Gift Opportunity Through the Tax Extenders Act of 2008

Did you know that you can make a gift from your IRA in support of students and programs at Boise State? In October Congress renewed a provision that allows IRA owners age 70 or older to make contributions up to \$100,000 per year to charitable organizations. The provision is retroactive to Jan. 1, 2008, and applies to donations made from that date through December 31, 2009.

Gifts made directly from your IRA to the Boise State University Foundation can be in addition to or fulfill any charitable giving you have already planned. A charitable tax deduction is not allowed, but Boise State alumni and friends may save taxes by directing their required minimum distribution directly to the Foundation.

To take advantage of this gift opportunity, call Jennifer Neil in the Boise State University Foundation Office of Gift Planning at (208) 426-2927 to obtain additional details. If you are considering a gift under the Tax Extenders Act of 2008, be sure to consult your financial adviser to make sure the plan is right for you.

### Pay It Forward - Larry Smith

Many former students have fond memories of specific professors and the lasting wisdom they imparted. A few honor that memory in the form of an endowed scholarship. Such is the case with Larry Smith, a senior trial attorney in the Ada County Public Defender's office who established the Heusner Lojek Scholarship through a planned gift that includes a quarter of his estate. The fact that Smith is in a position to pay it forward is a remarkable tribute not only to Boise State professor Helen Lojek, but also to a young man who defied the odds.



As a kid growing up in Nebraska, Smith was a motivated learner in a gifted and talented program. After moving to a less rigorous Oregon school in fifth grade, he lost interest in learning. He later moved to Boise, where he enrolled first at Bishop Kelly High School and then at Boise High. In 1971, as a 10th-grader, he officially dropped out.

"I was bored to death," he says, recalling why he left school to first serve in the Army and later work at a mill.

In 1979, he decided to give education another try. He enrolled at Boise State with nothing more than a good ACT score, a driver's license and \$15. Thanks to a broad program that included French, philosophy and literature, he graduated with honors in 1983 with a degree in English and earned the prestigious Silver Medallion, Boise State's highest recognition of service to the university.

After being accepted at both Harvard and the University of Michigan, he went on to earn a law degree at Duke University. Following a stint in a Midwest law firm of 800 lawyers, he returned to Boise in 1991 to take a job where he thought he could make a difference — public defender for Ada County. Seventeen years later, he's still at it.

Smith credits Boise State not only with getting him back on track, but also providing a top-notch education through the Honors Program that he believes he couldn't have gotten anywhere else. "I put together seminars I was able to run under the supervision of my professors, something that wouldn't have been possible at a lot of universities," he says.

He also appreciated the small class sizes and personal interaction with professors like Lojek. "I could hang out with professors at home, eat cheese and have a glass of wine," he says. "The interaction was absolutely outstanding." ♦

### Lending a Helping Hand at Year's End

Many donors like Professor Emeritus Russell Centanni make it possible for Boise State University to award more than 1,300 scholarships each year. Recipients and scholarship donors met recently to share life stories at the annual Scholar Donor Reception held in the Student Union Building.

For many students pursuing a degree, a scholarship means the difference between attending on a full- or part-time basis, attaining their career goals and succeeding to their fullest ability. Some donors choose to create endowed funds that generate income in perpetuity, while many others make gifts on an annual basis for immediate use.

Boise State University Foundation staff members are available to help answer questions about which form of giving would make the best sense for a particular donor, and to answer questions about tax benefits.

To qualify for a charitable income tax deduction for 2008, checks sent through the mail must be postmarked by Dec. 31. Credit card transactions can be made by phone until noon Dec. 31 at (208) 426-3276 or at <http://foundation.boisestate.edu/campaign/>. ♦



Professor Emeritus Russell Centanni with 2008-09 Russell J. Centanni Biology Scholarship recipient Katherine M. McHail.

## PARKCENTER BOULEVARD NEW RESEARCH PARK



An 8.3-acre parcel of property and an 80,000-square-foot building located on Parkcenter Boulevard east of campus is being developed into Boise State's first research park, thanks in large part to the generosity of Linda Yanke and her family as well as SUPERVALU, which gifted a portion of the purchase price to the Boise State Foundation. In recognition of the leadership support of longtime university ally Linda Yanke, the project will be known as the Ron and Linda Yanke Family Research Park. Plans call for the facility, the former Ore-Ida building, to be up and running in early 2009 for several existing research institutes and centers.

These centers will be joined by a number of university offices that support research on campus under the unifying theme of community engagement. The research park also will be used to develop collaborative relationships with local and regional partners interested in supporting the economic development and diversification of the state and region. ♦

### Inspire...Build...Achieve...Something Tremendous

#### Inspire

We work hard to fulfill Boise State University's mission. You can be a part of our efforts by establishing a charitable gift annuity (CGA) with us.

#### Build

A CGA is a contract between us: You make a donation to support our mission, and we pay you a fixed amount for life.

#### Achieve

A CGA allows for an income tax deduction for the charitable portion of the gift, and a portion of your annuity payments is tax-free for your life expectancy.

Through a CGA, your philanthropy supports aspirations for the future. Please contact Jennifer Neil with the Boise State Foundation for more information about gifts that can fit your financial and philanthropic goals.

Boise State University Foundation  
Office of Gift Planning  
1910 University Drive  
Boise Idaho 83725-1030  
(208) 426-2927  
jennifrneil1@boisestate.edu  
or visit our Web site at  
<http://foundation.boisestate.edu/>



## sports

# GRADUATE WINS PARALYMPIC GOLD MEDAL

A gold medal at the 2008 Paralympic Games capped a remarkable comeback for a woman who has lived without a quarter of her left-temporal brain since an accident in 1982. Barbara Buchan, a 1978 Boise State graduate in physical education, broke the world record en route to winning her disability class in the individual 3,000-meter cycling pursuit — an indoor race on a velodrome track.

Buchan was Idaho's state champion in the mile run for



Mountain Home High School in 1972. She ran the 5,000- and 10,000-meter races as a student-athlete at Boise State. She currently lives and trains in Bend, Ore., where she is director for Team USabled, a nonprofit organization for disabled children.

She was considered a top American cyclist with Olympic

aspirations. But in July 1982, during a qualifying race for the world championships, she was caught in a 20-bike pileup on a steep descent. The near-fatal crash left her in a coma with severe brain damage and paralysis.

After five surgeries and a painful rehabilitation, Buchan started competing again in events for disabled athletes in track and field and cycling. The Beijing Games marked her fifth Paralympic appearance, and at age 52, she was the oldest member of Team USA. "I can't believe I did it," Buchan says. "My accident was so long ago, but I am pleased I finally got my gold." ♦



## BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

### Grace or brawn? Tumbling or takedowns?

You won't have to choose as Boise State's gymnastics and wrestling teams come together once again this year for "Beauty and the Beast," a two-sport tournament on one floor. With both teams coming off of conference championship seasons and Top-25 finishes, their Jan. 18 date at Taco Bell Arena will put a season of high expectations on full display.

Led by last year's Pac-10 Freshman of the Year and Boise native Kirk Smith, the wrestling team will take on Cal State-Bakersfield on its way to a hoped-for repeat as Pac-10 champions. Wrestling is Boise State's only non-Western Athletic Conference sport.

Hannah Redmon, a sophomore from Sparks, Nev., was named gymnastics Athlete of the Year in the WAC last year and will lead her team in an early season intersquad scrimmage as they prepare to win their second consecutive WAC championship.

Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children at the gate.

## Softball Team Takes Field

For the first time in university history, Boise State will field a softball team in conference play this spring. After a successful fall schedule, the start-up team's first official game will take place in Palm Springs, Calif., on Feb. 6.



Catcher Tazz Weatherly swings the bat as the Boise State softball team takes the field for the first time in September in a double header against the College of Idaho and Eastern Oregon University.

# ALL EYES ON MARCH FOR BASKETBALL POSTSEASON

Coming off Boise State's first Western Athletic Conference title and a trip to the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 1994, the 2008-09 Bronco men's basketball team has its sights set on a repeat run at postseason play. But a number of players are going to have to blossom in order to replace four seniors who were instrumental in the title run that finished with a school-record 25 wins.

The Broncos return nine lettermen, but just one starter. Despite that lack of starting experience, Boise State should be more athletic and excel in coach Greg Graham's up-tempo offense. Boise State has been picked to finish fifth in the WAC preseason polls — just like last year.

Anthony Thomas returns to lead the Broncos attack. The returning starter at point guard heads into his junior season as the unquestioned leader of the team after handing out 141 assists, the third most in school history, last season.

Joining Thomas is a group of veterans who were critical in the Broncos charge to a WAC title last season. Paul Noonan, Jamar Greene, Aaron Garner, Mark Sanchez and Kurt Cunningham all had an important hand in the most successful season in school history. They should all be key contributors to the Broncos effort this year.

Five new faces will join the roster with four of those expected to play this season. Center Ike Okoye spent last season battling Matt Nelson and Reggie Larry in practice while redshirting after transferring from Wyoming. He should improve the

Broncos athleticism in the low post. Junior college transfers Robert Arnold and Sean Imadiyi were both high scoring junior college players and should add to the Broncos explosive offense. La'Shard Anderson gives the Broncos a true point guard who can back up Thomas or play alongside the veteran, allowing him to move to the off guard position.

With the blend of veterans and new faces, the Broncos once again plan to play deep into March, making a run at another WAC title.

The Boise State women's basketball team is gunning for a third consecutive Western Athletic Conference crown and postseason bid in 2009. The Broncos are coming off one of the most successful campaigns in history in which they captured their second league title in two years, tied the record for wins with 24, and advanced to the postseason in back-to-back seasons for the first time in program history. They reached the second round of the WNIT with a 77-54 defeat of Idaho State to claim the first postseason victory in program history.

With the bulk of last year's league championship squad back, the Broncos were dealt a blow before holding their first practice. Jessica Thompson, the 2007 WAC tourney MVP who averaged 13.4 points a game last year, was declared out for the season with a knee injury. The expected return of redshirt Rebecca Kepilino also has been postponed as she continues to recover from knee surgery.

"Every season you are hit with adversity



Returning starter Anthony Thomas leads the Broncos' attempt for a repeat WAC title.

and we're having ours early this season," says head coach Gordy Presnell.

The WAC preseason polls still picked Boise State as No. 1 behind returning starters Tasha Harris and Jenna Galassi. The Broncos will rely on true freshmen Heather Pilcher and Courtney Van Brocklin to fill Thompson's shoes. Seasoned veterans and senior guards Jamia Malone and Brittany Moore, junior center Ja'Lara Walker, and sophomore posts Melissa Rima and Sierra Moeller will be key performers. Three redshirt players — Janie Bos, Marisa Stotler and Ainsleigh Sanders — will be asked to contribute. ♦

## March Madness Back in Boise

Boise State University and Taco Bell Arena are hosting the 2009 NCAA Men's Division I Basketball Tournament first and second round games on March 20 and 22. The tournament, which features 65 schools in a single-elimination format to determine the national champion, begins March 17 and concludes with the championship game April 6 at Ford Field in Detroit, Mich. It will mark the first time a Final Four will have a minimum seating capacity of 70,000.

## alumni A GALA EVENT

by Stacy Hollingsworth



Larry and Karen Arguinchona, outstanding philanthropist award winners, and Bill Illet enjoy Ward Hooper's art print.

Elegance, celebration and good spirits marked the first annual Presidential Alumni Recognition Gala in the Stueckle Sky Center on Sept. 13. Awards were presented to extraordinary alumni and philanthropists who exemplify outstanding achievement, passion and vision. In addition, the 2008 Foundation Scholars were recognized (Fall 2008 FOCUS, p. 9).

Karen and Larry Arguinchona (AS, '63) received a standing ovation as they accepted the Outstanding Philanthropist Award for their exceptional generosity, which has encouraged others to take philanthropic leadership roles at Boise State. "BSU is the gem of this community," Larry said. "The success of our city and our state is tied directly to the success of BSU."

The Alumni Service Award was given to two alumni for their extraordinary dedication and commitment through dedicated volunteer service to the Alumni Association or the university. Dennis Ward (BA, '73) was honored for starting the Puget Sound Alumni Chapter and co-founding the Intercollegiate Knights Alumni Chapter in Boise. Brian Yeargain (BBA, '95) was recognized for his service on the alumni board from 1998 through his time as board president in 2006, as well as his involvement and contributions to other university boards and committees.

Lastly, the Distinguished Alumni Award was presented to three recipients whose professional and/or personal contributions result in national or international visibility both for themselves and for Boise State. Gary Dyer (MBA, '78), recently retired executive vice president of Blue Cross of Idaho, serves on the board of directors for the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games and holds numerous leadership positions in local civic and professional organizations. George Kelley (BS, '80), a tenured full professor who directs the Meta-Analytic Research Group in the School of Medicine at West Virginia University, was recognized for his ongoing educational and research accomplishments, including participation in more than \$13.9 million in externally funded research and more than

54 published research articles. Sheriff Gary Raney (BA, '86; MA, '05) was introduced by emcee and television news anchor Mark Johnson as a "media dream" who rose through the ranks of law enforcement to become Ada County Sheriff in 2005. He serves on several boards, contributes to developing and executing new strategies and groups within the department and region and is an adjunct professor at Boise State.

At the evening's end, Boise State President Bob Kustra thanked presenting sponsor Key Bank and the award recipients for helping to create "a reputation nationwide — global-wide — for Boise State University." ♦



Associate professor of Criminal Justice Andy Giacomazzi, Sheriff Gary Raney and Suzan Raney celebrate the evening.



BoiseStateAuction.com

Boise State Auction 2009 is May 9 at the Boise Centre on The Grove. The theme is "Building a Lasting Legacy" and will focus on recognizing builders and designers involved in Boise State's considerable number of capital projects aimed at enhancing the university's legacy as a metropolitan research university of distinction.

The auction is off to an exciting start with the recent hire of AnnMarie Kaus as assistant to the athletic director for special events and projects. Kaus, a former Boise State gymnast, will be coordinating this year's auction. Co-chairs are Pam Casey from the Bronco Athletic Association

board of directors, returning for a second year, and Greg Chavez of the Alumni Association board of directors.

A new addition to the traditional program is the online auction that premiered in October and will run again in the spring. Check [www.boisestateauction.com](http://www.boisestateauction.com) to see the unique items and experiences available for bid.

All proceeds from the auction will benefit the athletic and academic scholarship endowments. The Idaho Statesman is on

board again this year as the silent auction sponsor. The Statesman's continued support of Boise State contributes to the paramount success of this event.

If you are interested in donating items, services or support to the auction efforts, contact AnnMarie Kaus at (208) 426-5407 or [akaus@boisestate.edu](mailto:akaus@boisestate.edu). ♦

**Idaho Statesman**  
The Newspaper of the Treasure Valley  
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### Calendar of Alumni Events for Winter 2009

#### DECEMBER

8-10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 19: Graduation Celebration Breakfast prior to Commencement in Bronco Gym

#### JANUARY

TBA, Bronco Advocacy Network reception in Boise

#### FEBRUARY

Feb. 15: Alumni Legacy Scholarships due. Apply at <http://alumni.boisestate.edu/programs/scholarships.asp>

#### NEW BRONCO CONTACTS

For a complete list of Alumni Chapters or to learn how to be a Bronco Contact, visit <http://alumni.boisestate.edu/groups/gettingstarted.asp>

California (Los Angeles): Shawn Sandoval  
Georgia (Sandy Springs): Rachel Wheatley  
Nevada (Elko): Jose Negrete

### OUR BRONCO NETWORK



WANT TO BE A BRONCO CONTACT?  
VISIT [ALUMNI.BOISESTATE.EDU](http://ALUMNI.BOISESTATE.EDU)



FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF ALUMNI CHAPTERS OR TO LEARN HOW TO BECOME ONE, VISIT [HTTP://ALUMNI.BOISESTATE.EDU/GROUPS/GETTINGSTARTED.ASP](http://ALUMNI.BOISESTATE.EDU/GROUPS/GETTINGSTARTED.ASP)

alumni

## NEW ALUMNI VISION & MISSION

The new Boise State Alumni Association Vision, Mission, and Guiding Values, as adopted by the board of directors in November, 2008:

### TAG LINE: THE LIGHT OF THE UNIVERSITY

#### Vision

The Boise State Alumni Association will be the light that guides alumni and friends to the university, informing and partnering with them to apply their energies and resources toward the future of Boise State University.

#### Mission

The Boise State Alumni Association connects, celebrates and engages alumni and friends of the university to build lifelong relationships that support the future of our university.

#### Guiding Values

- Connect alumni and friends strategically back to the university by linking their interests to university needs.
- Support students through scholarships and programs that foster a life-long commitment to the university.
- Advocate, promote and educate the public concerning the value of investing in Boise State University and higher education in Idaho.

## BRONCO ADVOCACY NETWORK IN ACTION

The Bronco Advocacy Network kicked off its fall recruiting season with events held across the state in November. Receptions in Idaho Falls, Twin Falls and Coeur d'Alene featured Alumni Association executive director Mark Arstein, who unveiled President Kustra's initiatives for the upcoming legislative session.

Bruce Newcomb, director of government relations, joined the program at the Magic Valley event held in Pandora's restaurant on Nov. 10, to share his tips on how alumni can best communicate with legislators. Attendees received information on Boise State's legislative priorities for the 2009 session, including the key goal of maintaining current base funding levels with at least a moderate increase to ensure continuance of current levels of operations and to keep student tuition and fee levels from rising too much in the future.

Each event drew dedicated Broncos who believe in the mission and values of Boise State and are willing to advocate on behalf of the university and higher education in Idaho.

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THE BRONCO ADVOCACY NETWORK, PLEASE REGISTER AT [HTTP://ALUMNI.BOISESTATE.EDU/BAN/UPCOMING.ASP](http://alumni.boisestate.edu/ban/upcoming.asp)**

## This is the Place ... Where Boise State's Alumni and Friends Will Want to Be

The BSU Alumni Association's building campaign steering committee is leading the charge to raise \$10 million to build a new Boise State Alumni Center. Each of these individuals has a visible and deep-rooted commitment to the advancement of the university and our Alumni Association, and all agree that now is the right time for this project. The committee members, listed here, are working hard on your behalf and welcome your ideas and input.

Candice Allphin, '89  
 Tom Beitia, '84, '87  
 Mike Bessent, '74  
 Connie Bunch, '60, '70, '86  
 Allen Dykman, '74  
 Dale Fackler, '68, '69  
 Joel Hickman, '79  
 Dyke Nally, '69

The new Alumni Center will serve as home for all of University Advancement allowing the Alumni Association, the Boise State Foundation, University Development and Communications and Marketing to work more closely together in efforts to advance the university. More than a construction project or just another campus building, this is the creation of a home. The new Alumni Center will pay homage to Boise State's history, highlight its successes and its growth, and honor the people who make Boise State a place of character and excellence.

For more information on this project, or to get in touch with the campaign steering committee, contact Mark Arstein at (208) 426-3277 or Karen Vauk at (208) 426-2299, or visit <http://alumni.boisestate.edu/alumni-center/project-summary.asp>.

### Moved? New Job?

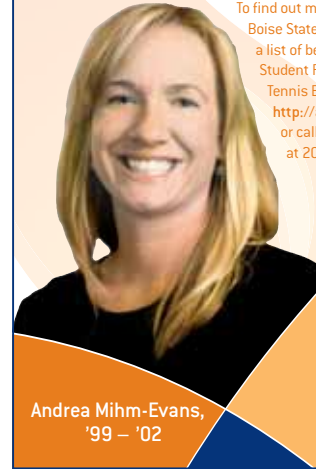
Click "Update My Info" at [alumni.boisestate.edu](http://alumni.boisestate.edu)



### Why am I a member of the Alumni Association?

My Boise State Alumni Association membership benefits are great! But for me, it's about supporting things like the Legacy Scholarship program, the Bronco Advocacy Network, and student recruitment efforts. Membership keeps me connected to my alma mater. I encourage my fellow alumni to join today! It's a great way to support the future of Boise State.

To find out more about joining the Boise State Alumni Association including a list of benefits, such as access to the Student Recreation Center and the Tennis Bubble, visit: <http://alumni.boisestate.edu/> or call the Alumni Association at 208-426-1698.



Andrea Mihm-Evans, '99 - '02



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## ALUMNI PROFILE



DICK ENNIS '54

Dick Ennis, '54, found his calling at age 11 when his father opened Ennis Fine Furniture. Unlike many of his peers, he had a clearly defined career plan when he attended Boise Junior College to pursue an education in business and accounting. "I kind of always knew I was going to do this," he says.

When the store opened at 23rd and Fairview in 1946, it was surrounded by fields and horses and carried the slogan "Drive Out and Save." Ennis took over the company in 1965 when his father retired; since then, the city has sprung up around the well-respected furniture store. The company has grown, too — they now have five locations in three states with one of Ennis's sons running each store.

**FAVORITE MEMORY: DANCING WITH HIS FUTURE WIFE, MAY LOU, AT A DANCE ON CAMPUS. THEY HAVE BEEN MARRIED FOR 54 YEARS.**

Even though he had a solid and certain career path, Ennis understood the value of education. His educational pursuits have contributed to his success in business by making him a well-rounded person; he formed important social connections, gained an understanding of the business world and made the transition from boyhood to manhood. He felt such a strong connection to Boise State that he helped form the Alumni Association and served as the first BSUAA vice president.

Many years later, Ennis is a true role model to his six grown children — a successful businessman who values family, hard work and community.

### BRONCO FOOTBALL VIEWING PARTIES HELD ACROSS THE NATION

Fifteen cities played host to Bronco football viewing parties that were arranged by Bronco Contacts this season. Thanks to a great ESPN schedule, locations like Elko, Nev., Livermore, Calif., Addison, Texas, and Broomfield, Colo., were able to show televised games. If you would like to become a Bronco Contact and host a Bronco football viewing party next year, contact the Alumni Association.



## alumni LEGACY SCHOLAR



TYSON BERG '09

When Tyson Berg began his educational journey at Boise State in fall 2005, he could not predict the impact the Legacy Scholarship would have on his collegiate experience. Now, as he prepares for graduation in the spring, he fully appreciates the benefits of the scholarship – time to pursue his studies, freedom from educational debt and the ability to truly enjoy his college years.

The scholarship is a renewable, four-year, full-tuition waiver available to the child or grandchild of a Boise State graduate. Berg follows in the footsteps of his father, John, who graduated in 1983. He and Devin Laky will be the first two Legacy Scholarship recipients to graduate since its establishment in 2004.

"I can see how lucky I really was to be awarded this scholarship," he says.

Berg, a double major in accounting and finance, president of the Boise State Student Alumni Association and a dean's list student from the start, has been able to successfully carry at least 16 credits per semester and work minimal hours. In fact, the scholarship has allowed him to lead a fairly low-stress three years, freed up funds so he could take summer classes and gave him the time and energy to participate in campus activities and events.

As this year's scholarship deadline nears, Berg urges incoming students to apply. Thanks to his scholarship, his time at Boise State has been a successful one, full of rich experiences and a diverse, non-traditional student population.

**FAVORITE MEMORY: THE STUDENT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION'S "FLOAT" AT THE HOMECOMING PARADE — BERG RODE IN A WAGON PULLED BY A GOLF CART ADORNED WITH BLUE AND ORANGE FLAMES.**

### ALUMNI LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Are you an alum with a relative planning to be a freshman at Boise State next year? Your child, grandchild or other relative may be eligible to apply for the Alumni Legacy Scholarship. This four-year renewable scholarship covers in-state fees and only is available to incoming freshmen. Apply by Feb. 15 at <http://alumni.boisestate.edu/programs/scholarships.asp>

### BOISE STATE ANNUALS NEEDED

The Alumni Association is looking for copies of annuals from 1941, 1943, 1952 and 1972. If you have copies you would like to donate to the Boise State Alumni Association, call Donna Conner at (208) 426-1698.

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## NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS

The following members of the Boise State Alumni Association completed lifetime membership commitments between May 1, 2008 and July 31, 2008. 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 [alumni.boisestate.edu](http://alumni.boisestate.edu).

Dean Tuley, Twin Falls, '66, '68  
Eugene Chaffee, Boise, '69, '75, '86  
Larry Turpin, Boise, '69  
Richard Clark, Boise, '72, '99  
Douglas Conner, Meridian, '72  
Leane Chaffee, Boise, '74  
Jayne Nelson, Boise, '74  
Gary Boehlke, Mountain Home, '76  
Karen Boehlke, Mountain Home, '76  
John Head, Pocatello, '78  
Lori Head, Pocatello, '78  
Pamela McCormick, Parma, '78  
Patrick Vaughn, Caldwell, '78  
Christine Cimbalik, Boise, '79  
Peter Richardson, Boise, '79  
Mark Buker, Boise, '81  
Steve Hall, Seward, Alaska, '82  
Holly Hamilton-Blodgett, Boise, '86  
Edward Pfeifer, Marsing, '86  
Brad Walters, Boise, '86  
Craig Whitley, Las Vegas, Nev., '86  
Virginia Kinna, Boise, '87  
Timothy Klerna, Boise, '87  
Rita Nuxoll, Boise, '87  
Karen Purdy-Nelson, Boise, '88  
Lisa Ennis, Lexington, Ky., '89  
Kimber Shaw, Boise, '90  
Daniel Tennant, Boise, '90  
Jerry Nickel, Nampa, '91  
Cory Armstrong, Boise, '92, '00  
Lewis Eslick, Nampa, '92, '95  
Lance Millington, Boise, '92  
Linda Klerna, Boise, '93

Matthew McLaughlin, Coeur d'Alene, '93, '97  
Debbie Pfeifer, Marsing, '93  
Jason Tuisku, Meridian, '94  
Paul Amos, Tigard, Ore., '95  
Amber Overton, Salt Lake City, Utah, '95  
Sean Overton, Salt Lake City, Utah, '95  
Elizabeth Roberts, Boise, '95  
Brian Cox, Boise, '96  
Susan Tennant, Boise, '96  
Erik Wilde, Libertyville, Ill., '96  
Jared Morrison, Meridian, '97  
Jennifer Weske, Boise, '97  
Valentina Kuskova, Alpharetta, Ga., '98, '02  
Connie Leavitt, Boise, '98  
Stephen Raddatz, Boise, '98  
Shari Raddatz, Boise, '98, '99  
Cheri Ruch, Boise, '98  
Richard Steel, Boise, '99  
Mary Ball, Boise, '00, '02, '03  
Douglas Barrett, Brockport, N.Y., '00  
Catherine Rushton, Boise, '00  
Jeremy Courtney, Auburn, Wash., '01  
Robert Gibson, Alpharetta, Ga., '01  
Pamela Hawk, Meridian, '01, '05  
Stan Seamons, Meridian, '01  
James Taylor, Boise, '01  
Dylan Weske, Boise, '01  
Connie Charlton, Boise, '03  
Anthony Pori, Boise, '03  
Alecia Gorringe, Hailey, '04  
Dallas Millington, Boise, '04, '05  
Marian Nelson, Lovelock, Nev., '04  
David Wildman, Seattle, Wash., '04

## IN TOUCH 1970S

**MARK W. MCCOLLUM, BA,** general business, '70, retired in January 2006 after 36 years of service at the Internal Revenue Service as a field compliance group manager in Spokane, Wash. He now works part-time as a re-employed annuitant treasury instructor.

**STEVEN TESTER, BBA,** marketing, '70, joined the Mountain West Bank board of directors. He retired from a 38-year banking career in 2007 and has been an active community leader in the Meridian area.

**KEN TAMS, BA, history, '73,** retired principal from St. Maries, was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame for lifetime achievement in wrestling. Tams was recognized for more than 30 years of coaching, including a stint as assistant coach at Boise State, and his involvement in starting wrestling programs in the St. Maries area.

**GARY DYER, MBA, business administration, '78,** was named a Saint Alphonsus Foundation board member. Dyer retired from Blue Cross of Idaho, where he was the executive vice president and chief operating officer. He is involved in Boise State's Friends of Nursing, is active in the 2009 Special Olympic World Winter Games and serves as vice chairman of Idaho State's Health Sciences advisory board.

## 1980S

**ED ARONSON, BBA, industrial business, '80,** was named director of athletics at Treasure Valley Community College in Ontario, Ore. Aronson has been involved in TVCC's athletic program both as an athlete and a coach and brings with him more than 20 years of collegiate officiating experience.

**JEFF HON, BBA, finance, '81,** joined Bank of the West as vice president and senior relationship manager for the bank's regional commercial banking office in Boise. He will be responsible for developing and servicing the portfolios of clients with annual revenues greater than \$10 million.

**KEN STARK, BBA, finance, '81,** was elected president of the CARE Chest of Sierra Nevada board of directors. CARE Chest is a nonprofit agency in Reno that provides free medical supplies and equipment for Nevada residents in need.

**KEVIN BUTLER, AS, respiratory care, '83, BS, respiratory therapy, '84,** joined OXON Medical LifeSystems Inc. in Boise as a respiratory therapist. Butler is experienced in the field of perfusion, transfusion medicine and respiratory therapy.

**CONNIE MILLER, BBA, accountancy, '83,** was promoted to president/CEO of Idaho Federal Credit Union in Boise. Miller has served as vice president of finance at Idaho for 10 years.

**JOHN T. KALANGE, BS, pre-dental studies, '84,** completed the rigorous, multi-year requirements to achieve active membership in the Northwest component of the Edward H. Angle Society of Orthodontists. He is the first orthodontist in Idaho to be elected to active membership in The Angle Society.

**LARRY LAVERTY, BS, marketing and finance, '84, BA, political science, '85,** recently performed in films shot in Pennsylvania and Iowa. Since developing an interest in acting during his last year of study at Boise State, Laverty has appeared in more than 90 movies and has acted in stage productions.

**MIKE ROGERS, BA, political science, '85,** owns Precious Metal Arts, a jewelry shop on the ground floor of the Idaho Building in downtown Boise. He is known for unique, elegant pieces and specializes in custom jewelry.

**MEGAN OVERGAARD, BS, biology, secondary education, '86,** was awarded the Governor's Industry Award for Notable Teaching in Science (GIANTS). Overgaard has been teaching biology and anatomy and physiology at Weiser High School for 10 years and has served as science club adviser, head track coach, INL Scholastic Tournament team coach and gifted and talented facilitator. Overgaard was recognized for her ability to make science interesting and relatable to her students, while challenging them both in and out of the classroom.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
<http://alumni.boisestate.edu/groups/beyond.asp>

## alumni

**JESUS DE LEON, MA**, education, curriculum and instruction, '87, was elected to the board of directors for the Regence Caring Foundation for Children, a public charity that provides free, comprehensive dental care to low-income children. De Leon will assist in overseeing goals, objectives and strategies for the charity.

**JEFF ULMER, BS**, sociology, '88, owner of BlueCircleSports.com and president and founder of the City of Trees Marathon, was a guest speaker for Extreme Recreation, a youth organization in Weiser. He also is race director for Girls on the Run, an organization that promotes running for girls ages 8 to 11.

### 1990s

**LISA DRESDNER, MA**, English, '94, was promoted to full professor at Norwalk Community College in Norwalk, Conn. Dresdner is chair of the English Department and teaches courses in composition, women's literature, American literature, African American literature and autobiography.

**SUE LATTA, BFA**, visual arts, '94, MFA, visual arts, '07, had an exhibit titled "Of the Flesh" at the Visual Arts Collective in Garden City. The exhibit featured work from her thesis project at Boise State and helped kick off the Visual Art Collective's reopening earlier this year.

**TARYNA GOODMAN, BS**, nursing, '95, joined St. Benedict's health care team in Jerome. Goodman works at Jerome Family Practice and has experience in several fields of medicine.

**RON CARVER, BA**, criminal justice admin., '97, joined Plexus Corp. as a focus factory supervisor for the company's facility in Nampa. Carver is responsible for directing the activities of group leads to ensure product quality, on-time delivery and factory production efficiency. Carver served more than nine years in the U.S. Air Force. His most recent assignment was deployment to Afghanistan with Operation Enduring Freedom, where he acted as officer in charge of the 391st Aircraft Maintenance Unit.

**WENDY WONG, BA**, English, writing emphasis, '98, is a new property manager at Thornton Oliver Keller in Boise. Wong last worked at Windermere Real Estate as the operations manager and on-site sales manager.

### 2000s

**THOMAS MINNICK, BA**, economics, '00, graduated with an MFA in creative writing from Virginia Commonwealth University in May 2008. Minnick also recently earned two post-graduate credentials in finance: the Chartered Financial Analyst designation and the Certified Investment Management Analyst designation. He recently was promoted to product manager for a Richmond, Va.-based investment firm.

**ROBERT HOLCROFT, BA**, communication, '02, was honored as a grand marshal on the U.S. Army's "Today's Heroes" float in the National Memorial Day Parade in Washington, D.C. Holcroft was part of an elite group of soldiers honored for distinguished service in Iraq. During his most recent tour, he served as a pilot in

command and came to the aid of several ground troops. Holcroft was honored for his bravery with the Air Medal of Valor for heroic action.

**DELIA E. BALDWIN, AAS**, computer service technology, '03, graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson in Columbia, S.C.

**TRAVIS SHELTON, BCM**, construction management, '04, joined McAlvain Construction Inc. as a project engineer. Shelton is responsible for contract administration, document management, commissioning phase management and estimating.

**JACOB WILSON, BA**, social work, '05, opened Central Mountains Counseling in McCall. He offers individual counseling and specializes in youth counseling.

**NICOLE CULLEN, BA**, English, writing emphasis, '06, has been awarded a three-year James A. Michener Fellowship in Creative Writing from the University of Texas Michener Center for Writers, which is ranked as one of the top 10 graduate programs in creative writing. Cullen's fiction-writing sample was one of 12 chosen from more

than 700 submissions in fiction, playwriting, poetry and screenwriting.

**QUINTIN MIKELL, BA**, communication, '06, former Boise State football player, is currently playing with the Philadelphia Eagles. Mikell is in his sixth season with the Eagles. He was drafted in 2003.

**JANICE STEVENOR DALE, GC**, online teaching, '06, MS, education and technology, '06, was a keynote speaker at the Northwest Modernism Regional Conference in Boise, presenting on interior design of the mid-century. Stevenor Dale serves on the board of Preservation Idaho and is a fellow of the International Interior Design Association.

**NATASHA KRAVCHUK, BBA**, general business management, '07, BBA, management, human resources, '07, created the VN realty team with her husband, Vadim. The team recently joined Harvest Realty in Nampa and serves the Treasure Valley and surrounding areas.

**BRANDON DUNCAN, BSC**, civil engineering, '08, joined Murray, Smith & Associates

Inc. as a staff engineer. Duncan is involved with a wide range of water, wastewater and storm water planning and design projects. He received the "Outstanding Graduating Senior" in civil engineering award from Boise State and founded the student chapter of Engineers Without Borders.

**LYLE "Bus" W. BROICH, BA**, sociology, '68, Emmett.

**LOUISE CARLOCK, AA**, arts and sciences, undeclared, '34, Portland, Ore.

**JOHN K. CATO, BA**, general business, '70, Buhl.

**ROBERT "Bob" CHENOWETH JR.**, cert., heavy duty mechanics, diesel tech., '81, Cascade.

**HAL R. CHRISTIANSEN, BBA**, computer information systems, '88, Idaho City.

**LEO "Lynn" ELWOOD**, alumnus, non-degree, Boise.

**ORVAL H. HILLIARD**, diploma, arts and sciences, '61, Spokane, Wash.

**JULIE A. MALLOY, BA**, social work, '99, Boise.

**SHAUNA K. MCCURDY, BA**, communication, '78, MA, education, curriculum and instruction, '02, died July 23 in Weiser. After several years of owning a business with her husband, McCurdy decided to pursue a master's degree in education at Boise State. Her career shift enabled her to spread her passion for reading and writing to students across the valley. Her contributions were recognized in the 2007-2008 school year when she was named Teacher of the Year for her dedicated service in the face of a mounting illness.

**VERA M. MORROW, BA**, elementary education, '67, Boise.

**DAYTON "Buckett" MIYAMURA, BS**, physical education, '74, Nampa.

**WANDA MAXINE PAXTON, AA**, elementary education, '58, Abilene, Texas.

**WILLIAM A. WHITE JR., BS**, physical education, '78, Boise.

**KIRK M. WILDE, BA**, political science, '90, Kennewick, Wash.

## FACULTY & STAFF

**GLENN E. BOCK**, supervisor of campus security. Bock, 59, passed away Aug. 18 of cancer. Glenn served with the U.S. Army in Vietnam from 1969-1971. After his military service, he attended Boise State briefly until finding his niche as a security guard at Boise State in 1973. He later was promoted to supervisor of campus security. Outside of work, Bock was one of Boise State football's biggest fans.

**NORMA J. IRELAND**, staff emeritus, 1973-1995.

**MARY ELLEN RYDER**, professor of linguistics, Department of English, 1988-2008, was a faculty member, author and lecturer and valued mentor who perished in the Oregon Trail Fire on Aug. 25. She is remembered for her untamed passion for teaching and learning, the encouragement and extra help she offered outside of class and the wisdom and humor she utilized to make linguistics relatable to every student. Ryder's awards and recognitions at Boise State include the Distinguished Faculty Award (1991) and Outstanding Faculty Award (1995).

**DEAN TOWNSEND**, assistant professor of English, 1966-1977, special lecturer, 1980s.

**ELIZABETH WIATR** died Nov. 11 in Boise of cancer. Wiatr, 48, was an assistant professor of art history and visual culture. She received her MFA in photography from the California Institute for the Arts and her Ph.D. from the University of California-Irvine. Her background was in studio art, including photography, film, video and installation. She taught at UC-Irvine and the Southern California Institute of Architecture before coming to Boise State in fall 2005.



**DANIEL "Danny" A. PETERSON, BA**, theatre arts, '79, died July 22 in Boise. Peterson was known throughout the theater community for his kind spirit, love for acting and passion for working with youth. He was one of the founders of the Idaho Shakespeare Festival and Idaho Theater for Youth and worked with virtually every theater in Boise over the last 30 years. In recognition of his life, service and accomplishments, the Boise State Theatre Department renamed Stage II at the Morrison Center the "Danny Peterson Theatre."

**JOE REININGER, BBA**, management, '75, Boise.

**JAMES "Jimmie" W. SALES, AA**, arts and sciences, '54, Jackson Heights, N.Y.

**CRAIG S. SCHONHARDT, BA**, advertising design, '79, MBA, business administration, '88, died June 6 in Boise. Schonhardt was a graphic artist at Morrison Knudsen for 20 years and later taught at Nampa High School. He received many awards for his work, notably the Boise Ad Federation Award and a Telly Award. He also coordinated and designed the interior graphics for the Boise Air Terminal before the latest expansion.

**MELVIN H. SMITH, AS**, criminal justice administration, '79, Lewiston.

**JACQUELINE "Jackie" TAYLOR, BA**, social work, '71, Astoria, Ore.

**BETH R. VROOMAN, AS**, nursing, '73, Meridian.

**GERALD L. WESTON, AA**, arts and sciences, '57, Caldwell.

## IN MEMORY 2008

**STEPHEN D. BONNETT, BA**, social work, '77, Lincoln, Neb.

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last page

## JOIN US

Dec. 7 — Holiday Concert

Dec. 19 — Winter Commencement

Jan. 19 — Martin Luther King Jr. Human Rights Celebration Kickoff

Feb. 2 — Frank Church Conference on Public Affairs

Feb. 7-13 — Special Olympics World Winter Games

March 7 — International Food, Song and Dance Festival

## PASSING THE TORCH

### ALUMS RECALL BRONCO MEMORIES

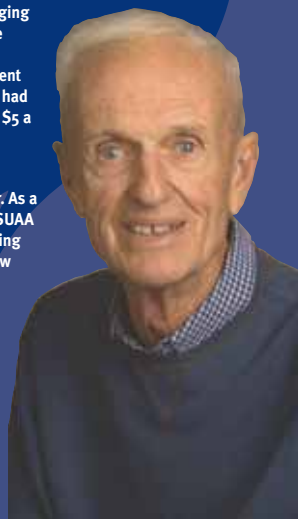
**Tom Rhodes, '55,** foresaw the importance of bringing former students together in a group that would benefit the entire campus. His vision — a formal alumni association — began with about 20 people, mostly teachers. The group met in the old Student Union Building (now the Communication Building). “We literally had no school funding, we just took up a collection — I think \$10 [or] \$5 a year,” Rhodes recalls.

With limited experience and no direction on how to form an association, the group saw moderate growth within the first year. As a founding member, Rhodes was the obvious choice for the first BSUAA president; he focused his energy on maintaining and strengthening the commitment of its members and helped the organization grow considerably over the years.

Rhodes also was involved in one of the most important contributions of the young alumni association — a wooden shield made for the 1967 inauguration of Boise College President John Barnes.

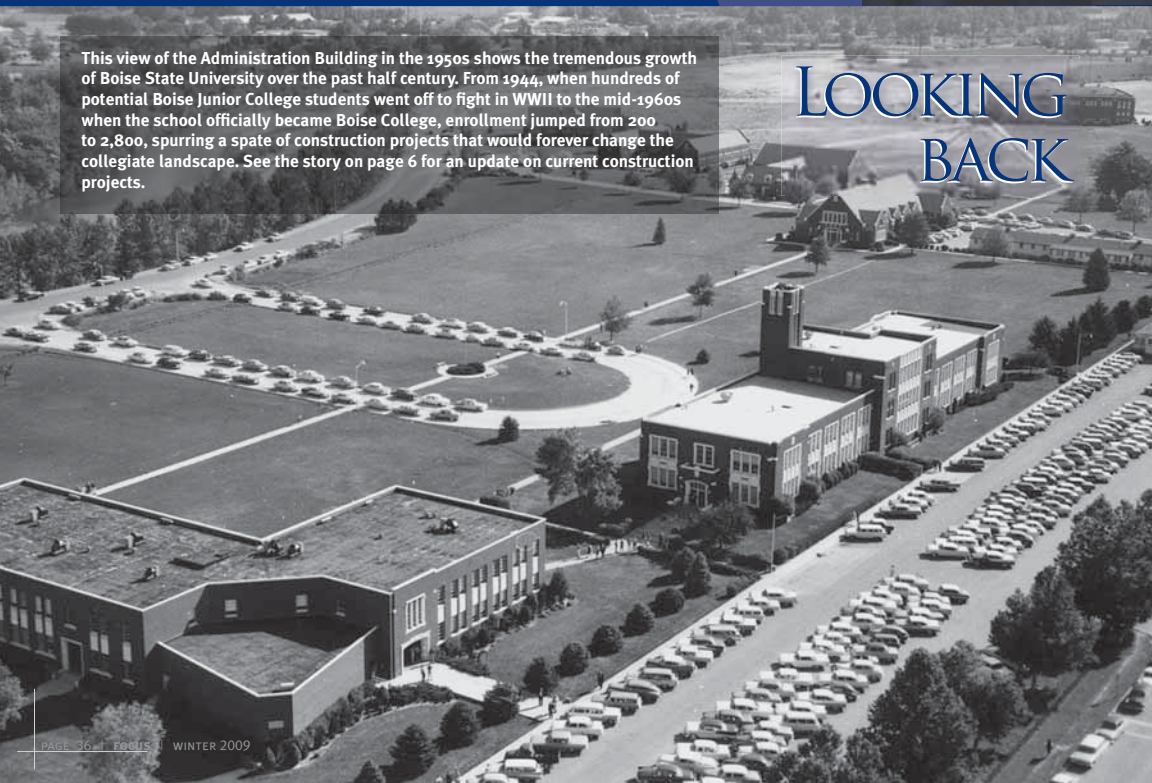
Thus began the modest start of an organization that now boasts more than 65,000 alumni and friends and plays an integral role in the campus and community.

— As told to Stacy Hollingsworth, alumni intern



This view of the Administration Building in the 1950s shows the tremendous growth of Boise State University over the past half century. From 1944, when hundreds of potential Boise Junior College students went off to fight in WWII to the mid-1960s when the school officially became Boise College, enrollment jumped from 200 to 2,800, spurring a spate of construction projects that would forever change the collegiate landscape. See the story on page 6 for an update on current construction projects.

## LOOKING BACK



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