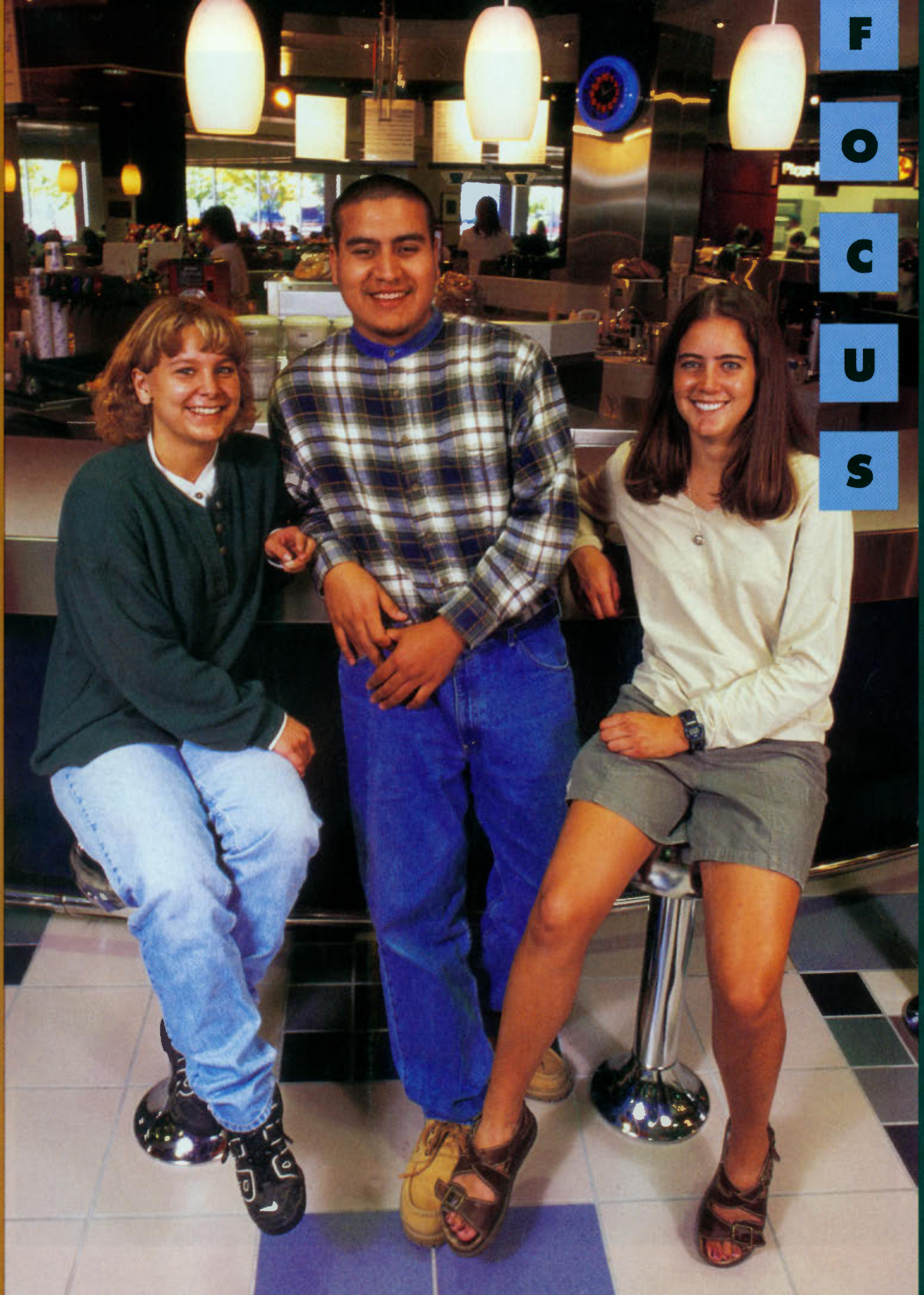


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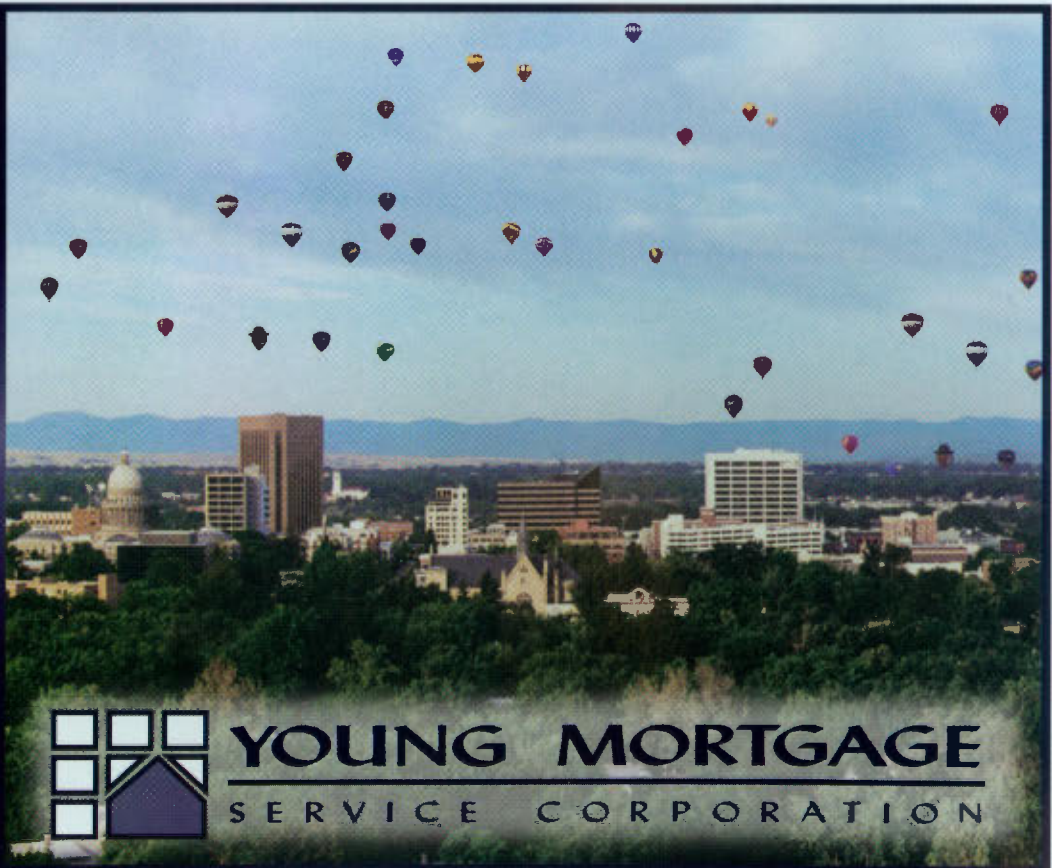


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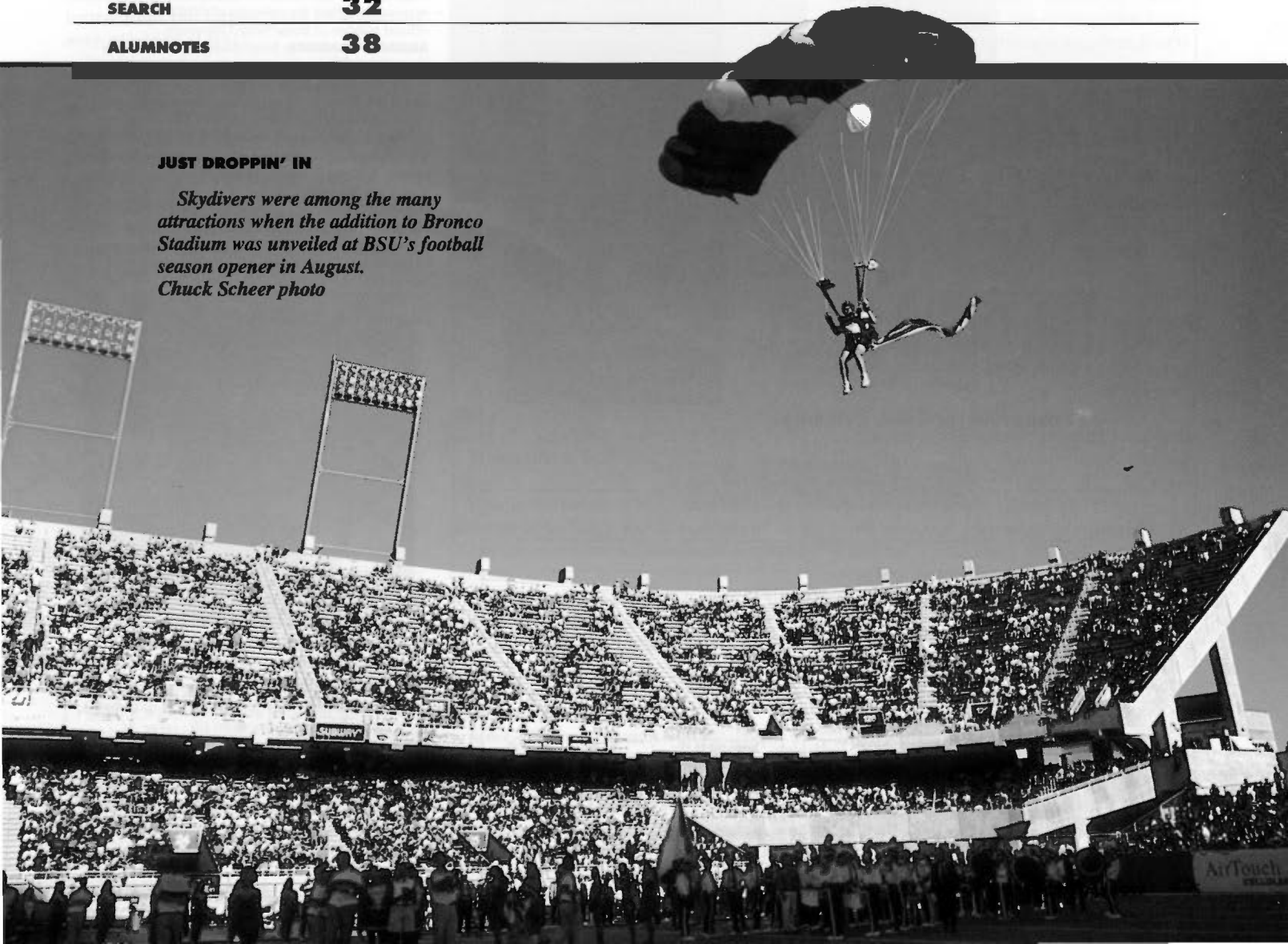
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*Skydivers were among the many attractions when the addition to Bronco Stadium was unveiled at BSU's football season opener in August.
Chuck Scheer photo*



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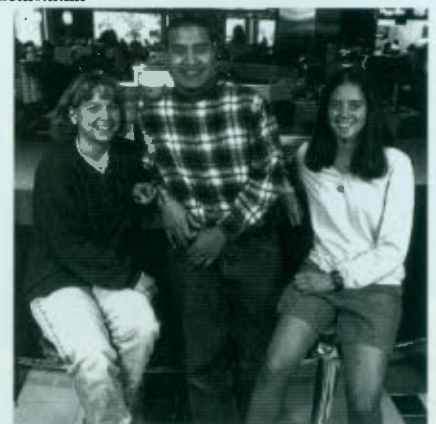
ADVERTISING SALES: P.V. Quinn & Co.,
 1520 W. Washington Street, Boise, Idaho 83702
 Phone: (208) 385-0338

PUBLISHING INFORMATION: *FOCUS*' address is BSU Education Building, Room 724, 1910 University Drive, Boise, Idaho 83725. Phone: (208) 385-1577. Letters regarding editorial matters should be sent to the editor. Unless otherwise specified, all articles may be reprinted as long as appropriate credit is given to the author, Boise State University and *FOCUS* magazine. Diverse views are presented and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of *FOCUS* or the official policies of Boise State University.

ADDRESS CHANGES: Send changes (with address label if possible) to the BSU Alumni Office, 1910 University Drive, Boise, Idaho 83725. If you receive duplicate copies of the magazine, please notify the Alumni Office at the above address. Friends of the university who wish to receive *FOCUS* may do so by submitting their names and addresses to the Alumni Office. Address changes can also be sent by e-mail to bsualum@bsu.idbsu.edu

E-MAIL: Readers may contact the *FOCUS* editor by e-mail at lburke@claven.idbsu.edu

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ABOUT THE COVER: *The current crop of college freshmen will be the graduates of the Class of 2001. And like all newcomers to the world of higher education, they face a variety of issues as they embark on adulthood. In this issue of FOCUS, we look at some of the differences — and similarities — between the students of the new millennium and older generations. BSU freshmen, from left, Amanda Jones, Horseshoe Bend; Albert Arredondo, Wilder; and Jenny Corn, Twin Falls. Chuck Scheer/John Kelly photo.*

SURVEYS TELL STORY OF ACADEMIC IMPROVEMENT

By Charles Ruch, President

This fall, Boise State University announced a record enrollment of 15,422 full- and part-time students. This is the second year in a row our enrollment has grown following a two-year phase-in of new admission standards and retention requirements.

Concurrently, our Office of Institutional Assessment has been conducting a series of studies to illuminate our student profile. Clearly, the more we understand about our students, the better job we can do to provide a more supportive and challenging academic environment.

Here are a few of our preliminary findings:

Our freshman class was the largest in institutional — and state — history. It was selected from the largest pool of applicants ever recorded at BSU.

Students average more than 20 years of age, and the class includes more women than men (55 percent and 44 percent) and is primarily composed of Idaho citizens (93 percent).

While most of the freshmen come from our service area in the southwestern corner of the state, the class is enriched by students from most every county across Idaho, 25 states and 12 foreign countries.

BSU continues its tradition as a hospitable environment for students with minority backgrounds, and their increasing numbers reflect our commitment to access and opportunity.

However, it is in the academic areas that demonstrable differences are reported. We have made tremendous strides in the last five years.

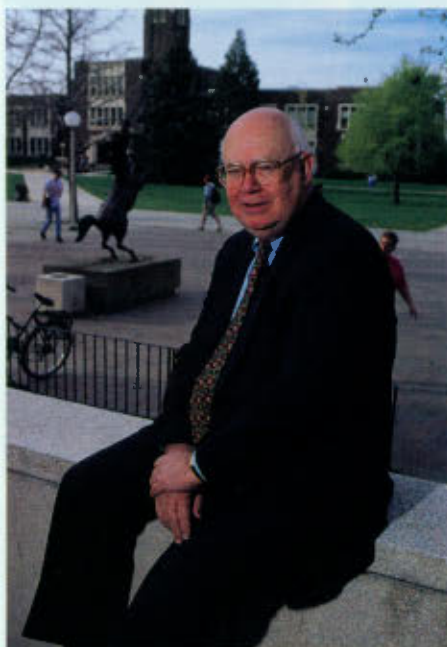
This year's freshman class has a 3.10 average high school grade point average, up from 2.92 in fall 1992. Average scores for admission tests likewise increased. This year's class presented an average composite ACT score of 20.9 and an SAT score of 1,007, compared with the scores of the fall 1992 class of 20.3 and 980, respectively.

Clearly, we're both bigger and better.

Our challenge is to provide an educational environment that will assist each new freshman to become an achieving student.

In this regard, some of the findings of our assessment program are relevant. It is well known that students who get involved in campus activities generally are more suc-

cessful. This, and other findings, were borne out by a recent study of the retention of freshmen who entered in fall 1995. Students who used more available services and/or who were enrolled in our cluster fellow program were more successful than their fellow students. Interestingly, conditions such as working, caretaker responsibilities, living on or



off campus and gender appeared unrelated to freshman-year success.

A concurrent study examined the freshman year by studying intensively the experiences of a small but representative sample.

Most came to BSU because it was close to home.

First impressions of BSU range from "big and scary" to "only a little confusing." All seemed to acclimate within several weeks on campus.

All students in this study reported being in at least one class with an enrollment of fewer than 20 and in a very large class of more than 200.

Most had talked with a faculty member or student of that class.

Most were very pleased with the quality of teaching and the availability of faculty outside the classroom.

In the area of student services, discernible issues were identified. Advising was viewed as tied to class registration and not as an

ongoing dialogue with a faculty member. The complexities of today's financial aid services continue to challenge, frustrate and amaze new (and continuing) students.

Unfortunately, not all students found an easy link to campus activities and services.

Our challenge is to enhance the campus environment — to make it even more accessible and conducive to strong academic achievement. Several plans and projects are well under way, guided by these and other internal analyses.

Project ACCESS, the redesign of our internal computing system, will move information critical to all phases of institutional life to a more user-oriented system.

Each function is being re-engineered to eliminate redundancies, ensure that decision making gets to the appropriate level, and ensure the availability of accurate, timely information.

Later this year, the provost will convene a universitywide study of advising with the goal of redesigning this important function.

Our Academic Support and Student Orientation office is working with the campus community to formalize a freshman year program to assist new students in their adjustment to campus life and academic demands.

As we continue to grow, we must continue to make the BSU experience one that enjoys a human dimension. Technology will do some of the detail work, freeing faculty and staff to spend more time in one-on-one contact with students.

If you would like more information about the studies cited above, please contact Marcia Belcheir, Office of Institutional Assessment, phone (208) 385-1117.

As always, I appreciate your comments. I can be reached at (208) 385-1491 or by e-mail: aprruch@bsu.idbsu.edu. □

CHUCK SCHEER PHOTO



Bronco Stadium's blue turf was the inspiration for Boise's hottest new balloon. Designed and owned by Tony and Jean Hickey of Avante Realty, "FunShine Blue, the Scholar Ship" features the BSU football field. "FunShine Blue" will be featured at major BSU events and represent the university at hot air balloon rallies throughout the West.

BSU TO HELP START BUSINESS SCHOOL

What will Boise State and National Economics University in Hanoi have in common? Quality business programs after BSU helps the Vietnamese university build a new business school.

In September, Boise State signed a three-year, \$3.2 million contract with the Swedish government to help NEU start a business program from scratch.

BSU faculty and subcontractors from a private consulting firm and two British universities will work to train faculty in Hanoi and help NEU staff develop the administrative infrastructure needed to run one of the first business colleges in Vietnam.

By the year 2000, NEU faculty trained through Boise State's master of business administration program should be teaching a new generation of Vietnamese students about a market-oriented economy.

BSU and the NEU have been working together since 1994 when BSU began teaching MBA courses in Hanoi. Two classes, a total of 55 students, have graduated from the two-year program.

With one of the fastest developing countries in Asia, Vietnam is struggling with how to introduce elements of a market economy into a socialist system.

"Everything that we take for granted in a market economy, they haven't had to deal with," says Nancy Napier, a BSU management professor and the Vietnam MBA project leader.

"What is your market? How do you sell to customers? People need to be trained in what that means."

The contract, funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, is the largest in BSU's history. □

BSU'S FALL ENROLLMENT SETS RECORD WITH 15,422 STUDENTS

Boise State's student population is getting bigger and brighter.

The university continued its record growth pace this fall semester with 15,422 students enrolled, the most ever served by an Idaho university.

The university also welcomed the largest new freshman class ever to enroll at BSU—2,268 students. And the 3.22 grade-point average for freshman enrolling straight out of high school also was the best in BSU history.

"We are especially pleased with the qual-

ity of our freshman class," says BSU dean of enrollment services Mark Wheeler. "As out-of-state colleges enter the Idaho market, recruiting new students has become very competitive."

Total enrollment increased 285 students, 2 percent more than last fall. BSU's previous enrollment record was 15,231 in the fall of 1993.

Enrollment increased in both graduate and undergraduate programs.

BSU's fall enrollment statistics also indicate that:

- Thirty-two percent of those enrolling from high school have a GPA of 3.5 or better.

- The number of engineering students has grown 19 percent — 428 students this fall compared to 361 last fall when BSU offered degree programs for the first time.

- Efforts to recruit and retain minority students have resulted in record enrollments by Asian (up 13 percent), African-American (up 13 percent) and Hispanic (up 7.4 percent) students. Hispanic enrollment has increased almost 50 percent since 1992. □

BSU MOVES UP IN MAGAZINE RANKING

Boise State has moved up in the world — or at least in the world as defined by the latest edition of America's Best Colleges published by *U.S. News and World Report*.

Boise State moved into the second tier of Western schools for the first time, placing among the top half of the 110 schools listed in the publication's annual ranking.

BSU is included in the national college and university category, which includes about 1,000 schools divided into four regions. BSU's region includes schools from Texas west to California.

Schools are evaluated on statistical criteria such as spending per student, alumni giving, graduation rates, student-faculty ratios and acceptance rates. In addition, about one-third of the score is based on subjective evaluations by other school presidents.

President Charles Ruch says more of his peers are becoming familiar with BSU and its recent growth.

"Several changes during the last year have attracted regional attention — our new engineering programs, our doctorate in education and our move to the Big West, for example. And our faculty has enhanced our reputation at the national level through their presentations and publications," says Ruch.

Other schools included in the second tier with BSU include San Jose State, University of Nevada at Las Vegas, University of Texas at El Paso and most schools in the California state university system.

Of the 28 schools ranked in the first tier, only five were state universities. □

COMPUTER SCIENCE, MUSIC REACCREDITED

Boise State programs in music and computer science received important seals of approval last summer by national accrediting organizations.

"This means our programs meet or exceed the same standards that identify the best programs in the country," says Phil Eastman, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

The computer science program is one of 151 that is accredited by the Computer Science Accreditation Commission.

Computer science was first offered in 1990 by the department of mathematics and computer science in response to the local need for graduates in software engineering and system administration.


Degrees offered by the music department were reaccredited by the National Association of Schools of Music Commission on Accreditation. Boise State is the only school in the Treasure Valley that has the NASM stamp, says Jim Cook, department chair. □



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BSU TO HOST BOWL GAME

College football's newest bowl game will debut Dec. 29 in Bronco Stadium.

The Humanitarian Bowl will match the winner of the Big West Conference against an at-large opponent from a major Division I conference. The 1 p.m. game will be televised nationally on ESPN2 to an estimated audience of 850,000 viewers.

Tickets to the public go on sale Nov. 4 for \$30. All seats are reserved.

Unlike many traditional bowls, the Humanitarian Bowl has a purpose that goes beyond the game itself, says Steve Schmadler, president of the bowl and the Boise River Festival.

In partnership with the Boise-based World Sports Humanitarian Hall of Fame, the bowl and its associated events will focus on the importance of athletes as role models.

"The bowl creates a niche too seldom celebrated in sports. We want to use the bowl and the publicity surrounding it to encourage athletes to use the skills and gifts they have to help others," says Schmadler.

Bowl teams will visit local hospitals and youth centers and attend the ceremonies inducting former Pittsburgh Steeler Mel Blount, Phoenix Sun Kevin Johnson and Olympic gold medalist Billy Mills into the Sports Humanitarian Hall of Fame.

Other events during bowl week include a celebration gala dinner/dance on Dec. 26, the mayor's media luncheon for both teams and the hall of fame inductees on Dec. 27, pep rallies for both teams on Dec. 28 and a Humanitarian Hall of Fame breakfast of champions on Dec. 29.

The bowl is being managed by the Boise River Festival. Information about any of the events is available at the bowl office, phone 338-8887. □

PROFESSOR WINS JURY VERDICT

After a lengthy court trial last summer, a U.S. District Court jury awarded more than \$74,000 to BSU education professor Norma Sadler, who claimed that the university had practiced gender discrimination regarding her salary and then retaliated after she filed a claim.

In its judgment, the jury awarded Sadler \$32,000 in back salary and \$42,000 in damages for retaliation.

The jury found that BSU paid Sadler a salary less than her male counterparts, but that the university's actions were not intentional.

Sadler has taught in the College of Education since 1973.

BSU is in the process of filing several post-trial motions regarding the verdict. □

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BOOKS EXAMINE POKEY'S LIFE, ANTI-GAY RIGHTS INITIATIVES

A unique text on the human anatomy, a volume from a literary series on philosophy, and the late Pokey Allen's autobiography are among the diverse topics of books recently written or co-written by members of Boise State's faculty and staff.

Some recent publications include:

HISTORICAL FOUNDATIONS OF INFORMAL LOGIC

Douglas Walton and Alan Brinton, Eds. Ashgate Press (England)

In addition to serving as the book's co-editor, Alan Brinton, BSU professor of philosophy and the university's associate vice president for academic affairs, wrote a chapter on the 18th century teachings of Issac Watts, whose *Logick* was the most widely used logic textbook of the 18th century.

Brinton collaborated with Douglas Walton of the University of Winnipeg to edit *Historical Foundations of Informal Logic* as part of Ashgate Press' Avebury Series in Philosophy.

SECTIONAL ANATOMY FOR IMAGING PROFESSIONALS

By Lorrie Kelley and Connie Petersen Mosby Publishing (Time/Life)

BSU radiologic sciences professor Lorrie

Kelley and Connie Petersen, an adjunct instructor in the program, wrote their textbook with the assistance of the Magnetic Resonance Imaging Center of Idaho and St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise.

"We wanted a textbook that would present diagnostic images along with detailed line drawings of anatomy and corresponding text to explain both the location and function of the body parts and systems in an easy-to-follow format," Kelley says. "We didn't want it to be just an atlas like most other anatomy and physiology textbooks."

The text comes with a study guide, an instructor's manual, pocket guide and slide set. St. Alphonsus and MRICI provided the 800 high-quality CT scans and MRIs that appear in the book along with study aids.

The book is published by Mosby, a medical publisher and division of Time/Life.

POKEY: THE GOOD FIGHT

By Pokey Allen and Bob Evancho Bootleg Books

Released in late August, Pokey Allen's autobiography comes eight months after the former Boise State University football coach died of cancer.

Among many other topics, Allen discusses his childhood and adolescence; his days as a high school, collegiate and pro football

player; his colorful coaching career in the USFL and at Portland State University; his four years at BSU; and his two-year battle with cancer.

Working with *FOCUS* staff writer Bob Evancho, Allen talks candidly about his trials and triumphs and shares his fears and emotions up until two weeks before his death in December 1996.

ANTI-GAY RIGHTS: ASSESSING VOTER INITIATIVES

Stephanie Witt and Suzanne McCorkle, Eds. Praeger Publishing

The book from Witt, political science professor, and McCorkle, associate dean of social sciences and public affairs, examines voter initiatives in Idaho and Oregon that aimed to curb the civil rights of gays and lesbians.

Released in September, the book features sections from 13 contributors, including Witt and McCorkle. In one of the more revealing chapters, Harvey Pitman, associate professor emeritus of communication at BSU, interviews the principal figures surrounding 1994's anti-gay rights initiative campaign in Idaho.

Other contributors from BSU include political scientists Leslie Alm and Daniel Levin and communication professor Marshall Most. □

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TRAINERS HONORED FOR RIGHT RESPONSE

Thanks to the decisive response of Boise State athletic trainers Gary Craner and Todd Hine last summer, a former BSU football player was able to make a remarkable recovery from a neck injury that could have left him paralyzed.

And as a result of their actions, Craner and Hine have been named co-winners of the fourth annual Tinactin Tough Cases Award by the National Athletic Trainers Association for outstanding performances in their field.

On Aug. 12, 1996, during a BSU football practice, defensive back Derek Zimmerman and a teammate collided violently during a passing drill. Zimmerman lowered his head and struck the other player in the ribs with the crown of his head. Craner and Hine immediately rushed to Zimmerman's aid, called for an ambulance and began head and neck stabilization because the player complained of neck pain and numbness and loss of sensation in both arms.

When the paramedics arrived and said they wanted to remove Zimmerman's helmet but not the shoulder pads, Craner argued that both pieces of equipment should be removed to keep the injured player's neck from moving. Given Craner's experience with such injuries, the emergency medical personnel agreed to follow his advice and assisted Craner and Hine in removing Zimmerman's helmet and shoulder pads.

Craner and Hine, who is now the trainer for the minor-league Boise Hawks and Idaho Steelheads, were able to remove the pads



CHUCK SCHEER PHOTO

Action taken by Hine, left, and Craner, right, helped save Zimmerman from serious injury.

while keeping Zimmerman in a linear position with little movement of his head or neck. He was placed on a backboard, collared and taken to St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center. There, surgery was performed on Zimmerman to repair a ruptured disc and fractures and dislocations of the cervical spine.

Zimmerman recovered with no paralysis. The attending physician, neurological surgeon Ron Jutzzy, said that this was the first time he had seen an injury as severe as Zimmerman's that did not result in some paralysis, according to the report submitted by BSU for the Tinactin award.

Craner, a member of the NATA Hall of Fame, and Hine received the \$1,000 Tinactin Tough Cases award at the association's annual conference in Salt Lake City earlier this year. They both donated their money to an athletic scholarship at BSU. □

NCAA OKS BRONCO ATHLETICS PROGRAM

Boise State University's intercollegiate athletics program is now duly certified by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA).

The certification process, akin to accreditation of an academic program, included a yearlong self-study that analyzed several aspects of BSU's department of intercollegiate athletics, including its academic integrity, fiscal integrity, governance and commitment to rules compliance, and commitment to equity.

"At a time when many are concerned with the quality and integrity of collegiate athletic programs, I am delighted that a team of colleagues representing the NCAA found our program to be in compliance with national guidelines," says BSU President Charles Ruch.

The NCAA analyzed the department's plans for gender equity and diversity, along with financial records and details about academic support programs, business practices and academic policies.

An evaluation team conducted extensive interviews on campus last February.

The certification program was adopted in 1993 as part of the NCAA's reform agenda. The NCAA has certified 142 schools.

All 307 Division I members of the NCAA will have participated in the certification process within the next five years. □

SOCCER COACH KNOWS WHAT IT TAKES TO START A PROGRAM

Starting from ground zero is nothing new to Julie Orlowski.

And as the new women's soccer coach at Boise State, Orlowski will be doing it for the third time — four if you count her career as a college player, she adds.

"There are definitely a lot of challenges in starting a new program," says Orlowski. "But I think my experience [in that area] will help."

Orlowski began her college coaching career as the first women's soccer coach at St. Thomas University in Miami. She also started and coached the women's soccer program at the University of North Florida before taking the job at BSU.

As a player, she competed at Florida International University during the soccer program's first four seasons of existence.

Like she has done at her previous two jobs, Orlowski plans to build BSU's women's soccer program with freshmen. "JC trans-



OLGOSH AFTER NHOF

This is the third soccer program BSU women's coach Orlowski has built from scratch.

fers bring experience," she says, "but you have to replace them in two years. I think it's important to establish a foundation with freshmen, most of whom will be with the

program for four years. Right now we are concentrating on bringing in the best freshman class possible. That's not to say we won't look at junior college talent, but I think it's important to build with younger players."

BSU will play soccer as a club sport in 1997-98 and begin intercollegiate competition as a member of the Big West Conference in 1998-99. Currently, the only female soccer players at BSU are those on the soccer club. Orlowski has hit the recruiting trail, but she cannot sign any student-athletes to letters of intent until next February.

"We want players who want to create their own environment, start their own traditions and not follow in someone else's footsteps."

The addition of women's soccer brings the total of intercollegiate sports offered at BSU to 17 (nine for women and eight for men). The last intercollegiate sport added by the Broncos was women's golf in 1992. □



JOE REIKIND/IDHO PRESS-TRIBUNE PHOTO

BSU President Charles Ruch, second left, and community leaders do the honors during a ribbon-cutting ceremony dedicating the \$2 million expansion of BSU's Canyon County Center. Others pictured, from left, are Paul Frisk of the Nampa Chamber of Commerce, Nampa Mayor Winston Goering and Jerry Cornilles, president of the Nampa Chamber.

GIFTS ABOUND FOR BOISE STATE PROGRAMS

Boise State received more than \$1 million worth of help from its friends this summer in the form of grants and gifts to support projects ranging from music to food technology.

"This has been a remarkable summer ... our faculty was extremely successful in securing external funding for our programs," says President Charles Ruch.

The two largest grants, totaling more than \$600,000, will provide equipment for programs in engineering and geophysics.

- Scientists at the **CENTER FOR THE GEOPHYSICAL INVESTIGATION OF THE SHALLOW SUBSURFACE** will add to their equipment inventory with a \$369,000 grant from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust. The grant will be used to purchase a multichannel seismograph, borehole geophysical instruments and hydrological test equipment for the center's near-surface sediments laboratory.

- **ENGINEERING** students will learn design skills earlier in their college careers because of a \$245,911 equipment grant from Hewlett-Packard. A new Electrical Engineering Design and Simulation Laboratory will include UNIX-based workstations and a Netserver — hardware that will make it possible to re-engineer the curriculum to emphasize design in the freshman and sophomore years of the electrical engineering program.

Other donations will fund library purchases, culinary arts scholarships, a music lab, accountancy programs and student support programs.

- The **STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES** program, designed to help retain disadvantaged students, will receive \$214,417 over the next four years from the U.S. Department of Education.

The program provides peer tutoring, cultural events, workshops and instruction for

students who are typically low income, first-generation American, physically handicapped or learning disabled.

- The Helen Boiardi Trust donated \$150,000 for an endowment to support Hector Boiardi Scholarships for Boise State **CULINARY ARTS** students in need of financial assistance. The late Hector Boiardi was internationally known as a chef and the developer of food products that for many years have been marketed under the trade name Chef Boy-Ar-Dee. Only six culinary arts programs nationally were selected to receive funds from the trust.

- Through the fund-raising efforts of the Friends of Nursing, the Albertson Foundation will donate \$25,000 per year for three years to augment the holdings of the **NURSING** library and support the department's efforts to establish a library endowment.

- Ore-Ida Foods Inc. and the H.J. Heinz Co. Foundation each donated \$25,000 to enhance BSU's **ACCOUNTING** graduate program to prepare for impending educational changes for CPA candidates in Idaho.

Starting in 2000, the state will require all CPA candidates to pursue a fifth year of academic study beyond a bachelor's degree. BSU will expand its master's program to meet expected demand for graduate degrees in accountancy. The donations will be used as seed money to start the transition.

- The **MUSIC DEPARTMENT**'s high-tech laboratory received computers and printers valued at \$30,000 from Hewlett-Packard. The lab will have 10 pianos linked to computers. Software will enable students to play the piano and have what they are playing printed out in music notation. HP donated equipment valued at \$35,000 two years ago to get the lab started. □



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FORMER MUSIC PROF DOES HIS BEST TO HELP MUSIC STUDENTS

As a young farm boy in 1928, former music professor John Best received a cello as a Christmas gift. According to Best, that event was the catalyst for his lifelong passion for music.

Best's love of music eventually led him to Boise Junior College in 1947 where he built and conducted the college-community orchestra and taught bass and cello to music students.

During his years at Boise State, Best recognized the need to create a scholarship specifically for students studying bowed string instruments.

"There is a great need for tal-



CHUCK SCHIEER PHOTO

ented and enthusiastic string music students at BSU. We are hopeful that our scholarship will provide students with another advantage for attending Boise State," he says.

Since his retirement in 1983, Best has remained active at BSU as an emeritus professor. □

John Best and his wife Katherine established the John Best Orchestral String Music Scholarship in 1989. The scholarship is for talented string students who are also involved in the University Orchestra.

DONOR NOTES

■ J.A. & Kathryn Albertson Foundation, \$25,000 to the Nursing Library Resources Fund.

■ Albertson's Corporate Office, \$30,000 to Albertson Scholarship Capital Project Endowment.

■ Arthur Andersen & Co., LLP Foundation, \$1,500 to Arthur Andersen/Hal Bunderson Excellence in Accounting.

■ Lee Bernasconi, \$10,500 to the Bernasconi Family Scholarship.

■ Barry and Pat Bloom, \$2,000 to the Construction Management Endowment Fund.

■ BMC West Corp., \$5,000 and Gannett Foundation, \$10,000 for the Micron Engineering Building Challenge.

■ Helen Boiardi Trust, \$150,000 to the Hector Boiardi Scholarships Endowment.

■ Boise Rotary Foundation, \$2,500 for the Bob Gibb Memorial Scholarship.

■ Lois and Klaus Brown, \$1,000 to the William and Anne Martin English/Engineering Scholarship.

■ John and Ruth Carver Jr., \$1,000 and Roy and Frances Ellsworth, \$1,000 to the Frank Church Chair on Public Affairs.

■ Caterpillar Foundation, \$5,000 for the Caterpillar Excellence Fund.

■ Laura Moore Cunningham Foundation, \$100,000 for scholarships and \$200,000 for the Micron Engineering Building Challenge.

■ Jamie Dater, \$1,000 and Carol L.

MacGregor, \$4,000 for the Social Sciences and Public Affairs Single Parents Scholarship.

■ Wilbur and Catherine Elliott, \$1,000 to the Helen Blanas Vocal Scholarship.

■ Exxon Education Foundation, \$4,500; Robert and Vera Gruber, \$1,000; and Joe and Nicki Parisi, \$1,000 for unrestricted use.

■ Golden Eagle Audubon Society, \$1,500 for the Raptor Migration Project.

■ Luella Glasgow Hendryx, \$101,450 to the Luella Glasgow Hendryx Nursing Scholarship.

■ Hewlett-Packard, \$1,500 for Continuing Education administration.

■ Marceil E. Howells, \$1,500 to the Gene Harris Endowment.

■ Idaho Chapter of The Wildlife Society, \$5,000 to the Richard Olendorf/Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society Scholarship.

■ Key Bank of Idaho, \$1,500 to the Key Bank Business Scholarship, \$10,000 to the McCain Library Endowment, and \$3,500 for unrestricted use.

■ Frank Lawrence, \$6,700 to the Learning Disabilities Program.

■ Life Care Foundation, \$2,500 for the Life Care Nursing Scholarship.

■ Margaret Martin, \$1,000 for the Clyde Martin Memorial Scholarship.

■ J. Pat and Lisa McMurray, \$1,000 and J. R. Simplot Co., \$5,600 to BIF account.

■ Neef Enterprises Inc., \$2,200 and Harvey and Margo Neef, \$24,500 to Harvey Neef Mane Line Dancers Fund.

■ Donald J. and Doli Obee, \$1,000 to the D. J. Obee Biology Scholarship.

■ Barbara W. Oldenburg, \$2,000 to the Bill and Barbara Oldenburg Memorial Scholarship.

■ Palmatier Estate, \$85,000 for the Ed & Alice Palmatier Nursing Scholarship.

■ Douglas and Connie Payne, \$1,000 to the Anna Marie Barnes Payne Memorial Nursing Scholarship.

■ Preco Inc., \$10,000 to Idaho Business Development.

■ Timothy and Jill Schindwein, \$5,800 to the College of Business and Economics for equipment.

■ SCP Global Technologies, \$1,000 for the electrical engineering workshop.

■ Richard E. Stoops, \$1,200 for the Richard E. Stoops Business Scholarship Endowment.

■ Virginia Schweizer, \$5,300 to the BSU General Scholarship Fund.

■ U.S. Bank, \$2,500 for theatre arts administration, \$18,750 for the Warren McCain Library Endowment, and \$1,000 to the College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs.

■ Virgil L. Pennell Estate, \$1,000 to the Nursing General Scholarship.

■ George and Virginia Wade, \$1,500 to the Technology-Engineering Building Fund.

■ Western States Equipment Co., \$7,000 for the Western States Scholarship. □

GIVING CORNER

By Bob Fritsch
Executive Director, BSU Foundation



Each year many alumni and friends generously support Boise State University with an annual gift. However, many also elect to make gifts by the commonly used term of "deferred giving." In essence, they have elected to provide support for our academic mission with a gift that will have a major impact in the future.

There are many different ways to make a planned gift, and the rewards for both the donor and BSU are significant. Some of the benefits to the donor can be an immediate charitable tax deduction, avoidance or minimization of estate taxes, an annuity payment that often generates more income from assets than the donor is currently receiving, and the ability to make a significantly greater gift than would be possible through an annual gift.

The most common method of making a planned gift is by including the university in the donor's will. A bequest provides schol-

arship support for countless generations of future students and memorializes the family name in perpetuity here at Boise State.

Another type of deferred gift is the creation of a charitable remainder trust. This vehicle allows the donor and a loved one to receive payments for life. The remainder of the trust is then used to establish an endowment in the donor's name. The advantages to the donor can be tremendous in terms of generating current income and greatly reducing tax exposure.

Another option is to name the university as owner and beneficiary of an insurance policy. The donor receives a charitable gift deduction for the amount of annual premium that the donor pays. This method is of great interest to younger individuals who want to make a significant gift to the academic mission of BSU at a relatively small annual cost.

If you would like to explore these or other types of deferred giving, please contact the Boise State University Foundation at (208) 385-3276 to see how we might work together to help you and BSU. □

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The Diversity of Australian Ceramics

by
John Takehara

PART I

Introduction

Barbara Swarbrick
Peter Rushforth
Maria Kuczynska
Gwyn Hanssen Piggott
Barry Hayes
Pippin Drysdale

Conclusion Part I

PART II

Introduction

Hedley Potts
Hiroe Swen
Jeff Minchem
Sony Manning
Reg Preston
Steve Bishopric

Conclusion Part II

PART III

Introduction

Carol & Arthur Rosser
Joan Campbell
Sandra Black
Terry Davies
Marianne Cole

Conclusion Part III

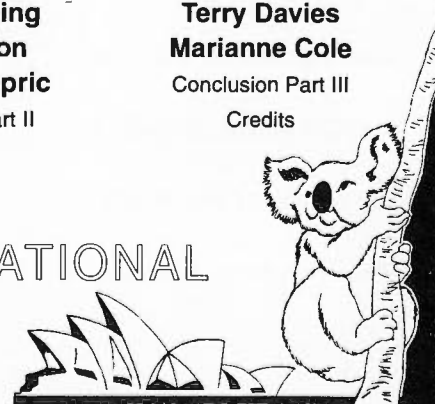
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They are consumer savvy, computer literate and selective about their careers, health and politics. Today's college freshmen – the class of 2001 are unique in that they will enter the new millennium with better access to more information about how to live their lives than any generation before, thanks in part to the technology revolution. But these students have worries and concerns of their own as well. In this issue of *FOCUS* we look at what's in store for this Class of 2001 and their life in a new millennium.

Cyber Class

Today's freshmen set themselves apart

By Amy Stahl

Eighteen-year-old Toni Koehler was getting ready to pack her bags, kiss her family goodbye and drive the hundred miles from Wendell to Boise State for the start of her freshman year. But she still had some questions about her residence hall. Rather than pick up the phone, Koehler did what most enterprising students would do today: she sent an e-mail message.

Unusual, you ask? Not so for today's computer-savvy freshmen. When Koehler and her roommate Kelly Wright moved into their dorm room, they unpacked twin PCs and printers along with books, a stereo and toaster. For fun, they send electronic messages to friends and family in the Magic Valley, cruise the Internet and play a frighteningly realistic video game called Quake.

Granted, computers have revolutionized higher education. Gone are the cumbersome manual typewriters and multi-volume encyclopedias used by their parents and grandparents.

The tools may be different, but are the students? Are the freshmen who operate these powerful machines really so different from their predecessors of 10, 20 or 50 years ago?



Freshman facts

Applicants

3,820

Enrolled

2,096

Ethnicity

86.8% Caucasian
6.5% Hispanic
2.8% Asian/Oriental
1.4% Native American
.9% African American
.7% foreign
1.3% no response

Gender

55 percent female
45 percent male

Age groups

18 or younger: 56.8%
19-24 years: 30.4%
25-40 years: 10.3%
41-50 years: 1.8%
50 or more years: .7%

Residence

Idaho: 1,954 (93.2%)
Oregon: 31 (1.5%)
California: 26 (1.2%)
Nevada: 19 (.9%)
Washington: 16 (.8%)

Idaho residence

From Ada Co.: 62%
From Canyon Co.: 14.6%
Total from SW Idaho: 83.6%

High schools

Borah: 183
Boise: 164
Capital: 159
Meridian: 147
Centennial: 104
Eagle: 89
Nampa: 56
Caldwell: 43

Attending full time

62.3%

Degree-seeking

82.7%



CITRICK SCHEER PHOTO

Technologically adept freshmen like Toni Koehler, left, and Kelly Wright face different challenges in college.

Today's freshmen — the Class of 2001 — still listen to faculty lectures, pore over textbooks and cram for tests. But experts say that these young adults enter college with a unique set of worries and expectations that set them apart from the bobby soxers of the '50s, protesters of the '60s and yuppies of the '80s.

Veteran faculty and staff members at BSU say this generation of students is not only more technologically adept but they're also increasingly savvy as consumers and more fitness conscious. Thanks to CNN and a global media network, they've been exposed to a world of ideas, yet they're skeptical about politics and worried about their financial security, but more likely to volunteer for community projects.

BSU sociologist David Hall sees an underlying problem troubling today's young adults. In an era of relative world stability and economic prosperity, it would seem that these are the best of times for a generation poised to grab hold of the American dream. Yet the Class of 2001 suffers from ambivalence and uncertainty about the modern world, says Hall.

"There's this profound sense of doubt. Increasing information leads to increasing uncertainty. Increasing uncertainty undermines the true sense of who we are," says Hall, an adjunct professor who graduated from BSU in 1990. For his doctoral thesis, Hall conducted intensive interviews of undergraduates at BSU and the University of California-Davis.

Further, unlike their parents or grandparents, he says, "they haven't gelled around a collective sense of history." There is no "collective memory device" such as World War II, Vietnam or the space race around which this group can

rally. Rather, today's traditional freshman came of age during the less socially definitive recession of the 1970s and Reaganomics of the '80s.

As one New York teen told a *Time* magazine reporter recently: "The '90s is an exhausted decade. There's nothing to look for, and nowhere to go. This generation really hasn't got any solid ground. I mean, the '60s had solid ground, but that's gone now."

This vacuum has left many young adults with a poor historical memory, Hall says. Much to the chagrin of their parents, many don't know where Vietnam is, much less who "won" the war. Rather, "this group has been raised with a mass-mediated consciousness. A lot of their experiences have been defined by the mass media."

"Today's students have had access to so much more information in the media and technology it's almost inconceivable," says Greg Blaesing, director of auxiliary services for BSU's Student Union and Activities. "They're more worldly," he says, crediting CNN, C-SPAN and MTV. "They're demanding as consumers because they're exposed to more choices."

In his 22-year career on two campuses, Blaesing has seen students grow more sophisticated in both their expectations and their tastes. Turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy just won't cut it any more. "If you served the foods today that we served 10 years ago, they would throw it at you," Blaesing says with a smile. Campus menus now feature curries, stir fry, beans, vegetarian dishes and ethnic foods.

Similarly, residence halls have been upgraded to appeal to a more demanding consumer. Computer hook-ups, cable TV access, air conditioning and single rooms are fast becoming standard options.

"We're trying to make the residence halls attractive to students and retain them," says Dick McKinnon, head of Student Residential Life. "If they're happy where they're living, then they're going to be happier with their total experience and they'll stay here."

While they are more knowledgeable as consumers, young adults are more skeptical of political ideologies and religious dogmas, says sociologist Hall. He blames the intensive product marketing strategies aimed at younger and younger audiences. The result is a profound lack of trust. "They're skeptical of the motives behind the people selling these things," Hall theorizes. "It's a doubtfulness that makes them wary."

Financial worries also cloud the horizon for today's freshmen. In a climate of growing uncertainty about the availability of student aid, a record 33.1 percent of more than 250,000 freshmen

participating in a 1996 national survey by UCLA's Higher Education Research Institute cited financial assistance as a "very important" reason for selecting their college.

Eighteen-year-old freshman Heather Eacho knows all too well about money headaches. Her father's employer pays her tuition, but Eacho must work as a night desk clerk at a local hotel to cover her car and insurance.

A graduate of Coeur d'Alene's Lake City High School, she is the eighth of nine children in her family and the first one to leave home for college. She admits that the financial pressure of college "kind of weighs on me." But she's upbeat about the prospects after college. Her No. 1 goal? To teach math to schoolchildren. "I want to be prepared for when I get out of college. I want to be able to get a job," she says.

A veteran BSU professor believes this career orientation is part of a larger pattern among his freshmen students. "They're thinking about education as a vocational path," says Greg Raymond, a 23-year BSU political science professor who now heads the Honors program. "Now there is much more interest in how a major or course is going to get a student a job. In the past, there was more interest in being educated in a field," he says.

Studies show that most adults will

change careers three times during their lifetimes. Yet many freshmen select a major course of study with only one field in mind, says Raymond. "It would seem that students ought to think about being as flexible and multidimensional as possible. But many come to the university with a fixed notion about their careers."

Career-minded though they may be, more and more students are also turning

the board by successfully lobbying for a professional service-learning coordinator paid with student fees. The new coordinator will work with faculty to identify volunteer activities that complement students' academic experience.

Hall is heartened that students are discovering volunteerism as a means to connect with their communities. "The way you cope with high degrees of uncertainty

is that you rein in your range of attention. Your sphere of focus becomes more immediate."

Rather than fret about world events, young adults are focusing on their own backyard, neighborhood or community. "Politics for them isn't going out and joining the Democratic party and attending fund-raisers or participating in the primary. They're looking closer to home."

And how does this generation differ from previous students in the classroom? Raymond marvels at the technical dexterity of today's

freshmen. Unlike students in the '70s who grappled with clunky punch cards and massive mainframes, he says, today's undergraduates are comfortable experimenting with computer software, CD ROMs and PowerPoint. Whereas students of 20 years ago had stronger writing and foreign language skills, he says, today's freshmen have a better grasp of math. "There was almost a math phobia, a fear of statistics among earlier generations," he says.

A more diverse student body now finds more opportunities available on campus and in the community, says English professor Helen Lojek. "Our students are much more aware of options," says Lojek, a 25-year teaching veteran. "They come in with different commitments and attitudes toward their education." Through Studies Abroad and national organizations like the Sigma Tau Delta English honors society, BSU students are learning more about the world beyond the Treasure Valley, she says.

Lojek has observed, too, that freshmen of the 1990s are more visually oriented and better listeners. "These students have a much higher comfort level with each other and are less hesitant to engage with each other. They are much more visual and oral than I was because I was often sitting in a corner with a book." □



CHELSEA SCHERER PHOTO

Sociologist Hall says the Class of 2001 suffers from ambivalence and uncertainty.

their energies to volunteerism. Freshmen entering U.S. colleges and universities in 1996 were the most community-minded class in the 31-year history of the survey conducted by UCLA.

At BSU, hundreds of students have pitched in for projects coordinated by the student-run Volunteer Services Board. Last year, students expanded the scope of

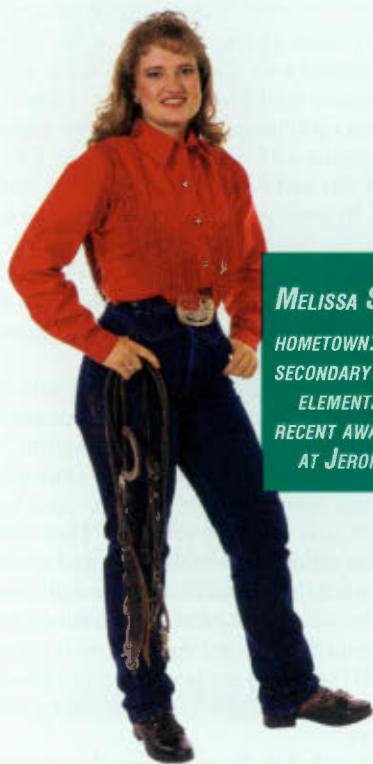
From high school to BSU

- Academic, degree-seeking students coming directly from high school
- 1,172
- Average H.S. grade point
- 3.22
- Grade point of 3.5 or better
- 32%
- Average ACT composite score
- 21.3
- Average credit load
- 13.5 credits
- Full-time students
- 77 percent
- Average age
- 18.1

A Frosh Perspective

“If you want something bad enough, there is nothing that’s going to stand in your way. It is the individual’s choice.”

Earlier this fall, the first college graduates of the 21st century began their freshman year. Whether it’s merited or not, these young adults — the Class of 2001 — are under the glare of the national media spotlight — viewed as the generation that will set the tone for the new millennium. How do Boise State freshmen fit into all this hoopla and speculation? To give FOCUS’ readers an idea, we interviewed four first-year BSU students — all from small towns — to get their ideas and impressions about what’s in store for their generation as a new era approaches.



MELISSA SULLIVAN, 18

HOMETOWN: JEROME
SECONDARY MATH EDUCATION,
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
RECENT AWARD: GRAND CHAMPION
AT JEROME HORSE SHOW

Statistics reveal that most of your peers don’t go on to college. Has college always been important to you?

Richard: Neither of my parents ever graduated from college. My dad never went, my mom went a year and dropped out. They’ve really regretted it, and my whole life they’ve told me how important it was. I come from a very low income family. We’ve been barely able to make it through these last few

years; scholarships were very instrumental to me. It has been something I’ve dreamed of almost all my life. Out of my closest friends, only one is going to college. My very best friend dropped out of high school, has a kid and works at Arctic Circle flipping burgers.

Melissa: Most of the kids I graduated with are planning on going to college. It seemed like the cool thing to do, to go to college. For a lot of people, financial aid played a huge part in where they went. I know it did for me.

I don’t know that there ever was a

time when college wasn’t a part of my future; it’s always been something I’ve been striving for.

Patty: I remember working in the fields my one and only summer, and I knew that job was not for me. I decided I was going to college to get that degree, to get a better job and be financially stable.

One national magazine described the 1990s as an exhausted decade and quoted students as saying “there is nothing to look for and nowhere to go.” Do you think that is an accurate description of the students you know?

Richard: I kind of think those are fighting words, especially for college students. Students all know that with a good education, they can go anywhere, do anything.

What about those who haven’t gone to college? Do they feel disconnected?

Richard: I’m sure there are some who do, but that’s representative of any generation. In any age group there are people who think the world has turned

its back on them and that there is nothing they can do. I don't think there is a higher percentage of people our age like that.

Patty: There were 80 in my class and only 20 went to college; the other 60 felt that way. One of the main reasons was the lack of self-desire to be somebody.

Melissa: It goes back to personal desire. If that's you want out of life then that's all you're going to get.

Richard: If you think you're not going to have opportunities, that the world has closed its doors to you, then it has.

You are branded as part of Generation X, which implies that you don't care about things, that you are apathetic.

Melissa: I don't think it describes us at all. Whenever I hear this, I go back to my senior government class. It seemed like every one of us had opinions about the last presidential election. In fact, we got into a few fights over it. It seemed like we cared more than people who could vote.

Richard: A lot of people have the feeling that they can't do very much. I think that does have something to do with apathy. They know they're only one person and that their vote, their voice, doesn't matter all that much. But it's really a personal preference for people whether or not they want to try to make a difference. There are a lot of people out there who do want to try.

You see a lot of publicity about some of the pressures your generation faces — drugs, teen pregnancy, gangs. Do you think those pressures really exist, or are they media hype?

Patty: I think they are very true. What makes me mad is that instead of talking about the problem, why doesn't society start talking about solutions. Stop talking about teen pregnancy and start talking about sex education in the schools or more availability for teenage girls to get birth control. If there's a problem, talk about the solution.

Melissa: There are the pressures out there, and we face them every day. If you are strong enough to overcome

those things or if you want something bad enough, there is nothing that's going to stand in your way. It is the individual's choice.

Richard: It's all a question of trying to belong, of trying to fit in. The people who don't have a stable environment are very liable to fall prey to things like that. Like Patty said, if society put effort into finding solutions to the problems instead of just talking about them, we could take great steps to overcome those handicaps.

Do your parents really have a clue about what your generation is all about?

Patty: I don't think my parents know. I don't think they have a clue.

Richard: They don't. You can't really see something through someone else's eyes. They base their opinions on their own experiences, and they judge us from what they know and from what they've learned. To really understand our generation and the pressures we face, you really have to be there on an everyday basis; you have to experience the things we have to experience.

Melissa: Some parents are more in tune than others. I think my parents know what's going on, but yet I get the feeling that some of my friends' parents have no clue.

David: We'd all like to think that our parents are naive and ignorant to what's going on, but I think my parents are pretty in tune.

Richard: Twenty years ago they were saying the exact same thing to their parents.

One day you will be parents talking to your kids about these topics. Where is society going? Where will we be in 10 years?

David: I guess we can all hope that there's going to be some kind of awakening. Eventually people will wake up.

Patty: Either that or it's going to get worse. More complex.

Richard: Youth always has felt a sense of invulnerability. We're 19 and nothing can touch us. Eventually they

What makes me mad is that instead of talking about the problem, why doesn't society start talking about solutions.

PATTY MARTINEZ, 19
HOMETOWN: NYSSA, ORE.
NURSING
WANTS TO BE: FAMILY NURSE
PRACTITIONER



“Above all, you need to really show your children that being responsible and being a good person is the most important thing.”



RICHARD SANKEY, 18
 HOMETOWN: EMMETT
 THEATRE ARTS, SECONDARY
 EDUCATION
 MOST RECENTLY: A LIFEGUARD

will grow out of that. People just need to think about the consequences of their actions. People will do that eventually.

Some say your generation is focused on material things — cars, stereos, money. Do you think that is true?

Melissa: We do think about those things a lot. But those aren't the only things that are important or that we think about.

Patty: Some of my peers are very materialistic. They see film stars wear something and then they want to buy it. I have other peers who just want to find their inner selves and just get peace with themselves.

David: Money is important, because I've heard a lot of my teachers tell me that it is going to be difficult for our generation to ever own our own house. You want to get a good job that makes a lot of money.

Richard: I guess now isn't the best time to bring up my new stereo system, is it? And the new Adidas jacket, hat and shoes, and I'm probably pretty materialistic, to be honest.

Everything I own I purchase solely with money that I earn. I have a roommate who loves buying things with money he doesn't have. It hasn't been a good week for him if he hasn't gotten a thousand dollar loan.

Credit and loans are so easy, and they're new to us. It's like, "Hey!

they're going to give me money!" The idea of having to pay it back really doesn't occur to us at the time. I do think that people are materialistic today, that there is definitely a group

of people who have to own the loudest and the fastest.

Do you think your generation lacks respect for authority, as some have claimed?

David: Oh yeah.

Richard: Definitely.

Melissa: Some people may hate me for this, but I say it's the parents' fault.

Patty: Talk to gang members and

you'll see they are looking for family. Their family is too busy at work; nobody is at home. It's back to the family.

Richard: I agree that parents have a lot to do with it. But the '60s also was a time when it seems people didn't have a lot of respect for authority figures, either. What we're doing is just an extension of that.

Today the media are not very kind to public figures. What impact does that have on how you perceive supposed authority figures?

Richard: It's very disillusioning. To see the weaknesses of someone you look up to portrayed in so harsh a light, that is very disillusioning; it's very depressing.

Patty: It has a lot of effect. They are your leaders; look how they are acting.

David: It puts a mentality in your head — he screwed up and he is the president of the U.S. If he can get away with that, then I can get away with this.

Does your generation have any heroes?

Richard: No.

Patty: Not really.

Richard: Our lack of heroes has a lot to do with some of the problems we face today. If we could return to the days when policemen and politicians were considered a good thing, I really think it would have a lot of effect on today's youth.

Melissa: I blame part of it on the media. They are always looking for what's scandalous because scandal sells. The best story in their eyes is what is actually the worst about people. So all we hear is negative.

Did personal role models play an important part in your life?

Melissa: I had some pretty awesome teachers; the one that stands out was my calculus teacher; my counselor was really neat.

I'm big on role models, building self-esteem.

I see myself being a teacher, but also trying to show kids that if you really want something hard enough, you can do it.

David: A big inspiration for me was my track coach. Sometimes you wouldn't want to go to practice, but you would do it just because of him.

I want to be a role model like that ... to be an influence on other generations.

Richard: More important than being a role model to just anyone is being a role model to your children.

Above all, you need to really show your children that being responsible and being a good person is the most important thing.

Does your generation worry about anything?

Richard: Owning the biggest, shiniest thing.

What does your generation stand for? What does it represent?

Melissa: We stand for individuality. If our opinions are not important to anyone else, they are important to us.

Patty: I agree. I may believe something and I probably won't care if he believes the same thing. It's about individuality.

Richard: I'm continuing the trend. What we stand for is that we want to be heard.

We want people to listen.

What are you saying?

Richard: That's the part we're not quite sure of yet. When we decide, we want people to listen.

David: We are still trying to figure out. I have no idea what our generation is trying to say.

Melissa: If it's nothing else, it's just simply that we're people, too. It comes back to the fact that our generation is stereotyped.

Just give us a chance to prove ourselves.

Do you think your generation can make a difference? Does your generation want to make things different?

David: I see a lot of people who don't care either way. A lot of people say they want to change things, but when it comes right down to actually doing it, they don't show up.

They don't follow through.

Patty: I see people who do want to make a difference, but they need a chance.

Richard: It all just comes down to how much you want to change things and whether you're willing to make that effort. That's sort of why we're here.

But how do your peers who aren't in college feel about having an impact on the world?

Patty: They think, "They are not giving me a chance, so why am I going to try?"

David: It's just a lazy, why-try attitude.

Richard: That has been beaten into their heads their entire lives — that what they have to say and do aren't important.

It's beaten in by all their experiences, by all the people they have come in contact with.

Look to the future and tell us what you see in 30 more years.

David: I see a lot of unemployment. Machines will do the work of a thousand men 30 years from now.

Richard: Things have progressed so fast. So many new things are being discovered every day.

I can't even begin to picture what life will be like in 30 years.

David: I just hope I'm a good parent. If everyone would instill good values in their kids, that would make things a lot easier.

Richard: I'd like to know if what we're seeing right now is a mature society. There are plenty of people right now who are pretty immature.

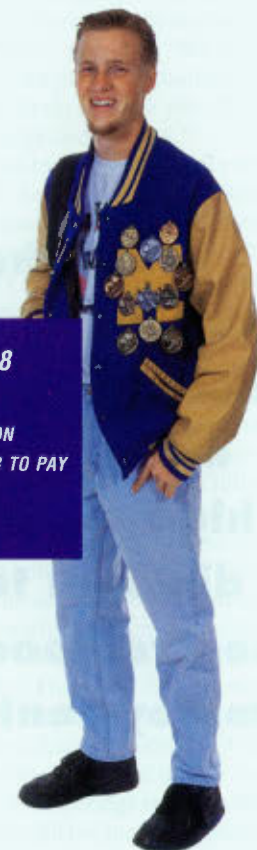
David: We're seeing it too negatively, actually. The glass is half full, not half empty. I don't think it's as bad as everybody thinks it is.

I plan on seeing good things in 30 years.

Melissa: Look at all the changes we've seen in the past 20-30 years. If there is even half that many, then it's going to be a completely different society for us to live in.

There are going to be different challenges and new things that we have to deal with. □

“A lot of people say they want to change things, but when it comes right down to actually doing it, they don't show up.”



DAVID GUMMERSALL, 18
HOMETOWN: MIDDLETON
BROADCAST COMMUNICATION
WORKS AT: MOVIE THEATER TO PAY
FOR COLLEGE

What's in a Degree?

By Chris Bouneff

Even the non-college bound need more than a high school diploma to secure good employment.

In a bygone era, Paul Marler's education would have ended after his high school commencement ceremony last spring. With some automotive classes already under his belt, he would have joined his dad in the family's repair shop and lived a comfortable life as a grease monkey.

Today, Marler looks like a mechanic. He wears the standard blue garage coat and a ball cap with a worn parabolic brim. And his slightly stained hands dance constantly with a shop rag as he talks. But he is far from mechanic status.

Rather than join the family garage, Marler enrolled in Boise State University's automotive technology program this fall and will spend the next two years learning what it takes to be a mechanic. When he leaves BSU, Marler will hold an associate of applied science degree. And he'll spend the rest of his career attending seminars, reading the latest literature and taking certification tests to prove he can work on the growing number of cars and trucks that depend on computers to make them run.

Marler and his generation are products of the fundamental shift that occurred in Idaho's job market over the past 15 years. Educators estimate that 65 percent of the jobs in the Treasure Valley market require a college degree or some form of post-high school training — even jobs once a haven for high school graduates and dropouts.

"It used to be that you could get out on a tractor, work hard and make it," says Thomas Dillon, a member of the State Board of Education. "You cannot do that in our technological society."

Yet 70 percent of Idaho's high school graduates don't seek a four-year college degree or any post-high school training, signaling to some educators and state leaders that Idaho's educational system failed to adapt to the evolving job market.

And that raises major questions that the state now is trying to answer. How should schools change to reach that 70 percent of high school graduates? And where do BSU and the state's other higher education institutions fit into the picture?

In many ways, Marler is the model student whom educators want to replicate. He found his calling in automotive classes at Vallivue High School in Caldwell, which in turn sparked interest in his other subjects.

Math and English classes became indispensable as he worked toward his ultimate goal: to one day take over his father's repair shop. Math gave him skills to balance the books. English developed the communication skills he needs to deal with difficult customers. And technology classes helped him adapt to the computers he'll use to diagnose and treat an array of automotive ailments.

"They weren't just grades to me," Marler says of his academic classes. "I was going to learn what to do when I get out there."

Unlike mechanics in the past, Marler also can expect professional-level compensation for his education. Some graduates from BSU's program earn as much as \$60,000 a year — as long as they stay current with technology through lifelong learning. "If you don't like learning or going to school, you better be in some other business," BSU automotive technology instructor Lee Hall says.

But Marler isn't the typical high school graduate. Most enter the work force directly, says Sharon Cook, associate dean of the Larry G. Selland College of Applied Technology.

Graduates don't enter college or seek training for a variety of reasons, Cook says. Some students balk at the cost, believing that they can't afford college. Others come from homes in which parents don't encourage continuing



Technology requires even future mechanics such as Paul Marler to attend college.

education.

And other students, at only 17 and 18 years old, don't connect career success with education. It doesn't hit them until they flounder for several years — and then realize that you can't build a career without education or specialized training.

Cook says she sees the problem firsthand in the disparity between adult education and vocational programs offered at BSU. Enrollment in vocational programs has yet to explode. Only 692 people attend vocational programs at BSU this fall. Last year, about 5,500 people enrolled in vocational programs statewide. That compares with the 10,000 high school graduates in Idaho last year who didn't enter college or training.

In contrast, adult education, which serves an older population, enrolled about 9,000

people last year — more than 2,400 at Boise State — and remains in demand now more than ever.

But BSU can only serve about 5 percent of the adults seeking continuing education because the university lacks resources. Cook says Boise State wants to work harder at attracting more high school students directly into applied technology programs, where classroom space is available.

"We haven't really marketed to high school students," she says. "We haven't communicated the job opportunities. That's where we need to do a better job — with counselors, students and parents."

Led by Canyon County members Dillon and Jerry Hess, the State Board of Education's 70 percent committee — named for the percentage of high school grads who don't go to college — wants to help local schools and institutions such as BSU motivate the majority of high school graduates into post-secondary training or education.

In addition to expanding adult education, the committee wants state universities and high schools to bolster their vocational offerings. And, Hess and Dillon say, the committee wants high schools and colleges to partner with each other so that students can earn college credit while still in high school.

This seamless education, as educators call it, hopefully will encourage more students to enroll in post-high school programs.

But Hess and Dillon would like Boise State and the other universities to go farther. Idaho's higher education should retain strong baccalaureate and master's programs, they say, but offerings at state schools also should better mirror the job market so that today's

'It used to be that you could get out on a tractor, work hard and make it. You cannot do that in our technological society.'

The @ Generation

By Rick Overton

You may have noticed that the three R's have given way to the three E's. Kids these days just can't be bothered with readin' and writin' and 'rithmetic when there's so much ESPNET, E! and e-mail going on. It's the Digital Revolution, people, and it is absolutely everywhere.

Some decry the age of the netizen, with its instant gratification, sensational attitude toward free expression, and rapid-fire attention spans as further evidence that we are all downloading toward Dumbville.

Much of this criticism is lumped on today's youth, kids growing up in media-saturated environments, who are often portrayed as joystick-addicted flunkies. Like the generation that arrived at BSU this fall — the Class of 2001. It is the tip of a demographic blip as culturally significant as any group of kids since the baby boom.

One of the trends this generation is helping to shepherd is the infiltration of the computer, the Internet and the new electronic reality into everything—like it or not. And as the homes and workplaces of America adjust to the new regime, universities are in the precarious position of both leading the way and following behind.

Leadership already has its payoffs. With the help of Internet tools, students and professors can interact in remarkable ways that weren't possible before.

Syllabi and homework assignments can be posted online for students to browse throughout the semester. HTML scripts allow students to submit homework remotely, from anywhere. Chat areas, link lists, and the sheer vastness of the Net's infoscape are powerful resources at instructors' and students' fingertips.

Some universities are going so far as to say that a PC is simply required, and professors in schools large and small make the assumption that even if their students don't have a computer of their own, between family, friends and campus computer labs, anyone can scare up a little time in front of the electronic fireplace.

In short, it's a different university.

When I graduated from BSU in 1993, there was still no such thing as student email. But only 12 months later, by the time I had obtained a master's degree in journalism at Northwestern University, e-mail was already everywhere.

It happened that fast. At times over the last several years I have felt like I was living near the center of the maelstrom. After the polite beating that is journalism graduate school, I took an editorial job at *PC World* magazine, a monthly periodical in San Francisco, and soon found myself writing news that was posted every day on a Web page.

Trouble was, nobody knew what to do. Our paradigms were blown apart, and seasoned magazine professionals found themselves trying to learn from television, newspapers and radio in an attempt to grasp



GIENN OAKLEY PHOTO

this exciting and befuddling new medium.

The greatest asset in this setting was and continues to be computer skills. People who know their way around Macs or PCs, who can learn the still-evolving jargon of cyberspace and are willing to learn extra skills like writing HTML code, find themselves with access to a glut of opportunities in the new media sweat shop. We were still surprised then at what people now take for granted: Almost every company, no matter what its purpose, has use for people with Internet savvy.

In October 1996, I quit *PC World* magazine with the notion of surviving as a free-lance writer (something I'm still not entirely convinced is happening). And what continues to puzzle me, spoiled

technophile that I have become, is how people managed to engage in this profession before the invention of e-mail. Everyone has it, and not only do I find staying in touch with editors to be painless, I can submit manuscripts easily and quickly from anywhere. Writing them, as always, can be torture.

For many people, particularly students now entering American universities, that portability is the new reality. Corporate downsizing and telecommunication advances are conspiring to turn people into home office contractors, highly mobile specialists whose chief weapon is adaptability.

Friends from my days at Boise State who at most used to employ computers for elaborate games in their spare time are placing sophisticated computer networks at the center of their work lives.

In Ames, Iowa, in the astrophysics department at Iowa State University, Sean O'Brien finds himself maintaining a Web site for the Whole Earth Telescope project, a deceptively simple enterprise that uses the Internet to synchronize major telescopes all over the planet to observe a single image in the sky, uninterrupted, for days on end.

In late 1996 Stephen Carr moved to Washington, D.C., but took his job designing Web pages for a local education company with him. Perry Waddell, who for years taught English to whomever in Eastern Europe might be listening, finds himself today in Manhattan, working on a job-reference Web site called LawMatch.com.

And we all remain in touch with e-mail.

But my friends and I are members of that much-maligned Generation X; we just turned 30 and we are yesterday's news. The inter-nauts, wireheads, supergeeks, webmasters, code jockeys known collectively to themselves as the "digerati," are bolstering their ranks with a new generation, born in the '80s, that takes blindingly fast data connectivity for granted. They're young, they're smart, and they have their own Powerbooks.

The country is bonkers with educational experiments involving technology and computers. Even historically remote Idaho, in cooperation with other Western states, has been striving to assemble an online university of the future.

The kids from the Class of 2001 already have a pretty good idea what they want technology to do, and the rest of us could probably stand to learn something from them. If we succeed, then one of the three E's of this modern age can be education after all. □

Rick Overton, '93, lives and works as a free-lance writer in San Francisco.

education can better deliver a good paycheck tomorrow.

"Somehow, we've got to reach outside the traditional process we've been on," Hess says.

How does the state do all that on a tight budget? That's a problem that the state board has yet to solve in an era in which money for existing programs is even in short supply.

In the meantime, local schools are pursuing their own initiatives, partnering with Boise State and the state's other universities to improve vocational education and working with industry on programs such as Idaho School to Work.

The federally funded School to Work matches business leaders and edu-

cators, who meet to discuss how to tailor curriculum to better prepare local high school graduates for college and careers.

George Dignan, School to Work coordinator for Southwest Idaho, says the program is working to improve core skills in areas such as English, math, science and computers while also making those classes more relevant to students' everyday lives.

By the time they leave high school, students should be prepared for the workplace or a four-year university, Dignan says. School to Work will ensure that regardless of their choice, they will be ready.

Accompanying curriculum changes is a new emphasis on vocational offerings at the high school level designed to introduce students to the career paths before them. Hopefully, Dignan says, college-bound students will have more direction as they embark on a bachelor's degree, cutting into the college dropout rate.

Students who enter the work force upon graduation will know what their fields of interest are. And they will possess the vital skills needed to find employment. It's not enough, Dignan says, for secretaries to learn on the job anymore. They must know the latest computer software and display strong communication skills just to compete.

"A person sitting at that post could be doing a whole host of things, including spreadsheets and graphics," Dignan says.

For its part, Boise State's Selland College of Applied Technology is emphasizing partnerships with high schools to reach those 70 percent of graduates before they flounder.

Under these agreements, students can earn college credit if they successfully complete an approved vocational program at their high school. For example, Marler received

credit through Boise State's agreement with Vallivue High School in automotive technology. When he joined the university this fall, he was already ahead of the pack — an incentive that persuaded Marler to enroll at Boise State.

Cook says more success stories such as Marler's will slowly change vocational education's image as a field of last resort. In areas such as drafting, automotive technology, horticulture or culinary arts — "If [students] complete those, they've written their ticket for employment," Cook says.

School to Work and expanded vocational education are just the start of a more dynamic educational system, Hess says. He would like Boise

State faculty to research ways to alter the curriculum to mix vocational and traditional programs so that more students leave college with marketable skills and a well-rounded education.

Also, faculty should better follow the changing job market and massage their class offerings to ensure that education stays current with professional trends, he says. This entrepreneurial spirit, as Hess describes it, goes hand-in-hand with new class deliveries such as the Internet and broadcast technology, creating a truly flexible system that continually produces students who are prepared for the modern world.

Hess also envisions expanded adult education to help those who don't go beyond high school, for whatever reasons, until they're older. They should be able to come to Boise State, he says, and receive the training they need to compete for good-paying jobs.

However, whether today's experiments will be tomorrow's panacea or just the latest fad is a question that even the visionaries can't answer. School to Work is still in its infancy, and organizers say it will be at least two to three more years before they see the program's benefits. And Boise State won't know whether its vocational partnering program has worked until next fall, when the first deluge of high school graduates is expected in the area of marketing management.

But educators do know that the system must change to address the needs of the 70 percent of high school graduates who stay home while their classmates continue their educations. Otherwise, those who stayed on the sidelines rather than join the class of 2001 may never enter the game. □

'If students complete those [courses], they've written their ticket for employment.'

Calculating the Costs

Class of 2001 must rely on creative planning

By Sherry Squires



CHUCK SCHEER PHOTO

On her parent's ranch near Lewistown, Mont., there's a cash cow with Dana Duffy's name on it. Actually, several Black Angus are branded in Dana's name. They represent Russ and Delilah Duffy's strategy to send their 18-year-old daughter to Boise State University.

The Duffys started saving when Dana was young. But with three children to raise and their retirement years to think about, tucking away cash was tough.

So, instead, they branded calves born each spring in their children's names. After each calf sold, the Duffys saved the profits for college expenses far in the future. With some wise investing, they've stashed \$30,000 for Dana.

And now, with just the right combination of cattle proceeds, scholarship dollars and frugal living on Dana's part, her parents hope she'll escape college without the monstrous debt load that is almost a given in higher education these days.

The class of 2001, Dana's generation, will pay more for their

College cost trends

☛ The demand for higher education is expected to rise by a third in the next decade.

☛ A higher percentage of college students today work while in school.

☛ Choosing a college is based more today on cost and available financial aid.

☛ More middle-income families apply for financial aid than families who earned the same income 20 years ago.

☛ More middle-income families send their children to public schools instead of private ones.

☛ Nationally, tuition and fees at four-year colleges rose 5-6 percent this year. Room and board rose 4-6 percent.

☛ According to a 1996 U.S. Census Bureau study, the added earning power of a college degree significantly increased from 1984 to 1993. High school graduates could expect to earn 22 percent more, while college graduates on average earned 47 percent more.

☛ At Boise State University, about 92.6 percent of those who take out federally backed student loans repay them.

Resident undergraduate tuition and fees at public four-year institutions

	1996-97	1986-87
Boise State	\$1,794	\$989
Idaho State	\$1,726	\$1,000
Idaho	\$1,758	\$1,040
Washington State	\$3,142	\$1,605
Washington	\$3,130	\$1,605
Oregon State	\$3,447	\$1,470
Washington	\$3,540	\$1,487
Montana State	\$2,504	\$1,295
Montana	\$2,485	\$1,217
Utah State	\$2,088	\$1,246
Utah	\$2,514	\$1,491

education than any group before them. And the ballooning costs of a college education show no signs of receding.

Thousands of families like the Duffys pass through Lois Kelly's door each year. Increasingly, says the BSU financial aid director, they are shocked at education's price tag, even at BSU where costs are among the lowest in the country.

They find that college takes a larger financial commitment than ever, and larger than they ever expected. And more middle-income families turn to financial aid for help.

Although Idaho's public universities are still considerably less expensive than most of their neighbors in the Northwest, the price has steadily climbed during the past several years.

It costs nearly twice as much to attend BSU as it did 10 years ago.

And Boise State isn't alone. The rising cost of higher education is an issue of growing national concern to families from Cambridge, Mass., to Cambridge, Idaho.

But, as with the Duffys, students in the Class of 2001 are combining creativity and foresight to pay for college ... frequently with some help from federal or state programs.

About 10,000 BSU students — or two-thirds of all students — receive some type of financial aid, be it work study, grants, scholarships or loans. Many of them also are working to make ends meet.

As federal grant funds shrink, more students find themselves borrowing — and borrowing a larger share of the cost — to pay for school.

About \$39 million passed through the financial aid office at Boise State for the 1996-97 academic year. About \$7 million was for grants and \$1.9 million for scholarships. The remaining \$25.7 million was for loans.

How much of their own money students are expected to contribute is based on a variety of factors, including their family's income, family size, and number of kids in college.

"Every student could get a loan if he or she wanted to," Kelly says. "Many people choose not to."

Nonetheless, a BSU student on average will go into debt about \$1,700 per year. The debt load after four years at BSU ranges from a couple thousand to \$40,000.

"We see people who are all over the place with their resources," Kelly says. "Some have been saving for years. We see others who



CARRIE MANTOOTH PHOTO

Russ and Delilah Duffy raise calves on their Montana ranch to pay college costs for daughter Dana, far left.

haven't got two dimes to rub against one another."

But, she adds: "Very few people come expecting someone else to pay everything for them. There are very few students who aren't working at some job, who aren't contributing."

The cost of higher education is on the minds of national and state leaders, too, as they look for ways to keep student prices down and keep college accessible.

The Idaho State Board of Education has appointed a subcommittee to study higher education costs and student fees. The committee, which includes Harry "Buster" Neel Jr., Boise State vice president for finance and administration, is expected to report to the board this fall.

Keith Hasselquist, state board fiscal officer, said the committee will study, among other issues, how much of the true cost of providing higher education a student should pay. And they'll look at the future of student fees.

But BSU President Charles Ruch says student fees can only continue to rise in the next several years, as colleges strive to meet consumers' demands with state dollars that are getting harder to come by.

In the 1970s and early '80s, higher education was viewed as a public good and state and federal money rolled in to support it, Ruch says.

But the tenor of the country has shifted.

1 • [Title and Author Cannot Be Advertised]
 A fictitious account of artist Marcel Duchamp and his painting "The Nude Descending a Staircase."
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 Oct. 12 at 2:00 p.m.
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2 • *The Rivals*
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 - BSU Special Events Center

3 • *Fefu and Her Friends*
 - by Maria Irene Fornes
 Bold examination of powers that shape women's lives.
 March 4-7 at 8:00 p.m., March 7 at 2:00 p.m.
 BSU Special Events Center

4 • *The Grapes of Wrath*
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"It's seen more as a personal responsibility now," Ruch says.

The federal government recently provided some tax relief for families and students saving and paying for college.

But state legislatures are faced with the difficult task of finding funds for higher education in the midst of enormous pressures from interests such as corrections, health care, public schools and juvenile justice.

"Something's got to give," Ruch says.

"And what's given is support for higher education. It will be enormously difficult on state budgets to turn it around."

However, universities can't afford to let services slip.

"What we offer is absolutely critical to our state and national long-term well-being," Ruch says.

Not everyone will need four-year degrees. But an increasing number of people will need some form of higher education or job retraining.

"What parents and students are faced with is investing for a long-term return," Ruch says.

To make it all come together, experts like BSU's Kelly recommend parents begin thinking about college when their children are very young, saving 1 percent or 2 percent of a family's monthly income.

Students should do their best to prepare academically and seek out scholarships.

And in the end, students should borrow as little as they need to get by so they aren't burdened with an overwhelming debt when they graduate.

"For the average family, their child's education is not the biggest financial obstacle they'll face, or the worst financial hardship they'll endure," Kelly says.

After all, fees for four or five years is still less than the cost of the average new car.

A bright future for their daughter is what the Duffys are banking on.

Both Russ and Delilah are college graduates. He worked his way through, earning money during the summers in Alaska. She borrowed a little. But the two paid off their college debt in three years and began to build a future.

"It's impossible for our daughter to do what we did," Russ says.

Even with an out-of-state fee waiver through the Western University Exchange program, they anticipate spending \$10,000 to \$12,000 each year to send their daughter to Boise State. They hope to cover Dana's costs for three years. She may have to borrow her way through the fourth or fifth year, if necessary.

But college for Dana was never a question.

"I knew it was going to be expensive," Dana says. "But if you don't have an education, you don't have a future." □



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BSU SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS ON THE RISE

By Bob Evancho

Much like the rest of Boise State, the university's scholarship funds are growing at an impressive rate. And that's good news for the Class of 2001.

In academic year 1987-88, BSU awarded \$637,762 in academic scholarships to 1,154 students; last year the amount was \$1,646,840 for 1,692 students. While the number of recipients increased by 47 percent, the amount of funding rose a whopping 158 percent.

The biggest reason for the dramatic increase in scholarship funds in the past decade was a \$7.5 million gift from Boiseans Dean and Thelma Brown to the BSU Foundation in the fall of 1995.

According to the will left by the late Thelma Brown — she died in 1994; her husband passed away in 1982 — \$5 million of the gift was earmarked for the foundation's scholarship endowment fund.

The current endowment of more than \$20 million "reflects the growing academic repu-

tation of BSU," says Bob Fritsch, BSU Foundation executive director.

Indeed, the Browns' largess is just one example of increased efforts to provide financial assistance to worthy BSU students.

Another is the Friends of Nursing, an organization of volunteers committed to raising philanthropic support of nursing education at BSU. In 1987-88, the year before Friends of Nursing was founded, the BSU nursing department awarded three scholarships totaling \$3,000 from private donations. Last year, 85 private donations accounted for more than \$134,000 in nursing scholarships, the vast majority of which was raised by the Friends of Nursing.

From both institutional coffers and private donations, it's clear BSU is taking giant strides in regard to scholarship funding.

"Generous alumni and friends feel their scholarship support is an investment in the 'intellectual capital' of our outstanding students," says Fritsch. □

**Brown estate
adds \$7.5
million to BSU
scholarship
endowment.**

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Saturday, November 8th

American Brass Quintet

Dubbed as the "High Priests of Brass" by *Newsweek*, the American Brass Quintet performs chamber music worldwide. Their unequalled performances feature a repertoire ranging from Renaissance to contemporary composers. Raymond Mase, trumpet; Chris Gekker, trumpet; David Wakefield, horn; Michael Powell, tenor trombone; and John Rojak, bass trombone make up this award winning quintet.

Cosponsored with the BSU Music Department

Sunday, February 8th

Aviram Reichert Solo Recital

A bronze medalist of the 10th Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, Israeli pianist Aviram Reichert has made a place for himself with lucid renditions of sonatas of Schubert and Beethoven. Having clearly established himself as an expert in Viennese classicism, Reichert will lead an evening of music all will enjoy.

Cosponsored with Dunkley Music

Saturday, April 11th

Lawrence P. Vincent, Tenor with Del Parkinson, Piano

As a guest soloist, Lawrence Vincent, has performed leading roles in opera and operetta productions with major theaters in Germany, Switzerland, Austria, the Czech Republic, Luxembourg and the United States. A member of the prestigious Vienna State Opera, Lawrence sang as Tamino in *The Magic Flute* by Mozart and Narroboth in *Salome* by Strauss. This fall, Dr. Vincent will begin a new career as a professor of music at Brigham Young University.

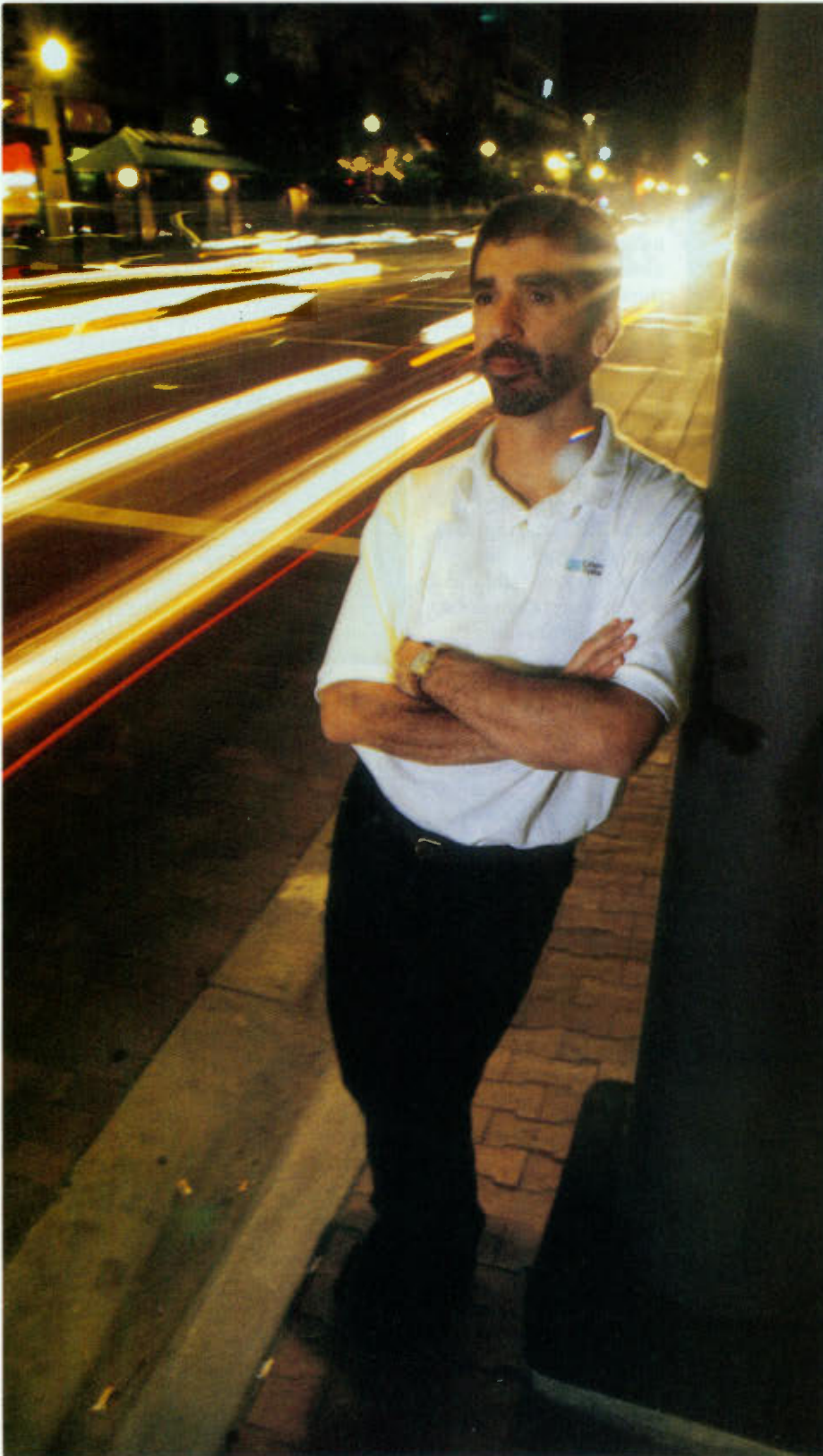
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AND ACTIVITIES



Turrisi has conducted ground-breaking research into drunk driving, binge drinking and the risks of skin cancer. His goal is to help teens and parents make better choices.

TURRISI TACKLES TEEN-AGE ISSUES

By Amy Stahl

As an undergraduate working in an alcohol detox center, Rob Turrisi saw what can happen when adults make lousy decisions. "Someone would ask one of these guys to go for a drink on Monday, and they would quit their jobs for the week," says the BSU psychology professor.

His experience at the center and his interest in how people — particularly teens — make life choices have become the basis of some ground-breaking research into drunk driving, binge drinking and the risks of skin cancer.

The results of Turrisi's research are compiled in useful guides for parents hoping to help their children make better choices.

"Basically, I teach parents about their own parenting and how it impacts their teen. The risk of dangerous behavior can be lowered dramatically by teaching parents about the typical teen-age behavior," says Turrisi.

The odds are grim. He says chances are 1 in 3 that most teens will drink and drive, and 1 in 2 that college kids will binge drink. Statistics are just as alarming for exposure to ultraviolet rays in teens. Most people have already received 80 percent of their lifetime exposure to sunshine before age 18, and 1 in 6 adults will get some form of skin cancer.

"Parents are generally unaware of the magnitude of what's going on. If I can get them to acknowledge the risks, then they can make changes. Too many focus on the risks. They need to make other alternatives more positive," explains Turrisi.

Despite prevailing attitudes about the influence of peers on teens, parents can have a tremendous impact on their children, he adds.

"They can choose when and how much time they spend with their children without competing with other topics," he says. "A really important part of parenting is trying to bridge the communication gap."

Besides working on better face-to-face communication, parents can also help their children establish new social relationships by encouraging them to develop multiple peer groups.

"We can't rely on school to teach teens about the dangers of drunk driving, binge drinking and exposure to UV rays," he says. "Health courses cannot possibly do a good job to educate kids. Teachers don't have the time to cover the material."

Turrisi got his start in the field as a gradu-

ate student at the State University of New York at Albany, where he earned a doctorate in 1988. He joined the BSU faculty in 1995. In addition to teaching and research, Turrisi has launched *The Journal of Parenting Research*, an online scientific publication that provides a forum for current research on parent interventions, parent-child communication, parenting styles and other topics.

Each of Turrisi's research projects begins with a review of literature on the topic. He then conducts an open-ended survey of 200 to 1,000 participants.

Hoping to provide parents with resources to tackle these tough problems, Turrisi compiles the data and anecdotal responses into a guide with typical teen responses, pointers on improving communication, tips on developing assertiveness and advice on building a good relationship with teens. In several of the handbooks, he invited older teens to respond to the advice and share their experiences on the topic.

For the UV ray study, Turrisi found similar decisions being made by pre-teens, high school students and collegians. "The idea of a tan is what is part of our society's idea of what is attractive. Everybody likes to sit in the sun," he says. "It doesn't matter if you're 12 or 18. But the reasons are different."

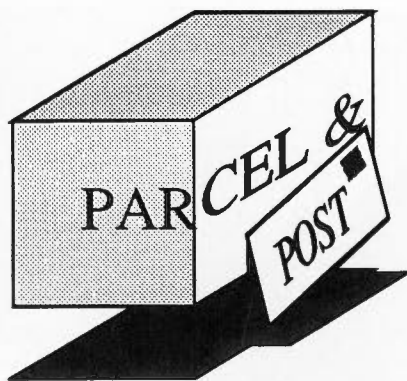
The teens Turrisi interviewed said that tanning improves their mood, makes them feel sexier or gives them something to do. They also said that they're just responding to peer pressure. In the handbook, Turrisi provides some frightening statistics about skin cancer and how parents can begin a conversation about the dangers of exposure to UV rays.

Since 1985, Turrisi has received five grants of more than \$600,000 for his work on drunk driving and binge drinking from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, an agency of the National Institute for Health. He's also received support through BSU's Faculty Research Grant Award program.

Because Turrisi views the research projects as a supplement to his classroom teaching, he enlists several undergraduate students for one- to two-year stints on each research project. Younger students are often mentored by older ones.

He also conducts workshops and presentations for community groups such as the Kiwanis Club and classes at St. Luke's Regional Medical Center. "I see the research as an opportunity to teach outside the classroom," he says. "I like to give student researchers the opportunity to get involved and see them grow."

His next research topic will be child immunization in Idaho. He will examine how parents view immunization and how to educate them about the importance of protecting their children against diseases. □



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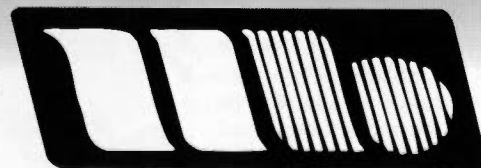
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RUSSIAN EDUCATORS SEEK GUIDANCE FROM BSU PROFESSOR

By Melanie Threlkeld McConnell

In a cold, windy city in Russia's Far East where most of the country's forced labor camps once existed, where the economy is all but shot, and dull, gray government structures serve as homes to its weary citizens, hope flickers like a glowing ember.

Fanning the flame is Boise State education professor Patricia Kyle, who at the invitation of Russia's department of education, spent two weeks in Magadan in August with the city's top teachers to help them use democratic principles to bring life, creativity and renewal to their classrooms.

"Up until about five years ago, teachers had almost no choices. It was state-controlled curriculum. The government said, 'This is what you will teach,'" she says. "They had no resources, no materials, no latitude about what they taught or how they taught it. They had all the creativity drummed out of them."

Using a young interpreter, overheads translated into Russian, and role playing,

Kyle introduced the teachers — none of whom speak English — to new ideas that their U.S. counterparts take for granted —

of study groups rather than as lecturers all day.

"They were all used to everything being teacher-driven so they didn't know how to incorporate the students into the learning," Kyle says. "At first some of them resisted the idea of allowing students some control."

Her approach, Kyle says, was not to dictate to the Russian teachers what they should do, but to present the ideas as new tools for them to use — tools that had been researched in America and found to be effective.

Kyle was invited by the Russian government because of two previous visits she made as part of an international research conference in which she mentioned the idea of using democratic principles in the classroom.

She has been asked to return in May to teach pre-service teachers and their professors at the university.

The experience, she says, has validated her teaching principle. "When you bring people into their own learn-

ing experience, it increases the learning experience exponentially." □



BSU's Kyle in Magadan with Russian hosts.

concepts such as allowing student input into their own learning, or serving as facilitators

PACIFIC OCEAN PROVIDES CLUES TO IDAHO WEATHER PATTERNS

By Melanie Threlkeld McConnell

Boise State researcher Mitchell Lyle is turning to the bottom of the Pacific Ocean to find out why southwest Idaho suffered years of drought during the late 1980s and early 1990s.

For two months last year, Lyle, a paleoceanographer with BSU's Center for Geophysical Investigation of the Shallow Subsurface (CGISS), and an international crew of researchers sifted through layers of mud from the ocean floor to search for pollen from ancient plants, other microfossils and chemical information that can tell the story of how changes in ocean currents and temperatures influenced the climate millions of years ago.

"The types of microfossils we find, their growth cycles and their chemical makeup tell us volumes about the temperature of the oceans, where currents flowed and how productive the oceans were. Those in turn are used to hindcast wind patterns and rainfall," says Lyle.

The data from the Pacific expedition will be compared

to information collected from lake sediments, including those from Mud Lake in eastern Idaho, to determine the relationship between changes in ocean currents and changes in precipitation that falls on the Idaho watershed.

Lyle plans to link Idaho's precipitation changes with the changes in the Pacific Ocean's currents and temperature to recreate conditions of past storm tracks. His

results should help constrain models for predicting future weather patterns.

"By studying the past, we can better understand patterns in the conditions that control precipitation in Idaho. This will be useful as we develop prediction models in the future," he says.

Lyle's research was made possible by the Ocean Drilling Program, a 21-nation consortium that operates the only scientific drill ship in the world. The consortium selects six projects a year at a cost of about \$6 million per project for which the ship may be used.

CHICK SPHER PHOTO

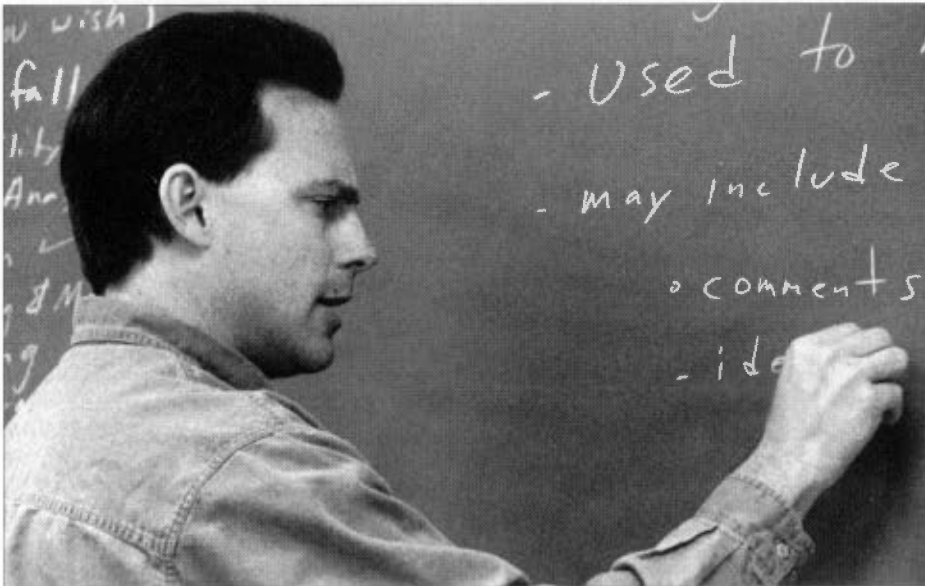


Software helps BSU's Lyle study the ocean bottom when he's not at sea.

Drilling technology is the only way that sediment records of sufficient length needed for these studies could be recovered off the Pacific Coast of the United States.

Lyle will return to the sea in December. He has received a National Science Foundation grant of \$147,900 to survey potential drill sites in the central equatorial Pacific.

"If everything goes right, these sites may be drilled by the year 2000," he said.



CHUCK SCHEER PHOTO

Buffenbarger can "inject academia into the industrial environment" and vice versa.

PROF'S SPLIT DUTIES BENEFIT BSU, HP

Like a speeding train, the computer software industry is barreling down a fast track with daily discoveries and new products.

Computer science professor Jim Buffenbarger is able to keep on board, though, because he splits his time between his BSU classroom and a research position at Hewlett-Packard's Boise site.

Created in 1991, the "joint professorship" is funded equally by HP and BSU's department of math and computer science. Buffenbarger has held the position since its inception.

At HP, Buffenbarger works in software configuration management for products in the Boise Printer Research Laboratories. Because he isn't assigned to a particular unit on site, he can help wherever needed, troubleshooting problems and researching software.

On campus, he teaches a couple of upper-division courses (software engineering, for example) per semester. Like other faculty members, he serves on committees, goes to department meetings and advises students.

Buffenbarger sees benefits to both partners in the program. "It provides the HP labs with a view of the outside world by injecting academia into the industrial environment," Buffenbarger says. "On the other hand, I get to see how software is developed in an industrial setting and use it in my classes."

He also can offer valuable tips to BSU graduates seeking jobs in the computer science profession.

Students appreciate Buffenbarger's familiarity with the industry and his knowledge of corporate culture. "Jim always has a different perspective on the material in class because he's in the workplace environment," says senior Natalie Pickles. And Buffenbarger requires his students to work in teams on projects similar to those they'll find on the job, she says.

Pickles says students respect Buffenbarger and know that he will help prepare them for what awaits after graduation. "Computer science is such a young field you have to stay current," she says.

Students trust that Buffenbarger will help them do just that. □

CONSTRUCTION STUDENTS AMONG BEST

Once again, Boise State University's Construction Management Association has been recognized as one of the best in the nation.

CMA was recently named the top student chapter in the Community Activities competition by the Associated General Contractors of America for 1996-97. CMA also tied for third in the Overall Outstanding AGC Student Chapter competition.

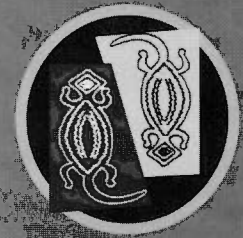
This is the 14th time in the last 16 years that CMA has been named among the

nation's best student associations. In 1993 and 1994 the association was named best in the country.

The community activities for which CMA was cited this year included a program designed to provide playground structures at local elementary schools; the installation of traffic control signs along the Boise Greenbelt; assistance with a local arts fair; the design and cost estimates for remodeling a Boise literary center; and other fund-raising efforts. □

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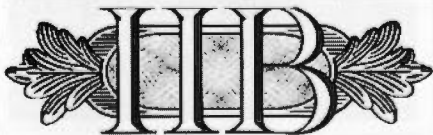
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OCTOGENARIAN STILL LOVES TO LEARN

By Berneeta Forstner

"You never stop learning," says Boise resident Beth Hedrick, "and you're never too old to learn; I'm living proof."

Indeed she is. Hedrick turned 80 on Sept. 28. In May she will receive a master's in education degree from Boise State. At her age Hedrick obviously isn't concerned about gainful employment, but the thirst for knowledge is still there — a trait she acquired throughout her long life as a student, parent and educator.

But then, education has always been a big part of Hedrick's life. In the mid-1930s she attended Albion State Normal School and earned a two-year teaching degree, which was all that was required to teach in Idaho in those days. During that time she also met and married fellow student Clarence Hedrick, who also planned to be a teacher.

In 1936 Beth embarked on her career, teaching six subjects to four grades in a small country school in Idaho's Oneida County. When the United States entered World War II, Clarence joined the Army and Beth remained in Idaho, teaching in the Filer School District.

When Clarence returned from the war, Beth took a 15-year hiatus from her teaching career to start and raise their family. But by the time she was ready to return to the

teaching ranks in the early 1960s, a four-year degree was required to teach in Idaho. Through correspondence classes, extension



Idaho native Beth Hedrick began her teaching career in Oneida County in 1936.

OLGHEA REEHERS/STUDIO CITY

courses, and a College of Idaho summer course, Beth received her B.A. in education from Idaho State at age 45 and spent the next 13 years teaching junior high in Twin Falls. She retired in the early '70s at age 55, and she at Clarence moved to Boise in 1992 to be closer to their children and grandchildren.

In the spring of 1995, after 58 years of marriage, Clarence died; the void in her life, says Beth, was unbearable. By the fall of 1995, Beth decided to pursue a master's in education, "First for therapy, and second because I always wanted to get a master's degree," she says. "I've always loved learning and going to school. The most rewarding part of going back to school has been meeting all these wonderful young people, these teachers, whom I've taken courses with."

Hedrick doesn't plan to let her schooling go to waste; she has tentative plans to do volunteer work in the Meridian School District after she receives her graduate degree. "After all," she says, "learning is a lifelong process." □

Boisean Berneeta Forstner holds a B.A. in business and an MPA from BSU.

PROJECTS RECEIVE SBOE FUNDING

A teaching project using computers to organize map-based data and a program to train faculty to use new media in the classroom will be the focus of two Boise State projects funded as part of the State Board of Education's Idaho Technology Incentive Grant Program.

The winning projects were among 27 submitted by faculty from the state's public universities and college.

• The first project funds a computer system for organizing and analyzing map-based data. Called Geographic Information Systems, the project will help train undergraduate and graduate students in GIS technologies, which are used by agricultural managers, land-use planners, biologists, geologists and other scientists. The one-year, \$143,800 project will be directed by geosciences professor Walt Snyder.

• The second project encourages faculty at BSU, the University of Idaho, Idaho State University and Lewis-Clark State College to work together to use technology in the classroom.

The grant will allow faculty to develop training materials, identify new strategies, improve existing new media teaching centers and develop a mentoring network. The three-year \$390,000 project will be directed by Provost Daryl Jones and managed by Ben Hamblen of the Simplot/Micron Instructional Technology Center.

BSU will join other universities in two other projects. One will revise existing laboratory courses in mechanical and electrical engineering, and the other will provide services to students enrolled in online courses offered as part of master's degree programs in education and the natural sciences. □

BSU GIVEN PAPERS OF VARDIS FISHER

A donation to the Albertsons Library at Boise State provides scholars a rare glimpse into the daily life of noted Idaho author Vardis Fisher.

Last summer the author's son Grant gave BSU 300 personal letters from his father, who lived on a farm near Hagerman. Fisher wrote 36 books, including one that was turned into the Robert Redford film *Jeremiah Johnson*.

The letters span the period from 1952 until Fisher's death in 1968. They tell the story of an author who was plagued with frequent financial problems and worked as hard at farming as he did at writing, says Alan Virta, director of Special Collections in the Albertsons Library.

The letters detail Fisher's negotiations with his publishers and chronicle his experiences on two trips to Europe in the 1950s. BSU also received Fisher's financial ledgers dating back to 1939.

The bulk of Fisher's papers are housed at Duke University. BSU's collection, says Virta, is valuable because it provides new information about Fisher's personal affairs.

This is the second donation of Fisher material from the author's descendants. In 1996, they gave the BSU-based Idaho Center for the Book 300 cases of Fisher's books, including several mint-condition first editions and signed copies. Several of those were sold to support ICB activities. □

CHURCH CONFERENCE FEATURES HATFIELD

The 1997 Frank Church Conference on Public Affairs will feature retired Oregon Sen. Mark Hatfield as the keynote speaker Monday, Nov. 17.

Hatfield, who retired in 1996 after 30 years in the Senate, will speak on "What is National Security?" at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Union. The event is free and open to the public.

Items from the Frank Church Collection will be on display from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Student Union Barnwell Room.

Hatfield, along with Church, was one of the few independent voices in the Senate who opposed U.S. policy in Vietnam and a continued arms buildup. Both senators also supported major wilderness legislation for their respective states.

Hatfield's lecture is the 14th in a series of conferences and lectures supported by the Frank Church Chair of Public Affairs endowment. This spring the endowment reached the \$500,000 milestone.

More information on the conference is available at the College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs at 385-3776. □

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PACKWOOD RISES TO (IDAHO) POWER

By Chris Bouneff

The rule today is that big business's big bosses are rarely homegrown, but instead are imports from other companies brought in to guide corporations in new directions.

Jan Packwood is an exception.

Idaho Power's new president and chief operating officer started with the company 27 years ago as an associate engineer and steadily advanced toward the executive suite, taking over one of the company's top two spots in September.

Packwood, 54 and a BSU master's in business administration graduate, will oversee the utility's operations at a critical time as Idaho Power positions itself for deregulation.

His appointment marks the pinnacle of a journey that started in 1970 when the California native left the Army after a tour in Vietnam.

His first civilian job search for an open engineer position with a utility company led him to Idaho.

Boise was the start and end of the trail for Packwood and his family, although he didn't know at the time that the City of Trees would become his permanent home and that Idaho Power would be the only company he'd work for.

"I don't think when you're 26 or 27 years old that you envision anything, really," he says. "You come into that first job ... and before you know it 27 years have passed."

Packwood spent his first 13 years at Idaho Power in the operations division, even working a stint as an electrical lineman. "In the middle of the night in the snow trying to get the power back on—it's miserable," he says. "It underscores the value of employees. Companies are employees."

In 1981, Packwood the engineer turned to BSU to bolster his business skills as he moved into higher management positions. And BSU

accommodated him as he earned his MBA in 1984.

"I guess I've always been an advocate of lifelong learning," he says. "BSU had a highly respected MBA program that you could complete at night while being employed full time."



CHUCK SCHEER PHOTO

"I guess I've always been an advocate of lifelong learning," says Idaho Power president and CEO, of his MBA from Boise State.

Another series of promotions followed, including a stop as assistant to the president and vice president of power supply. In 1996, Idaho Power named Packwood its executive vice president in charge of developing the company's marketing strategy.

Packwood says each stop required him to acquire new skills—a challenge that excited him as much as the promotions themselves.

"You continue stretching your ability to learn and understand," he says. "That makes

it easy to get up and come to work in the morning."

Packwood foresees two challenges ahead for Idaho Power as the electrical industry possibly undergoes deregulation.

Up until the major power outage in summer 1996, consumers feared little from deregulation. Deregulation promised only more competition and possibly lower energy prices nationwide and in Idaho, which is a net importer of power.

Then an overgrown tree sparked a system shutdown and changed everything. That one tree sent a surge through the Western power grid, tripped power generators from Wyoming to California and knocked out power to most Western states, including southern Idaho. Several smaller outages followed that summer.

"To that point in time, the advocates of deregulation said there's only an upside," Packwood says. "Then we had these outages, and people said, 'Can we retain a reliable system?'"

Now utilities must show consumers that a deregulated system will work as diligently to maintain the Western power grid as the current consortium of regional power suppliers.

"Will there be tensions between reliability and economics? Absolutely," Packwood says. "There always has been, and it will increase as we move forward."

The other challenge facing Packwood hits squarely on his marketing experience. In a competitive market, how does a company brand its electricity, which is as generic as water?

Packwood's answer: Learn from bottled water manufacturers. Although consumers get the same product from any brand of bottled water, some brands still carry more cachet than others.

Idaho Power's task is to build an image around its name that will entice consumers to choose it over any other company in a deregulated market.

"If you can brand bottled water, you can brand anything," Packwood says. □

SHEPARD LINKS HILTON HOTELS TO NATIONAL MEDIA, INVESTORS

By Amy Stahl

When reporters from the *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times* and CNN call the Hilton Hotels Corporation, they get BSU graduate Kathy Shepard on the line.

As vice president of corporate communications for the nation's seventh-largest hotel company, fielding media inquiries is just one of many duties Shepard performs in a day.

Shepard, 41, also coordinates the annual report, updates shareholders, handles crisis communications, supervises public relations activities for the company's gaming operations and handles more mundane tasks such as grand openings and special events.

As a BSU student, Shepard couldn't have guessed that she would be running the corporate communications office for a global company that employs more than 70,000 people in its 250 hotels, casinos and resorts.

"I'm not one of those kinds of people who knew what they wanted to do at age 12 and never deviated. I was always looking," she says. But she says the skills she developed at BSU in organization, research, reading and writing gave her a solid background for a career in public relations.

After graduation from BSU in 1980, Shepard worked as a teacher at Boise High

School. A move to Southern California in 1982 got her started in the entertainment industry.

Shepard produced programming at a local TV station, handled public relations for the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce's Walk of Fame, taped radio promotions and publicized hit films *Pretty Woman* and *Kindergarten Cop*. She also completed a public relations certification program at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Married to independent photographer Mark Shepard, a 1980 BSU communication graduate, Shepard started at Hilton in 1993 as director of public relations for the 3,174-room Las Vegas Hilton. She was promoted to director of communications for Hilton Gaming before landing her current job at the corporate headquarters in Beverly Hills.

Shepard enjoys Hilton's "family feeling," which she attributes to the longtime involvement of founding officer Barron Hilton and the commitment of employees who stay with the company for decades.

Despite the hectic pace, Shepard thrives on the job's varied demands and travel to far-flung places. "It's fun, and it keeps me busy," says Shepard. "For a kid from Wendell, it's a great way to see the world." □



PHOTO COURTESY HILTON HOTELS

Shepard's move to P.R. has paid off.

SENATE AIDE COMBINES OPTIMISM WITH POLITICAL SAVVY

By Melanie Threlkeld McConnell

Bright lights, big city and powerful people everywhere you turn. That's been Alan Poff's life for the past eight years.

Poff, an '86 graduate of BSU, works on Capitol Hill as a legislative aide to Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-Texas), drafting and analyzing legislation and formulating policy on labor issues.

"The power of [Washington] is the allure," he explains. "There's an attraction to being where the action is. Everything that is happening is happening here. You see politics in action. You see powerful people every day."

But after eight years of working for four different legislators, including Sen. Dirk Kempthorne (R-Idaho), Poff and his wife Julianne are considering leaving the political mecca so he can pursue a law degree and a place in local politics somewhere outside the Washington Beltway.

"Losing your job is the nature of the beast when you're working for an elected official," he says.

"I'm ready to leave to get back to

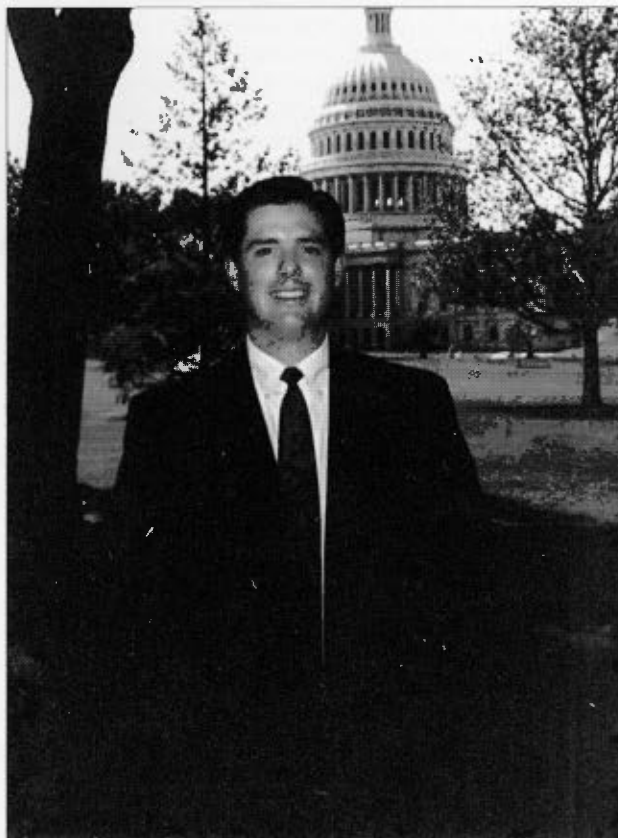


PHOTO COURTESY ALAN POFF

Senate aide Poff usually sees the nation's capitol from within.

the grassroots and get very active at that level. Being a staffer, a senator's loyal representative, we have certain limitations. Everything you do reflects on the senator."

Poff headed to Washington, D.C., in 1989 in hopes of working on international issues, an interest fostered by his then-political science professor Greg Raymond, now director of the BSU Honors program. Poff also credits BSU professor emeritus Willard Overgaard, his former adviser, with guiding him through school.

When he does leave Washington, Poff says his experience in the nation's capital will be invaluable. "Members need to listen to the people back home and not lose touch," he says.

"If that takes going home every weekend and meeting with people, then do it. They need to do what they can to make people less cynical."

His best learning experience? "I've come to realize we have the greatest system in the world and we must learn to live in it. Government's not going to solve everything, but it does have a role." □

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 "Alumnnotes" section, contact the office of News Services at the same address.

40s

WARREN H. HILL, AA, general business, '41, is a realtor with A&A Realtors in Fresno, Calif.

ROBERT STEPHEN MITCHELL, AA, general arts and sciences, '42, and his wife Frances recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. The Mitchells reside in Webster Grove, Mo.

60s

JO A. (THOMPSON) PARRIS, AA, general arts and sciences, '62, recently received the Sweepstakes Award in the 1997 Idaho Press Women Communications Contest. Parris is a public information specialist at Idaho State University in Pocatello.



Scheer

CHARLES BENNETT SCHEER, AA, general arts and sciences, '65, won two national awards at the University Photographers Association of America technical symposium at the Oregon Institute of Technology in Klamath Falls, Ore. Scheer is chief photographer for *FOCUS*

magazine and other BSU publications. He has been with BSU nearly 23 years.

JOHN D. SCHOLL, AA, general arts and sciences, '62, is a full-time triathlete and a licensed private investigator. He retired in 1993 from the Santa Clara County (Calif.) probation department after 30 years of service.

70s

JOHN H. SHIVEL, BBA, marketing, '71, is director of sales at Marshall Electronics in Culver City, Calif.

JAMES A. YOST, BA, history/secondary education, '71, serves as senior adviser on natural resource issues to Idaho Gov. Phil Batt.

VICKI L. (EVANS) HOWELL, BA, English/liberal arts, '73, is a doctor of veterinary medicine at VCA Alpine Animal Hospital in Anchorage, Alaska.

PATRICK JOHN KING, BBA, general business, '75, is a captain with the U.S. Naval Reserves in New Orleans.

BARBARA (SHEWEY) VANDER BOEGH, AS, nursing, '75, was recently recognized for her support of the Idaho Congressional Award program. Vander Boegh is director of the Homedale Senior Center.

STEPHEN CRAIG WILLIAMS, BA, economics, '75, is general manager for Haworth Malaysia Sdn.Bhd., a furniture manufacturer based in Holland, Mich. Williams lives in Kuala Lumpur.

STEPHEN T. WILSON, BA, economics, '75, is general manager at the Coeur d'Alene Inn and

Conference Center in Coeur d'Alene. Wilson previously was head of sales and marketing for 12 years at the Coeur d'Alene Resort.

JENNIFER ANN (RALSTON) BLAIR, BA, communication, '77, owns and manages RalstonGroup, an advertising, marketing and public relations firm in Bend, Ore. *Oregon Business Magazine* recently named RalstonGroup one of the 100 best companies to work for in Oregon.



Blair

GERTRUDE LEE ARNOLD, BBA, management/industrial relations, '78, recently received the

Clifford Woody Memorial Award in recognition of outstanding promise in professional education from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Arnold recently completed her second year of work toward a doctoral degree in higher education. She previously was assistant dean of admissions at Boise State.

STEPHEN J. COLLIAS, BBA, finance, '79, is head of the notes division for Kennedy-Wilson International Financial in Santa Monica, Calif. Collias previously owned and operated his own

development and real estate consulting firm, served as vice president for Pacific West Development Co. and was a project coordinator for Emkay Development Co.

MARTHA ELIZABETH (GRIDLEY) RICH, BS, health sciences, '79, has a private dental practice in Portland, Ore., specializing in temporomandibular joint disorders. Rich recently received a mastership from the International College of Craniomandibular Orthopedics.

80s

CHERYL L. GLENN, BFA, art, '80, is an account executive for American General Media, previously KJOT/KQXR in Boise.

MICHAEL D. HENRY, BA, elementary education, '80, is a loan officer for First Federal Bank in Grangeville. He previously was a loan originator for Intermountain Mortgage.

ARDIS M. HEWITT, BFA, advertising design, '80, is traffic coordinator with EvansGroup Tech. in Boise.

Work by **GEORGE H. GLEDHILL**, MA, art/secondary education, was featured recently in a solo show at the Takami Gallery at Treasure Valley Community College in Ontario, Ore.

NO ERRORS ALLOWED FOR TOXICOLOGIST

By Bob Evancho

When there's a train wreck in the United States, there's a good chance David Loughmiller will be involved.

As a forensic toxicologist with Northwest Toxicology Inc. (NWT), which has the drug-testing contract with the Federal Railroad Administration, it's up to Loughmiller to determine if substance abuse was a factor in domestic railroad accidents. And as laboratory certifying officer, it's also his responsibility to ensure his company's test results are flawless.

Among its nationwide services, Salt Lake City-based NWT conducts post-accident testing of blood, urine and tissue samples of people involved in serious mishaps ranging from industrial accidents to car crashes to train wrecks.

In February 1996, for example, two highly publicized railway mishaps in the Eastern U.S. resulted in 14 deaths, hundreds of injuries and millions of dollars in damage — and lots of high-pressure work for Loughmiller and his colleagues.

"I never paid much attention to train accidents before," says Loughmiller, who graduated from Boise State with a B.S. in medical technology in 1978, "but I do now. The high-profile accidents that have occurred in the last two years have kept us busy."

And tense.

"There's a fair amount of stress involved, and that's because we can never make a mistake," says Loughmiller. "In

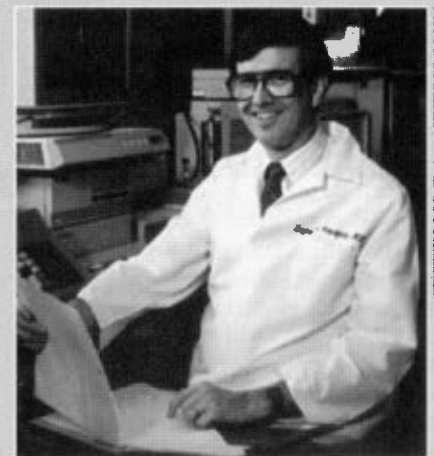


PHOTO COURTESY DAVID LOUGHMILLER

many cases, a person's livelihood is at stake based on our test results."

Loughmiller has appeared as an expert witness for the state of Utah in more than a dozen trials — most of them DUI cases — in which his testimony has helped determine if the defendant was under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

The Twin Falls native's interest in forensic toxicology and drug testing began when he served a student internship through BSU at St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise. He worked at medical centers in Idaho and Utah before joining his current employer in 1994.

"Our lab gets a lion's share of drug-testing contracts across the country from companies, law-enforcement agencies, the military and other clients," Loughmiller says. "It's fascinating work, but it's also demanding work." □

The exhibit was titled *Firing Clay: The Anagama Experience*. Gledhill is a teacher of fine arts at Payette High School in Payette.

MICHAEL S. LoTOUR, MBA, '81, has been promoted to professor of marketing at Auburn University in Auburn, Ala.

MICHAEL BRENT WESTOVER, BBA, real estate, '81, is vice president and manager of U.S. Bancorp Home Loans mortgage servicing department in Boise. Westover recently graduated from Pacific Coast Banking School where he earned the Kermit O. Hanson Award for Excellence.

DIANE J. (DUNCAN) FISCHER, BBA, accounting, '82, is an account representative for Ikon Office Solutions in Twin Falls. Fischer previously worked for First Security Bank for six years.

DAVID W. GRATTON, BA, political science, '82, is a partner in the law firm of Evans, Keane LLP in Boise.

VICKIE L. (QUESNELL) KAISER, BS, health sciences, '82, has a private dental practice in St. Augustine, Fla. Kaiser was a Top Ten Scholar at BSU in 1981.

MICHAEL LEE, AAS, electronics technology, '82, is a regional telecommunications manager with Fish and Wildlife U.S. in Portland, Ore.

CHARLES BLAINE ROSCO, BBA, real estate, '82, is a residential real estate specialist with Coldwell Banker Aspen Realty, Inc. in Boise. Rosco was named top producing sales associate for 1996.

MICHAEL R. ZUZEL, BA, communication, '82, has been elected to a two-year term on the board of directors of the National Conference of Editorial Writers. Zuzel is an editorial writer for *The Columbian* in Vancouver, Wash.

MARK SHERMAN BOYLAN, BA, communication, '83, recently completed an associate of arts degree in business administration from Frederick Community College in Frederick, Md. Boylan works for WASTREN, Inc., providing waste management consulting services to the U.S. Department of Energy in Washington, D.C.

DAVID CHARLES KERBY, BA, English/secondary education, '83, is principal at Park Intermediate School in Weiser. Kerby previously taught at Kuna Junior High School in Kuna.

SCOTT DWIGHT SPEARS, BA, political science, '83, is executive director of Idaho Health Care Association in Boise.

WILLIAM BARRETT, BA, communication/English, '84, teaches English at Yeungjin Junior College in Taegu, South Korea. Barrett is currently working on his master's degree from California State University. He previously worked for Eclectic Review.



Barrett

NANCY DIANE (ERTTER) DeWITT, BS, biology, '84, is executive director of the Alaska Bird Observatory in Fairbanks, Alaska.

ROY EARL ELSNER, AS, radiologic technology, '84, is a pharmacist/manager at K-Mart Pharmacy in Elko, Nev.

MARK THOMAS HOUSTON, BBA, finance, '84, is senior vice president and chief credit officer of Syringa Bank. Houston previously was vice president and manager of business banking for U.S. Bank of Idaho in Boise.

ANNE L. (LITTLE) ROBERTS, BBA, management/

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ELLER DESIGNS ONE-SIZE-FITS-ALL COCKPITS

By Theresa Langer

With women now flying combat aircraft, the U.S. Air Force was presented with a challenge: adapt the cockpit so a 98-pound woman can fly a plane that was designed for a 200-pound man.

That was just one of the puzzles Lt. Col. Michael Eller was asked to solve during his tenure as a human performance engineer for the Air Force.

"We try to optimize our capabilities and minimize our inabilities," says Eller of his unusual profession that studies the mechanics of work and designs systems to improve human performance. Much of his research focused on how much work an individual could effectively do before stress, which creates the opportunity for errors, takes over.

"We are subject-matter experts who collect a lot of data through a lot of observation and make changes," adds Eller.

Eller, 47, studied engineering at Boise State College for three years in the late 1960s. After college, he enlisted in the Air Force and earned a master's degree from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Fla.

Eller had 14 years of experience as a B-52 navigator and bombardier before he became branch chief of the Armstrong Laboratory, Human Engineering Division, at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base



CHUCK SCHEER PHOTO

near Dayton, Ohio.

Some of Eller's other projects included designing helmet-mounted sensors to target enemy aircraft, enhancing night vision goggles to improve vision clarity, and designing aircraft so each dial, switch and handle was precisely placed to lower the amount of work a crew has to perform.

After a 23-year career, Eller returned to Boise following his retirement from the Air Force last year. □

behavioral, '84, is an account manager with U.S. Suites in Boise. Roberts has 15 years experience in the hospitality industry.

STEVEN L. LORCHER, BBA, management/aviation, '85, has been promoted to lieutenant commander in the U.S. Navy. Lorcher is the aircraft handler and assistant air officer serving aboard the USS Kearsarge. He is currently deployed in the South Atlantic.

ROBERT M. MILLER, BA, criminal justice administration, '85, recently returned from a six-month deployment to the western Pacific Ocean and Persian Gulf with the Eleventh Marine Expeditionary Unit.

MARTIN GODINA, BBA, production management, '86, is a business planner for Hewlett-Packard in Boise.

TOMAS A. HOPKINS, BA, history/political science/social science, '86, is a faculty member at the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey in Mexico. Hopkins teaches classes on comparative politics and international relations and has published several articles on separatist movements and human rights policy.

STANLEY LYNN ARMSTRONG, BA, communication, '87, is owner of Hartley Insurance in Boise.

PHYLLIS GAY BUNN, BA, elementary education, '87, recently retired after teaching fourth grade for 10 years at Wendell Elementary School in Wendell.

DEBORAH (MAGEE) EISINGER, MA, education, '87, is co-owner of Creative Energy, a Boise company that writes and produces entertainment for events. Eisinger also writes for various publications and has been telling stories professionally since 1990.

JENNIFER O'REILLY, BFA, advertising design, '87, is senior art director with EvansGroup Technology in Boise. O'Reilly joined the agency in 1995. She previously was a partner with Boise ad agency Hedden-Nicely O'Reilly.

LINDA J. RIGHTER, BA, communication, '87, is corporate sales manager with Hanalei Hotel in San Diego.

DAVID RAY BARRON, BA, communication, '88, is owner of Priest Hat Co. in Eagle.

JUDITH R. NISSULA-THURSTON, BBA, management/human resource, '88, is vice president and district customer service leader II for Keybank, Idaho.

MARCY (MARRS) TIMM, MBA, '89, is senior vice president and chief financial officer of Syringa Bank. Timm previously was with First Security Bank of Idaho for 13 years.

RICHARD W. McCLURE, BS, geology, '89, is a senior project coordinator with Olin Corp. in Charleston, Tenn. McClure has been with the company for six years.

RONALD D. SPENCER, BBA, general business, '89, is a district sales manager of communications with ICOM America in Bellevue, Wash.

90s

SHARON DENISE BICKFORD, BA, political science, '90, is a contract negotiator at Brooks Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

DONNA CLAIRE D. BLANKINSHIP, MA, education/curriculum and instruction, '90, recently retired after 17 years as a humanities teacher at Vale High School in Vale, Ore.

VALERIE V. (FUHRMAN) CLEVERLY, BA, elementary education-bilingual/multicultural, '90, just completed her first year in the master's program in teaching foreign languages at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg.

CHAD M. FLESHER, BBA, marketing, '90, is a product specialist with TAP Pharmaceutical in Spokane, Wash.

TONY M. HOPSON, BA, political science, '90, is owner of Idaho Llama Outfitting in Boise.

MICHAEL R. REYNOLDSON, BBA, marketing, '90, has been appointed the Republican National Committee regional political director for 14 western states. Reynoldson previously was campaign manager for Larry Craig and also served as the Idaho Republican Party's executive director for two years.

DANA LYNN WEATHERBY, MA, '90, is legal education director for the Idaho State Bar and Idaho Law Foundation in Boise.

BRENT N. WINIGER, MBA, '90, has been named budget director at Boise State. Winiger has been employed at BSU since 1986.

Work by **SHANNON VIVIAN FAUSEY**, BFA, art '91, was included in an exhibit at Very Special Arts National Gallery in Washington, D.C. Fausey was a featured artist of the month in February at DecorCreations in Boise.

JAY CLARANCE JANOUSEK, BS, political science, '91, is an associate with the law firm McAnaney & Associates. Janousek lives in Boise.

LARRY PURVIANCE, BA, political science, '91, is a deputy public defender in Elmore County, Idaho.

CARMEN A. (BARRIATUA) SAGRATI, AS, medical records technician, '91, is director of medical records at CM Healthcare Resources, Inc. in Deerfield, Ill.

JERRY MICHAEL WARD, BA, philosophy, '91, recently received his law degree from McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento, Calif.

DENISE HOPE EVERHEART, BS, health science, '92, is co-founder of Step-Up Services, an agency for the developmentally disabled in Rupert.

MARK JAMES HEDRICH, BS, psychology, '92, has completed Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command in Great Lake, Ill.

KYLE D. KITTERMAN, BBA, finance, '92, is services accountant for the University of Idaho in Moscow.

CHRISTINA DIANNE SHARP, BBA, marketing, '92, is a survey specialist for the Boston region of the Consumer Price Index program for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Sharp lives in Quincy, Mass.

CAROLYN (PARISOT) DRAIN, BA, political science, '93, is attending law school at Temple University in Philadelphia. Drain is an associate editor for the *Temple International and Comparative Law Journal* and is clerking for the Environmental Protection Agency.

LEON JAMES FRANCIS, BA, political science, '93, recently graduated from Gonzaga Univer-

sity School of Law in Spokane, Wash. Francis is a second lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps. He is stationed at Quantico, Va.

ARNOLD A. HERNANDEZ, BA, Spanish, '93, was chosen as one of five state delegates to The President's Summit on America's Future. Hernandez is a minority counselor at Albertson College of Idaho in Caldwell.

KEVIN DALE ROBERTS, MS, exercise and sports studies, '93, is serving as chairman of the board of Athletic Trainers for the State of Idaho for 1997. Roberts teaches physical education and health at Meridian Middle School in Meridian.

ANDREW L. SCHWIEBERT, BA, history, '93, is relief site manager with Stor-It Rental in Boise.

ARGUS CALVIN "GUS" VILLINES, BBA, management/human resource, '93, is a capital asset coordinator for the finance department at Micron Technology in Boise.

CHELSEY BETH ADAMS-TAYLOR, BA, advertising design, '94, is a professional ballerina with Idaho Dance Theatre. Adams-Taylor also is an art director at P.V. Quinn Co., a Boise advertising and publishing firm.

CLINT R. BOLINDER, BBA, accounting, '94, graduated from law school at the University of Idaho and now attends Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C.

STEPHANIE ANN DAWSON, BBA, accounting, '94, recently passed the CPA exam. Dawson is an accountant in the internal audit department with Boise Cascade Corp. in Boise.

JON C. HERENDEEN, BBA, finance, '94, is assistant director of tournament operations for the Pacific Northwest Professional Golfers Association of America in Olympia, Wash.

Herendeen previously worked for Intermountain Orient in Boise and Birmingham, Ala.

BRENT HUNTER, BA, international economics, '94, has received his master's degree in international management from the American Graduate School of International Management (Thunderbird) and his master of business administration degree from Arizona State University. Hunter is a planner with Hewlett-Packard in Boise.

PHILIP A. JANQUART, BA, English, '94, is a reporter with the *Valley News* in Meridian.

TRISTAN MICHAEL PURVIS, BA, political science, '94, is currently a Peace Corps volunteer, most recently working in the Congo. Purvis was a 1994 Top Ten Scholar at BSU.

DANIEL ARTEAGA RAMIREZ, BS, political science, '94, recently received the Othli Award from the Mexican government. The award recognizes success despite heavy odds. Ramirez is executive director of the Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs.

LEANN JANETTE THOMPSON, BBA, general business management, '94, is an account executive with USWeb Boise. Thompson's company offers consulting and development services for Web sites.

JOHN SCOTT TURPEN, BM, music/secondary education, '94, is an instructor of woodwinds and jazz studies at Georgia College and State University. Turpen is working on his doctoral degree in saxophone performance at the University of Georgia in Athens.

ERIC JOHN WERNER, BBA, finance, '94, is an ensign in the U.S. Navy. He is stationed in Kingsville, Texas.

KIRSTEN JEAN CALLEY, BA, elementary education, '95, teaches first grade at New Plymouth Elementary in New Plymouth.

MATTHEW GEORGE FRITSCH, BS, social sciences/public affairs, '95, is news director for KSRV AM/FM radio in Ontario, Ore.

TIMOTHY ALLEN HELGERSON, BA, political science, '95, is a teacher with the Melba School District in Melba.

JENNIFER MARIE (THOMASON) HUNTER, BA, music, '95, is an assistant manager for Feldman Equities of New York.

JEREMY P. PISCA, BA, political science, '95, is a staff assistant to Idaho Gov. Phil Batt.

MONICA LOUISA (REYES) PUGA, BA, elementary education, '95, teaches at Sacajawea Elementary in Caldwell.

JASON I. ROSEN, BS, political science, '95, is a Peace Corps volunteer in Namibia.

TERESSA DAWN SCHIERS, BS, political science, '95, works for Farm Bureau Insurance in Boise.

STEVEN C. SMITH, BBA, management/entrepreneurial, '95, is a mortgage loan specialist at Stellar Mortgage Corp. in Boise.

CHRISTINA ANN SWINDALL, BS, biology, '95, is attending the College of Veterinary Medicine at Colorado State University in Fort Collins.

LORI ANN ZOOK, BBA, international business, '95, is director of sales and marketing for Crown Industrial Group in Garden City.

CAROLE ANN (JOHNSON-HOGUE) BOWER, BBA, accounting, '96, is employed by Micron Technology in Boise.

CAROL ANN BURKES, BBA, accounting, '96, is a business systems analyst with Trus Joist MacMillan in Boise.



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CRAIG J. FISHER, AAS, marketing /management technology, '96, is a sales associate for Century 21 All American Realty in Boise.

JOSEPH AMOS SAGRATI, BA, communication, '96, is a sales representative for the Midwest region for Black & Decker/Dewalt. Sagrati lives in Evanston, Ill.

WEDDINGS

SANDRA A. JOHNSON and Scott E. Kay, (Boise) March 15

JANN MARIE SAINDON and **MICHAEL STOCKWELL**, (Boise) April 4

LISSA L. HUNT and Michael D. Wolf, (Boise) April 18

BRIAN G. FIKE and **KIM A. RUE**, (Boise) April 19
JASON RAY TEMPLETON and Shannon Irene Moore, (Lewiston) May 3

CYNTHIA LOUISE WILSON and Timothy William Green, (Nampa) May 10

ELAINE LYNNE BERGESON and Roy Caldwell Walcroft, (Boise) May 17

SHELLIE MARIE ANDERTON and Kevin Paul Rice, (Star) May 24

LYNIETA LYNN COLE and Randal Lee Scott, (Boise) May 24

STEVEN L. MOSER and Katie Hanigan, (Payette) May 24

DREW BLACK and Stacy Woodard, (Kuna) June 7

MELISSA KLUG and **JUSTIN CJ MARTIN**, June 7

SUSAN CATHERINE HIRSCHFELD and **DAN TENNANT**, (Boise) June 13

SHAWN D. BEACH and **ASHLEY JO WAGGONER**, (Boise) June 21

TIMOTHY J. HILL and Sara Yamauchi, (Honolulu, Hawaii) June 28

OBITUARIES

JOHN E. ANDREWS, diploma, general arts and sciences, '35, died April 13 in Bay City, Mich., at age 83. Andrews retired from General Motors in 1978. He had worked as personnel director of plants in Saginaw, Livonia and Bay City, Mich.

DONALD R. "DOC" BAXTER, BS, mathematics, '86, died June 19 in Firth at age 41. Baxter began his career with the Idaho Air National Guard in 1980. At the time of his death Baxter was serving as commander of National Guard forces providing flood relief services in eastern Idaho.

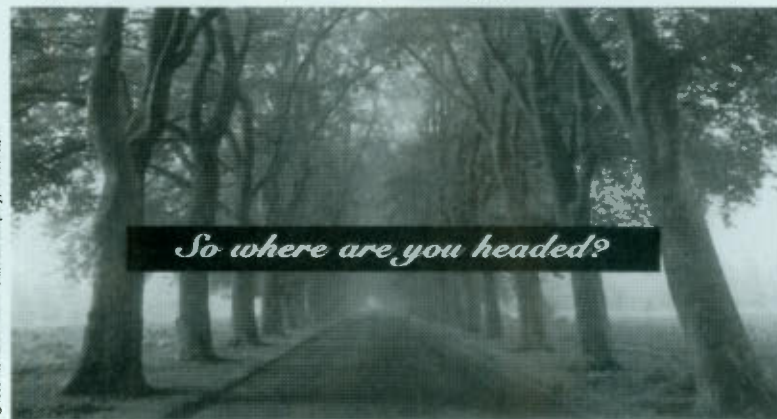
SALLY L. (ELLER) BOGARD BELL, CC, practical nursing, '77, died July 1 in Boise at age 47.

DEE ANN (KAMMER) CHANDLER, BBA, marketing, '85, died July 25 in Boise at age 36.

DONALD M. DAY, AA, general arts and sciences, '43, died July 24 in Boise at age 73. Day was a real estate broker with Day Realty. He developed several Boise landmarks including Vista Village. He served on numerous boards, including the Board of Realtors, the National Association of Real Estate Boards, the Rotary Club and the Boise Chamber of Commerce. He also was a trustee for Boise Junior College and later the BSU Foundation. His dedication was recognized by the university in 1991 when he was the recipient of its highest honor, the Silver Medallion.

ROBERT LINCOLN ELLIS, BA, social science, '69, died June 21 in Nashville, Tenn., at age 52. Ellis had various occupations, but most enjoyed writing, composing and performing music.

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KEVIN BARR KELLY, BS, physical education/secondary education, '76, died June 17 in Boise at age 48. Kelly was employed by the state of Idaho/Emergency Medical Services and also worked as a substitute teacher for local schools.

NELLIE E. KISER, BA, elementary education, '91, died July 13 in Weiser at age 52. Kiser taught kindergarten until her retirement in 1993.

CAROLYN RAE (BARTLETT) MATUSESKI, AS, nursing, '60, died May 28 in Boise at age 56. Matuseski had been employed at the Idaho State Veterans Home, Valley Medical Center and Midland Nursing Home.

GORDON NIEFFENEGGER, BBA, finance, '73, died June 23 in Coeur d'Alene at age 48.

DAVID F. PERRY, diploma, general arts and sciences, '42, died July 29 in Boise at age 76. Perry was Boise fire chief from 1967 until he retired in 1978. Perry helped form the Idaho Fire Chiefs Association, and was a member of the Idaho Retired Firefighters Association and the El Korah Shrine. He also had been honored as Citizen of the Week by the *Idaho Statesman*.

KURT JAY VANOSKI, CC, auto mechanic, '75, died June 7 in Boise at age 41. Vanoski was employed by Guerdon Homes of Boise.

MARTHA R. WILKERSON, AA, general arts and sciences, '42, died July 1 in Stanford, Calif., at age 74. She was retired from Los Altos High School in Los Altos, Calif. where she was employed as a counseling secretary for 16 years.

DAVID M. WOOD, BS, biology, '72, died June 11 in Coeur d'Alene at age 47. Wood owned D.K.W. and Co. Construction until June of 1996. He previously was head golf pro at Warm Springs Golf Course in Boise. □

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CHUCK SCHIEER PHOTO

One of Boise State's most historic buildings is now the new home of the Office of Alumni Relations. The Hemingway Center was built in the early 1940s as an auditorium for the junior college. It was the second building constructed on the new campus. Posed in front of their new home are alumni staff, from left, Jennie Myers, Kerry Hunt, Karen Jackson, Donna Conner and Bob Davies.

ALUMNI MOVE TO HEMINGWAY CENTER

The Alumni Association/Alumni Relations Office recently moved into new quarters at the Hemingway Center. The office was previously located in the Education Building.

The new location offers many advantages, says Bob Davies, executive director of the Alumni Association. "This move means we will be more visible and accessible because we are on the ground floor and parking is

nearby. We are also more visible to students because we are on the main thoroughfare between the Quad and the Student Union," he says.

The Hemingway Center was the second building constructed on the Boise Junior College campus. Originally an auditorium for school assemblies, the main hall features the Cunningham pipe organ and exhibit space. □

ASSOCIATION REPORTS BANNER YEAR

Double the fun seems to be the slogan of choice this year for the BSU Alumni Association. The organization reports record growth in events, revenue and membership.

In its annual report for 1996-97, the Office of Alumni Relations reported that the association doubled the number of events to 65 from just over 30 for the previous year.

One of the most popular activities, the Graduation Celebration barbecue, attracted more than 1,300 graduating seniors and their families on Commencement weekend. Other events for students included the Welcome Home breakfast and the Alumni Career Talk Network.

Other highlights of the report:

- Dues-paying membership climbed 39 percent to an all-time high of 1,841.
- Dues income more than doubled to \$40,050.
- Auction '97 raised an all-time high \$127,000.

Proceeds from the auction will benefit the

proposed College of Engineering Building. The Alumni Association is nearing its \$500,000 pledge to the project.

"This year represented a turning point," says executive director Bob Davies. "The association set high goals which forced an aggressive approach for the year."

Davies says the association sponsored more than 40 events tied to academic activities, including two "alumni nights" prior to theatre arts productions, an alumni art exhibit, and the Top Ten Scholars banquet. The association also sponsored several golf tournaments and other activities to raise funds for student scholarships.

The mission of the BSU Office of Alumni Relations and the Alumni Association is to assist in the development and advancement of BSU as an institution of higher education, while providing services and programs for the 52,000 alumni and 15,000 students. A 25-member board sets policies and guides the activities of the organization. □

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Jim Davis, President
BSU Alumni Association

What compels some people to volunteer to serve their community? All of us have busy lives with work, family, school, etc. After all, it is the '90s! Still, altruism motivates some people to give a little more. Some people recognize that their quality of life is measured not by what they get, but by what they give.

Your Alumni Association's board of directors shares that unselfish trait of giving just a little more. Each board member has a busy life but chooses to spend extra hours guiding the association's business. Why?

This last April/May I began to comprehend the answer for the vast majority of the board. The association's Nominating Committee asked each of last year's board members why he or she wanted to serve on the board the next year. Virtually all responded that they wanted the opportunity to give back to Boise State in return for what they received from the university. Simply stated, each person was grateful to BSU and was prepared to sacrifice valuable time to say thank you. Your board members know the quality of their lives is enhanced by what they give to BSU and its alumni.

Should you want to share your passion for BSU by becoming involved in the Alumni Association, we invite you to join us. We have just made it easier for you to do so. To encourage out-of-area participation we have reduced the number of board meetings to four annually and we will schedule the meetings around other events on campus, such as a theatre arts production, a sporting event or Homecoming. We have imposed term limits to ensure that individuals who want to become members of the board will have an opportunity to do so. Finally, we are expanding the number of people who can participate by including non-board members on association committees.

Should you not want to join the board or serve on a committee, there are many other opportunities for you to participate:

- Attend one of many alumni-sponsored events.
- Volunteer to assist in an alumni-sponsored event.
- Become a dues-paying member of the Alumni Association.
- Donate money to one of the several alumni scholarships.
- Call or write the Alumni Office and let them know what a great job

they are doing.

Join with your association board in giving back to BSU and in knowing that the quality of life truly is measured by what you give. As the poet W. H. Auden once mused:

"We are here on earth to do good for others. What the others are here for, I don't know."

Join with us "to do good" for BSU. □



AlumNews

ALUMNI HOOPS NIGHTS

Alumni Association members can purchase discounted tickets to two BSU men's and women's basketball games at the Pavilion this season.

Tickets are \$4 for the men's matchup against Weber State Nov. 29. Tickets to the Dec. 20-21 women's basketball tournament are only \$1. Tickets can be purchased at the Varsity Center ticket office. To receive the discounts, alumni must show a current Alumni Association card. □

ALUM NIGHT AT THE THEATRE

Alumni Association members are invited to a special April 10 performance of the BSU theatre arts department presentation of *The Grapes of Wrath* at the Morrison Center.

Association members can purchase tickets for \$6 (normally \$12) at the Morrison Center ticket office. To receive the discount alumni must show a current Alumni Association card. □

AD BUILDING ART ON SALE

Own a piece of Boise State history with a commemorative lithograph of the BSU Administration Building.

The Alumni Association is offering only 400 hand-signed and numbered lithographs of the first building on the current campus. Built in time for the fall 1940 semester, the collegiate Gothic structure was home to all classes, the library, laboratories, offices and the Student Union during those early years.

The lithographs are part of a national series of campus scenes produced by Diamond Brostrom from Minneapolis, Minn.

Orders can be placed through the BSU Alumni Office. Each lithograph is \$195 plus shipping. Proceeds from the sale of the lithographs will support the Alumni Association and scholarships. □

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