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### WAY TO GO!

A new tradition began with Boise State's first graduating class of the new millennium as the members of the Class of 2000 joined in an "honor march" after commencement ceremonies in The Pavilion. The new ritual included having Boise State's newest alumni ring in the graduating class by clanging the old school bell next to the Opaline School. The university graduated 2,727 students in May. John Kelly photo.
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ABOUT THE COVER: There's no exact formula for creativity. We funnel together inspiration, perseverance, experience, emotions and serendipity — and sometimes we manage to distill the unwieldy mix into something new and wonderful. In this issue of FOCUS, we explore the creative spirit and how it manifests itself in our increasingly complex and busy world, where technology links us more closely than ever and time is often the most precious commodity of all. Bill Carman illustration.
MASTER PLAN TAKES SHAPE

By Charles Ruch, President

In 1997 Boise State published its Framework Physical Master Plan to guide campus development into the 21st century. A campus tour this summer would reveal the significant progress that we have made toward turning the plan into reality. Of special interest to our touring visitor might be the several major projects now under way.

A key element of the plan was the recommendation to move the campus core to a pedestrian-friendly environment. This, of course, necessitated a complete reorganization of campus parking. Following a prolonged debate, a new plan was developed and is in effect. Slowly, parking is being moved to the periphery of the campus and parking decks are replacing open lots.

Our first deck is scheduled for completion this summer. When open, the structure will add 500 new spaces to our inventory. The four-story structure was built at a cost of $4.5 million, financed through bonds, parking revenues and student fees. Once open, the structure will provide the fiscal and occupancy information needed to guide the planning for two more decks as soon as possible. Asserting that "land in the middle of a campus in the middle of a city is too valuable to store cars on," the plan recommends five decks overall.

Other initiatives supporting our new parking look include construction of two visitor lots — one adjacent to the Administration Building, the other adjacent to the Student Union — that would ease access to the campus for our short-term visitors. Additionally, as vacant lots in our neighborhood become available, we plan to purchase them for short-term parking.

A second recommendation of the Framework Master Plan was to highlight the campus boundary along the Boise River. Here again, significant progress is evident. Most parking has been removed from Campus Lane, leaving the road along the river primarily for pedestrian and bike traffic. The Greenbelt is being enhanced with additional benches and separators between the limited vehicular access road and the pedestrian walkway.

"expansion area"— the 12 blocks bordered by University, Lincoln, Beacon and Denver streets. The university owns much of this property and is planning on acquiring additional land as needed and as finances permit.

The plan calls for the creation of "super blocks" with new buildings surrounded by green space and quadrangles. The pattern was initiated with the completion of the three-building engineering complex.

Construction is now under way on the Student Recreation Center. The 87,000-square-foot building will occupy the block across from the Student Union parking lot. The $12.6 million structure will be paid for by student fee revenue bonds.

Additionally, the Alumni Association has purchased a vacated eye clinic at the corner of University Drive and Grant Avenue that it will use as an Alumni Center. Across the street, on the west side of Grant Avenue, ground has been broken for phase one of our Extended Studies building.

These additions make a strong statement that the university is developing an attractive and functional urban campus.

What's next?

The need for additional classroom buildings is increasing. Plans on the drawing board include at least three additional academic buildings: a second phase of the Multipurpose Classroom Building, an addition to the Math/Geosciences Building and a new Business Building. Only time — and money — prevent their construction.

Also, conversations are being held regarding additional student services facilities — housing, a Student Union addition and a health center — and a new tennis complex. And, we are well under way toward bringing Boise State West to reality. With this year's legislative appropriation of $3.5 million, work on the infrastructure and the building design has started.

As our touring visitors will see, at Boise State expansion is a way of life for a campus that is experiencing steady growth. With the guidance of the Framework Physical Master Plan, we are using our limited space as wisely as possible to meet the needs of our students and community.

As always I appreciate your comments. You can reach me by phone at (208) 426-1491 or by e-mail at cruch@boisestate.edu.
Boise State master's program in school counseling and associate program in health information technology received accreditation this spring.

Both programs were accredited by professional organizations that evaluate programs based on a set of national standards. The Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs approved the master's in school counseling for a seven-year period. The program prepares graduates to become professional counselors at the elementary, middle and secondary school levels.

The health information technology program at Boise State was awarded continuing accreditation through the 2002-03 academic year by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs. Administered by the department of health studies, the health information technology program leads to an associate of science degree.

Boise State and the Microelectronics Center of North Carolina (MCNC) have joined forces on a research project to improve the interconnect technology found on computer chips.

The project is supported through an initial $1.9 million federal appropriation through the Department of Defense. Boise State electrical engineering professor Susan Burkett will work with colleagues at MCNC on the project. Burkett says the team's research efforts are focused on the connections between transistors that are embedded into chips.

"A memory chip has millions of electronic devices, and as the density of devices on a chip increases, the process of connecting them becomes very complicated."

To increase connections, the researchers are adding a third dimension to chips that are usually only produced in two dimensions. "While 3-D technology is not new, this project is breaking ground due to the focus of going deeper into the silicon wafer and utilizing more of the electronic material," says Burkett.

"Most circuitry is concentrated on the top surface of the wafer. To make a chip with more complicated circuits, we must build down into the wafer."

Improving fundamental knowledge in interconnect technology will help develop the processes necessary for sophisticated electronic applications in the future, she adds.

Three-dimensional chips are already being used in air bag sensors that can determine the severity of the accident and how fast to inflate the bag. Future uses include a technology developed by MCNC called artificial muscle, which uses chips to stimulate damaged muscles that were previously disconnected from the brain.

According to Burkett, the combined strengths of Boise State and the North Carolina research center will provide the infrastructure and technical skills to conduct a strong research and development program for 3-D microstructures. Boise State's Idaho Microfabrication Laboratory will provide the high-quality fabrication and testing that is crucial to the project, she says.
VIETNAM PROGRAM RECEIVES FUNDING

New federal funding will allow Boise State to resume developing educational programs with the National Economics University's business school in Hanoi, Vietnam.

A total of $750,000 will be released by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) so Boise State can continue to train and advise university faculty, staff and students in Vietnam. At least another $750,000 has been allocated for next year.

Boise State began the MBA program for NEU students in 1994. The first class graduated in 1995, and since then more than 80 Vietnamese students have earned an MBA from Boise State. Many of them are now professors or key government leaders.

That project, which was funded by the Swedish government, was put on hiatus last year after its grant support expired.

Under a new cooperative agreement, there is an opportunity to refine the programs at NEU to more specifically address business concerns in Vietnam, says Nancy Napier, project manager and Boise State management professor.

"We've revised the focus to foster expertise in private sector development and trade development," says Napier. "We will continue to support advanced academic training, and will request that some of the studies focus on private sector development and trade and investment reform issues."

Boise State will play an advisory role as NEU's master's program and institutional administration becomes self-sufficient in the near future.

The university worked with USAID to refine the program proposal to make sure it fits U.S. trade goals for Vietnam.

Napier adds that refining the program to mesh with U.S. policy concerns means training students in trade reform and legal reform, which allows for smoother trade relations.

"Ultimately, the two countries will sign a trade agreement," says Napier. "The main thing is to aid the goal of enhancing trade development between Vietnam and the United States." □

JAZZ BAND EARN NATIONAL HONOR

Boise State's Instrumental Jazz Band placed third at the recent University of Nevada Jazz Festival, earning the highest competition rating of any instrumental group in the history of Boise State.

At the April festival, the Boise State musicians, under the direction of professor Ritchard Maynard, placed third behind California State University at Hayward and Fresno State University. The band competed against 32 jazz bands from throughout the United States. □
The university presented its highest award — the Silver Medallion — to four leaders during Commencement ceremonies May 13. From left, Sen. Atwell Parry, Marianne and Larry Williams and Mikela French.

LEADERS AWARDED SILVER MEDALLIONS

Boise State awarded Silver Medallions at Commencement May 13 to four leaders for their achievements in public service, university service and academics. The award is the highest presented by Boise State.

Those honored included Sen. ATWELL PARRY, LARRY and MARIANNE WILLIAMS and MIKELA FRENCH.

Parry retired this year after representing District 11 in Canyon County for 20 years. The chair of the Senate Finance Committee, he is one of Idaho’s leading authorities on the state budget. Parry was an advocate for the enhancement of higher education in Canyon County, helping the university secure funds for the expansion of the current Canyon County Center and for the planned Boise State West campus.

In 1979, Larry and Marianne Williams founded Idaho Timber Co., which has grown into one of the top 10 private corporations in Idaho. He is a past president of the Bronco Athletic Association and a current member of the Boise State University Foundation board of directors. She currently serves on the BAA board of directors. The couple’s donations have supported the expansion of Bronco Stadium, the athletic department endowment and many other fund drives.

French, an English graduate from Idaho Falls, was selected as one of the first students in the nation to receive a George Mitchell Scholarship to pursue a graduate degree in Ireland or Northern Ireland. Only 12 students, most from private colleges or universities, were selected to receive this new scholarship.

While at Boise State, French received a senior scholarship from Sigma Tau Delta, an honor society for English students. She also was a student senator, a reporter for Boise State Radio and a volunteer at Community House.

FOUNDATION CITED FOR FUND RAISING

The Boise State University Foundation has been named a winner of the Council for Advancement and Support of Education’s 2000 Circle of Excellence in Educational Fund-Raising Award.

The BSU Foundation was one of 57 organizations recognized nationwide for superior fund-raising improvement. The foundation was selected from among 942 colleges, universities and independent schools based on data for the past three years.

Criteria for the award is based on total support for the third year compared to the average of the first two years submitted. The BSU Foundation’s average total support for the 1997 and 1998 fiscal years was $3,552,900. In fiscal year 1999, the Foundation raised $10,479,216, an increase of 195 percent.

MEDICAL SCHOOLS ACCEPT GRADUATES

Boise State graduates are heading to medical, dental and veterinary schools next fall after being accepted at programs in Washington, Virginia, Connecticut, Missouri and others across the country.

All five Boise State applicants to dental schools were accepted, as were the three students who applied to veterinary schools.

Among medical school applicants, Kurt Lindsay, a graduate student in biology, was accepted at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. In addition, two Boise State ‘95 alumni were accepted to medical schools starting in the fall.

“We had some very good students, and it was a very competitive year,” says Glenda Hill, director of pre-professional studies at Boise State. According to Hill, this is the fifth year in a row that Boise State has had a 100 percent acceptance rate for dental schools.

Following is a list of applicants and schools where they have been accepted.

MEDICAL: Kurt Lindsay, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center; ’95 graduate Sean Overton, Saint Louis University; and ’95 graduate Frank Garrido, Northwestern University.

DENTAL: Jeff Davis, Idaho Dental Education Program at Idaho State University and Creighton University; Tyler J. Smith, University of Connecticut; Christopher Loveland, Virginia Commonwealth University; Jason Howell, University of Louisville; and Chalyce Nyborg, Oregon Health Sciences University.

VETERINARY: Michelle Muir, Washington State University; Katherine Gailbreath, Washington State; and Joel L. Davis, Oregon State University.

ENGLISH PROFESSOR EARNs FULBRIGHT

English professor Helen Lojek has been awarded a Fulbright award to conduct research and teach in Finland during the 2001 spring semester.

Lojek will complete a research project in contemporary drama and teach courses in modern drama at the University of Turku and at Abo University.

Lojek also has received a fellowship from the Idaho Humanities Council to support research for a book-length study of contemporary Irish playwright Frank McGuinness.

She is the adviser of Sigma Tau Delta, the Boise State English honor society.

The Fulbright Program was established in 1946 under the direction of Senator J.William Fulbright to promote greater understanding between the United States and other nations.
Class Act

Boise State’s third annual Gene Harris Jazz Festival in April was a nostalgic tribute to the late Boise-based musician who died in January. But despite the loss of its namesake, in true Harris fashion, the show went on. The festival continues to grow into one of the region’s premier cultural events. The 8,600 attendance mark was a 14 percent increase over last year. The public television show CD Highway taped several performances for five 30-minute specials that will air nationally beginning in August. In addition to public performances, guest artists conducted clinics for students from more than 50 junior and senior high schools.

Clockwise from upper left: Cuban jazz artist Arturo Sandoval, Grammy-winner Chuck Mangione and saxophonist Ernie Watts in concert; Mangione and students in clinic; Harris protege Paul Tillotson on piano and Curtis Stigers on vocals; Janie Harris and Mangione on stage; and Niki Harris in tribute to her father. Photos by Chuck Scheer.
Eighteen veteran faculty members representing combined service of almost five centuries have joined the ranks of the retired this year. Among them are many of the faculty who helped build their departments from the ground up as Boise State made the transition from a junior college to a university.

During his 32-year career at Boise State, biology professor CHARLES BAKER blended research, teaching and service. The recipient of several teaching awards for his expertise in the classroom, Baker counseled hundreds of students interested in a career in dentistry. Because of his efforts, over the last five years all of the Boise State students who applied have been admitted to dental school. In addition to his role as adviser, Baker, an entomologist, has focused much of his research on rare Idaho insects. In his most recent project, Baker’s observations of the population of the Bruneau Dunes Tiger Beetle provided the Bureau of Land Management the knowledge needed to preserve the insect.

FRED BAKER retired as manager of the Basic and Applied Academics Division in the Larry Selland College of Applied Technology. During his 10-year tenure at Boise State, Baker helped design the technical math curriculum. He taught the full range of technical math classes for the academic division and was instrumental in facilitating the transfer of applied academic courses to the academic programs at Boise State.

ELMO BENSON has been a member of the art department since 1974. A watercolor specialist, his work has been shown at galleries throughout the region. He served as an adviser to the calligraphy club and conducted numerous workshops, lectures and demonstrations for high school students throughout southern Idaho. Benson was a longtime member of the Idaho Watercolor Society and donated several of his paintings to local charity auctions.

One of the nation’s foremost authorities on visual perception, psychology professor GARVIN CHASTAIN was a prolific scholar during his 22-year career at Boise State. He produced more than 80 journal publications, made more than 50 conference presentations and served as editor of the Journal of Psychology for the past six years. Chastain also received several teaching awards from Phi Kappa Phi and the Alumni Association.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS throughout Idaho have improved their programs in economics because of GERALD DRAAYER’s efforts. Named the founding director of Idaho’s Council on Economic Education in 1976, Draayer built that organization into one of the most successful councils in the nation, bringing to Idaho schools the Stock Market Game, workshops for teachers and educational materials for students. During his 17 years with the ICEE, Draayer raised funds, assembled a statewide board of directors and traveled the state presenting workshops and working with schools. Four years ago, Draayer left the council and took a full-time teaching position in the economics department.

Aspiring medical school students always had a friend in biology professor EUGENE FULLER. His personal approach to pre-medical advising and his advocacy for students are credited for the high medical school acceptance rate achieved by Boise State students. He was the driving force behind the state’s only test review workshop that prepares students for the medical college admissions exam. During his 33-year tenure, Fuller was a member of the Faculty Senate and received awards for his teaching in the fields of histology, embryology and zoology.

As the architect of Boise State’s programs in bilingual and migrant education, JOHN JENSEN opened the doors of opportunity for thousands of students. He was the major writer of original grant proposals that have resulted in more than $11 million since 1987, most directed at educational programs for students from migrant families. His leadership roles during his 31 years in the College of Education included director of the Center for Multicultural and Educational Opportunities, interim associate dean and department chair. Jensen was president of the National HEP/CAMP Association for three terms in the 1990s and continues to serve on the board of directors. Active in the Boy Scouts of America, he currently is a board member on the national council. Jensen received
national awards from the Boy Scouts and the National Association of State Directors of Migrant Education earlier this year.

For 30 years ROBERT JUOLA has been the sole statistician in the mathematics and computer science department. In addition to his teaching, he was frequently called upon to consult for attorneys, the Idaho Lottery Commission or the Veterans Affairs Medical Center. A track and field enthusiast, he developed a computer program to score heptathlon and decathlon events. He also served on the board of reviewers for the College Mathematics Journal and published research in journals that ranged from the Journal of Law and Politics to the American Statistician.

GILES MALOOF was the guiding force behind the establishment of Boise State’s first graduate programs 30 years ago. Maloof, who arrived at Boise State in 1968 as chair of the mathematics department, was appointed dean of the graduate school in 1970. In that position, he laid the policies, procedures and other administrative foundations for today’s graduate education programs. After his return to the classroom in 1975, Maloof became known as one of the university’s most dedicated professors, teaching at most of the university’s outreach sites and serving on numerous committees. Maloof was awarded the BSU Foundation’s Award for Teaching last spring.

Accountancy professor MIKE MERZ came to Boise State in 1974 with almost 20 years of experience in the private sector. Merz played a key role in the growth of the accountancy department’s curriculum, including the development of a new master’s degree in taxation. His research publications and consulting work covered a variety of topics such as inventory control, consumer loans, ethics, manufacturing techniques and taxation. He also conducted several economic impact studies and led more than 40 seminars in financial management.

GARY NEWBY was the second member of the physics faculty when he was hired by Boise College in 1966. That small department grew to 12 faculty during Newby’s tenure as chair from 1969-83. During that time, Newby helped develop the construction management major, worked with architects to plan a new science building that opened in 1977 and developed the physics curriculum into a four-year degree. He also originated the Society of Physics Students and helped organize and participated in all but two Science Day Competitions since that event began in the mid-1970s.

Music professor GERALD SCHRÖDER has provided opportunities for thousands of students and community members to participate in choral music through his leadership of the University Singers. Since his arrival at Boise State in 1978, Schroeder served in leadership positions with the American and Idaho choral directors associations. He also served the community as the director of church choirs and Boise Music Week productions. In 1992, he founded the Pickwick Pipers, a choral ensemble that continues to perform in the community in Charles Dickens-era costumes. For the past four years he has served as associate chair of the music department.

WILLIAM SKILLERN was a pioneer in the development of interdisciplinary teaching approaches to the humanities. Shortly after he arrived at Boise State in 1971, Skillern co-wrote a grant from the National Endowment on the Humanities that laid the groundwork for what eventually became the Interdisciplinary Studies in the Humanities program. He directed the program from 1979-90. Skillern served as the first chair of the philosophy department after it was separated from political science and he has directed the legal assistant program for the past three years. He also was a leader on the city’s Historic Preservation Commission, Idaho Youth Government and the Idaho Historic Preservation Council. His book on the history and political influence of British settlers in Idaho will be published soon by the Idaho Centennial Commission.

Throughout his 29 years at Boise State, psychology professor MARK SNOW blended teaching, research and public service. His research in learning, test construction, psychopathology and antisocial behavior was published in several journals. He served as department chair during the 1994-95 academic year. He continues to provide services to the people of Haiti as a member of the board of directors for the Haitian Project sponsored by St. Alphonse Regional Medical Center. He also serves as chair of the consulting board of directors for Intermountain Medical Center. He has served on the board of directors for the Idaho Historic Preservation Commission, Idaho Youth Government and the Idaho Historic Preservation Council.

FOCUS/SUMMER 2000

13
Boise State Attracts Spanish Siblings

By Melanie Threlkeld McConnell

Their baby pictures hang stair-step on the family room wall. The house has the aroma of mom’s cooking. And the four siblings are gathered around the dining room table laughing and joking with their parents.

A scene from The Waltons?

No, how about the Figueras, a real-life family from Catalonia, Spain, who happened upon Boise and Boise State while searching for high school exchange programs nearly eight years ago. At their parents’ urging, five of the eight Figueras children have traveled to Idaho to pursue an education not only in academics, but in life itself.

Why so far from home?

“They wanted us to have a wider perspective of the world, to learn English and realize the world is bigger than just where we live in Spain,” explains 26-year-old Enric, translating for his father, Josep Maria, and mother, Carmen, who came for daughter Carmen’s May graduation.

Enric, 26, and brother Lluis, 24, both graduated last year. Lluis has since returned to Europe to work. Anna Maria, 21, a junior, and 18-year-old Jordi plans to spend his sophomore year in France through BSU’s International Studies Program.

The family is gathered around the dining room table where it meets for dinner every night. It’s an important way to maintain family and cultural traditions. “The way we eat is the biggest difference [between cultures],” says daughter Carmen, who earned her degree in elementary bilingual education. “We don’t have a TV in the dining room. No matter if there are two of us or 10, we sit down and eat.”

Their mother explains that as each child became old enough, she or she would help with the family’s wine and spirits distribution company.

Josep Maria Figueras, left, and his wife Carmen, fourth from left, sent five of their eight children to study at Boise State. They include Carmen, second from left, Enric, Jordi and Anna Maria. Another son, Lluis, has returned to Europe to work.

“In order for the business and family to run well, we all had to cooperate,” she says smiling. “With eight kids we had to have rules, some discipline.”

Josep Maria continues: “It’s 10 people sharing a house so we all better follow some rules or it’s going to be a jungle.”

The four siblings say living with each other has reduced any homesickness that understandably could arise. It’s just like living at home in Spain, they say, except for the food.

Good fish and their mother’s cooking is what they miss most.

But that’s not to say the siblings haven’t found room for some favorite new American fare such as barbecue, corn on the cob and turkey.

And, they add, they keep busy by being involved in activities here they never could have done back home. Enric and Jordi, self-described “freaks of soccer” host a one-hour soccer show on Boise State radio’s AM station each week. That opportunity would have been unthinkable back home, Jordi says.

When asked how their children have changed, their parents smile proudly.

“They’re more independent and responsible, and they’ve learned how to live on their own,” daughter Carmen says, translating for her mother. Josep Maria and Carmen say they are pleased with how well Boise has served their children. They are grateful for the low crime rate and the Americans’ friendliness.

“If you come here open-minded you realize there are great people everywhere and you can learn from them,” says mother Carmen.

Josep Maria is philosophical about the first year of his children’s stay in the United States, a time they all agree was difficult — but invaluable — for everyone.

“They’ve always been together,” he says. “They’ve always laughed and tried to make the best. Life has taught them that there are very, very hard moments, but these moments teach you the moments of happiness.”

Donald Wertman was named program head for the machine tool technology program in 1975, a post he held until last year. During his tenure he also earned an engineering degree from Kennedy-Western University. Wertman encouraged students to participate in the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America organization and served as adviser to VICA in machine tool technology for 13 years. In addition to his regular duties, Wertman taught evening courses and recently began teaching manufacturing technology in the College of Engineering.
University of Georgia gymnast Kristi Lichey was among the participants in the NCAA national gymnastics championships hosted by Boise State in mid-April. A total of 20,000 spectators attended the four day meet. UCLA won the team competition.

In its 11th season, Boise State SummerFest offers music and dance lovers of all ages a summer evening of entertainment in the Centennial Amphitheater's outdoor setting along the Boise River.

The concert series opened July 7-8 with "Classical Favorites," featuring the Boise State SummerFest Orchestra and performers from Idaho Dance Theatre.

At the July 21-22 program, "American Pie," the BSU SummerFest Concert Band, directed by music professor Marcellus Brown, will serve up a slice of Americana with cowboy folk tunes, Sousa marches, Gershwin melodies and other classics.

The series closes July 28-29 with "An Evening of Broadway." The BSU SummerFest Orchestra, directed by music professor Craig Purdy and featuring vocalists Laura Rushing-Raynes and Lynn Berg, will lead the audience down the Great White Way with music from Richard Rodgers, Leonard Bernstein, Jerome Robbins, Stephen Sondheim and other Broadway legends.

Tickets are available at all Select-a-Seat outlets or online at www.idahotickets.com. For more information, call 426-1772.
Creativity can be hard to categorize, but we know it when we see it. In business, in the arts, in science and in education, our ability to innovate can make the difference between success and failure. In this issue of FOCUS, we explore how creativity manifests itself in the workplace and the classroom at a time when the technology is changing how we interact. We also interview Boise State professors about their individual creative processes.

Corporate Creativity

As the world speeds up, businesses find innovation is crucial to survival

By Janelle Brown

Electrons pulsate through digital lines at a speed faster than you can breathe, move, think. Within microseconds, the high-frequency signal travels to a computer server hundreds of miles away, then to another server, then finally to a computer monitor. Digital code. Pure information. It pours in, faster and faster and faster and faster....

Michael Megale's e-mail is piling up. He tries to ignore it. Can't. Thirteen messages arrive in 25 minutes. The computer alerts him each time with a soft, insistent beep.

"I can feel my adrenaline going up," says Megale, director of diversified foods at Lamb Weston Inc. in Boise and an '80 Boise State graduate in marketing, as three more e-mails come in.

Megale turns to the screen and takes a quick peek, then disengages from his virtual world. He smiles, then shrugs. "I need to keep up with these," he says.

Megale's days are crowded with e-mails, phone calls and rapid-fire decisions. "Our business is speeding up. So is the
“When you're on this side of the world, you can't see over here," he says pointing to the other side. “Creativity is about shifts in perspective or thinking.”

Looking at things differently allows creative solutions to appear, Nagasundaram explains. Not that it's effortless. “Change is often gut-wrenching,” he says. “Except for small children, we don't like change.”

GREGG ALGER stands in front of a gleaming dark table in a conference room at Fisher's, an office equipment company in Garden City. The walls are a muted gray, the leather chairs soft, the high-tech gadgetry discreetly tucked away.

It's a place where you can relax. A place that feels safe. A place even a technophobe could talk about computer systems without getting scared.

Alger, company president and an '89 Boise State marketing grad, uses the room to show clients what the latest computers, software, digital copiers and scanners could do for their businesses.

“I use this room in a creative manner to separate us from the Xeroxes of the world," says Alger, pointing to a large “SMART Board" on the wall that projects a computer screen. Alger activates the board by pressing the "print" function with his finger, then retrieves a colorful document from a nearby printer. It's a powerful demonstration, capable of shifting a customer's vision of what's possible. For those wary of new technologies — and Alger sees many of them — it's also reassuring.

“It terrifies them," says Alger of the way some customers feel about the digital world. “The big thing many businesses are facing is, how do we get on the Web.”

While the Internet and other new technologies offer tremendous opportunities, Alger understands the resistance to change. “Just look at the automobile,” he says. “When it was first invented, few people dreamed it would ever replace the horse. Every product has its cycle.”

The Internet is about speed. Creativity is about process. As the complexity of our lives increases and the pressures build to do more faster, can we still find that creative edge?

“Technology doesn't lessen creativity, but it changes it," replies Elisa Barney-Smith, a Boise State electrical engineering professor. “It used to be that the challenge was how do you get a wagon to Idaho. Now, it's how do you get computer bits through a thin piece of wire when there are other computer bits there.”

Creativity is a practice that requires attention, adds Ed Petkus, a Boise marketing professor. “It's how we dress, how we cook, it's in the so-called mundane things of life we shouldn't think of as mundane.”

The busyness of modern life and the free flow of information can actually enhance creativity, according to Gundy Kaupins, a Boise State management professor. “Today, there are so many more ways to communicate,” Kaupins says. “More information leads to more creativity.”

But information overload can also create problems, adds Kaupins and others. “I used to get 10 e-mails a day. Now I get 100,” says Kaupins, who challenges himself to answer in as few words as possible.

E-mail and the Internet have been a boon to Joanna Kania-Bartoszynska, a Boise State mathematics professor. New research in her field is archived on the Web, allowing Kania-Bartoszynska to check out new breakthroughs long before they are published in conventional journals.

“It inspires you,” says Kania-Bartoszynska, who recently com-
CANDI ALLPHIN bursts into a conference room on the sixth floor of the U.S. Bank Building in downtown Boise and apologizes for being a few moments late. She was "lost" in an automated phone system, she explains, trying to work her way through a menu of options to get connected to the right extension. She never did reach the right party. Frustrated, she finally hung up.

Despite that annoyance, Allphin doesn't hesitate when asked how technology and creativity mesh in her workplace. Sure, there are a few techno-glitches now and then, says Allphin, a vice president of business banking at U.S. Bank, an '89 Boise State graduate in management and current president of the Alumni Association. But she believes new technologies ultimately help because they free her to concentrate on the creative aspects of her job — working with people.

"In banking, anybody can provide products and services," Allphin says. "The only thing that differentiates us is our people. Good rapport is crucial. Our business is built on trust."

Allphin finds creative challenges in managing a team of bank development officers who work with small- to middle-sized commercial business clients in four states. It's a job that demands flexibility, decision-making skills and the ability to juggle many tasks at once. Allphin uses a telephone with a headset, e-mail, a cell phone and a Palm Pilot to communicate quickly.

"You can get inundated with information and you have to decide what's important," Allphin says.

Creativity sells. Or so it would seem, judging from marketing efforts by Hewlett-Packard, Lucent and others such as Apple Computer, which won an Emmy for its "Think Different" campaign; the telecommunications company Viatel, which proclaims, "Our only limits are in our imagination"; and Siegelgale, which claims, "ideas that transform."

"It's not just spin," says Boise State's Ruud. "But the challenge for the consumer is to separate real creativity from image: Does this university or computer or automobile really provide me with something new and better, or is it just a bunch of crap?"

Perhaps it's both. A challenge of the Information Age is that there's often endless data but little context, notes Boise State historian Todd Shallat. "You have a culture where more and more it's about image," he says.

Shallat notes that the perceptions of creative endeavor changed as goods that were hand-made by artisans in rural societies began to be mass-produced in factories. "When you link creativity to output, it changes the definition," he says. For example, instead of valuing a handmade vase, society values the fact that 1,000 vases can be produced in a single day. In university settings, creative output is sometimes measured by the quantity of papers published, not by their quality, Shallat adds.

The comic strip "Dilbert" offers a perceptive look at the contradictions between what society claims to value, and what it actually does. "Dilbert is about the homogenization of culture, how it dehumanizes us and robs us of our individuality," Shallat says. The offbeat, cynical strip is popular because it's relevant.

And the flashy, feel-good ads touting corporate creativity? Every society pines for what it doesn't have, suggests Shallat. Early Americans were desperate for culture because they felt they had little. They valued independence because they had been dependent on England. "The 1960s was called the 'peace era,' but it was a very violent time," he adds.

"Today, Americans talk a lot about the importance of creativity," Shallat says. "What does that tell you?"

DEBRA FUGAL would argue that her customers demand creativity. The '97 Boise State graduate in human resources and her husband, Lowell, own Custom Confections in Boise, a lollipop-making business. Their niche is novelty items such as "lip" lollipops, interactive pops with stickers or toys inside, and a new honey pop that can be used to sweeten teas.

"Coming up with ideas for catchy new pops and getting them on the market quickly is key to the Fugals' business success. They point to the eye-popping display of colorful candy that fills counters and wall space in their office. Every lollipop there has its own history: many were big sellers, a few missed their market. Figuring out what the public wants isn't always easy, the Fugals say.

"People quickly get bored with things. They want to know what's next," says Lowell Fugal. Adds Debra Fugal: "For today's generation, everything is instant. People expect and demand change."

That preoccupation with change will drive the creative spirit in the years ahead, predict both those in the workplace and at Boise State. And while the pressures aren't likely to ease, the consensus is that we'll find ways to adjust.

"The workplace, ultimately, reflects the state of society. If society demands creativity, then those organizations that don't respond will go under," notes Nagasundaram. But the "huge lag" between where companies are and where they're headed contributes to the Dilbert-type pressures their employees may feel, he says.

Technology can also be a double-edged sword. "We're all hiding behind that thing," says Lamb Weston's Megale, pointing at his computer. "When I'm there, I'm not selling anything. I'm not talking to customers; I'm not thinking outside the box."

Megale turns from the computer and adds, "It's still a people business. We sell more than price, we sell service and quality. The human element is still the most important."

That human spark will likely fuel changes we can't even imagine right now. Computers, after all, are just machines, notes Boise State computer science professor John Lusth, that do boring, straightforward things. "When we're freed from the mundane, we can use our creativity," Lusth says.

Just don't expect the tensions that surround creative enterprise to disappear anytime soon, warns Shallat. "Creating is aggressive, contentious and challenging," he says. "That doesn't go to change." ☐
WIELAND: WRITING SURFACES FROM MYSTERIOUS DEPTHS

By Justin Endow

Creative writing professor Mitch Wieland knows when he is in "the zone."

His mind and body unconsciously work in concert. He strives for a kind of perfection to which some highly gifted athletes can relate but rarely summon.

Unlike those professional superstars, Wieland is not sinking clutch three-pointers or orchestrating game-winning drives. He feels the zone when he's immersed in the creation of fiction.

"It's almost like hypnosis," says Wieland, who has published a number of short stories, the novel Willy Slater's Lane, and currently is sending a second novel to the New York publishing houses. "I start working, and after a certain amount of time, I drop back into the fictional world, into an unconscious state."

He says that the resulting creativity doesn't just happen. "It's not necessarily a matter of the muse striking. I just have to set myself down to what I'm working on. It's odd in that it's almost workmanlike."

In fact, it's so much so that he likens writing to the repetitive practice of the martial arts. Students in both disciplines practice craft and technique until those mechanisms become involuntary components of their styles and abilities.

"That's not to say that he isn't affected by inspiration. He notes that a story he recently had published came to him in paragraphs. And those story chunks would strike at any moment."

"The story almost forced itself on me, Wieland says. "It's in the third person, but the voice is very aggressive, and I felt it very deeply. I found myself taking down passages on whatever I had available and then punching them into the computer later."

The result was "Beware the Pale Horse Comes Riding," a story that, unlike most of his past works, largely preserves many of his first creative impulses. The story's voice, its rhythms, even many of the original sentences survived his red pen.

But inspiration doesn't often strike Wieland like an unexpected roundhouse kick. "I'm inspired to write through reading. The perfect work of art makes me want to try the same thing."

And when he does, he doesn't rely on the muse or consciously try to drag out the words. He just writes.

"Writing is how I tap into the depth of a story," he says. "Good fiction comes from somewhere deeper and mysterious. Because of that, I think storywriting is about discovery."

HANSEN: POSITIVE VIBES SPARK HER CREATIVITY

By Patricia Pyke

Marla Hansen says her best choreography emerges when she lets go of her conscious plans and allows ideas to flow uninhibited.

"A lot of times, I will tell my brain, 'This needs to happen, now go do it,'" she says. "I just open the door. I let the unconscious ideas come forth and just simply say, 'Now OK, you can come on out.'"

Hansen, co-artistic director of the Idaho Dance Theatre and an associate professor who directs the dance program in Boise State's theatre arts department, says ideas often hit her unexpectedly.

Last season for Idaho Dance Theatre's "Art Attack," she choreographed a dance piece to Shakespearean sonnets with only voice accompaniment by Idaho Shakespeare Festival performers Carol Whiteleather and Richard Klautsch.

Coming up with the idea of dancing to sonnets "was such a bizarre thing," says Hansen. "I was standing in the hall talking with Ann Klautsch and Richard. I literally don't know where the idea came from but I said, 'Why don't we do something with the sonnets?' It just popped into my brain."

Hansen nurtures her creative side by feeding her soul. Some ways she keeps her psyche inspired are through reading a huge variety of books and magazines, listening to every kind of music imaginable, communing with nature, spending time alone when she's beginning a new project, exchanging ideas with people, dreaming vividly while sleeping and embracing happiness.

When she choreographs, Hansen doesn't mind having other people in the room, particularly if they share her enthusiasm. However, she says, "When I'm actually in the creative process, in the studio for example, I can't have a lot of negative energy or distractions." If she feels people are exuding negative vibes, even unintentionally, she'll ask them to wait outside.

Focusing on preconceived notions about what a dance should be or worrying how well it will fit with the rest of the show also stifle creativity for Hansen.

"There can't be any inhibition to create in dance, at least not for me," she says.
DEVER: CREATIVITY IN THE KITCHEN IS HER PASSION

By Bob Evancho

From Kelli Dever's perspective, creating a gourmet meal is similar to putting on a concert.

Like the musical virtuoso who feeds off an appreciative audience, reaches down deep within his or her inner self and puts on a boffo show, the gourmet chef is, in a sense, performing, says the Boise State culinary arts instructor.

And the chef who skillfully prepares and presents an elaborate spread can derive the same kind of exhilaration in the kitchen as the musician does onstage.

"Being a chef has to do with pleasing an audience," says Dever. "There is the adrenaline rush that comes with being creative with food, welcoming guests into the restaurant, providing them with a dining experience — rather than just eating — and receiving lots of kudos for your work."

Dever knows the feeling; she has traveled worldwide thanks to her culinary skills. And it's her passion for food that begets her creativity.

Consider, for example, Dever's take on bread. Standard fare? A dietary staple of cultures worldwide? One of the most basic foods there is?

Not from Dever's viewpoint. Baking bread, she declares, is a universal art form, an intricate union between science and creativity.

"There are only four main ingredients in bread," she says. "But looking at all the varieties of bread and how you can manipulate other ingredients is a creative process."

"A lot of times during some classes, my students will say, 'Oh, chef, why are you getting excited about this? It's just bread.' But bread is a lifeline to so many cultures. And knowing the history of a dish, whether it's bread or an entire meal, and understanding the functions of the ingredients allows you to put more passion and heart into your cooking."

Her most creative dish? It wasn't a dish, Dever replies, but a job she took on a private yacht in South America.

"I wasn't planning on taking it, but a week later there I was, cooking 12-course dinners with local ingredients I was totally unfamiliar with," she says. "I never planned a menu until I'd get to the grocery store because I didn't know what kind of ingredients I'd be working with."

"Now that was creative." □

PARKINSON: MUSIC TRANSPORTS HIM TO UNEXPECTED PLACES

By Janelle Brown

There are moments on stage when concert pianist Del Parkinson surprises even himself.

"During a performance, when it's working right, the music can carry me away," says Parkinson, a Boise State music professor. "It's like time no longer exists, sitting on a piano bench no longer exists. I really get transported. That's when it's magic."

It's hard to predict when those transcendent moments will occur, says Parkinson, a prolific performer and former Fulbright Scholar who has soloed with the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, the Utah Symphony and the Boise Philharmonic, released two CDs, and given countless recitals, including his debut at the Carnegie Recital Hall in New York City.

"You have to be open and confident of where you are in the creative process," Parkinson says. "If there's any rigidity, there is no magical moment."

Parkinson frees himself for artistic expression through disciplined preparation. "I can't do anything creatively until I have learned the music absolutely correctly," he says. "I can't be thinking about which finger should play the next note."

Parkinson doesn't listen to other artist's recordings until his own performance is well-developed. But he does visit art museums and attend performing arts events, as a way to expand his vision of the creative process.

"I also play in perhaps a dozen homes with an invited audience. That's where I work out the kinks," Parkinson says.

Still, nothing prepares one for performing like performance itself. When Parkinson walks on stage, he's ready to go anywhere the music leads. Sometimes, it's to places he's never been before.

"I was a soloist in Gershwin's Concerto in F with the Boise Philharmonic last year. The whole opening of the piece was a surprise to me," says Parkinson.

"I can't explain exactly how that happens," he adds. "But when it does, it's wonderful." □
HOLES: POET FINDS INSPIRATION IN EVERYDAY LIFE

By Janelle Brown

anet Holmes is well aware of the mystique that surrounds poetry writing — but she doesn't buy it.

"Poetry, of all the arts, has this reputation that the muse descends and you're transported. But that's not my way of doing it," says the Boise State English professor and prize-winning poet. "If I waited for just the right moment, I'd probably write about one poem a year."

Holmes writes most days, regardless of how inspired she feels. Judging by her growing national reputation, it's an approach that works. Holmes is the recipient of a number of national poetry awards, including the 1999 Chad Walsh Poetry Prize and the 1999 Ernest Sandeen Prize from the University of Notre Dame Press for her book, The Green Tuxedo. Two other volumes of her poems have also been published, with another scheduled to come out next year.

Holmes finds ideas for her poetry in everyday occurrences, in interactions with others and in teaching her students. "I write poetry to find out what I think about things," she says. "I'm not sure I could quit writing, because that would be like quitting to have an opinion about the world."

She composes at a computer. It's anything but effortless. "Poetry has this abracadabra reputation. My students are surprised to find that it is actually hard work," she says.

Holmes' latest work-in-progress is called "2f" — Internet jargon for face-to-face. In her book-length poem, Holmes explores how "seeing" complicates relationships. It's a theme as ancient as the myth of Echo and Narcissus and as contemporary as today's growing reliance on e-mail. Holmes hopes to publish both in print and in the Hypertext format used on the Internet — a nod to the changing ways our society gets information.

"I think the premises for poetry have to change," says Holmes. "The attention span of young people is much shorter. We can't stay with old paradigms. As creative artists, we can't write something like 'The Prelude' now — we need to find ways to adapt."

Holmes relishes the challenges of striking out in new directions. "The creative struggle doesn't have words to express it," she says. "We invent our own voices." □

FINDING THE MUSE

"I write poetry to find out what I think about things," says Holmes.

KLAUTSCH LOSES HIMSELF TO FIND A CHARACTER

By Julie Howard

or Richard Klautsch, the magic moment hits when he forgets everything he's ever learned, all the lines he's memorized and even his own name.

At that instant, he becomes the imaginary character whose part he plays on stage, and the imaginary world becomes his reality.

"The work becomes so extraordinary by its effortlessness," says Klautsch, chair of Boise State's department of theatre arts and a frequent principal actor in the Idaho Shakespeare Festival.

Klautsch says those moments are rare and come after hours and hours of uninspiring and rote practice. "All the practice you do — the memorizing of lines, learning the blocking, changing your mannerisms and attending rehearsals — it's all done for one purpose: so you can literally forget it all."

While it all might sound like "practice makes perfect," Klautsch says creating an artistic moment on stage is a much more spiritual process than that. Nothing takes the place of rehearsals, but the impact of inspiration and passion can't be measured.

His most inspired moment? "I had my back to the audience and had no lines to deliver," he recalls, of a moment during last fall's Faculty Showcase production of The Zoo Story, performed with assistant theatre arts professor Gordon Reinhart.

"We had rehearsed for months and explored the play so much. We knew the play and trusted each other as actors ... often I felt lost in the world of that play. One night in particular I had to listen to his character tell a story. I became so engrossed in the story, as though I had never heard it before. At that moment, I felt like an artist."

While performing Shakespeare is a favorite of Klautsch's, he often struggles to find his muse while onstage at the Idaho Shakespeare Festival.

"It's daylight the first hour or so of the performance and you can see the audience clearly," he says. "It's not so much the audience eating their picnic or talking, it's the subtle things like someone dropping their head into their hands or getting up to go to the bathroom in the middle of a speech."

At those moments, he says, it's difficult not to be totally aware that one is an actor on the stage who may or may not be succeeding in drawing the audience into the magic of the theater. □
SHURTLEFF: LIFE’S COMPLEXITIES ARE HER ARTWORK

By Patricia Pyke

or artist Cheryl Shurtleff, even the most mundane objects—a potato plant or a souvenir comb from Florida—can reveal insights about tragedy, illness and other life complexities.

“Being creative is being able to take two things that are remote or distant from one another and bring them together in such a way that you create new meaning,” says Shurtleff, an art professor who has taught at Boise State for 22 years and whose work has been exhibited in numerous galleries from Los Angeles to Washington, D.C., including at the Smithsonian Institution. Some of her intricate graphite drawings are on exhibit through mid-July at the Stewart Gallery in Boise.

By juxtaposing opposite images, Shurtleff crafts a metaphorical language in her drawings to pursue understanding of personal challenges and other human experiences.

JAIN: COMPUTERS PROVIDE PLENTY OF CREATIVE CHALLENGE

By Bob Evancho

When Boise State computer science professor Amit Jain has a burst of creativity, he often needs a break to clear his head.

An expert in a process called “parallel computing,” Jain conducts research that seeks ways to use multiple computers simultaneously for a single task. It’s challenging and rewarding work that requires a creative mind, he says; it’s also a complicated undertaking that can take its toll on one’s staying power.

When you try to conjure up creative ways to apply parallel computing to a certain project “it usually means you’re going to end up with a headache,” says Jain.

To renew his focus and keep his creative juices flowing, Jain says it’s necessary to periodically distance himself from the project at hand — even if the respite is brief.

“When you’re dealing with a problem, what you need to do is walk away, go play tennis or something, and often you have an idea when you come back,” he says. “Like

A few years ago while in Florida, she bought a souvenir plastic comb with a head and tail like an alligator. At home in Boise some months later, for no particular reason she put the comb on paper and traced it.

“The teeth on the alligator for some reason looked really vicious,” she says.

As she pondered the savagery of animals, a spark ignited and she suddenly realized counterproductive to creativity. “The connections just come as I’m living my life,” she says. She nurtures her creativity by keeping her senses open.

“The little details about life’s common objects are full of surprises,” she says. “We tend to want to spend our life thinking about things we designate as important. I designate everything as important, everything as a possibility.”

Jain says his work in computer science requires considerable creativity.

you still have to do the grunt work and check it out. Initially, you get excited, but these ideas often fail.”

Nothing a round of tennis can’t help.
Just the Facts?

Is an overemphasis on standards curtailing classroom creativity?

By Bob Evancho

‘When you look for conformity, you are squelching creativity.’

Children enter school as question marks, the adage goes, and leave as periods. While this may seem like a rather harsh indictment of America’s schools, it isn’t totally without merit, say some education experts.

Call it self-expression, independent thinking, using the right brain or viewing things “outside the box,” efforts to foster creativity, critics claim, are somehow being neglected while our children proceed through the educational system.

It’s not intentional, says Boise State teacher education professor Audrey Rule. There’s no conspiracy to make our children dull and unimaginative. But all too often, she contends, methods designed to stimulate creativity in America’s K-12 classrooms are an afterthought — pushed aside by rigid, rote, standards-driven learning that claims to promote academic success but actually impedes the imagination.

Rule is among many educators nationwide who claim that America’s schools rely too heavily on standardized testing, competitive grading and an
emphasis on memorizing facts to determine students' academic abilities.

"I don't object to standards, especially the ones specifying problem solving and inquiry approaches in math and science," says Rule. But an overemphasis on standards, she asserts, creates a timeframe that expects all the kids in one classroom to learn certain lessons at the same speed.

"Because of that, teachers are under pressure to force-feed the children facts, although that is not the intent of standards," Rule continues. "The intent is to make sure everybody is taught well and gets the skills they need." But in Rule's opinion, it often doesn't work that way.

"Some educators wrongly interpret the intent of the standards and want to mandate that everyone in the fifth week of first grade should do a particular lesson for 20 minutes or be on a specific page of their textbooks," she says. "That, in my view, is totally wrong and ignores any kind of individual development." Rule's fellow Boise State teacher education professor Larry Rogien agrees.

"The standards movement wants to have the same outcomes for all students," he says. "That stifles creativity; it tells teachers there is one way to teach, and one set of materials to be put in kids' heads. I see where administrators and legislators view high achievement test scores as the No. 1 mark of a successful school, but that tends not to be correlated at all with creativity."

Such academic practices, says Rogien, seek academic conformity. "And when you look for conformity, you are squelching creativity," he adds.

But two of the three educators who run the Boise School District's Peer Assistance Program don't see it that way. Chris Neibrand and Robin Holmes, both of whom have master's in education degrees from Boise State, admit that standards are sometimes controversial, but they serve a necessary function.

"School districts nationwide are focusing on exiting standards and high-stakes testing based on the public's demand for accountability," says Neibrand, the program's director for secondary education, "and because of that I don't think standards are going to go away."

"I don't think education is alone in the predicament with accountability," adds Holmes, who specializes in elementary education. "In all areas of society we want to know what kind of service we're getting and if we're getting what we're paying for. We have lots of measures of accountability in education, and that can be good. But it can also foster instruction that does not focus on creativity."

Nevertheless, both Neibrand and Holmes say standards and creativity are not mutually exclusive. "I think it's entirely possible for teachers to be extremely creative and still meet the objectives of those standards," says Neibrand. "For example, there might be a test that would attempt to measure students' proficiency in identifying parts of speech. The teacher might create games or projects that would have the students demonstrate knowledge of parts of speech in creative ways."

Tammy Bragg, a first-grade teacher at Garfield Elementary in Boise, divides the week between structured learning and creative exercises. While Bragg says she does her best to nurture her students' creativity, she recognizes that they have to meet certain criteria to advance academically.

"Sure it would be fun to be creative all the time and not worry about test scores," says Bragg, a Boise State elementary education graduate, "but that's not going to happen. You're caught between a rock and a hard place when you have to meet certain standards while trying to foster creativity at the same time."

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"I don't object to standards, especially the ones specifying problem solving and inquiry approaches in math and science," says Rule. But an overemphasis on standards, she asserts, creates a timeframe that expects all the kids in one classroom to learn certain lessons at the same speed.

"Because of that, teachers are under pressure to force-feed the children facts, although that is not the intent of standards," Rule continues. "The intent is to make sure everybody is taught well and gets the skills they need." But in Rule's opinion, it often doesn't work that way.

"Some educators wrongly interpret the intent of the standards and want to mandate that everyone in the fifth week of first grade should do a particular lesson for 20 minutes or be on a specific page of their textbooks," she says. "That, in my view, is totally wrong and ignores any kind of individual development." Rule's fellow Boise State teacher education professor Larry Rogien agrees.

"The standards movement wants to have the same outcomes for all students," he says. "That stifles creativity; it tells teachers that there is one way to teach, and one set of materials to be put in kids' heads. I see where administrators and legislators view high achievement test scores as the No. 1 mark of a successful school, but that tends not to be correlated at all with creativity." Such academic practices, says Rogien, seek academic conformity. "And when you look for conformity, you are squelching creativity," he adds.

But two of the three educators who run the Boise School District's Peer Assistance Program don't see it that way. Chris Neibrand and Robin Holmes, both of whom have master's in education degrees from Boise State, admit that standards are sometimes controversial, but they serve a necessary function.

"School districts nationwide are focusing on exiting standards and high-stakes testing based on the public's demand for accountability," says Neibrand, the program's director for secondary education, "and because of that I don't think standards are going to go away."

"I don't think education is alone in the predicament with accountability," adds Holmes, who specializes in elementary education. "In all areas of society we want to know what kind of service we're getting and if we're getting what we're paying for. We have lots of measures of accountability in education, and that can be good. But it can also foster instruction that does not focus on creativity."

Nevertheless, both Neibrand and Holmes say standards and creativity are not mutually exclusive. "I think it's entirely possible for teachers to be extremely creative and still meet the objectives of those standards," says Neibrand. "For example, there might be a test that would attempt to measure students' proficiency in identifying parts of speech. The teacher might create games or projects that would have the students demonstrate knowledge of parts of speech in creative ways."

Tammy Bragg, a first-grade teacher at Garfield Elementary in Boise, divides the week between structured learning and creative exercises. While Bragg says she does her best to nurture her students' creativity, she recognizes that they have to meet certain criteria to advance academically.

"Sure it would be fun to be creative all the time and not worry about test scores," says Bragg, a Boise State elementary education graduate, "but that's not going to happen. You're caught between a rock and a hard place when you have to meet certain standards while trying to foster creativity at the same time."
Making Sense of Science

Creative approach leads to new perspectives and discoveries

By Dewey Dykstra

Science is about making sensible, useful explanations of the phenomena of the world around us. This is a fundamentally creative act. While scientists have invested much personal time in developing their skills, their thinking is essentially a refinement of something we all are born with. Making sense of the world around us is a basic capability of all human beings. Please consider these two vignettes about the "science" we learn.

Imagine that you are presented with a lens and an unfrosted light bulb with a brightly glowing, shaped filament. Both are arranged so that a bright, crisp image of the filament appears on a nearby flat surface. What do you think would happen to the image on the screen when the top half of the lens is covered by an opaque card?

Please stop and search your own personal ideas. Make a sketch of what you think happens and describe it in words. Make some notes about why your answer seems reasonable. Compare your ideas with a friend, if possible.

Now imagine that when you actually try this demonstration, instead of half of the image disappearing, the whole image remains but gets a bit dimmer. Do your notions about light rays, lenses and images explain or support what seems to have happened? Are you curious about what is going on here?

For the next example, imagine you have before you a small seed from a maple tree, and a large piece of wood split from the tree's trunk. Where do you suppose all the matter that the tree is made of comes from? What is it made of?

Please stop reading again and think of what answer makes sense to you and why. It may help to think about where the matter comes from that a tree uses to grow and not about processes that might make this possible. Again, compare your ideas with a friend, if possible.

As it turns out, 300 or so years ago a fellow by the name of von Helmut took a large pot of soil, dried the soil and weighed it. Then he planted a willow in the pot and took care of the plant while it grew for five years. At the end of this time he carefully removed the plant, separating it from the soil, and then dried and weighed the soil. He also weighed the plant. He found that while the plant had gained 170 pounds, the soil lost only two or three ounces. If the plant doesn't come from the soil, then is it mostly water? What else could it be? Are you curious about what is going on here?

Sadly, just about all of us were taught about light rays in school. We've all seen the picture of the sun or a light bulb with straight lines radiating out from the surface and read or heard something to the effect that light rays go out in all directions. We have all been taught about plants and photosynthesis. Yet, most of us are unprepared to explain the outcome of these simple demonstrations that do not match our predictions most of us made quite comfortably and confidently. It is not a matter of "knowing the facts," but a matter of having encountered similar discrepancies and having created for ourselves new or modified explanations to account for them.

Earlier in the 20th century it was noticed that babes-in-arms apparently figure out the concept that objects continue to exist even when not directly perceived. They are not born with this concept. Since the beginning of humankind, children have been figuring out what language is and learning one without having anyone to explain it to them because they have no language to start
CREATIVITY
(Continued from P. 25)

She also disagrees with the criticism that too many teachers are overly concerned about making sure their students meet standards and pay little if any attention to creativity.

"I think most of us try to foster creativity when we can," she says. "It's a real balancing act, but that's part of the challenge. I'd hate my job if I couldn't be creative; I think most of us feel that way,"

But Boise State teacher education professor Robert Bahruth contends that not enough teachers are flexible enough to encourage creativity in their classrooms. And from his perspective, an even bigger problem than standardized testing is competitive grading and the need to memorize facts to get good grades.

"An 'A' has nothing to do with creative thinking," he says. "An 'A' has to do with how well you please the teacher. It's a conformity issue."

Bahruth maintains that the need to assign grades stifles creativity, victimizing students and teachers as well. "It's a one-size-fits-all kind of learning, and in my opinion neither the teacher nor the student benefits."

The emphasis on memorization, says Bahruth, robs students of the opportunity to contemplate their ideas critically or to discuss them in the classroom. "What you get are identical products that conform, that don't question authority and don't deviate from the instruction given," asserts Bahruth. "How can anyone be creative in that kind of atmosphere? Learning and being creative should be about asking good questions rather than looking for the 'official' right answer."

Rule agrees. "It's that very rigid, we-all-do-everything-at-the-same-time approach that kills creativity and kills curiosity," she says. "Of course you have to have a curriculum. But the application of what exactly a teacher chooses to use and how he or she decides to implement the curriculum should be guided by what is in the best interest of the students."

Another reason why kids seem less creative as they grow older is the simple maturation process of a young human being — where an impressionable first-grader grows up, develops social skills, begins to comprehend life's realities and gradually develops into an eighth-grader who views the world with less wide-eyed wonder. It's further proof why schools and teachers should not have to shoulder all the blame for the perception that many students lack creative impact, says the Boise School District's Holmes.

"Young children, especially kindergarten age and below, have a less clear distinction between reality and fantasy," she says.

Therefore, they are more likely to be creative and share their thoughts because they don't have the sense that their peers are sitting there, ready to pounce on their "stupid ideas."

But as youngsters mature, they begin to put limits on themselves and become sensitive to other kids' feedback. "Seventh- and eighth-graders still have very vivid imaginations," Holmes says. "But they are more careful of what they say because they imagine a peer audience."

So how does a teacher foster creativity among his or her students — especially those in the higher grades?

"By having activities that give students ownership," responds Rule. "Sure they have to have some skills, but they need to make choices."

"By allowing students choices," replies Rogien. "But by giving them choices that allow them to demonstrate knowledge."

And exercise creativity.
SUCCESS A GOOD BET FOR THIS FUTURE VET

By Sherry Squires

When Joel Davis completed his education at Boise State University, it marked a personal milestone for both him and his teacher, mentor and friend — his mother.

Davis, who was homeschooled since he was in the fourth grade, completed his studies in biology this spring and was one of only 36 students accepted into the Oregon State University College of Veterinary Medicine for fall 2000.

His mother, Zina Greer, ran her own sewing business so she could homeschool Joel and his three siblings. Davis says the many sacrifices that his single mother made instilled in him a strong work ethic and the values that helped him succeed.

“It taught me a lot of perseverance and respect, and that if you want to get things done, you have to work hard,” he says. “I am a Christian and I believe that God directs us in our lives. I know God opens doors.”

Greer says it was those same strong Christian beliefs that held her family together during difficult times. Davis lived at home for all five years of college so that he could save money and help his family.

“You couldn’t find a more devoted son,” she says. “I always told him that he wasn’t my husband, that he didn’t have to carry this burden. But he was the kind of kid who did.”

Davis will leave home for the first time this fall to pursue a career that he’s sure he’ll enjoy. Davis says he has always loved working with animals.

“Things worked out for me,” he says. “I’m going to go study hard and become a veterinarian.”

FOCUS/SUMMER 2000
Aminda Smith is not concerned about the limited number of options for someone with a Ph.D. in East Asian studies and Chinese history.

All that matters to her is the process of earning that degree.

“If I knew I wasn’t going to find a job when I’m done, I’d still get the Ph.D.,” says Smith. “I find a lot of value in the process of academic study.”

She will have ample time and opportunity to pursue her love of learning. Smith recently was awarded a fellowship to Princeton University to work for hero of learning. Smith says Smith has an undergraduate program. History professor Shelton Woods inspired Smith to focus on East Asia and

China. She always had been interested in the length and constancy of China’s history and culture, but Woods’ course “History of Eastern Civilizations” heightened her enthusiasm.

“He makes history an emotional experience,” Smith says. “I discovered this whole fascinating world in Chinese history and culture. Dr. Woods painted such a vivid picture.”

Now, after working on research grants, presenting papers at academic conferences and working as a teaching assistant for both Woods and history professor Nick Casner, she is preparing to become a Shelton Woods-like professor to future students interested in East Asia.

“I’m so glad I came to Boise State,” says Smith. “I had professors all the way through who were interested in teaching. I got to know my instructors very well, and they provided the opportunities to study outside the classroom. I hope to do the same for others.”

Larry Quisel started wrestling when he was 6 years old. He eventually wrestled his way to a scholarship to Boise State.

And in May, after a highly successful athletic career, the 23-year-old traded in his years on the mat for a civil engineering degree and a promising future.

Finishing second in the 157-pound division, Quisel helped lead the Bronco wrestling team to a 12th-place finish at the NCAA National Championships in March. His runner-up finish gave Quisel All-American honors for the second straight year. Thanks partly to Quisel, the Broncos had their most successful wrestling season ever and earned their first Pac-10 wrestling title.

Quisel appeared at the NCAA Championships four times, placing third at nationals in 1999 in addition to his second-place finish this year after a narrow loss in the final match to a wrestler from the University of Pennsylvania.

Quisel says wrestling has always been his outlet and his passion. It made him be self-disciplined. It made him work hard.

After practice he remembers wrestling with his tired body and mind to convince himself to crack open the books.

He says wrestling meets often required him to miss class, so he had to struggle to keep up and to succeed academically.

His effort paid off. Quisel is now employed with a general contracting firm, and will put his newly acquired education to work this summer on engineering projects in southern Idaho.

While he will miss the challenges wrestling brought, he won’t miss the time it took. “I accomplished everything I wanted to accomplish in wrestling,” he says. “Now I’m looking forward to doing other things in my life.”
MAKING THE GRADE FROM THE MOTOR CITY

By Bob Evancho

Two thousand miles is a long way to come just to pick up a diploma. But for Detroit resident Sam Doyle, there was never any doubt that he would participate in the university's May 13 commencement and formally receive his master's degree in instructional and performance technology (IPT).

Besides, he wanted to meet his professors and classmates — most of them for the first time.

Thanks to the IPT's distance-learning option, Doyle is now among the program's growing number of graduates who have earned their master's via computer conferencing — an online process that allows students to enroll in the program, "attend" classes at their convenience, study wherever they can take a laptop computer and complete the program from anywhere in the world. In fact, of the 34 IPT graduates from the Class of 2000, Doyle and 17 others went the distance-learning route.

So on the day before he received his degree, Doyle set foot on the Boise State campus for the first time. He says distance was no deterrent.

"I'm here to get that sheepskin," he says with a smile. "I worked too hard for this to not come and get it."

Doyle says he considers Boise State's IPT program tailor-made for someone in his profession. "Honestly, it was the most rewarding educational experience I have ever had," he says. "I was able to collaborate not only with the Boise State professors, but also with fellow students — people in my line of work — from all over the world.

"The program is designed to facilitate adult learners with the understanding that students in this program are self-motivated. It was an unbelievable amount of work, but it was worth it.

Just like his trip to Boise."

REPORTER SHOWS SHE HAS THE WRITE STUFF

By Sherry Squires

It took playing in rock bands, managing a restaurant and a plethora of potential majors, but today Kendra Martinez feels good about where she is.

"It took me 16 years to get my degree," she says. "But that was just me trying to find my niche."

Martinez earned her communications/journalism degree from Boise State in December 1999. She is now working as a reporter for The Idaho Statesman.

But there was nothing direct about the path she took to get there.

After finishing high school in 1984, Martinez attended Idaho State University for a year before leaving to start a rock band in Pocatello. Then she managed a restaurant. Then she moved to Boise and started an all-female rock band.

While taking classes at Boise State, she shuffled between majors in preveterinary studies, economics, pre-med, business and pre-law. She was in and out of school. She was on academic probation for two years.

But, "When I got to the communication department at Boise State, it felt like home," she says. So she stayed a while.

"Communication classes made me think beyond myself, to examine issues from a different perspective."

Martinez' grades improved and she found lasting friends in her college professors.

She began working as a night clerk at The Idaho Statesman in 1996. After registering for a community reporting class at Boise State, she was invited by an editor to work as a neighborhood reporter, writing feature stories for the paper.

She is currently the western Ada County reporter for the Statesman.

"I found what I enjoy doing," she says. "I enjoy talking to different people, hearing their stories."
**Fiddler on the Move Heads to Texas**

*By Sherry Squires*

Her "fiddle friends" thought she was crazy. Her college professors were skeptical of a fiddler who wanted to study classical music.

But Roberta Rast bridged the two music forms. And the music/business graduate will take both with her this summer as she heads to Austin, Texas, to pursue her passion.

Rast began playing the fiddle when she was 5 and took lessons until she was in junior high school. She went on to win several national titles in the junior and young adult divisions. But she couldn't see much of a future for a fiddler in collegiate-

**Determination Overcomes Disability**

*By Justin Endow*

One October day in 1995 Dominik Brueckner was swimming, diving and running on a Mediterranean beach. But after one fateful dive, he was paralyzed from the chest down.

His backbone was broken in two places. An experimental new procedure was his best hope for repairing his fractured first vertebra and regaining use of his arms and hands. It required him to lie motionless for 10 weeks, followed by months of grueling rehabilitation.

The procedure worked. Since then, these memories are nothing more than images of the distant past. Today Brueckner focuses only on his future.

"It was tough to find out that I would be unable to move at all for 10 weeks," says Brueckner, a university Top Ten scholar. "But it gave me time to let my situation sink in. By the time I got out, I was so happy that I was able to do things again I didn't even think about being in a wheelchair."

It's that attitude toward his life that has given Brueckner, 24, the resolve and courage to accomplish so much. Less than a year after he was released from the hospital, he made plans to study in the United States for a year.

In August 1997, Brueckner, who is fluent in five languages, traveled from Saarbruecken, Germany, to Boise State, the school he determined would be his best financial choice.

He chose to pursue English literature and environmental studies. He got involved in campus organizations and activities. As the 1997-98 school year concluded, he decided to finish his degree in Boise.

"I think that was one of the best decisions I ever made," he says. "I've had so many opportunities at Boise State."

Opportunities he created for himself. He was a member of both university national honor societies, the English honor society, the International Student Association and the Alternative Mobility Seekers. He also wrote a weekly movie review column for the student newspaper.

And next fall, he'll take his love for film to San Francisco State University, where he will begin an intensive master's program in film studies. Brueckner will be tackling his third major transition in five years, but to him, it is the unknown that makes life interesting.

"I will always cherish my experiences at Boise State," he says. "But I'm looking forward to new challenges and new experiences too."
Almost nothing strikes terror in parents' hearts more than the fear their children might become victims of a sexual predator. Identifying such risks to children is one of the goals of a Boise State research project, funded by a grant from the offices of the Idaho governor and attorney general.

Headed by criminal justice professor and department chairman Robert Marsh, the research team has scoured county courthouses throughout Idaho and uncovered some startling data about who is abusing Idaho children.

"We seem to think that the risk to our children is someone coming in a car saying, 'Hey little girl, or little boy, hop in my car,'" says Marsh. "In reality, there are very, very few strangers who have been involved in sex offenses."

The predators to worry about are "people who have what I call legitimate access to our children," says Marsh, referring to data showing most child victims are abused by people they know, such as neighbors or family friends.

Marsh points to a chart showing that in cases prosecuted between July 1998 and June 1999, 41 percent of adult abusers were acquaintances, 5 percent were natural parents, 8 percent were stepparents and 11 percent were other relatives. Strangers were the abusers in less than 5 percent of cases. Two percent of abusers were listed as "other," and in 28 percent of cases the relationship was unknown.

Since the project began in 1992, the team has collected data on about 3,000 prosecuted cases of child sexual abuse. Marsh, professor emeritus Ted Hopfenbeck and several graduate students annually visit county courthouses throughout Idaho to collect information. Sociology professor Steven Patrick analyzes the data.

Knowing who is abusing children, the sentences imposed by judges, the recidivism rate and other details gives lawmakers a solid foundation from which to make recommendations. Gov. Dirk Kempthorne and Attorney General Alan Lance review the data, add comments and present it to the state Legislature, which mandated the report.

This legislative session Marsh appeared before the Senate Judiciary and Rules Committee to answer questions. Deputy Attorney General William von Tagen says he is not aware of any other state that prepares such a detailed annual report to guide policymakers.

"It is really a tremendous service," says Marsh's report has revealed startling data on who is abusing Idaho's children.
von Tagen. He says the data provided valuable information when the Legislature rewrote Idaho's sex offender registration law in 1998. "I believe this [report] gave the attorney general's task force and the Legislature ... the background they needed to discuss the matter intelligently," he says.

The new law requires yearly registration of convicted sex offenders, replacing the old one-time system. The registry is now more accessible to the public.

The law also allows certain offenders the opportunity to have their names removed from the list if they can demonstrate that they are no longer a risk to society. Those offenders might include those who were convicted as teens or young adults of illegal, but consensual, sexual activities.

The Boise State study identifies a significant number of teenagers, usually males, involved with teenage victims, usually females, of similar age, says Marsh. The report brings to light this gray area of illegal, but sometimes consensual, teenage sex. Von Tagen said the Legislature may address this issue in the future.

Idaho's revised sex offender registration law stemmed from a federal mandate patterned after a New Jersey law enacted after 7-year-old Megan Kanka was raped and murdered in 1994 by a twice-convicted sex offender living in her neighborhood.

"Megan's Law was passed based on the behavior of a serious pedophile," says Marsh. "It was an atypical event."

Marsh reiterates that most abusers are not predatory murderers or on any registry, but rather are people who have existing relationships with their victims. Ninety percent of adult abusers in last year's data had no prior sex offense convictions.

Marsh and von Tagen say parents may have the most effective tool to protect their children — vigilance. "I think the real message is that parents know who their children are spending time with," says von Tagen.

How harshly sex offenders should be punished and whether they are capable of rehabilitation are hotly debated, emotion-laden topics among lawmakers and activist groups nationwide.

"There's no correlation between the length and harshness of the sentence and whether people recidivate or not," says Marsh. He has collected studies showing that intensive, scientifically based treatment programs, which include victim restitution and extensive physiological and psychological therapies, can improve the odds that certain sex offenders can re-enter society as law-abiding citizens.

Idaho law allows judges latitude in sentencing convicted abusers to prison, rehabilitation, parole, other programs or some combination of those.

"I think this state, in many ways, is a lot more aggressive than people think," says Marsh regarding Idaho's child sexual abuse policies and prosecutions. "The Legislature and executive branch have shown good judgment in doing this [report]."

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FOCUS/SUMMER 2000 33
THORSEN TRAINS TEACHERS TO ENHANCE ED VIA TECHNOLOGY

By Julie Howard

You can't install computers in classrooms and expect teachers to use them. Not without training.

That's where Carolyn Thorsen, Boise State's director of technology programs for the College of Education, comes in.

With a $1.1 million federal grant and an annual $500,000 matching grant from state and local entities, Thorsen directs a program that provides technical training for educators throughout several Idaho school districts. Teachers learn about presentation software, word processing, databases and the Internet, as well as how to use computers to enhance lessons.

The concept behind the three-year project is to train a cadre of teachers who can return to their schools to serve as trainers for other teachers. "Train the Trainer" and other programs are responsible for training more than 6,000 Idaho teachers.

Thorsen has followed up by writing a series of five books, to be published by Allyn & Bacon in 2001, that walk teachers through the process of using technology in teaching.

"I'd walk by classrooms and people were still using overhead projectors," says Thorsen of the brainstorm that led to her grant proposal.

"Once a day, a teacher came shooting out of her classroom and said she needed an overhead projector to continue her lesson. Thorsen directs a project that provides technical training for Idaho educators.

"Technology in teaching is effective, but so few people have had the training that, at this point, technology is not being used effectively as a tool," says Thorsen. "This type of training is as important as infrastructure." 

BIOLOGIST STUDIES PLANT SPECIES FOUND ONLY IN HAWAII

By Janelle Brown

Biology professor Jim Smith's research may take him to the tropical paradise of Hawaii — but you'd never mistake his scientific expeditions for a tourist's vacation.

Instead of joining the hordes on the islands' fabled beaches, Smith heads straight for the rugged backcountry. He climbs past waterfalls, scrambles over boulders, sloughs through streams and makes his way through dense brush, all in search of elusive flowering plants called Cyrtandra.

Smith, who specializes in plant systematics and evolution, wants to trace the evolutionary history of the shrub-like plants with small white flowers that are part of the African violet family. The National Geographic Society funds his project.

"Most people who visit Hawaii never see Cyrtandra," Smith says. "They're found only in undisturbed areas. Finding them usually involves some very difficult hiking."

While varieties of the plant are found throughout the Pacific, a large number of individual species — 58 at last count — are found only in Hawaii. What makes Cyrtandra particularly unusual is that the large number of hybrids, Smith says. Hybrids occur when two different species produce an offspring.

"You'd think that if hybridization is so common, Cyrtandra would blend back together to only a few species," Smith says. "But in Hawaii, that hasn't happened."

Smith collects leaves from plants in Hawaii and brings them back to his Boise State lab. He conducts procedures to extract each specimen's DNA, and also generates sequences for several genes. Next, Smith runs computer programs to identify matching gene sequences. He uses the data to construct a family tree that traces Cyrtandra's development.

"It's like putting together a puzzle," Smith says. "You have all these different plant specimens. The fact they look alike can be misleading. To see how they're related, you have to look on a genetic level."

Because the Hawaiian islands are surrounded by thousands of miles of open water, the flora developed in isolation, resulting in many species that are found nowhere else in the world. Smith has already established that the Cyrtandra varieties found in Hawaii are probably the result of a single introduction — meaning they evolved from one to several seeds that were transported to the islands sometime in the distant past.

As the islands' fragile ecosystem faces increasing pressure from encroaching civilization and from non-native species, it is becoming increasingly important to understand how plants such as Cyrtandra developed, according to Smith.

"By tracing their evolution, we can better understand the long-term impacts of any reduction in biodiversity," he says.
JENSEN LEAVES LEGACY OF HELPING MINORITY STUDENTS AT BSU

Education professor John Jensen has always had a desire to help others, but his interest in diversity developed while teaching at an inner city elementary school in Kalamazoo, Mich.

Although his teaching experience with the class of 31 minority third-graders was cut short by his entrance into the military, the impact the students had on Jensen helped shape the direction of his career.

In 1969, Jensen joined Boise State as a professor of teacher education. Upon his arrival, he noticed the lack of a minority student population on the campus. It was then that he realized minorities living in the area were underserved, and he began to work with his colleagues and the Hispanic community to change legislation and create programs to make college more accessible to minority groups.

“It’s not a sin to be poor, but they should have opportunities for a better future,” says Jensen. “There are a variety of obstacles that keep minorities from succeeding in college. Lots of kids don’t realize they can go to college until someone shows them they can.”

For 12 years Jensen served as director of the Center for Multicultural and Educational Opportunities, which administers Boise State’s High School Equivalency Program (HEP) and College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP). Most recently Jensen served as associate dean of the College of Education. He will retire this summer.

In addition to changing legislation and creating programs to allow minorities better access to higher education, Jensen established the John Jensen Minority/Migrant Education Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded annually to students majoring in education who belong to a minority group or come from a migrant or seasonal worker background.

Contributions to the John Jensen Minority/Migrant Education Scholarship can be made to the Boise State University Foundation, 1910 University Drive, Boise, ID 83725. All gifts are tax deductible.

DONOR NOTES

J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation, $100,000 to the Learning for the 21st Century Training and Technical Assistance program.

American Society of Civil Engineers, $4,500 and Hewlett-Packard Co., $1,750 for the Idaho Engineering Science Camp.

AMI Semiconductors, $12,500; Concrete Placing Co., $5,000; ECCO, $3,300; First Security, $17,500; Intermountain Gas Co., $25,000; and Jim and Karin Nelson, $6,200 to the Micron Engineering Building Challenge.

Smilie and Virginia Anderson, $2,300; Dennis Bassford, $98,600; and Preston and Norma Hale, $1,000 for the Alumni Center Building Fund.

Richard and Kathryn Anderson, $11,600 to the Smilie and Virginia Anderson Endowed Scholarship.

Dale and Walt Angers, $5,800 to the Mary Van Vactor Nursing Scholarship and $5,800 for the Charles Van Vactor Construction Management Scholarship.

Anonymous, $1,000; Exxon Education Foundation, $4,500; and Virginia Wade, $1,500 for the unrestricted fund.

Anonymous, $2,000 to construction management scholarships, $1,000 for Women’s Studies and College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs Graduate Fellowship.

Steve Appleton, $5,000 to the Business Administrative Account.

Askos Family Trust, $1,000 and CNA National Warranty Corp., $2,000 for the Jeffrey T. Seams Memorial English Scholarship.

Richard and Alecia Baker, $3,600 to the MLK/Meredyth Burns Endowed Scholarship.

Larry Barnes Foundation, $2,000 to the business scholarship in its name.

C. Norman Beckert, $2,200 for the Boise Cascade Corp. Procurement Scholarship Fund.

Boise Cascade, $1,000 to Summer Fest and $3,000 for the Honors program.

Boise Cascades, $3,500; Oregon Jewish Community Foundation, $4,500; and Óil Andreas and Mary Whist, $2,000 to Gene Harris Jazz Festival.

Boise Cascade, $3,000 and Mike and Janice Kallenecker, $1,000 for the Idaho Bird Observatory.

Boise LDS Institute of Religion, $1,000 to the Bruce R. McConkie Scholarship.

Peter Boshler, $1,000 for the Single Parent Scholarship Fund and $2,000 to the Pat and Eloise Bieter History Studies Abroad Scholarship.

Rosa and Bill Campbell, $2,000; Boise City of Trees, $1,500; and US Bancorp, $1,000 for the Gene Harris Endowment.

Gene and Chris Cloud, $4,000 to their family scholarship.

Pat and Lynn Dormain, $1,000 for the Phyllis DeBois Memorial Scholarship, Friends of Women’s Studies Fund and the Single Parent Scholarship.

Emergency Medicine of Idaho P.A., $5,000 and St. Luke’s Regional Medical Center, $5,000 to the Paramedic Program.

Aubrey Gaines, $1,000 for the Rosa Parks Academic Leadership Scholarship.

GEAC Advance Users Group, $1,000 to the OFF LISTSERV.

Hawley Troxell Ennis & Hawley, LLP, $10,000 for the Idaho Family Business Center.

Hewlett-Packard Co., $1,800 to the Cherie Buckner-Webb Scholarship for Distinguished Leadership in Human Rights.

Jabl Circuit, $1,000 for Victims’ Rights Week.

J.R. Simplot Co., $2,500 for the Accounting Department Administrative Account.

Laird Norton Family Fund, $5,000 to the D.J. Obbe Biology Scholarship.

Langroise Foundation, $2,400 for the Langroise Business Scholarship.

Carolyn Matusek Trust, $47,300 to the nursing endowment in its name.

Nancy Napier, $3,000 for the International Business Account.

Jane Ollentember and Mark Nicholas, $1,000 for the Ollentember Insurance Endowment for Social Sciences and Public Affairs and the College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs Graduate Fellowship.

Ed and Alice Palmatier Charitable Trust, $78,900 to the scholarship in its name.

Brady and Monica Panatopoulos, $1,000 and Dale and Beverly Willman, $1,000 for the Deloitte and Touche Fund.

Stephen Patrick, $1,800 to the Scheffer Sociology Endowed Scholarship.

The Presser Foundation, $3,000 for the Presser Music Scholarship Fund.

Richard and Martha Ripple, $1,000 to the Honors Program Fellowship.

Nikki Batch Stilwell, $5,200 for the Glenn Batch Writers Scholarship.

Douglas Sutherland, $2,500 to the C. Mike Merz Scholarship Endowment for Accounting.

Warren and Mabel Swendsen Trust, $10,300 for the scholarship in their name.

Heidi and Phil Toomey, $3,200 to the Toomey Non-Traditional Student Scholarship.

Zonta Club of Boise Foundation, $2,000 for the Business Scholarship Account and the General Scholarship Fund.
BOISE SHOWCASES HUMMEL DESIGNS

By Larry Burke

Boise architect Charles Hummel’s resume is easy to see. Just drive around Boise.

The Federal Building, the Boise Public Library, the National Interagency Fire Center or Bishop Kelly High are but a small sample from the long list of local landmarks designed by the Boise Junior College alumnus whose work spans six decades.

Hummel celebrated his 75th birthday in June. At an age when many of his peers are busy monitoring their stock portfolios from the comfort of their Palm Springs patios, Hummel is still active in the firm that bears his family name. His excitement over a new project is as fresh today as it was when he started in 1953.

“The Catholic church we are designing in Caldwell will be the biggest religious project the firm has done — ever,” he says with the enthusiasm of a college intern. “It will be a challenge to build a 1,200-seat church from scratch.”

It is no surprise that Hummel is so passionate about his profession. Given his lineage, it was inevitable that Hummel would spend all of his professional life on the business end of a drafting pencil.

His grandfather, also named Charles, founded the firm in 1896 in partnership with John Tourtellotte. Hummel’s father Fritz and uncle Frank continued to build the firm, which he joined as a newly minted architect 47 years ago.

Now known as Hummel Architects, the firm’s place in Idaho’s architectural history is ensured through work that can be found in all corners of the state. Many of Boise’s most historic landmarks — the Statehouse, the Egyptian Theater, Boise High School, the Union Block, St. John’s Cathedral — are Hummel designs.

“At least, I was subconsciously influenced by the idea of carrying on the work of the family,” says Hummel, who as a child accompanied his father on job sites.

Hummel’s career plans were put on hold after high school because of World War II. After a summer and fall term at Boise Junior College, he served a tour of duty in France. He returned to enroll again at BJC in the summer of 1946 before leaving that fall to pursue a degree in architecture at Catholic University in Washington, D.C.

His first year there he married his wife, Lissa. He was recalled to serve in the Army Reserve, later finished his master’s at Columbia University and returned to Boise to join the family firm.

Thus began a long career in which architectural references can be found in the firm’s later buildings — Morrison and Driscoll halls, Bronco Gymnasium, and the Science and Liberal Arts buildings.

Charles, named a Distinguished Alumnus by the Alumni Association in 1994, kept up the family’s campus connection by designing the first library and a later addition, the Student Union and the Business Building. All of the buildings that surround the Quad are Hummel-designed.

With an encyclopedic knowledge accumulated through years of study and observation, Hummel is frequently called upon to lecture about Idaho’s architectural history. And his longstanding interest in preservation has put him at the forefront of the movement to restore historic buildings.

In May, Hummel’s efforts were recognized with a “Friends of Preservation” award from the Boise Historic Preservation Commission.

One of his latest community projects is the restoration of the O’Farrell log cabin, the city’s first building that coincidentally is located in the shadow of the Federal Building, which Hummel designed in 1965.

“We don’t just want to do it right in terms of intelligent growth management,” he says.

Hummel’s four children became architects, so the family connection to the firm that started 104 years ago will end when he retires.

But that date isn’t going to come soon. With a long list of projects under way, he is as engrossed in his work today as he ever was. He explains why.

“Like what I do because it covers lots of fields — art, business, science. Our profession really influences how people live. It’s very satisfying to be associated with something that’s so solid and lasting,” he says.
WHITE HAS A FAIR JOB IN IDAHO’S CANYON COUNTY

By Melanie Threlkeld McConnell

Organize parade. Done that.
Book entertainment. Done that.
Work media to promote event. Done that.

With the Canyon County Fair and Festival just around the corner, most fair managers might be feeling a bit stressed, but not Renee White, a ’97 Boise State graduate in communication. This is what she lives to do.

White exudes excitement and enthusiasm for the five-day event in July that likely will draw more than 50,000 people to celebrate Idaho’s agricultural heritage and western tradition.

Her confidence as the new manager of one of Idaho’s largest county fairs is riding high, and with good reason. She spent her days as a communication major at Boise State preparing for this day.

“I fell in love with event planning while I was working as a program assistant in the Student Union,” she explains. “In the Student Union there is a philosophy that everything has an educational emphasis and that’s exactly what this fair is. It’s educating as well as entertaining.”

White graduated with a resume packed with practical experience. While a student, she worked as director of the Student Programs Board, planning concerts, parades and conferences all within the confines of a bona fide budget. She also worked as an intern and temporary public relations officer in Boise State’s News Services Office writing press releases and promoting events.

“My extracurricular activities at the Student Union were invaluable and helped me discover my passion and hone my skills,” says the married mother of two.

After graduating, she immediately landed a temporary job as event coordinator for First Night Boise, a New Year’s Eve family event sponsored by the Boise City Arts Commission. The experience was a good transition from college life and only confirmed what she knew about herself.

“I love creating events that are more than spectator events, that are participatory,” she says. “I love creating something where people can come together as a community and have an experience.”

White says the Canyon County Fair and Festival is really a celebration of Idaho history.

“People are very passionate about this fair, and when they come they very much want things to be the same,” she says.

“This is a fair that has stayed close to its roots and wants to stay close to its roots,” says White.

HANSEN STUDIES HOW LATINO CITIZENS ASSIMILATE

By Bob Evancho

When he was growing up in the small town of Grace, Idaho, Alan Hansen didn’t have an overriding interest in Latino culture or people of Latin American ancestry.

Now he does.

In fact, the Boise State graduate (communication, ’96) is developing into a scholar of Latino studies. A Ph.D. candidate in sociology in the department of communication at the University of Albany-SUNY, Hansen recently was named the first recipient of the Center for Scientific and Social Studies Scholar Award for his work with a Latino community in a small city in upstate New York.

The award will help support his dissertation research, which focuses on how Latinos forge a sense of community while simultaneously confronting the challenges of establishing themselves — economically, socially and culturally — within the broader society. In addition to his dissertation work, Hansen teaches communication courses at SUNY.

Hansen’s interest in Latin America began in the early ‘90s when he learned to speak Spanish and served a mission for the LDS church in Argentina following his freshman year at Boise State. When he returned to Boise State to finish his degree, he added Spanish as a minor and became involved in raising the public’s awareness of Idaho’s Hispanic community. He co-hosted a Spanish-speaking show on BSU Radio titled La Hora Latina and assisted sociologist Richard Baker with organizing the university’s Mexican-American Studies Conference.

Looking back, Hansen, 29, says Baker’s activism as a sociologist and author inspired him to take a similar path. Of particular influence, he says, was Baker’s book Los Dos Mundos: Rural Mexican Americans, Another America.

“Growing up in an Idaho farming community meant that there were Mexicans and Mexican-Americans in the community,” he says, “but this is one of the things that struck me about Baker’s book; it was reminiscent of my youth. As a part of the Anglo community I didn’t have much real contact or relationships with Latinos. Even before my mission, at Boise State as a freshman I had no real contact. It wasn’t until I went to Argentina, then came back with Spanish language skills and a desire to learn about cultures other than my own, that I forged some very rewarding and meaningful relationships with Latinos.”

His wife, Nicole, also a 1996 communication graduate, is an administrative assistant at Comprehensive Neuropsychological Services in Albany.
ACCOUNTING EXECUTIVE GIVES BACK

By Catherine Hawley

Chuck Hallett knows the difference a scholarship can make. After graduating from Capital High School in 1974, he chose Boise State over Stanford in part because a Presidential Scholarship made the local school affordable.

Even with the award, Hallett worked full time selling insurance and department store stereo so he could meet expenses and graduate in three years.

Now he is a senior principal in one of the Pacific Northwest's top accounting firms. Hallett handles income-tax litigation support and much of the firm's administration, but what he likes best is being an advocate for clients. "It's more fun than just running your calculator," he says.

After starting his career working in Idaho for what is now known as the international firm of Deloitte & Touche, Hallett decided in 1981 to take his family to the Olympia, Wash., area.

Although he knew no one when he arrived, Hallett met another accountant in 1983, and they started their own firm, Strader Hallett & Co., PS. After four years of rapid growth, the firm was rated one of the top 25 in the Northwest, a position it still holds.

He credits Boise State's faculty, in particular Dr. Myrna Nix, and an early mentor, Boise State alumnus David Cooper, for putting him on the path to success by teaching him common-sense techniques and by setting high standards.

Hallett is helping a new generation of students by endowing a full four-year scholarship in Boise State's accountancy program. It's his way of giving back to the school that prepared him for a successful career.

"I have done better and my family has done better than I ever dreamed possible," he says.

"For many years I wondered what I could do to give back. This scholarship is right up there. I have shared some of the best experiences in my life with my Boise State friends."

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and alumni relations for the Atkinson Graduate School of Management at Willamette University in Salem, Ore.

GUINN GEORGE CASHMAN, BBA, management, ’79, is the on-premise market manager with Stein Distributing in Boise. Cashman has been employed with the company since 1985.

MICHAEL J. RENNER, BA, psychology, ’77, is a psychology professor and interim associate dean for graduate studies and sponsored research at West Chester University in Pennsylvania. Renner was one of the original disk jockeys at KBSU radio. He resides in Unionville, Pa.

80s

GEORGE H. GLEDHILL, MA, art emphasis/secondary education, ’81, had artwork accepted for Feats of Clay XIII, a national juried ceramics competition and exhibition. He was also honored with the exhibit’s Purchase Award. Gledhill resides in Payette.

GAYE L. HOOPES, MA, secondary education/art emphasis, ’81, is an associate professor at Boise State, where he has taught for more than 20 years. Hoopes’ 40 years’ experience in the art field encompasses film animation, development of instructional videos and presentation of numerous workshops. He has also studied independently with such noted watercolorists as Rex Brandt, George Post and Louis Peck.

GALLG L. POOLEY, BBA, economics, ’81, is president of Analytix Appraisal Group in Boise. Pooley was recently elected president of the southern Idaho chapter of the Appraisal Institute. He has been an appraiser for more than 10 years.

SUSAN KAYE SERVICK, BA, political science, ’82, has joined the law firm of Quane Smith LLP in Coeur d’Alene as an associate. She worked for Quane Smith from 1988-1994 and has also worked for the Kootenai County public defender’s office as well as Ramsden and Lyons.

JENNIFER LOVELL KREBS, BS, earth science education, ’84, teaches earth science, physical science and algebra at Central High School in Grand Rapids, Mich.

PATTI E. (SELLERS) SLAUGHTER, medical record technician, ’84, recently accepted a position as manager of health information management at Washoe Medical Center in Reno, Nev.

RHONDA M. STUART, BA, history/secondary education, ’84, has accepted a teaching position at Haines High School and Haines Elementary School in Haines, Alaska.

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ANN C. DAMIANO, MBA, '85, is director of marketing for Homebdc.com, a venture-capital-backed Internet start-up doing online real estate transactions. Damiano lives in Phoenix.

SCOTT D. MCCUTCHEON, BS, physics, '85, is an analyst programmer for the Alaska Department of Health and Welfare. He lives in Juneau.

KEN ALLEN ROBERTS, CC, agricultural equipment technology, '85, has declared his candidacy for the Idaho House of Representatives from District 8. Roberts operates and manages the Roberts Ranch near Donnelly. He is also chairman of the Valley County Planning and Zoning Commission and vice chairman of the McCall-Donnelly School District board of trustees.

JOHN H. EMERY, BS, construction management, '86, is a construction manager for Okland Construction. Emery is also a major in the U.S. Army Reserves and recently received a meritorious service award. He lives in Pleasant Grove, Utah.

KEITH JOHNSON, BBA, accounting, '86, is chief deputy to Idaho State Controller J.D. Williams. Johnson previously was comptroller for the state of Oklahoma and also served as deputy director of state finance and was appointed vice chairman of the Oklahoma governor's Y2K task force.

MARK KARL CURTIS, BA, advertising design, '87, has been a graphic designer with Forrestal Design in Boise for 13 years and creative director for the company since 1996. He is also a freelance illustrator.

BETH ELAINE HALAAS, BA, social work, '87, recently accepted a lecturer position in the social welfare department at the UCLA School of Public Policy and Social Research. Halaas is also the director of HIV services at Tarzana Treatment Center in Los Angeles.

ALLEN T. SCHMITZ, MPA, '87, has been named chief information officer at Albertson College of Idaho in Caldwell.

RUSSELL MARK FULCHER, MBA, '88, is vice president of sales and marketing for Preco Electronics in Boise.

WALTER MOTT, BBA, accounting, '88, has been selected legislative chair of the Idaho Snake River Chapter No. 107 of the Institute of Real Estate Management. Mott is principal of the Boise-based DBSI Group of Companies.

RITA F. SHELLEY, MPA, '88, is financial aid director at Wenatchee Valley College in Wenatchee. Wash. Shelly was the associate director of financial aid at Boise State for 10 years. Shelley recently edited Ted Lewis 'The Keep on Going' Spirit, which has been featured on two showings of Body Electric, a nationally televised public television exercise program.

DIANNE ANDERSON, BS, psychology, '89, is one of four Women of Achievement honored for the year 2000 by the Zonta Club of Pocatello. Anderson is a counselor with the Idaho State University School of Applied Technology.

THOMAS J. ANDERSON, BA, criminal justice administration, '89, was recently promoted to the rank of major in the U.S. Army. Anderson has been serving as a vulnerability assessment team chief with the Army's Land Information Warfare Activity at Fort Belvoir, Va.

MARK ROGER HINSON, BS, political science, '89, has been a freelance graphic designer for several years. He currently resides in New Orleans.

ERIC B. NELSON, BBA, accounting, '89, is a real estate paralegal with Meuleman & Miller in Boise. Previously, Nelson worked in various positions in civil engineering, surveying and title insurance.
Bank in Meridian as a loan officer. She has more than nine years’ experience in lending.

LONNIE GUY FUNKHOUSER, BS, physical education/secondary education, ‘95, is employed by Albertson’s. He was recently promoted to accounting manager and transferred to the Albertson’s Distribution Center in Ponca City, Okla. During his 11 years with the company, Jardine has received five promotions and traveled throughout the country on work-related projects.

KEITH PADUCH, BS, athletic training, ’95, has opened Phoenix Fitness, a full-service gym and health club in Boise. Paduch formerly operated Peak Performance in Boise.

KENNETH A. SCHILLING, BS, radiologic sciences, ’95, is an MRI technologist for DMS Imaging, a mobile service based in Bemidji, Minn. His area of service is small hospitals in northeastern Colorado; he also deals with southern Wyoming, Nebraska and western Kansas.

PAUL BEDKE, BBA, marketing, ’96, is assistant general manager at Boise Towne Square mall.

J. TODD BUNDERSON, MPA, ’96, has been named finance director for the city of Nampa. Bunderson previously worked for 12 years at the Idaho State Budget Office.

CHRISTIAN BORG BURNHAM, BA, communication, ’96, recently returned from Usti nad Labem in the Czech Republic where he worked from 1996 to early 1999 as a teacher of conversational English at Obchodni Akademie.

During his stint, Burnham visited almost every country in Europe and liked it so much that he stayed on another year to work in a Prague public relations firm before returning to the U.S. He now lives in Spokane, Wash.

STEPHEN RAYBERN FLICK, MSW, ’96, has opened a private psychotherapy practice in Boise after receiving his private practice and clinical endorsements from the Idaho Board of Occupational Licensing. While a graduate student, Flick received a federal grant to work with at-risk children and families.

EUGENE "ART" RHINEHART, AS, radiologic sciences, ’96, has been promoted to coordinator of computed tomography at St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center. He has worked in the hospital’s medical imaging area for 10 years, gradually being promoted from transporter to file room assistant to front office assistant. While in the radiologic sciences program, he worked as a student technologist and was hired as a radiographer after graduation.

BRENT D. CLARK, BA, mass communication, ’97, recently joined the Shoshone News-Press in Kellogg as a general assignment and education reporter. Clark previously was sports editor, staff writer and photographer at the Priest River Times and had also worked at the Kootenai Valley Times in Bonners Ferry.

REBECCA JOY “BECKY” DEWITT, BS, nursing, ’97, works on the surgical floor at St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise.

SACHIKO FUJII, BA, graphic design, ’97, is employed by a U.S.-based computer software company in Tokyo. She plans to return to work in the United States within a year or two.

KATHLEEN LEWIS, BS, health sciences, ’97, is division manager for Professional Office Management Service in Boise.

REBECCA PRESCOTT, BA, theatre arts, ’97, recently performed in “Art Attack,” the season-ending revue presented by Idaho Dance Theatre at Boise State. Prescott works with the Idaho Shakespeare Festival and its Idaho Theater for Youth. She lives in Sonora, Calif.

JANELLE DENISE SANFORD, BA, elementary education/bilingual-multicultural, ’97, recently accepted a job as a home/school migrant coordinator with the Snake River School District. Sanford resides in Pocatello.

CARRIE J. VAN HOUTEN, BS, construction management, ’97, is project controls coordinator for CSDI Construction in Boise. Van Houten has developed and implemented many of the procedures and processes for tracking project bidding, permits, contracts and work orders for the company. She previously worked for CSHQA in Boise.

JENNIFER L. KERNS, BS, nursing, ’98, is an orthopedics registered nurse at Holy Cross Hospital in Fort Lauderdale. She lives in Coconut Creek, Fla.

REX R. MCCOY SR., MA, education/curriculum and instruction, ’98, recently transferred to Riverglenn Junior High in Boise where he teaches English as a second language courses. McCoy previously taught at Fort Boise School.

CHARISE "JODI" PRESNELL, BS, mathematics/BA, psychology, ’98, was accepted into the U.S. Air Force Officers Training School in Montgomery, Ala., last year. After completion of OTS, Presnell was commissioned a second lieutenant and is now enrolled in technical school in Texas.

BRANDON JEREMY SMITH, BBA, finance, ’98, is a co-pilot for the executives of Alltech, a biotechnology company in Lexington, Ky. Last spring Smith flew the owner and other members of the company to major cities throughout Europe as part of a lecture tour sponsored by the company.

SHARON ORLENA HARLEMAN TANDY, MA, interdisciplinary studies, ’98, recently gave a
Members of the Class of 2000 and their families were treated to a barbecue hosted by the Alumni Association during the annual Graduation Celebration on the day before commencement ceremonies. Faculty and staff volunteers set up tables and chairs, cooked and served the food, and cleaned up afterward. The event drew 1,650 people.

presentation about historic Idaho quilts at the Cambridge Library and also spoke about quilts to middle school students in Cambridge and Midvale. Tandy is a quilter, quilt historian, and published quilt designer. She lives in Boise.

EVA MICHELE GONZALEZ, BA, English/general literature emphasis, ’98, is a finance specialist for the U.S. Army. Gonzales enlisted in January 1999 and has since received three Army achievement medals and was also named soldier of the month and quarter for her battalion and brigade. She lives in Fort Campbell, Ky.

MARY T. CRUM, MA, school counseling, ’99, is employed by Bishop Kelly High School in Boise. A half-time career counselor for the school, Crum is also the campus minister and teaches a freshman theology class.

MICHIELE CHRISTIAN, MA, school counseling, ’99, is employed by the Meridian School District. In addition to her duties as a sixth-grade counselor for Eagle Middle School, Christian facilitates tobacco information as well as parent information groups throughout the district.

PHILLIP McLAIN, BA graphic design, ’99, has been hired as a graphic designer by Stoltz Marketing Group in Boise. McLain will design print advertising, corporate identity packages and related communications media. McLain previously was a senior graphic designer for Micron-pc.com.

JASON RICHARD MORGAN, BA, political science, ’99, was named a Boise State Top Ten Scholar for 2000. While at Boise State, Morgan was a member of the golf team, and represented the university at the NCAA Foundation Leadership conference in 1997. Morgan lives in Tempe, Ariz., where he is researching the state’s foster care system for the Arizona State Supreme Court. He has been accepted to several law schools for next fall.

ERIN L. NIELSON, BBA, management/human resources, ’99, is employed in the human resource department at Preco Electronics in Boise.

LORETTA POMPETTI FUCIK, BFA, visual art, ’99, is a jewelry designer with Zelandia Designs in Boise. Zelandia is marketed worldwide and has work at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C. Flick exhibits her work in the Boise area at the Starving Artists’ Gallery, the Artist’s Studio Tour sponsored by Art Source Gallery, the 1000 Springs Festival and the Old Boise Street Fair.

ANGELA J. POOL, BBA, general business management, ’99, is the clerk, treasurer and planning and zoning administrator for the city of New Plymouth. P’Pool previously was a deputy clerk in Marsing.

KENNETH DALE Whitworth, BA, social work, ’99, is a case manager with L.I.F.E. Inc. of Meridian. Whitworth also is a human rights board member for Communicare.

WEDDINGS

VERONA ROSS and Bernd Janndelet, (Melbourne, Australia) Jan. 1.


IRA MICHAEL BURTON and Brooke Ann Wilson, (Nampa) March 25.


VALERIE STORRS COOMBS and Kevin Dawson Hatcher, (Meridian) May 15.

CINDY SHERMAN and David F. Jones, (Burley) July 10.

LISA K. KIMBALL and PAUL ENNIS, (Plymouth, Minn.) July 16.

ERIC MINCKLER and VICTORIA ROBINSON, (Boise) July 18.

MELISSA RODRIGUEZ and George McDowell, (Boise) July 31.

CHRISTOPHER GRAHAM and DESIREE VICTORIA SCARLETT, (Boise) Aug. 7.

KEITH RENOLD YOST and Xavria Schwarz, (Eden) Aug. 7.

MARGARET O’CONNOR and Bob Shoecraft, (San Diego, Calif.) Aug. 25.


RyAN STEARNS and Dani Harris, (Boise) Sept. 25.

KELLEY JOLENE JONES and Jeffrey Palon, (Boise) Oct. 2.

MELANIE JOHNSTON BEAVER and MOWBRAY G. DAVIDSON, (McCoy) Oct. 9.


TIMOTHY GREG KRAUZ and Sara Hull, (Nampa) Oct. 9.

STEPHANIE JO ORME and John DeFranco, (Boise) Oct. 16.


OBITUARIES

NEAL A. BOYLES JR., AS, general arts and sciences, ’64, died March 28 in Boise at age 56. Boyles served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam and worked for 30 years for the U.S Postal Service.

ORVIS C. BURMASTER, a former professor of English at Boise State, died April 3 in Boise at age 74. Burmaster began his teaching career at Boise State in 1968 when it was still known as Boise College. He was one of the founders of the university’s Ahsahta Press, a prize-winning series of books on modern and contemporary poetry of the West. Burmaster was also considered an authority on the history and landscape of the American West. After retiring from the university in 1993, Burmaster devoted his time and labor to Habitat for Humanity.

CHESTER PAUL “CHEF” CRAWFORD, BBA, marketing, ’72, died March 13 at age 58 after a long battle with diabetes and kidney failure. Crawford’s passion for cars led to his lifelong career in the car business. He also served two years in the U.S. Army.

LARRY ALLEN DeTHORNE, AAS, drafting technology, ’75, died March 6 at age 65. DeThorne’s military service spanned 34 years in the U.S. Air Force and Reserves as well as the Air National Guard. After retiring from the military in 1992, he relocated to Pine to work in the family business and operated the Featherville Cafe.

SHARON SUE GABRIEL, AA, general arts and sciences, ’81, died March 21 in Boise at age 60. Gabriel was active in the Jay-C-Ettes and was a member of the First United Methodist Church.

WILLIAM DENT HAYS, MBA, ’77, died April 14 in Boise of renal failure. Hays served in the U.S. Army during World War II as well as in Korea from 1952-53. His military awards include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, the Air Force, the Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters and the Good Conduct Medal. Hays retired from active duty as a Lieutenant colonel in 1969.

FLORENCE “DIANE” JONES, BA, elementary education, ’71, died April 16 in Coeur d’Alene at age 55. Jones was a second-grade teacher at Ponderosa Elementary in Post Falls for 12 years.

DAVE W. KALLAS SR., AA, general business, ’54, died March 20 in Boise at age 65 from Shy-Drager Syndrome. Kallas served in the U.S. Army in Korea and was discharged in 1956. A lifelong Boise resident, Kallas was self-employed in the real estate industry for more than 25 years before retiring due to illness in 1995.

GLENN ALBERT KARN, BA, social science, ’77, died April 8 in Boise at age 72. Karn served in the U.S. Navy for two years and after his dis-
charge in 1948 enrolled at Boise Junior College where he played football and baseball. Karn later worked for various state of Idaho agencies and was the Head Start director from 1970-1977. He and his wife then operated Standard Supply Co. in Boise for 10 years until retirement.

FENTON KELLEY, a former biology professor at Boise State, died April 22 in Boise at age 73. Kelley retired from BSU in 1988. In addition to teaching zoology, he also taught human anatomy and physiology to health science and biology majors. Kelley's research focused on water quality and the improvement of fish habitat. After retirement, he continued to be active as an environmental and water quality consultant. Memorials may be made to the scholarship fund in his name in the biology department.

RAYMOND E. MOORE JR., diploma, general arts and sciences, ’53, died of cancer March 3 in Corvallis, Ore., at age 66. Moore served two years in the U.S. Army in special services, playing his trumpet. Moore pursued several careers, eventually settling in Corvallis with the Music West Co. He also organized his own combo, and played at a variety of social functions.

G. DAN NABORS, BA, political science, ’00, died May 9 in Boise at age 27 of cancer. Nabors served as ASBSU president during 1996-1997, was on the Alumni Association governmental affairs committee, and was a member of the Kappa Sigma fraternity, where he had served as president. Nabors had recently worked as clubhouse manager at Spur Wing Golf Course in Meridian.

KATHLEEN (VAN LEUVEN) RUDD, BA, social work, ’95, died June 13 in Boise of breast cancer. Rudd was a licensed social worker with The Arc, Inc. in Boise.

JOANNE RUSSELL, MA, history, ’91, died Feb. 7 in Boise at age 67. Russell had worked at Boise State, tutoring students in the Writing Center and was also the first director of the university’s Women’s Center.

RUSSELL EDWARD SHARTS, CC, auto mechanic technology, ’88, died April 8 in Boise at age 33. Sharts walked on the Boise State football team as a redshirt and also was a sprinter for the Bronco track team. Sharts owned and operated an automotive repair shop at the time of his death.


GEORGE STEVEN TELFORD, MBA, ’88, died Feb. 13, in Bountiful, Utah, at age 49. Telford was a commercial and mortgage banker and was active in community affairs. He served in the U.S. Navy during Vietnam.

MARLEEN D. WILLIAMS, AAS, drafting technology, ’86, died April 3 in Alvadore, Ore. Williams was employed by Pope and Talbot in Junction City, Ore., at the time of her death.

ALUMNI NAMES THREE ‘DISTINGUISHED’

Leaders in business, government and academe were honored in April with the Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumni Award.

The awards were presented at the annual Top Ten Scholars and Distinguished Alumni Banquet. Thirty-nine alumni have been honored since the program began in 1988.

This year’s recipients are MICHAEL LATOUR, Auburn, Ala.; RICHARD NAVARRO, Boise; and CELIA GOULD, Buhl.

LaTour, a professor of marketing at Auburn University, is one of the top 12 researchers nationally in the field of advertising and consumer behavior according to a recent ranking study. He has had more than 50 refereed journal articles published and has won several “best paper” awards at major conferences.

In 1998 LaTour received the Alabama Association for Higher Education in Business Award for Excellence and Professional Contributions, an award given to only one business faculty member from the 15 four-year institutions in Alabama.

LaTour was recently named a Torchmark Professor, an endowed professorship in Auburn’s marketing department.

A former ASBSU senator, LaTour earned a marketing degree from Boise State in 1978 and an MBA in 1981.

Navarro is a group vice president and controller at Albertson’s. He oversees all financial operations, including internal and external reporting, taxes and property accounting for the Boise-based grocery store chain.

Navarro started with Albertson’s as an accountant trainee after graduating from Boise State in 1975. Over the past 24 years, he has held seven different positions.

While he travels frequently, Navarro still finds time to serve his alma mater as a member of the Boise State University Foundation board of directors and as chairman of the advisory board for the department of accountancy.

Voters in the Magic Valley have elected Gould to seven consecutive terms as a state representative from District 22. Gould serves as chair of the Judiciary, Rules and Administration Committee, which is responsible for legislation relating to Idaho’s criminal justice and judicial systems.

A 1979 political science graduate, Gould was first elected when she was 29, making her one of the youngest women legislators ever to serve in Idaho. Her first exposure to the state political scene came through an internship to the committee she now heads. Gould is a rancher and farmer in Buhl.

THE LINES ARE OPEN

Contact your Alumni Office by:
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FAX: 208 426-1005
E-MAIL: bsualum@boisestate.edu
HOME PAGE: www.boisestatealumni.org
MAIL: Boise State University Alumni Association, 1910 University Drive, Boise, ID 83725.
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AlumNews

MEMBERSHIP DUES
The Alumni Association is in the final stages of its 2000 membership drive. The $25 annual dues support a variety of alumni events, publications and programs as well as the university in general.

Membership benefits include discounted tickets to many athletic events, theater productions and other events. A membership application is located at left.

In addition to annual memberships, the Alumni Association now offers life memberships. The first alumnus to become a life member was Michael L'Tour. Since then, Christine Starr and Chris Bell, Jeff Klaus, and Tom and Shannon Blaine have also become life members.

YELLOWSTONE ADVENTURE
Yellowstone National Park will never seem the same for alumni and friends who take an informative tour of the nation's most scenic territory.

The Alumni Association has put together a trip to Yellowstone that includes all transportation, lodging and several meals. Travel guides will include Boise State professors, Boise State alumni working in Yellowstone, and three students from Boise State's Honors College.

The tour begins Aug. 11 and returns on Aug. 14. For details, contact the Alumni Office.

DONORS PLEDGE TO ALUMNI CENTER
More than 170 donors have pledged funds toward the purchase of a building that will serve as an Alumni Center. (See story, Page 8.) Among those are 15 individuals, foundations or companies that have pledged $1,000 or more. The Alumni Association thanks the following for their gifts or pledges to the Alumni Center project:

$100,000 AND ABOVE
The Dennis Bassford Family, The McNeal Family Foundation
Austin and Elizabeth Warner

$10,000 AND ABOVE
Micheal and Mary Adcox
Mike and Pam Bessent
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Coulson
Rick and Bobbi Navarro
Thomas R. Rea
Doug Shanboltz
Pat and Julie Sullivan

$1,000 AND ABOVE
Smilie and Virginia Anderson
Arthur Berry and Co.
Larry Burke
Preston Q. Hale
Joel and Marianne Hickman
Dan Montgomery

ARE YOU A NEWSMAKER?
Have you moved, retired, been promoted, received an award, gotten married? FOCUS readers want to know. Please help us spread the word by including your news in the alumni news section.

Name ____________________________
Year of Graduation ___________
Major ___________________________
Address ___________________________
City _________________ State ___________ Zip Code _________________
Phone ___________________________
Here’s my news:

Please send your news to: FOCUS, c/o Boise State Alumni Association, 1910 University Drive, Boise, ID 83725, e-mail lburke@boisestate.edu or FAX to 208 426-1005.

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Cited for their outstanding contributions in the classroom, three Boise State alums were honored as teachers of the year in their respective school districts in southwest Idaho this spring.

** CARLEEN SCHNITKER**, who earned a bachelor's in communication/secondary education with an English endorsement in '96, was named Secondary Teacher of the Year in the Nampa School District. Schnitker teaches communication, language arts and computer applications at Ridgecrest High School in Nampa.

According to a news account, a fellow teacher introduced Schnitker with a poem about her positive qualities, including her determination to finish school with two kids at home and a husband overseas during the Gulf War. Schnitker was also hailed for her knowledge of computer technology and her emphasis on teaching good grammar.

In the Vallivue School District, **KATHY LOUISE HARRIS**, an '84 graduate in mathematics/secondary education, was honored as Secondary Teacher of the Year. Harris teaches mathematics and serves as math department chair at Vallivue High School.

Harris plans to use her $500 cash award to buy “math toys” for her classroom, according to a news story.

The Meridian School District named **EILEEN THORNBURGH** as its Teacher of the Year. Thornburgh teaches third grade at Silver Sage Elementary School in Meridian. She earned a doctorate in curriculum and instruction at Boise State in '97, a master's in curriculum and instruction in '92, a master's in education in '84 and a bachelor's in elementary education in '74. Students interviewed for a news feature on Thornburgh lauded their teacher for both her ability and caring.

A member of the committee that selected Thornburgh said that Thornburgh's desire to make an impact in kids' lives was among the reasons she received the honor.

**ASSOCIATION OFFERS LIFE MEMBERSHIPS**

Tired of paying your dues each year? The Alumni Association has approved the offering of Life Memberships. Those who join as Life Members will receive recognition in the Alumni Center and invitations to special events for Life Members.

Several rates are available, as listed in the table below. For more information about the program, call the Alumni Office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Membership</th>
<th>Possible Pledge Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recent Graduate Rate *</td>
<td>$375</td>
<td>$125 for three years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recent Graduate Joint Membership*</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$125 for four years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Member</td>
<td>$750</td>
<td>$250 for three years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dual Membership</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$250 for four years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$300 for five years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Friends</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$400 for five years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Members**</td>
<td>$375</td>
<td>$125 for three years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Senior Members**</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$125 for four years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* A recent graduate is a person who has received his/her first degree from Boise State within the last five years.

** A senior member is an alumnus who is at least 65 years old.
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
By Candi Allphin, President
Boise State University Alumni Association

Dear Friends:

This is a very exciting time for the Alumni Association as the activity level continues to “ramp up.” I am pleased to report that the association has completed the purchase of the Boise State Alumni Center located across from Bronco Stadium.

We are in the process of improving the facility and expect to open the Alumni Center in the near future. This has been a long-term goal for the association and we are excited about the opportunities it will provide to enhance the traditions of Boise State and to recognize student and alumni achievements. You will hear more about the Alumni Center in the coming months as we will keep you up-to-date on our progress and our capital campaign for the center.

In addition to closing the purchase of the Alumni Center, the Alumni Association board has been busy with programs to serve students and alumni all across the Northwest. Outreach programs this summer in Spokane, Wash., Seattle, Portland, Ore., and northern California were well-attended.

We plan to continue to expand our scholarships during the coming year and to increase activities at Homecoming. You can also plan on an outstanding BroncoFest to be held at the historic Boise Depot the evening before the Idaho game in November. We will continue to emphasize promotion of Boise State at all levels including our visibility at the Legislature.

Several new board members joined the Alumni Association in May. They represent a variety of backgrounds and all wish to serve Boise State. New board members who have agreed to volunteer their time are Sheryl Bishop, Michelle Caves, Deb Brown, Phil DeAngeli, Tim Tyree, Alex LaBeau and Sergio Gutierrez.

Officers for the board are first vice president Mark Dunham, second vice president Robin Denison, treasurer Susan Bakes and secretary Nick Woychick.

Finally, I want to extend my thanks to the retiring, continuing and new board members, the dedicated staff, and to you, the members, for supporting Boise State through the Alumni Association.

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AlumNews

HOME COMING 2000

Homecoming 2000 is scheduled for the weekend of Oct. 12-14.

One of the highlights will be a “Spirit Reunion” for former members of the marching band, the Keith Stein Blue Thunder Marching Band, the Harvey Neef Maneline Dancers and cheerleaders. The three-day reunion includes performances, social activities, the parade, and the football game.

In addition, the Alumni Association and the Student Union Gallery will host the fourth annual Alumni Art Exhibit. Last year, more than 70 alumni submitted entries for this juried art show. A reception for the artists and other alumni will be scheduled during Homecoming week.

The annual Twilight Parade will be held Friday, Oct. 13, in downtown Boise. The Alumni Association and the Homecoming Committee are working on details for a social event downtown after the parade.

On Saturday, Oct. 14, the annual chill feed will be held on the practice field adjacent to Bronco Stadium prior to the game vs. Eastern Washington. Kickoff is set for 3:05 p.m. at Bronco Stadium.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

The Alumni Association is looking for individuals to assist the efforts of the association and the university. In particular, the association is seeking alumni who live in Seattle, Portland, Ore., northern California, eastern Washington/northern Idaho, and who would be interested in assisting with events and programs in those areas.

Within Idaho, the association, through its Legislative Affairs Committee, is seeking individuals interested in assisting Boise State in its legislative lobbying efforts. Those efforts include communicating with local elected officials on the importance of higher education and in particular the issues that directly impact Boise State.

If you can help, contact the Alumni Association.

ALUMNI THEATER NIGHT

The Alumni Association is hosting alumni night at the Idaho Shakespeare Festival Sept. 10. Patrons will see a performance of Pump Boys and Dinettes, a musical set in a small town diner. The $50 fee includes admission and a picnic dinner on the Shakespeare Festival grounds east of Boise.

Proceeds benefit the Special Guest student endowment in the theatre arts department and the Alumni Association’s Distinguished Freshman scholarship program.

For more information, call the Alumni Association.

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