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ABOUT THE COVER: In a country dominated by a two-party political system, Idaho’s overwhelming Republican majority is just one more example of the state’s rogue image. But residents — politicians and common folk alike — refuse to be defined by political affiliation alone. Examples of individual thought prevail in both parties. This issue of FOCUS examines how we got the way we are and how the state’s political stance affects policy issues. Cover illustration by 2000 graduate Andy Stauffer.
I write this column on my way to the September State Board of Education meeting. A key agenda item for board action is receipt of our Strategic Plan for 2000-2005. Our plan builds on our 1994-2000 plan and provides a “game plan” for the continued development of our university.

Meeting the Challenge: A Strategic Plan for Boise State University 2000-2005 is built on both a careful analysis of our accomplishments under the earlier plan, and follows a thorough analysis of both our internal strengths and weaknesses and an analysis of our environmental opportunities and threats.

Under the leadership of Provost Daryl Jones and his team, the draft plan was crafted from this careful examination of where we are as an institution, what we aspire to become, and what it will take to give substance to our vision.

The draft plan was widely circulated among all our stakeholders and across campus. The result is an exciting and aggressive plan for our future.

In sum, the plan continues on the four strategic initiatives that were the centerpiece of the 1994 plan. Everyone who contributed to our yearlong study leading to this plan supported our direction and vision.

While the plan includes some 150 action steps — some big and some small — the plan revolves around these four strategic initiatives and 12 major supporting themes:

**Strategic Initiative 1**
Manage Growth While Preserving and Enhancing Access
- Pursue a “distributed campus” strategy, disseminating programs and services geographically, technologically and chronologically.
- Construct or expand capital facilities to accommodate growth, both on the Boise Campus and the Boise State West Campus.
- Manage enrollment growth at approximately 2 percent annually, with student recruitment focused on the preferred student profiles identified in the university’s enrollment management plan.

**Strategic Initiative 2**
Enhance Academic Quality and Reputation
- Emphasize enhancement of teaching and learning, with special focus on opportunities for applied learning in real-world settings.
- Enhance the general education (core curriculum) experience, with special focus on improved student success and increased retention of students.
- Improve communication within the campus and community and with external constituents, with emphasis on coordinated and effective marketing.
- Add new academic and professional-technical programs in accord with public demand and available resources.
- Increase support for graduate education and research.

**Strategic Initiative 3**
Improve Management and Administrative Functions
- Integrate technology into academic instruction and research, student services and business operations.
- Increase fund-raising efforts to support scholarships, capital facilities and academic enrichment programs.
- Enhance management and administrative functions, with emphasis on improved customer responsiveness, efficiency and accountability.

**Strategic Initiative 4**
Develop the University’s Human Resources
- Enhance the quality of the “Boise State experience” by recruiting and retaining excellent faculty and staff and by promoting increased cultural diversity and an enriched sense of community.

The entire plan can be found online at www2.boisestate.edu/vpaa/plandoc.htm.

Meeting the Challenge presents a bold plan — one that will require support from all if it is to be achieved. We have enjoyed that type of broad support throughout the 68-year history of Boise State, and we anticipate that to continue as we implement the new plan. The future looks bright!

As always, I appreciate your comments. I can be reached at 208 426-1491 or by e-mail: cruch@boisestate.edu.
The regional winners will advance to the Sweet 16 which will feature four teams and three regional finals. The regional finals will be in Raleigh, N.C. and Pavilion will be the site of the West Regional finals of the NCAA women's basketball tournament.

Antonio, Texas.

The university has staged NCAA events. The university has staged students is a 1.5 percent increase over last year. That headcount of full- and part-time students is a 1.5 percent increase over last fall's record enrollment. This is the 10th consecutive semester Boise State has posted an increase in its enrollment over the previous spring or fall.

Over the past five years, Boise State has averaged 2 percent annual growth, says Mark Wheeler, dean of enrollment services. “This is in line with the university’s strategic plan, which calls for sustained growth that we can manage,” he says. Wheeler says students are attracted to Boise State by the blend of study, recreation and cultural activities that the university and the city of Boise offer.

Enrollment highlights include:

- Boise State’s engineering programs continued to grow, with an 11 percent increase from last fall, topping 1,000 students. The program began four years ago.
- The number of Hispanic students grew 14 percent to 747.
- Students are taking heavier class loads, with a 3 percent increase in the number of academic credit hours being taken.
- About 1,000 students are taking Boise State classes at locations other than the main campus through multiple delivery modes, “demonstrating that the university’s ‘distributed campus’ model is succeeding,” says Wheeler. Enrollment in Internet classes increased 48 percent and enrollment at Boise State’s Wagoner County center increased 6.5 percent.

Boise State continued its steady growth pace this fall, setting yet another state enrollment record with 16,459 students registered, an increase of 250 from fall 1999.

That headcount of full- and part-time students is a 1.5 percent increase over last fall's record enrollment. This is the 10th consecutive semester Boise State has posted an increase in its enrollment over the previous spring or fall.

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Boise State to Host

Once again, Boise State has landed a major NCAA sports event. In 2002, The Pavilion will be the site of the West Regional finals of the NCAA women's basketball tournament.

Boise State's portion of the women's Sweet 16 will feature four teams and three games during a two-day period in March. The regional winners will advance to the women's Final Four March 29-31 in San Antonio, Texas.

Boise State is no stranger to national NCAA events. The university has staged first- and second-round games of the NCAA men's tournament five times and will do so again in 2001. In addition, the university and the city of Boise have hosted the Humanitarian Bowl each year since its inception in 1997, the NCAA Track and Field Championships in 1994 and 1999, and the NCAA Gymnastics Finals earlier this year.

The other 2002 women's basketball regional finals will be in Raleigh, N.C. (East), Milwaukee (Midwest) and Albuquerque, N.M. (Midwest).

Women's Sweet 16

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Ruch outlines building needs

President Charles Ruch used two public occasions at the beginning of the fall semester to outline the need for additional academic buildings at Boise State.

In his Aug. 21 welcome address Ruch told faculty and staff that Boise State's "most critical need is for new academic buildings. Without them, our ability to continue to provide access and opportunity to our citizens will be seriously compromised."

Ruch estimated that at its current 2 to 3 percent rate of growth, Boise State will have more than 18,000 students by 2005, adding to an already serious facilities shortage. Without additional buildings, the university will be an estimated 205,000 square feet short of classroom, lab and office space.

The university needs to construct at least three new academic buildings in the next five years to keep pace with that growth, Ruch explained.

The first academic building on the Boise State West Campus in Canyon County is the university's highest legislative priority, he said.

"Given the political will, the resources appear available in the state budget to meet this challenge," he said. The $9.3 million building is fifth on the State Board of Education's priority list for new construction. An appropriation in 2001 would mean the campus could be operational by the 2004-2005 school year.

Ruch also pressed the case for the Boise State West building at a ceremonial tree-planting at the West campus on Aug. 22.

"Join us in the months to come in convincing the Legislature that the next celebration will be the groundbreaking for the first building," Ruch told the crowd of 200, which included the mayors of Nampa, Caldwell, Meridian and Boise.

The 150-acre site in north Nampa is within easy commuting distance of the rapidly growing residential and commercial base in the western Treasure Valley. Expanded training and educational services are vital to the health of many new or growing businesses in the valley, Ruch said.

The Legislature has already appropriated $5.5 million for Boise State to purchase the land, install the road and utilities infrastructure and begin design of the first building.

Work on the infrastructure is now under way, and Hummel Architects, Boise, and Opsis Architecture, Spokane, were selected as the project architects in mid-September.
6 STUDENTS NAMED GATES SCHOLARS

Six Boise State students have recently been named Gates Millennium Scholars. The students will receive financial support for the 2000-2001 school year from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

The six recipients, all Hispanic students, were nominated by Boise State faculty members or high school teachers. The students are Erika Arellano of Caldwell, Betzi Baldeon of Boise, Gabriela Calderon of Kimberly, Yasmin Morales of Bruneau, Deborah Money of Twin Falls and Erick Torres of American Falls.

The Gates Millennium Scholars program seeks to increase the number of minority students in universities. To qualify for the honor, minorities had to have a high grade-point average, a financial need, and demonstrated leadership skills and community involvement.

The Gateses began the scholarship program to eliminate financial barriers that have held back academically talented students from earning a college degree.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has partnered with The United Negro College Fund, the Hispanic Scholarship Fund and the American Indian Scholarship Fund to administer the program.

The program began this fall and will provide $50 million in scholarship funds each year for the next 20 years. Approximately 4,000 high-achieving minority students were named Gates Millennium Scholars this year.

BOOKSTORE ADDS ONLINE SHOPPING

Boise State students are now just a click away from their college textbooks, thanks to a new online service unveiled by the campus bookstore in July.

By logging onto boiseestatebooks.com, students can look up and purchase the texts required for their registered classes and even check to see if used books are available.

While they're online, customers can also check out and purchase T-shirts, sweatshirts, gift items and a best seller or two. Orders of any size are charged a $5.95 shipping fee, and merchandise is sent directly to the purchaser.

Bookstore director Kim Thomas says sales are going well. The bookstore posted $3,500 in Internet sales the first month; that total jumped to $64,000 in August, or 2.4 percent of total sales. That total represented 471 sales, mostly for textbooks.

Customers can bypass the shipping charge by picking up their orders at the bookstore. A shuttle also takes orders to Boise State's Mountain Home site for pick-up and may soon do the same for Nampa students.
With many of the major objectives in its current plan accomplished, Boise State unveiled a new strategic plan in September that will guide the university's growth into the first half of this decade.

Titled Meeting the Challenge: A Strategic Plan for Boise State University 2000-2005, the plan is an update of the earlier version that has served as a blueprint for the university since 1994. That plan outlined an ambitious agenda that included the establishment of a College of Engineering, the development of an Honors College, an upgrade to Division I-A football, acquisition of land for a campus in Canyon County and the installation of a campuswide computing system, all objectives that are now under way or completed.

The new plan is designed to build on the previous one, emphasizing "continuity, follow-through and a consolidation of gains."

The plan is available online at www2.boisestate.edu/vpaa/plandoc.htm or by writing or calling FOCUS magazine at the address found on page 6.

The university's response to anticipated enrollment growth is a central theme throughout the plan.

Citing a projected 60 percent increase in Ada County's population over the next 25 years, the plan says "Government entities and the general public must be alerted to the extreme demands that growth exerts on Boise State and to the economic, societal and human consequences of failure to fund the institution at a level commensurate with the expanded role and population it is expected to serve."

The plan outlines three buildings that are needed by 2005 to meet an anticipated enrollment of 18,000 students: a multipurpose building on the West Campus in Canyon County and a multipurpose classroom building and a College of Business and Economics building on the Boise campus.

"To address pressures of growth, Boise State must increase its carrying capacity by aggressively pursuing increased funding from all available resources ... Boise State must grow as the region grows," the plan says.

The plan focuses on four major initiatives that will be university priorities for the next five years: managing growth while preserving and enhancing access, enhancing academic quality and reputation, improving management and administrative functions and developing the university's human resources.

Those initiatives will be achieved through the accomplishment of 150 goals listed in the plan. The plan's initiatives and major goals are included in First Word, a column written by university President Charles Ruch on page 7 of this issue.

BOISE STATE TO BEGIN RESTORING HISTORIC LANGROISE HOME

One of Boise's most historic homes will be restored as a residence for the president of Boise State University.

The 75-year-old home at 929 Warm Springs Ave. was donated to Boise State in 1977 by William Langroise, a Boise attorney and insurance company executive. For the past 23 years it has been the residence of Langroise's widow, Gladys. Upon her death in January, ownership of the house passed to the university.

Boise State was the only university in the state's system of higher education that didn't have a house for its president.

"The Langroise House is one-of-a-kind in Boise. We want to preserve its historic nature, yet make it functional for the entertainment needs of a university president," says Larry Blake, director of facilities planning.

The two-story house was built to resemble an English country home by Boise department store founder C.C. Anderson.

The half-timbered, twin-gabled house features a slate roof, ivy-covered walls, leaded glass windows and wooden floors throughout the interior. It was designed by noted Spokane architect Kirkland K. Cutter and the 2-acre yard and gardens were planned by the Frederick Olmstead firm, which earlier designed New York's Central Park.

The house is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Warm Springs Historic District.

Boise architect Vic Hosford is drafting plans for the renovation. Work could begin late this year and be complete by next summer.

Most of the project will focus on upgrading the heating system, installing air conditioning and replacing the electrical system. The kitchen will be remodeled and the floors, windows and doors will be restored.

Costs of the initial renovation will be covered from a fund Gladys Langroise established with the Boise State University Foundation in 1981 to help pay for the eventual upkeep of the house. After being invested for almost 20 years, the original $100,000 donation is worth $400,000.
Federal funding bolsters Boise State's reputation within both academic circles and the community, Jones says. “Clearly it provides a mechanism for Boise State researchers to pursue agendas that have local benefit, but international implications,” he says. “And it brings additional visibility and reputation to Boise State at national and international levels.”

Boise State students also benefit from the additional research applied in the classroom, he adds.

Walt Snyder, geosciences professor, says federal funding for science programs will help the university increase partnerships with local and international colleagues while strengthening academic programs and helping the department’s new doctorate program to grow.

“We see this as another way for second-tier universities to move forward,” he says. “We have talented people who are underutilized.”

Three additional projects have been written into appropriations bills, and could receive congressional approval before the end of the year. Those projects are:

- The Geotectonic Research Center/Intermountain West Integrative Science Program will coordinate research activities among six universities and the U.S. Geological Survey. The center will create an internationally recognized research program addressing the public need for data and expertise in geological hazards, while focusing on educational outreach at all levels, from K-12 to Ph.D.
- The Environmental Science and Public Policy Research Institute is designed as a partnership of university scientists and public policy experts. ESPRI will bring together researchers, scholars and scientific experts to focus on natural resource and environmental management issues.
- A time-lapse imaging project will develop better tools for imaging and monitoring the movement of fluids and contaminants in the Earth’s shallow subsurface.

BOISE STATE-UI COOPERATE ON CENTER

Boise State University and the University of Idaho are partners in a collaborative workspace at 775 W. Fulton St. near Boise’s Eighth Street Marketplace. UI department of architecture fourth- and fifth-year students will come to Boise to study urban design at the Idaho Urban Research and Design Center (IURDC), which is now housed in the new building.

Boise State’s department of art will use the space as a studio for graduate students in the master of fine arts program. The studio will also have a display area for graduate students to exhibit their work.

JAMES OGLE Conducting THE BOISE PHILHARMONIC
Season Repertoire 2000-2001

1 SEPTEMBER 22-23
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STRAVINSKY Suite from the “Firebird”
BRAHMS Piano Concerto No. 2 in B flat

2 OCTOBER 20-21
All Beethoven
BEETHOVEN Consecration of the House
BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 1 in C Major
BEETHOVEN Concerto for Violin and Orchestra

3 NOVEMBER 17-18
RIMSKY-KORSAKOV Le Coq d’Or Suite
THOMASI Concerto for Trumpet and Orchestra
DVORAK Symphony No. 9 “From the New World”

4 JANUARY 19-20
2001: A Space Odyssey
WILLIAMS Star Wars
HOLST The Planets

5 FEBRUARY 16-17
MOZART Symphony No. 40 in G minor
ARNOLD Concerto for Organ, Trumpets, Timpani & Strings
SAINT-SAENS Symphony No. 3 “Organ”

6 MARCH 16-17
CORIGLIANO Promenade Overture
HAYDN Symphony No. 45 “Farewell”
IBERT Divertissement
TCHAIKOVSKY Theme & Variations from Suite No. 3

7 APRIL 20-21
RAVEL Alborada del gracioso
KODALY Variations on a Hungarian Folksong (The Peacock)
TORBJORN LUNDQUIST Landscape for Tuba & Strings
RESPIGHI The Pines of Rome
Most research endeavors involve at least a few logistical challenges. But when the setting is a remote area of Greenland, north of the Arctic Circle and many miles from the nearest outpost, the obstacles can loom particularly large.

That’s the situation that Boise State graduate student Travis Booms faced earlier this year when he made plans to lead a research expedition to Greenland to study the food habits of gyrfalcons, large raptors found only in northernmost latitudes.

Booms, the university’s first-ever recipient of a graduate research fellowship from the National Science Foundation, wanted to document what gyrfalcons ate by setting up remote surveillance cameras near their nests and videotaping them.

But the problem, and it was a big one, was finding a power source for the specialized equipment Booms needed for the project. The Greenland study area, a vast stretch of rugged tundra, lakes, and low mountains near the permanent ice cap, was totally uninhabited. The nearest electrical generators were some 30 miles away in the outpost of Kangerlussuaq.

When Booms researched the use of on-site gas generators, he found they weren’t practical. So he turned to solar energy, working with companies in Washington and California to procure tiny specialized video cameras, 5-foot solar panels, battery banks and other equipment.

“The solar power company couldn’t believe I was doing something like this in the arctic,” says Booms, a raptor biology major. “I had to give them the exact longitude and latitude and the temperature ranges, and then we had to figure out how to package everything so it could be airlifted to our study site.”

Last May, Booms and Boise biologist Gregg Doney, an experienced Greenland researcher, were dropped by airplane on open tundra with hundreds of pounds of food, camping supplies, solar panels, cameras, VCRs and other gear. Their goal: to locate gyrfalcon nests and set up surveillance.

Gyrfalcons nest in the sides of cliffs, Booms explained, and after some extensive searching, several nests were sighted within about a 20-mile area. Using ropes and other climbing gear, Booms and Doney rappelled down the cliffs to the nest sites and installed tiny video cameras about the size of soda cans. They ran cable down the rock to battery banks and VCRs, and set up the solar panels at just the right angle to catch the sun’s rays.

Then, during the long arctic summer, Booms and Wisconsin student Ryan Blaedow hiked daily between their base camp and a satellite camp to reach the nest sites. They changed videotapes, banded gyrfalcon chicks, collected samples, conducted field observations and made voluminous records. Doney and Boise State graduate student Catherine Wightman, also an experienced Greenland researcher, conducted a second part of the study by hiking across the rest of the study area to locate nests, band chicks and conduct prey surveys.

“No one has ever done work like this with gyrfalcons in this area,” says Booms, who returned to Boise State this fall with about 1,600 hours of videotapes and gallons of prey remains collected from active nests. Booms is working under the direction of Raptor Research Center director Mark Fuller at Boise State, and will return to Greenland next summer for another field season. The project is supported by the Raptor Research Center, The Peregrine Fund Inc., the Conservation Research Foundation and the NSF. His three-year NSF graduate fellowship, one of only about 1,000 awarded annually throughout the U.S., provides a stipend and cost-of-education allowance.

According to Booms, gyrfalcons have some similarities to the better-known peregrine falcons, but until now, little was known about their food habits in west Greenland. While his findings are...
definitely preliminary, Booms says it appears that the gyrfalcons are primarily eating ptarmigan, as well as several species of songbirds and waterfowl. If subsequent studies support that finding, it would indicate that gyrfalcons occupy a separate niche in Greenland from peregrines, which don't rely as heavily on ptarmigan, and that the two species do not compete directly for food, he says.

Booms is looking forward to reviewing his videotapes and field journals this winter, and also to returning to Greenland next May for another field season. He said the experience of living outdoors for four months in the arctic was "incredible." He often spotted caribou, arctic fox, ptarmigan and a variety of waterfowl near his camp. The weather was mostly mild, and the scenery spectacular. While the team mainly subsisted on inexpensive staples such as macaroni and cheese and Ramen noodles, they also feasted on the arctic trout that were plentiful and easy to catch.

"To his credit, Travis was able to put together a whole system without a lot of training or experience in how to do it," says Doug Broach of Applied Power Corp. in Lacey, Wash., who worked with Booms on procuring the solar equipment. "It was important to choose components that were extremely reliable and simple, and he was able to do that."

Booms did have some minor problems with some of the equipment in the field, but he says he and his team became adept at making repairs. Those experiences should prove useful when he returns to the field next year. "The logistics can be challenging," Booms admits. "But the work is very rewarding."

TWO CONCERTS RING IN HOLIDAYS

Two concerts on the Boise State campus will ring in the holiday season in early December.

The Boston Pops orchestra, now in its 115th year, will present "An Evening with the Boston Pops" at The Pavilion at 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 1.

The orchestra has been featured for the last 29 years on the Evening at Pops public television series. At last year's Boise concert, the capacity crowd enjoyed holiday music, traditional carols and sing-alongs. Tickets range from $15 to $100.

The Boise State music department will host its annual Family Holiday Concert at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, in the Morrison Center Main Hall.

The community event will feature chorale and symphonic music presented by Boise State performing groups. Tickets are $6 general admission, $4 seniors, $1 students and free to Boise State students, faculty and staff.

Tickets to both events are available at Select-a-Seat outlets, by calling 426-1766 or visiting www.idahotickets.com.

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http://idahoptv.org
Boise State senior Autumn Haynes, left, rehearses with cast members of Bye Bye Birdie. “I was blessed because I had really talented young actors,” she says.

**STUDENT BLENDS DRAMA, LEADERSHIP**

By Patricia Pyke

Boise State senior Autumn Haynes has a knack for producing theater shows and special events that are not only creative and polished, but are also well attended and successful. This past summer, 24-year-old Haynes founded and directed a summer youth theater program whose five performances of Broadway musical Bye Bye Birdie sold out almost every seat.

In the summer theater program, sponsored by the Boise Parks and Recreation Department and Boise Little Theater, 45 kids ages 10-18 experienced the joys and hard work of acting, set construction and rehearsing five or six days a week all summer. The program also provided leadership training and built self-esteem in the youngsters.

“I made a genuine effort to make sure all those kids knew I thought they were something special,” says Haynes, a communication major. “I didn’t put any limitations on these guys. ‘You can do anything,’ I told them.”

“You can do anything,” seems to be Haynes’ personal motto. Even though she hasn’t yet graduated, she was recently hired in a professional position as the student activities coordinator for Boise State Student Union and Activities.

Haynes transferred to Boise State in 1997 after earning an associate’s degree in theater and speech from the College of Southern Idaho. She became involved with the debate team, served as the executive assistant for ASBSU and participated in Leadership Quest, a program that grooms student leaders.

She soon earned a reputation for turning student awards banquets and ASBSU events into popular festive occasions.

“She’s detailed and creative — I think those things come from her theater background. She’s committed and really has a sense of putting students first,” says Rob Meyer, associate director of Student Activities. “I think she just has an internal drive to better herself to be the best she can be. She’s a perfectionist, she constantly is seeing ways she can improve things.”

Haynes says she struggled with self-image as a child growing up in Twin Falls, where participating in community theater was the highlight of her summers.

“I was very hard on myself as a child,” she says. “If I gave a performance and I didn’t do a very good job, I would beat myself up about it.”

She credits her involvement in Boise State’s Leadership Quest and other programs with giving her confidence to recognize and appreciate her own abilities, talents and accomplishments.

Haynes says she wants to give kids the knowledge of their own self-worth at an early age. In addition to the summer program, last school year she founded City C.A.T(s) (Creative Acting Troupe) to help children expand their theatrical talents and leadership skills.

“The kids mentor me as much as I mentor them,” she says.
INTERNS STRETCH WEB TO INCLUDE RURAL IDAHO COMMUNITIES

By Patricia Pyke

When Boise State senior Lanie Barnes embarked on an internship with the Qwest (formerly US WEST) Foundation last semester, she had little idea how much it would alter her career plans and even change her grandparents’ business.

As an intern with the foundation’s WOW (Widening Our World) program, she helped stretch the threads of the Internet’s web to people in far-flung Idaho counties and rural communities. Barnes, fellow Boise State student Sara Garrett and Virginia student Cory Smith traveled around Idaho, from McCammon to Coeur d’Alene to Weiser, in a van equipped with 12 laptop computers, two servers and stacks of instruction books.

They stopped at schools, libraries and community centers teaching classes on Internet basics, search engines, e-mail, Web page design, use of the Internet for educators and business people and more.

“We taught from second grade all the way up to senior citizens,” says Barnes. “It was so amazing. I met so many different people. I actually switched my major to elementary education from business management because of it.

“In these little towns they can’t afford to go on field trips, but the teacher can go online and her kids can have a live chat with the people climbing Mount Everest.”

In Jerome, Barnes taught her grandparents, who own an ice cream shop, to do their banking and most of their business transactions online.

WOW has brought the Internet to more than 15,000 people in Idaho and thousands more in 13 other Western states since it began three years ago.

Suzy Haislip, a Boise State senior majoring in communication, has coordinated the Idaho program since she finished her internship in fall 1999.

She says WOW gives rural residents the economic benefits of living in a bigger city. “They can compete with anyone,” she says, when searching for employment or marketing their businesses online.

Over the past three years, eight Boise State students participated in WOW. Their dedication enlivened the program, says Haislip. “Without the Boise State students we wouldn’t have had such a popular and supported program,” she says.

Two Boise State students went on to work for Qwest and one student is now involved in another Qwest Foundation project.

The students who are WOW interns this fall, Stephanie Corral from Boise State and Dustin Lilya from University of Idaho, will be the last in the program, which will be phased out at the end of the semester.

Quest instead will focus on its new nonprofit program eBITS, aimed at helping small businesses with technology and Internet solutions.
NEW EQUIPMENT WILL ENHANCE FAN FUN

Life just got a little better for Bronco fans. A $1.85 million project approved by the State Board of Education in September means new scoreboards are on the way for both Bronco Stadium and The Pavilion.

Infinity Sports Marketing of Phoenix will install an instant replay video monitor, scoreboard and display panels in Bronco Stadium and a four-sided video monitor and scoreboard in The Pavilion.

The Blue Vision video monitor in Bronco Stadium will feature an 18 x 24-ft. video replay screen.

The equipment will be paid for over a 10-year period from funds generated by sponsorship panels on the equipment. The sponsorships also will generate approximately $150,000 annually in new revenue for the athletic department.

The department hopes to have the equipment installed in The Pavilion by the beginning of basketball season in November. The Bronco Stadium equipment could be unveiled as early as this season's Humanitarian Bowl.

“We're excited to be able to do something like this with our entrance into the Western Athletic Conference,” says Curt Apsey, associate athletic director. “This will bring an excitement to our fan base and all the people who are involved with the university as well.”

Apsey says the monitors will allow fans to view instant replays as well as highlights of other games. “It's going to make the fan experience that much better,” he says.

FRANK CHURCH CONFERENCE EXAMINES ROLE OF PRESIDENCY

The 17th annual Frank Church Conference on Public Affairs attracted capacity crowds to the Jordan Ballroom at Boise State's Student Union in late September. Three speakers and four panelists discussed the power and limitations of the office of the president over the two-day conference.

Keynote Speaker Ted Sorensen, former adviser and speech writer to President John F. Kennedy, told a crowd of almost 700 that the president's power to actively take a leadership role has declined drastically since the end of the Cold War.

As the threat of nuclear war decreased, so too did Congress's willingness to defer to the chief executive in foreign policy matters, Sorensen said.

By compromising the president's imperial powers, he said, Congress has in essence weakened the nation's ability to act quickly in times of crisis: “Congress cannot lead. It is not constituted to take speedy coherent responses to the hazards that face the nation's interests.”

Bryce Nelson, a professor at the University of Southern California and former political reporter, spoke about the media's role in shaping the presidency. Extensive coverage of the chief executive, he said, reinforces the strength and importance of the office.

“The president and the press need each other,” he said.

But that intense scrutiny also raises the public's expectations of the office, and increases their dissatisfaction.

“The press prefers heroes, and there are no heroes to serve as president, only real people,” he said.

Panel discussions on “The Bully Pulpit” and “The Presidency — Imperial or Imperiled?” examined the president's right to declare war and the importance of personal character in the country's highest elected office.

In withholding the war power from the presidency, “The framers of the Constitution were committed to the idea that the conjoined wisdom of many is superior to one,” said Idaho State University professor David Adler. The 1973 War Powers Act, which gave the president authorization to declare war under certain conditions, compromised that original intent, he said.

Character flaws can also lead to diminished effectiveness in the oval office, said panelists Joan Hoff, a history professor currently teaching at the College of William and Mary, and Drex Heikes, executive director of the Los Angeles Times Magazine.

If Americans don't demand higher integrity, they said, the country faces a potential leadership disaster.

“Americans no longer care if a fake or real person occupies the office,” Hoff said. “We get what we deserve.”

Luncheon speaker Thomas E. Cronin, president of Whitman College, left listeners with the thought that, at their very best, presidents remind us of our mutual needs.

“They challenge both us and our countries to do better.”

LITERATURE GROUP MARKS MILESTONE

Twenty years ago, a book discussion group led by Boise State English professor Carol Martin met for the first time at what was then the YWCA in downtown Boise to discuss Tell Me A Riddle by Tillie Olsen.

Since then, Literature for Lunch has become a much-loved Boise tradition, drawing together readers from many walks of life for monthly discussions of a broad range of novels and biographies.

Martin and Boise State English professor Jan Widmayer, who got involved shortly after the group formed in 1980, say the group has given them an opportunity to study books outside their academic areas.

Martin is an expert in 19th century English literature, while Widmayer's specialty is 18th century English literature.

The professors take turns selecting books — everything from Jane Austen's Persuasion and Isak Dinesen's Out of Africa to Wally Lamb's She's Come Undone and a series of books set in China. Most of the selections feature strong female characters or were written by women.

Over the years, the group has read some 175 books and attracted hundreds of book readers ranging in age from 20 to 80-plus. As many as 50 people show up for monthly meetings, and the current mailing list tops 300. While group members have come and gone, there are a few who span the group's entire 20-year history.

"It's exciting to read literature with those who are not getting a grade. That does make a difference," says Widmayer.

Lit for Lunch continues its season Nov. 2 with a discussion of The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy. The group meets from 12:10-1 p.m. at the WCA, 720 West Washington St. in downtown Boise.
BSU ESTABLISHES PROTOTYPE FACILITY

A new prototyping facility that will make models of manufactured goods to help Idaho’s design and manufacturing companies was established in the Boise State College of Engineering this fall.

Design software and hardware and a rapid prototyping machine will produce in a matter of hours or days conventional models of products that often take weeks and sometimes months to make.

Located on the fourth floor of Boise State’s Micron Engineering Center, the facility was made possible by a $308,000 two-year matching grant through the Economic Development Administration and the university.

The new facility will not only equip Boise State engineering students with an invaluable learning tool, but also provide a statewide service to boost production opportunities for Idaho manufacturers.

Prototyping is a standard operation in most manufacturing processes. As new products are developed, parts and assemblies are often modeled in clay, wood and metal to assure form, fit and function. Rapid prototyping is used to save time and cut costs at every stage of the product development process and help bring products to market faster.

Instead of investing in expensive prototype equipment, Idaho manufacturers can now have parts made for a fee by the Rapid Prototyping Technical Assistance facility. The manufacturer can e-mail the solid model part file to the facility, which then runs its computers and prototyping machine to make the model. Fees will vary depending on the complexity and size of the part and the process used.

"Idaho’s design and manufacturing companies find themselves competing in a global economy," says mechanical engineering professor Steve Tennyson.

“These companies, especially those in rural areas, could better realize the value-added benefit of utilizing computer-aided solid modeling and rapid prototyping.”

BOISE STATE LEADS RESEARCH PROJECTS

Boise State has been selected to participate in three research projects as part of the first joint collaborative effort between the Inland Northwest Research Alliance and the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory.

Thirteen projects valued at $3 million were funded for a three-year period. Many of the projects are oriented toward gaining a better understanding of subsurface conditions and various contaminants present at the INEEL site.

The goal is to develop environmental clean-up methods that can be used in a variety of applications.

Boise State is the lead institution on two projects — one to develop a portable sensor for detection of subsurface contaminants and another to map and interpret the subsurface using non-invasive methods.

In addition, Boise State scientists will work with researchers at the INEEL and at Idaho State University on a project that involves using X-rays to nondestructively measure contaminants beneath the surface of the ground.

INRA is a consortium of seven universities that are partners with Bechtel BWXT Idaho, the corporation responsible for managing and operating INEEL near Idaho Falls.
A collection of short stories, an examination of the role of scientists in the acid rain debate, a novel translated from French to English, a novel about a group of black teenagers in 1968, a book about legislative elections and the second edition of a book on at-risk youth are among the latest publications by Boise State faculty.

**CROSSING BORDERS, CROSSING BOUNDARIES: THE ROLE OF SCIENTISTS IN THE U.S. ACID RAIN DEBATE**
*By Les Alm, Praeger Publishing*

The chair of the department of political science uses the issue of acid rain to explore the link between science and public policy. Acid rain became a hot topic in the late 1970s when fish began dying in large numbers across the United States and Canada due to high levels of contaminants in fresh lakes and streams. But it took lawmakers until late 1990 to pass legislation requiring a reduction of pollutants by 50 percent. Alm provides insight into the difficulties scientists have had in communicating their research to people with limited scientific background.

**WHAT WE COME IN FOR**
*By Richard Lundquist, University of Missouri Press*

This new collection of short stories by the Boise State English professor is centered around the fictional town of Paradise. The stories share the same landscapes and landmarks and all convey a sense of loss, fear and helplessness. Lundquist’s characters also share a history that is portrayed in vignettes between the stories. These vignettes are like dimly remembered dreams that fade against the pulse of the day. Yet they also are the threads that unify Lundquist’s vision.

Lundquist has been a member of the English faculty for 18 years. His writing has appeared in numerous literary magazines, including *High Plains Literary Review, Kansas Quarterly, Talking River Review* and others.

**THE DAUGHTER OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS**
*Will Browning, translator, Guernica Editions*

The French and Spanish professor recently translated a novel by Quebec author Réjean Ducharme from French to English. Ducharme is the winner of several literary prizes and the author of more than a dozen novels. In this novel, in verse, a beautiful and naive Columbia Columbus wanders through the world in search of friendship upon the death of her famous father. Despite fantastic adventures, she finds mostly cruelty and indifference until she makes friends with an ever-growing number of animals, some of whom serve as bodyguards during her dramatic return to Montreal in the year 2492 to celebrate the millennium of Christopher Columbus’ discovery of America.

**HOPE FULFILLED FOR AT-RISK AND VIOLENT YOUTH: K-12 PROGRAMS THAT WORK**
*By Bob Barr and Bill Parrett, Ally & Bacon*

The two education professors provide an updated look at the crisis of at-risk children and youth in the United States. The book reports on an avalanche of research that enables educators for the first time to make long-term predictions about teaching young children. It also provides practical and down-to-earth strategies to ensure that all children and youth learn effectively.

**A FIELD DAY**
*By Keith Anderson, iuniverse.com*

This novel, written by College of Education employee Anderson, features a group of baseball-loving black teenagers in California. Set in 1968, it tells of how the team meets up with a group of white baseball players the same age. The groups overcome social pressures and racial tensions among adults in their lives to strike up a relationship and oppose each other on the diamond.

**WHO RUNS FOR THE LEGISLATURE?**
*By Gary Moncrief, Prentice Hall Publishers*

The Boise State political science professor, along with Peverill Squire and Malcolm Jewell, looks at why people run for public office, why so many elections are uncontested, and the personal cost of entering a campaign, especially for non-incumbents.

Moncrief did the majority of his research while on sabbatical in 1998. He and his colleagues (Squire, from the University of Iowa and Jewell, from the University of Kentucky) surveyed 500 candidates in eight states: Alabama, Colorado, Iowa, Maine, Michigan, New Jersey, Virginia and Washington. The book is part of Prentice Hall’s “Real Politics in America” series.

**4 ADMINISTRATORS JOIN UNIVERSITY**

Four new administrators have joined the Boise State team over the last quarter in the following student services offices: Tim Ebner, registrar; David Tolman, director of financial aid services; Tam Dinh, Multi-ethnic Center coordinator; and Melissa Wintrow, Women’s Center coordinator.

For the past five years, Ebner was registrar at Midland Lutheran College in Fremont, Neb., where he was responsible for the coordination of course schedules, classroom assignments, registration and maintaining academic records. Prior to that he worked as registrar or assistant registrar at Quincy University and Metropolitan Community College.

Tolman comes to Boise State from the University of Utah, where he was the associate director of financial aid and scholarships. Tolman will manage 20-plus staff members, administer more than $40 million in financial aid each year and provide customer service to the university’s more than 16,000 students.

Dinh was born in Vietnam and raised in Boise, but spent the last several years in Seattle where she worked with a variety of ethnic groups as a social worker. As the first-ever full-time coordinator for the Multi-ethnic Center, Dinh’s goal is to promote cultural awareness among both the ethnic minorities who use the center and the student body as a whole. By teaching others about cultures different from their own, she hopes to promote a greater appreciation for diversity.

Wintrow, also the first-ever full-time coordinator for the Women’s Center, comes to Boise from Portland State University, where she was an academic adviser and instructor. In her new role, Wintrow wants to build a stronger relationship with existing campus and community organizations as a way to help women face the confusing maze of higher education issues that often challenge women who are also parents. She hopes to turn the Women’s Center into a gathering place for all students.

**FINANCE STUDENTS TURN TIDY PROFIT**

A team of seven Boise State finance students turned a $50,000 investment into a $6,666 profit in September.

The student team was led by Harry White, a marketing and finance professor for the College of Business and Economics. The money represents profits earned in D.A. Davidson and Co.’s annual Student Investment Program.

The group placed third in a field of 14 colleges and universities, posting a 31.74 percent return on its investment for an increase of almost $16,000. Each participating school earned a payment equal to half its investment return above 5 percent.
NEW DNA SEQUENCER SUPPORTS GENETIC RESEARCH AT BSU

By Janelle Brown

The technology that enabled scientists to complete a survey of human genetic structure as part of the Human Genome Project is now available at Boise State University, thanks to the purchase of new equipment that researchers can use to automatically sequence DNA, the so-called building blocks of life.

The Global DNA Sequencing System, a $90,000 unit built by LiCor Inc., will be used by Boise State scientists pursuing a broad range of research projects, according to biology professor Jim Smith.

"It's a critical piece of equipment," says Smith. "It will save an enormous amount of time, and allow us to pursue research that wouldn't be possible without it."

The system was purchased through a public-private collaboration. Chris Davidson, founder of the Idaho Botanical Garden and a research botanist, donated $30,000 of his own money and will use the sequencer to pursue molecular studies of Piperaceae, the black pepper family. Dan Montgomery, a Boise State graduate and Microsoft retiree, donated $15,000. The donations were matched with $45,000 from the university.

"This machine is so fast, you can have a number of people working on it," says Davidson, noting that the partnership with Boise State is mutually beneficial. "You can do in a half hour what would take three days to do manually."

Researchers using the new equipment will insert a gel into the machine which separates previously prepared genetic material by fragment size. Computer software will then automatically read the gel and identify and order the DNA it contains.

The information can be used by scientists to understand how the organism's DNA is structured and how it differs on a genetic level from other specimens.

Smith will use the new system to analyze and compare the genetic codes of flowering plants called Cyrtandra that are found only in Hawaii. His project, funded by the National Geographic Society, is focused on tracing the evolutionary history of the shrub-like plants that are part of the African violet family.

Davidson noted that without the automated DNA sequencer, he would not even attempt to pursue his genetic research on the black pepper family because of the complexity of the work. "It just wouldn't be possible to do it," he says.

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For More Information Call: (208) 426-3652
There is no question that the Republican Party strongly dominates Idaho's body politic. But just how did the GOP gain such a strong upper hand? In this issue of FOCUS we look at how today's political landscape in the Gem State was shaped from a historical perspective. We also profile some of the key players from both parties and examine how the state's one-party system has even influenced its nonpartisan judicial elections.

Party Prominence

Flawed or favorable, the GOP's dominance is an Idaho tradition

By Kathleen Mortensen

When Ada County Sen. Betsy Dunklin looks around the state Senate chamber, she could be forgiven for feeling a little lonely. One of only four Democrats in the 35-member Senate, she is the lone Democratic senator in the 400-mile stretch between Ketchum and Orofino. Being the only Democratic voice
on a Senate committee can be difficult, she says.

"When the Republicans are lined up on an issue, and they’re not going to debate, it's up to a Democrat to point out flaws in the policy. When you're one person, it's too big a burden."

Welcome to the Idaho Statehouse, where Democrats these days are as rare as the elusive Royal Elk of hunters' dreams. And in case you're thinking this is just a passing fad, think again. It's been that way for most of Idaho's history and may not change soon.

Idaho was granted statehood more than 100 years ago by a Republican-dominated U.S. Congress with the idea that it would be a Republican state. And except for a few brief blips on the historical timeline like the long-forgotten 1896 election that put a higher percentage of Democrats in office than Idaho has seen since, it's remained true to its Grand Old Party roots.

Based on sheer percentages, the Gem State is known as the most Republican state in the nation.

The evidence: Idaho's entire Congressional delegation, 85 percent of its Legislature and all but two of its state-elected officials are Republicans. Democrats haven't held a majority in the Legislature since 1960 and the last Democratic presidential candidate to carry the state was Lyndon Johnson in 1964—by less than 1 percent.

But some political analysts argue that the issue isn’t really as black and white as it appears.

While Republicans may dominate the current political scene, that hasn’t always been the case. In fact, Idaho was largely viewed as a politically competitive state from the 70s through the early ‘90s, notes Jim Weatherby, Boise State public policy and administration department chair.

During that era the Democrats featured marquee candidates such as U.S. Sen. Frank Church, who held his seat for 24 years. There was also more balance in the Congressional districts, with Richard Stallings elected to four terms and Larry LaRocco to two.

But perhaps even more important, Democrats occupied the governor's office for 24 consecutive years — Cecil Andrus from 1971 to 1977, and again from 1987 to 1995, and John Evans, who led the state for the intervening 10-year period.

And a May 2000 survey of more than 700 state residents by Boise State University's Social Science Research Center found only 41 percent of the respondents identified themselves as Republican, although about 50 percent said they were at least somewhat conservative.

"You'll find it said, and I tend to agree, that the Republican population in Idaho is well under half," says Randy Stapilus, editor of the Idaho Public Affairs Digest.

"However, the Democrats are probably just 20 to 30 percent."

And the rest? According to Stapilus, they're independent voters who bounce from one side of the ballot to the other, depending on the candidates. More often than not, they tend to vote Republican, adding to the image of Idaho as a densely Republican state.

Stapilus says independent voters, as well as many Democrats, are often drawn to the Republican message because of its simplicity.

"Lower taxes, less government — get the government off your back," he says. "That's pretty much it. The Democrats are not as easily defined."

Weatherby agrees with Stapilus' assessment.

"Idaho is not as Republican as the number of its elected Republican officials might indicate," he says. Many who claim to be Republican embrace a decidedly more traditional conservatism than their counterparts in other states, meaning they're slow to accept new policies or expel existing ideas.

At the same time, a comparable percentage of Democrats leans to the right.

That trend extends beyond the raw numbers to include a uniquely Idaho approach to the party line. Many Idaho Democrats join their Republican neighbors in embracing a largely conservative "hands-off government" philosophy when it comes to issues like taxes and the environment. Are there states with a more conservative political slant? Neighboring Utah or Wyoming — perhaps.

Compared to the majority of the country,
Idaho is peopled with “conservative Democrats and moderately conservative Republicans,” Weatherby says, making for a middle-of-the-road philosophy that reflects neither a far right Republican nor a liberal Democratic point of view.

What that means, analysts say, is that as long as the economy is doing well and people are feeling secure, most voters - Republicans and Democrats alike - aren’t anxious to rock the boat by pushing for a change.

But should the economy suffer a drastic collapse, or the Republican Party find itself on the wrong side of an explosive issue, the political landscape could suddenly change, says Weatherby.

The legislative elections of 1990 provide the most recent example. That year was the closest the Democrats have come in recent history to seizing a majority in either chamber of the Legislature, as voters ousted several Republicans who supported the most restrictive abortion bill in the country.

The Democrats, who were especially well-organized in Ada County, managed to pull even with the Republicans in the state Senate and made some gains in the House. But the honeymoon didn’t last long. Stung by the 1990 results, the Republicans regrouped under party chair Phil Batt. By 1992, a more organized Republican Party returned to a 23-12 majority in the Senate and two years later celebrated as Batt captured the governor’s office.

Batt credits a strong grassroots effort for the party’s comeback. “We had regional meetings where we emphasized the points we could agree on, and refrained from concentrating on points where we had disagreements,” he says. “We went ahead as a united front and recruited candidates for every position. It was hard work.”

Maybe, but it worked. Since then, the Republicans have built on strength through an organization that has raised more money, fielded more candidates and won more elections than the Democrats.

There are as many opinions as to why the voters consistently lean Republican as there are analysts and politicians.

Batt cites occasional divisions within the Democratic Party and the influx of conservative voters from out of state looking for strong “family values” and less government involvement in people’s lives.

“Republicans better represent the feelings of most Idahoans that government should interfere with their lives only to a bare minimum,” he says.

Sen. Ken Robison (D-Boise) doesn’t agree with the image of a divided party. “We’re Democrats. We don’t always have to agree statewide on every issue,” he says. “But we have a lot of common ground as well.” That common ground includes a united front on issues ranging from education spending to supporting a minimum wage for farm workers.

Issues at the national level can cause huge ripples in Idaho, as Democrats have learned. Federal environmental policies, for example, are among the reasons cited for a loss of jobs in Idaho’s timber and mining industries. That “lunch bucket” issue has caused a backlash against Democrats in Idaho’s largely rural areas, even though most local Democrats support Idaho’s resource-based industries.

“Most of those policies [such as the Environmental Protection Agency] passed under Nixon, but they were seen as a Democratic move that endangered the lifestyle of Idaho workers,” says Perry Swisher, a former legislator and member of the Public Utilities Commission.

“Workers usually vote Democrat, but those working at the paper mills and mines and such in small communities didn’t like what was happening,” he says.

Andrus adds that President Clinton’s poor public image hasn’t helped the state party. “That lifestyle has tainted the Democratic image in a family image state like Idaho,” the former governor says.

But Laird Noh, a Republican senator from Kimberly, says the imbalance is less a national aberration than a reflection of the spirit of Idahoans.

“Parties ebb and flow based on how well they lead and the issues of the time,” he says. “I think it’s part of the Western tradition that people in Idaho have had to deal with the realities of a harsh environment. They worked hard to create a living in the desert or mountains. I think that tends to cause people to be self-reliant — they want to see results. The particular label
Malmen Stumps for Otter, GOP

By Janelle Brown

Butch Otter is riding high. Wearing a cowboy shirt embroidered with "Otter for Congress," Wrangler jeans and spit-polished boots, Idaho's lieutenant governor and Republican candidate for the 1st Congressional District strides through the crowd at the Western Idaho Fair, stopping every few minutes to shake hands with well-wishers or banter about politics, farm prices or the sweltering weather.

"If I was in Detroit, I'd probably go to the Ford Motor Co., but in Idaho, this is where it's at," says Otter, sweeping out his arm to encompass the colorful scene.

On the other side of the fairgrounds, Otter's campaign manager, Jeff Malmen, paces back and forth in front of the Idaho Republican booth and talks on his cell phone about Otter's upcoming visit to Coeur d'Alene. Otter, riding a borrowed horse, will carry the state flag in a procession at the North Idaho Fair Rodeo.

Malmen wants to make sure the horse is used to big crowds and won't be spooked. It's just one of a deluge of details he'll handle today — little things that alone might appear insignificant, but taken together, shape a candidate and a campaign.

"Outside of Boise, Idaho is still a rural state. People want to look the candidate in the eye and talk to him. That's very important," says Malmen, who studied social sciences at Boise State University from 1985-87 and was involved, not surprisingly, in student government and debate.

Malmen's job is to have Otter in a winning position by Election Day on Nov. 7. From campaign headquarters in downtown Boise, he charts strategy, marshals volunteers, builds coalitions, oversees fund-raisers and schedules his candidate throughout the vast 1st District, which includes 19 counties, two time zones and 582 miles from top to bottom.

Malmen thrives on it all. A veteran GOP campaigner, he has managed the successful bids of Gov. Dirk Kempthorne, Sen. Larry Craig and former Gov. Phil Batt, and also helped get Steve Symms elected to the U.S. Senate in 1986. He has served as executive director of the Idaho Republican Party, as Batt's chief of staff, Craig's field director, Symms' legislative correspondent, and as administrator of the Idaho Division of Financial Management.

"Jeff was a great help to me both in my campaign and as governor," says Batt. "He's intelligent and hardworking. He'll go a long way in the world."

Craig describes Malmen as a "self-starter" who understands how to motivate people. "He has always impressed me with a sharp political mind and attention to detail," Craig says.

Malmen shrugs off the accolades. "I have a healthy fear of failing. That helps drive me," he says. Though Otter appears poised for an easy victory over Moscow City Council president Linda Pall for the seat held by retiring Rep. Helen Chenoweth-Hage, Malmen isn't taking anything for granted.

"If we buy that; we don't get the signs up, we don't get the information in people's hands. Perhaps most importantly, we forget to go vote," he says. "You always need to be in a position of building. It's difficult to correct a glide."

Besides, as Malmen knows firsthand, elections are never a done deal. At one point in Batt's bid for governor in 1994, he was 38 points behind in the polls, then went on to defeat Larry EchoHawk. "In some ways, it's easier that way," Malmen says. "You always know what the target is.

Malmen's days start early and end late. He keeps a notebook by his bed so if he wakes up in the night with an idea, he can write it down. A major task is figuring logistics and priorities for Otter's appearances around the state — everything from a barbecue at Givens Hot Springs in Owyhee County to a fund-raiser in Caldwell.

"Butch loves to campaign. He loves to be in the middle of people," says Malmen. "He's a little bit of a character — but in the 1st District, they don't demand people be 100 percent politically correct or 100 percent polished. They like someone who is a little rough and tough."

Like any good manager, Malmen plays to his candidate's strengths, keeping Otter on a tight schedule of people-to-people appearances around the district. "Jeff gives me discipline. He keeps me from making silly mistakes," says Otter. "He maintains a healthy schedule for me — it's probably not a schedule he'd like to keep, but he has no qualms about me doing it."

With some 5,000 volunteers and the campaign well on its way toward reaching its goal of raising $1 million, Malmen is confident the campaign is on track. Still, he expects his days to be increasingly busy.

"You can sense when people start to pay attention, when they focus on what the election is about," says Malmen. "That should be happening soon."

He'll make last-minute changes in campaign strategy in the weeks ahead, depending on voter mood and the issues that surface. "The day before the election, you find out if you put everything together right," says Malmen. "But now is the time to make sure that happens."
[Republican or Democrat] becomes unimportant."

In fact, Noh points out, some Republicans and Democrats have teamed up a number of times in the past few years in order to pass programs they felt were important to the state — such as the creation of a state Department of Commerce to help stimulate the economy.

And finally, Wendy Jaquet, House minority leader from Ketchum, says a lot of her party's trouble can be blamed on bad timing. As agricultural and timber jobs become a thing of the past, she says, unemployment is a very real problem.

"I think it's hard for people not to look for someone to blame," she says, even though local Democrats are mostly supportive of the lunch-bucket crowd.

Robison agrees. "It's guilt by association," he says. Even though most Idaho Democrats are supportive of the timber industry, the national party's stand has become a thing of the past, she says, even unemployment is a very real problem.

"Whatever the reason, both sides say the one-party dominance is a detriment to a sound exchange of ideas.

"Even a lot of Republicans are concerned Idaho is so one-party," Weatherby says. "Alternative viewpoints of voters are not being expressed. The Legislature is supposed to make sure alternative viewpoints are heard."

Noh agrees: "It can be a bad thing to the extent that the Legislature evolves into a 'Good Old Boys' or Girls' Club' to the exclusion of new ideas and change," he says. "Power can corrupt, hence we need to be particularly sensitive to the wishes of the public."

Just as the abortion issue divided voters in 1990, so too could some of the issues facing the Legislature today. Democrats hope that may lead to an increase in the number of Democratic lawmakers come November.

"The record doesn't accurately reflect Idahoans," Robison says, citing recent debates over public television, the minimum wage for farm workers and education spending.

This year Democratic legislators have aggressively sought candidates through the Restore Representative Government committee. Fifty two Democratic candidates are on the ballot.

But Boise State political science professor Gary Moncrief says Idaho still leads the nation in seats uncontested by Democrats. This year Democrats are not contesting seats in six of Idaho's 35 legislative districts. Two-thirds of the Senate and half of the House seats are going uncontested, mostly to Republicans.

One-party domination, says Moncrief, doesn't foster a broad or intense discussion of the issues, whether the setting be a legislative campaign or within the Legislature itself.

"I'm not sure policies would be any different, but the process would be. Most races now are controlled by the primary elections. This results in factional politics where the dialogue is between the conservative and moderate wings of the party. That doesn't include a range of all policy issues," says Moncrief.

Whatever the cause, party politics is likely to remain a lopsided proposition through at least one more election. Whether the future stays true to Idaho's motto, "Let it be forever," remains to be seen. □
It's a good thing Lauren McLean is a marathon runner. Pounding the pavement with Democratic state legislative candidates as they meet voters face to face is just one of McLean's many duties as a leader in the party's bid to regain seats in the Statehouse.

McLean, a 24-year-old master's student in public administration at Boise State, is the caucus director and only paid staff member of the Democrats' legislative campaign committee, Restore Representative Government (RRG).

McLean has the lean build and the patient, determined demeanor of an endurance athlete — traits which suit her Herculean mission. Her task: To help all 57 Democratic legislative candidates mount viable grassroots campaigns by providing them with training, fund-raising assistance and strategy planning.

She says that personal contact with voters is essential to rebuild a base of support for Idaho Democrats, who hold only 16 of 105 seats in the Legislature.

"We're relying on the fact that, first of all, [many voters] are going to be independents, and they'll be interested in the fact that a candidate has spoken with them, has come to the door and has cared about them," says McLean.

The message McLean and the Democratic candidates want to deliver firsthand is that their party is in line with Idaho voters on key issues including education, health care, the economy and natural resources.

"People associate Democrats with East Coast liberals, and really, if you look at the candidates we have, we don't have any candidates who are like that," she says.

The candidates McLean consults with as she drives around the state, toting her laptop computer filled with Democratic visions, can best be described as moderate, she says.

A five-week period in the fall found McLean campaigning with more than a dozen candidates. "Every day is different," she says.

She mingled with voters at the Bonner County Fair with District 1B candidate Jerry Stoicheff, knocked on doors in Payette with District 9B candidate Terry Haun, and strategized with campaign workers in Pocatello for District 34 candidate Mark Packer.

"I think she's gained the trust of many candidates," says House minority leader Wendy Jaquet, (D-Ketchum), who was instrumental in forming RRG. "They check in with her and tell her what they're doing and they respect her expertise."

One warm evening in September, McLean and Jaquet attended a fund-raiser in Meridian where the bright spirits of the Democrats gathered there matched the glowing sunset over the Eagle hills. The event, an ice cream social for District 14B Democratic challenger Jim Corey, drew about 100 people.

Corey, who earned a master's degree in curriculum and instruction from Boise State in 1996, is the kind of candidate McLean and Jaquet worked hard to recruit. With deep roots in his community and outspoken support from some moderate Republicans, Corey has mounted a well-organized and substantially funded campaign against Republican incumbent Shirley McKague.

Corey received help from RRG in defining issues, raising funds and strategizing how to reach voters in the state's fastest growing district, where education, growth and working-family tax burdens are hot topics.

"I wouldn't have run without their assistance," says Corey, referring to Jaquet and McLean.

"Lauren, of course, is pivotal," he says about McLean's issue research, training support and general advice.

McLean keeps tabs on all the party's legislative candidates and helps them fine-tune their messages to their individual districts. "Some days I try to call all 57 candidates," she says.

McLean's task is the political equivalent of running uphill. Fortunately for the Democrats, hill running is one of McLean's specialties. A run in the Boise foothills landed her in Idaho in 1998.

McLean wanted to move west, having served an internship working on natural resource policy in Montana while an undergraduate at the University of Notre Dame. While pondering whether to accept admission to law school at the University of Washington, she accompanied her husband, computer engineer Scott McLean, on a job interview trip to Boise.

"I went for a run in the foothills and realized I didn't want to be in law school. I wanted to be here in Boise. And we just dropped everything and we came here."

She enrolled at Boise State and soon landed a job with the Democratic Party and eventually as an intern for Jaquet and Sen. Betsy Dunklin, (D-Boise).

Jaquet, who with 15 other Democratic legislators founded RRG, recruited McLean as caucus director. "She could see where we should go, she took ownership of the vision," says Jaquet.

As Election Day approaches, McLean is cautious about becoming too optimistic. "But I'm starting to feel excited for November to come and excited to see what our caucus room looks like in January," she says. "I think it might look different."
Can We Balance On One Foot?

Idaho suffers from unilateral governing.

By Michael Patrick Emery

Just as heresy is the lifeblood of religion, so dissent is the lifeblood of politics. But without diversity there is no dissent — not even dialogue. Orthodoxy reigns from above.

There is neither service nor recognition to the followers, and the interests that pay the fiddlers call the tunes. What better laboratory in which to observe this phenomenon than Idaho politics with an 85 percent Republican Legislature, 100 percent Republican congressional delegation, and all but two statewide office holders?

Polls show consistently that Idaho voters want support for education, conservation of resources, affordable, available health care, and living wage jobs. What do we get and why?

A party that knows it has the power can get careless with its constituents. Without enough lonesome Democrats in the Legislature to even force committee votes, decisions are made by calling or not calling questions. They never come to a vote on the open floor. For all we know they are made in a smoke-filled room in the dark of the moon, and we get decisions without a public record like the rejection of farm worker minimum wage, the intent to further reduce already inadequate Medicaid funding and the continued increase in college tuition. Public accountability, economic justice and the state constitution are all snubbed in partisan solidarity.

Now, let’s look at who calls the tune, starting with the economic conservatives. Forty-three of Idaho’s top 50 campaign contributors are corporations, many from outside the state. What we get reflects that: the tax cut that nobody wanted, with a vast majority of the reduction going to our most well-to-do neighbors, or the tax cut for timber companies that takes school funding away from some of our neediest districts. Or, more subtly, we see the continued posturing, show hearings and blame-casting by our congressional delegation over the gradual but historically inexorable decline of the extraction industries, courtesy of NAFTA, the WTO and technology that they themselves supported.

What they ought to be doing is trying to alleviate the distress of many more of our neighbors by fighting for mitigation, new job training, investment funds and education to replace the Idaho jobs that are being lost to the global economy.

And, now, with an 85 percent majority, can they resist throwing some largesse to the social conservatives, stalwart contributors all—in the form of public TV censorship in the service of bigotry? It’s another solution that nobody wants, and has the rest of the country either appalled or snickering.

Here we have Idaho, hanging her head in shame. The melded power of opposing energies is nowhere to be seen.

So what is the challenge for Democrats? The answers are three: work to organize and speak out about who created this mess and what we can do about it for you; be humble, for absolute power corrupts the left and right alike; and finally, have hope.

Remember the old saying — Give them enough rope and they’ll hang themselves. I have yet to hear of elephants dangling from the cottonwoods on the Greenbelt, but there are a lot of them tangled up in the Statehouse.

Michael Patrick Emery is a clinical psychologist who resides in Lewiston. He serves as chair of the Idaho State Democratic Party Communications Task Force.
One-party Myth Debunked

Idaho offers viable candidates from both parties.

By Trent L. Clark

Political pundits today seem preoccupied with the dominance of Republican leadership and success of Republican candidates in Idaho. Maybe some are sincerely concerned for the vibrancy of state politics. But others appear to be sincere, comprised mostly of mere critics of Republican policies who lack any similar disdain for the even more lopsided political systems found historically in states like Maryland, Massachusetts and Hawaii.

To begin with, these critics often exaggerate the true magnitude of Idaho’s Republican prevalence. Only a fraction of Idaho voters consider themselves “Republicans.” The state’s single largest voting bloc is “independent.” Public opinion surveys consistently show only 25-30 percent self-identify as consistent Republican voters. By contrast, 20-25 percent are reliable Democrats. That puts the Republican “lock” at a mere 5 to 10 percent advantage with nearly half of the vote still up for grabs.

Furthermore, Democrats in Idaho do not lack for enthusiastic volunteers or candidates, especially at the county level where issues are less partisan. And even in races for the state Legislature, Democrats will be running in all but three districts this year, having done an admirable job of recruiting candidates they hope will put them in position to control the Idaho House in 2002.

And yet those who complain most loudly about Idaho’s “one party” usually point accusingly to Republicans. Is it up to the Republican Party to ensure a successful and winning Democratic team?

The job of a party is to offer solutions, to advance a platform that clearly lays out philosophy and principle. Most importantly, a party creates opportunities for individuals to participate in the political process, to influence policy and to help elect like-minded candidates. If a party does those jobs well, it will be successful.

True, America has seen corrupt one-party regimes. Mayor Daley’s Chicago Machine, and Gov. Huey Long’s underhandedness in Louisiana are notorious examples of how a monopoly was used to close and manipulate a political system. But the contrast with Idaho Republicans couldn’t be greater. The Grand Ol’ Party in Idaho is not run by an all-powerful “boss,” but is organized from the grassroots up, with local organizations in each of the 44 counties.

Furthermore, this year Republicans offered Idahoans a chance to pick the party’s candidates in 102 county and legislative primaries. Contested primaries are a sign of healthy citizen participation in a party. The last thing Mayor Daley would tolerate in Chicago was a primary to select the Democrats’ nominee.

Fortunately, free elections and democracy work amazingly well, and Idaho is no exception. Even if you assume Idaho to be a Republican state, Republicans themselves do not and cannot take that for granted. The day they do is the first day of the next Democratic comeback.

Idaho Republicans cannot and will not rest on our laurels or offer up lesser candidates just to create the appearance of balance in Idaho politics. We will continue to give the voters our very best. In doing so, we advance not only the interest of the party, but also the political choices available to all Idahoans.

Trent L. Clark, chairman of the Idaho Republican Party, disputes the notion of a GOP “lock” on elections.

Trent Clark, chairman of the Idaho Republican Party, disputes the notion of a GOP “lock” on elections.

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Politics and the Supreme Court

The two aren't supposed to mix, but they have in recent elections

By Bob Evancho

"We don't want to put party labels on judges. But let's face it, parties do stand for something."

or the most part, outgoing Idaho Supreme Court Justice Cathy Silak speaks with equanimity about her ouster from the bench. She's a judge, after all, and judges are supposed to be impassive and restrained. And perhaps the sting of her lopsided defeat to 4th District Judge Daniel Eismann in the state's primary election three months earlier has abated somewhat.

Yet you can't help but get the impression that she feels she's been wronged — inaccurately portrayed, she and her supporters claim, as a die-hard liberal while her opponent made no secret of his judicial conservatism and straitlaced stands on hot-button issues such as abortion. From the 50-year-old justice's perspective, she was unfairly vanquished in her bid for re-election to the high court by the partisan nature of what was officially a nonpartisan race, forced from the bench, according to the Idaho Statesman, by "a bitter battle of innuendo and accusation," and victimized by what the Idaho State...
But Eismann supporters and state Reps. Lenore Barrett (R-Challis) and Todd Hammond (R-Rexburg) don't see it that way — nor do they have much sympathy for the ousted justice. "I suppose that's what we're going to hear until hell freezes over," Barrett says. "That's what the losers always say. But I don't see this as a party issue; it's more of an ideological issue."

"We don't want to put party labels on judges," adds Hammond. "But let's face it, parties do stand for something. Judge Eismann's campaign was not some well-oiled machine that burst through Idaho. He won because he had a solid message that most voters agreed with."

Even so, Weatherby, chair of Boise State's public policy and administration department, expects to see the continuation of a trend where party lines are drawn in judicial races. "Most races for justice positions have been nothing more than beauty contests where the incumbent wins and there is no discussion of the issues," he says. "I expect now that we'll see more partisanship injected into judicial races, as well as more focus on judicial races, particularly as the judiciary becomes a key player in our law-making process." Such conditions, adds Weatherby, make it increasingly difficult to separate politics from the law and force justices to act like politicians. "It's a very thin line we're trying to draw here," he says. "Because on one hand we want to have an independent, nonpartisan judiciary, and on the other hand we want to have an accountable judiciary; we can't have it both ways, and that's part of the problem."

By their very nature, primary elections exacerbate the problem, Weatherby adds. "What we're trying to do here is hold one nonpartisan election in a partisan primary, and it's hard to maintain the nonpartisan character in what essentially is the nomination procedure for the parties," he says. "It seems almost inevitable that partisanship is going to seep into all elections."

Weatherby's colleague Gary Moncrief is a bit more blunt in his assessment. While noting that Idaho and about a dozen other states hold nonpartisan judicial elections, he says it's unrealistic to assume that any campaign for public office can be conducted completely above the fray that is modern-day American politics.

At the very least, political undercurrents are at play — even in judicial races, Moncrief asserts. "I think politics always enter into campaigns," he says. "It's not a matter of should or ought — they do. The notion that you can take politics out of a campaign is ludicrous, regardless of the office."

Nevertheless, Eismann maintains that it's "probably inaccurate" that partisan politics were a factor in his victory over Silak. He points out that after Silak was appointed to the Supreme Court in 1993, she retained her seat in the following year's election by decisively defeating challenger Wayne Kidwell, a former Republican state attorney general who, like Eismann, made no attempts to conceal his conservative bent.

"She won by about 25,000 votes," notes the justice-elect, "and people obviously knew he was a Republican and that she was a Democrat because she was appointed by [then-Gov.] Cecil Andrus [a Democrat]. Yet that wasn't sufficient to get Wayne elected then.

"In my opinion, if someone is identified as a Republican, that is not enough of an issue to get voters involved in a judicial election; it didn't help Wayne against Cathy, and he had statewide recognition." (Kidwell subsequently became a justice in 1999 when he defeated Boise city councilman and former Idaho Democratic Party chairman Mike Wethington for a vacancy on the high court in another politically charged race.)

So how was Eismann able to unseat Silak this time around?

In general, the liberal tendencies of Democrats are more likely to be in philosophical agreement with justices and judges like Silak who foster judicial activism, Eismann says, while the GOP is more inclined to side with judicial conservatives like himself. While those differences in and of themselves may not be enough to depose a sitting justice in an election, Eismann acknowledges that there were other factors that contributed to his victory in the primary.

"There were several decisions she authored that revealed her judicial philosophy, and I think that philosophy is not what the majority of Idahoans want in a justice," Eismann says, referring to Silak's role in
the water-rights ruling along with a school-funding decision by the high court in which he criticized the justices for attempting to rewrite the Idaho Constitution.

Barrett agrees. "It's not a political party-thing, but a matter of being an activist judge or a constitutionalist," says the Challis lawmaker. "And that's why I couldn't comfortably support Judge Eismann. He is certainly a constitutionalist, and that is what made him so appealing to a lot of people in Idaho."

"I don't think that if [Silak] had made those [water rights and other] decisions that she would have had any competition in the election," adds Hammond. "But judges have to be held accountable."

Boise State graduate and State Rep. Bill Sali (R-Kuna) agrees. "In my mind, Daniel Eismann appeals to John Q. Public. If you look at his [campaign] literature, I think it has appeal to the common citizen. Did he align himself with Republicans? I think a lot of Republicans aligned themselves with him. He didn't ask me for help. I went to him and said, 'How can I help you?'"

Another contributing factor, Silak's supporters claim, was the involvement of third parties such as the religious right and other special-interest conservatives that aligned themselves with Eismann. Amid questions of judicial propriety during the campaign, Eismann did little or nothing to disassociate himself from such groups. He also made clear his anti-abortion sentiments and responded to an issues questionnaire circulated by the Idaho Christian Coalition — all of which drew considerable criticism from Silak's supporters.

"During the campaign it appeared to me that Judge Eismann was taking positions on issues that could eventually come before him in the court," says former state Sen. Sue Reents, a Boise Democrat who served on the Idaho Judicial Council from 1983-89. "As a former member of the council, I think it needs to expand its authority to take action in judicial elections where a candidate may be violating the judicial canon of ethics during the campaign."

But Eismann says his opinions and answers were based on philosophy, not legal viewpoints. "As judges, it is our responsibility to put aside our own beliefs to the extent we can when ruling on a case," he says. "For example, I think abortion is morally wrong, but I have to follow the decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court in that area. Besides, I think people have a right to know something about the judges they are electing."

Silak says she declined to answer the questionnaire or publicly state her opinion on controversial issues during the campaign because she believes it is inappropriate for a judge or judicial candidate to do so. "I am not going to criticize anything Judge Eismann has said or done, but I chose not to state my position on the issue of abortion," she says. "It is not purely a religious, philosophical or moral issue. There are laws pertaining to abortion for our state and other states, and revealing a personal bias in that area could tend to call into question [judges'] impartiality later if they are hearing a case on that subject. Whether it's abortion, creationism or some other high-profile issue, I think they need to steer clear of expressing their personal opinions."

But Barrett, Hammond and Sali disagree. "We have a right to know about who we are electing," says Barrett. "Good lord, just because a judge has personal feelings, that doesn't mean he or she can't make rulings and apply the law."

"It isn't a matter of party affiliation, but of core philosophy," adds Hammond. "If we don't know where the candidates stand, how can we make an informed vote?"

Adds Sali, "What kind of informed vote can I make if I don't know where a person stands? I think judges should tell voters what their personal biases are."

The problem, Silak and her supporters claim, is that her personal biases were accurately portrayed by some of those opposed to her re-election. Media accounts would seem to agree. An editorial in Pocatello's Idaho State Journal ripped a group called Concerned Citizens for Family Values by using "the broad stroke of guilt by association to paint Silak as a knee-jerk liberal who supports partial-birth abortions and gay marriages — stances the ousted judge never actually took" and for supporting Eismann's campaign "by resorting to what amounts to slander."

Andrus maintains that the incursion of partisanship into these elections has "made a seat on the highest tribunal a political position, not a nonpartisan position." What this means in the future, he continues, "is that all the emotional issues that come before the court will cause those members to look over their shoulders at the political ramifications of their decisions, which they've never done before."

He uses Eismann's election as an example. "[The judge's supporters] didn't talk legal backgrounds or constitutional precedence. They talked emotional issues to [rally] Republican voters," he says. "It's a sad day, not because of the membership of the court; it's a sad day in the history of the court because we have become so politicized."

What about the fact that Andrus appointed Silak to both the Idaho Court of Appeals in 1990 and the Supreme Court in 1993? "Sure, I knew she had Democratic ties," he says. "But I chose her because of her legal credentials. I have never asked about party affiliation with [the justices] I have appointed. I appointed [current Chief Justice] Linda Copple Trout because of her legal expertise and I appointed [retired Justice] Byron Johnson because of his brilliant mind."

Even so, Hammond notes that several influential Democrats contributed to Silak's failed campaign. "When you get Cecil Andrus and his wife and [the late U.S. Sen.] Frank Church's wife [Bethine] and [former justice and gubernatorial candidate] Bob Huntley marshaling their resources, only a naive person is going to think it isn't political," he says. "Elections are political; you can't get away from it."

"Sure, it got political on both sides. I don't see how anybody can claim innocence on either side."
Bechard's work is helping to find solutions to osprey predation in South America.

BECHARD STUDIES OSPREY CONFLICT

By Janelle Brown

In recent years, the number of fish farms in Colombia and other South American countries has increased dramatically. Not surprisingly, so have conflicts with osprey — fish-eating raptors that winter in North America. Thousands of osprey are killed each year by farmers trying to protect their fish stock — but the scope of the problem is largely unknown.

That's about to change. With funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Boise State biology professor Marc Bechard is conducting research in Colombia aimed at measuring the mortality of wintering ospreys at fish farms. Bechard is collaborating with scientists in Colombia on the project, which involves surveying fish farms throughout the rugged country. His research should help provide the information, and the momentum, to find workable solutions.

"It's a serious problem," Bechard says of the conflicts with osprey. "There is a great deal of interest in Colombia in finding ways to deal with it."

Osprey, also called "aguila pescadora" or the fishing hawk, migrate from breeding grounds in North America each fall to wintering grounds in South and Central America. The large raptors, mostly white on the underside and dark brown above, are commonly seen in coastal, river and lake habitats. Because the osprey's diet consists solely of fresh or saltwater fish, it is naturally drawn to shallow ponds teeming with red tilapia and other farmed fish.

Those ponds are springing up throughout Colombia, the fourth wettest country in the world in terms of annual rainfall, Bechard says, as cattle ranchers turn to fish farming as a more stable source of income. Some 500 commercial aquiculture facilities have been constructed in the past 10-15 years, according to the Colombian agency that oversees aquiculture, and that number is expected to swell to 1,000 in the next 10 years. In addition, there are some 30,000 small, family-owned fish farms in the country. And several other South American countries are experiencing similar growth.

All that adds up to a lot of fish — and the potential for escalating problems with osprey looking for an easy meal. On a preliminary trip to Colombia a few years ago, Bechard says he saw at least one osprey hunting at each of the fish farms he visited. Farmers told him that even if they shoot the birds, more keep returning.

"The fish are an easy target for osprey,"
says Bechard. “Farmers hire shooters, but that’s expensive and time-consuming.” Killing the osprey is also unnecessary, he says, because there are proven ways to “fix” fish farms to eliminate depredation.

The core of Bechard’s project is a questionnaire he and his colleagues developed that looks at osprey predation and mortality at individual farms. Last winter, biologists traveled to 90 fish farms in Colombia’s three largest departments, or provinces, — Antioquia, Valle Del Cauca and Huila — to interview farmers. Bechard visited Colombia in February to coordinate the efforts.

The questionnaire was designed to help scientists understand what kinds of predation problems farmers were having, without being confrontational, Bechard says. It didn’t target osprey specifically, but asked general questions about whether farmers were having problems with bird predation and what species were involved. In addition, the survey gathered background information on the size of the farm, the number of fish and annual revenue.

Bechard’s initial findings confirm that thousands of osprey are killed each year in Colombia. The situation at individual farms varies significantly, Bechard adds. On one farm surveyed, the owner estimated he shot 200 to 300 osprey a year, while some farms reported no osprey mortality.

Bechard will return to Colombia in October to continue studies that will help lay the groundwork for finding solutions to osprey predation. Barriers such as lines across ponds and fishnet along the edges are among strategies that have been shown to be successful in other places, he says. There’s also the possibility of developing a stamp, similar to the dolphin-friendly stamp found on some brands of tuna fish, to signify that fish farms aren’t killing osprey as they raise their fish.

The current research project is among several Bechard has conducted in Colombia. Bechard also helped implement the first migratory bird station in South America. Begun in 1996 as a cooperative program with Boise State, the station is located in the central part of Colombia. In 1999, 57,000 migrating raptors were counted at the station. The data is used to determine long-term population trends and help identify whether any species is on the decline.

Bechard is optimistic that a solution to the osprey conflicts can be found. “There’s enough cooperation and interest in Colombia to move ahead on this,” he says.

Update: Bechard submitted his final report on osprey mortality shortly before press time and had his U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service grant renewed for another year. He will expand his survey to other departments in Colombia in 2001, including Meta, Putumayo, Tolima and Cordoba. According to Bechard, the goal is to improve the questionnaire and survey techniques so they can be used in other Central and South American countries in 2002.

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SCIENTISTS UNEARTH ANCIENT EVIDENCE TO REWRITE HISTORY

By Janelle Brown

Eastern Nevada is a long way from the Pacific Ocean, but that wasn’t always the case. Three hundred million or so years ago, the area was prime beachfront — and undergoing massive change.

With funding from the National Science Foundation, a team of Boise State scientists is documenting what happened, geologically speaking, along what was then the western margin of North America. Their research is significantly revising the region’s geologic history. It also has practical applications, including helping to identify the location of gold and oil deposits.

“Until our work, there was this notion that there was a major tectonic disruption 350 million years ago and again 260 million years ago, but that the time interval in between was quiet,” says geosciences professor Walt Snyder.

But the new research contradicts this widely held view, Snyder says. It shows that the Earth’s crust was actually very active during the intervening Upper Carboniferous and Lower Permian time periods, with tectonic shifts causing many deformations in the rock layers.

“Basins were made and destroyed, mountains rose and fell. There was an ocean, but it was not a quiet ocean,” Snyder says.

Snyder and Boise State research professors Tamra Schiappa and Vladimir Davydov are documenting those changes as part of their NSF project. They are collaborating with scientists at the University of Nevada and the University of Northern Iowa. Boise State undergraduate and graduate students conduct both field and lab work. Geologists from major oil companies and other universities have also joined the excursions to research sites.

Among the team’s trips was one to the remote Pequop Mountains near Wells, Nev. Rock outcroppings were extensively mapped and studied, fossils were identified and rock samples were collected and brought back to Boise State labs for analysis.

By studying the stratigraphy of the rocks and the fossils that are found in various layers, scientists can understand the conditions that existed in prehistoric times and the disruptions that occurred, explains Schiappa, an expert on conodonts, tiny fossils that are used to help date rock layers and that also indicate the climatic conditions that existed at the time.

The Boise State team plans to make more research trips to eastern Nevada during the next year, and to continue to study rock samples and other data they collected from earlier excursions.

“We are filling in the gaps in the story,” says Schiappa. “But there are still a lot of questions to answer.”

PROFESSOR HELPS POLICE UTILIZE COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

By Kathleen Mortensen

The long arm of the law is extending its reach with the help of Boise State’s Patricia Fredericksen.

In an effort to help police departments operate more efficiently, the professor of public policy and administration is using her experience with nonprofit organizations to help them develop plans for the best use of citizen volunteers.

With shrinking budgets and a growing demand for services, public institutions are searching for creative ways to meet the needs of their communities without increasing costs, she says.

“Police departments want to know how they can make better use of their resources,” Fredericksen says. “How do they leverage volunteers to deliver public goods?”

Answering that question is trickier than it sounds. In helping them develop strategic plans involving citizens, Fredericksen says, she reminds police departments that it’s also an issue of public trust. While some use volunteers strictly to file and perform other routine office tasks, others allow them to issue parking tickets, authorize towing or access public records.

Deciding where to draw the line in volunteer duties depends a lot on the department’s relationship with the community, she says. Her job is to help them decide what the community will tolerate.

“Police departments have a lot of discretion in how they relate to volunteers,” explains Fredericksen. “How much training should volunteers have, what tasks should they be allowed to do and what information should they be given access to?”

Fredericksen sees this latest venture as an extension of her work with nonprofit organizations. Before coming to Boise State in 1996, she headed up a nonprofit assistance center at the University of Texas, El Paso.

Helping smaller, grassroots organizations get a handle on their problems is vital, she says, in keeping those entities afloat. Idaho alone boasts more than 2,000 501(c)3 organizations — most of them with annual budgets of less than $50,000. “They’re dependent on volunteers,” Fredericksen says. Without help in how to organize and utilize volunteers, many of those groups would go under.

Fredericksen says the need for volunteers will only grow, as budget cuts collide with a growing need for social services. “I think I’ll be doing this forever,” she says of her consulting work. “There are just so many questions out there.”
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BSU ALUMNUS HELPS MANAGE MICRON

By Sherry Squires

Jay Hawkins is thankful each day that his life didn’t turn out exactly as he planned.

And after 16 years, the vice president of operations at Micron Technology still says he’s living his dream job.

“Sometimes I have to pinch myself and say, ‘Wow. How did I get to walk into this place and go for this ride?’” he says.

Hawkins earned a bachelor’s degree in marketing from Boise State in 1982. His first job was as a loan officer trainee at a Twin Falls bank, just 15 miles from his hometown of Buhl.

“The job market at that time was just atrocious,” Hawkins says. “All of the business majors were essentially going for the same few limited jobs that were out there.”

Although the experience was invaluable, his heart wasn’t in banking. So he returned to Boise two years later, planning to find part-time work and enroll in graduate school at Boise State.

A job posted on the placement office bulletin board caught his attention. A quick phone call got him the interview that afternoon at Micron. Hawkins showed up at his appointed interview time of 1 p.m. Five-and-a-half hours later the receptionist passed him on her way home.

“I was sitting in the lobby. She said, ‘I have to pinch myself and say, ‘Wow. How did I get to walk into this place and go for this ride?’” Hawkins says.

“Felt so guilty that she went back in and called someone who was still there,” Hawkins recalls. “They had already filled the part-time position, but they interviewed me and offered me a full-time job that night.”

Like Micron CEO and fellow Boise State alum Steve Appleton, who had been hired in the fabrication unit just a few months earlier, Hawkins learned the inner workings of Micron from the ground floor up.

At the time, Micron had fewer than 500 employees and was struggling on a daily basis to survive. Today, it is one of the largest semiconductor manufacturers in the world. Hawkins is responsible for Micron’s manufacturing and facilities operations in every corner of the world— including Boise, Utah, Italy, Singapore, Japan, and most recently, Scotland.

He works mostly through electronic means— early morning e-mail to answer questions that have come in from around the globe throughout the night, daily phone conferences with managers and continual meetings in Boise to help him stay connected to the company’s worldwide facilities.

Hawkins is quick to point out that he is a team leader, working with talented hands-on managers who provide him a tremendous amount of help in decision-making.

“I’m the guy waving the sticks but I don’t necessarily know how to play the trumpet, or play the drums,” Hawkins says. “But I guess I’m one of a few people who know a little bit about everything. I just keep them all working together.”

The volatility of the technology industry keeps anything in Hawkins’ daily life from becoming old hat. Each year the company is challenged with cutting costs by about 30 percent in order to remain profitable.

“We know that has to happen, and the whole company game plan is built around that,” Hawkins says. “It’s constant change. You can’t just get something running good and then sit back and watch. The average life of a product now is just nine months.”

In the production realm where Hawkins works, the results are immediate. If he and a team of managers make a change, they can see 24 hours later what that change has meant.

“This is not what I would ever have thought I would have liked— that working in production would make me tick. But I thrive on it. Manufacturing provides a constant report card,” he says.

Hawkins believes Micron will continue to grow and be one of the largest players in the computer memory game, which is continually consolidating to just a few large companies.

He attributes the company’s success to dedicated and talented employees, many of whom have been with the company 15 or 20 years.

Many of them are Idaho natives, like Hawkins.

Hawkins is one of several key players at Micron who came out of Boise State about the same time. Their paths crossed very little while on campus, but they all ended up in the same place.

And while they have been handling the reins, Micron has been grooming the next set of young leaders. Many of them, like their predecessors, hail from homegrown institutions such as Boise State, where Hawkins still remembers learning a great deal about working together in business classes that required team projects.

“You could say that we’ve been very successful hiring from this state,” Hawkins says. “People here just have a phenomenal work ethic.”

Hawkins has balanced that work ethic with his family life — wife, the former Shelly Waldrum who is also a Boise State alum, daughter Deni and son Tim. He says Micron has given him exactly the kind of life he had hoped for.

“I’m so fortunate to have been part of this journey,” he says. “I’ve only known one way, and I could not dream of doing anything else.”

As vice president of operations, Hawkins, at left, is in touch with Micron’s worldwide facilities.
GRAD BRINGS MEDIA SMARTS TO CHANNEL 6 ASSIGNMENT DESK

By Sherry Squires

If you watch the evening news on KIVI Channel 6, you know a little bit about Tiffany (Murri) Quilici. You know what she values, what stories trigger her emotions and what she finds to be out-of-the-ordinary.

As the assignment editor for Channel 6 news, it’s her job to shuffle through the day’s events and turn them into an informative and concise news package. “Every day is different. But I’m always asking how many people’s lives are impacted by what happens,” she says.

Quilici, who earned her bachelor’s degree in mass communication with a journalism emphasis, has been in her present role for about a year.

Her professional media experience began as a reporter and anchor for BSU Radio for three years and as an intern at KTVB Channel 7 news for two years, all while in college.

She graduated from Boise State cum laude in May 1997, just before being chosen to attend a six-week reporting and newswriting fellowship at the Poynter Institute in St. Petersburg, Fla. She was one of only 15 journalists chosen worldwide for the summer program.

She returned to a job at Channel 6 as a reporter covering childhood and parenting issues. She thrived at reporting for two years, enjoying the creativity that writing and presenting the news allowed.

But putting together live shots kept her away from home most evenings until 7, and away from her daughter, Jessica.

“I miss reporting so much,” she says.

“Being out in the field was what I enjoyed most. But I enjoy the challenges of management as well. And I get to spend that quality time with my child.”

She describes her job as directing traffic, so to speak. She is presented with an endless array of options each day as she decides what to cover and how to cover it, and handles the logistics of the newsroom. She says her decisions often must be based on how visual a story will be on TV and how valuable it is to viewers.

She divides her energy between these tasks, and her family — Jessica, now 9, and Tony Quilici, whom Murri married three months ago.

“I love this career and love Boise,” Murri says. “I’m settled and happy.”

CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY ALLOWS GRAD TO REMAIN IN BOISE

By Sherry Squires

Marcell King handles national sales and marketing efforts for San Francisco-based Bankserv. But the only skyscrapers and traffic snarls he encounters each day are the ones he finds in Boise.

When the 1995 Boise State graduate was offered a job with the company in April, he negotiated a deal to stay in Boise, where he wanted to raise his family.

Bankserv is one of many Bay Area businesses that has accelerated its “virtual” hiring because the company can’t find or afford enough room to house employees, and employees can’t find affordable homes. According to Wes Lockwood, the company’s public relations director.

So King opened an office in Boise and visits the Bay Area every few weeks for meetings. With the proliferation of e-mail, cell phones and remote presentation tools such as Web-based video, the arrangement works well.

As Bankserv’s national sales and marketing manager for wire services, King heads a sales team of five people who are located throughout the country.

Bankserv develops software for banks and securities firms to handle wire transfers. King must convince banks to spend money for the product that will in turn save them money. But he must do that in a banking industry that is instead focusing on ways to increase revenue, he says.

He says this job provides just the challenge he had hoped for when he set out with a bachelor’s degree in marketing.

King’s prior experience in sales dates back to selling cars for four years while he earned his degree and played defensive back on the Bronco football team.

He then worked as an intern for Big Sky Communication, a developer of closed circuit cable television systems in Boise, going on to serve as director for sales and marketing before the company was acquired by NDC eCommerce.

He worked for NDC for six years, most recently managing Internet banking and cash management products and services.

Although King’s current position requires some travel, it has allowed him and his family — wife Jaclyn, daughter Keza, 7, son Marcell Jr., 4, and son Quinci, 2 — to make their home in Boise.

He believes many similar job opportunities are on the horizon for today’s graduates as technology continues to advance.

“You don’t have to be at the same site as headquarters anymore,” he says. “The possibilities are endless.”

FOCUS/FALL 2000
EX-COACH HELPED MINE OLYMPIC GOLD

By Sherry Squires

Watching an Olympic athlete cross a finish line or step to the podium to receive a gold medal stirs the emotions of people around the world.

David Williams takes special pride in knowing that he has helped make many young athletes' dreams possible.

While serving as strength and conditioning coach at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Williams worked with swimmers, runners, football and basketball players, golfers and track and field athletes to help them stay at the top of their game.

Forty of his proteges participated in the 1996 Olympic Trials. Seven swimmers, a diver and three track and field athletes went on to the Olympics in Atlanta. So did Williams — as their coach and mentor. And then Williams watched in amazement with the rest of the world as swimmers Ryan Demer and Lars Froelander won gold medals and set world records.

"One day you see them running around the gym acting like kids," Williams says. "The next day they're the best in the world. It's so special to see them compete in the Olympics because I know how hard we worked to get them there."

Williams says the dedicated athletes spend up to seven hours a day working at their sport, not counting their weight training time and devotion to special diets. His job was to guide them and see that they stuck with it.

Williams, who earned his bachelor's degree in physical education from Boise State in 1988, left his coaching job following the 1996 Olympics to spend more time with his family.

RAYMOND BRUN, BA, criminal justice administration, '72, recently retired after being self-employed for the past 28 years. Brun resides in Pine and plans to devote more time to his primary interest — the stock market.

JAMES D. "JIM" CRAWFORD, BBA, accounting, '72, has accepted the position of vice president, chief financial officer and treasurer of Wilbur-Ellis Co., a global agri-business company in San Francisco. Previously Crawford worked for the J.R. Simplot Co. in Boise for 27 years, serving most recently as vice president and corporate controller.

CARLA D. (BRUTSMAN) HELMICK, BA, history/secondary education, '72, celebrated 31 years of marriage to her husband Gary on May 31, 2000. They reside in Emmett.

RONALD L. HABERMAN, BBA, finance, '73, retired in May after working for 30 years with the U.S. government, including four years in the U.S. Air Force.

PATRICIA WHITAKER-BALL, AAS, child care and development, '76, is employed in the microforms area of the Boise State Library. She previously worked for seven years as a music manager in Nashville, Tenn.

BARBARA METCALF HANSEN, BA, English, '76, has been named the Skagit County, Wash., civic volunteer of the year. Hansen was nominated for the award by the mayor of Anacortes, Wash., in recognition of her volunteer efforts for the community's library, museum and other nonprofit organizations. The award is presented by United Way and Community Action Agencies of Skagit County.

ROBERT B. "BOB" WAGGONER, BA, economics, '77, recently became the national account executive for Global Logistics Inc., a third-party logistics company that analyzes, designs and manages transportation programs for companies. Waggoner previously worked in banking for 20 years. Waggoner resides in Boise.

GERALD D. MENG, BBA, management/behavioral option, '79, was named 1999 Big Brother of the Year for Montana Big Brothers and Big Sisters. Meng lives in Butte, Mont.
80s

GEORGE ARTHUR KELLEY, BS, physical education, '80, has accepted a position as associate professor of clinical investigation at Massachusetts General Hospital's Institute of Health Professions in Boston, Mass. He will also serve as an adjunct professor at Harvard. Kelley previously was a tenured associate professor at Northern Illinois University.

GREGORY S. RIDDLEMOSER, BA, history/secondary education, '81, has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel and appointed program integrator for the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

RAY JEAN (THOMPSON) AGUERO, BS, elementary education, '83, has accepted a position as counselor at Luff Elementary in Independence, Mo. Aguero previously was the counselor at Fairacres Elementary in Las Cruces, N.M.

JEFFREY G. TUNISON, BBA, management, '84, serves as director, vice president and Canyon County manager of TitleOne Corp. Tunison also serves on the boards of the Nampa Chamber of Commerce and Caldwell Economic Development Committee.

JOHN WILLIAM LIEBENTHAL, BA, music, '86, has been promoted to creative director for the Boise office of Publicis, a public relations firm.

JACK BRUCE NOWATZKI, BBA, finance, '87, has been named vice president and relationship manager with US Bank's Idaho commercial real estate division. Nowatzki joined the bank in 1987. Nowatzki also is a member of the Building Owners and Managers Association of Boise and past president of a local chapter of Civitan International.

JACKI SUE BEBB-WEYMAN, AS, medical record technician, '88, is the new compliance officer at VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System in Reno, Nev. Bebb-Weyman has worked as a registered health information technician since 1988 in Reno. She recently attained designation as a certified coding specialist from the American Health Information Management Association.

SUZANNE E. (McINTOSH) CRAIG, BA, political science, '89, is a senior deputy prosecuting attorney in Twin Falls. Her husband TRIP RANDAL CRAIG, BS, political science, '89, was recently elected to the Twin Falls City Council and took office last January.

JOSEPHINE ANNETTE JONES, MA, English, '89, is a freelance writer and book editor and lives in Bozeman, Mont. She was recently selected to be a Montana artist-in-residence in schools and communities, to serve on the Idaho Artists Roster, and to participate in Boise's Log Cabin Literary Center writers-in-the-school program.

KIRBY JOEL ROBERTSON, BBA, marketing, '89, has joined D.L. Evans Bank in Boise as assistant vice president for mortgage lending services. Before joining D.L. Evans, Robertson was manager of a retail consumer finance institution, served as Idaho wholesale mortgage manager and vice president for mortgage operations for two different financial institutions and also was president of a home mortgage company.

90s

RONALD ALLEN CRAIG, BS, psychology, '90, has been promoted to associate professor at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania.

SHANE ALEXANDER HAHN, BBA, finance, '91, is the new manager of First Security Bank's Broadway branch in Boise. Hahn joined First Security in 1992 and most recently served as a commercial loan officer in the bank's small business center. Hahn is also serving as First
Lorenzo Vallone, an avionics engineer with 15 years in the U.S. Air Force, is flying high in his latest assignment thanks to training he received through Boise State’s electrical engineering program.

Vallone earned his engineering degree in December.

Stationed in Dayton, Ohio, Second Lt. Vallone has surprised peers and industry engineers with his knowledge of complicated laboratory equipment like the HP 8510 Network Analyzer, which analyzes the frequency of a microcircuit and is rarely used in a college setting.

Vallone had hands-on experience with this and other high-tech equipment during his time at Boise State thanks to donations of millions of dollars worth of equipment and cash from local companies like Micron Technology, Zilog, SCP Global Technologies, Hewlett Packard and AMI of Pocatello.

Security’s in-house chair of the United Way Campaign and Paint the Town.

MARK ELLIS BATES, BBA, general business management, ’92, was promoted to group vice president of technology for Albertson’s Inc. Bates has also served as an officer in the Idaho Air National Guard for 15 years.

KIMBERLY ANN MESS, BA, social sciences, ’92, is a sales agent with Bradbury Realty in McCall. Hess is specializing in vacation and waterfront properties and second homes.

TAMARA LYNN LOUGHLIMMER, BS, construction management, ’92, is director of development for Halferty Development Co. in Pasadena, Calif. Loughlimmer resides in Glendale.

JANE EVA PAVEK, BBA, finance, ’92, has been appointed to the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco’s Community Reinvestment Act leadership council for Idaho. Pavek joined the bank in 1993 and is currently assistant vice president and community reinvestment officer.

JOODE SUE WARWICK, BA, political science, ’92, is the events marketing manager for Telenius Corp. in Rolling Meadows, Ill.

MICHAEL EDWARD BOWKER, BA, communication, ’93, has been promoted to sales manager for AT&T Media Services in Boise. Bowker has been the regional and national sales manager with AT&T for the past year and a half and previously worked in advertising sales for six years.

SHANI LEE CUMMINS, BA, communications, ’93, has accepted a position with the Peace Corps to serve as an agricultural extensionist in Panama. Cummins previously worked in education and counseling in Whidbey Island, Wash.

TERESA LYNN KRAIPOWICH, BA, theatre arts, ’93, is the new director of media and public relations for the Idaho Stampede of the Continental Basketball Association. Kraiposix recently worked as a television news anchor in Boise and also taught English, theatre and broadcasting in Idaho high schools.

JAMES A. “Jim” LAMBERT, BBA, management/human resource, ’93, is vice president of administration for Northwest Network Services, an information technology consulting company in Twin Falls. Lambert previously worked at Idaho Power, Boise Cascade and Micron Electronics.

ELISA GILREAN MASSOTH, BA, political science, ’93, has joined Moffatt Thomas in Boise as an associate. Massoth’s experience includes clerk for District Court judges Horton and McLaughlin and most recently as an assistant city attorney for Boise city. She will have a general commercial practice with an emphasis in real estate.

TIANE E. (TERWILLEGGER) BESS, MBA, ’94, is an accounting manager for Foren USA, a wireless telecommunication equipment manufacturing company in Sparks, Nev. She lives in Reno.

JOHN MARCUS NEIL, BS, management, ’94, is the mortgage lending officer for the new D.L. Evans Bank in Boise. Previously Neil served as a branch manager for a mortgage company and was manager of a retail consumer finance institution. Neil is a member of the Idaho Association of Mortgage Brokers.

MATTHEW S. BROOMEAD, BA, communication, ’95, has accepted a position with REI (Recreation Equipment Inc.) as a learning and development specialist at the company’s corporate headquarters in Kent, Wash. His wife KRISTA D. (HATCH) BROOMEAD, BA, music, ’95, teaches private voice lessons. The Broomeads reside in Federal Way, Wash.

MATT W. SHIGENOBU MUTA, BA, communication, ’95, has been promoted to the position of vice president of commerce and Internet for Albertson’s Inc. Muta joined Albertson’s in 1995, working in the information systems and technology area. He joined the e-commerce team in 1997.

TAMMY LYNNE STALEY, BBA, marketing, ’95, is a job placement specialist in the Career Center at Creighton College. She will work with present and past students and graduates, on- and off-campus work-study students and community employment.

CHARLES AUSTIN WOODWORTH II, BS, political science, ’95, is running for Idaho state representative, District 35-A on the Democratic ticket. While at Boise State, Woodworth served a four-month internship in the office of Congressman Richard Stallings in Washington, D.C. and also worked for three years for West One Bank and US Bank in Boise. Woodworth owns Viking Cleaners in American Falls.

KIMBERLY DAWN BROWN, BS, biology, ’96, graduated from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in May 2000 and is now completing a residency in internal medicine and pediatrics in Rochester, N.Y.

MELANIE RAE FALES, MA, education/art emphasis, ’96, has been named associate curator of education for the Boise Art Museum. Fales previously was an art educator at Foothills School of Arts and Sciences in Boise.

ANNETTE KNIGHT, BA, elementary education, ’96, recently received her master of arts degree in education, early childhood emphasis from Concordia University in St. Paul, Minn.

LAURA J. BETHKE, BA, sociology, ’97, recently completed her master’s degree in sociology at the University of Virginia. Her husband ERIC BYRON NELSON, BA, English teaching, ’98, is a teacher at Little Keswick School for Boys in Keswick, Va. They live in Charlottesville, Va.

ROBERT JOSEPH BLURTON, BBA, marketing, ’97, has joined LSI Systems of Boise. Blurton previously worked in various capacities as an independent contractor including Web master and computer trainer and was recently involved in the largest NFT network installation in the world for the U.S. Social Security system.

BRYAN LEE BRAUN, BS, health sciences, ’97, recently completed a three-month course in radiology technology and is now working at the health care center in Boardman, Ore., as an assistant to Dr. Robert Bos. After graduating from Boise State, Braun studied in Forest Grove, Ore., to become a certified physician’s assistant.

KAREN ILENE CRAIG, BA, theatre arts, ’97, and two other women directed, performed and produced the Carol Lynn Pearson play Mother Wove the Morning at the Alpine Playhouse in McCall last summer. The production featured three women who portrayed all 16 characters. Craig acts under the stage name Premdaya.

CHEERYL E. MCCORD, MBA, ’97, will be working in the European office of Hewlett Packard in Boeblingen, Germany, over the summer.

CATHERINE BRANDI RUCH, BA, music, ’97, played lead roles this summer in the Summer Palace theater productions of Godspell and Charlotte’s Web on the Washington State University campus in Pullman. This fall Ruch is studying in the master of fine arts program at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Va.

CHRISTINA MARIE SMITH, BA, social work, ’97, is a social worker with Human Supports of Idaho Inc. in Boise.

SHERRION M. “SHERI” EGELAND, BBA, marketing, ’98, has joined The Network Group as a sales and marketing associate. Egeland will support the company’s sales team by assisting with...
coordination and development of quotes, proposals and presentations.

MICHAEL TCHEN, BS, computer information systems, '98, has been promoted to programmer analyst with Cougar Mountain Software in Boise.

PAUL R. BASOM, MBA, '99, has been named a sales associate for Arthur Berry & Company's commercial real estate division in Boise.

RONNIE K. BENSON, MA, school counseling, '99, is employed as a counselor at McKinley Elementary in Boise. Benson worked as a part-time counselor at Amity Elementary during the '99-'00 school year.

ANITA BOZIC, BBA, accounting, '99, is a staff accountant with Janet L. Need CPA in Twin Falls. Originally from Bosnia, Bozic has lived in Twin Falls since 1995. Although she was a sophomore at the University of Sarajevo before she left Bosnia, Bozic had to begin her college education all over again. After receiving an associate's degree in accounting from the College of Southern Idaho, she completed her bachelor's at Boise State in two years.

CHARLENE E. CHRISTENSEN, MSW, '99, has accepted a job as a readjustment counseling service therapist with the Veterans Administration in Boise.

DENISE FITELSON-NEUS, BFA, visual arts, '99, is the new marketing communications editor at MCMS in Nampa. She recently worked on the Women's History Month exhibit at Boise State and is also developing her own virtual gallery at rubystreet.com.

THOMAS R. GUNNELL, BS, chemistry, '99, is a second-year dental student at Creighton University in Omaha, Neb. Gunnell also is a second lieutenant in the Army Dental Corps.

UNDA DENISE LORD, BA, elementary education, '99, teaches third and fourth grade at Faith Lutheran School in Mountain Home.

JAMES HAYCOCK, BA, theatre arts/design option, '00, has won a full scholarship to Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. Haycock will study costume design and pursue a master of fine arts degree at the university's drama school. While a student at Boise State, Haycock designed costumes for many theatrical productions and as a senior won the Northwest Drama Conference award for best costume design.

STEPHANIE ANN MILLER, BA, Spanish/anthropology, '00, has accepted a position with the Peace Corps to serve as a health extensionist in Honduras. Miller previously worked for the Hispanic Cultural Center, the Idaho Transportation Department and most recently at Clearwater Research.

SARAH ANNE WARD, BA, English/writing emphasis, '00, is a media relations assistant at Binsacca Creative Services, a public relations firm in Boise. Ward will manage the company's media database, provide writing and editing services to clients, and produce and distribute promotional materials.

**Weddings**

IRA MICHAEL BURTON and Brooke Ann Wilson, (Nampa) March 2.

JENNIFER ANN DUERR and Tom Barber, (Maui, Hawaii) April 27.

PATRICIA WHITAKER-BALL and Jack Donald Angell, (Boise) April 27.


JOEL A. WiWAMS and AMY E. CATES, (Boise) May 19.

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SHAWNA L. MARCUSEN and Glen C. Terry, (Boise) May 20.
SUZANNE E. McINTOSH and TRIP RANDALL
CRAIG, (Buhi) May 27.
TRACEY LYNN STENZEL and John Lofstedt, (Boise) May 27.

THOMAS J. GEORGE and MICHELLE EMKO
TUCKER, (Las Vegas) June 2.
LINDA A. BLECHA WHITTLE and Steve Ashton, (Boise) June 9.

GARY J. GENOVA and STEPHANIE ANN COZINE, (Boise) June 10.
R. RENé CLOT JR. and CARRIE DENISE HOL- 
BROOK, (Boise) June 17.

DAWN AMY KRAMER and James "Ken" Hall, (Boise) June 17.
CHRIS ANTHONY TAYLOR and HEIDI A. WEA YAND, (Boise) June 17.

THEMA (FAYTOL) ALLISON, former head of the home economics department at Boise Junior College, died July 26 in Nampa at age 93. Allison retired from Boise State in 1973 and was named an Idaho Statesman distinguished citizen the same year. At the 1974 commencement ceremony she was awarded a silver medallion, the university's highest honor, in recognition of outstanding service.

AMBROSE BALTES, BS, social work, '87, and an adjunct instructor in Boise State's School of Social Work, died Sept. 14 of cancer at age 71. While a student, Baltes worked for the Veterans Administration Hospital in Boise, the Mountain States Tumor Institute hospice program and the El-Ada soup kitchen. In 1989 he earned his MSW from the University of Chicago, and in 1993 entered the Peace Corps for a 30-month stay in Romania.

JON LARRY BLACKETTER, BA, social sciences, '72, died May 27, in Eugene, Ore., at age 62. Blacketter retired from the Veterans Administration as a mental health therapist and had also worked at the Idaho State Penitentiary in Boise and the North Idaho Correction Institute in Cottonwood.

WILLIAM T. "BILL" BLOCK, MA, education/curricu lar development, died Sept. 6 in Boise of cancer at age 53. Block, a teacher at West Junior High School in Boise, had received the Red Apple Award from the Boise School District in recognition of educational excellence.

JACK MURIEL BROOKS, CC, parts counterman, '74, died July 8 at the V.A. hospital in Boise at age 69. Brooks served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War and later was stationed at Mountain Home. After retiring from the military, Brooks became involved in drag racing and was a member of the National Hot Rod Association.

JIMMIE IRVIN CARLSON, MA, history, '96, died July 5 at Boise at age 51. Carlson was a teacher in both Canyon County and in the city of Boise, moving to and Day John, Ore. Carlson served three years in the U.S. Army and also worked in mining and logging before becoming a teacher.

MONTY CARRICK, Boise State's pool maintenance man, passed away July 25 after a battle with cancer. Originally hired by the custodial department, Carrick was later assigned to the special projects crew and maintained the university's indoor pool for several years.

WILLIAM JOSEPH CARSON, a former associate professor of accounting at Boise State, died June 23 in Seattle at age 81. Carson taught at Regis College in Colorado and Casper College in Wyoming before coming to Boise State, where he taught for 23 years before retiring to Tucson, Ariz.

FREDERICK BENJAMIN GRIFFIN, AA, general arts and sciences, '47, died July 10 in Boise at age 73. Griffin had worked at The Mode, Green Griffin Jewelers and The Bazaar in Boise before devoting his time to his family business, Betty Feeeyen's Annex, until retiring in the late 1980s. Griffin was a member of the Boise Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary Club and Hillcrest Country Club.

BETTY MAE (DANKS) HULET, BA, business administration, '46, died July 4 in Boise at age 71. Hulet had worked at the LDS Institute of Religion before earning her degree at Boise College and after that worked occasionally as a substitute teacher.

DEANNE WILLIAM INGRAHAM, AA, general arts and sciences, '51, died June 22 in Tulsa, Okla., at age 68. After serving in the U.S. Army in the early 1950s, Ingraham attended the California College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland and then worked as a commercial illustrator.

LEWIS GEORGE KARCHER, AA, general arts and sciences, '49, died May 19 in Menlo Park, Calif., at age 74. Karcher served in the U.S. Army in World War II. He taught biology for 30 years at Menlo Atherton High school in Atherton, Calif.

THOMAS S. LINDSELY, BA, general business, '67, died of a heart attack June 26 in Grangeville at age 60. Lindsley had worked in the family furniture business in Grangeville since the early 1970s and he and his family recently opened the Grangeville Super 8 Motel. He was a member of the Grangeville Sunrise Lions Club and the Elks.

SHERYLE (HINDS) McVEY, TC, respiratory therapy technician, '93, died Aug. 23 in Boise of cancer. McVey had attended Utah State and LDS Business College prior to attending Boise State.

JOSEPH W. POSHEK, BA, history/secondary education, '74, died May 30 in Boise at age 74. Poshek served in the U.S. Army for 25 years and was awarded two purple hearts. Poshek taught in the ROTC program at Boise High and had also worked for the U.S. Forest Service in Curlew, Wash.

KATHLEEN (VAN LEUVEN) RUDL, BA, social work, '95, died of cancer June 13 in Boise at age 49. Rudd was a licensed social worker with the Arc Inc.

STEPHEN E. SPAFFORD, former dean of admissions at Boise State, died Sept. 5 in Boise of cancer at age 64. Spafford worked a total of 25 years at Boise State and was instrumental in the development of many student services, international student programs and other programs in the admissions/recruiting area. He retired in 1997. A memorial service is scheduled for 4 p.m. Oct. 21 at Summers Funeral Home, Boise.

JAMES H. STOEHR, BA, art/secondary education, '70, died July 6 in Boise of pneumonia at age 53. Stoehr was a ceramics instructor at Capital High School for the past four years and previously taught crafts and photography at Hillside Junior High for 26 years.

WILLIAM M. "BILL" STOKES, BBA, finance, '82, died in July in Boise at age 43. Stokes worked for Boise Cascade Corp, for several years and most recently worked for the Salvation Army. He also was a volunteer at Community Christian Center in Garden City.

DARBY L. WADE VILLA, BBA, computer information systems, '86, died May 26 in Caldwell at age 37. After graduating from Parma High School, Villines attended the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls before completing his education at Boise State.

SHARON ANN (JENSEN) WELLS, BA, elementary education, '79, died June 5 in Twin Falls at age 51. Wells taught for 20 years and at the time of her death was a kindergarten teacher in Filer. She also taught in Marsing and Hollister.

LEWIS E. WESTBROOK, AA, general arts and sciences, '46, died May 4 in Golden, Colo., at age 78. Westbrook served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He had worked for Wards Drive Inn, J. W.ell and Co. and Mountain Bell and was a member of numerous civic organizations.
After a five-year tenure that saw extensive growth in the organization that serves Boise State University’s 45,000 alumni, Alumni Association executive director Bob Davies accepted a new position at the University at Buffalo, a state university of New York.

Davies left in August for his new job as the assistant vice president for institutional advancement, a position that is responsible for the general alumni association and 13 college-based alumni associations.

Assistant director Dawn Kramer Hall has been named interim alumni director. She graduated from Boise State in 1995 with degrees in political science and journalism and in 2000 with a master’s degree in public administration.

Kramer Hall, a native of Twin Falls, came to Boise State in 1998 after two years as a staff assistant to Gov. Phil Batt. Before that, she worked as an editor for the Times-News in Twin Falls and as a writer for the Associated Press.

“I am excited to serve as interim director of an alumni association that has such a bright future,” Kramer Hall says. “I plan to build on the foundation Bob has laid. My goals are to raise the remaining money for the Alumni Center, increase our scholarship monies, improve our programming for arts and academic events, increase memberships and develop new ways to serve the university.”

In his time at Boise State, Davies increased dues-paying membership in the alumni organization from 500 to more than 2,000. In addition, alumni programs and activities increased sevenfold, ranging from local arts events to trips and scholarship benefits.

Davies also played a key role in the acquisition of a building to house a new alumni center — a 6,900-square-foot former eye clinic near Bronco Stadium that is expected to open in late November or early December.

ALUMNI CENTER BECOMES A REALITY, NEEDS DONOR SUPPORT

Contractors have begun to transform a former eye clinic into a new Alumni Center that will feature space for social events, meetings, offices and a hall of fame gallery.

For the next three months, workers will renovate the interior of the building located on University Drive across from Bronco Stadium. Work is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

The contractor for the project is McAlvain Construction. Architectural work is under the direction of ER-HDR.

When work is complete, the building will house the alumni relations offices on one side and the Boise State Career Center on the other.

The renovation includes an open reception area that will serve as an academic hall of fame as well as a recognition wall for those who have donated to the center. The building will also have a state-of-the-art conference room.

The building will be owned and maintained by the Boise State Alumni Association. The Career Center, which provides career counseling and assists graduates with job searches, will lease space from the association.

The association and university believe that a visible and permanent Alumni Center located on the campus is vital to the continuance of a strong alumni organization, says interim director Dawn Kramer Hall.

“The center will be a home for Boise State alumni. It will be a centerpiece of campus and will honor the traditions of Boise State,” she says.

In addition to serving as a new home for the association, the building will be used to honor Boise State’s academic accomplishments, with an academic hall of fame that highlights the university’s top scholars and alumni.

The center will showcase the history and tradition of the association and the university with rotating displays and exhibits.

The building also will be used for alumni functions and special events and will be available for rent to the university and community for board meetings, socials or other events.

The association still must raise more than $700,000 to pay the debt incurred on the $1.2 million cost to purchase and renovate the building.

Individuals interested in donating can mail contributions to the Alumni Office or call (208) 426-1959 for more information.

ASSOCIATION HOSTS PRE-GAME PARTIES

Alumni and community members are invited to visit the Alumni Center during the football season. The Alumni Association will host pre-game tailgate parties at the center two hours before every home game this fall.

Jeff Caves of KTKI radio will present his pre-game show from the gathering.

The tailgate party offers a great opportunity to see old friends and have a good time before kickoff. Festivities are free; food and drinks for all ages will be available for purchase.

An estimated 300 people attended the first tailgate party prior to the Northern Iowa game.

The Alumni Center is located across from Bronco Stadium on University Drive.
The final chapter of Charles Burton's Olympic journey wasn't what he had hoped for, but the former Boise State wrestler still etched his name among the university's elite athletes when he finished fifth in the 187-pound freestyle division at the 2000 Summer Games in Sydney, Australia.

Burton, who wrestled in the Bronco program from 1991-92 through 1995-96 (he redshirted his sophomore year), advanced through the Games' early rounds with wins over wrestlers from Senegal and Switzerland to reach the quarterfinals.

In his quarterfinals match, he held a slim lead over Mogamed Ibragimov of Moldova in the closing seconds. But Ibragimov scored on a 3-point move to win 4-2, costing Burton any chance for a medal.

Despite the disappointing loss, Burton will go down in Boise State sports lore as the first Bronco athlete to compete for the U.S. Olympic team (a few other Boise State athletes have competed in track and field for other countries in the Games).

Burton, 27, was the 1991 state champion at 167 pounds his senior year at Meridian's Centennial High before he joined coach Mike Young's program at Boise State.

He went on to rank second all-time in wins among Bronco wrestlers with 101 and finished third his senior year at 187 pounds in the NCAA championships.

At the U.S. Nationals he finished second in 2000, third in 1999 and seventh in 1997.

Even before he left for Sydney, Burton said just the fact he was competing in the Olympics was a thrill beyond comparison.

"I guess I expect one of the biggest emotional highs of my life to be able to walk out into the Olympic stadium for the opening ceremonies," he said during an interview in Boise before leaving for Sydney.

"When I was younger and watched the Olympics on TV, winter or summer, you see the opening ceremonies and then you see American athletes up there on the middle stand, and I think that's got to be the best feeling in the world — to be up there and have so much pride and just enjoy knowing that you are the best in the world when you get up on the gold-medal stand. That's what you work for."

Burton left Boise State before completing his studies and earned a degree in genetics.

Even before he left for Sydney, Burton had that inner confidence that you get from training so hard. I knew that no one else had been working as hard as I had. I knew no one else was in better shape. I knew that when it came down to it, especially if it went three matches, that I was going to beat him."

Burton credits his career at Boise State for much of his success. "I was fortunate to have a great coaching staff when I was here. [Assistant coach] Mike Davies was really helpful and coach [Greg] Randall [another Bronco assistant] used to trash me when I was younger. They really taught me how to work a lot and keep pushing myself. Coach Young was also instrumental in making sure I was going to competitions and making sure I was working hard."

"It definitely started here."

Former Boise Junior College football star Dave Wilcox earned the game's ultimate honor this summer when he was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Wilcox, 58, became the first player from what is now Boise State University to enter football's Valhalla.

After starring in baseball, basketball and football at Vale (Ore.) High School, Wilcox played his first two years of college ball at BJC in 1960 and '61, earning All-America honors as a two-way lineman both seasons, before transferring to the University of Oregon. In one season with the Broncos he blocked eight kicks, a school record. He also starred on the BJC track and field team.

He then went on to excel as an outside linebacker for the NFL's San Francisco 49ers, earning All-Pro honors seven times during his 11-year pro career.

A record crowd estimated at 20,000 attended the induction ceremonies in Canton, Ohio, in July. The crowd included Lyle Smith, Wilcox's coach at BJC, and his brothers John and Jerry, who also played for Smith in Boise.

"It was a special event, and it was great to have Lyle there," says Wilcox, who lives in Junction City, Ore.

Known for his fierce tackling and pass coverage skills during his NFL career, Wilcox was the Seniors candidate for the Hall of Fame's Class of 2000, which included fellow 49ers Joe Montana and Ronnie Lott as well as Raiders defensive lineman Howie Long and Pittsburgh Steelers owner Dan Rooney.

The third weekend of October should be a memorable one for Wilcox. On Friday, Oct. 20, he will return to his hometown to be honored at Vale High School's football game. The next night Boise State will honor Wilcox during halftime of the Bronco game against North Texas.

"It should be a fun trip," he says. "I'm looking forward to coming to Boise State, seeing Lyle and some of my old BJC teammates."
COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

The goals of the Alumni Association are implemented by an expanding group of committees made up of alumni volunteers. Much of the association’s business is carried out by seven standing committees: Legislative, Events, Scholarships, Alumni Center, Strategic Planning, Membership and Student Relations.

Following are the highlights of two of these committees.

The LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE is co-chaired by Jeremy Pisca (’95) and Alex LaBeau (’92). Both have extensive political and lobbying experience — Pisca as an attorney and lobbyist with Hopkins Roden and LaBeau as a government affairs coordinator for the Association of Realtors.

The committee is comprised of alumni who have an interest in government work and many of its members are professional lobbyists.

The committee is working to create a grassroots network of alumni throughout the state who can contact their legislators about higher education issues. The committee plans to have at least one person in each legislative district who will be active in the network.

The committee also will work with the university to co-sponsor legislative events and programs such as Higher Education Week and visits to campus by various key legislative committees and lawmakers.

Other tasks include highlighting Boise State to key legislators by inviting them to events on campus, helping in the selection and training of the ASBSU student lobbyist, and supporting the university’s consultants in Washington, D.C.

Susie Schumacher (’85) chairs the STUDENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE, which provides programs, events and opportunities for the Alumni Association to assist in the development of Boise State students. The committee provides opportunities for alumni and current students to meet and learn from one another. Among the committee’s projects are an Alumni Speakers Bureau, which will feature a monthly alumni speaker at the Student Union, and an Alumni Career Talk network in which alumni will talk with students about their jobs and professions.

BRONCOFEST

Bronco fans can gather for an evening of fun, food and beer tasting at BroncoFest 2000 the evening prior to the Idaho game. The event will begin at 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 17, at the Boise Depot.

Participants can sample food and beer from local breweries TableRock, the Ram and Harrison Hollow. The $20 admission fee benefits scholarships.
Dear Friends:

One thing we can always count on is change — and the Alumni Association is no exception. Several significant changes in recent months present the association with new opportunities and challenges as we continue to grow and improve our support of Boise State.

Executive director Bob Davies accepted a tremendous opportunity with SUNY-Buffalo as the associate vice president of institutional advancement. Bob was instrumental in advancing the Alumni Association for the last five years, achieving significant increases in our membership base, an increase in the number of programs we provide to alums and students, and an improvement in our overall financial condition. We will miss Bob greatly and wish him well in this new role.

Many of you already know our interim alumni director Dawn Kramer Hall. Dawn has been the assistant alumni director for the past two and one half years and is the mastermind behind many of our events. She is a Boise State grad (both undergraduate and graduate degrees!) and has a great knowledge of the university. She brings a new perspective to our operations and will enable us to review and assess the long-term needs of the association. We welcome Dawn in her new role. We will be conducting a search for a permanent executive director over the coming months and will keep you informed of our progress.

The Alumni Center project is moving forward. We anticipate moving our offices around the end of the year. The new center will provide us with a long-term home for recognition of academic achievement at Boise State, with space set aside to honor our Distinguished Alumni, Top Ten Scholars, Rhodes Scholars and Silver Medallion recipients.

Fund raising for the Alumni Center is in full swing and your pledge is vital to our success. Your contribution allows us to continue to focus our efforts on developing and enhancing programs and providing scholarships to students. Your contribution to the Alumni Center can be made by calling the Alumni Office at (208) 426-1959.

Finally, I would like to thank the Alumni Association staff and board of directors for their hard work and dedication to Boise State. And thanks to all who have supported Boise State through the Alumni Association. Our future is filled with opportunity and we look forward to the challenges of change.

The Distinguished Alumni Awards will be presented next April at a banquet that also honors Boise State’s Top Ten Scholars and their favorite professors.

Last year’s honorees included Richard Navarro (’75), group vice president and controller at Albertson’s; Celia Gould (’79), state representative from District 22 in the Magic Valley; and Michael LaTour (’81), a professor of marketing at Auburn University.

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ALUMNI THEATER NIGHT

Nearly 150 individuals attended a special benefit performance of Pump Boys and Dinettes at the Idaho Shakespeare Festival in September. The production raised nearly $3,000 for the special guest endowment in the theatre arts department and the Alumni Association’s Distinguished Freshman scholarship program.

BOARD NOMINATIONS

Nominations are being accepted for five members to serve a three-year term on the Alumni Association board of directors. Nominations will be accepted until March 1, 2001. Those who wish to nominate individuals for the board should contact interim director Dawn Kramer Hall at the Alumni Office.

AlumNews

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Each year the Alumni Association recognizes up to three individuals for their accomplishments in either their profession, community or service to Boise State. Past recipients include chief executives of major companies, movie directors, authors, doctors, and community leaders.

The association is now accepting nominations for the 2001 awards. A letter stating the qualifications of the nominee should be sent to the Alumni Office. Applications must be postmarked by Feb. 1, 2001.

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