ABOUT THIS ISSUE:
When it comes to outdoor recreation, Boise State couldn’t be in a much better location. Head out from campus in any direction, and a myriad of opportunities for fun await. In this issue of FOCUS, we take a closer look at Boise State’s big back yard and talk to students and faculty who enjoy playing close to home. (Cover photo by John Kelly. Photo below courtesy of the Boise State Outdoor Program.)

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Proposed center addresses needs of a changing Idaho economy

This issue of FOCUS, which looks at the incredible outdoor opportunities at Boise State University’s doorstep, reminds us why Idaho is such a special place to live and to work. The state’s pristine mountains, lush forests, fertile valleys and whitewater rivers offer a multitude of opportunities for recreation. These natural resources also support industries such as forestry, mining and agriculture that for the past century have fueled the state’s economic growth.

While these industries remain an important component of Idaho’s economy, the state is also undergoing a transition to a more diversified economy. This diversification is occurring at the same time that federal regulations in the area of environment and resource management continue to have an overwhelming impact on Idaho’s economy. In the years ahead, it will become increasingly important to integrate a knowledge base in environmental sciences with the study of the impact of public policy as part of efforts to move Idaho’s economy and work force forward.

I believe that Boise State is uniquely positioned to play an important role in this critical task. The university’s location in the state’s capital city, its research and programs in public policy, geosciences and other fields, and its many collaborations with industry and with local, state and federal agencies are among our strengths. Our students benefit from conducting hands-on research with faculty and in partnerships with other universities and agencies. The rewards of an interdisciplinary, multi-institutional approach to problem-solving are many, and I am enthusiastic about plans for a new center at Boise State that would provide additional opportunities for collaboration and education.

The proposed Center for Environmental Science and Public Policy directly addresses the challenges of balancing economic development with public policy mandates and environmental concerns (page 6). The center, to be housed in a seven-story addition on the east side of the Mathematics/Geosciences Building, is envisioned to provide a seamless link from fundamental science research to science-based public policy, K-12 education, and public outreach.

The facility will include a variety of environmentally focused centers and institutes that would collaborate with state and federal agencies, other universities, industry and the public. Boise State programs to be housed in the new center include the Environmental Science and Public Policy Research Institute, Geospatial Research Facility, Environmental Finance Center, Geotectonic Research Center, Permian Research Institute, and others. In addition, personnel from the Idaho Geological Survey would be housed in the center, and the building would also provide much-needed science teaching and classroom space.

The research facilitated by the new building would include investigations of regional earthquake hazards, the health and dynamics of our watershed systems, the assessment and monitoring of surface and subsurface contamination, and better understanding of the controls on distribution of energy and mineral resources. Such projects bring a strong regional and national focus to the programs housed in the building.

Idaho schoolchildren would be among the beneficiaries of this new center. An Interactive Earth Science Exploratorium, envisioned to be developed jointly with a number of agencies and museums, would generate interest for the earth sciences among K-12 students and the public. An adjacent multi-media classroom would permit more in-depth educational instruction.

All this, of course, costs money. The new Center For Environmental Science and Public Policy carries an $11 million price tag. Boise State has received $1.2 million in federal funds for planning and design, and we will seek an additional $4.3 million in federal matching funds over the next two years toward building the new center, along with support from the state and private sectors. Design work will start this spring, with groundbreaking projected as early as 2006, or when fund-raising efforts are complete.

It’s an ambitious undertaking, to be sure, but I believe the center will bring many benefits to the state and to the region. The beautiful scenery that surrounds Boise is more than just a pretty picture. It’s the state’s future and its legacy, and it deserves our attention and stewardship.

— Bob Kustra, President
Boise State celebrated the installation of a new president and 30 years as a university with a week of exhibits, panel discussions, lectures and receptions in late February. The university was founded as a junior college in 1932 and became a state college in 1969. On Feb. 22, 1974, then-Gov. Cecil Andrus signed a bill changing the name to Boise State University, solidifying Boise State’s importance in Idaho’s education system.

Events culminated Feb. 27 with the installation of President Bob Kustra in a morning of pomp and circumstance featuring Idaho Gov. Dirk Kempthorne, Boise Mayor Dave Bieter and other honored guests.

University photographers John Kelly and Carrie Quinney captured two of the week’s major events on camera. The first was a reception honoring the university’s “Great Eight” — winners of the Carnegie Foundation Idaho Professor of the Year award. The second was the presidential installation in the Student Union, highlighted by President Kustra’s installation address (top right).
Enrollment continues to rise at Boise State with a spring headcount of 17,890, an increase of 145 students over last spring. But the real news is that students, on average, are taking more classes, putting an even tighter squeeze on already crowded classroom space.

The university’s full-time equivalent, based on the number of credit hours students are taking, jumped 3 percent, to 12,818. The increase is a result of more students attending full time rather than part time.

Adding the resources needed to keep up with that growth will be a little easier if the Legislature approves a proposed 2.5 percent increase in university budgets, but Boise State isn’t done with belt-tightening measures just yet. That proposed increase doesn’t provide for the jump in student enrollment or for the operating costs of new buildings approved in last year’s budget.

The general fund increase will also only partially cover the cost of raising employee salaries, which have been stagnant for the last two years. The Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee recommended making up that difference from student fees, a move many see as legally tenuous.

The enrollment figures reflect a manageable pace of growth, says Mark Wheeler, dean of enrollment services. “A 1 percent increase in headcount and a 3 percent increase in FTE is about what we can handle this semester considering the tight state budget.

Keeping growth in concert with our resources is one of our biggest challenges right now,” he says.

The university increased admissions standards last fall and will increase them again this fall to keep enrollment in line with its resources. That increase in standards is also making a difference in how well the freshman class performs. Of those admitted in fall 2003, more finished the semester in good academic standing and more continued into the spring semester than in previous years.

“As the academic quality of the student body increases, our retention and graduation rates will continue to improve,” Wheeler notes. “It’s an exciting time for the university.”

‘FOCUS’ earns gold/silver medals

An illustration by Boise State art professor Bill Carman, featured in the Summer 2003 issue of FOCUS magazine, was awarded the Gold Medal in a competition sponsored by the Northwest district of the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

The illustration accompanied a story on the role of the arts in a turbulent world.

Additionally, FOCUS writers Janelle Brown, Kathleen Craven and Patricia Pyke won a Silver Medal for periodical team writing.

CASE is an organization for advancement professionals.
Boise State-West, housing projects remain on schedule

Despite the snow and rain of winter, construction projects on Boise State’s main campus and Canyon County site are all on track. In addition to several projects already under way, four new projects are in the planning stages.

Following an official groundbreaking in August, the ACADEMIC BUILDING on the 150-acre Boise State-West campus is beginning to take shape. Concrete footings and foundations for the building and the first-floor slab have been poured and steel structure is being erected for all three levels of the building. Expected to open in December, the 65,600-square-foot building will house classrooms, science laboratories, student services offices and a bookstore.

On the Boise campus, two new RESIDENCE HALLS and an APARTMENT COMPLEX will be available to students by the end of the summer. Construction on the David Taylor and John Keiser halls is on schedule, with the first building at the University Courts apartments to be done by late May or early June. All of the buildings should be ready for occupancy by August.

Several new BUS SHELTERS have been erected across campus, providing a safe and attractive waiting area for shuttle and city bus riders. Those shelters were scheduled for completion once the weather warmed up enough to permit glazing — typically above 40 degrees.

A 20,000-square-foot STUDENT SERVICES CENTER designed to be a one-stop shop for students transacting university business and seeking student support services. The Division of Public Works will begin the architect and engineer selection process soon.

An $11 million ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND POLICY CENTER to be housed in a new seven-story addition on the east side of the Mathematics/Geosciences building, will include facilities and programs that link fundamental science research to science-based public policy, K-12 education and public outreach.

Several new structures are in various stages of planning and implementation, including:

A 59,000-square-foot INTERACTIVE LEARNING CENTER located immediately east of the Multipurpose Classroom Building in the current cul-de-sac. The new center is Boise state’s latest effort to capitalize on technologies that create more flexible and responsive learning environments. The process to select an architect and construction manager is under way.

The pre-design phase is expected to begin soon. In February, President George W. Bush signed an appropriations bill that includes $800,000 in federal funds to help construct the facility.

A MULTIMODAL TRANSIT CENTER, a 1,200-car parking structure serving students, faculty and staff who want to transfer from one form of transportation to another, such as from a car to a bus or bike. The facility will include a transfer station and bike lockers. The Federal Transit Administration requires an environmental assessment, which will likely take a year or more to complete.

Gene Harris Jazz Festival April 1-4

The 2004 Gene Harris Jazz Festival, April 1-4, will feature legendary jazz pianist Dave Brubeck and vocalists Ernie Andrews and Rebecca Parris as headliners. Tickets are available at all Select-a-Seat outlets, by phone at 208 426-1494 or online at idahotickets.com. (“Brubeck headlines 7th annual Gene Harris Jazz Festival,” FOCUS, Fall 2003.)

The Festival features three nights of concerts and two days of student clinics and competitions. This year will offer clinics for elementary school children and a free Sunday gospel concert. For more information, visit www.geneharris.org.

Wilson on campus April 14

World-renowned biologist E.O. Wilson will speak April 14 at Boise State as part of the Distinguished Lecture Series.

Wilson’s lecture, “The Future of Life,” is at 7 p.m. in the Jordan Ballroom. The lecture is free. (“Father of biodiversity to speak in April,” FOCUS, Fall 2003.) A professor at Harvard University for four decades, Wilson has won two Pulitzer Prizes, written 20 books and discovered hundreds of new species.
Neel leaves BSU; Jones to retire

Two longtime Boise State administrators, Harry “Buster” Neel and Daryl Jones, are saying farewell to the university they have served collectively for more than a quarter century.

President Bob Kustra praised both men for their years of service and dedication to the university and its students and wished them well in their new endeavors.

Neel (left), Boise State’s vice president for finance and administration for 9 1/2 years, left the university in February for a position as vice chancellor for finance and administration for the university and community college system of Nevada. Neel will be the chief financial officer for Nevada’s statewide higher education system, which includes two universities, a four-year college, four community colleges and a research institute.

Before leaving Boise State, Neel said he was excited about his new opportunity in large part because “the job brings new challenges in terms of dealing with the operations of all the campuses in the state.” He also noted that he has family living in Nevada, and his new job will allow him to see them more regularly.

Stacy Pearson, associate vice president for finance and administration, has been appointed to replace Neel on an interim basis. BSU will conduct national searches to replace both Neel and Jones.

“Buster has given Boise State an outstanding decade of service,” Kustra says. “His experience and leadership skills have been invaluable to Boise State, and we wish him the best in his new venture in Nevada.”

Jones (below), provost and vice president for academic affairs, will retire at the end of June after 31 years as a professor and administrator — 18 of those at Boise State. Jones, who says he is proud to have been a part of Boise State’s dynamic evolution into a major university, feels the time is right to “pass the baton to someone who can help to lead Boise State to new levels of excellence.”

In praising Jones’ years of service, Kustra says: “Thanks in no small part to Daryl’s efforts, Boise State has transitioned into a first-class comprehensive state university that is now on the threshold of becoming a metropolitan research university of distinction.”

Jones originally came to Boise State as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. In 1991, he was named provost and vice president for academic affairs. Jones praised the caliber of programs and teaching at the university and says he is particularly proud of the College of Engineering, which he helped to create.

But he doesn’t expect the school’s excellence to stop there. “Under President Kustra’s leadership, even greater accomplishments lie ahead,” he says.

PROF’S BOOK NAMED TO ‘BEST’ LIST

Elise Blackwell’s debut novel Hunger has been named a Best Book of 2003 by the Los Angeles Times. Of the 1,500 titles noted and reviewed during the year, the Times listed only about 40 fiction books as notable, including translations and books of poetry.

Blackwell is a professor of fiction writing in the MFA program for creative writing at Boise State.

MITROI PAINTINGS FEATURED IN NATIONAL ART PUBLICATION

Several paintings by Tudor Mitroi, a Boise State art professor, were published in the recent New American Paintings by Open Studios Press in Boston.

The book features works from winners of the Western division of the Open Studios competitions, which began in 1993 as an experiment in art publishing. The competitions are bimonthly and have become the country’s largest series of artist competitions.

BOISE STATE WELDING INSTRUCTOR MARTINEZ WINS NATIONAL AWARD

Juan Martinez, a welding instructor in the Selland College of Applied Technology, was named winner of the American Welding Society Image of Welding Educator award. Martinez will receive the award during the American Welding Society national convention in Chicago April 6-8.

Martinez was recognized for the Building Bridges Community Art Project that involved Boise State students and at-risk youth from Canyon County who built a metal archway sculpture for Indian Creek in Caldwell’s Pioneer Park. Martinez will attend the national convention along with some of his students, who will help create a piece of metal art to take to Chicago.

PEG BLAKE NAMED TO NATIONAL OFFICE

Peg Blake, Boise State vice president for student affairs, will take over as president of NASPA, the national organization for student affairs administrators in higher education, during the group’s national convention in late March in Denver.

NASPA is the leading voice for student affairs administration, policies and practices with nearly 9,000 individual members and more than 1,175 member campuses.

Blake joined Boise State in July 1998 as the university’s first female vice president.

REC WEB SITE GAINS ATTENTION

University of Dayton sports management students named Boise State’s Recreation Center Web page an outstanding site following a two-year study of recreational Web sites from schools in 14 different athletic conferences.

Results were published in the November issue of Recreational Sports and Fitness magazine. The Web site was developed by Deanna Uyeki, a chemistry major at Boise State and Web master for The Rec.

On campus ...

Nontombi Naomi Tutu

Human rights activist


“Be willing to speak and hear the truth because then we will have our just society.”
Frank Church professor named

Keith G. Allred, an associate professor of public policy at Harvard University, has been selected as the second Frank Church Distinguished Professor.

Beginning in the fall, Allred will teach courses on organizational, ethnic and environmental negotiations and conflict.

At a theoretical level, his research investigates conflict escalation dynamics and predictors of personal negotiation effectiveness. As a professional mediator, he has helped manage and resolve a wide range of disputes, including conflicts between tribes (Nez Perce) and local governments and environmental disputes.

Before coming to Harvard, he was an assistant professor in social and organizational psychology at Columbia University. Allred earned his bachelor's from Stanford University and his doctorate in organizational psychology at UCLA. He is a Twin Falls native.

Children's Voices From the Trail: Narratives of the Platte River Road
By Rosemary Gudmundson Palmer

Boise State education professor Palmer examines the child's perspective of the journeys that brought approximately 350,000 people westward in the mid-19th century by studying first-person accounts, including diaries, letters and journals of young pioneers. Her book, published by the Arthur H. Clark Co., is part of the American Trails series.

Go Figure (Va Savoir)
Translated by Will Browning

Go Figure (originally Va savoir, Gallimard), a 1994 novel by the acclaimed and reclusive Quebec author Réjean Ducharme, was recently translated from French to English by Boise State French and Spanish professor Browning. Go Figure, the haunting tale of a Montréal couple alienated from each other following the miscarriage of twin girls, is the second Ducharme novel Browning has translated for a Canadian publisher.

Letters From God’s Country
Edited by Tom Trusky and Alan Virta

Letters From God’s Country, a new book detailing the life of silent film icon Nell Shipman, picks up where her autobiography, Silent Screen and My Talking Heart, left off.

Letters From God’s Country is edited by Boise State English professor Trusky, who is also director of the Idaho Film Collection, and Virta, head of Special Collections at the Albertsons Library at Boise State, which houses the Shipman Archives.

Mrs. Grimes Does Barbie and Other Kindergarten Adventures
By Ruth Wright

Boise State alumna Wright offers this charming memoir of her half century as a teacher. The book deftly guides the reader through adventures such as discovering the connection between electricity and fire and the hatching of baby spiders.

The King’s Pines of Idaho
By Grace Jordan

Kirkwood Publishing has donated 1,200 copies of the first trade edition of The King’s Pines of Idaho to the Idaho Center for the Book at Boise State. The book was written by Grace Jordan, wife of former Idaho Gov. Len Jordan.

On campus ...

Jackson Katz
Anti-sexism activist

“Rape is 99 percent perpetrated by men. It is not a women’s issue. It is a men’s [issue].”
love, classroom experiences

truth, loyalty and forgiveness. After his brother is found dead of an apparent suicide, U.S. Special Agent Toni Brazil finds himself in a race to save the United States from a plot to spread the smallpox virus.

Opportunities and Options in Classroom Management
By Patricia Kyle and Larry Rogien
Boise State education professor Rogien collaborated with Kyle on a new book that addresses the integration of effective teaching and classroom management for teachers at the K-12 levels. The intended audience is novice and pre-service teachers.

Newsmakers

Boise State faculty members continue to receive significant media attention outside the Treasure Valley. Here are some examples.

• Gundy Kaupins, management, was quoted in an article in a Minnesota Daily story on how the percentage of university administrators has risen at the University of Minnesota.

• Gary Moncrief, political science, was quoted in an article on NewsObserver.com about how fewer women in the Raleigh, N.C., area are seeking public office.

• Paul Dawson, mechanical engineering, and Dale Stephenson, health studies, were quoted in an Associated Press story on weather inversions in the Treasure Valley. The story ran on KTVB Channel 7, in the Arizona Republic and in other regional newspapers.

• Jim Weatherby, public policy and administration, was quoted in an Associated Press story about efforts to erect an anti-gay monument in Boise’s Julia Davis Park. The story ran in the Casper (Wyo.) Star Tribune and in an MSNBC news story. He was also quoted in a story about the city of Boise in the New York Times.

• A story on BSU’s appearance in the Fort Worth Bowl that ran in the Star Telegram of Ft. Worth, Texas, featured education professor Robert Barr, a TCU grad and Bronco fan.

• Feature stories on the Boise State football team and coach Dan Hawkins were published in both the New York Times and USA Today last fall.

• Tom Trusky, English, was featured in an Associated Press story on his new book about Nell Shipman, Letter’s From God’s Country. The story ran in several Idaho papers and in the Salt Lake Tribune. Trusky was also quoted in an article about pop-up books in the (Walnut Creek, Calif.) Contra Costa Times.

• Werner Hoeger, kinesiology, was quoted in the February 2004 issue of Outside Magazine in an article titled, “Who’s the Fittest of ‘Em All?”

• An opinion piece written by William Whitaker, social work, on the new Medicare prescription drug program was published in the January 2004 issue of Social Work Today.

HEALTH FAIRS EARN AWARD

Students who have organized health fairs for the past seven years at Boise State have received the Golden Gull Award from the Pacific Coast College Health Association.

Students in the upper-division and graduate-level health promotion class taught by Boise State kinesiology professor Caile Spear organize health fairs for the campus and community, with a different theme each year.

ENGINEERING STUDENTS ACHIEVE 100 PERCENT PASS RATE

Boise State engineering students achieved a 100 percent pass rate on the Fundamentals of Engineering examination administered in October 2003. All of the 19 mechanical, civil and electrical engineering students passed the exam, which is required for engineers working toward licensure as professional engineers.

Since the College of Engineering’s inception, Boise State has achieved a pass rate above 90 percent, the highest results among Idaho educational institutions.

RANDALL SCREENS ORIGINAL VIDEO

Susan Randall, University Television Productions, premiered her video titled Voices in Exile: Stories of Lesbian Mormons at a meeting of the Family Fellowship Forum in Salt Lake City.

The screening was held in conjunction with the National Affirmation Conference, a group of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people raised in the LDS church. About 150 people attended the showing.

IEEE HONORS BARNEY SMITH

In February, electrical engineering professor Elisa Barney Smith was presented with the prestigious 2003 IEEE Region 6 Activities Board Leadership Award for her outstanding contributions to numerous activities of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. Region 6 encompasses the 12 western-most states.

AHSATAH PRESS WORKS HONORED

The Academy of American Poets has selected a poem by Graham Foust from the Ahsahta Press book Leave the Room to Itself to inaugurate a new feature in its quarterly journal, American Poet.

Foust’s book was the second winner of Ahsahta Press’s Sawtooth Poetry Prize and was published in December.

Ahsahta Press and designer Jann Marson received the Award of Excellence in Design and Manufacture for a small press/book arts book for Claudia Keelan’s chapbook Of and Among There Was a Locus(?) at the annual Bookbuilders West exhibition in San Francisco.
Coach to Broncos: Repeat after me

BY BOB EVANCHO

No way. No how. That’s what almost all the experts said about Boise State’s chances of repeating the magic of the previous year before the 2003 college football season began last fall.

After a storybook ‘02 season in which the Broncos finished 12-1, ran roughshod over the rest of the Western Athletic Conference and joined the nation’s top-ranked teams, almost everyone predicted the 2003 campaign would bring them crashing back to earth.

How low would they go? With the loss of eight starters from the 2002 team’s high-powered offense and a tougher schedule, the ’03 Broncos were picked to finish second or third in the WAC in most preseason polls.

Respectable? Absolutely. Passable 9-4 or 8-5 records were the popular preseason predictions. But another dream season? No way. No how.

Oh, the ’03 Broncos would be competitive, the experts all said, and coach Dan Hawkins’ guys certainly wouldn’t give up their WAC title without a fight. But really … a repeat of the headline-grabbing, bowl-winning, record-setting accomplishments of ’02? Puh-lease.

Another WAC title with an undefeated romp through league play? Get real.

More time in the national limelight among the nation’s elite football programs? Unlikely.

Sure, star quarterback Ryan Dinwiddie was back for his senior season and the defense had several key players returning. But there were too many holes to fill on offense. Furthermore, the ’03 Broncos wouldn’t enjoy the cushy schedule from the previous year.

No sir, no cakewalk this time around.

The stars (and the schedule) were aligned just right in 2002 as BSU played WAC heavyweights Hawaii, Fresno State and Louisiana Tech in the friendly confines of Bronco Stadium en route to an 8-0 league record.

But 2003 was bound to be a different story, the experts said; Hawkins and the Broncos were certain to get their comeuppance. After all, La Tech, Fresno State and Hawaii, all of whom suffered embarrassing and lopsided defeats on the blue turf in ’02, would be laying in wait, eager to avenge those losses on their home fields. In addition, road games at Oregon State and BYU would surely put BSU in its place.

But as the season began, Hawkins says he welcomed the challenge. “We relished the fact that we would be wearing a bull’s-eye,” the coach says. “That situation called us to be even better than we were before.”

Uh, Coach, better than the ’02 team? Better than the offensive juggernaut that led the nation in total offense and total points? Better than the team that scaled unprecedented heights and put BSU on the national map? Sorry, Hawk, the experts said as the season approached, it was fun while it lasted, but the glory of the previous year is certain to be tempered by the harsh dose of reality that awaits you and your team in ’03.

But Hawkins says he envisioned the success of the upcoming season in different terms. “We talked about guaranteeing a repeat — a repeat of how we do things, a repeat of our philosophies, a repeat of the process of achieving excellence,” he recalls. “The emphasis was not on what the record was or would be, rather an emphasis of specific components of success.”

OK, fine. But in the harsh reality that is college football, success is measured by wins and losses. And in the early part of the ’03 season, the Broncos’ stellar play and good fortune from the previous year had yet to materialize. After dispatching outmanned Idaho State in their opener the Broncos struggled to a 24-10 win over Idaho; the following week their 13-game winning streak ended with a 26-24 loss at Oregon State.

The Broncos were 2-1, but after three games they were also unimposing and unimpressive. Maybe the experts were right. Maybe the predictions were true. Maybe they were just also-rans.

Maybe a preposterous official’s call late in the OSU game that denied them a chance to pull out a last-minute win was an omen that their joyride was over and the magic had indeed run its course.

Didn’t happen. Instead, the tough loss to OSU did just the opposite. As he had done the year before in the loss at Arkansas, Hawkins took that early-season setback and used it to set his team up for greatness.
“I thought [the OSU game] was a defining moment because of how we rallied back from adversity,” he says. “That game also taught us about responsibility. We lost that game, not the officials. The bottom line was our coaches and players had several opportunities to win that game based on what we could control, and we did not. The Beavers played a good game and deserved to win — we did not, plain and simple. If we truly want to control our destiny we must take responsibility for everything that happens to us. We cannot point the finger of blame anywhere else but at the mirror.”

From that loss, the Broncos looked at themselves in the mirror, regrouped and did what almost everyone said they couldn’t: They actually improved on the 2002 team’s mark (13-1); ran the table again in the WAC (including gut-check road wins at La Tech, Fresno State and Hawaii); helped Dinwiddie set the NCAA record for career passing efficiency (see page 13); culminated the year with a postseason victory (34-31 over TCU in the Forth Worth Bowl); and, unbelievably, again completed their season among the nation’s best (finishing 15th in the USA Today/ESPN coaches’ poll, and 16th in the Associated Press media poll).

So, Hawk, how did you do it? How did this team surpass all expectations of everyone with the possible exception of you?

“By focusing on the little things,” he says, “getting better, pushing the envelope as people, students and a football team.”

Sounds simple enough. OK. Anyone care to make a prediction for 2004?

Scenes from the Fort Worth Bowl, from top left clockwise: The battle begins; cheer squad before the game; Bronco players during day-before team walk-through; postgame victory celebration; David Mikell scores a 75-yard TD; fans in the stands.

**Mountain West bid fails**

Boise State may have defeated Texas Christian University in last December’s Fort Worth Bowl, but it was the Horned Frogs who won the Mountain West sweepstakes a few weeks later with the lone invitation to join the conference.

Both BSU of the Western Athletic Conference and TCU of Conference USA were considered the front-runners to receive an invitation to join the eight-team Mountain West as the league sought to expand to at least nine members. BSU made overtures, but with TCU’s location in the Dallas-Fort Worth market, one of the largest in the nation, the Horned Frogs were considered to have the inside track if the league decided to invite just one school.

The Broncos kept their fingers crossed and hoped the Mountain West would expand to 10 teams. But when the league decided in late January to add just one school, the offer, as expected, went to TCU.

“While we were disappointed that Boise State was not extended a membership offer by the Mountain West Conference, we remain confident that the university remains a viable candidate if and when the league decides to expand again,” says President Bob Kustra.

While the Broncos will remain with the WAC for the time being, the league will undergo significant changes with the departure of Rice, Southern Methodist and Tulsa to Conference USA and the addition of Utah State and New Mexico State.

The new alignments take effect in 2005.

— Bob Evancho
Sports

ecreational skiers at Bogus Basin Mountain Resort are encountering something new on the slopes this winter: collegiate racers hurtling through slalom gates set up on some of the area’s most challenging slopes. The racers, part of Boise State University’s new women’s alpine team, are training weekdays at Bogus and competing at NCAA races around the region this winter. The racers are part of the first women’s ski team in Boise State’s history. Head coach Uros Pavlovcic, whose impressive credentials include being the top giant slalom skier for the Slovenia National Ski Team from 2003-04, and the 1999 Skier of the Year by the National Collegiate Ski and Snowboard Association, says he’s looking forward to building a strong team at Boise State. (More on downhill skiing, page 20.)

“Bogus Basin has provided a very good training space. We’re getting a lot of help from the resort and it’s working out great,” Pavlovcic says. The team includes Spela Bertoncelj and Mateja Gombac, Slovenia; Jill Mendenhall and Hannah Stauts, Idaho; and Margit Walter, Austria. The team has scored some impressive first-year successes. Bertoncelj, Gombac and Walter qualified for the 2004 NCAA Championships at Sugar Bowl Ski Resort in California, held in mid-March.

Pavlovcic says he’s fielded some questions from curious Bogus skiers about the identity of those very fast women racers. Others have tried to ski through the team’s slalom course, with varying degrees of success. Having a ski area within close proximity of Boise State, and a public interested in the Broncos, are factors that will help build a strong alpine program, Pavlovcic says. On all counts, things are off to a good start.

—Janelle Brown

New women’s alpine team races to a strong start

Recreational skiers at Bogus Basin Mountain Resort are encountering something new on the slopes this winter: collegiate racers hurtling through slalom gates set up on some of the area’s most challenging slopes. The racers, part of Boise State University’s new women’s alpine team, are training weekdays at Bogus and competing at NCAA races around the region this winter.

The racers are part of the first women’s ski team in Boise State’s history. Head coach Uros Pavlovcic, whose impressive credentials include being the top giant slalom skier for the Slovenia National Ski Team from 2003-04, and the 1999 Skier of the Year by the National Collegiate Ski and Snowboard Association, says he’s looking forward to building a strong team at Boise State. (More on downhill skiing, page 20.)

“Bogus Basin has provided a very good training space. We’re getting a lot of help from the resort and it’s working out great,” Pavlovcic says. The team includes Spela Bertoncelj and Mateja Gombac, Slovenia; Jill Mendenhall and Hannah Stauts, Idaho; and Margit Walter, Austria.

The team has scored some impressive first-year successes. Bertoncelj, Gombac and Walter qualified for the 2004 NCAA Championships at Sugar Bowl Ski Resort in California, held in mid-March.

Pavlovcic says he’s fielded some questions from curious Bogus skiers about the identity of those very fast women racers. Others have tried to ski through the team’s slalom course, with varying degrees of success. Having a ski area within close proximity of Boise State, and a public interested in the Broncos, are factors that will help build a strong alpine program, Pavlovcic says. On all counts, things are off to a good start.

—Janelle Brown

If she could have her wish, billiards champion Hope Jensen would like to see herself “on a billboard doing a Got Milk? advertisement.” Jensen, a BSU health promotions major, aims to convey to novice and expert players alike that playing pool does not need to include alcohol, clouds of cigarette smoke or other health-damaging side activities that frequently accompany the game.

Jensen discovered she had a knack for shooting pool when she was 12. Now, at 46, she competes in national and international tournaments and has won four semipro championships – three Utah Open championships and one BSU Bar Table championship.

She’s been racking up wins at all levels. In February Jensen and her husband, history major Michael Jensen, won the collegiate women’s and men’s division titles of the Association of College Unions International Region 14 tournament. They advanced to the national collegiate championships in April at the University of Colorado-Boulder.

Last May Jensen participated in the Valley National 8-Ball Association Championships in Las Vegas with members from 20 other countries. Jensen’s team won third place in the Women’s Regular Team division. She also won first place with her new partner Ross Gutterude in Scotch doubles.

Jensen joined the semipro Northwest Women’s Pool Association tour this spring, with tournaments lined up in Oregon and Washington, as well as one in Boise. After the first tournament in January, Jensen placed in the top third. When the tour is complete, the top seven competitors will play the top seven from other regional competitions at the national championship, which will be held in Boise this fall.

Jensen celebrated her 40th birthday by receiving her high school diploma and has since decided to make her education a high priority. Her goals are to obtain a master’s in psychology and ultimately to pick up a health-oriented sponsor, someone who shares her vision of pool without the barroom stigma.

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Boise State’s Steve Lucas was named the 2003 SOCCER Coach of the Year by the Western Athletic Conference as the Broncos finished 8-12-1 overall and 4-4-0 in league play after going 5-11-1, 1-7-0 the previous season. Defender Abby Bernards made the All-WAC first team while forward Brittany Zoellner and midfielder Abbe Roche were named to the second team.

In CROSS COUNTRY Forest Braden finished 124th at the NCAA Division I men’s championships. He qualified for the nationals after placing 13th in the NCAA Division I West Region meet, leading the Boise State men to a 12th-place finish. The Bronco women finished 19th with Robin Wemple finishing 51st.

In VOLLEYBALL freshman Cameron Flunder has been named to the All-WAC second team as the Broncos finished 6-24 overall and 1-12 in conference play.

In FOOTBALL quarterback Ryan Dinwiddie was named the WAC Offensive Player of the Year. He was joined on the first team by wide receiver Tim Gilligan, defensive back Wes Nurse, linebacker Andy Avalos and defensive lineman Julius Roberts. Gilligan was also named the second-team special teams player, joined by offensive lineman Daryn Colledge, linebacker Travis Burgher and defensive back Gabe Franklin.
eff Jessing is blessed with perfect eyesight. He also has a clear vision to manufacture an ultra-sharp, inexpensive microsurgical blade to improve the outcome of eye surgery, which millions of people undergo each year for cataract removal and lens replacement and for vision correction.

Jessing, an electrical engineering professor at Boise State, holds up a shiny gray sliver of a silicon blade that he expects will cost a fraction of the price of current ophthalmic instruments and will perform with superior results.

Director of the Idaho Microfabrication Laboratory at Boise State, Jessing has applied his expertise in designing silicon structures, best known for use in integrated circuits, to a medical application. He has partnered with renowned ophthalmologist Dr. Mark Humayun and a team of surgeons at the Doheny Retina Institute at the University of Southern California.

While the blades are probably three to five years away from commercial use and must still undergo further process development, refinement and rigorous scientific testing, the initial indications portend success.

“We’ve had several surgeons at Doheny put these in holders and then cut — for instance, canine eyes or pig eyes,” says Jessing, “and, this is a little subjective at this point, but the comment of one of the surgeons there was, ‘Wow, this is the sharpest knife I have ever used.’”

How sharp is sharp?

“I can etch that tip to ... where the edge is so sharp that one silicon atom is sitting at the edge of that [blade],” says Jessing.

That’s much sharper than the 5-10 micron radius of curvature needed for a blade used in laser-assisted in situ keratomileusus (LASIK) to correct nearsightedness and astigmatism.

“A typical human hair is 80-100 microns in width, so slice up a human hair into a hundred slivers and that’s one micron,” explains Jessing.

Sharpness is key in promoting healing of the cornea. For example, in LASIK the surgeon slices a flap in the cornea and folds it back to allow a computer-controlled laser to reshape the surface underneath. Poor healing of the corneal incision can result in visual distortions including glare, halos, double vision and diminished nighttime vision.

In eye surgery, says Sean Caffey, a researcher at USC, “a sharper knife causes less trauma to the surrounding tissue, and therefore decreases the inflammatory reaction in the eye.”

Like integrated circuits, silicon blades can be manufactured in a batch process with 60-100 blades on a 6-inch wafer, resulting in much lower costs than blades currently in use. A typical disposable, steel LASIK blade costs about $75. Diamond blades — extremely fragile instruments that are the gold standard for cataract surgery — cost even more.

“As opposed to several thousand dollars for a diamond blade,” says Jessing, “how about a dollar or two for the same or higher performance silicon blade?”

Jessing set his sights on making a significant contribution to medical research after his wife and son were both diagnosed with life-threatening medical conditions a few years ago. At the time, Jessing was enjoying his job as a researcher at the prestigious Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, N.M., where he designed circuits for nuclear weapons and defense systems.

After his wife’s cancer was initially misdiagnosed, Jessing says he “was frustrated and [wanted] to do something more directly to help people.” Designing micro-systems to effect medical advances seemed a good match.

“It’s a feel-good field,” he says, “because [we’re] contributing to the betterment of humankind directly.”

“As opposed to several thousand dollars for a diamond blade, how about a dollar or two for the same or higher performance silicon blade?”

— Jeff Jessing

Jessing holds a silicon wafer that will enable batch processing of ultra-sharp surgical blades. Inset: A surgeon at the Doheny Retina Institute at USC tests one of the Boise State blades on a pig eye.

BY PATRICIA PYKE

A sharp eye for cutting-edge research
High above the city of Boise, powerful lights illuminate downhill runs at Bogus Basin Mountain Resort for night skiing. The Nordic ski trails located nearby are dark; so-called “skinny skiers” either have to head home when the sun goes down, or use headlamps to see where they’re going.

But that situation will soon change, as a result of a grant from a private foundation and a partnership with Boise State’s College of Engineering.

The Edwards Mother Earth Foundation recently awarded a $37,000 grant to the Bogus Basin Foundation’s Nordic Group for the first phase of a project to design and light a new 5-kilometer loop trail at the Bogus Basin Nordic Center using an alternative energy source. Boise State is playing a key role in the ambitious undertaking. This semester, two electrical engineering students at Boise State are researching and designing the lighting system as their senior project.

“This is an opportunity to apply what we’ve learned and also work with people in the community. It involves a lot more than just the math — we have to be able to explain what we’re doing and in terms everyone can understand,” says Nic McGhie, who is working with a fellow student, Jeremy Taylor, on the project.

Designing a lighting system using solar energy that doesn’t cost a fortune will be an interesting challenge, adds Taylor. “I’m looking forward to building the prototype to see if the ideas Nic and I have thought of will actually work,” he says.

Taylor and McGhie, who each work at local engineering consulting firms while pursuing their degrees at Boise State, have already begun the groundwork on the project. Based on initial assessments, they decided that mounting solar panels on individual poles spaced along the trail would be the best option to power the lights. The self-powered modular design would eliminate the need for electrical wires to be strung between the poles, a potential maintenance nightmare in a forest setting. Energy efficient halogen or LED fixtures will beam light directly on the trail. The poles will be placed at optimal intervals to provide continuous light.

Taylor is handling the lighting end of the project while McGhie oversees the power component. Among the challenges the duo faces is designing a system that will operate in cold temperatures, that will illuminate only the designated trail and not adjacent areas, and that will be within cost parameters to construct and maintain. They plan to construct a prototype later this winter and test it at the Bogus Basin site; those tests will help them understand what modifications need to be made to make the system work.

If the project goes as planned, the lighted trail will be operational by winter 2005-06. More donations, partnerships and volunteer help are needed to complete the project.

Carl Hoerger, a Nordic Group member and Hewlett Packard manager who is overseeing the lighting project, says he’s pleased with Taylor’s and McGhie’s progress so far. “It’s been great working with Boise State. The university’s involvement is critical to this project’s success, and we deeply appreciate their support,” he says.
Surviving High School, a documentary on the harsh pressures of teen life today, explores social isolation, extreme dieting, depression, suicidal thoughts and other realities teens experience as they try to fit in.

“Never, and I emphasize never, in my [20]-year teaching career have I seen student reaction like I did from this video,” wrote an Idaho teacher who showed the video in her class. “Many students obviously fit into one of the groups — many were students who were suffering and others were inflicting emotional pain. I observed tears on many of the cheeks of my students.”

The 90-minute program is the most popular of the more than 1,000 videos now available through the newly opened VHS library at the Idaho Regional Alcohol Drug Awareness Resource (RADAR) Network Center housed on the Boise State campus (see box below).

“I’ve received testimony after testimony about this video changing lives,” says RADAR video librarian Dottie Blackwell, who came to RADAR last fall after 28 years at the Idaho State Library.

The state’s collection of educational videos on topics ranging from tobacco prevention and drug addiction to parenting issues and school violence was recently moved over to RADAR (see box below).

Videos may be checked out free of charge via mail or in person by any Idaho resident, including teachers, families, church groups, counselors or individuals. They can be mailed to schools, offices or homes in any part of the state.

With hosts such as Matt Damon and supermodel Tyra Banks, many of the programs appeal to teens, although there are videos for everyone from younger children to adults.

Videos with titles such as Acquaintance Rape: The Ultimate Betrayal, Smoking: The Truth Unfiltered and Crack Street USA give straightforward information about serious issues.

When a middle school counselor showed The Truth About Drinking at an Idaho school, the counselor reported that “one sixth-grade male approached me after watching the movie and requested help from me to stop drinking. … He came promptly to my office and informed me about how much and how frequently he drinks, as well as who his supplier is. I was able to immediately place him in our drug and alcohol education class.”

Outside of the school setting, families too can benefit from watching the videos together.

“Our teenagers are looking for their parents to understand the stresses and challenges they are facing,” says Blackwell, who encourages parents to express care and concern about their children by sharing these videos with them.

She’s speaking not just as an administrator, but as a parent. Her son, Sean Blackwell, now 18, has been watching the videos and writing reviews about them for several years.

“When I was 16 years old,” says Sean, “I took a trip to Texas to visit some close relatives. Before two weeks had passed, I was offered marijuana [by peers]. As a direct result of watching the video The Truth About Drugs, I acknowledged the risks of partaking and turned the offer down.

“These videos ... can mitigate the trials and tribulations experienced by modern American teenagers.”

— Patricia Pyke

RADAR resources

The complete list of available videos may be viewed online at hs.boise-state.edu/RADAR.

To request a video via mail, contact Blackwell at 208 426-2946, fax 208 426-3334 or e-mail dottieblackwell@boisestate.edu. Boise area residents are welcome to visit the library in person between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the RADAR Network Center located in the Boise State Health and Wellness Center at 2103 University Drive.

RADAR also partners with the College of Health Sciences at Boise State and provides many other services and community materials in addition to the video library. The Idaho RADAR Network Center, part of a national network of substance abuse education centers, is funded by the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant. Additional support comes from Health and Welfare’s Tobacco Prevention Program, the Department of Education’s Safe & Drug Free Schools Program, and the Department of Juvenile Corrections.
SSPA CENTER FOCUSES ON PLANNING

A new center in the College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs will focus on public policy issues that demand a coordinated, regional approach to planning, such as crime, economic development or quality of life issues.

The Institute for Urban and Regional Planning will assist in the development, implementation and evaluation of public policies related to urban and regional planning in Idaho, and will become a repository for public policy information.

The center was approved by the Idaho State Board of Education in late November.

MED SCHOOL ENTRANCE RATE HIGH

From the class of 2003, 83 percent of the graduates of Boise State's pre-professional health programs were accepted into graduate programs in their respective fields — medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, physical therapy, physician assistant, speech pathology and clinical laboratory medicine.

COLL RECEIVES RESEARCH AWARD

The Journal of Addictions and Offender Counseling has selected a research project conducted by Kenneth Coll, a Boise State professor and chair of counselor education, as the winner of the JAOC Research Award for 2003.

Coll worked with colleagues at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro and the Cathedral Home for Children in Laramie, Wyo. An article about the project was featured in the October issue of JAOC.

WILHELM WINS TWO AWARDS

Jeff Wilhelm, an associate professor of English, has been chosen to receive the prestigious David H. Russell Research Award for his book Reading Don't Fix No Chevys: Literacy in the Lives of Young Men.

The book was co-written with Michael W. Smith of Rutgers University.

Wilhelm was also recognized by the Australian Association for the Teaching of English and by the Australian Literacy Educators Association. Both groups hailed his work on a CD-ROM for teachers titled My Read: Strategies for Reading in the Middle Years.

The groups presented Wilhelm the Award for Excellence in Educational Publishing.

DEAN HONORED AT CONFERENCE

Engineering Dean Cheryl Schrader was honored for her role as a female leader in the field of engineering at a National Science Foundation conference held in Maui, Hawaii.

The event was part of the 42nd annual Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Conference on Decision and Control.

Schrader was the 2003 president of the IEEE Control Systems Society, an international professional organization with more than 10,000 members.
As the sun sets over a fog-covered Treasure Valley in the background, golden light bathes Bogus Basin Mountain Resort. Down there somewhere, less than an hour’s drive away, is Boise State University. For those who love the outdoors, the university’s proximity to world-class recreational opportunities is one of its greatest attractions. From ski slopes and family campgrounds to mountain bike trails and whitewater rivers, Boise State is close to it all. Here’s a look at some of what you’ll find in our own back yard.
In January, Californian Marty Tadman did what hundreds of other prospective football recruits do — he visited campuses across the west before deciding where to enroll.

At BSU, he sized up the city, the campus and the coaches. Then he took it one step further. He went to Bogus Basin to try out the local snowboarding scene with four of his prospective teammates.

He liked what he saw and, after campus visits to Pac-10 schools Oregon State, Arizona and USC, the prized defensive back is excited about enrolling at Boise State next fall.

Tadman isn’t an anomaly. The opportunity to participate in winter sports, most notably skiing and snowboarding, is important to increasing numbers of students, says enrollment counselor Jody St. Clair.

“We get that quite a bit [students like Tadman], especially from transfer students,” says St. Clair, who represents Boise State at out-of-state college fairs. “I mention how close we are to a ski resort and a lot of students come up and ask about it — it seems to be pretty important to them.”

With Bogus Basin less than an hour’s drive and McCall and Sun Valley less than three, Boise State’s proximity to winter recreation gives the university an advantage that its marketers are quick to seize upon.

“Yes, we consciously market the recreational opportunities at Boise State. We intentionally put skiing footage in our promotional video, and our viewbooks usually have a skiing photo in them. That resonates with a lot of students,” says Barbara Fortin, admissions director.

One attraction is the low cost of a season pass at Bogus Basin. At $229, students are quick to take advantage, says the resort’s marketing director Gretchen Anderson. “We have made it affordable. Many students snowboard. They are the first ones to show up and the last to leave ... they are very passionate about their sport,” she says.

If the rental shop in Boise State’s Outdoor Program is any indication, winter sports are booming in popularity (page 27). The center’s supply of Nordic and telemark skis are in high demand on peak winter weekends, says Geoff Harrison, who advises the Boise State ski club and runs the shop.

Harrison’s inventory offers a hint of the next popular winter craze — snowshoeing. The center’s 60 pair are rented almost every weekend, he says.

Harrison adds that many Boise State students are getting into skiing and boarding for the first time. Spending time on the ski hill has become an important social aspect of Boise State.

“It is something students can share in common, a way of getting six or seven people together to have fun. We’re seeing more and more of this every year,” he says.

— Larry Burke
or a rock climbing enthusiast, it doesn't get much better than Boise. Not only are Table Rock, Rocky Canyon and the Black Cliffs just a hop, skip and jump away, but from here it's also an easy day drive to any number of spectacular climbing areas, including the Teton and Wind River mountain ranges in Wyoming, Washington's Glacier Peak, central Oregon’s Smith Rock, Canada’s Mount Athabasca and more. Drive for two days and you can find yourself in the majestic Colorado Rockies.

“The availability of the outdoors is definitely a big plus at Boise State,” says chemistry professor Dale Russell (right). “If I worked on the East Coast, they'd have to pay me enough so that I could fly out here to do what I love.”

What Russell loves is climbing — over rock, ice or snow, whatever it takes to get to the top. An avid climber since her college days in New York’s Hudson Valley, she admits she's afraid of heights, which makes the sport seem like an odd choice until you learn what really makes her tick.

“Climbing is grabbing my fear by the horns and muscling it to the ground,” she says, adding that there's a definite exhilaration upon attaining the view at the top. Despite the danger, she wouldn't describe herself as a risk-taker. In fact, the National Outdoor Leadership School graduate says she controls the risks.

“Psychologically, part of the draw is knowing that you can do dangerous things in a safe manner. You have to work with the mountain,” she says.

You also have to know your opponent and be prepared. “The thrill for me is the opportunity to challenge myself. If I didn't research well enough or train hard enough, the consequences could be fatal,” says Bill Schnupp, a 21-year-old English major from Boise. “It's the thrill of testing myself against the rock.”

Unlike Russell, a skilled technical climber, Schnupp is a mountaineer whose technical walkups get him from Point A to Point B on his backpacking trips; he almost always climbs with a 40-45-pound pack on his back and without a rope.

“My first climb was on Chicken Out Ridge, the last big ridge before the top [of Mount Borah],” he says. “It's a semi-vertical hands and knees type climb. It's not technical, but you have to hold on.” Even with the sheer drop just feet away, he was quickly hooked on the sport.

“I like getting to the top and the view, but the challenge on the way up is what keeps me going,” he says.

Geoff Harrison, REC assistant director who runs the university's Outdoor Program, echoes that sentiment. “The appeal is the journey and process, not just attaining the peak. The summit is like a diploma after four years of high school. It's nice, but the real reward was the journey. It's moving beyond your self-imposed limitations and pushing yourself.”

For those who'd like to get started, Boise State's Outdoor Program offers climbing instruction (page 27) to students, faculty and staff, featuring climbing trips to the Black Cliffs and to the City of Rocks south of Burley.

— Kathleen Craven
ake your pick: churning rivers or swaying tall grasses; a fly rod or a rifle. For anglers and hunters, southwest Idaho offers access to some of the best fish, bird or big game habitats in the West.

“Coming from a place like Jackson Hole, I was really nervous that Boise wouldn’t provide me the same opportunities,” says Tom Spearin, a senior in construction management at Boise State.

“I considered attending schools in Colorado and Texas, but I chose Boise State in part because you can hunt, fish, rock climb, whitewater [raft] or ski without sacrificing quality,” Spearin says.

Some of the best pheasant, chukar and quail hunting in the West are within a couple hours of Boise, he says. From grouse to elk, the area provides hunters with a wide variety of game for short Saturday trips or extended excursions.

Spearin says Boise’s proximity to quality wild game habitat reminds him of his own roots and has helped Boise retain some of its small Western-town heritage, even in the face of rapid population growth and urbanization.

“My experience here has been phenomenal,” he says. “Initially I had planned to come here for school and then move on. After living here for more than three years, I plan to make my home in Boise.”

Jim Nicholson, the director of counseling services at Boise State, made that commitment in 1984 when he relocated to southwest Idaho from Colorado, due in no small part to the city’s proximity to renowned trout and bass waters.

Now he makes roughly 50 fishing trips a year, 40 of them on water within 150 miles of Boise. Year after year he returns to the same rivers and streams, simply because he knows he can land the top-quality big catch, despite the increasing population pressure on these waterways.

“The most satisfaction comes from catching that 20-inch fish with a little dry fly,” Nicholson says. “Fishermen can still do that on area waters. There are few places in the lower 48 states you can say that about.”

The secret must be out. In the past five years, Nicholson’s department alone has brought on four new staff members who share his fly-fishing fervor.

But even on those days when that little dry fly just dances on the water’s surface, or the only movement among the trees and underbrush is an orange jacket slicing through the foliage, the true pleasure is just being in Idaho’s outdoors.

“I’ve been on some great waters, caught some great fish in the area,” Nicholson says. “But all I really need is to be out stalking a fish along a river’s edge, enjoying the cool mountain water, and taking in my own little section of solitude.”

— Justin Endow
On a rainy day in January, the trails crisscrossing the Boise Foothills are too muddy for riding. So local mountain bike enthusiasts dream of spring and post messages on an Internet newsgroup about the technical merits of frame-mounted shock absorbers designed to cushion the bumpy ride on dirt trails.

It’s no surprise that local bike enthusiasts talk tech online, especially considering that Boise’s extensive and accessible Foothills trails earned it the ranking of No. 1 U.S. mountain bike town in 2003 by Bike magazine. What may be a bit surprising, however, is that these tech-talking bikers are all women, members of the Boise Off-Road Mountain Bike Babes (BOMBB).

The group was founded five seasons ago by Jenny Hennessy (right, BBA, business management, ‘01), a “retired” mountain bike racer and Idaho and Nevada state champ who wanted to share her love of mountain biking with other women.

“I’d always ride with guys who were racers. One day I was looking at my heart rate monitor and it said 202, and I thought I was going to die,” she says with a laugh. She resolved to start a social bike group for women.

With about 130 members of all levels ranging from age 17 to 60, BOMBB hosts rides where women on knobby-tire bikes can experience the delights of stream crossings, the thrill of bombing down a dirt trail, and the satisfaction of climbing a hill at their own pace without being left in the dust by competitive riders. “We have ‘no drop’ rides. …That’s just the way women are,” says Hennessy, describing the group’s policy to leave no rider behind.

On a pleasant summer evening, the BOMBB members are just some of the many bike groups and individual riders likely to gather at Camelback Park in Boise’s North End. From there riders of all ages and abilities, on mountain bikes from department store models to $4,000 technological marvels, can choose from dozens of trails in the Ridge to Rivers system, many with descriptive names like “Hard Guy” or “The Freeway.”

All over Idaho, mountain bike trails abound. Exploring trails in the region delights Boise State computer science professor Tim Andersen, who moved to Boise almost three years ago from Provo, Utah.

“We’ve ridden to the top of Brundage Ski Resort, and my goodness, it was gorgeous,” he says.

“There are some sections of that trail where you feel like you’re in fairyland. It’s just so beautiful — lush undergrowth, packed dirt, big pines all around.”

For Andersen, the trail system in the Boise Foothills was a key factor in his choosing the College of Engineering over other professional opportunities.

“You can get to trails from campus in less than 10 minutes if you’re on a bike,” says Andersen, who frequently rides in the Foothills after work to enjoy aerobic exercise and some personal refocusing time before going home.

“You get up [to the top of a challenging trail] and you have the same adrenaline rush that any exercise gives you. The endorphins get released and it feels great.”

“After a really good ride,” he says and pauses to smile, “you feel like superman.” (Or, as the BOMBBs would say, superwoman.)

— Patricia Pyke

Mountain biking
Getting in high gear

FOCUS SPRING 2004 23
machine-groomed tracks, perfect for flying along on high-performance skate skis. Steep slopes blanketed in white smoke, just waiting for someone on fat boards to make the first turns. Forest glades, silent and pristine, beckoning skiers to kick and glide their way to adventure.

For backcountry and Nordic skiers, Boise State couldn’t be in a better location. There’s really no need to wait in long lines to ride chairlifts to the summit. Simply strap on the boards and head out.

Patrick Chetwood knows the joy of making first turns down a precipitous chute miles from civilization. A Boise State student pursuing a master’s degree in public administration, Chetwood says fabulous outdoor opportunities persuaded him to enroll here. His randonneé ski gear, with bindings that release at the heel for climbing uphill but function like a regular alpine ski binding for the downhill plunge, gives him access to even the most remote terrain.

“There are no crowds. You’re in pristine areas,” says Chetwood. An added bonus is trekking into backcountry yurts in the Idaho City area or the Sawtooths. Wood stoves, bunk beds, cooking gear and even outdoor saunas and hot tubs make the yurts comfy. Among Chetwood’s favorites is the Williams Peak yurt in the Sawtooths. “[The area] has a great variety of terrain from beginner to expert,” Chetwood says. “Every time I’ve skied in there, there’s been fresh powder.”

Andy Kemp (left), marketing manager for Boise State’s auxiliary services, loves the thrill of skate skiing — fast — along groomed tracks. “You’re away from everything and everybody. You’re getting the best form of exercise you can get ... It’s a total body workout at a very high intensity level,” he says.

Bogus Basin Nordic Center is a popular destination for skate skiers and those who like to kick and glide on groomed tracks. Idaho Parks and Recreation maintains groomed trails in the Idaho City area, and other Nordic centers, including the new Tamarack Resort near Donnelly, are gaining popularity. Plans are under way for night skiing on Nordic trails at Bogus Basin as part of a lighting project that involves Boise State (page 15).

Kemp moved to Boise because he could ski, bike ride, hike and pursue other adventures without having to drive long distances. “The accessibility is very attractive,” he says.

Education major Tori Hederman also manages to squeeze some backcountry skiing into her busy schedule. An outdoors enthusiast with many interests, Hederman is an expert telemarker who loves making graceful turns through deep powder. Pilot Peak near Idaho City was her introduction to local skiing; she’s looking forward to skiing in the Sawtooths.

Like many others who have found their way to Boise State, Hederman finds the outdoor options to be a big plus. But Hederman says she also enjoys the diversity of opportunities in Boise, something other outdoor meccas don’t always have.

“The great thing about Boise is that there are all kinds of people here,” Hederman says. “That makes it a much more interesting place to be.”

— Janelle Brown
Whether they are seeking thrills or searching for solitude, whitewater enthusiasts rave about what Idaho has to offer.

With more than 3,000 miles of whitewater, Idaho is reputed to be the Whitewater State, boasting more whitewater than any other of the 48 contiguous states. Much of it is just a short paddle away from the Boise State campus.

But Idaho’s whitewater is more than a playground with a majestic backdrop. It’s an outdoor learning lab.

“The Payette River system is a school ground for kayakers,” says Martin Schimpf, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, who has been hooked on whitewater since coming to Boise State in 1990.

“You can start at kindergarten on the lower part of the Main Payette, progress to grade school from Banks down and work your way all the way to graduate school when you run the North Fork.”

Idaho offers Class 1 to Class 5 rapids, from flat water paddling to the most challenging whitewater in the country, all within about an hour of Boise. Paddler magazine noted Boise State’s advantage when it recognized it as one of the Top 10 whitewater schools in 1998. And Idaho has something exclusive to lure whitewater enthusiasts — remote and pristine waters without roadways and crowds.

“One of the thrills of whitewater is that it takes you places by boat that you can’t reach by car, where there are few people and abundant wildlife,” Schimpf says.

Then there’s the challenge the sport offers.

“I like the adrenaline rush you get when you go through a rapid with holes pulling you here and there and waves crashing over your head and rocks and boulders to avoid,” Schimpf says.

It’s that aspect that has kept Ben Davidson hooked. A junior business management student, he has been a kayaker since 1992.

“There’s an amazing amount of opportunities for different rivers for people to try and run,” Davidson says. With names like Paradise, Swirly Canyon and The Staircase, the river runs offer something for everyone.

Davidson’s favorite? The Lochsa north of the town of Kooskia. “It’s one of the best roadside rivers in the state,” he says.

“It has big volume whitewater to play in and the scenery is amazing.”

Schimpf enjoys the Middle Fork of the Salmon River for its beauty and the wilderness experience it offers.

Thousands of people outside of the state flock to the rivers and Idaho outdoors each year, helping to make tourism the state’s third largest industry, says Ron Gardner, public information specialist for the Idaho Department of Commerce.

— Sherry Squires
The breathtaking beauty of Idaho’s mountains and deserts provides outstanding opportunities for camping and hiking. From multi-day treks through the rugged Sawtooth Mountains in central Idaho to an afternoon jaunt on a Foothills trail near Boise to a relaxing evening roasting marshmallows at a national forest campground, there’s plenty to do and see just a short distance from Boise.

“I spend so much time in front of a computer, it’s great to have the outdoors so close and accessible,” says computer network support technology major Mike Broussard. “I can also teach my kids things about the world that don’t include a Playstation or television.”

Broussard and his family recently enjoyed a respite from schoolwork, computers and cell phones on a camping trip to Wallowa Lake in eastern Oregon. “It was a treat just to be able to stop, enjoy nature and not have the hustle-and-bustle of life stopping me every 10 seconds,” he says. “It is also a great thing to teach my kids, that the outdoors is something to be celebrated and that we need to make time to enjoy it.”

A four-hour drive from Boise, Wallowa Lake State Park is just one of many picturesque camping spots in the southern Idaho/eastern Oregon region. Closer to home, the Boise National Forest boasts 104 campgrounds from creek side hideaways to backcountry sites.

For many BSU students and faculty, traipsing along a Foothills trail is their first taste of local hiking. More than 75 miles of trails wind from the city into the Foothills as part of the Ridge to Rivers trail system. The terrain, plants, and human use vary, depending on elevation and proximity to the urban edge.

Biology professor Jim Smith, who runs the Snake River Plains Herbarium at Boise State, uses this unique backdrop as a powerful teaching tool. “It is one thing to talk about biodiversity in the lecture hall, but being able to then take the students up into the Foothills and show them is unforgettable for many students,” says Smith. “Even when I go camping with friends and family, I spend time out in the wilderness and I always manage to find something I haven’t seen before.”

For those who enjoy backpacking, the opportunities are almost boundless. Popular trailheads in the Sawtooths lead backpackers to high country lakes and passes that remain snow-covered until August. The Trinity Lakes area east of Boise and the high country near McCall are other popular destinations. In the spring, trekkers flock to the Owyhee Desert for early season adventures.

Shelton Woods, associate dean of the College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs, relishes the chance to escape into the backcountry. Among his favorite destinations is Louie Lake near McCall, where he and his family haul in float tubes along with the tent so they can fly fish.

“There’s the beauty of nature. It’s so quiet. One of our favorite things is to sit by the fire at night and see who can see the first star,” says Woods. “Pretty soon the sky starts looking like popcorn. It helps put things in perspective.”

— Bob McDiarmid
New wall gives climbers a foothold on adventure

After eight years in the planning, a new state-of-the-art climbing gym was unveiled Jan. 16 in the Boise State Student Recreation Center (The REC). The new facility offers 7,000 square feet of climbable surface, making it one of the largest collegiate climbing gyms in the United States.

The ribbon-cutting was followed by a slide show encompassing more than five decades of climbing exploits and adventures by world-renowned local climber Fred Beckey.

The new climbing wall replaces the old one in the Kinesiology Building, constructed with community and university resources out of two-by-fours and plywood. With the old wall approaching the end of its useful life just as interest in the sport surged, officials decided to plan for a new wall in the REC design. By locating it in a highly visible area, the wall is not only serving dedicated climbers, it is also attracting new people to the sport and to the facility.

“The placement of the climbing gym in a multi-use facility was an excellent design concept,” says Geoff Harrison, assistant director for The REC who runs the Outdoor Program. “The gym will be a great anchor piece for the facility because it will help draw people who typically climb outside into the building to train during winter months.”

The wall boasts more than 4,000 hand-holds in a modular design that allows them to be moved among 30,000 individual attachment points to create 75 separate routes to the top. Routes will be rotated every 30-60 days, creating new challenges for climbers. Color-coding on the hand holds identifies which routes are best for novice climbers and which provide the greatest challenge. A training ledge offers a place to tutor beginners without tying up the main wall.

The structure contains 50 tons of steel covered with fiberglass imbedded with a silica sand texture. The texture differs across the surface of the wall, creating a few slick conditions similar to a real mountainside.

The Outdoor Program offers a 90-minute basic skills class, plus rental of shoes and harnesses. The climbing gym is open to members of The REC and their guests.

— Kathleen Craven

Center finds niche outfitting recreation enthusiasts

Boise State’s Outdoor Program is a one-stop shop for outdoor enthusiasts.

Tucked into the side of the Student Recreation Center (The REC), the Outdoor Program offers cheap rentals of outdoor equipment to the campus community (students, faculty, staff and alumni), as well as literature and advice for planning a hike, camping trip or other outdoor adventure, guided group trips and excursions and a partner board to connect like-minded outdoor companions.

The center also offers services to the community-at-large, including seminars on wilderness first aid, river rescue and avalanche safety, the annual Buck Off climbing competition and the popular Sawtooth Mountain Film Festival.

Boise State’s Outdoor Program is one of about 200 university-affiliated programs nationwide. Program head Geoff Harrison, a REC assistant director, says his ultimate goal is to introduce people to new opportunities.

“We especially want students to know that there is more to a weekend than their books. We want them to get out and experience the natural beauty of the state,” he says.

In addition to creating custom programs for departments on campus, such as the Honors College, the biology club or the residence halls, the Outdoor Program offers assistance to individuals who take an instructional program and want to stay involved. The “Common Adventure” program helps people with similar goals plan adventures.

Above all, the program teaches responsibility.

“As the population continues to increase, there will be continued demand on our natural resources,” Harrison says. “We try to instill a principal of ‘leave no trace’ so that use of the land today doesn’t impact the ability to use it tomorrow.”

— Kathleen Craven

Many of the photos on the preceding pages are courtesy of the Boise State Outdoor Program.
Campaign for Students reaches $2.5 million mark in 6 months

In the first six months of the Campaign for Students, more than $1 million has been raised for scholarships, in addition to a $1.5 million lead gift from the Boise Industrial Foundation, says Rick Smith, vice president for University Advancement.

The university kicked off the comprehensive drive to raise funds for much-needed scholarships in November (“Campaign benefits scholarships,” FOCUS, Fall 2003).

There have been many contributors, including Mark Wheeler, BSU’s dean of Enrollment Services (BA, English ’89; MPA, ’96), who has made a pledge to the unrestricted category of endowed scholarships at Boise State.

“Because I am involved in the process of awarding scholarships, every year I see many students who I want to help, but am unable to because of the lack of funds,” Wheeler says. “Each one of them is so deserving, and I know they would be very appreciative of any assistance they could receive.”

As a student at Boise State, Wheeler received small scholarships in his junior and senior years. While they did not cover all of his expenses, they were a great help.

Payroll deduction is allowing Wheeler to make a generous contribution without coming up with the money up front.

Although the Campaign for Students offers a variety of categories, including scholarships designed to attract new students, assist student leaders and help graduate students, Wheeler chose not to limit his scholarship to students in a certain academic department or college.

“I am confident that it will be put to best use this way,” he says. “But donors could not go wrong contributing to any of the categories.”

While many donors have come forward to help Boise State construct new buildings in past years, Wheeler hopes the community will come together to help students with scholarships.

“It is such a great investment,” he says. “I am convinced that helping students now will encourage them to help others, as it did me.”

The Campaign for Students is designed to help the university attract, retain, reward and encourage the best and brightest students by offering additional scholarships and increasing the size of the university’s current awards.

A $1.5 million lead gift from the Boise Industrial Foundation got the campaign started. Wheeler’s gift will be matched with $2,500 from the BIF funds.

Donors can target their gift to several scholarship categories, including: General Scholarships, Unrestricted; Honors College Scholarships; Collegiate Involvement Scholarships; Boise State Opportunity Scholarships; Diamond Scholarships; Graduate Fellowships; and the Robert R. Lee Category B Promise Scholarship Match.

The Campaign for Students is administered by the Boise State Foundation, a nonprofit corporation devoted entirely to the benefit of Boise State. For information on how to donate, call 208 426-3276 or visit foundation.boisestate.edu.

Phonathon ’03 raises $196,000

During the month of October, the Boise State Foundation raised nearly $200,000 during Phonathon 2003. All of the money raised during the annual fund drive is used to enhance academic scholarships and programs.

Nearly 3,500 alumni, employees and friends pledged contributions to the fund drive, which is operated and administered by the Foundation.

“Thanks to the hard work of our 84 dedicated student callers, we attempted to reach more than 40,000 alumni and friends of the university and contacted 14,810 of them,” says Brandon Smith, Boise State Foundation director of annual giving.

“The three groups that have the greatest impact in supporting the annual fund-raising campaign are Boise State’s faculty and staff, the university’s alumni and our friends. Our contributors were well represented by all of these groups.”

The amount raised during Phonathon 2003 surpassed the 2002 drive by $5,000.

For questions about Phonathon or any of the annual fund-raising efforts, call the Foundation at 208 426-2649.

Brandt Foundation starts named professorship

The John and Orah Brandt Foundation has created Boise State’s first named professorship for a tenure track faculty member.

The foundation made a $40,000 annual donation to the College of Business and Economics, which will help fund Charlotte Twight’s position as the first Brandt Professor of Free Enterprise Capitalism, and each year will bring in a nationally known speaker who supports the market systems, private ownership of property and less government.
Donor Notes

Donations to the Boise State University Foundation
Sept. 26, 2003, to Jan. 21, 2004

$10,000 and above
JA and Kathryn Albertson Foundation, $180,000 to the Creating High Performance Schools Program
Larry and Karen Arguinchona, $15,000 to the Honors College Scholarship in their name
John H. and Orah I. Brandt Foundation, $40,000 to the Brandt Professor of Free Enterprise Capitalism fund
John and Joan Carley, $111,325 to the scholarship fund in their name
Lois Chaffee, $10,000 to the Eugene and Lois Chaffee Scholarship
Estate of Maxine Collins, $377,100 to the James and Maxine Collins Endowment
First Security Foundation, $10,000 to the First Security Scholarship and $600 to the First Security Library Fund
James and Georgia Girvan, $10,000 to the Stirm Memorial Health Science Scholarship and $800 to the Masters in Health Science Scholarship
Idaho Community Foundation, $30,292 to the Dufresne Benefactor Scholarship and $2,500 to the Roger Martell Accounting Endowment
Matuseski Trust, $10,430 to the Carolyn B. Matuseski Nursing Endowment
Micron Foundation, $10,000 to the Pavilion Account
Nagel Foundation, $62,464 to the John Nagel Foundation Scholarship
George Shaber, $10,000 to the Shaber Gift Annuity
Stein Distributing Co., $25,000 to the Marching Band Enhancement Fund
LaMoyne Welch, $10,000 to the endowed education scholarship in his name
Charles and JoAnne Wilson, $10,000 to the communication department scholarship in their name
Frances Woods Education Trust, $23,870 to the Frances Woods Education Scholarship

$5,000-$9,999
Anonymous, $5,000 to the Boise State President Support Fund
Anonymous, $5,000 to the DeMeyer Nursing Scholarship
Brad Barker, $5,000 to the unrestricted account
Blinken Foundation Inc., $5,000 to the Frank Church Institute
Russell and Ginny Centanni, $5,000 to the biology scholarship in their name
Trudy Comba, $5,000 to the Ruth Marks Single Parent Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Patsy Fedrizzi Family Foundation, $5,000 to the Boise State President Support Fund
Anna Graham, $5,000 to the Graham Endowed Scholarship
Eric Hoffman, $5,000 to the Fritchman Biology Scholarship
Key Bank, $5,000 to the unrestricted account
Mellon Bank, $5,000 to the Foundation Honors Scholarship Fund
Dale and Kathy Nagy, $5,000 to the scholarship in their name
Estate of Svafa Nelson-Farrer, $5,000 to the Helen M. Farrer Memorial Scholarship
Allen and Billie Dee Noble, $5,000 to the Presidential Installation Fund
Wendell and Myrtle Phillips, $5,000 to the endowed scholarship in their name
Debra Riedel, $5,500 to the music scholarship in her name
William and Nancy Russell, $5,000 to the Frank Church Institute
Dennis and Deva Ward, $5,000 to the Hallett Alumni/Business Endowment
Woodgrain Millwork Inc., $5,000 to the Business Administration Account

Due to space limitations in this issue, a complete list of donors in the $1,000-$4,999 category can be found at foundation.boisestate.edu.
Reception helps Association tell Boise State story

Recently the Alumni Association hosted alumni and legislative receptions in Idaho’s capital city and in our nation’s capital. Both offered opportunities to highlight academic research and share plans for future growth.

As part of “Boise State Day at the Legislature” on Jan. 21, the Alumni Association invited more than 30 undergraduate students to display their research work on the fourth floor of the Idaho Statehouse rotunda.

Along with student research, there were health screenings by the College of Health Sciences, performances by students from the College of Arts and Sciences, and representatives from each of Boise State’s other colleges. That evening the Association hosted a reception for alumni and friends in downtown Boise.

Boise’s new mayor, Dave Bieter, attended, as did dozens of Idaho’s other elected officials. Boise State President Bob Kustra greeted the guests and thanked them for their continued support of Boise State.

On Feb. 2, alumni in Washington, D.C., gathered at a Capitol Hill landmark, The Monocle Restaurant. The closest restaurant to the Senate side of the Capitol, The Monocle is known not only for its location but also for its frequent visits by high-profile government officials. In true Monocle form, Idaho Sen. Larry Craig and other members of Idaho’s congressional staff stopped by to show support for Boise State.

Association forms two new alumni chapters

The BSU Alumni Association recently announced the formation of two new alumni chapters. Both chapters have met the requirements as set forth by the Alumni Association board of directors and were approved at the Association’s quarterly board meeting in November.

Erik Howard, ‘99, is the department of construction management alumni chapter president; the Kappa Sigma fraternity alumni chapter president is Patrick Kendell, ‘81.

Alumni who are interested in participating in either chapter, or who are interested in forming additional chapters, are encouraged to contact Christine Lukas at the Alumni Association.

SAA officers to tie the knot

Student Alumni Association president Sheri Muncy listened as SAA PR director Logan Freeman stepped up to the microphone in front of 500 people at the Oct. 25 Bronco Bash tailgate party to talk about joining the SAA and building lifelong relationships with other alumni.

To Muncy’s surprise, Freeman then got down on one knee and proposed to her. The couple (right) celebrated by piloting the SAA Spirit Cart around the field after each touchdown and field goal of the Broncos’ record-breaking 77-point win over San Jose State. They plan to be married on June 12, 2004.
Alumni Association tailgate parties have become a tradition at home and away football games. This year, out-of-town bowl games can be added to the list.

It only took one glance toward the inflatable, 20-foot-tall blue football helmet to show the hometown TCU faithful that the Broncos were in town. Next to the helmet was a tent filled to capacity with orange-clad revelers at the Alumni Association’s Fort Worth Bowl Tailgate party.

“We could have used a bigger tent,” says Alumni Director Lee Denker, who handled event management and emcee duties for the tailgate party.

Fort Worth area alumni and fans started arriving an hour before the party was scheduled to begin. Denker says he was prepared for the enthusiastic fans and the doors opened early.

Midway through the event the Blue Thunder Marching Band and ManeLine Dancers arrived to perform for the crowd. There was only one problem: orange-clad fans had engulfed the stage. The band and dancers assembled outside the tent and before long had everyone in the area cheering and clapping along to the fight song. The excitement continued inside the stadium as the Bronco football team did its part by defeating TCU 34-31 in the inaugural Fort Worth Bowl on national television.

The Alumni Association is already working on home and away events for next football season. “We believe that our alumni and fans need a place to gather and celebrate before each game,” Denker says. “Based on our participation levels, it is clear that the interest is there and has been growing steadily each season.”

Plan to attend annual meeting May 5

All alumni and members of the Alumni Association are invited to the Association’s annual meeting on May 5.

Beginning at noon the meeting will feature the election of new directors and officers, reports, and the presentation of the Alumni Service Award. The meeting will be held in the Bishop Barnwell Room of the Student Union. Contact Donna Conner, 208 426-1959, for further information.

Get Involved!
ALUMS WIN ‘OSCARS OF TEACHING’

Two Boise State alumni were among 100 educators from 47 states who were recently surprised with $25,000 awards from the Milken Family Foundation as part of a national program to honor outstanding teachers.

Cindy P. Wilson, (BA, political science, ’81) and Brad Patzer (MS, interdisciplinary sciences, ’02) will each receive a check for $25,000 — which can be used any way they choose — at a national professional development conference this spring in Washington, D.C. They were also honored at a state ceremony in Boise in December. This is the first year the state participated in the prestigious program that has been unofficially dubbed “The Oscars of Teaching.”

A third Idaho teacher, Joanna Hicks of Nampa, also received a Milken award.

Wilson is a social studies teacher at Orofino High School. She was cited for incorporating Supreme Court cases into her curriculum and building a connection between her lessons and the real world. Wilson also initiated her school district’s participation in the national “We the People” competition, which her students have won the last two years.

Patzer teaches math, economics and social studies to at-risk students at Mountain View Alternative High School in Rathdrum. He utilizes computer simulations, mock congressional hearings, classroom legislative simulations and role-play activities to engage his students. Patzer developed an economics class for the Idaho Digital Learning Academy, a curriculum offered online to students in Idaho.

Created in 1985 by chairman and co-founder Lowell Milken, the award program is an effort to celebrate the work of some of the nation’s most outstanding teachers, principals and specialists in K-12 education. The Milken National Educator Awards is the largest teacher recognition program in the U.S., and has presented more than $49 million in awards since its inception.

BOISE STATE MASTERCARD AVAILABLE

Carry the Boise State Alumni Association credit card with you wherever you go. Each time you use the credit card for a purchase, the Alumni Association is able to support student scholarships, alumni activities and student programs — at no additional cost to you. Plus, the card offers WorldPoints Rewards. Points can be built up and used on travel or merchandise rewards. Keep an eye out for the application materials or call the Alumni Association for more information.

LICENSE PLATES SHOW BRONCO SPIRIT

An updated Boise State collegiate license plate, featuring the spirited new Bronco stallion image, will help fund student scholarships administered by the Boise State Alumni Association.

To order the new plates, obtain an application form at either your local county assessor’s motor vehicle office or online at http://www2.state.id.us/idt/dmv/.

‘Internet for Educators’ class leads alum to find birth family

For Jane Dunaway, (BA, education, ’76) enrolling in an “Internet for Educators” class at Boise State turned out to be a life-changing experience. The Rochester, Wash., teacher, who was placed in foster care as an infant and later adopted, used the computer skills she picked up in the online class to find and contact the birth family that was searching for her.

“It’s been amazing. I still can’t quite believe it. It’s been wonderful to meet my siblings and discover how much we have in common,” says Dunaway, who teaches at Rochester Middle School and is pursuing a master’s degree in education from Boise State.

Dunaway’s path back to her biological family is a dramatic one. Adopted in the 1950s, she knew little about her past. Then, a few years ago, she obtained her original birth certificate from the state of Delaware and discovered that her birth name was Linda Fowle. Dunaway didn’t pursue the information until last year, when she was sitting at her computer doing some Internet assignments for her class at Boise State.

“I finished my homework, and on a whim I typed in ‘Linda Fowle’ and hit ‘Go,’” she says. What followed were pages upon pages of Internet sites. Dunaway kept scrolling through until about the seventh page — something she says she never does — where she read an inquiry for information on an “Everett Fowle Jr.” whose mother was “Marie Fowle.”

“My mother’s name was Marie Fowle. I clicked on it and read that the family was also searching addition to two sisters and a brother she also had several half-siblings. Last August Dunaway flew to Delaware where she met four of her siblings for the first time.

“It was like we had known each other forever. I was surprised what a strong bond we had,” says Dunaway.

Dunaway keeps in touch with her “new” family and often talks on the phone with her sisters and brothers. The siblings continue to search for their brother Everett Fowle Jr., who was adopted at about the same time as Dunaway.

Dunaway says she never dreamed that enrolling in the Boise State online class would lead her to find her birth family. “I grew up with wonderful parents, and I’m thankful for that. Finding my birth family after all these years is the frosting on the cake,” she says.

— Janelle Brown
for most television reporters, especially those far
away from the spotlight of a major media market,
the Alfred I. duPont Award is an unattainable
dream.

After all, what news in the nation’s hinterland could
possibly attract the attention of judges for the top award
given in the broadcast journalism profession?

For the answer, tune to KBCI Channel 2 investigative
reporter Jon Hanian (MA, history, ’01), a key member of
the news team that recently won the prestigious award for
its work on “Shake Up at City Hall,” the series of stories
that uncovered fiscal misconduct by Boise Mayor Brent
Coles and other city officials. (Hanian shared the award
with fellow KBCIers Michael Keckler, reporter; Jeff Ray,
producer; Clyn Richards, chief photographer; and Hank
Nystrom and Chris Ceresa, photographers.)

After audits, investigations and court proceedings, Coles,
chief of staff Gary Lyman and personnel director Tammy
Rice all received jail sentences.

“It was a ‘Eureka’ moment for me to see the names of
the winners of the duPont. We are one of the smallest sta-
tions that has ever won it. It was a very humbling experi-
ence,” says Hanian, who also was featured in late January
on a national PBS broadcast about investigative reporting.

His careful look into the arcane world of Boise city poli-
tics has left Hanian with mixed feelings. He isn’t the least
bit triumphant about his role in the award-winning story
that was the talk of the town for more than a year.

“You don’t get into these kinds of stories and not feel
for the people you are covering,” he comments.

“We wanted to just present what we found out; unfortu-
nately, there is no way you can do that and not hurt peo-
ple and their families. That’s the hardest part — none of
us took any pleasure in it.

“Sometimes this job has tremendous power and
responsibility. We have to be judicious and careful in
its use. Getting at the heart of the truth is what this
business is about ... that’s the first cardinal rule. We
got a lot of comments from people who thought we
were on a witch hunt. But it wasn’t about personali-
ties — it had to do with the public’s money and giv-
ing people a sense of how it was being misused.

“At this time when so many people are having a
hard time making ends meet, they wanted the politi-
cians to pay attention to this,” he continues. “If any-
thing comes of this, it is the message that ‘this is
what will happen if you misuse the public’s money.
You do so at your own peril.’

As a graduate student at Boise State, his long
hours in the library taught him some important les-
tsons that helped in his job, he says. “Boise State
taught me a lot about researching and documenting
sources. I learned the mechanics of investigating
things, and it was tremendously valuable,” he says.

With more than 20 years at the microphone,
Hanian has seen his share of human nature. And he
offers some advice for people who might be tempted
to play fast and loose with the facts.

“There are two things that get me going — when
somebody lies to me and I catch them, and hypocrisy,
somebody saying one thing and doing another. That
alerts me that there is something to look into.”

Hanian is today as refreshingly idealistic about the
role of local television news as he was the day he
started. “I like feeling we are impacting people’s lives
in a way that is beneficial,” he says. “This is a diffi-
cult job to do because of the pressures. But what
makes it worthwhile is when you do a story that
really helps somebody. I’ve had the great fortune to
do stories that have done that.”
Filmmaker looks at Native issues

With a dozen documentary films under her belt, independent film producer Heather Rae is just warming up to her craft. In post-production on *American Monster*, an independent film shot in the Stanley area, she is also working on a documentary about legendary Native American activist and poet John Trudell as well as a larger budget Western titled *1,000 Guns*, slated to shoot in New Zealand this summer.

Not bad for a central Idaho girl who didn’t plan to be a filmmaker. As a Boise State student in the late 1980s, Rae was interested in images — photography, poetry, etc. That interest changed direction when she visited her father in Salmon and discovered his new video camera. Following an afternoon behind the lens, she was hooked.

A cultural anthropology major at Boise State at the time, she transferred to Evergreen State College in Olympia, Wash., to pursue a degree in video-ethnography. After graduation, she landed a job at a production company in Los Angeles as a production manager. On the side, she produced and directed documentaries.

Eventually, her passion led Rae, a Cherokee, to a job as the Native American program director for the Sundance Institute and a programmer for the Sundance Film Festival. For six years she showcased new works by Native American filmmakers from the United States and Canada, eventually broadening the program to include other indigenous cultures as well. Her focus on finding and developing native writers and directors led to her being named Sundance Film Festival’s “Filmmakers to Watch” in 2001.

Rae says her Sundance experience helped develop a connection to her culture, while her documentary work has provided a tool for expression and social change.

“I like the storytelling, but also the truth telling,” she says. “Every project I’ve worked on has its roots in some kind of social, political or cultural issue.”

Rae will share some of her insights on independent filmmaking and Native American cinema in classes and workshops she’ll teach at Boise State this summer and in the fall 2004 semester. She recently returned to Idaho from Southern California and lives in Boise with her three children and her husband, writer Russell Friedenberg.

— Kathleen Craven

Our policy is to print as much “In Touch” information as possible. Send your letters to the Boise State Alumni Association, 1910 University Drive, Boise, ID 83725, or send e-mail to bevanch@boisestate.edu. In addition, if you know someone who would make a good feature story in our “Alumnotes” section, contact the office of News Services at the same address.
Kempthorne as the new administrator of the Division of Financial Management for Idaho. With nearly 30 years in state government, Foltman was promoted from the position of budget bureau chief. Foltman also completed his bachelor’s degree in aeronautics at Parks College of St. Louis University and is an active pilot and member of various aviation groups.

ANDREW WHEELER, AS, nursing, ’80, is a registered nurse at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, where he manages the Lipid Apheresis Service.

NORBERT J. DEKERCHOVE JR., BA, English, ’81, was selected by O’Neill Enterprises LLC as the exclusive residential broker for the Bown Crossing development, a new 35-acre mixed-use community in southeast Boise. Dekercchove is currently an associate broker with Windermere Capital Group.

RANDI MICHAEL OLSON, BA, English, ’82, has been named assistant professor in the department of philosophy at Saint Michael’s College, Colchester, Vt. Since 1999, Olson has been an adjunct, visiting assistant professor at the college. Olson earned his master’s and doctorate (both in philosophy) from Emory University.

NORMAN CLIFFORD RAMBO, BS, criminal justice administration, ’84, was elected commissioner for the Nampa Highway District No. 1 in 2003.

CLAY HARRISON YOUNG, BBA, marketing, ’84, MBA, ’85, is the senior vice president of strategic marketing and co-founder of ProClarity Corp. He was recently recognized as a Boise State College of Business and Economics outstanding alumnus.

DENNIS C. BUDELL JR., BA, advertising design, ’86, won the national Gold Addy for his work on the “Teen Mommy Darci” and “Action Teen Father” commercials designed to reduce teenage pregnancy. He is the creative director/art director for Elgin Sylerd Drake Inc.

JOHN WILLIAM LIEBENTHAL, BA, music, ’86, is the new senior copywriter for Oliver Russell in Boise. Liebenthal has worked in several senior agency and corporate marketing roles and has produced award-winning work for Hewlett Packard, Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Micron PC and T-Mobile.

TRENT LAYNE GERBER, BBA, management, ’87, is a new real estate loan officer for Idaho Independent Bank. Gerber has over 10 years experience in the home finance industry.

CARL R. KEEVER, BS, physical education, ’87, is a financial consultant for Wells Fargo Investments LLC. In this position, Keever is in charge of personal and business investments in the Boise area. He has more than 10 years experience in the financial services industry and previously worked as a sales manager for Merrill Lynch and Morgan Stanley.

GARY BRETT BROGAN, BS, biology, ’88, received a doctorate of education from Idaho State University in May 2003.

GEORGE DEE CARTER, BBA, marketing, ’88, has joined Syringa Bank as vice president/real estate lending manager. Carter has more than 15 years experience in the mortgage and lending field. He received his master’s in business administration from Northwest Nazarene University.

ANNETTE SCOTT-MARTIN, BA, elementary education, ’89, is the new classroom teacher for the Irving Kindergarten Center in Blackfoot.

90s

BRYAN JON RUZICKA, BS, mathematics, ’90, has assumed the job of principal of Shadow Mountain School. He is also the new CFO of the school district. He is a former alumnus of Boise State.

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Faux Real in Kennewick, Wash. Faux Real provides decorative painting services and specializes in murals and trompe l’oeil, the process of painting an artistic illusion that fools the eye. Sanford-Dony’s work has been featured in the Parade of Homes.

MICHELLE JOLENE WHITE, BS, social science, ’95, is a newly appointed counselor at Kamiak High School. She earned her master’s degree from Northwest Nazarene University and has more than five years experience in counseling.

LAURA CHARLOTTE DELGADO-HOLLAND, BA, Spanish, ’96, has completed her third year of teaching at the Idaho Correctional Center and is currently an adjunct Spanish professor for Boise State.

DARRYL LEE WRIGHT, BS, athletic training, ’93, MS, instructional and performance technology, ’96, recently graduated from the military intelligence officer basic course at Fort Huachuca and the U.S. Army Intelligence Center in Arizona. Starting in October, he will be on active duty special work orders for the Idaho Army National Guard as a project manager performing tactical intelligence officer duties for the 116th Cavalry Brigade at Gowen Field. Wright is a former Boise State basketball student-athlete and student body vice president.

TODD R. HILL, BBA, business management, ’91, MBA, business management, ’97, recently accepted the product management position for Hewlett-Packard’s laser jet supplies organization.

JENNIFER K. ATKINSON, BBA, accounting, ’98, has been hired as an escrow assistant by Land America Transnation. She has more than five years of accounting experience and seven years in customer service.

CHRISTOPHER “CHRIS” D. COMSTOCK, BA, history, ’98, is the newest associate at Hall, Farley, Oberrecht,
& Blanton P.A. Comstock received his juris doctorate from the University of Idaho College of Law in 2002. He is currently licensed to practice law in Idaho and the U.S. District Court for the District of Idaho and is a member of the American and Idaho Bar associations.

CAROLE JEANNE MOONEY, BFA, art, ’98, has been commissioned to paint a western mural on the front of the Double D and Melba Valley Real Estate office in Melba. Mooney designed the original “Welcome to Melba” sign at age 12. She has participated in the McCall winter carnival sculpting ice and snow, and over the years has won first place, fifth place and honorable mention.

DUSTIN J. YOUNG, BS, public affairs, ’98, has joined Realty Executives of Treasure Valley, a Meridian-based real estate firm. Young is a former wrestler at Boise State.

DANIELLE MARIE BUGNI, BBA, finance and international business, ’99, has received the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation from the Association for Investment Management and Research. The CFA charter is the only globally recognized credential for investment analysis and management. Recipients have successfully completed a graduate-level, self-study curriculum and a series of three examinations that typically require a combined 300 hours of study. Currently, Bugni is a financial analyst at Burroughs & Hutchinson Investment Managers in Boise.

SAM JAY LOWDER, BBA, economics, ’99, was recently promoted to senior research analyst for Albertsons Corp. in Boise.

LIBBY HOLTER CLARY, BS, psychology, ’00, has completed a master of arts in clinical psychology from
ANTIOCH UNIVERSITY in Seattle, and is currently working as a family therapist in Seattle.

AMANDA RENE (DANDE-NEAU) FEELEY, BBA, marketing, ’00, won the title of Mrs. Idaho in May 2003.

NEVA CHRISTINA (GEHRING) NOE, BA, English, ’00, completed her master’s degree in curriculum instruction from Northwest Nazarene University.

ALBERTO JULIAN OVIEDO JR., BBA, management, ’00, was selected as 2003 Noncommissioned Officer of the Year for the Idaho Army National Guard. Oviedo enlisted in 1991 and has held numerous leadership positions in personnel, supply and finance. He is currently a budget analyst for the deputy chief of staff for logistics.

WILLIAM E. MUSSER, AS, criminal justice administration, ’96, BS, criminal justice administration, ’01, has been appointed chief of police for Meridian. Musser, who was first in his class at the Idaho Peace Officers Standards and Training Academy, began his career as a volunteer reserve officer in ’81, became a patrol officer in ’83, and worked up through the ranks as a sergeant, lieutenant and captain prior to becoming chief.

HEINRICH WIEBE, BBA, business, ’01, has joined the House of Brokers Home Team as a real estate professional. Weibe previously worked as an intern in the planning department of the Capital City Development Corporation.

THOMAS MICHAEL ANDERSON, BS, geology, ’02, graduated from the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps National Advanced Leadership Camp at Fort Lewis in Tacoma, Wash. The camp provides professional training and evaluation in camp life, administration and logistical support.

TROY STEVEN BALL, BBA, business management, ’02, has joined American Family Insurance. Ball has many years of experience in the insurance industry and will be opening his own agency in the Nampa area.

JASON L. BLUMBERG, BA, communication, ’02, was hired as a public relations and marketing practitioner at Bold Approach, a business growth strategies firm. Previously, Blumberg served as a public relations associate for a Boise-based firm specializing in corporate communications and issues management.

TYLER WILLIAM GASTON, BA, history, ’02, is a new teacher at Castleford High School in Twin Falls. Gaston will teach United States history, world history, social studies, current events and physical education. He will also coach football and boys’ basketball. He previously coached a middle school football team in Parma.

PEGGY FAYE RICHARDS, BA, communication, ’00, MA, communication, ’02, has been hired as the executive director of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center in Montpelier.

JOHN ALLEN SACKMAN, BA, history, ’02, received
the Bronze Star for Meritorious Achievement for his efforts as a targeting officer during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was commissioned through the Boise State ROTC program. Sackman is currently serving with the 3rd Brigade Combat Team of the U.S. Army’s 1st Armored Division, based out of Fort Riley, Kan.

JACOB DANIEL SKOUSEN, BA, elementary education, ’02, is currently teaching fourth grade at May Roberts Accelerated Elementary School in Ontario, Ore. Skousen received his associate’s degree from Treasure Valley Community College before earning his degree from Boise State. Previously, Skousen was the intervention teacher at Vallivue Middle School in Nampa.

MICHELE RENE (BUNDY) VAN HOFF, BA, graphic design, ’02, has been hired by Avante Realty in Meridian. Van Hoff has five years’ experience in retail management with an emphasis on customer service.

SADIE DOE BABITS, BA, political science, ’03, was awarded a spring 2004 Pew Fellowship in International Journalism at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies. Babits will report on water rights and supply issues in Kenya for Arizona Public Radio (KNAU), where she currently hosts Morning Edition. She was one of only 10 U.S. journalists to receive the four-month fellowship, part of a program aimed at increasing the quality of international news in the U.S. media.

GLENDA LEE CONNOLLY, BFA, art, ’80, MA, art education, ’03, received the Idaho Art Educator of the Year Award from the National Art Education Association. The award honors an outstanding member from each state or province association whose service and contribution to art education merits recognition and acclaim.

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NEW Lifetime Members!
The people listed here became lifetime members of the Boise State Alumni Association September-December 2003. Our thanks to these alumni and friends for showing a lasting interest in our university and its Alumni Association. For more information on becoming a lifetime member, contact the Alumni Association at (208) 426-1698 or join online at http://alumni.boisestate.edu.

| Dorothy Brassey, Boise, ’42 | Carrie Bills, Nampa, ’81 |
| Bart Brassey, Boise, ’42 | Ruth Borders, Boise, ’81 |
| Loyle Washam, Boise, ’49 | Lisa Stoppenhagen, Meridian, ’81 |
| Michael E. Smith, Boise, ’60 | Jerilyn Tracadas, Payette, ’81 |
| Rick Borders, Boise, ’66 | Chris Baldwin, Hayden, ’82 |
| Grace Terrell, Eagle, ’78 | Vicky Haford, Boise, ’83 |
| Rodney Higgins, Eagle, ’71 | Don Baldwin, Hayden, ’84 |
| Stephen Johnson, Malad City, ’72 | Marilyn Haynes-Brokopp, Sandy, Utah, ’80, ’84 |
| Milford Terrell, Eagle, ’72 | Paul DeWitt, Boise, ’88 |
| Drew Forney, Boise, ’75 | Duane Tracadas, Payette, ’79, ’88 |
| Helen F. Stimple, Boise, ’67, ’75 | Philip Johnson, Boise, ’89 |
| Paula Forney, Boise, ’77 | Judith Nissula, Cascade, ’89 |
| James Lamanansky, Boise, ’78 | Corey Smith, Meridian, ’90 |
| Cecelia Gould, Boise, ’79 | Mark St. Clair, Boise, ’91 |
| David Bills, Nampa, ’80 | Frank Carroll, Custer, S.D., ’92 |
| C. Gaye Bennett, Boise, ’81 | Danette Lansing, Meridian, ’92 |
| | Jeff Stoppenhagen, Meridian, ’92 |
| | Travis Jensen, Meridian, ’94 |
| | Brian Nave, Boise, ’95 |
| | Kris L. Nevers, Boise, ’96 |
| | Charles Eddy, Boise, ’97 |
| | Keith Feldman, Boise, ’97 |
| | Todd Hill, Boise, ’91, ’97 |
| | Anthony Jepson, Laguna Hills, Calif., ’97 |
| | Dong Wei, Eagle, ’97 |
| | Beth Cleveland, Laguna Hills, Calif., ’98 |
| | Jeremy Gooding, Boise, ’99 |
| | Helen Root, Caldwell, ’00 |
| | Margaret Blackstead, Boise, ’01 |
| | Heather Gooding, Boise, ’01 |
| | Ritch Blackstead, Boise, ’02 |
| | Curtis Waite, Boise, ’03 |
| | Hollilyn Waite, Boise, ’03 |
| | Michael Blankenship, Eagle |
| | Sheila Blankenship, Eagle |
| | Rosemary Burton, Boise |
| | Ronald Cameron, Boise |
| | Albert Fellows, Boise |
| | John Foreman, Mountain Home |
| | Patty Foss-Cameron, Boise |
| | Paul Horefros, Boise |
| | Harvey Neef, Boise |
| | Margo Neef, Boise |
| | Alan Panas, Meridian |
| | Joan Panas, Meridian |
| | Dorothy Washam, Boise |
| | Russ “Skip” Worthan, Boise |
EDDY WAYNE CREGO, AAS, drafting technology ’03, joined W&H Pacific as a Cadd technician. Grego’s project assignments include the Chapparosa and Discovery Pointe subdivisions.

Weddings

SUSAN KOEHLER KENNEDY and RONALD FRANKLIN ERNEST (San Antonio, Texas) March 17.

DEBRA GAIL TURNER and Kevin Dean Mueller (Boise) April 5.

ROBERT ANTHONY WEMHOFF and Lori M. Schroeder (Massillon, Ohio) May 17.

BRANDON GENE LAMBERT and Chung-Wei “Olive” Lin (Coeur d’Alene) May 18.

MALISSA MAREE ADAMS and Joshua McCulloch (Meridian) May 24.

RYAN A. GRAVES and JAMIE GENE RUBEL (Aberdeen, Wash.) May 24.

BRANDI MICHELLE POWLUS and Charles Anthony Shroll (Boise) May 30.

ANGELA RENE STEWART and TORIN E. FORD (Boise) May 31.

SAM JAY LOWDER and Heather Bryant (Meridian) June

MICHELE ANN FATIG and Christopher Gordon McFarlane (Buhl) June 14.

JULIE ANNA LISTER and SCOTT MICHAEL SWANSON (Boise) June 21.

CARRIE ANN OSBORNE and Joe Chizum (Hagerman) July 19.

KEVIN MICHAEL SHEPHERDSON and Holly Wilcox (Boise) July 19.

RICHARD SCOTT MACGREGOR and HOLLIE IRENE BALTAZOR (Boise) Aug. 2.

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Emmett. After graduating from Capital High School in 1977, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps where he obtained the rank of sergeant and was honorably discharged in 1984. Chadwell then earned a degree from Boise State and began a new career as a detention officer for Ada County Juvenile Court. He also served as a reserve deputy sheriff for Boise County. In 1998, Chadwell pursued his lifelong dream of becoming a deputy sheriff in Boise County, and began training at the Peace Officer Training Academy.

TAYLOR FRANCIS COTTLE, AS, general arts and science, ’42, died Oct. 6 in Meridian. He was 81.

Cottle was born in Fish Haven, Idaho, in 1922. Cottle attended Boise Junior College, and then enlisted during WWII. He served in the Naval Reserve as a radio technician on the Marshall Gilbert Islands in the South Pacific. In 1947, he received his BS from the Utah State Agricultural College and went on to earn an MS in physiology from that same school. Cottle began his medical practice in Pocatello as a general physician. Moving his practice to Shelly in 1972, Cottle continued there until his retirement in 1986.

DONALD CHARLES COLLINS and Ann Stedfeld (Boise) Aug. 2.

REBECCA SUE KNIGHT and Matthew Tomlinson (Riggins) Aug. 2.

RHEANNA LUCILLE PEPPERSACK and Drew Allen (Nampa) Aug. 8.

CHRISTINE ELIZABETH JORDAN and Shawn Shelton (Boise) Aug. 16.

PERRY WADDELL and Elizabeth Needham (Pendleton, S.C.) Aug. 16.

TOM RICHARD ST. CLAIR and RANA LYNNAYE STOLTEY (New Meadows) Aug. 30.

MATTHEW NEWELL BRADLEY and BREANN L. GLEASON (Stanley) Sept. 5.

ERIC R. JACKY and Jennifer Roberts (Las Vegas) Oct. 11.

GAIL HARKER and Harold Dachenhausen (Indian Wells, Calif.) Oct. 18.

ANGELA DAWN O’BRIEN and Shawn David Rice (Soldotna, Alaska) Nov. 11.

REBECCA JILL TURNER and Daniel Duggan (Boise) Dec. 20.

LARRY L. CAUDLE, BA, political science, ’72, died Oct. 2 in Anchorage, Alaska, due to complications from knee surgery. He was 56. Caudle was born in Idaho Falls and spent his high school years there. After earning his degree from Boise State, Caudle continued his education at the California Western School of Law, earning his juris doctorate and graduating cum laude. Caudle had been an attorney since 1980, and also served on the board of directors for Campfire USA and Boys and Girls Club.

DAVID CHADWELL, BS, criminal justice administration, ’90, died Oct. 21 after a battle with cancer. He was 45. Chadwell was born March 14, 1959, in Emmett. After graduating from Capital High School in 1977, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps where he obtained the rank of sergeant and was honorably discharged in 1984. Chadwell then earned a degree from Boise State and began a new career as a detention officer for Ada County Juvenile Court. He also served as a reserve deputy sheriff for Boise County. In 1998, Chadwell pursued his lifelong dream of becoming a deputy sheriff in Boise County, and began training at the Peace Officer Training Academy.

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Student leader TRANG DOAN, 23, died in a weather-related traffic accident on Interstate 86 near American Falls in January. Doan, a native of Vietnam, had been a student at Boise State for five years and had been an active leader and student employee with the Women’s Center and the Cultural Center. She was also active in the Vietnamese Student Association, the International Student Association and Filamo, the organization of Filipino students at Boise State.

ANTONETTE “TONI” HOLCHIN ENGLEHART, AA, nursing, ’59, died Nov. 18 in Boise. She was 65. Englehart was born Feb. 8, 1938, in Boise and gradu-
ated from St. Teresa’s Academy in 1956. As a teenager, Englehart was a member of the Boise equestrian drill team and competed in horse shows throughout Idaho and the Northwest. After high school she earned her degree from Boise Junior College. Later, she bred dogs and was active in local kennel clubs.

FRANCISCO CISCO ESTRADA, BA, communication, ’84, died Nov. 8, in Waldorf, Md., at age 49. Estrada was born July 20, 1954, in Fort Dodge, Iowa. Following his service in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam-era, he enrolled at Boise State and participated in the ROTC program. He was the first troop commander at Boise State and also the first cadet to complete airborne training. He graduated Boise State with a commission as a lieutenant in the Army. He served 23 years in the U.S. Army and held the rank of major at the time of his death.

MARILYN MARCELLA MILLER FLOYD, AS, nursing, ’74, died Sept. 23 in a car accident. Born March 27, 1928, Floyd was raised in Indianapolis. She developed a professional singing talent that enabled her to attend the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. Floyd devoted her time to her children, serving as a school classroom volunteer and den mother. She also founded the first YMCA Summer Fun Club for children in White Plains, N.Y. Later in life, Floyd received her degree from Boise State and then worked as a professional nurse for several years.

MICHAEL BRUCE GOLDEN, BBA, business, ’76, died Nov. 20 in an accident at Priest Lake, Wash. He was 57. Born and raised in McCall, Golden served in the Vietnam War as a Marine. Upon his return from overseas, Golden graduated from Boise State and became an Army officer and helicopter pilot.

ETHYLE LAVONNE HAYES, BA, elementary education, ’67, died Nov. 1. She was 90. She moved to Boise in 1944. Hayes resumed her teaching career and taught second grade at Lowell Elementary School in Boise for 26 years. It was during that time she earned her degree from Boise State.

TRUEMAN JOY HENDERSON, BBA, accounting, ’76, died Dec. 1 from lung cancer. He was 79. Born and raised in Boise, Henderson graduated from Boise High in 1942. After graduation, he served in the U.S. Navy during WWII. He later worked for Idaho Power for several years as a surveyor on the upper and lower Salmon River dam projects. Henderson later continued his education at Boise State and graduated at age 51.
BARBARA J. HOLMQUIST, MA, education, ’81, succumbed to cancer on Oct. 2. Born in Sheridan, Wyo., in 1954, she moved to Boise in 1967, graduated from Capital High School and later earned a degree in education from Northwest Nazarene College. Holmquist taught school at Lakeview Elementary in Nampa for several years, then in Boise at Garfield Elementary. For the past 15 years, she taught reading and journalism at South Junior High in Boise.

ALMA MAY HUMBLE, AA, general arts and science, ’57, passed away on Sept. 21 at age 86 in Nampa. Born in Fort Stockton, Texas, Humble moved to Nampa when she was 9 months old. Despite her physical limitations, Humble earned her degree from Boise State, then went on to earn a degree from the College of Idaho (now Albertson College), and a master’s of science in vocational rehabilitation counseling from the University of Oregon. She worked in counseling for many years.

MARGARET C. JORGENSEN, AS, nursing, ’76, died from breast cancer on Oct. 28. She was 57. Jorgensen was born Dec. 17, 1947, and raised in Murdo, S.D. Jorgensen eventually settled in Boise in 1970. She earned her degree from Boise State and was hired by the Boise Veterans Administration where she remained until her death.

DONALD E. KNAPP, BA, social science, ’69, died Nov. 14 after a long struggle with Alzheimer’s disease. He was 71. Knapp was born July 9, 1932, in Caldwell. After graduating from Caldwell High School, he served in the Army in Fairbanks, Alaska, then attended Idaho State College and graduated from Boise State College. Knapp went on to earn a master’s degree in education from the University of Alaska. He devoted his life to teaching as well as mentoring at-risk children.

RALPH K. RICE, CC, electrical line worker, ’80, died Sept. 17 after a long battle with cancer. He was 52. He was born Nov. 7, 1952, in Weiser. After high school graduation, he joined the U.S. Navy and later earned his degree from Boise State. During his career, Rice worked for Boise Cable, Big O Tire and Commercial Tire in Boise. In 1999 he began working at the Meridian Home Depot and continued working there until he was taken ill. Rice also coached girls’ softball and boys’ t-ball and soccer for several years in Boise and Meridian.

ROWENA M. SNAVELY, MA, education, ’73, died Nov. 8, after a long battle with cancer. She was 73. She was born in Fruitland and graduated from Fruitland High School. She then attended McPherson College in Kansas. After earning her degree, she returned to her hometown and taught at Fruitland elementary schools for 36 years. During this time, she earned her master’s degree from Boise State. Snavely started the Fruitland special education program and taught in it for 19 years. As a member of the Treasure Valley Chorale, Snavely sang at Carnegie Hall, Salt Lake City, Vancouver, B.C., and Hawaii. She also led a 4-H group for 10 years.

CAROL CONGDON STEPP (FISHER), BA, elementary education, ’70, MA, curriculum and instruction, ’76, died Sept. 30 in McCall. Born in Boise, she attended the University of Idaho and was affiliated with the Gamma Phi Beta sorority before earning her degree from Boise State. After graduation, Stepp worked in the Boise Independent School District as a teacher, principal, special education supervisor and consulting teacher until her retirement in 2002. She continued her education while working and received her master’s degree, pupil personnel services certification and administrator certification for K-12. She also served as a member...
of the Junior League of Boise, Emergency Housing Services and the El-Ada Community Action board.

KELLY D. TRAUTMAN, AAS, electronics technology, ’94, died Sept. 9 from surgery complications. Born June 24, 1963, in Caldwell, Trautman attended school in Caldwell from kindergarten through high school. After graduation, he enrolled at Boise State where he was involved in the football program. After a break from school, he returned to earn his degree in electronics. Upon the completion of his degree, Trautman went to work for Micron Technology Inc, and had been there 10 years at the time of his death.

EUNICE EWER WALLACE, wife of former Boise State education dean Gerald R. Wallace, died of natural causes in her Boise home on Nov. 21, 2003. She was 89. She was born in Logan, Utah, and grew up in the ranch country of western Wyoming. In 1927, her family moved to Idaho where she graduated from Buhl High School in 1930. She received her bachelor’s degree in music from the College of Idaho in 1934, followed by a master’s and doctorate in education at Oregon State University. She later taught at Boise State. She married Gerald Wallace in 1939. He died in September 2003.

RON YANKE, longtime Boise businessman and philanthropist, passed away in February of leukemia at age 68. Yanke was one of Boise State’s biggest boosters and made key financial contributions to projects such as the Simplot/Micron Building, the expansion of Bronco Stadium and the Centennial Amphitheatre. He also helped secure the land on which the Boise State-West campus now stands. He owned Yanke Machine Shop and Yanke Energy in Boise and was one of the original three investors in Micron Technology. He served on the boards of the BSU Foundation and the Bronco Athletic Association.

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