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SHOOTING FOR THE TOP

With record crowds and standout players like junior forward April Cline (33), the BSU women’s basketball team is becoming one of the region’s best. This season, the BSU women have defeated big-time opponents such as Colorado State, Wyoming, Utah, Brigham Young and Oregon State in non-conference games. In Big Sky competition, the Broncos are contending for the league title and set a conference attendance record against Montana.
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VALUE OVER SUCCESS

On my office wall I have a quote by Albert Einstein that says, “Try not to become a man of success, but rather a man of value.” This saying is good for men and women, as well as institutions. It succinctly says that we should focus on internal characteristics rather than external rewards. By so doing, eternal rewards will come, but they come because of the values inherently held by people or institutions.

Do we at Boise State University focus on value or success? Upon reflection, my honest answer for myself and the institution is both; however, as we emphasize value more, our reward will be an increase in quality.

Quality has always been an important but somewhat fleeting value. For years organizations have attempted to incorporate this value in all levels of their structure.

The latest attempt at work across America is a strategy called TOTAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT. My hope is that a discussion of the characteristics of TQM and findings from other universities will pique our interest and cause us to think about its “fit” here at BSU.

Ted Marchese, vice president of the American Association of Higher Education, and Daniel Seymour have written about TQM on campus. I am indebted to them for many of the thoughts contained in this column.

The description or definition of TQM that I like best is this one: TQM is a journey to excellence in which all functions of the organization focus on continuous improvement. Quality replaces quantity as the goal. A race to quality has no finish line.

TQM in my view is not some new fad. The old saying “when all else fails, try some common sense” fits this concept. It is a common sense approach to management. It is a coalescing of new and old ideas — from systems thinking, from theories of human behavior, leadership and planning, plus lessons from earlier failures.

THE FOCUS IS ON QUALITY. It is a shift from making it quick and cheaper to “making it better.” Quality in this view is not just an attribute of graduates or services; it is a mind-set; it is the soul of the organization. It pervades the entire structure. It is quality in the admission requirements, in the classroom, in the advising session, in research, in registration, in library services, in the building maintenance, in the work environment, in all things.

IT IS CUSTOMER DRIVEN. I’m not suggesting that we are a business simply dealing in customer satisfaction. The student as customer fails short of the student as an agent for his or her own learning. However, from a student’s view, the customer label is not alien — it is a lens for introspection into the service we provide them. In TQM everyone in the organization is a customer. Faculty would be considered a customer. A keen sense of customer needs governs all activities. The cardinal rule is to explicitly identify your customers, systematically know their needs, and commit to meeting those needs.

The emphasis is on CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT. The old American adage, “If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it,” is no longer apropos. Remember, quality is a journey to continuous improvement. As Associate Dean of Education Phyllis Edmundson points out in her discussions of public school improvement, “You don’t have to be sick to get better.” I’m not suggesting we are sick. We are good, but we can get better.

Another characteristic is the DISCIPLINE OF INFORMATION. People want to see the data. If you are serious about improving quality, they say, everybody has to know how they are doing. Our outcomes assessment is a step in this direction. Many say we have a retention problem here at BSU because about 1,000 students leave within one year of admission. Do we know why they are leaving? I can conclude with some degree of certainty that we lack good information.

TQM calls for TEAMWORK. From the president to the maintenance personnel, within units and across functions, quality issues are attacked in teams. The teams they talk about in total quality are not your familiar committees; they are self-directed work groups with their own required competencies and protocols. TQM believes in superiority of collaborative work that achieves “team learning.”

Another important characteristic is EMPOWERING PEOPLE. One authority claims that 85 percent of all problems are traceable to the process and just 15 percent to the people in them. TQM “empowers” people by trusting all employees to act responsibly and giving them appropriate authority. I personally believe that all people want to do the right thing and do it better. The task of managers is to remove the system barriers that prevent people from doing so.

TQM calls for more training and recognition. Organizations must invest more in human resource development. All employees need to understand the vision of quality, have the skills of teamwork and problem solving, and relate better to students/clients/customers.

LEADERSHIP is probably the most essential TQM characteristic. TQM partisans want fewer managers, at least of the old type — powerful figures in sole command of vertical authority structures. Instead, they want leaders of a new type — vision givers, listeners, team workers, avid patient for long-term ends, orchestrators and enablers of people-driven improvement.

The quest for quality is a journey, and it is a journey that we must take if we are to continue our evolution as a major institution of higher education. Do we adopt the Total Quality Management model? The university community has to decide. I think it is worth considering.

By Larry Selland
President, Boise State University
(Excerpted from his State of the University address in January.)
BSU PATRIARCH DIES AT AGE 86

The patriarch of the Boise State family is gone. Eugene Chaffee died on Feb. 5. He was 86.

Chaffee was among the first faculty hired when Boise Junior College was founded in 1932. Four years later the college trustees persuaded him to become president. From the outset, Chaffee established close relationships with the community and students, recruiting students and faculty, and drumming up local support.

He moved the school to a spacious campus on the site of the old Boise airport in 1941, and engineered a remarkable string of bond election successes in the '50s and '60s to build the new physical plant.

In 1964 he led the junior college into a new era when it became a four-year school that offered bachelor's degrees. Three years later legislation was passed that made the college part of the state system of higher education.

Chaffee retired as president in 1967 and remained as chancellor the next academic year.

He is survived by his wife Lois, son Bart and daughter Lois Ann Schwarzhoff.

The Boise State Foundation has established a scholarship in Chaffee's memory. Donations can be sent to the Boise State University Foundation, Attn: Chaffee Scholarship Fund, 1910 University Dr., Boise, ID 83725.

LEGISLATURE TIGHTENS BUDGET BELT

The news coming from the Idaho Legislature may not be as cheerful as it has been in recent years when the state's economy was so healthy that it produced budget surpluses.

This year the Legislature's budget committee has warned higher education leaders that the system may get only enough to maintain current operations, if that.

The effects of tightening the budget belt during a time of increasing enrollment will put BSU in a pinch, President Larry Selland told members of the Joint Finance Appropriations Committee in late January.

"We recognize that funds will be limited, but we cannot meet the increased needs of our students without additional resources," he said.

Selland asked for a $6.6 million increase over the current year, including $2 million to ease the pressures of a 25 percent enrollment increase over the past five years.

Gov. Cecil Andrus recommended a budget that basically gives higher education what it received last year. But even that recommendation may be optimistic after the Legislature projected $13 million less revenue than the governor's estimate.

Andrus did recommend one new item for Boise State — $600,000 for an early childhood education program.

Selland also requested funding for four building projects, an addition to the Math/Geology Building for a Raptor Research Center, an addition to the Canyon County Center, and planning money for new health science and technology buildings.

Selland says he still hopes the Legislature will add funds to help the state's universities cope with enrollment growth and inflation.

"Even though the economy is not doing well, inflation is still there, and we must deal with it," he said.

"There is some irony in our situation. We have found that during a recession even more students tend to attend college. So we see our enrollment increase at a time when the economy can't produce the budgets we need to serve those students," said Selland.

BSU PLANNING FIRST DOCTORATE

Boise State is laying the groundwork to begin its first doctorate degree after the State Board of Education approved BSU's "initial intent" in November.

The board is expected to vote on the proposal at its meeting in June. If approved, BSU then would seek funding at the next session of the Idaho Legislature.

The new degree, an Ed.D. in curriculum and instruction, is designed to help improve the skills and knowledge of classroom teachers.

The goal, says Dean of Education Robert Barr, is to help teachers become "scholarly practitioners" who can provide leadership in school renewal.

"This is a degree that will help teachers become better. It is not to train them to become administrators," he said.
THE CHAFFEE ERA

Born in Nebraska in 1905.

One of five original faculty who opened BJC in 1932. Taught history and physical education.

Became president in 1936. Annual salary: $1,800. BJC’s total budget: $19,000.

In 1939 Legislature authorized a junior college taxing district, putting BJC on a firm fiscal foundation.

BJC moved to site of old Boise airport in 1941. The Administration Building was the first on the new campus.

Over the years, Chaffee successfully guided passage of seven of eight bond elections. The one measure that failed passed the next year.

Joined Navy in 1942, returned to campus in September, 1945 and reorganized its administration by 1947.

Appointed Lyle Smith as football coach in 1947. The school has had only one losing season since.

The junior college era ended in 1965 when BJC became a four-year school and was renamed Boise College. Voters approved a $1 million bond issue to build four new buildings.

Retired from presidency in 1967. In April of that year Gov. Don Samuelson signed bill authorizing the school to move into the state system of higher education by 1969.

Chaffee served as chancellor of Boise College the next academic year.

Chaffee Hall and Chaffee Associates, BSU’s premiere giving society, named in his honor.


EUGENE B. CHAFFEE: A TRIBUTE

Relatively few students, faculty, and staff at Idaho’s largest university think they knew Gene Chaffee when he died Feb. 5. And yet he knew them. As he wrote in the introduction to his book, An Idea Grows ... A History of Boise College, “I lived Boise College from its inception in 1932 until the arrival of my successor in June of 1967.” As part of that life, he knew and appreciated each person on campus and envisioned their successors, never losing sight of the college from his home on the bench.

Everyone who attends Boise State University meets Gene as they experience the environment and spirit he created. When you stroll the campus from Broadway to Capitol you’re on land he acquired. When you profit from nearly any of the academic emphases at the university, you’re in a subject he introduced. And when you walk through any of the buildings from his era, you are witnessing the result of Gene’s close friendship with a community that taxed itself to build the campus.

Gene taught history, and valued the beauty of the place he worked when only Native Americans occupied it. He coached the Bronco track team for several years, insisted on a place for recreation and intercollegiate athletics on campus, and instilled a desire to win — a determination to achieve excellence. He demonstrated the importance of the college to Boise’s economic development and the advantages of “urban education” long before the term “urban university” became popular.

And you’ll meet Gene in times of challenge, for he built in a generation of great stress. The college opened its doors in the low point of the world’s greatest depression, became a public institution in September 1939 (the first year of World War II) and moved onto its new campus one month prior to the first day of the Selective Service Act.

In all the service and building Gene and his wife, Lois, were inseparable. He sacrificed his health for the college, and Lois was at his side supplying the strength he had lost during too many years of illness. Gene would want me to repeat the first words from this sentence in the introduction to his book: “I wish to acknowledge the support of my wife, Lois, in this period of moving away from my life....”

Recruiting faculty and students by personal visit and sharing his vision; responding graciously to patronizing critics; seeking funds and support through efforts bureaucrats can’t comprehend; and winning the friendship and assistance of Boiseans, he anticipated every one of the thousands on campus today and those expected tomorrow.

So he closed his book by writing “As one looks back on this scene, he is reminded that it compares very closely to the growth of a river. Support comes from many tributaries, usually from far-seeing individuals... and finally develops into a mighty river toward the end of the stream as other citizens join in supporting it. This is then concentrated in one mighty channel.”

You can’t miss Dr. Chaffee. He’s the channel. □

John H. Keiser
President, 1978-91
SEARCH FOR NEXT BOISE STATE PRESIDENT NOW IN PROGRESS

The national search for Boise State University's fifth president has officially begun.

In late January the State Board of Education's 22-member search committee agreed on a job description and adopted a timetable for the selection of a successor to John Keiser, who was dismissed Sept. 20.

It will take almost a year, however, before the new president will be on campus.

"We're advertising the preferred starting date for the position as Jan. 4, 1993, but we will work to get a new president on board before that if at all possible," says Roberta Fields, the state board member who is chair of the screening committee.

BSU alumni, faculty, students and staff can nominate candidates for the position. Those nominations will be accepted at the office of the state board until April 1. Applications from the candidates are due April 15.

The position is also being advertised nationally in the Chronicle of Higher Education, the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times and other publications.

COMMITTEE LOBBIES FOR NAMPA CENTER

A friend. That's what Boise State University has found in a blue-ribbon committee lobbying for a proposed expansion of BSU's Canyon County Center in Nampa.

The 18-member Canyon County Center Expansion Committee was formed last spring in support of a three-phase $5.2 million addition to the satellite campus in Nampa. Members include legislator Jerry Thorne, former State Board of Education member Janet Hay, Humberto Fuentes of the Idaho Migrant Council, local mayors and others.

Brian Vance, a West One vice president in Nampa, says the committee has contacted legislators and sent letters to business leaders seeking their support.

In 1991 nearly 4,000 people received instruction through BSU's School of Applied Technology, Division of Continuing Education, Adult Learning Center and other programs. Also, more than 200 high school students attend Canyon Alternative Education Center classes housed in the Canyon County Center.

Presently BSU's request for $2.7 million for the expansion project is seventh on the State Board's permanent building fund list.

Thorne, who serves on the powerful Joint Finance and Appropriations Committee, says he and Sen. Atwell Perry will try to get the plan moved up on JFAC's slate. And while he's optimistic that the Legislature will fund the proposal, Thorne worries that it won't happen for a year or more because of this year's tight legislative budget.

The committee will work during the spring and summer to identify the names of eight to 10 finalists for submission to the state board, which will make the final selection. Fields says she expects the board to receive 150-300 applications.

Finalists will be in Boise next fall to meet with students, faculty, staff and others in the community.

In the meantime, Larry Selland has agreed to remain as president until the search is completed.

SUPERPERSON, PLEASE APPLY HERE

Commentary by Larry Burke

The "Help Wanted" sign is finally posted.

As the State Board of Education goes about its business of finding a new Boise State president, it should first do a wardrobe check. If a candidate has any shirts monogrammed with a huge "S," hire him — or her.

It just might take Superman — or should that be Superperson? — to satisfy all the constituencies that will be eagerly waiting with their wish lists.

In November the state board held a three-hour hearing to learn from the BSU community what qualities the new president should have. Added together, those who testified (most were faculty) outlined the real job description for the position.

As far as personal characteristics are concerned, the new president should be happy, read for the fun of it, have a "glimmer" in his or her eye, love new ideas, be smart, have intellectual integrity, be inspirational, be a scholar, be an administrator and have "contagious curiosity."

The president should manage by walking around; hang out with faculty, legislators, downtown types, donors, staff and students; treat students and adjunct faculty with respect; and build a sense of esprit de corps on campus.

But the president can't be a "yes man." No, he or she must be someone who is human, responsive and caring, and yes, manage like a woman, testified one faculty member.

The testimony also gives the president a clear set of objectives to accomplish the minute he — or she — steps on campus: get more staff, more classrooms, more books, more periodicals, more films and videos, and more computers; keep overhead projectors in better repair; improve working conditions for faculty; raise pay for faculty; increase funds for travel and research; deal with the Legislature, improve student retention; and represent minority student interests.

There were a few requests that conflicted, but those shouldn't be a problem for our Superperson. According to testimony, here is what is expected of the new president:

• De-emphasize athletics
• Seek membership in a Division I football conference.
• View students as consumers.
• Don't treat students like numbers.
• Support technical education.
• Emphasize the liberal arts.
• Support more research.
• Ensure that teaching is the top priority.
• Recognize BSU's responsibilities as an urban university.

Don't let the community set the university agenda.

If all goes as planned, next fall finalists for the job will be on campus to get better acquainted with us, and this job description. If a potential president flies without the assistance of an airline, we should offer him — or her — the moon.
TEACHER AIDES LEARN NEW SKILLS

Thousands of Idaho schoolchildren would be lost without teacher aides who provide needed one-on-one assistance in their classrooms. But many aides lack the training that could help them do an even better job in the schools.

Now, nearly 70 teacher aides are learning important skills in a new two-year educational assistant program offered through the outreach division of Boise State’s College of Technology.

During the first year of the program, students attend classes in classroom literacy, behavior management, education psychology and introduction to instructional practices. In the second year, they select one of seven areas of specialization, including special education, early childhood and other topics.

Feedback has been very positive, says director Ann Snodgrass, who has been receiving good evaluations from principals with teacher aides enrolled in the program. “We’re finding the aides are far more effective in delivering instruction and they’re far more sensitive to the needs of their students,” Snodgrass says.

Currently, 69 students are enrolled in the program at Boise State’s Canyon County Center in Nampa. Snodgrass hopes to start another class in Boise soon.

BROADCAST TECH TRAINING OFFERED

Idaho students seeking careers in broadcast technology no longer need to travel to Washington or other states to receive their training. Starting next fall, students can enroll in a two-year broadcast technology program offered through Boise State’s College of Technology.

The new program is the result of a five-year campaign by local television and radio professionals concerned about the lack of qualified applicants for technical positions, which require knowledge of audio, video, lighting, equipment operation and maintenance.

Courses are designed to give students hands-on experience as technicians in the broadcasting industry, according to James Paluzzi, general manager of BSU Radio Network. “So many people go into broadcasting but don’t get the technology classes until later. This program gives exposure to the technology on the first day.”

Students who complete the two-year broadcast technology program will have the option of continuing their studies to earn a four-year bachelor of applied science degree.

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MODERN LANGUAGE PROGRAM REOPENS

Recognizing that the United States must transcend attitudes of “us” vs. “them” and understand how and why foreign cultures operate, Boise State has re-established an emphasis on the study of foreign languages.

Driven, in part, by the realities of a global economy, foreign languages are back among the majors offered at BSU after a 10-year hiatus.

Following State Board of Education approval last June, a department of modern languages was re-established in the College of Arts and Sciences, and English professor Jan Widmayer was named acting chair. Baccalaureate degrees in French, German and Spanish also were approved. A new chair is expected to be named this spring.

Until 1982, foreign languages were part of foreign language majors were eliminated during budgetary problems in the early 1980s. Although degrees in French, German and Spanish have not been available since 1982, minors in the three languages were still offered through the College of Education during that time.

During the 1970s, language enrollments hit all-time lows nationwide, but priorities have changed considerably since then. With international trade and global business dealings becoming more essential to corporate America, foreign language studies are becoming more popular in high schools and colleges across the United States.

Widmayer points to a statistic that verifies that observation: During the 1990-91 school year, 42 percent of Boise secondary school students took a foreign language. That number, Widmayer notes, represents a 100 percent increase over the past 10 years.

And because many students have good foreign language high school backgrounds, some of them a signing up for 200-level courses at BSU — especially in French, Widmayer says. Registration for entry-level and 200-level courses in the three languages is “bursting at the seams,” she adds.

Widmayer says there are approximately 100 students who have declared majors in a foreign language. “About half of them are in Spanish, and the other half is evenly divided between French and German,” she says. Widmayer adds that the program should graduate its first student this spring.

The re-establishment of the modern languages department has also made possible the development of degree programs in other departments that have an international focus. In the planning stages are proposals for international economics and international business degrees. Both have requirements of intermediate language competency.

GEOPHYSICAL CENTER ESTABLISHED AT BSU

Once just a promise, the Center for Geophysical Investigation of the Shallow Subsurface is taking wing with the first $100,000 installment of a $1 million grant from the State Board of Education.

Last year the board awarded the grant for the geophysical center in a statewide competition that included Idaho State and the University of Idaho. But because of a tight state appropriation, no money was available — until now.

Geosciences professor Jack Pelton will direct the center, which he says will develop and improve methods of imaging the upper 500 meters of the Earth’s crust, the portion used for mining, waste disposal, groundwater supplies and construction. Pelton notes that this is “the zone which most directly interacts with and influences human activities.”

Studying this layer of the Earth is a new scientific endeavor, he says, “with the potential to make significant contributions to the solution of problems associated with the environment, natural resources and natural hazards.”

The investigative center’s research team will consist of six geophysicists, a geologist, a hydrogeologist and six to eight graduate students.

TECHNOLOGY SCHOOLS RENAMED

An expanded vision for Boise State’s College of Technology has resulted in new names for the college’s two schools.

The School of Vocational Technical Education has been renamed the School of Applied Technology and what was previously known as the School of Applied Technology is now the School of Engineering Technology. The name changes were approved recently by the State Board of Education.

In part, the new labels were precipitated by name changes for programs at other institutions in Idaho, said Tom MacGregor, interim dean of BSU’s College of Technology. For example, the vocational school at Lewis Clark State College is now called the School of Technology and at Idaho State University the vocational school’s known as the School of Applied Technology. Boise State’s new School of Applied Technology offers 28 programs.

The name School of Engineering Technology better reflects the high-level education and training students receive at the university, MacGregor said. The School of Engineering Technology offers a master’s degree, three baccalaureate degrees and four associate degree programs.

The colorful dreams of children from throughout the western United States and British Columbia filled Boise State’s Gallery of Art in January for the regional Crayola DreamMakers exhibit. Anne Gabel, whose painting "Fish in the Sea" was among 87 works on display, traveled from Worden, Mont., to attend a gala reception for the show. Binney & Smith, makers of Crayola products, sponsors five regional exhibitions which will tour the country through spring. The BSU art department also presented a two-day art class for children and a teacher’s workshop in conjunction with the exhibit.
CONFERENCE HOSTS RUSSIAN SPEAKERS

Many of the top advisers to the Boris Yeltsin administration in Russia will be in Boise April 9-10 for a conference sponsored by the Frank Church Chair of Public Affairs and the College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs.

Ten scholars and government officials will deliver a series of public lectures and meet with local business leaders during the annual U.S.-Soviet Trans-Pacific Conference.

All of the speakers are involved in Russia's economic reform and the democratization of politics in the former Soviet Union.

One of the speakers, Andrei Kortunov, participated in the Frank Church Conference last year. A professor at the Institute of USA and Canada Studies in Moscow, he is frequently seen on U.S. television commenting on events in Russia.

Other speakers include Alexei Arbatov, one of the top negotiators on the reduction of nuclear weapons, and Alexander Panov, who is the Russian equivalent of an assistant secretary of state.

The conference site alternates each year between the former Soviet Union and the western U.S., says Robert Sims, dean of the College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs. Sims attended the conference last year in the USSR.

Sims says the conferences were started 10 years ago to encourage more understanding between the two countries.

On Feb. 20-21 BSU hosted the ninth annual Frank Church Conference on Public Affairs. Titled "Earth in the Balance," the conference addressed many of the global environmental issues that face future generations.

Major evening addresses were by Tennesseee Sen. Al Gore, author of a recent book also titled Earth in the Balance, and NASA scientist Joe McNeal, one of the world's authorities on depletion of the ozone layer.

Other speakers and panels addressed issues concerning rain forests, cities and the former Soviet Union.

Speakers also talked about local environmental problems and possible solutions. Workshops on environmental education were held each afternoon.

A full report about "Earth in the Balance" will be published in the spring issue of FOCUS.

Both conferences are sponsored by the Frank Church Chair of Public Affairs, an endowment held by the Boise State University Foundation. The interest from funds donated to the Church Chair has paid for eight previous public affairs conferences.
DEAR EDITOR:

I read the article, “No Time to Teach” (Fall 1991 FOCUS) just a few weeks after visiting a nationally designated “School of the 21st Century” in Leadville, Colo. Leadville, a once-prosperous community located high in the Rocky Mountains, faced near extinction in the late 1970s when the nearby silver mines began to close. By the early 1980s, the community was still struggling to survive high unemployment and rising numbers of teen pregnancies, broken families, and children “at risk.”

Rather than dwell on past memories of what the community once was, a young, visionary school superintendent stepped forward to help the community deal with the realities that existed. He, along with a handful of Leadville citizens, fashioned an elementary school building into a community center that offered infant care, child care, before- and after-school programs and teen parenting and life skills classes.

This superintendent explained, in detail, how each program in the center interfaced with the elementary, junior high and high school curricula as well as how the center helped strengthen and support families in the community. How this superintendent and his staff conceptualized and implemented parent involvement was particularly innovative. They did not wave the banner of partnership and at the same time assume that they knew better than the parent what was best for their child. Rather, they engaged in realistic strategies for communication and contact between parents and teachers.

The teachers interviewed in your article expressed the realities that they deal with daily in their classrooms in Boise. These realities are not the ones that I experienced as a child when going to school nor, I suspect, will they be the realities that my children’s children will experience. They are what exists now! Many of these “negative” changes in our schools are environmentally induced problems more than clear parent neglect.

Parent-teacher animosity? The burgeoning needs of our children doesn’t allow time for us to pursue that non-productive direction. Our real hurdle to change is dealing with the assumptions that we operate under vs. the realities that exist. We need to expand our approaches — as teachers, as administrators, as parents and as communities — if we are to work successfully together to ensure the best education possible for our children.

Mary Lou Kinney
Parent & Early Childhood
Education Specialist
Boise

DEAR EDITOR:

As a former colleague of John Keiser, I am shocked by his dismissal as president of Boise State University. John’s professionalism and integrity throughout his career have always been admired by his colleagues. The only good that can come from BSU’s loss will be that another university will benefit from his presence.

David J. Maurer
Chair and Professor of History
Eastern Illinois University
Charleston, Ill.

DEAR EDITOR:

I appreciated reading Glenn Oakley’s article “Crimes of the Classroom” in the Fall ‘91 issue of FOCUS. It was refreshing to see this subject given a thorough examination as contrasted to the short headlines it usually grabs. As a result of your work, readers will understand that sexual abuse of students by teachers are not necessarily isolated incidents.

The article serves to encourage educational systems to prioritize addressing the problem. Thanks for including our perspectives.

Ken Patterson
Division of Family and Children’s Services
Idaho Dept. of Health and Welfare
Boise
STUDENTS HELP IN TOURISM SURVEY

By Kevin Chen

A recent study by a BSU marketing organization has demonstrated that students can play an important role in Idaho's economic development.

Pi Sigma Epsilon (PSE) conducted a statewide research study on vacation and tourism in Idaho for the Department of Commerce. The six-month study was completed in December.

Using computer assisted telephone interviewing at BSU's Survey Research Center, students surveyed 604 respondents to identify Idahoans’ vacation behaviors and attitudes toward tourism the state.

About 20 marketing students were involved in the study, which was conducted in part as a fund-raiser for PSE. The results are being used by the Department of Commerce for an in-state promotional program. "This study is assisting us in selling Idaho to Idahoans," says Patty Bond of the Department of Commerce.

The survey showed that 70 percent of those interviewed agreed that tourism has improved the state economy and is important to the local economy. "Everyone came out a winner in this study," says Douglas Lincoln, chairman of the marketing and finance department at BSU. "The state of Idaho got new information to help economic development, and the students were involved in a real marketing and educational experience."

This study wasn't the first that PSE has conducted for the Department of Commerce. In early 1991, PSE conducted an in-state constituent survey in which representatives of the tourism industry were interviewed. The Department of Commerce was pleased with the students' work and asked them to conduct the latest study.

MANE LINE DANCERS BRING HOME SILVER

The Mane Line Dancers continue their winning ways with a second-place award for pom dancing at the National Collegiate Cheerleading and Dance Championships held recently in Dallas.

The University of Missouri was the repeat winner in the competition, followed by BSU, the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State. BSU's 22-member dance team has steadily moved up in the national rankings, with fourth, third and second place finishes in the past three years.

Although BSU could participate in the Division I-AA division, the Mane Line Dancers have chosen to compete against larger Division I schools.

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n terms of traditional Judeo-Christian beliefs, where are America’s baby boomers headed? After years of indifference to religion and absence from church, are they renouncing their materialistic, self-centered ways and returning to the fold? Are these former iconoclasts who proclaimed “God is dead” during the 1960s and ’70s becoming the churchgoers of the ’90s?

“I would say there is increased spirituality in America today,” replies Warren Vinz, chair of the Boise State history department and a specialist in religious history. “But it’s there without people necessarily joining an organized religion. With fast-paced lifestyles, two-job families, increased mobility and other commitments, many Americans are going it alone in religious terms.”

And as American society becomes more diverse, the roles that traditional religions play in the marketplace of ideas begin to blur. In a nation with nearly 1,200 religious organizations, mainline churches may be getting lost in the shuffle.

“There is an increased intensity of religious, cultural and ethnic pluralism,” says Vinz, “and in addition to that, you have a multiplicity of interests: the government, the state, the town, the family, the church. You have all these different centers of authority competing for loyalty and what is called ‘the crisscrossing of loyalties.’ This phenomenon has intensified from the 1950s through the 1980s and this, in part, is
Whenever there has been a crisis, there is usually some type of outbreak of religion.

why mainline religion, including mainline Protestantism, is having some difficulty today. ... Being called Protestant today doesn't necessarily provide identity for persons or groups like it used to. 'Protestant' has become amorphous; it's almost a meaningless term.

"Some religious groups which 40 years ago were not considered Protestant now call themselves Protestant. Sects often become 'mainline' in time."

Religion has always been a highly private matter to most Americans, and the line that separates established Judeo-Christian faiths from other religious groups is often thin and indistinct, but two things are certain: Despite the ambiguities, (1) the United States is a religious nation and (2) the majority of Americans consider themselves followers of established Judeo-Christian faiths.

A nationwide survey of religious groups in the United States conducted last year by the City University of New York Graduate Center showed that more than 90 percent of all Americans identify with a specific church or denomination — this in a society considered highly secular. And according to the poll, 66 percent of all Americans say they are either Roman Catholic, Protestant, Jewish or Mormon.

Those numbers, however, can be deceiving. Americans with mere lineal ties to or an interest in some sort of doctrine are included among the vast majority aligned with some sort of religion—even if formal worship in a church is not part of their faith.

"There is a large number of people whose religious beliefs and practices are just their own," says Tom Mayes, director of the Boise State Survey Research Center and a former Episcopal priest. "They have very little outward manifestations in traditional forms or in traditional organizations. Sometimes their beliefs and practices conform very much to traditional forms and practices, but in America a large number of folks fall into the [non-churchgoing] group."

Still, more than 40 percent of Americans do attend weekly religious services. And although some Americans have embraced unconventional New Age practices or less

Recent statistics say the largest portion of the nation's traditional evangelical, fundamentalist and Pentecostal religions, the largest portion of the nation's churchgoers worship at the altar of mainstream faiths.

"My perception of New Age spirituality and various aspects of it is that it seems to be growing in awareness and popularity," says
continues to be a growing, moving force in America. According to Vinz, Mayes and representatives of the Boise religious community, certain economic and demographic developments are influencing this trend.

First, in times of crisis there is often a renewed interest in religion. (“There’s nothing like a good war to increase our congregation,” a minister said during the Gulf War, perhaps only half in jest.) And the current recession is a possible factor in the growing number of baby boomers who are returning to religion.

“I think there is a close connection between religion and the [nation’s current] economic condition,” says Mayes. “If the economic pressures in our country continue to grow, the traditional equation is often of people losing faith and becoming more preoccupied with getting food on the table and getting the bills paid. But there is a flip side: Whenever there has been a crisis, there is usually some type of outbreak of religion.”

The Rev. Earl Barnard, pastor of Boise’s Redeemer Lutheran Church, agrees. “That’s a natural tendency,” he says. “You never ask God for a lot of help when you’re fat; it’s when you’re down and out that you ask for help. Hard times bring people around to acknowledging that everything is a gift from God.”

Another factor is that the baby boomers are now parents themselves. Eager to instill in their children the moral strength that they hope will deliver them from today’s social ills, parents are more inclined to embrace a religious ideology.

According to Gary Beckstead, director of the LDS Institute of Religion at Boise State, as parents assume more responsibilities, they are more apt to seek the stable values that churches can provide.

“There is nothing quite so sobering as trying to raise another individual,” Beckstead says. “When you have children and you see how dependent they are on you, I think that creates a desire for parents to do their best.”

In some instances, says Beckstead, that “desire” becomes a rediscovery of religious values that the parents were taught as children. “I think in many cases that when parents come to this realization, they often reach back for things that were used to give them a good start in life — and religion would be part of it,” he says.

Barnard notes the same trend. In many cases, the people who return to his church are parents of young children who have not formally practiced their faith in a number of years. “When their kids start hitting the age when they go to school and see the permissiveness in society, the parents start looking for something for the kids to hold on to,” he remarks. “That’s one of the reasons they return to church. They are looking for something with some moral values and moral teaching.”

Although the responsibilities of parenthood are often a factor, the Rev. Joseph da Silva, pastor of St. Paul’s Catholic Center at BSU, says a person’s spiritual renewal is often just a personal choice.

“Most of the people I talk to who have come back have found that Catholicism has changed over the years, and for one reason or another they are trying to tap back to their roots,” da Silva says. “Some people who were active or were forced to be active and called a halt to practicing their religion in the institutional form for five, 10 or 20 years have decided to re-examine their faith.”

But, da Silva suggests, such a decision should be voluntary. “I feel uncomfortable doing it any other way,” he says. “It has to be from his or her own heart. You can’t lure people back. It has to be more natural.”

Parental concerns and economic trauma may be among the reasons some baby boomers are returning to religion. But maybe there is something more profound — something more “from the heart.”

Perhaps it’s because they are uncomfortable with what they consider a random existence. When the illusion that we are masters of our own fate begins to fade, they develop a need for something else.

“I think man is basically religious,” says Barnard. “It provides him with something to hang his hat on and make his life worthwhile; something that says, ‘Yes, there’s a point to my being here.’”
In 1782 in Switzerland a woman accused of being a witch was burned at the stake.

She was the last of up to 9 million people, mainly women, who were tortured to death after being accused of witchcraft. The exact numbers killed are disputed by scholars, notes Boise State history professor Phoebe Lundy, “But the point is,” she says, “a helluva lot of people got burned.”

Whoever the real witches were and whatever the real practice of witchcraft was centuries ago has been obscured, although several different interpretations have been presented by modern scholars.

Still, the common perception of witches today remains that set forth by Dominican priests Heinrich Kramer and Jacob Sprenger in 1486 in the Malleus Maleficarum — the Hammer of Witches. The Malleus Maleficarum was a guidebook for the identification and interrogation of witches. The book ignited a holocaust that lasted two centuries and has largely gone unchallenged. Ask any child today, 500 years later, what a witch is, and you will be told of evil women who ride through the air on broomsticks, mix evil potions in black cauldrons, eat babies and cast spells.

But to many people today, accepting that view of witches is like accepting the Nazis’ propaganda version of Jews. The perpetrators of the witch holocaust remain victorious.

Yet witchcraft — or at least a modern version of it — is undergoing something of a revival. Most cities in America,
The new witchcraft combines feminist ideology, environmentalism, Native American spirituality and goddess worship.
Do you believe in the power of prayer? Then you believe in casting spells. Do you believe in miracles? Then you believe in magic. It's all in the language that you use.

including Boise, have several witch covens.

Peggy Guiles, a BSU adjunct English instructor, helped found a group of witches four years ago. Guiles says the five members of her women's spirituality group call themselves witches "because it's taking back a strong female image that's been used to terrify people." Guiles says she perceives witches as "wise women. They are the healers. I am rejecting society's image of a witch as an evil, ugly woman. The eating of Christian babies is a myth not so far in the past. Satanism spooks people."

But, says Guiles, "witches I am involved with don't believe in Satan. That's part of the Christian world and we're outside that." Guiles' group, which they refer to as "circle," meets once or twice a month and includes women from a broad range of occupations — from computer specialists to child-care workers.

The new witchcraft is an amalgam of feminist ideology, environmentalism, Native American spirituality and goddess worship. It is one of several spirituality movements which harken back to what is known as the old religion — the pagan religions originated by Neolithic people. Several current groups refer to themselves as neo-pagans.

Lundy, who is currently in Spain teaching the history of witchcraft, says, "There are lots of different traditions in the old religion," including Native American, Celtic, Druid and ancient Greek religious traditions. "Each one of those traditions leads you in a different direction," she says, "but they do share some things in common. The old religion is found worldwide because its origins are with hunter/gatherers. It's tied in with that human connection with nature."

Lundy says the old religion, "divides the wheel of the year into major festivals — holy days — by the two solstices, the two equinoxes." The wheel of the year is further divided by festivals which fall between the equinoxes and solstices — Halloween between the fall equinox and summer solstice, and the Day of New Beginnings between the winter solstice and spring equinox, for example.

"The equinoxes and solstices are holy days for pagans," says Guiles, "because they're important in the cycle of the year, which is a microcosm of the cycle of life."

Many of these pagan festivals still exist, says Lundy, although they have been transformed into Judeo-Christian holy days or into nearly meaningless observances such as Groundhog Day, which was the Day of New Beginnings.

Lundy says the old religion also follows the phases of the moon and views them as metaphors for the lives of people — waxing/growing, full/maturity, and waning/decay. Significantly for neo-pagans, the moon is seen as female, with its 28-day cycle corresponding to the menstrual cycle. The waxing moon is the maiden, the full moon the pregnant woman and the waning moon the crone — the Halloween hag whose secrets are contained in the cauldron.

Many of the neo-pagans incorporate the goddess religion into their practice. A host of books have been written about the early goddess religions, notable among them, When God Was A Woman by Merlin Stone. The premise is that Neolithic people of Greece and the Middle East worshipped female deities — goddesses such as Isis, Athena, Gaia and Demeter. The Acropolis in Greece, for example, is the site where Athena was worshipped.

Women in the goddess religion societies are believed to have been at least equal to men and were often the rulers and high
priestesses. However, the theory goes, the patriarchal Hebrew Levites began attacking the goddess religion, denouncing it as evil. The Garden of Eden story is seen as a deliberate attempt to undermine the goddess religion by casting the woman Eve as the one who brings the downfall of man by tempting him with fruit from the tree of knowledge. The creation story of Genesis is perceived as a political ploy to further subjugate females by having God create woman from man’s rib for the sole purpose of serving men.

Through these Biblical writings and other subterfuges, Stone and others argue, women lost their autonomy and spent the next few thousand years subservient to men. Thus, feminists are often drawn to the goddess religion as a reaffirmation of their power.

Lundy says the neo-pagan religions appeal to “women seeking a spirituality that has a strong place for women. The ecology movement has used it as a way of healing the Earth. The peace movement has used it because it is seen as balanced.”

Guiles says people usually join a pagan group after reading and studying independently. She says she came to embrace witchcraft after losing her faith in Mormonism. “I was brought up as a Mormon,” she says. “I was an atheist for 10 years — I was so angry. I thought I’d been lied to. I was very skeptical about anything that didn’t have a scientific seal of approval on it.”

Her change of heart came, she says, “when I realized religion didn’t necessarily have anything to do with spirituality. I think of religion as dogmatic and structured and punitive. I think of spirituality as reverence.”

The neo-pagan groups are nothing if not eclectic and autonomous. “We don’t have a pope,” says Guiles. “There’s no hierarchy. Some are pagans, neo-pagans, wiccans, witches, spirituality groups, goddess groups. We call ourselves witches. We are our own authorities.”

The environmental aspect of the neo-pagan spirituality movement is especially strong among those who see the roots of the environmental crisis in traditional Judeo-Christianity. Says Guiles, “We don’t believe people are here to dominate the Earth. To us, strip mining and pollution are a sacrilege.”

Eliah Stetson, who practices an eclectic blend of Native American spirituality, says her practice is “very Earth-oriented. Traditional Christianity is pretty much focused on sin and suffering. The focus of my spirituality is to make people aware of our impact on the Earth.”

A number of contemporary books are used as reference guides for such groups to establish their own rituals. Perhaps the most commonly referred to book is The Spiral Dance by a writer named Starhawk.

Such books, as well as candles, drums, incense, crystals and more, are sold at New Age bookstores like the Blue Unicorn in Boise. Stetson, who works at the Blue Unicorn, says the neo-pagan movement in the area is, “big — bigger than most people think.” She says the Blue Unicorn mailing list includes 4,000 people, although not all are neo-pagans. A celebration of the winter solstice held along the Boise River attracted 60 people by word of mouth alone, she says.

The individuals who came to the evening celebration lit candles and welcomed the return of the sun.

Stetson says the number of men participating in neo-pagan groups is increasing. “It used to be maybe one man in five women,” she says. “At the last solstice celebration it was half and half.”

Stetson notes that rituals such as the solstice celebration are “symbolic.” By and large, neo-pagans do not believe in casting spells or what would normally pass for magic. But she says many goddess worshippers do in fact believe in the physical reality of the goddesses. And they do believe in the power of energy.

Guiles held an impromptu ceremony at the ruins of the Elusian Temple in Greece known as “the womb of the world” in the goddess religion — “honoring the energy that exists there.”

Her group uses incense, “to clear the air of negative energy.” And, she says, “Our group has sent out healing thoughts to the Earth during the Exxon oil spill.

“We don’t practice what is traditionally considered witchcraft. We work with herbs and do guided meditation, do dream analysis. One night we made clay models. It’s sort of arts and crafts.” The rituals, says Guiles, are “a way of praying.”

Some might call that magic.

Posed with the question of magic among neo-pagans, Lundy responds, “Do you believe in the power of prayer? Then you believe in casting spells. Do you believe in miracles? Then you believe in magic. It’s all the language that you use.”

Similarly, she says, the historical roots of the goddess religion and the practice of witchcraft may not be so important. “The scholars can debate all they want. The people don’t care if it works for them.”

in her spiritual practice, which is an eclectic blend of Native American religions.
The Need for Rituals

By Amy Stahl

On a bright summer day on the shore of Payette Lake, a couple dressed in white, with hands gently intertwined, stands before a ring of wildflowers and branches. A minister speaks quietly to the 60 friends and family seated behind them. They listen intently.

"We stand within a circle—a living circle of sky and earth, and a circle of friends and family," the minister says, reading from a book she holds before her. "We honor the circle today, as we have since ancient days—the giver of light and of life... It is the shape of the fiery sun, the moon, and the unending procession of the seasons. Jyl and Paul step into this circle of leaves and flowers as they prepare to enter the mystery of marriage."

Together, the couple enters the ring of flowers. Later they exchange rings, kiss, recite their vows, and the wedding ends with music, laughter and tears.

This celebration, while personal, is but one of many rituals celebrated by people around the world. Christian rituals—like baptisms, communion and confirmation—are representative of the religious ceremonies that bring special meaning and spirituality into our daily lives.

Perhaps life would be as rich without them. Yet we cling to them, cherish them and pass them along lovingly to the next generation. Why?
Peter Buhler, a BSU history professor and expert in religious history, says humans throughout time have used rituals as a way to draw themselves closer to a higher power. “It is a way of communication between the sacred and us mere beings,” he says. “Rituals are symbols of things that transcend just us — the limited human condition.”

There is a tendency to categorize religious rituals as formal ceremonies, such as High Mass or Divine Liturgy of the Eastern Orthodox churches, which are performed in a temple or other designated place by a holy person.

Rituals, however, are the domain of all people — not just those who have received formal training, Buhler says. It doesn’t matter what the ritual is, who performs it, or where — merely that it fulfills a basic need. He asks: “What is the difference between the eucharist, Easter, symbols of what is sacred and some pre-Columbian native in Arizona planting a peyote button and dancing around appealing to some special force?”

Warren Vinz takes Buhler’s interpretation a step further. Vinz, chairman of BSU’s history department and specialist in religious history, believes they are part of the ongoing “human search” for unity and security. “Participation in rituals creates a sense of community that results in a sense of security,” he says.

Not surprisingly, there can be many interpretations of a single ritual. But that’s to be expected, Vinz says. “Different kinds of rituals mean something different to us because we are all different.” To illustrate his point, he cites three views of baptism: “For some, it is an essential ritual for salvation. For some it is a ritual that brings a new life — if it’s an infant — into the community.” Others, he says, view baptism as a movement from one phase of life into another.

Historically nearly all religions, even those that have outwardly eschewed them, have engaged in some form of ritualistic behavior. Some examples:

- Mesopotamians slaughtered sheep to read their livers, Vinz says, “in a search to understand the will of the gods through very close readings of omens.”
- Muslims face Mecca and take a submis-
Rev. Joseph da Silva, left, says Catholic rituals have changed with the needs of society.

- Buddhists use yoga, according to Buhler, "as a ritual way of transcending the profane and finding their way into the sacred in the same way as singing a hymn to reach God."

While creating a sense of unity, rituals also can help those seeking to reaffirm their own identities. BSU social work professor Arnold Panitch is among those who use religious ceremonies in this way. Panitch and his family celebrate Hanukkah by lighting candles on their Menorah "because we are transmitting a tradition, a memory and we differentiate ourselves from others who are not Jewish," he explains. As a Jew and "a member of a minority group in a majority culture," Panitch feels its important to "celebrate something of my own, to renew and restore my identity."

Panitch feels strongly, too, about sharing his faith with his son. "It's good for him to know what it's like to be a Jew ... by doing this we give him some kind of cultural as well as ritual identity."

Not all people are as introspective about why they engage in rituals. Some may disagree with the myth or reason for the ritual but nevertheless enjoy participating in them, Buhler says. Christmas carols, gift-giving and other holiday traditions are good examples. "Even people who don't celebrate Christmas in a religious way exchange gifts and eat together," he says.

Buhler says some people find spiritual satisfaction merely by performing a ritual. He says, "Bow, kneel, stand, sing, recitations: Does anybody really think about the meaning of the words? Maybe, but most likely not. The recitation is a ritual."

A trend seems to be surfacing nationwide in what appears to be a return to fundamental religious practices. A 1990 U.S. News and World Report story indicates that growing numbers of churchgoers are turning to orthodox religions and ancient ritual to find "the fullness of worship."

This resurgence is seen, at least in part, as a method of coping with an increasingly chaotic and impersonal world. Buhler explains, "One of the difficulties in modern society is that we really have a hard time in a world filled with diversity in terms of values, religious choices — a world that's so fragmented."

As society becomes more technological, people grow more disenfranchised — and more driven, says the Rev. Joseph da Silva, pastor of St. Paul's Catholic Center at BSU. "People have more money but they're work-
ing themselves harder to get there, stay there," he says. Consequently, many look to rituals to “enter into another world.” Think of an audience member listening to a symphony performance, da Silva says. “They and the whole group are simply swept away, taken beyond themselves.”

On a more pragmatic level, da Silva says he thinks the tactile elements of religious rituals — music, candles, food — appeal to the spiritual senses of today’s churchgoers. In other words, parishioners value things that are common to their everyday experience but which allow them “to go beyond what is normal.”

Da Silva warns though that rituals don’t necessarily “bring God down.” He says, “For Christians it isn’t magic: ‘Now God is here, now he isn’t.’” God, he says, is always among the faithful. Rituals merely allow them to be “lifted into something beyond their own concerns and issues, into something bigger.”

It should be noted, da Silva says, that although some Catholic rituals have been handed down for hundreds of years, many have changed with the needs of society. For example, he says, core elements continue in the eucharist that are expressed differently in each age and culture. Other changes within the Catholic faith include the widespread use of English in services and the active participation of congregation members in some ceremonies. Essentially though the same rituals, with some modifications, are performed by 900 million Catholics around the world.

In some cases, these shared rituals have sustained ethnic groups — such as those in the former Soviet Union — that have faced persecution by hostile governments. Rituals have become lifelines. “It was the only way they could maintain their identity and hope in the bleakest period,” da Silva says.

Ironically, religious freedom has created quite different problems for some in the new Confederation of Independent States. Rather than a source of unity, rituals are becoming weapons used to exclude some elements of society. What was once a life-giving identity, da Silva says, “can be expressed destructively toward people of a different background.”

Nevertheless, most people hold fast to rituals because they provide something special, something that goes beyond the daily experience of humanity. They form a bond that draws people together in a spiritual way. For where there is no spirit, there is a "poverty of soul," Vinz says.

As Ninian Smart, author of the book The Religious Experience of Mankind puts it: “If people go through the motions of religious observance without accompanying it with the intentions and sentiments which give it human meaning, ritual is merely an empty shell.”

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**RITUALS AND SYMBOLS**

By Sheila D. Reddy

Rituals and symbols used for healing are the topics of a popular two-day workshop Boise State anthropologist T. Virginia Cox has taught twice in recent months. Students in the workshops explore the healing rituals of other cultures, in part, by making their own personalized symbols. BSU graduate Sheila D. Reddy was among those who participated in one of the one-credit workshops. Following is a description of her experience:

Prayer sticks, fetishes and shields are used in the Native American culture to create a path from the common to the sacred. The path is a personal one leading individuals to a better understanding of what creates a sense of harmony and balance in themselves and therefore in the universe.

In my own life there have been odd moments — on a busy freeway, at a supermarket meat counter, in a neon office full of desks, in line at registration or on a hot day in a crowded park — when I realized I had lost my sense of what was really important.

The balance wasn’t there, or at least it was distorted.

It had nothing to do with my response to the slick commercialism of what my life was supposed to be, but a loss of connection with my inner self. I needed to restructure my sense of reality, regain a power base that would allow me to “sit back and watch the show” when I was stuck in a long slow-moving line, or maintain a sense of peace in a busy office.

I did not want to be a casualty in an age dominated by consumerism and technology. I needed to take that journey inward to find my own inner happiness and place of healing.

A part of that journey was to rediscover and acknowledge what symbols were important to me. In her workshop on “Healing Rituals and Sacred Symbols,” BSU anthropologist T. Virginia Cox reflected on prehistoric and historic symbols and rituals, pointing out that they provide an atmosphere open to changes in reality and perception.

The workshop was not focused on soon-to-be-forgotten notes. It combined the understanding of the cultural use of symbols, the construction of personal symbols, and the roles they play in health and healing.

This “hands-on” method was doing and thinking, not just passively listening or talking.

As I looked at the medicine shield I was to paint, it occurred to me it would not take art skills to create what symbols I felt were important, but personal honesty and introspection.

What had I learned on my journey? I needed my family, time to meditate, friends, work I liked, a constant connection to my inner self, a closeness with the Earth, a sense of reality, and a vision of the path I was on so I could maintain a sense of peace, ease and inner composure.

The symbols created on the shields at the workshop were personal — as individual as each of their makers — reflecting form, but allowing for cultural and personal differences. For myself, the workshop provided me with a unique opportunity to recenter ideas and separate from the ordinary those elements that keep life in balance and harmony. □
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ATHLETE GRAD RATeS ON THE RISE AT BSU

Boise State is working hard to help its student-athletes succeed in the classroom, says Athletic Director Gene Bleymaier. Those efforts are starting to pay dividends.

A report submitted to the NCAA this winter shows that BSU graduated 59 percent of its student-athletes who entered during 1983-84 and 1984-85. The percentage, called the "refined graduation rate" by the NCAA, is a two-year average of student-athletes who received athletic aid and graduated within a six-year period after they first enrolled. It includes both freshman and junior college transfers and allows schools to subtract student-athletes who leave school in good academic standing.

Eighty-three BSU student-athletes, 60 men and 23 women, were included in the total pool. Seventy percent of the women and 55 percent of the men graduated.

The Big Sky Conference hasn't compiled the rates for its member schools, but the 59 percent figure would have placed BSU fourth in the Pac-10 Conference.

"The results indicate that we are moving in a positive direction with our academic programs. We plan to get better each year," says Bleymaier.

The report indicates improvement in the football graduation rate between the two years surveyed. Of the 1983-84 class, 11 of 21 recruits (52 percent) graduated. But of the 1984-85 recruits, 10 of 11 (91 percent) graduated.

In women's basketball during the two-year period, all four recruits graduated, a 100 percent rate. In men's basketball, two of four graduated.

The graduation rates for both men and women improved the second year of the study. For men, the rate increased 16 percent between the 1983-84 and 1984-85 classes, from 49 percent to 65 percent. The rate for women went up four points, from 68 to 72 percent.

There's cause for optimism that the graduation rate will get even better in the future. Many of the programs initiated by the athletic department weren't in place in time to influence the current survey group, says Bleymaier.

In recent years, BSU has:
- Added a "degree competition" program that provides financial assistance to student-athletes who stay in school a fifth year and a work program for those who need to go beyond that to earn a diploma.
- Added an Academic Resource Center to the Pavilion to provide a place where student-athletes can study, receive advising and have access to computers.
- Enlarged the athletic department's academic counseling staff and initiated the SUCCEED program, where students sign a contract to stay in school and the athletic department agrees to return to provide counseling, advising and other support.

"Our student-athletes and their parents can see a tangible commitment to academic success," says Bleymaier. "This is not just talk — we now have the facility, the staff and the programs to help our students be successful...Our goal — and we've got a lot of work to do to get there — is that every student-athlete we recruit graduates. We won't be satisfied with the results until that happens."

NEW ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER OPENS

The Pavilion may be the home of the Boise State basketball teams, but the 10-year-old facility is more than just a field house where athletes can strut their stuff — it has also become one of the better places to study on campus.

The Academic Resource Center, which was part of the recent addition on the south side of the Pavilion that opened in December, offers a study area that includes three small conference rooms for tutorials and group studies, a large open study area and a third section earmarked for a computer lab. The facility can accommodate about 130 students at one time.

And although the center is located in a sports facility and construction was funded by the Athletic Department, it isn't just for student-athletes, says Fred Goode, the athletic department's academic adviser.

"Right now, the center's hours are 8 a.m.-10 p.m. and it is available to all students from noon-5 p.m.," says Goode. "We hope to extend those overall hours, and when we do we will also extend the noon-5 p.m. slot for all students at the same time."

Goode says approximately $60,000 is needed for the purchase and installation of the center's computers.

In addition, tutorial services are also offered at the center through the Student Special Services program.
**DONOR NOTES**

- The McCain family donated $25,237 to the Warren McCain Reading Room in the BSU Library. Inland Coca Cola Bottling Co. donated $1,500 to the same fund.
- St. Alphonsus Radiology Group donated $2,000 to the Mack Radiological Technology scholarship.
- John and Lois Elorriaga established an endowed scholarship in their names.
- Sina Berg established an endowed scholarship to benefit vocational technical students.
- Lucille Hitchcock established the Graydon M. and Lucille Hitchcock endowed scholarship for auto mechanics majors.
- The family of Dr. JoAnn Vahey has established the Clair and Zeta Vahey endowed nursing scholarship in her parent's name. JoAnn Vahey is director of Boise State's baccalaureate nursing program.
- An endowed music scholarship has been established in Bob Hartley's name.
- Peter and Marianne Hirschburg and Marcia Sigler donated $2,000 and $1,000, respectively, for unrestricted use.
- The John F. Nagel Foundation gave $6,000 to the nursing scholarship in its name.
- George Wade gave $1,000 for nursing enrichment and $1,000 for physical education.
- The J.L. McCarthy Charitable Trust donated $4,000 to the McCarthy history scholarship.
- The accounting endowment received $1,000 from L.E. and Jill Costello and another $1,000 from Robert and Linda White.
- Sam and Yolanda Crossland donated $1,500 to the trustee scholarship in raptor biology.
- Bethine Church donated $1,000 to the Frank Church Chair of Public Affairs.
- Steve Schmidt donated $1,000 to the general scholarship fund. □

Donors of academic scholarships and their recipients were honored at a December luncheon sponsored by the BSU Foundation. The event was held to recognize scholarship recipients, acknowledge donors for their generous support, and allow scholarship recipients to meet donors. Pictured are retired BSU education dean Gerald Wallace and his wife, Eunice, a former BSU English professor.

**GIFT BENEFITS LIBRARY, SCHOLARSHIPS**

The BSU Foundation has received a bequest from the Ruth Mc Birney estate to benefit the university's library and general scholarship fund. Mc Birney died in March 1991.

Mc Birney was BSU librarian for 23 years. By the time she retired in 1977, she had overseen library expansion from 17,000 volumes to more than 200,000, moves to two different buildings and the growth of staff from two to 13 professional librarians.

A Boise native, Mc Birney attended BJC, and received degrees from Whitman College and the University of Washington. Before coming to BSU, she worked for the New York Public Library and Columbia University. She also was head librarian for the American Library in Paris and was decorated by the French government with the "Palmes Academiques." □

**FUND HONORS LONGTIME MUSIC PROF**

Boise State has established a scholarship in honor of music professor Mel Shelton, who is retiring at the end of this academic year. Shelton has taught at BSU for 24 years.

Before Shelton came to the university, he taught instrumental music in the public schools at all levels, including nine years at Boise High. He is internationally recognized as a composer and arranger of music for secondary school bands.

The fund recognizes Shelton's outstanding contributions as a music educator and humanitarian. The scholarship will be given annually to a student who personifies the excellence and commitment to music Shelton has demonstrated throughout his life.

The scholarship will help attract and reward outstanding wind instrumental music majors who have demonstrated exceptional performance ability and strong leadership in the non-performing aspects of ensemble participation.

To date, $3,000 has been pledged toward the endowment goal of $5,000. Gifts may be sent to: Mel Shelton Scholarship, BSU Foundation, 1910 University Drive, Boise, ID 83725, (208) 385-3276. □
JONES NAMED IDAHO’S WRITER

Poets are supposed to spend long hours in coffee shops because they need the right atmosphere to think creatively. And besides, they don’t have jobs anyway.

But the state’s newest writer-in-residence rejects clichés in his life as well as his poetry. Daryl Jones, Idaho’s writer-in-residence for 1992-93, is BSU’s interim executive vice president and is a professor of English, teaching creative writing. Until assuming the vice presidency he was dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

The author of “Someone Going Home Late,” a collection of poetry, and “The Dime Store Novel Western,” a critical study of the 19th century Western novel, Jones was selected for the honor from 17 applicants through a blind judging process. Jurors for the Idaho Commission on the Arts award included Idaho native Marilyne Robinson, author of “Housekeeping;” former writer-in-residence Ron McFarland; and prominent Northwest author Barry Lopez.

Jones’ poems have appeared in “Black Warrior Review,” “New Orleans Review,” “Sewanee Review” and “TriQuarterly.” He has received a National Endowment for the Arts Creative Writing Fellowship Grant and the Natalie Ornish Poetry Award presented by the Texas Institute of Letters.

As writer-in-residence, Jones will give 12 readings or workshops in communities throughout the state. He is awarded a $10,000 stipend for the two-year term. Jones succeeds another BSU poet, Neidy Messer, special lecturer in English, as writer-in-residence.

COMPUTER NETWORK LINKS NEW TEACHERS

Twenty-seven new teachers were selected to participate in a computer network that links beginning teachers in southwest Idaho with each other and with College of Education faculty at Boise State University.

Established by BSU and the US West Foundation, the program is designed to provide a communication tool that will allow beginning teachers to share their problems and experiences and to receive assistance and advice from BSU teacher education faculty members.

The three-year project, funded by the US West Foundation, is in its last year. There is only one other program in the nation like the BSU network — a pilot project started in 1987 by Harvard University.

The system addresses a severe national problem, which is the attrition rate of teachers during the critical first year of their careers, said Richard Hart, former dean of BSU’s College of Education, who began the project.

The funds for the grant were provided by the US West Educational Initiative, which recognizes programs that provide innovative solutions to educational problems.

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Access # 1100-0
INTERACTIVE VIDEO TEACHES NURSES

By Amy Stahl

A patient lies on an exam table, arm outstretched, waiting for an injection. What does the student nurse do first? Which syringe is the right one?

BSU student nurses are learning to handle this situation and others confidently with the help of an award-winning interactive computer program developed by two Boise State faculty members.

Nancy Otterness and Carol Fountain produced interactive programs that were honored recently as one of the 101 Joe Wyatt Challenge Success stories by Educational Uses of Information Technology, a nationwide consortium of about 750 universities and corporations. Projects from Cornell University, Carnegie-Mellon and other prestigious universities were among those cited.

The goal of the Joe Wyatt Challenge, named for the chancellor of Vanderbilt University, is to find out if information technology is making a difference in higher education. No question, it is at BSU.

Interactive video programs enable nursing students to watch a video of a scene, such as a woman giving birth, on a computer screen. The video stops periodically to pose questions, which the students answer using a touch-screen system. If the answer is correct, the video continues to the next question. If not, the information is presented again.

Since spring of 1991, more than 100 entry-level BSU nursing students have used the injection program and several others purchased with the assistance of a $46,000 grant from the Helene Fuld Foundation. The grant was used to buy equipment for faculty and student work stations.

“Developing this type of courseware will enhance student learning and increase effectiveness of faculty,” says Anne Payne, nursing department chair and associate dean of BSU’s College of Health Science. “And it’s certainly an honor to be considered on the cutting edge of computer-assisted technology.”

Nursing faculty members have been working with the innovative technology since 1990. The first major project was the injection program Otterness and nursing professor Pam Springer developed last year. After attending a weeklong workshop on interactive technology presented by the Fuld Institute of Technology for Nursing Education, Otterness, Fountain and Springer began work to “repurpose” several video disks.

The ability to isolate pieces of videos has proved invaluable for faculty. For example, Otterness says, she can illustrate a discussion of Parkinson’s disease by showing a brief video of a patient suffering from the illness. Students can understand the disease better than they would from listening to a lecture and reading a textbook.

Next year Otterness and Springer plan to research the effectiveness of the new technology in the classroom. They will teach half a class using traditional methods and the rest using the interactive video. The students will then complete a written test and be evaluated in a mock clinical setting.

There also are plans to create an interactive program about the nursing department for prospective students. The program would include information about the department plus footage of campus scenes and nurses at work.

Currently the interactive video disks are receiving good reviews from BSU students. Sandy Johnson, a junior in the baccalaureate nursing program, says she appreciates the instant feedback she gets from the programs. “It gives you the answer back right away whether you’re right or wrong,” she says. “You learn it the right way immediately.”

Another advantage, Fountain says, is that nursing students can gain skills in a safe, non-threatening environment without jeopardizing their patients’ safety.

Besides, the videos are a fun way to learn. Otterness says: “Many of these students have been raised on Sesame Street. They don’t like to sit and be passive. If the student is more visual this helps them with their learning needs.”

Interactive videos, which can cost from $800 to $3,000 each, have been on the market for about 10 years but only recently have been applied to academia. They are creating a lot of interest at BSU. Biology and other departments have been working with the staff at the Simplot/Micron Instructional...
Technology Center to purchase or develop videos of their own.

While the technology is exciting, it hasn’t all been smooth sailing. Otterness, Fountain and other faculty members have spent many hours learning to use the equipment. They’ve been frustrated with it on more than one occasion, but they’re convinced the investment will pay off for both students and faculty. “There’s just so much potential,” Otterness says. “We firmly believe this is another teaching method, and because all students learn differently, we’ll be able to give them some options.

“We’re not going to stop. We just see new ways of using this technology.”

PROFS, BSU RADIO RECEIVE IHC GRANTS

Two BSU professors and the BSU Radio Network were awarded grants from the Idaho Humanities Council (IHC) to develop public projects and programs in the humanities.

IHC, the state-based affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, awarded 10 grants totaling $56,000 to individuals and organizations throughout Idaho.

The three BSU-affiliated grants were:
• Communication professor Peter Wollheim received a $2,613 grant to design an exhibit of photographs on the architecture of the Old Idaho Penitentiary in Boise.
• KBSU Radio received a $5,000 grant to support the development of a series of public radio programs on humanities topics.
• English department chair Carol Martin was awarded $3,500 for a research fellowship to study the works of mid-19th century British Victorian novelists Elizabeth Gaskell and Wilkie Collins, whose serialized works in newspapers and magazines shaped readers’ opinions on social issues of the day.

IHC is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to increase awareness, understanding and appreciation of the humanities in Idaho.

Professors Charles Lauterbach, Bob Sims and Jan Widmayer have been named to the IHC’s new Speakers Bureau.

Members of the Speakers Bureau are available through Oct. 31 to speak to service clubs, library and civic groups, churches, professional associations and other adult community organizations throughout Idaho.

Lauterbach, a professor of theatre arts, offers presentations on Idaho’s theatrical history.

Sims, professor of history and dean of the College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs, speaks on Japanese American issues and Idaho in the great Depression.

Widmayer, English professor and acting chair of the modern languages department, offers presentations on the rural tradition in art and literature and women writers.
History professor **Sandra Schackel** attended a meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American History Association in Kona, Hawaii, where she delivered her paper “Cross-cultural Impact of Public Power: Women’s Clubs in New Mexico, 1920-1940.” The work is from her new book *Social Housekeepers: Shaping Public Policy, New Mexico 1920-1940*.

Political scientist **Steven Sallie** presented his research paper “The Role of European Jewry and Muslim Arabs in the Expansion of the World Economy Via the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade to the New World” at the annual meeting of the International Society for the Comparative Study of Civilizations.

Sallie also presented “Defining the Nature, Status and Applicability of the New World Order: The Problems and Prospects of Solving the Arab-Israeli-Palestinian Conflict” at the annual meeting of the National Conference on Third World Studies.

**John Freemuth** and **Stephanie Wit** presented their paper “A Comparative Study of Canadian and U.S. National Parks” at the annual convention of the Pacific Northwest Political Science Association (PNPSA) in Victoria, British Columbia.

Three other political science professors also presented papers at the PNPSA conference. They were: **Dennis Donoghue**, “Presidential Chief of Staff of Primus Inter Pares,” and **Gary Moncrief** and **David Patten**, “The Rise in Legislative Campaign Expenditures.”

**Sociology chair Martin Scheffer** presented a paper about his national study of school-based policing to the 14th annual meeting of the International Society of Crime Prevention Practitioners in Calgary, Alberta.

**Psychology professor Garvin Chastain’s** article “Is Rapid Performance Improvement Across Short Precue-target Delays Due to Masking from Peripheral Precues?” was accepted for publication in *Acta Psychologica*.

**Social work professor Arnold Panitch** co-authored “Immigrating to Quebec: The Demographic Challenges of a Province Experiencing Low Fertility” in the current issue of *Migration World Magazine*.

**Mardell Nelson’s** article “Empowerment of Incest Survivors: Speaking Out” was published recently by *Families in Society: The Journal of Contemporary Human Services*.

**Gretchen Cotrell** received a $5,000 grant from the Council on Social Work Education for her dissertation “Americans of Indian and European Descent: Ethnic Identity Issues: Twelve Lives in the Annals of Modern Mixed Bloods.”

Criminal justice professor **Jane Foraker-**
Research, Acoustics Branch, to study seafloor geologic environments on sonar and acoustic signals and a $2,000 grant from MIT to study the seismic signal of mid-ocean ridge magma chambers.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Music professor MADELEINE HSU's article "A Summer with Wilhelm Keupff" was published in the October issue of the magazine Clavier. The article was about the late pianist who died in May in Germany.

Three paintings featuring an Idaho landscape theme by JOHN KILLMASTER were accepted by the Snake River Competitive Juried Art Exhibition. He also had two panels accepted by the International Enamel Exhibition in Newstadt, Germany.

Art instructor HEATHER HANLON's article "Picture Lift Prints from a Color Laser Copier" was accepted for publication in School Arts Magazine.

CHARLES DAVIS, director of the interdisciplinary humanities program and professor of English, presented his paper "This is Hell, Nor Am I Out of it: The Archaeopsychology of 'The Monk'" at the Northwest Society for 18th Century Studies meeting.

Geophysics professor MARTIN DOUGHERTY co-authored four papers presented at the fall 1991 American Geophysical Union meeting in San Francisco. One of the papers presented about seismic scattering was co-authored by graduate student R.J. VINCENT.

In addition, Dougherty presented "Fine Scale Seafloor Structure and Its Effect on Acoustic Backscatter" at the fall 1991 meeting of the Acoustic Reverberation Special Research Program sponsored by the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Woods Hole, Mass.

Fellow BSU geologist JACK PELTON presented "Interaction of Seismic Waves with the Unsaturated Zone Waveguide" at the Society of Exploration Geophysicists fall meeting in Houston. The paper was co-authored by Dougherty and graduate student J. CARLTON PARKER. At the same conference Parker presented "An Electrically Detonated Downhole Seismic Gun," co-authored by Dougherty and Pelton.

In addition, Dougherty received a $209,000 grant from the Office of Naval Research, Geology Branch, for a project that involves seismic, geochemical and structural analysis of exposed oceanic rocks on the island of Cyprus. Dougherty also received $87,000 for the second year of a two-year study sponsored by the Office of Naval Research on noise on basalt and sediments.

Dougherty also received a two-year $206,000 grant from the Office of Naval Research, Acoustics Branch, to study seafloor geologic environments on sonar and acoustic signals and a $2,000 grant from MIT to study the seismic signal of mid-ocean ridge magma chambers.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Management professor MIKE BIXBY presented his paper "Criminal Enforcement of Environmental and Occupational Safety Laws" at the American Business Law Association annual meeting in Portland, Maine. At the same conference DAN FURRH presented his paper "Using Writing to Improve Students' Understanding of Business Law."

NEWELL GOUGH presented his paper "Greening of Corporate Governance: The Effect of Independent Institutions Monitoring on Firm Performance" at the Strategic Management Society annual conference.

Management department chair NANCY NAPIER presented her paper "Cross-border Acquisitions" to the Human Resource Planning Society Symposium in Newport, R.I., and to the Academy of Management annual meeting in Miami.

GUNDAURS KAUPINS received the Best Paper award for his "Influence of Managerial Perceptions of Creativity and Happiness on their Humor." At the Association of Management national conference in Atlantic City JIM WILTERDING presented his paper "Accommodating Organizational Cultures: An Evaluation of Management Delivery Modes in Varying Organizational Cultures" at the Association of Business Simulation and Experiential Learning annual meeting.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Teacher education professor JUDY FRENCH co-authored "Children's Hero Play of the 20th Century: Changes Resulting from Television's Influence," which appeared in Child Study Journal.

NORMA SADLER'S short story "My Summer Vacation" appeared in the October issue of Teen magazine.

KATHY YOUNG and department chair VIRGIL YOUNG co-wrote "The Story of Idaho Guide and Resource Book," which is designed to accompany Virgil Young's textbook The Story of Idaho.

RUTH VINZ recently published a chapter titled "In Teachers' Hands" in the third volume of Vital Signs, an annual series on teaching and learning language arts. She presented a version of the chapter in a paper for the National Council of Teachers of English in Indianapolis.

DOUG YARBROUGH'S article "Doing Research in the Small University: A View from the Bottom of the Heap" appeared in a publication of the Northern Rocky Mountain Educational Research Association. □
APPLETON CHIPS IN AS MICRON CHIEF

By Larry Burke

Just 10 short years ago Steve Appleton was focused on his final semester in college and the Bronco tennis team, where he had been the No. 1 player for four years.

What a difference a decade makes.

Today, Appleton is playing on a court that ranges from Japan to Scotland. And 4,000 employees as well as thousands more stockholders are keenly interested in how he does.

He is the president and chief operating officer of Boise-based Micron Technology.

Appleton’s rise to the top of Micron’s management hierarchy is an only-in-America type of story. After graduating from BSU in 1985, Appleton was among the first group of college graduates hired by the company.

“We didn’t hire people who thought they should be executives right out of college,” Parkinson says. “We started them out on the line so they could learn all facets of the business. Many of them are now running the company.”

Appleton, obviously, stood out from the beginning.

“He is very, very competitive,” says Parkinson, smiling.

In those days it wasn’t unusual for workers coming in for the morning shift to find Appleton asleep on the couch after working all night, adds Micron employee Harmon Adams.

“He’s the kind of guy who will pull coveralls over his suit and help you out. He’s not afraid to get his hands dirty ... people here really respect him for that,” says Adams.

The day-to-day operation of Micron is now Appleton’s responsibility, from research and development to production and marketing. He has been an integral part of a management team that has positioned Micron as a major player in the international semiconductor market and strengthened its position through diversification into other products.

Micron is now the only domestic manufacturer that is making D-RAMS (dynamic random access memory) chips for the commercial market. The company also has 23 percent of the world’s market share in S-RAMS (static random access memory) chips. Both products are used in computers.

Micron’s biggest competition comes from Japan. But Japan is turning into a viable market for Micron’s products, which are produced and marketed through its Japanese partner, Sanyo.

Two years ago Appleton was put in charge of Micron’s marketing and manufacturing efforts in Japan. It is a move rare among U.S. executives, he learned Japanese and studied the culture extensively long before he made his first trip.

“I have a firm belief that you need to understand your competition if you are going to compete effectively. I wanted to understand the Japanese mind and their way of doing business,” Appleton says.

The biggest challenge, he says, is to change the opinion that American goods are inferior. Micron is overcoming that stigma by doing what the Japanese do best — making a high-quality product at a competitive cost.

“We have — and the Japanese are now just admitting this — the lowest cost in the world,” he says, pointing out Micron’s low overhead for utilities, land and construction.

“We’re not always well-liked; remember, that’s where our competition is. But we are well-respected,” he says.

Learning some hard lessons from turbulent times in the mid-1980s when the price and demand for chips plummeted, Micron has diversified into other high-tech products — even a construction company.

“In 1985 we had one product and four to five customers. We learned; we diversified so now no customer has more than 5 percent of our business,” he says.

To remain competitive, the firm must reduce the cost of producing its products by 30 percent annually, says Appleton. “Our strength is that people are free to come up with new ideas; they aren’t forced to conform to a predetermined thought process,” he says.

“The challenge is to not get so big that individuality is sacrificed.”

How does he feel about reaching a level of corporate responsibility that most don’t reach until middle age?

“I’m not naive enough to think that I’ve learned everything. No matter what position I’ve had, I’ve always recognized that I could get better,” he says. “When you look at things in that perspective, you never think you’ve arrived.

“This is more like a hobby for me. You’ve heard professional athletes say, ‘I’m having so much fun that I can’t believe they’re paying me to do this.’ Well, it’s very similar for me.”

Ten years after his graduation from BSU, Steve Appleton is president of Micron Technology.
CRYDER'S CAREER IN SEED PRODUCTION BUSINESS BLOSSOMS

By Larry Burke

Cathy Cryder learned to sow from her father.

Cryder says her formative years were spent in the back of her dad's pickup, bouncing from farm to farm in the Magic Valley as he called on his clients in the seed production business. She learned her lessons well — by age 12 she produced her first commercial seed crop.

Today, the 1975 BSU biology graduate is giving her own sowing lessons to growers in all corners of the world as a researcher and station manager for the international seed company, VANDERHAVE.

Cryder has devoted most of her academic and professional life to improving the vegetable most known for its ability to make people cry — the onion.

After receiving her doctorate from New Mexico State University in 1988, Cryder was hired by Shamrock Seed Co. (later to become VANDERHAVE) to set up and run a research station in Las Cruces, N.M.

There she combines the latest in genetics with field experiments to develop new strains of onions that are more disease-resistant, produce higher yields and are more tolerant of cold. Currently, 11 new varieties are in production for the first time, she says.

"We're trying to break down barriers in planting and delivery time so we can grow and market for longer periods," she says.

Last year her work took on a global dimension when the company gave her responsibility for commercial onion seed production worldwide. In addition to breeding research, she now also negotiates with seed growers and shippers and keeps a close watch on the quality of seed that is produced. She works with 100 growers in North America and Europe.

"I'm enjoying learning more about business. And I like the variety — one day I'm harvesting onions in New Mexico and the next day I'm on a plane to Europe to negotiate a contract," she says.

Research into onions is more complex than it is with other produce, such as tomatoes.

"Very little is known about onion genetics ... they have complex systems of genes that are triggered by the amount of light they receive," she says.

Cryder has devoted most of her academic and professional life to improving the vegetable most known for its ability to make people cry — the onion.

"We have to prove or overprove ourselves," But he adds, "What keeps me here is the changes it has made: the number of students graduating, the community acceptance. There was a time when some parents were hesitant about our abilities as teachers."

Despite a 25 percent Hispanic student population — which increases to 37 percent in spring with the influx of migrant farm workers — the Marsing schools have only three Hispanic teachers.

For many of the students and their parents the Elizondos are interpreters — and

ELIZONDOS: TEACHERS AND PREACHERS OF HISPANIC PRIDE

By Glenn Oakley

Baldemar Elizondo remembers attending 12 schools one year as his family followed the migrant trail from Monterey, Mexico, through Texas, California and up into Washington.

Today, he and his wife, Debbie, encourage migrant children to beat the odds by staying on the education trail. Baldemar is the Marsing School District's liaison between the migrant community and the school; Debbie teaches second grade at Marsing Elementary. Those are their official jobs. But they see their most important work, says Baldemar, "as being a role model for the students here and the community as a Hispanic."

The couple came to Marsing 16 years ago to work as teacher's aides. In 1977 they started classes at Boise State under the then-pilot program in bilingual education. They both earned bachelor's degrees in education, then last May the two earned their master's of education degrees from BSU. Now they are looking forward to starting on their doctorates.

"It's been a rough road," says Baldemar.
HOFFMAN PLAYS LEADING ROLE AS PROF, DIRECTOR, ACTIVIST . . .

By Bob Evancho

The maxim "You can't go home again" doesn't wash with filmmaker and Idaho native Michael Hoffman. Far from the mad- dening crowd and the Hollywood scene, he finds succor in the relatively restful environs of Boise—whenever possible, that is.

"When you make a movie, it takes a long time," Hoffman says. "Every movie takes about a year out of your life, so you never really know what's going to happen; for now I'm very pleased to be here."

But why Boise?

"I came back here because this is my home," he replies. "I grew up here. I lived in London for 10 years and kind of decided when I was 33 that I was too young to be an expatriate. . . . Besides, there are a lot of good reasons to avoid Los Angeles."

One of BSU's favorite, favorite sons, Hoffman is back at his alma mater for a second stint as a visiting instructor in the theatre arts department, where he is teaching three courses. He is also working on his next major motion picture.

But the Payette native and former Rhodes Scholar is doing more than just teaching during his Boise respite.

Hoffman is working to help establish a central resource center and shelter for the Boise-Ada Coalition for the Homeless. It is hoped, says Hoffman, that the facility will avoid duplication of services provided by similar agencies and make efficient use of its funding. "It would provide not only shelter for single men and women and families," he says, "but it could also be a school and a day-care center."

It's an ambitious and commendable project, but Hoffman does more than talk a good game. The seed money for the homeless center will come from the proceeds from Hoffman's March production of The Glass Menagerie in the Morrison Center. Hoffman's production should draw pretty well—considering it will feature Sally Field.

Oscar-winner Field was one of the stars in Hoffman's 1991 movie Soapdish. "I called Sally and asked if she would be willing to come to Boise, donate her time and play Amanda in The Glass Menagerie; she agreed to do it. [The show] has become a great benefit for what I think is an extraordinary cause," Hoffman says.

But why Boise?

"On some of the publicity we're handing out for the homeless shelter it says, "Home is where you start from,'" Hoffman answers. "I needed to be involved in a community, and I guess when I think of a community and what that word means to me, I think of Boise and this valley. I came back because I wanted a community that I could take an active part in and contribute to."

But he will be returning to Hollywood sometime after the spring semester to begin work on his next movie, Restoration. "It's set in the 1660s and concerns the spiritual restoration of a man who wants to avoid his own goodness. He's sort of a doctor, a healer by nature; he runs away into the excesses of the court of Charles II . . . It has a lot of the energy of Tom Jones, but underlying is a kind of moral fairy tale about the need to accept those things that are useful in the world."

Hoffman knows about that, and lives it. □

. . . WHILE FELLOW ALUM JON TURNER RETURNS TO TEACHING

By Leslie Mendoza

To stereotype a math professor might be to call him pompous or prominent, and ex-hostage Jon "Jesse" Turner could make a person feel a little intimidated. "You don't need to be!" Turner said, laughing. He said he sees himself as laid-back and relaxed.

The Boise State alumnus accepted a temporary teaching position this semester at the university. Coming back to teach at BSU has helped him get back to normal living, he said. Turner said he would like to stay in Boise and is applying for available jobs.

Before entering a classroom, Turner prepares himself by thinking about what he's going to say and adjusting to the class, whether it's first-semester calculus or intro to computer science.

Turner said he enjoys teaching again and finds his students pleasant. His classroom is interesting, but businesslike. Turner said he has chosen not to talk about his tribulations as a hostage in his classes because they are not the proper place.

The difference between teaching in Beirut and Boise are the students' language skills, he said. He said he had to be careful with phrasing words and not to use idioms. His Beirut students were more prepared in math because of an extra year high school study. Turner said he was most impressed with the university's size. The number of students has grown, and there are more cars, he said. When he left in 1970 with a degree in psychology, there was nothing behind the Math/Geology Building.

Turner said teaching is important to him because of his students and because he enjoys the academic atmosphere.

This article originally appeared in the Arbiter, BSU's student newspaper. Reprinted by permission.
Alumni Urged to Pay '92 Dues

I’m pleased to report that Boise State University, in the midst of the recent administrative upheaval, has embarked upon this spring semester with renewed vigor in sustaining its leadership role as a quality provider of higher education. The current administration led by President Larry Selland, as well as faculty, staff, student body and alumni, are to be commended for their efforts in keeping the university on course during the unsettling time after John Keiser’s dismissal. That togetherness exhibited the strengths that the university has developed over recent years.

A few current events concerning Boise State University are of interest to note:

- The State Board of Education commenced with the arduous task of hiring a new Boise State University president. A 22-member selection committee was chosen by members of the State Board of Education to participate in the process. This group represents a cross-section of constituencies and organizations interested in the well-being of BSU and higher education. The future of Boise State will be guided by a successful candidate and, as such, any suggestions, concerns and/or comments should be directed to this committee. As always, we urge your involvement in your university.

- In January, the university presented its budget request to the Idaho legislative finance committee for review and approval. This request addressed several areas that the administration feels need additional funds to meet future endeavors. We support this budget request, as it is in line with the increasing needs at the university.

- This year Boise State University celebrates its 60th anniversary as an institution of higher education. Please join us in congratulating BSU in reaching another major milestone. A list of events surrounding this occasion may be obtained through the Alumni Office.

These are just a few of the many activities happening at BSU. As the year progresses, we will keep you informed on important developments. In the meantime, if we may be of further assistance, please let us know.

Alumni Names Sought for Annual Award

Those wishing to nominate an alum for the 1992 Distinguished Alumni Award are asked to contact the Alumni Office by March 1.

Being sought are nominations for alumni who have achieved distinction, honor or excellence in scholarship, leadership, achievement or service.

Those receiving awards will be honored at the annual Distinguished Alumni and Top Ten Scholars Banquet April 17 at the Owyhee Plaza in Boise.

Annual Meeting Set for May

The annual meeting and installation of new officers for the Alumni Association is scheduled for early May.

In accordance with the bylaws of the association, “nomination by members of the general membership must be submitted to the Alumni Office no later than March 1 of each year. Each nomination must be accompanied by the valid signatures of a minimum of 15 members of the Alumni Association.”

For more information, contact the Alumni Office, (208) 385-1698.
ALUMNI IN TOUCH...

Our policy is to print as much "In Touch" information as possible. Send your letters to the BSU Alumni Association, 1910 University Drive, Boise, Idaho 83725. 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.

50s

CLIFF JACKSON, diploma, metal fabrication, '52, is president of Idaho Metal Fabrication in Burley. Jackson's firm sells fast food and commercial processing equipment. Jackson also has patented five of his own designs.

DR. WAITER R. PETERSEN, diploma, general arts and sciences, '54, was honored recently by the Burley Chamber of Commerce at its 25th Annual Farmer/Businessman Appreciation Banquet. Petersen has operated a family medical practice in Burley since 1966.

70s

VICKI MATTHEWS-BRINWELL, BA, elementary education, '72, was named runner-up in the 1992 Idaho Teacher of the Year competition. She is a fifth-grade teacher at New Plymouth Elementary School.

MARY L. PEARSON, BBA, general business, '73, was selected president of the Northwest Indian Bar Association in Seattle. Pearson is an associate judge for the Northwest Intertribal Court System in Edmonds, Wash.

JIM SIMPSON, BBA, finance, '73, has been appointed by Gov. Cecil Andrus to the Idaho Lottery Commission. Simpson has been publisher of the Weiser Signal-American since 1980 and currently serves as vice president of the Idaho Newspaper Association.

CARLTON CHING, BBA, general business, '75, is vice president of Pheasant Ridge Corp., a real estate development agency in Hawaii.

M. FRANK WATT IRSTON, MS, earth science, '77, is manager of pre-college education programs at the American Geophysical Union in Washington, D.C. Ireston also is seeking a Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction from the University of Maryland.

DOUG GOGHOUR, BS, biology, '76, is part of a leadership team reviewing the forest plan for Idaho's Clearwater National Forest.

JENNIFER RALSTON, BA, communication, '77, is the founder and president of Ralston-Barber Communication Inc., in Bend, Ore. Ralston-Barber recently was admitted to the American Association of Advertising Agencies.

DANIEL WYNKOOP, BA, business, '77, successfully completed a comprehensive examination to become a certified management accountant. Wynkoop is a financial analyst for CMSI in Portland.

RALPH KING, BS, physical education, '79, has been named McCall-Donnelly Junior High's interim principal. King previously taught junior high math and computer classes in McCall.

80s

CRAIG M. DANIELS, BBA, accounting, '80, was named 1991 Healthtrust Western Region Chief Financial Officer of the Year. Daniels recently transferred to Pioneer Valley Hospital in West Valley City, Utah, from West Valley Medical Center in Caldwell.

PHILIP J. NUXOLL, BBA, accounting, '80, is a partner with Presnell-Gage Accounting and Consulting in Lewiston. Nuxoll has been with the firm for 10 years and specializes in audits, tax planning, pension plans, budgeting and projections.

SUSAN SELLERS, BS, physical education, '81, was promoted to curriculum coordinator for health and physical education at Shoreline School District in Seattle.

DOUGLAS E. JOHNSON, MA, education, '82, is principal at Mountain Home High School.

JULIE CHEEVER, BA, communication, '83, is a special assistant to Gov. Cecil Andrus. As special assistant for human resources, she briefs the governor on higher education, social services and employment issues. Cheever formerly was public information officer for the Idaho State Library.

J. KENT ERIKSON, BA, communication, '84, received three Fashion Awards of Merit at the Custom Tailors and Designers Association show in Miami Beach, Fla. Ericson is president of J. Kent Ltd., in Boise.

JOANNE B. JONES, MBA, '84, was named a distinguished citizen by the Idaho Statesman in December. Jones was honored for her volunteer efforts, including coordination of gift-giving and clothing drives.

DIANA VOGT, BA, communication, '84, is a litigation associate for Kutak Rock and Campbell in Omaha, Neb. Vogt graduated in May 1990 magna cum laude from Creighton Law School in Omaha.

GREG CHAVEZ, BBA, computer information systems, '85, owns Orion Development Inc. in Boise. Orion provides consulting, programming and software support services.

MICHAEL CLARK, MA, education/art emphasis, '85, is director of the Extended Education Outreach Office at Western Wyoming Community College, in Kemmerer, Wyo.

KEVIN W. HAWKINSON, BBA, economics, '85, is a financial consultant with Shearson Lehman in Boise.

DANIEL J. KUNZ, MBA, '85, vice president of finance and administration of Morrison Knudsen Corporation's Mining Group, has been selected vice president and controller of the corporation. Kunz joined MK in 1978.

PATTY HAAS, BM, music/education emphasis, '85, is choir director at St. John's Cathedral in Boise.

PATRICIA G. METCALF, BA, social science, '86, is a reference librarian at Peninsula College in Port Angeles, Wash. She graduated from the University of Washington's Graduate School of Library and Information Science in December.

GREG E. METZGAR, BA, political science, '86, was promoted to captain and has attended the Infantry Officer's Advanced Course at Fort Benning, Ga. Metzgar served with the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) during Operation Desert Storm and was awarded the Meritorious Service Ribbon and Combat Infantryman's Badge.
RANDY R. REDDINGTON, BA, history/social science, '86, was named 1991 Gem State Conference Coach of the Year. Reddington teaches at Minico High School in Rupert and is head coach of the cross county/track team.

MICHELLE MACAW, BA, criminal justice, '87, is victim-witness coordinator at the Ada County Sheriff's Office in Boise. She also is president of the Idaho Victim-Witness Association.

SCOTT R. HOWELL, BAS, horticulture, '86, is a botanist with the U.S. Forest Service and works at Mt. Hood National Forest in Oregon.

DAVID J. KENNEDY, BA, history, '88, is working toward a Ph.D. in public history studies at the University of California-Santa Barbara.

RICK WILLIAMS, CC, welding and metals fabrication, '88, owns and operates Williams Welding Shop in Garden City.

BRIAN W. DOBBS, BA, economics, '89, was named a commercial lending officer at First Security's Consumer Loan Center in Boise. Dobbs previously was a financial services officer at the bank's Gooding branch.

BARRY C. MALONE, BA, music, '89, has completed the chaplain assistance course at Fort Meade in Red Bank, N.J.

SUZANNE MCINTOSH, BA, political science, '89, is an administrative assistant for the Idaho Conservation League in Boise.

90s

ANGELA MARIE ANDERSON, BA, elementary education, '90, teaches kindergarten at Ridgewood Elementary School in the Meridian School District.

JOHN K. BERGIN, BBA, management and human resources, '90, is manager of Payless Shoe Source in Moscow.

VALERIE V. CLEVERLY, BA, elementary education, bilingual/multicultural, '90, teaches second grade at Lakeview Elementary in Nampa.

PHIL DE ANGELI, BA, economics and English, '90, is attending law school at the University of Oregon. De Angeli was named to the curriculum committee, the Oregon Law Review staff and the Philip L. Jessup International Law Moot Court Team.

ULIE ACARRERGU, BS, nursing, '91, is a nurse at Madigan Army Medical Center, Fort Lewis, Wash.

AMY ASCHENBRENER, MS, exercise and sports studies, '91, is working as a health and fitness coordinator for Boeing Corp. in Seattle.

MARK BECKER, MA, music, '91, was named education chairperson for the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers. As chairperson, Becker is responsible for promoting handbell ringing in schools. He lives in Caldwell.

LUANN FIFE, BS, nursing, '91, is an assistant head nurse in intensive care at St. Luke's Regional Medical Center. Fife is a graduate music student at BSU and also teaches private piano lessons.

ALMA GOMEZ-FRITH, MA, education/art emphasis, '91, is a retention counselor for the College Assistance Migrant Program at BSU and recently exhibited some of her artwork in the Student Union gallery.

JEFFREY R. KEZAR, BIS, religious/legal philosophy, '91, is attending law school at the University of Idaho.

NANCY A. LANE, BA, communication, '91, is an assistant court supervisor for Ada County.

NORMA ANDREA PECK, BA, psychology, '91, is a day treatment coordinator and case manager for Four Corners Mental Health in Moab, Utah.

STEVE PHIPPS, BS, biology, '91, is teaching earth science and physics at Soda Springs High School.

VICKI TURNER, BS, mathematics/secondary education, '91, is teaching mathematics at East Minico Junior High School in Rupert.

WEDDINGS

JOAN P. URRESTI and Thomas W. Falash, (Boise) July 13

BRAD CAMPBELL and Margaret Nelson, (Anchorage) July 26

ROBERT E. MITCHELL and Stacey D. Baird, (Casper, Wyo.) July 27

CHARIE H. HANSON and Greg A. VanOrder, (Boise) Aug. 3

JOHN KNOTT and Shawnna Twitchell, (Hagerman) Aug. 10

KARAN L. RIDDELL and Andrew C. Lockhart, (Boise) Aug. 24

TAWNIE CAMPBELL and Todd Vitek, (Nampa) Aug. 30

JOHN MARSHALL STARR and Denise Marie Stringer, (Nampa) Aug. 31

GREGORY ALLAN REEDER and Sandra Kay Ash, (Boise) Sept. 7

TERRY JOSEPH HIPPLER and Mary Anne Mast, (Boise) Sept. 7

ANGELA RAYBORN and Joseph Miezulski, (Bellevue) Sept. 7

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• Mountain tour or ski lesson
• Special "Kids Stay Free" offers
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* $30 per person less for mid-week packages

Schweitzer
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Sandpoint, Idaho
2 Day Package - $278.*
3 Day Package - $351.*

Packages include:
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• Deluxe mountain accommodations at the Green Gables Lodge
• Lift tickets
• Special "Kids Stay Free" offers
• Transfers - $20 per person additional between Coeur d'Alene and Sandpoint
* Per person based on double occupancy. State & Room Tax not included

Packages not valid during the dates below:
December 20, 1991 - January 5, 1992
January 17, 1992 - January 19, 1992
February 14, 1992 - February 16, 1992

For reservations, contact your professional travel agent or call toll free 1-800-727-9142
Based on availability. Some restrictions may apply.
KEVIN D. MARTIN and ANNE M. ACREE, (Boise) Sept. 21
HEIDI LEA HOSSNER and CURTICE WARING MARTIN, (Boise) Sept. 21
AMY THOMPSON and Eric Andreasen, (Boise) Sept. 21
CAROL DIANE PETERSON and William I. Herrmann, (Boise) Sept. 28
GENESE GIANCHETTA and Scott W. Brower, (Boise) Oct. 11
KELLI RAE SCHWENKELDER and Steven K. Elliott, (Boise) Oct. 12
LISA N. BRAUN and Blair J. Wilson, (Boise) Oct. 19
WILLIAM ANTHONY HENTGES and Julie E. McMannon, (Boise) Oct. 19
BRAD NOLEN and TERESA ROBERTSON, (Boise) Oct. 19
KARA GINTHER and Tim Trumbo, (Boise) Oct. 25
SUSAN RENEE KOONTZ and James T. Jensen, (Boise) Nov. 11
NANCY BOUCHE and William V. Love, (Boise) Nov. 30

DEATHS

YVONNE LEE RODABAUGH CLARK, AAS, horticulture, '76, died Nov. 18 in Boise at age 54. Clark was employed at the BSU physical plant at the time of her death.
JUANITA E. PICK FRANZ GARRISON, AS, nursing, '71, died Oct. 18 in Boise at age 54. Garrison had worked at St. Luke's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit for 15 years and had been employed as a traveling nurse since 1986.
HERBERT RAY HANAUER JR., BS, physical education, '72, died Dec. 15 in Boise at age 44. Hanauer had been a manager at Hewlett-Packard since 1979.
NAOMI HECKATHORN, MA, education, '85, died Nov. 11 in Nampa at age 54. Heckathorn was a teacher at East Canyon Elementary at the time of her death.
FRANCES A. WRIGHT HERRMAN, BBA, marketing, '84, died Nov. 8 in Atwater, Calif., at age 53. Herrman had been employed by the Department of Health and Welfare in Boise.
LOIS MARGUERITE HOFFMAN, AS, general arts and science, '63, died Oct. 26 in Portland at age 78. Hoffman worked at the Boise Veterans hospital until she retired in 1975.
EMIL ALLAR, CC, heavy duty mechanics, '87, died Dec. 24 of cancer. At the time of his death Allar was an auto mechanic in San Diego.
TULA "TONI" STARCK, who attended BSU from 1984-1988 as a criminal justice administration major, died of cancer July 31. At the time of her death she lived in Dayton, Wash. Starck, 42, completed her college degree at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She contributed the article "Confessions of a SANE (Sexual Abuse Now Stopped) Counselor" to the textbook Understanding, Assessing and Counseling the Criminal Justice Client, which was written in 1988 by criminal justice administration professor Anthony Walsh. □
RECOGNIZE these names . . .

- Oh! Idaho
- The Visitors Guide to Boise
- J.R. Simplot Company
- The Valley Magazine
- Hagadone Hospitality
- Sandpoint Magazine
- The Official Idaho State Travel Guide

. . just to name a few.

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BSU TOASTS 60TH AT GALA

Boise State celebrated two milestones at one gala event in February: the 60th anniversary of the university and the 50th birthday of the Student Union.

About 1,000 people enjoyed a sumptuous meal, lively musical program and dancing Feb. 18 at a glittering “Hats Off to U” party in the Student Union’s Grand Ballroom.

A highlight of the “Grand ReUnion” was a Fred Norman- and Wil Elliott-produced dinner theater program featuring music from the past six decades.

The party was a formal celebration of the union’s 50th anniversary. Last fall thousands of students attended an open house that marked the newly completed renovation of the building. The event, which was a hit with free food and entertainment, was held Sept. 6 — Founder’s Day.

The present union was built in 1967 and expanded in 1972. The $6.3 million renovation includes a new dining hall, expanded ballroom and an addition linking the building to the Special Events Center.

ELIZONDOS

(Continued from page 37)

much more. When a newly arrived migrant family’s trailer house burned, the family stayed at the Elizondo’s. Baldemar is spending Sundays tutoring a man for his citizenship test. For working families who cannot visit the school, Debbie makes video recordings of their children doing plays, poetry, art. Because many migrant families arrive with just what they can carry in their cars, Debbie says, “I go to thrift shops and buy books and toys for the children.”

They were part of an effort to create a parent advisory committee, which helps migrant families with everything from registering to vote to strategies for home teaching. Baldemar says, “In the past it was very difficult to even have the parents come in for parent-teacher conferences.” Many of the parents, he notes, do not speak English.

“I’m trying to excite them to stay in school,” he says of the students. And, the Elizondos agree more migrant children are graduating — even though many go to work in the fields straight from school each day.

“I went through that system,” says Baldemar. “I tell them they can do it.”

Both the Elizondos are active in several civic organizations, such as Image de Idaho, and Debbie — like Baldemar, a musician — was recently appointed to the Idaho Commission on the Arts.
"HAPPINESS IS ELUSIVE"

Color laser copy

I try to reveal the inherent and often humorous preponderance of contradictions involved in issues concerning women in our culture.

I use photography and related media, audio, text, found objects and old advertisements. My latest art installation, entitled “Woman’s Work,” was most recently shown in Boise during the spring of ’91. My upcoming body of work, titled “Burning Impressions of a Bored Ironing Woman,” will be available for exhibition during the spring of ’92.

I have also printed an artist’s book, Woman’s Work, in a limited edition of 200. It includes photos and text.

Paris Almond
Bachelor of Fine Arts, 1986
Ideas that grow.

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