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FOCUS

ABOUT THIS ISSUE: The Treasure Valley is no longer the slow-paced, agriculture-based society of years ago. As the area and its people settle into the 21st century, we are undergoing both subtle and dramatic changes that are working to redefine how we view ourselves and how we chart our futures. In this issue of FOCUS, we explore some of the ways that the Treasure Valley is changing, and look at how those changes are likely to affect life here in the century ahead. Cover graphic by John Kelly.

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Real Education for the Real World
FOCUS readers probably know by now that Boise State set another enrollment record this fall. Our growth is not only the result of a burgeoning population in the Treasure Valley. Dramatic changes in the local and national economy, increased opportunities for women and minorities and many other factors are also impacting higher education, and will continue to do so in the future.

Metropolitan universities live in a world of growth and are ever responding to the challenges that growth offers. Here's a quick summary of some of the ways Boise State is responding to these challenges:

- Our "distributed campus" model seeks to move our services across the region, making access for our students easier. Courses are offered on site, in satellite locations, by Internet, and by television or radio.
- Our "enterprise" information system featuring BroncoWeb provides for many student transactions (course selection, registration, financial aid, etc.) and campus information to be accessed from anywhere for any part of the distributed campus.
- We are expanding the university's physical infrastructure through a satellite campus — Boise State West, which opens fall 2003, a new parking deck, a student recreation center, and other building and campus improvements.
- We continue to expand our curriculum to meet the needs of our students and the area we serve. Last year, we began a new Ph.D. program in geophysics, a master's degree in engineering and a baccalaureate degree in networking and telecommunications. This year, in response to area demands, we are opening a program to train paramedics and expanding our nursing programs.

While growth is central to the mission of a metropolitan university such as Boise State, the challenge is to plan for accommodating this growth, particularly in difficult economic times. Our State Board of Education is committed to reviewing the impact of growth on the funding of each of Idaho's universities and colleges. Here, too, we have a good story to tell and I look forward to reporting on the results of these efforts.

I appreciate your support and welcome your comments; I can be reached at (208) 426-1491 or by e-mail: cruch@boisestate.edu.

Charles Ruch, President
University faces 2% budget holdback

What a difference a year makes. Just a few months after Idaho recorded its largest state budget surplus in history, Gov. Dirk Kempthorne ordered higher education and state agencies to cut current budgets by 2 percent.

The holdback is necessary because state tax revenues are below projections. Boise State's share of the cuts amounts to $1.4 million.

The cut blunts one of higher education's largest budget increases in recent years, a 9.7 percent increase that was approved by the Legislature and governor last spring.

President Charles Ruch says all areas of the university will share in the reduction, rather than targeted programs. In addition, no positions will be filled without approval by the university's vice presidents.

“We can absorb a holdback of this magnitude, but it doesn't come without additional strain. It is difficult when enrollment grows while revenues diminish,” Ruch says.

“The university has faced many holdbacks in the past. As with those, we will all work together to ensure that the quality of our programs is not compromised.”

Enrollment jumps

Boise State's growth pace quickened this fall as the university became the first in Idaho to surpass the 17,000 enrollment mark.

At the 10th day official count, Boise State enrolled 17,161 students, a 4 percent increase over last fall's 16,482 total. It is the largest enrollment increase at Boise State in the last 10 years and the sixth consecutive fall semester that the university's enrollment set a new state record.

The university also welcomed its largest class of freshmen — 2,346 students, an increase of 8 percent over last year.

Boise State President Charles Ruch cited four reasons for the increase: Boise State's growing reputation as a metropolitan university, the convenience of a “distributed” campus that offers courses at a variety of times in a variety of locations, improvement in financial aid disbursement and registration procedures and the slowdown of the local economy.

“We can accommodate this growth in the short term. But these numbers illustrate the need for continued financial support of higher education. We are a growth enterprise that is directly related to the economic future of Idaho,” says Ruch.

Boise State's off-campus programs also recorded large increases. The 1,434 enrollment at the Canyon County Center represented a 34 percent increase and Internet-based courses were up 56 percent.

The growth in Canyon County enrollment demonstrates the need for the Boise State West campus, Ruch says. “We are anxious to begin construction on the building so we can meet the needs of students in that part of the valley.”

New Director

Boise State has hired LEE DENKER as its new alumni director.

A former member of the University of Nebraska alumni staff, he will begin his tenure at Boise State in mid-October.

A complete story about the new director is on page 45.

Other enrollment highlights

FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT total topped 12,000 for the first time.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS up 7 percent.

Students of HISPANIC DESCENT up 13 percent.

Approximately 1,300 new high school graduates are receiving $500 annual IDAHO PROMISE SCHOLARSHIPS, a program that was instituted by the Legislature last session.

SAY HELLO TO OUR NEW LOOK

As you can see, we've freshened the appearance of FOCUS. The old design had been with us for almost 12 years, a long lifetime in the rapidly changing world of graphics. It was time to reformat the pages, select new type fonts and generally give the stories some breathing room. So, with the guidance of the Boise agency Oliver Russell and Associates, we've come up with a more open, less predictable design that we hope will make the magazine easier and more aesthetically pleasing to read. We would like to hear your reaction, pro or con. You can reach us at the address listed on page 7.
University plans first winter commencement

For the first time in Boise State history, the university will host a winter commencement ceremony for August and December graduates at 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 21. The additional ceremony, which will include the traditional processional and honor march, was added because of capacity crowds at May commencement over the past few years.

"Families and friends of graduates completely filled The Pavilion last spring," says Margene Muller, commencement committee chair. Muller says that given the growing attendance, the university was either going to have to ticket the event, thus limiting the number of family and friends who could attend, or find another alternative. Muller says that limiting attendance was an option the university wanted to avoid.

Of the approximately 1,500 graduates who attended the May ceremony, administrators estimate a third of them were August and December graduates. The winter graduation ceremony will not only ease overcrowding in the spring, but also allow more graduates to attend commencement before moving out of the area to begin new careers.

Publication honored

The Idaho Review, an annual collection of fiction and poetry published by Boise State, will have one of its short stories reprinted in the upcoming 2002 Pushcart Prize: Best of the Small Presses, due out in hardback this fall.

"This is a very prestigious award," says Mitch Wieland, founding editor of The Idaho Review and a Boise State English professor who teaches in the master of fine arts program in creative writing. "To have a story selected from just our third issue is a very great honor."

Pushcart Press selected "The Story of the Door" by David Huddle for its prize. During the year, editors at Pushcart Press read several thousand stories from national literary magazines and journals, then selected about 25 fiction works for publication in the annual prize anthology, according to Wieland.

Attack hits close to home for alumna

Like most other places in the United States, Boise State did not stand idly by when New York City and Washington, D.C., were attacked by terrorists on Sept. 11. The Associated Students of Boise State University donated approximately $4,100 to the American Red Cross after an on-campus fund drive, and members of the university community gathered for a memorial ceremony.

But for Elena Farmer (BS, social sciences/public affairs, '98), on just her second day on the job as a teacher in New York City, the horror of Sept. 11 hit much closer to home. Her story:

Shortly after 9 a.m. an aide entered my classroom and whispered to me, "A plane has crashed into the twin towers." I was horrified, having just seen the magnificent buildings on my bus ride in.

Outside the window the smoke billowed into the air. Even more disturbing was the sound of fire engines and police sirens making their way from Brooklyn via the bridges. I now know that many of these men and women were among the first to respond and perished in the line of duty.

Tuesday evening was very difficult. The sunset was different from the nights before — all the barges, ships, trawlers, and sailing vessels were absent from the harbor. Police boats patrolled the area as the ferry taxied the dead and wounded past the Statue of Liberty to Staten Island.

The sun sank over a disastrous day and yielded to a disturbing night. I don't think anyone in the city slept very well.

Wednesday was eerily quiet. And New Yorkers walked. Some walked into churches. I walked to a hospital to give blood, but was turned away because there were so many people. I walked downtown. All the faces were the same — not quite sure what to do or where to go. But we kept walking. It all seemed like a funeral procession, people arm in arm walking past the skyline. The city seemed smaller, two towers of steel replaced with a column of smoke.

I once believed that New York was rooted in the sky. Now I know that it is actually rooted in people with eyes lifted to the sky.

Life continues for those of us on the east side of the river; however, something has changed. New Yorkers now look to the skyline, not unlike this Idahoan, as if it were new to them. It is.
NEU agreement signed

Boise State has reached an agreement with the government of Vietnam to continue offering programs at the National Economics University in Hanoi. The programs, aimed at strengthening trade development, address issues and concerns specific to Vietnam and the surrounding region.

Since 1994, Boise State has worked with NEU to deliver an accredited English-language MBA program while training graduates to hold positions at NEU as well as in government, business and financial institutions.

With funding from the U.S. Agency for International Development, Boise State's newest program will further its support of NEU by:

- Overseeing a distance-learning program for NEU faculty members, delivered by an Australian university.
- Supporting senior and business school management in sustaining and building on the existing program.
- Creating an international university network (Inter-U-Net) involving two American universities, two Asian universities and NEU that will support faculty exchanges and research.
- Developing courses and management programs that support international trade and investment.

Provost Daryl Jones (above, right) represented Boise State in Vietnam at a mid-September signing ceremony also attended by officials from the Ministry of Education and Training, Ministry of Planning, USAID and the U.S. embassy.

Boise State business faculty will continue to travel to Vietnam under the direction of project director Nancy Napier to offer workshops and co-teach courses.

Engineering ranks high

The College of Engineering moved up from No. 67 to No. 37 on the U.S. News & World Report's list of Best Undergraduate Engineering Programs. Boise State was listed along with nearly 90 nondoctoral engineering colleges with at least one engineering program accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology.

Excluding private institutions and considering only public colleges and universities, the Boise State College of Engineering ranked 13th on the list of the top engineering colleges in the nation that do not grant a Ph.D.

Last year's ranking at No. 67 was the first year Boise State was eligible to be considered.

The listing is available on the Web at www.usnews.com/usnews/education/rankings/rankengineering.htm.

Paramedic program to the rescue

After raising $97,000 and gaining State Board of Education approval, the College of Health Sciences' associate degree paramedic program is preparing for its first class in fall 2002.

Ted Ryan has been hired as program director, and over the next academic year courses will be finalized, clinical sites will be determined and a director of clinical education will be selected.

"A growing Idaho population results in pressure on municipalities to expand and improve their emergency medical service," says Con Colby, chair of Boise State's respiratory therapy department, which will administer the program.

At the time of approval by the Board of Education, there were no other paramedic education programs offered by any state-supported university or college in Idaho, notes Colby. "A paramedic academic degree was not available to most students. This further demonstrates a growing need to meet the EMT demands of communities and students throughout Idaho."

Boise State expects 15 to 20 students to begin their professional paramedic education in the fall of 2002.

More information about the program is available on the Web at http://respther.boisestate.edu/Paramedic.htm.
Navigating the rapids

Higher education seeks the calm isolation of "golden ponds," while the world is running "whitewater rapids," Boise State President Charles Ruch told faculty and staff at his Aug. 20 speech to open the fall semester.

Building on the metaphor, Ruch said Boise State experienced its share of golden pond moments over the past year, with a record enrollment, new degree programs, entrance into the Western Athletic Conference, improved registration procedures and several new construction projects under way.

But he cautioned faculty and staff of the whitewater rapids that lie ahead.

• Population growth in the Treasure Valley will continue to put pressure on Boise State's capacity. "Calls for our expanded productivity are being heard," Ruch said.

• Higher education providers in the Treasure Valley are increasing as the market grows. "Boise State is no longer the 'only game in town.' We need to seek appropriate strategies to respond to the competitive challenges. We dismiss them at our peril," he said.

• Idaho's economic fortunes continue to decline, offering slim prospects of budget increases in the coming years. "We will again be forced to navigate between managing the growth needs of our service area and the realities of few, if any, additional resources in the immediate future," Ruch said.

He laid out a series of initiatives designed to help the university steer through the "whitewater" ahead, including enhancing the academic experience at Boise State through improved advising, enhancement of service learning courses and improved electronic communication with students.

Ruch called for campuswide involvement in the development of the Boise State West campus near Nampa. The first academic building is expected to open in the fall of 2003.

"We need to plan for a smooth and successful transition into a two-campus institution. We need the best of all your ideas as we bring new opportunities to our citizens," Ruch told the faculty.

The full speech can be found on the Web at news.boisestate.edu.
ENERGY IN THE WEST IS TOPIC OF CHURCH CONFERENCE

States representative from California who currently serves as chairman of the board for the Center for National Policy, Panetta founded and directs the Leon and Sylvia Panetta Institute for Public Policy at California State University - Monterey Bay. He will speak at 7 p.m.

Participants will learn about the history of the energy crisis from several different angles. The opening address at 8:45 a.m. will be given by Karl Brooks, a former Boise attorney, Idaho state senator and director of the Idaho Conservation League. Brooks is currently a professor of environmental law at the University of Kansas and a U.S. Supreme Court Judicial Fellow.

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The Catch, theatre arts professor Phil Atkinson's short film about family dynamics on a small fishing boat, received an invitation to the Sun Valley Film Festival Oct. 24-28. The Catch has also received invitations from One Reel Film Fest in Seattle and Film Fest New Haven in Connecticut.

The Sun Valley Film Festival will include screenings, seminars, awards and festivities at the Sun Valley Opera House and the Sun Valley Lodge. For a complete schedule of events and ticket information, visit www.sunvalleyfilmfestival.com.

FORMER WHITE HOUSE CHIEF OF STAFF
Leon Panetta keynotes the 18th annual conference.

Barker, The Idaho Statesman; Tim Egan, New York Times; James Weatherby, Boise State University; and Tom Hill, Pacific Gas and Electric.
Broncos win WAC opener

Attack the WAC! has been Boise State's slogan in its first year as a member of the Western Athletic Conference. And the Bronco football team did just that in its inaugural game in its new league with an impressive 42-17 victory over Texas-El Paso.

After season-opening losses to South Carolina and Washington State, the win over the Miners also marked Dan Hawkins' first triumph as Bronco head coach.

Having defeated UTEP 38-23 in the 2000 Humanitarian Bowl, the Sept. 22 victory in Bronco Stadium was also Boise State's second in a row over the Miners, who were the WAC co-champions the previous season and picked to finish second in the conference in several 2001 preseason polls.

WAC Commissioner Karl Benson, a Boise State graduate, was among those who attended the Broncos' first game in their new conference. Boise State officially joined the WAC on July 1.

Grad rates on the rise

Boise State's graduation rate for student-athletes is the highest it has ever been since the NCAA began tracking the data.

Bronco teams graduated 53 percent of their freshmen over the six-year period that began with the fall 1994 semester, according to the annual NCAA report of graduation rates released in early August.

That number is up from 30 percent in the 1999 report and 42 percent in the 2000 edition.

Of the 38 freshmen student-athletes who entered in fall 1994, 20 graduated.

"Our Peterson Learning Center and academic enhancement program are paying dividends and continue to provide excellent support for our students," says athletic director Gene Bleymaier.

But the NCAA report tells only part of the graduation rate story, says Bleymaier. When a student-athlete leaves the program or transfers to another school, he or she is counted against Boise State's graduation rate.

Seventeen from the 1994 class left the program. If those were excluded from the count, all but one of the 38 freshmen in the 1994 class graduated. That would bring the graduation rate up to 95 percent rather than the 53 percent cited in the NCAA report.

Last year Boise State graduated 59 student-athletes from all sports.

Jim Criner celebrates the 1980 championship that is featured in Heart Stoppers and Hail Marys: 100 of the Greatest College Football Finishes.
Holiday Concerts

Sounds of the holiday season will fill the Morrison Center and Pavilion starting with the Mannheim Steamroller Christmas Extraordinaire at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 27 at The Pavilion. On Nov. 30 the world-renowned Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra will present an evening of holiday favorites and pops classics at 8 p.m. at The Pavilion. Theater League of Idaho will present pianist and composer Kurt Bestor at 8 p.m. on Dec. 1 at the Morrison Center. The annual Family Holiday Concert, presented by the Boise State music department at 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 2 at the Morrison Center, appeals to all ages with university orchestras, ensembles, choral groups and sing-alongs.

Tickets are available at Select-a-Seat outlets, by calling (208) 426-1766 or the Morrison Center box office at (208) 426-1110 or on the Select-a-Seat Web site at www.idahotickets.com.

For a calendar of other concerts and holiday festivities on campus, visit news.boisestate.edu.

The Growing Place

Moved by a television commercial where young children seemed to instantly connect with elderly people, Christy Hall had an idea for a new child care concept.

A few phone calls later, she and fellow Boise State master’s student Stacee Marshall were on their way to starting The Growing Place, a unique child development center that opened in a Boise care center last summer.

A cooperative venture between Easter Seals-Goodwill Northern Rocky Mountain and Capitol Care Center, The Growing Place has already exceeded expectations after only two months of operation, says Idaho Easter Seals coordinator Sandy Davis.

"The location allows us to take the little ones in big red buggies and stroll through the halls. Those residents who can't get out of bed see us coming and you should see the smiles — it's even more wonderful than we imagined."

Patterned after a partnership in Montana, Easter Seals' aim is to care for children ages 6 weeks to 6 years, both with and without disabilities, in a setting where intergenerational activities can take place.

A Fresh Look

The familiar wooden signs that have identified Boise State buildings for the better part of three decades are no more.

While they may have fit into the campus landscape in the 1970s, the signs hardly represented the image of the progressive metropolitan university that Boise State has become. So they have been replaced by large blue signs with gray and orange accents, or, in many cases, by signs mounted on the buildings themselves.

The new look is part of a two-year plan to improve campus signage. The university also has added identification signs on many small buildings and new directional signs for motorists.
HP gift benefits business college

A donation of printing and imaging equipment from Hewlett Packard has provided the College of Business and Economics with new printers and scanners in each of its six departments.

Max Anthony (BBA, marketing, '93) who now works in HP’s marketing department, was instrumental in helping to orchestrate the gift.

“The positive diversity on the Boise State campus makes it an attractive place for HP to donate its products,” he says.

The donation also includes a high-performance, high-speed LaserJet 8500 color printer. The printer is being used in the student resource lab in the Business Building.

“At first I thought it was kind of a weird combination, the kids and the elderly people,” she says. But after she began meeting with administrators from Capitol Care Center and visiting with child-care providers, she discovered that the motor skills and attention spans for the two groups were about the same.

From cooking to art, reading to storytelling, she produced an information manual that gives The Growing Place teachers plenty of ideas for uniting the two age groups. It highlights fun days like Peanut Butter Day and National Red Shoe Day, special books on famous authors’ birthdays, and hands-on activities.

“I think what this will do for the morale and self-esteem for both groups will be amazing,” Marshall says.

For Hall and Marshall, each success story they hear makes their projects more fulfilling.

“This was a learning experience in so many ways,” Marshall says.

— Sherry Squires

Christy Hall works with children at The Growing Place.
Looking beneath the Surface

By Janelle Brown

At first glance, the research site near the Boise River looks like some kind of futuristic fishing village. A scientist slowly lowers a black line into a cylindrical well, using a technique familiar to any angler. Tubes and wires thick enough to snag a lunker snake through the sand and disappear into other wells or into nearby tents. Researchers and students move through the area, check lines, pick up water samples and stare intently at computer screens. The gentle hum of the nearby river and the blast-furnace heat of August fill the air.

In truth, fishing was probably the furthest things from the minds of the Boise State University scientists and students who conducted tests 24 hours a day for three straight weeks in August. Run by the Center for Geophysical Investigation of the Shallow Subsurface (CGISS), the tests charted how a nontoxic liquid pumped 35 feet below the surface moved and spread out over time.

The tests were part of ongoing efforts by CGISS scientists to develop techniques that could be used to help solve subsurface contamination problems, such as those at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory. By charting the “distribution of permeability,” the ease with which water flows through sand, gravel and other soil structures, scientists can predict where and how fast a contaminant is likely to spread. That information can then be used to accurately assess risks and devise clean-up strategies.

“It was exhausting,” says CGISS researcher Warren Barrash of the three weeks of intensive work that involved nearly two dozen scientists and students from Boise State and several other research institutions. “We’re relieved and gratified that the custom-designed equipment and so many things we were trying for the first time worked so well.”

The comprehensive field work yielded fascinating new information about how the liquid moved underground in a complex alluvial aquifer composed mainly of sands and gravels, Barrash explains. At times during the experiment, the liquid elongated underground into a shape similar to a bowling pin; as it moved progressively toward the withdrawal well where the liquid was removed, it continued to change shape.

“We already have learned a great deal, and we’ll be analyzing the data we’ve collected during the months ahead,” Barrash says.

Among the data’s uses: to help refine the computer models CGISS researchers have developed that predict how liquid will flow through the site. “Our goal is to develop noninvasive methods, because they are much faster and easier to use at contaminated sites,” adds CGISS researcher Michael Knoll.
The CGISS experiment began by injecting 1,000 gallons of water into one of the dozen or so test wells at the site. The water, infused with a nontoxic chemical tracer, was released into the middle of the aquifer. Researchers and students then monitored how the tracer moved underground, using two independent techniques: chemical analyses of water samples collected at numerous points underground and radar tomography, a technique similar to a medical MRI that yields pictures of the strata.

A small army of scientists and students worked three shifts a day to collect data. "It was pretty interesting to see how all the different operations worked," says Aaron Marshall, a Boise State senior majoring in geology who helped with the chemical analyses and other tasks. "It was well worth my time."

The marathon tests marked a new phase in research at the Boise Hydrogeophysical Research Site, which was established in 1997 with a $2 million grant from the U.S. Department of Defense. Past studies have focused on developing techniques for mapping subsurface soil structures in the sand and gravel; this was the first time a tracer was injected and scientists measured how fast it actually moved and imaged its passage from several angles.

Prof designs tool to clean waste sites

When contaminated water from a waste disposal site, an industrial facility or an accidental spill seeps into the ground, there's good reason for concern. The contaminants might eventually reach an underground aquifer, threatening the water supply and leading to potentially catastrophic results.

But cleaning up the pollutants isn't easy. Among the obstacles scientists face is trying to figure out how fast, and in what direction, the contaminated water is moving underground.

An instrument invented by Boise State civil engineering professor Molly Gribb could help. Called a cone permeameter, the device collects data about soil properties that can be used by scientists to predict how fast the contaminated water is likely to spread. That information is crucial for understanding how much risk the contaminants pose and how to best clean up the site.

"We make a lot of assumptions about how water moves through the subsurface, but we haven't had a way to measure it quickly and accurately," explains Gribb, who specializes in geoenvironmental engineering and began work on a prototype while earning a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 1993.

Gribb's invention looks a bit like a small missile, with a conical tip at the bottom and a slender metal rod above it. To operate it, the permeameter is first pushed into the subsurface using a hydraulic jack mounted on a custom-designed truck that was procured as part of a $170,000 National Science Foundation grant. Water is then flushed through the device's well screen into the subsurface, and sensors record changes in the water pressure. The data can be used to calculate how fast water is likely to move through the soil.

Gribb plans to try her prototype in field tests this fall. Among its possible uses: to help address subsurface contamination issues at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory.

"The tool has a lot of different applications," says Gribb, who hopes it will eventually be manufactured. "It has the potential for a wide range of use."

— Janelle Brown
English prof edits first critical edition of George Eliot's famous novel 'Adam Bede'

Martin traces Eliot's artistic journey

Boise State English professor Carol Martin remembers how she felt as she sat hunched over a priceless manuscript of the acclaimed novel Adam Bede in the British Library in London, trying to decipher what author George Eliot had written before she'd gone back and scribbled parts of it out.

"There were times when I thought, 'George, you could have made this easier on me,'" says Martin with a laugh, as she describes how she used a pinpoint light and magnifying glass to decipher what was written beneath the heavily blotted "cancellations" in Eliot's manuscript of the novel that established her as a literary sensation in London in 1859.

Martin undertook the painstaking work of deciphering Eliot's edits as part of a project for Oxford University Press. The author of a book on Eliot's serial fiction and an expert on 19th century English literature, Martin was selected for the prestigious, if somewhat daunting, task of editing the first critical edition of Adam Bede.

"I was astounded," Martin says of being contacted by a prominent Eliot scholar and later receiving a contract from Oxford Press for the project. Eliot's other books, including Middlemarch and The Mill on the Floss, had been edited for critical editions by scholars at major research institutions in Britain and the United States, Martin explains. "It was a chance of a lifetime," she says. "I couldn't pass it by."

The hefty Clarendon edition of Adam Bede, which includes a 158-page introduction by Martin, 2,500 annotated variations in the book's text and another 500 notes in the introduction, was published last spring. It provides Eliot scholars and university students with an authoritative guide to revisions that occurred in Bede from Eliot's original manuscript to the eighth edition that Eliot corrected in her own hand, and an analysis that helps put those revisions in context.

Those revisions are important, says Martin, because they offer insights into Eliot's artistic journey and underscore for today's students the fact that writing is very much a process.

"You can get a sense of what the author was thinking, what was happening between an early version of the book and a later one," says Martin. "It's exciting because you can get a sense of all the struggles that are involved in writing."

Martin received a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities and several grants for the project. During the time provided by her fellowship, grants and sabbatical year, she conducted research at the British Library in London, at the National Library of Scotland in Edinburgh and other research institutions. In addition to studying Eliot's manuscript and revisions, Martin searched publishers' records and accountants' books and read...
Eliot's letters and journals. "I loved doing the research and finding out the details," Martin says. Among her challenges: to document production costs on 140 year-old publishers' ledgers that were tallied in the old English system of 12 pence to a shilling. The information helped Martin chart the history of Bede's publication through more than a dozen editions.

Martin found many fascinating revisions in Adam Bede that alluded to Eliot's maturation as an artist and her growing confidence in emphasizing realism rather than idealism in her work. For example, Martin documents how Eliot changed a passage that originally read "my lady readers" to simply "my readers" in the eighth edition. The passage was written as a veiled reference to Eliot's publisher, who she had sparred with over the realism vs. idealism debate; Martin writes that by the eighth edition, the successful Eliot no longer "needed to dress her reader in female clothes to disguise the male publisher underneath."

Those kinds of insights into Eliot's life fueled Martin's curiosity and drive throughout the mammoth project. Though she read passages in Adam Bede countless times as she conducted her research, Martin says she never got tired of it. "The writing is so fine ... I marvel at how beautifully it was done," says Martin. "I came out [of the project] with an even higher regard for Adam Bede than when I began."

— Janelle Brown

Music prof hits home run with research on baseball history

With a doctorate in music and a specialty in medieval music history, it's not surprising that Boise State music professor Joseph Baldassarre recently published new research.

What's surprising is that his research piece was titled "Baseball's Ancestry" and was included in the 2001 edition of the baseball research publication The National Pastime.

Baldassarre traces the roots of baseball back to medieval Europe when ball games were played in forests, courts and even convents. Baldassarre also explores commonalities with ball games in ancient Egypt and Greece.

A lifelong baseball player and fan, Baldassarre became interested in the sport's ancestry a few years ago when he learned of the medieval connection between baseball and music. He and students in his medieval drama class chose to perform "The Cantigas de Santa Maria" from 13th century Spain. "There are illuminations [small paintings] in the manuscript and one of them shows a batter, a pitcher and two or three fielders," says Baldassarre.

Baseball is more than an academic pursuit for Baldassarre. At a 1993 Baseball Heaven fantasy camp, his team won the championship, earning the chance to play against former Indians stars at Cleveland's Municipal Stadium, where Baldassarre hit a single off Bob Feller and a double off Mudcat Grant to score his team's only run. He is currently the third baseman for the Boise Cubs in the Men's Senior Baseball League, a national league for competitive amateur baseball players.

Baldassarre grew up in Cleveland, where he became a fan of the Cleveland Indians and another Cleveland cultural tradition, Irish folk music. This summer Baldassarre also released a new CD, Young Jane, a collection of traditional and modern folk tunes from Ireland, Australia and the British Isles. The CD features 18 tracks, with acoustical, 12-string and classical guitar and vocals on some pieces.

"I really enjoy both [baseball and music] for different reasons," says Baldassarre. "There's a mystique about baseball that is peculiarly American. In the area of music that I am in, there is the joy of reproducing something that has been gone 500 years or more."

— Patricia Pyke
WHEN THE

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 Idaho economic outlook

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high-tech economy should back firms

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FALL 2001

FOCUS
By Bob Evancho

High tech’s hard times are no surprise to Boise resident Ray Smelek. He knows plenty about his industry’s volatility — how robust sales and soaring stocks can quickly turn into declining economic output, cyclical downturns and plunging profits. As the Treasure Valley’s godfather of high technology, he’s seen it all.

In 1973, when the burgeoning Palo Alto, Calif.-based computer maker Hewlett-Packard decided to add printers to its line of products, it was

**CHIPS ARE DOWN**

Can high tech weather the current crisis?

Smelek, then a 38-year-old HP executive, who was chosen to spearhead the project. His responsibilities included the selection of a site for the company to develop and manufacture its new printers.

He picked Boise.

Three years after HP’s initial move to Idaho’s capital, the company transferred its disk memory division to its Boise complex and Smelek was named vice president and general manager of its mass storage group. A few years later, a small high-tech enterprise that would later become Micron Technology set up shop in Boise. The two companies became the genesis of a high-tech explosion in the Boise area — a phenomenon that would propel Idaho’s economic prosperity in the 1990s and reach its apex in 2000.

My, how things have changed since those heady days at the turn of the century.

With the nation’s economy slumping and worldwide personal-computer sales sputtering, these are uncertain times for the high-tech industry. Unfortunately, computer/semiconductor/electronics hotbeds like the Treasure Valley often bear the brunt of the economic consequences — witness what has befallen the area’s high-tech sector with plummeting profits, the takeover of MicronPC and sizable layoffs at HP, Zilog, SCP Global Technologies and other firms.

To be sure, times are tough for the Treasure Valley’s high-tech companies, and things may get worse before they get better, allows Smelek. But the 66-year-old chairman of Extended Systems, a Boise-based HP spin-off, and other experts seem certain that the current downturn, although serious, won’t last forever. Even so, Smelek admits that a high-tech revitalization in the Boise area won’t happen anytime soon. “I don’t know if it will be in the next quarter or even eight quarters from now,” he says, “but I think that any company that uses prudent management and plans to stay in business will stay in business.”

Furthermore, the area’s overall economic health, albeit
sluggish, remains relatively stable, say Boise State economists Don Holley and John Church. They believe that while high-tech's struggles are troubling, a major overall recession is unlikely.

"It's safe to say that high-tech is the big engine of Idaho's growth in the last decade," says Church, a visiting professor in the College of Business and Economics, "but it's still not the largest component of the economy by a long shot. We still have this underlying base of agriculture and service industries that have grown very dramatically, at times faster than high-tech has."

Church, one of Idaho's top economic consultants, predicts the economy will be able to withstand additional high-tech downsizing should it occur. "I think we would chug along," he says. "There would be a dip, but the underlying base would still be there."

Holley, chair of Boise State's economics department, agrees. To illustrate his point, he uses the H.J. Heinz Co.'s decision to move its Boise-based Ore-Ida Foods operations to the company's general offices in Pittsburgh in 1999. "Look how easily the Treasure Valley absorbed the Ore-Idaho workers a few years ago," he says. "Of the 400 who were laid off, less than 20 went to Pittsburgh. To me, that's a good indication of how strong the economic health of the Boise valley is. Sure, the high-tech firms are struggling, but in this valley you have corporations such as Simplot, Albertson's, Trus Joist, St. Luke's. We are much more diverse economically than we were 30 years ago."

Smelek agrees. "Before high-tech came along, there was farming, mining and timber," he says. "That's why it's important for the state to continue to have a blend of industries, so that they can perhaps counterbalance the cycles that are going to occur."

Church uses an analogy from his past to make a point. "My father worked at a naval base in Astoria, Ore., in the early 1960s. There was some shipping, fishing and tourism, but the naval base was basically the economic base for Astoria," he says. "When the base closed, it took two decades for the town to recover. The economy here in Boise is much more diverse than that."

Holley and Church also note that the Treasure Valley's unemployment rate remains low despite all the high-tech gloom and doom. "As of July it was 3.9 percent. I think it's amazing that we're talking 3.9 percent with all the layoffs we've had," says Holley. "We don't usually start talking about a severe problem until the unemployment rate hits 6 or 7 percent."

Employment figures calculated by Church show that as recently as June 2001 more than 20,000 Treasure Valley workers held jobs in the machinery and electronic equipment manufacturing sectors — the two sectors that are most often regarded as comprising Idaho's high-tech industries. Furthermore, from June 2000 to June 2001 there has actually been an increase of more than 500 jobs in those two sectors. (While the machinery segment declined by 700 jobs, there was an increase of 1,300 electronics positions during that 12-month period.)

The reasons behind the high tech industry's lingering downturn are numerous, complex and not unique to the Treasure Valley, says Boise State electrical and computer engineering professor and industry expert Steve Parke. "I don't think it's any worse here than anywhere else in the world. In fact, I think Idaho is stronger in many respects than a place like the Silicon Valley, which is in a real severe slump. What we are experiencing here is part of the [sluggish] global economy in electronics and semiconductors."

Smelek, who serves on the Boise State College of Engineering's Advisory Board, and Parke point to three primary factors for the high-tech downturn. "In my opinion, Y2K was the start..."
of the problem," says Smelek, who retired from HP in 1994. "People overspent, buying more than they needed for the so-called problem, which never materialized. It made the suppliers think, 'Gee, this is great, there's an upturn in demand and it will last forever.' But it didn't."

Another reason is the widespread failure of online businesses — the so-called dot-com demise. "Too many [dot-commers] were out there selling ideas without any substance; people finally figured them out and decided they weren't going to buy stock in companies that were full of ideas but weren't making any money," says Smelek.

Parke agrees. "At the end of 2000, [investors] were coming to grips with the actual value of some of these dot-com companies," he says. "They were way overvalued, and all the euphoria over their existence just died. It came down to the differences between online businesses that could provide a product you could hold in your hand as opposed to these ethereal dot-coms, which many of them were."

The third reason, says Parke, is twofold: the saturation of the market with PCs and cell phones coupled with the absence of a revolutionary, high-demand consumer product to take their places. "There has been a leveling off of the demand for computing and communications products," Parke says. "Plus there isn't that killer product that's pushing the consumer to buy."

Parke believes these problems began to manifest themselves late last year when too many players seemed to be caught up in the euphoria of the immense popularity of personal computers, cell phones and other high-tech gadgets while at the same time paying scant attention to long-term strategies.

"I'm not just talking about Idaho companies; perhaps Idaho is actually better in that regard," he says. "But it seemed like everyone in the industry was looking one or two years down the road and looking at evolutionary products, at incrementally improving products as opposed to developing revolutionary products and breakthroughs — the cell phone, for example. But where is that next killer product? Why isn't it out there now? I think it's a lack of vision, a lack of long-term investment [in research and development]."

This unfolding scenario has Parke concerned. "I got into the semiconductor industry in 1981, and in my experience I've seen a lot of cycles. But this [decline] came very abruptly; it wasn't on a normal slowdown speed."

While the industrywide slump is certain to plague the Treasure Valley's high-tech sector for the foreseeable future, Parke believes Micron Technology's presence in Boise will help soften the blow. He points to the expansion of a new research and development facility at the semiconductor giant's Boise site. "Micron is bucking the trend," he says. "The industry is obviously in a slump right now, but [Micron is] poised for R&D for the long term and will be ready to catch the next wave."

Not all of the Treasure Valley's high-tech firms have Micron's deep pockets, however. "Some smaller companies have had to scuttle some of their R&D," comments Parke. "We are seeing top R&D engineers and managers applying for academic positions and leaving the state and going to other jobs. That creates a brain drain in the valley, which is a real shame because these people are such an asset to Idaho. Micron has absorbed some of them, but not all of them."

Another key player that must maintain its commitment to high technology in the Treasure Valley is Boise State, say Parke and Smelek. Fortunately, in their opinion, the university continues to do so.

Parke notes Boise State's plan to establish a business incubator at its Canyon County campus, a facility designed to provide services to high-tech start-ups when it opens in late 2002. "But the most important contribution we can make," he adds, "is to pump out good engineering bachelor's and master's graduates and place them with high-tech companies in the valley. And I think we're doing that. The competition for our graduates is intensifying. Last May, we had students take jobs in Colorado, California and Boston. Also, the number of companies at our engineering career fair has risen dramatically. They're not just from the Treasure Valley anymore; they're coming from Portland and the Silicon Valley."

Says Smelek, "I think there are two important components to Boise State's role: the engineering school and the business school. Entrepreneurship is vital to the high-tech industry. I think there are some bright, qualified people who have come to the area's companies, but they also need training to run a business."

While the so-called "tech wreck" of 2001 continues to cause much consternation, Smelek says Boise State must not lose sight of the need to help produce a quality work force for the Treasure Valley's high-tech sector. And the university's importance, says Smelek, cannot be overstated.

"Boise State's engineering school," he states, "is the linchpin to high-tech growth in this area."

"Where is that next killer product? Why isn't it out there now? I think it's a lack of vision, a lack of long-term investment in research and development."
Faculty research combined with a culture of entrepreneurship within Boise State’s College of Engineering is paying dividends for the economy.

Despite the current nationwide economic slump, the college has remained active in its efforts to stimulate the economy not only through research with private-sector partners, but also by offering services and facilities to Idaho’s high-tech firms.

“Last year the college produced 100 graduates and our enrollment continues to grow, but our contributions to the economy go beyond providing quality people to work in the industry,” says Lynn Russell, Boise State’s dean of engineering. “Beyond that, we promote research and development activities among our faculty. Research currently in progress in our college totals about $8 million in funding, which is a fairly significant amount for economic development given the fact we only started promoting research about two years ago.”

Among the college’s significant projects are:

- Work on futuristic pocket personal communicators led by electrical and computer engineering professors Steve Parke and Gary Erickson. Having received an initial $500,000 National Science Foundation grant in 1999, Parke and Erickson are now working with a Boise firm called Wireless Systems Inc., which awarded Boise State a $2.25 million grant.

- Research on the fabrication of a new technology that focuses on materials and processing of three-dimensional structures. With $1.9 million in federal funding, electrical and computer engineering professor Susan Burkett is involved in the collaborative research project with colleagues at the Microelectronics Center of North Carolina.
Activity

- The application of inkjet technology in microchip manufacturing. The project, led by mechanical engineering professor Amy Moll, has received internal funding, and the university has applied for additional financial backing through a grant with NSF's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR).
- Work to investigate the unwanted effects of electromagnetic pulses on integrated circuits by electrical and computer engineering professor Jake Baker as part of a $3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Defense.

College of Engineering faculty also work as consultants for, and conduct research with, colleagues at several of Idaho’s high-tech firms including Micron, AMI Semiconductor, Hewlett-Packard and AMKOR Technology.

In addition, the engineering college, along with Boise State’s College of Business and Economics, will work to form a business incubator at the new Boise State West campus in Nampa when it opens in two years.

Moreover, the engineering college and TechHelp, Idaho’s manufacturing extension center based at Boise State, boast a prototyping facility that makes models of manufactured goods to help Idaho’s design and manufacturing companies. The program is geared toward offering the benefits of computer-aided solid modeling and rapid prototyping technology to Idaho manufacturers.

“Services like the incubator center and the rapid prototyping machine help provide technological input which helps stimulate economic development,” says Russell. “I view those kinds of things as one of the main reasons the college is here.”

Bob Evancho
Left behind in the tech boom

By Patricia Pyke

Many Idahoans never caught a ride on the high-tech wave that swept through the Treasure Valley, filling local roads with sport utility vehicles and transforming farmland and foothills into subdivisions dotted with half-million dollar houses.

Olivia Hibnes is one of them. Hibnes, 24, has usually worked 40-65 hours a week at low-paying food-service and clerical jobs. Her schedule of studying and working long hours to pay for day care for her two sons, basic expenses and keeping her 1989 Dodge Colt patched together allows for about three hours of sleep a night.

She says her personal philosophy is "don't lose your faith, don't ever give up." She has applied that motto by earning her GED in the Adult Basic Education program at Boise State and taking advantage of other resources — training classes, job placement services and public assistance — in an effort to better her life.

"Half of society is made up of people making less than $10 an hour, not because they're low class, but because they're trying their best to make ends meet," says Hibnes.

Hibnes' struggle to stay afloat is typical of many Idaho workers who lost ground during the technology boom years. That's the indication of data from census records and national and local research compiled by Boise State psychology professor Linda Anooshian. She authored a series of four reports, "Growing Up Poor in Idaho," for Idaho Kids Count 2001, part of a nonpartisan, national Kids Count network designed to inform the general public and policy makers about the well-being of children.

"The economic boom that has been all over the newspapers until recently has not been an economic boom for most people," says Anooshian. "Most jobs added to the Idaho economy have not been high-paying, high-tech jobs but rather have been low-income service-sector jobs."

Anooshian acknowledges that the data is startling.

- More than half of Idaho children live in households classified as low-income (200 percent of poverty level or less).
- From 1998 to 2000, the average childhood poverty rate was 21 percent in Idaho and 19 percent nationally.

...
urban counties than in rural areas. Anooshian attributes the difference partly to economic diversity in urban areas, which enables poor people to work two or three jobs, and the decline of traditional industries such as timber and mining in rural areas.

Amidst Idaho’s conservative political culture, where programs assisting the poor are among the least funded in the nation, people frequently tell Anooshian that poverty and homelessness are not real problems in the state.

“People don’t want to think about poor people,” Anooshian says. “We have a lot of what are nowadays called ‘the invisible homeless.’ You see them but you don’t recognize them as being homeless.”

Take Hibnes for example. Articulate and quick to smile, she seems like a regular college student. Making lattes and coffee drinks at Moxie Java in the Student Union, she interacts amicably with customers. After work, she diligently studies from a math textbook. She’s divorced, but her ex-husband is supportive of their children.

You’d never know that, despite her best efforts at scrimping and saving, she lost her rented house a couple months back and had to move in with her parents. Her sons are living with their father and she sees them every day.

Not having a stable place to live can present barriers to employment and education for many low-income workers. Nancy Shallat, a Boise State social work field instructor and former school social worker, sees housing as a major challenge for many families.

“The definition of homelessness by the government is not having a stable or secure residence,” says Shallat, who has seen kids’ lives disrupted as they are shuffled among family and friends and living in cars, vans, trailers and motels. “In order to have a two-bedroom apartment in Boise, you have to have … more than a minimum wage job.”

Minimum-wage and low-end wage earners may find themselves further affected as the high-tech surge ebbs and layoffs affect consumer confidence.

When the economy was growing robustly, periodic job losses in one industry were absorbed by the Treasure Valley’s diverse economic base of manufacturing operations, corporate offices, government agencies and agriculture, says Boise State economics department chair Don Holley.

If unemployment increases and consumer spending dips, Holley says, “the weaker the economy, the more difficult it will be to absorb [layoffs] and the more likely it will affect the service sector. For every job lost in the economic base of the community we would lose at least one job in the service sector economy.”

At El Ada Community Action, a community agency in an old warehouse down by the Boise River, it’s not unusual to see day laborers lined up at the employment dispatch office. However, some of the clients looking for jobs are blue-collar workers who until recently held stable employment.

“I got laid off about a week ago,” says Nick Peterson, 22, who held a steady job as an auto mechanic for two years and worked regularly in construction before that. “This is the first time I’ve been out of work for longer than three days.”

Meanwhile, Hibnes has high expectations for herself to succeed. As part of her strategy to climb the ladder of economic prosperity, she has been studying for the Air Force aptitude test and plans to leave Boise for 12 weeks to train with the Air National Guard. She hopes to become an emergency medical technician or respiratory therapist and eventually a paramedic.

“I want a better life,” she says. “I don’t want to make $20,000 for the rest of my life. I will have better.”
Welcome to the Salsa Century

Idaho's fast-growing Hispanic population brings changes to the state

The stories trickle out in gestures and smiles, in half-finished phrases that require no translation. Stories of long days toiling at meat-packing plants, cooking at restaurants, tending children, working in fields, driving trucks, cleaning homes, sorting potatoes, landscaping yards. Stories of perseverance and the transcendent power of dreams.

At Boise State's Canyon County Center in Nampa, Hispanic students enrolled in English-as-a-Second-Language classes work on their English and let their hopes fly. They spin tales of a future far different than the present, where their hard work yields rewards.

"I want to be an accountant," says Oscar Ramirez, who works at a meat-packing plant.

"A trucker, that is my hope," says José Alfredo Garcia, who moves irrigation pipe in Caldwell farm fields.

"I like the computers," says Isabel Cisneros, who tends plants and helps customers at a Nampa berry ranch.

Ambition shines from these students' faces. For a piñata full of reasons, it is ambition that may well be realized. As the Hispanic population swells in southwestern Idaho, the group is gaining new political, economic and cultural clout. While some of that influence is still invisible, it is increasing. And it will exert a profound impact on life here in years ahead, say Hispanic experts and leaders.

"We'll see more Hispanics in prominent roles. We'll see increased acceptance and more sharing of cultures, food and language," predicts Boise State sociology professor Richard Baker, who specializes in Mexican American studies. "It won't be a smooth process, but they will have a much greater voice here."

Sam Byrd, director of the Council on Hispanic Education and a senior majoring in multiethnic studies at Boise State, points to the growing number of Latina-owned shops, restaurants and Spanish-language video stores as examples of what the future holds. "We will be much more visible," Byrd says.

Recent statistics support these assessments. According to the 2000 Census, the Hispanic population in Idaho nearly doubled over the past 10 years and now accounts for more than 8 percent of the state's population.
Nampa's Hispanic population increased 18 percent between 1990 and 2000. In Caldwell, 28 percent of residents claim Hispanic roots; some officials believe that number is low and should be closer to 35 percent.

The dramatic growth in Idaho's Hispanic population has had repercussions around the state on a number of fronts, including the political arena. In August, after months of rancorous debate, Idaho's Commission on Redistricting approved new maps for Idaho's 35 legislative districts that includes five where Hispanics or a combination of Hispanics and Native Americans make up at least 1 of every 5 people.

Hispanic leaders lauded the commission's action. "It's absolutely fantastic," says Byrd. "It gives us a real opportunity for representation."

Growing Hispanic clout also was felt at the State Capitol last spring when the Idaho Legislature overcame considerable opposition to pass a bill that guarantees the federal minimum wage of $5.15 for almost all of Idaho's farm-workers. While Boise State's Baker says that the victory was mostly symbolic and fell well short of guaranteeing the living wage that is needed, it still points to a new willingness to consider Hispanic issues.

Even Hispanic culture and history recently grabbed headlines when it was announced that the proposed Hispanic Cultural Center in Nampa stands to receive $2.8 million in grants from the U.S. Department of Commerce. That amount, combined with about $1 million already raised, would put the project over the top of its funding goal.

"It was a total surprise ... You always have faith something great is going to happen when you persevere on a project like this," says Ana Schachtell (BA, bilingual/multicultural education, '91) who served as president of the center's board for five years and is now a board member. "Our goal is to create leadership, appreciation and pride for Hispanic culture and people."

Hispanic students are also gaining a stronger toehold in higher education, including Boise State. According to Scott Willison, director of the Center for Multicultural/Educational Opportunities, migrant students who enter college as part of the College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP), are majoring in engineering, computer science, business and many other fields.

"Each year the qualifications of the applicants are better and better," says Willison, whose office annually fields about 150 applicants for the 40 CAMP scholarships.

Boise State's Hispanic graduates are highly sought after by businesses, Willison adds. "Businesses recognize the value of employees who can provide a different perspective to the organization," Willison says. "Besides being bilingual, our Hispanic graduates are connected to communities and livelihoods that many businesses are unfamiliar with."

Despite the gains in political and cultural stature and the individual success stories of Hispanics in business and education, leaders caution that huge issues loom ahead. The most critical is the school dropout rate among Hispanics in Idaho, estimated at 30-50 percent. This dismal statistic is challenging educators to reassess how to teach children who come from different cultures and have limited English skills.

"You come to first grade in Idaho, and you're
told or it’s implied that English is superior, that in order to succeed you must forget your first language,” says Byrd, who runs a cross-cultural consulting firm. “We’ve got to get over our ethnocentric attitude about that.”

Political victories such as redistricting also challenge Hispanic leaders to motivate people who may feel disenfranchised to vote. People who have grown up in Mexico under a one-party system may not see voting as something important, observes Baker. And working class people, regardless of ethnicity, historically have a poor turnout at the polls.

There is also the touchy issue of backlash as Hispanic culture moves into the mainstream. “Whenever you have a group that is noticed by the dominant culture, things are going to get worse before they get better,” says Byrd. “We aren’t going anywhere, and we want to make a difference in our communities. But we know our presence may be misinterpreted.”

For Lisa Sanchez, Boise State’s studentbody vice president in 1992-93, being Hispanic in Idaho has always involved a certain amount of misinterpretation. Sanchez, who works for the Silver Sage Girl Scout Council, even credits her name “Lisa” to the inflexibility of cultures.

The story goes like this: Years ago, when Sanchez’ mother applied for a Social Security card for her daughter, she was informed that her daughter’s given name, Maria Elizabeth Espinoza Sanchez, was too long for the application form. Sanchez’ mother was given a list of shorter names to choose from, and she picked Liza. It was the name Sanchez took to kindergarten with her, but her teacher, confused by a spelling that did not match English pronunciation, changed it to Lisa.

It was the first of many educational bumps Sanchez hit over the years. “I get angry because I’m an educated woman who never heard about César Chavez in school,” she says.

On the surface, Sanchez moves easily between cultures. But the reality is more complicated. “There is no choice in my skin color. That is the first thing people see,” she says.

Hispanics who face a language barrier face issues that are even more basic. During a recent evening ESL class at the Learning Center for Adult Basic Education at Boise State’s Canyon County Center, students talked about how critical it is to learn English.

“I want a better job. But first, I need to speak better,” says Ramirez in clear but halting
English. Neatly dressed in a clean cotton shirt and jeans, Ramirez admits to being tired; he spent a long day at work on the “kill floor” of a local meat-packing plant before coming to class. But the El Salvador native says he’s determined to stick with his English classes, and he feels heartened by the progress he’s made.

Ramirez’ determination is not unusual, says Fern Van Maren, ESL program coordinator. She’s taught many students who have overcome tremendous obstacles to attend class. She’s also seen the number of students enrolled in ESL programs increase; last year, 650 students registered for classes, a jump from the 392 who signed up three years earlier.

The ESL classes focus on teaching students practical communication skills; on one recent night, Van Maren’s students practiced what they would say if they needed to call in sick to work. The class also filled out a map with the names of buildings and practiced answering questions about activities such as shopping.

During a break in the lesson, and for the benefit of the reporter sitting in their midst, Van Maren asked her students how the Treasure Valley has changed in recent years. Their answers underscored the growth in Hispanic influence: new bilingual teachers, more Mexican restaurants, new businesses to send money orders to Mexico, Mexican dances that attract hundreds to local venues, more homes bought by Hispanics.

“There are a lot more,” says Anjelica Vences about Hispanic numbers here. “That’s good.”

Good, yes. Challenging, absolutely. Boise State’s Baker looks to the future and envisions a “complex interethnic life” where different communities come together and also at times separate. “It’s not total assimilation or total segregation,” he says, but a “meaningful integration working together.”

As the Treasure Valley hurtles into the 21st century and Hispanics move into the mainstream, it will become increasingly important to honor diversity, say business and community leaders from many quarters. If recent developments are any indicator, there is reason for optimism. But leaders also caution that it is naive to think there won’t be conflict as Hispanics gain visibility and power.

“I’m going to make a positive stereotype here: We have always found opportunities in the challenges we face,” says Byrd. “We need to get across the message that we share many things in common.”
What are the issues that Idaho faces in the changing world of the new century? To answer that question, FOCUS writer Kathleen Mortensen called on John Freemuth, a professor of political science, senior fellow for the Cecil Andrus Center for Public Policy and chair of the science advisory board of the Bureau of Land Management. Here, in capsule form, are his views about issues that are changing the face of Idaho.

Resource Realities

How do we balance conflicting views of resource uses? Will Idaho always be a state where these interests compete?

The conflict in the short term will probably continue because of the different values underpinning environmental issues. For instance, some people think that responsibly cutting trees is good for the economy. Others think you should never cut a tree in a national forest. In the long term, what removes the conflict is some underlying consensus view of what national forests are for. If they’re more to be protected, then we’ll log less. But we need to examine our consumer habits, too. Consumerism is what drives economic growth, and if we don’t log, where will we get our wood?

The same dynamic occurs with other issues, from grazing to dam breaching. We’re so in the middle of these issues
that we forget we’ve had phases and changes throughout our history. We just need to find out where we can agree and where we’re not going to agree.

**Give us a brief overview of the three major resource industries in Idaho — timber, mining and agriculture.**

I think Idahoans, more than the country as a whole, would still support logging in national forests, but it’s becoming a harder sell. We in Idaho don’t rely on logging as much as we used to, and our newcomers generally don’t come from small towns where logging is an economic way of life.

As an industry, mining depends a lot on the price of minerals. Right now, it’s often not profitable. The veins are gone from most of Idaho’s gold mines, which means they would have to do things such as leach it out of the rock, and that’s more expensive. And you can never be sure how long the mine is going to last.

As for agriculture, corporate agriculture is doing well, but the family farm we all grew up with is changing. Small family farms have been bought out. Prices go down and they can’t afford to make it, so they sell out to some corporation, or their land gets subdivided. So while agriculture is still very important to the Idaho economy, it’s less so than at other times in our history.

**What do these industries mean to Idaho’s future?**

Idaho is becoming a lot less Jeffersonian and a lot more Hamiltonian. We’re about big industry, and the yeoman farmer, rancher, logger — it’s harder for those people now. It’s change that none of us can control and it affects all of us. We’re seeing one example right now — the stock market is down in response to rising unemployment. The old depressions in Idaho used to be agriculture and resource-based. But what drives the economic growth now is high-tech and service industries. Now that we’re seeing a high-tech slowdown, it is clear that the global economy is linked with all of this.

The paradox is that on one hand Idaho was working its way out of its reliance on the agricultural and resource industries, but now we still find ourselves dependent on forces outside of our own state. Micron is doing well but can’t isolate itself from chip prices. The lesson, I suppose, is that we are a more economically diverse state and we’re not going to go back to being ag-based. People move to places like Boise because they think there will be more job opportunities. That really changes the demographic makeup of Idaho.

When Idaho was experiencing an economic boom of sorts last year, it wasn’t rural Idaho that boomed. It was Coeur d’Alene, Sun Valley, Ketchum, Idaho Falls — rural Idaho did not boom. Those little towns are smaller now than they once were, and that’s a big problem.

**With many resource issues there are opposing values. Let’s analyze just one — salmon recovery and the role of dam breaching.**

The mystifying thing to me is that we surveyed people for three years in a row, and they were fairly divided over breaching — 40 percent on each side of the issue, with 20 percent undecided. Now public opinion has suddenly moved against breaching — 57 percent against breaching, with 35 percent supporting it. Was it because people were angry at the Clinton administration? That the dam breaching opponents did a better job telling their story? I don’t know.

But it’s got to be the public who decides whether or not to save the salmon. Science has concluded that breaching the dams is the best way to save the salmon, but if the public doesn’t want to save the salmon, if they dig in their heels, how are they going to get those dams breached?
To most Idahoans, the salmon are a symbol of a wild Idaho. But to certain other interests, such as the farmers who transport their wheat by barge, it’s clearly an economic issue. And there’s a whole industry that protects salmon in order to fish for them. As long as they’re being protected, it’s a renewable resource and a viable industry.

Everybody talks about saving the salmon, but what people haven’t sorted out is what it would cost and how much of that they’re willing to bear.

How have public attitudes changed in the last 40 or 50 years?

Forty years ago it was all about building things, producing power, creating jobs and conquering the wilderness. Now, 40 years down the road, those values are not as dominant. We look at what the costs will be, both economically and environmentally. The twist in Idaho has been that a lot of our influx has been conservative people. And they’re different than the more traditional conservatives like Phil Batt who are concerned with fiscal responsibility and the wise use of resources. The new conservatives are more in-your-face moralists. So it creates conflict.

As we have diversified in terms of what we do to make a living, we’re less dependent on resource extraction in our own experiences. For instance, a lot of people who are engineers at Micron might be outdoorsmen, but they don’t see why you ought to be cutting trees in national forests. One hundred years ago, it wasn’t like that. The environmental movement was just getting started.

We were building America. Well, we’ve built America and now we need to decide what parts of it we still build and what parts we set aside.
Biology grad finds adventure, opportunities

For Dan Montgomery, the best classrooms are those without walls. After earning two degrees from Boise State (biology, 1977 and a master's in public administration, 1981), he spent two years aboard the research ship USS Miller Freeman for the National Ocean Survey.

Taking to sea was a natural for Montgomery, who had previously studied the species distinctions of fish in Alaska in a genetics lab at the National Marine Fisheries Service. And it was just a precursor of what has become a lifetime of adventure.

Following his time on the Miller Freeman, Montgomery spent 10 years as a manager at Microsoft, overseeing the life cycle of the company's Office product, before once again succumbing to adventure's call to spend a year traveling around the world to such places as Cuba, the Amazon, South Africa, Kenya, India, Vietnam, China, Japan and Australia. It was in Australia that Montgomery found a graduate program in marine sciences at the University of New South Wales and decided to enroll.

Upon the completion of his master's thesis, Montgomery will enter the Ph.D. program in marine sciences because, after all, as he says "all I ever wanted to be was Jacques Cousteau."

While at Microsoft, Montgomery donated software worth more than $40,000 to Boise State.

Following his retirement, he established an endowment which provides funding of $6,500 for biology graduate student projects each year. Montgomery also contributed funds that allowed the biology department to purchase an automated DNA sequencer.
Business Brisk at Policy Center

With information from Boise State’s Center for Health Policy, Idaho’s health-care leaders can now make better decisions about how to run their businesses and agencies.

Housed in Boise State’s College of Health Sciences, the CHP was established in 1993 to conduct evaluations related to the state’s health-services sector.

“We see ourselves as a group that can provide research expertise to help health-care leaders,” says Jim Girvan, associate dean and CHP director. “It’s not our job to make those decisions, but to give policy makers the information they need.”

In recent months business has been brisk at the CHP. Since July of 2000, the center has received approximately $850,000 to conduct nearly a dozen projects that have significant health-care policy implications. They include:

- More than $450,000 from the Health Resource and Services Administration to collect data to identify the uninsured and to specify models used in other states in an effort to reduce the number of uninsured Idahoans.
- A $24,000 grant from Idaho District Health Department directors to evaluate the statewide tobacco cessation programs.
- Almost $50,000 from Health & Welfare to gauge the effectiveness of 12 STD/HIV prevention programs in the state.
- A $95,000 allocation from the Millennium Fund through the Governor’s Office to evaluate the state’s substance abuse programs.
- Nearly $25,000 from the Mountain States Group to conduct Idaho’s Kids Count project.
- A $30,000 grant from Boise’s Terry Reilly Health Services clinic to establish an outcomes data system for homeless health services.
- A $20,000 grant from the Idaho Association of Cities to evaluate the Youth Asset Building Initiative program.

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Idaho spirit fuels Gustavel’s banking success

By Sherry Squires

Starting your own bank takes a pioneering spirit, and Jack Gustavel credits his Idaho background with equipping him for the job.

“I didn’t know what I wanted to do when I was young, but I knew I loved Idaho,” he says. “And I knew I wanted to stay in Idaho.”

Gustavel (AA, general business, ’60) grew up in Boise, where his father was a traffic manager for United Airlines and active in several service organizations.

Not sure what his future would hold, Gustavel was sure of his desire to stay in Idaho after he graduated from college. Banking was one of the few jobs that assured he wouldn’t be transferred out of the state.

He went to work as a trainee for Idaho First National Bank in 1962 and worked his way to manager of the Moscow branch in 1967.

In 1973 he was approached by the First National Bank of North Idaho and became president and CEO of the bank, which operated four branches at the time. When the bank was sold to First Security in 1992, Gustavel retired.

At the same time, bank mergers and acquisitions were happening all around him. He watched all of the locally owned banks be swallowed by banks headquartered outside of Idaho. There was no longer “an Idaho bank.”

Feeling they had lost the power to make decisions on the front line, several former employees and customers approached Gustavel about starting a new bank. He “seized the moment” and in 1993 opened Idaho’s first new bank in many years in Hayden Lake.

“I called it Idaho Independent Bank because the name summed up what it was all about,” he says. “I wanted to give people the kind of service they were used to, not treat people as numbers.”

During the past eight years, Idaho Independent Bank has opened seven more branches in Coeur d’Alene, Boise (two), Meridian, Nampa, Mountain Home and most recently in Caldwell.

Gustavel finds a number of parallels to his love for Idaho and his banking success. “I know the communities. I know the people,” he says. “This is a good environment for a bank like ours. People want personal service and that’s our specialty.”

Despite some economic slowdowns, Gustavel believes the future of banking in Idaho is bright, as the quality of life here will ensure a continuing flow of good, clean industries to the state.

“I know a lot of people who have visited and retired here,” he says. “As for Gustavel, a second retirement is not in his plans. “I tried that,” he says. “The banking business is too much fun. You have to know everything about everything, from personnel issues to mortgage and business loans. Besides, my reputation is on the line.”
Tony Maher didn’t play with Legos as a kid. “I grew up on a ranch in Jordan Valley, Ore.,” he says. “I played with tumbleweeds.”

But with the help of Legos, Maher’s company has developed a unique way to teach technology to K-12 students.

PCS Edventures, the Boise-based company for which Maher (BA, political science, ’70) is president, packages software along with the building blocks to form learning labs in homes and schools around the country. Students use Legos in the lab — alongside Internet-based instruction and feedback — to learn about physics, engineering, robotics and computers.

PCS delivers its curriculum over the Web with the help of 22 database programmers, Internet specialists, curriculum writers, instructional designers and graphic artists in the Boise office.

With labs in 25 states, the venture has been successful enough that the company went public with an initial offering of stock in August on the Nasdaq Over-The-Counter exchange.

PCS wasn’t Maher’s first business venture. A former Boise State football player, he taught and coached football at Boise’s Capital High before partnering with four other entrepreneurs to start the Sandpiper restaurants.

Maher longed for a deeper understanding of business, but couldn’t afford to return to school for an MBA. So he devised a plan. He tracked down two of the most prominent businessmen in Boise at the time — Bob Halliday and Fred P. Thompson Jr.— and convinced each of them to hire him for a short time.

“I wasn’t horribly bright, but I was willing to learn,” he says. “The only stipulation was that I got to work closely with them.”

He struck out on his own a few years later and acquired National Ramp Co., a small manufacturing company that he grew and then sold in 1989, before joining PCS.

At the time, PCS was a single learning-enrichment center that exposed students to science after school. PCS grew to 13 centers, but Maher decided to sell them and switch to a computer-based method of instruction by reformatting the curriculum and packaging it for delivery over the Web.

“We didn’t want to compete with the schools,” he says. “But we wanted to stay consistent to our vision that children who involve themselves in the learning process retain the knowledge much longer than if they just listen to a lecture.”

— Sherry Squires

Alumni directory to be published in 2002

Looking for that old college sweetheart or a long lost buddy? Help is on the way.

The Boise State Alumni Association, in conjunction with Bernard C. Harris Publishing Co., is producing an updated directory of alumni.

Scheduled for release in June 2002, the directory will be the first released in more than 10 years and will be the most up-to-date and complete reference for the more than 45,000 Boise State alumni. The comprehensive volume will include current names, addresses and phone numbers, academic data and business information in a bound, library-quality edition.

Harris will soon begin researching and compiling the information to be printed in the directory by mailing a questionnaire to each individual in the alumni database. All alumni with current addresses will be receiving this important document in the mail. This is an opportunity to be accurately listed in the directory. Alumni who don’t return the questionnaire may be inadvertently omitted or their personal information may be printed incorrectly. So watch for the questionnaire and return it promptly.

The new alumni directory will soon make finding that old sweetheart or buddy as easy as opening a book.
Our policy is to print as much "In Touch" information as possible. Send your letters to the Boise State Alumni Association, 1250 University Drive, Boise, ID 83725, or send e-mail to lburke@boisestate.edu. In addition, if you know someone who would make a good feature story in our "Alum notes" section, contact the Office of News Services at the same address.

50s

ALLEN E. QUINTIERI, AA, general arts and sciences, ’55, recently retired as principal architect after 31 years with CSHQA Architects/Engineers. He lives in Boise.

GARY L. BENNETT, AA, general arts and sciences, ’60, received a “Friend of Darwin” award from the National Center for Science Education in recognition of his efforts in the areas of evolution and science education. Bennett has led the effort of NCSE members and others to ensure that Idaho’s students learn about evolution. He coordinated input on science standards by scientists and others for countless hearings before the Idaho Board of Education and subsequent legislative review. Bennett is currently working with other scientists to plan an interdiscipli­ nary evolution symposium to be presented at the Idaho Academy of Science annual meeting in 2001. He lives in Emmett.

DOYLE D. HEATON, diploma, general arts and sciences, ’61, has been inducted into California Building Industry’s Hall of Fame. Heaton is president of Delco Builders and Developers based in Concord, Calif. Born and raised in Boise, Heaton attended the University of Denver after graduating from Boise Junior College.

JERROLD R. "JERRY" KIELY, AA, general arts and sciences, ’66, is a senior Boeing 737 captain flying domestic and international routes. Except for a six­ year stint as an air traffic controller, Kiely has been employed as a professional pilot since graduating from Boise Junior College and Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. He has lived in Tokyo and Frankfurt. He currently resides in Oklahoma City.

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STEVEN JACK SNIDER, BA, business education, ’68, retired from the Kuna School District. After graduating from Boise State College, Snider taught for five years at Marsing and in 1973 moved to Kuna. While at Kuna High, he taught business education and started the work experience program. After earning his master’s from College of Idaho in the early 1980s, Snider became principal at Kuna Junior High.

60s

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70s

MICHAEL PETERS, BM music/education, ’74, and LYNNETTE PETERS, BA, elementary education, ’75, own and operate The Printing Press, a full-service commercial printing company in Boise. As they enter their 16th year of business, they are preparing to move to a new and larger facility in Meridian.

LAWRENCE "LONNIE" MARDIS, BM, music, ’76, performs, records and teaches private guitar at Seattle Central Community College. He also directs the jazz orchestra and two performing guitar ensembles at SCCC. Mardis recently composed the film score for Open House, a short film by filmmaker Dan Mirvish, that was screened during the 2001 Seattle International Film Festival. The film was also screened in Los Angeles and Vancouver, B.C., Canada.

CHARLES EDWIN HALLETT, BBA, accounting, ’77, is co-founder of Strader Hallett and Co. PS. Hallett is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, member and past president of the Washington Society of Certified Public Accountants, and was awarded the 2000-2001 Outstanding Chapter President Award. Hallett is a former business service consultant for Deloitte, Touche, and established and endowed scholarships for the Boise State depart­ ment of accounting.

KAREN MARIE (RUTLEDGE) NELSON, BA, criminal justice administration, ’78, was granted allied membership (prac­ titioner) in the American Society of Interior Designers. Nelson is the owner of Karen Nelson Interiors in Boise, a company she has owned and managed for two years. She previously worked for Interiors Unlimited in Boise for several years.

JAMES DAVID BARNESS, BA, general arts and sciences, ’79, is an art professor at the University of Georgia in Athens. A monograph called “James Barness; Monster’s Progress” was recently published by Goodeve, Rayner and Kandel. “Monster’s Progress” by Barness is part of the permanent collection at the Boise Art Museum. Barness received his MFA from the San Francisco Art Institute in 1988.

GLORIA (LOOMIS) BEERY, BS, nursing, ’79, is a nurse St. Al’s Miller leads civic-minded projects

Boise is a community of giving and of caring, says Amy Miller, who finds herself right in the thick of it.

“I grew up in Boise and have never left,” says Miller, the community affairs and events director for St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center. “My friends sometimes ask if I’m glad I stayed in Boise. I just think this community is incredible, the way we all work together.”

After graduation, Miller (BS, management/human resource, ’94) worked for First Security Bank and then the Idaho Muscular Dystrophy Association. Five years ago she began working for St. Alphonsus as an events assistant, helping with various fund-raisers.

Her duties now involve media relations and acting as one of the spokespeople for St. Al’s. But most of her time is spent coordinating events that raise funds for the hospital’s foundation, including the Children’s Classic foot race and the group’s largest event, the annual Festival of Trees.

In its 18th year, the Festival of Trees has raised more than $2 million since 1984. Miller says 500 local businesses supported the event in 2000. In addition, 2,100 people volunteered to help make it possible.

Miller also works on various events throughout the Treasure Valley that St. Alphonsus helps sponsor, including the Women’s Fitness Celebration, the HP Women’s Challenge, the Idaho Senior Games and Race for the Cure.

“St. Alphonsus has learned over the years the importance of giving back and getting involved in the community,” she says.

That has put Miller in a position to see the very best in people every day.

—Sherry Squires
practitioner at Boise Family Care Center and specializes in women's health care.

80s

JAMES E. IRONS, BA, English/liberal arts option, '80, has been named Idaho writer-in-residence by the Idaho Commission on the Arts. Irons, a poet, is the first Magic Valley resident ever to receive the honor, which comes with a three-year appointment and an $8,000 cash award. Irons is an English instructor at the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls where he has taught since 1995.

KENNETH JOSEPH STARK, BBA, finance, '81, was named by the Nevada Business Journal as one of Nevada's top ten commercial real estate brokers for 2000.

R.C. "CHUCK" DEAVER, JR., AAS/BAS, electronic tech, '82, is the national operations manager at the national communications center for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Lakewood, Colo. Deaver manages network, e-mail, Web service and remote access for more than 700 remote sites. Deaver is also active in the Colorado Air National Guard and was recently promoted to headquarters office NCOIC and will achieve the grade of chief master sergeant next May.

RUTH A. VINZ, MA, history/secondary education, '82, was promoted to full professor and is chair of arts and humanities at Teachers College at Columbia University in New York. Columbia's arts and humanities division includes 14 master's and doctoral level programs. Vinz and her husband, former Boise State history professor Warren Vinz, live in Kerhonkson, N.Y.

MICHAEL R. ZUZEL, BA, communication, '82, is co-editor with Maura Casey of Beyond Argument: A Handbook for Editorial Writers, published recently by the National Conference of Editorial Writers and the Scripps-Howard Foundation. Zuzel is an editorial writer and columnist for The Columbian in Vancouver, Wash.

International experience a feather in Byrd's cap

In six short years, Chadwick Byrd has turned his ambitions to be an accountant into volumes of international business experience. Byrd (BBA, accounting, '95) is the corporate controller for Fred Olsen Energy ASA, a premier offshore drilling supplier based in Oslo, Norway.

Byrd, who played strong safety for the Bronco football team from 1991-94, landed a job in Portland, Ore., with the international accounting firm KPMG. When a position opened in the Norway office, Byrd accepted.

His wife Camilla (Hansen), (BBA, international business, '95), whom he met at Boise State, had grown up in Norway and the two welcomed the opportunity to live abroad.

They planned to live in Norway for two years and then move back to Boise. But the lure of more international business experience has kept them there.

After two years with KPMG, Byrd was offered his current job with Fred Olsen Energy, a KPMG customer. The company is primarily focused on floating oil production and shipbuilding, with subsidiaries in Norway, Scotland, Northern Ireland, West Africa, Brazil and London.

Byrd says the experience has been invaluable. His job has been to help the company maintain its profitability, which has sometimes meant making difficult decisions. Recently company officials decided to shrink a shipyard work force in Belfast from 1,800 to 600 people.

"At the height of the shipbuilding days, there were 20,000 employees there," he says. "Cutting back was something we had to do to compete with the South Korean yards. But it was really tough."

In addition to his work experience, he and Camilla, along with their 2-year-old daughter, Kayah, all speak Norwegian and have used their proximity to Europe to visit many of their neighboring countries.

But Byrd says they are looking forward to returning to the Boise area, where they have many friends.

"The coast of Norway is unmatched in beauty," he says. "It's been fantastic. We will miss the scenery, and the meshing of cultures. But it will be nice to come home, too."

— Sherry Squires
Guardian Office in Las Vegas. Her primary function for the company is to provide financial services to senior citizens. From 1985-95 Tucker was a social worker in Idaho, a probation officer in Oregon and a parole officer in Texas.

ALAN J. MOORE, MBA, '85, has been named vice president of finance for Bogus Basin Ski Resort. Previously he was finance director at Washington Group and for many years worked in several capacities at Morrison Knudsen and MK Gold Co. where he held the post of chief financial officer. Moore also owned a tour and transportation business called Madge ‘n Annies.

D. SCOTT LEADBETTER, BBA, production manager, '86, is facilities manager for Jabil Circuit in Meridian.

ERIC W. UHLENHOFF, BBA, accounting, '86, is chief operating officer for Legacy Electronics in San Clemente, Calif. Uhlenhoff was previously employed by Micron Technology in Boise, most recently as the founder and director of operations for Crucial.com, Micron’s e-commerce sales and service division.

LOWELL CURTIS GOEMAT, BBA, computer information systems, '87, is the network administrator for Intersates Electric and Engineering in Sioux Center, Iowa.

JONI KAY (JAMES) SMITH, BS, biology/secondary education, '89, is a high school counselor in Jerome. Smith received her master's in secondary school counseling from Louisiana State University in 1999.

JON THOMAS FYRE JR., BS, physical education/secondary option, '92, has been named a construction loan specialist for Idaho Independent Bank in Boise. Previously Fyre was a credit analyst and personal banker/loan officer for another local financial institution. Fyre is an active duty lieutenant in the Idaho National Guard, serves on the board of the Eagle Hills West Homeowners Association and volunteers for Little League baseball.

ROBIN MICHELLE WATSON, AS, nursing, '92, works for Staffing Partners in San Diego, Calif. She previously worked with terminally ill patients for Grossmont Hospice. Watson attended the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in Pasadena, Calif., in 1994 and wrote a one-woman comedy skit about the joys and trials of nursing, which she recently performed for local hospices.

BONNIE A. PORTER

McMORAN, MA, education, curriculum and instruction, '93, is the recipient of the 2000 Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching Mathematics and Science in Elementary Schools. McMoran won a trip to Washington, D.C., as part of her award and was photographed with President Bush. She is a teacher in the Boise School District.

ARIANNE N. POINDEXTER, BS, biology, '93, is employed in the hydro relicensing department at PacifiCorp in Portland, Ore. She previously worked as an English-as-a-second-language instructor in Japan for more than four years.

BONNIE OWENS

THURSTEN, BS, radiologic science-MRI, '93, has worked as computed imaging lead at Seattle Cancer Care Alliance.

KARAN ELIZABETH TUCKER, BBA, accounting, '93, is the controller of Mountain States Group Inc. in Boise, an international non-profit corporation focusing on health and human services. Tucker previously worked in public accounting for seven years.

WILLIAM DEAN FIELD III, MBA, '94, has been promoted to general manager of GE-Midwest Electrical Products in Mankato, Minn. Field was previously the district sales manager in the company's Minneapolis sales office.

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CPA
JENNIFER LOUISE MILLER, also serves as president of the city of Boise, Alliance Title and Escrow. She previously worked in BBA, management/human resources at Albertson College of Idaho. Miller received his bachelor's degree in criminal justice administration, '96, from Washington State University.

STEVE K. JUSTUS, BBA, computer information systems, '94, is the owner of Kyes Consulting, specializing in customer service and manufacturing computer technology systems. Justus previously was a programmer for Database Management Systems in Boise, and MIS director and project coordinator for Image National.

JENNIFER LOUISE MILLER, BBA, management/human resource, '95, has been named director of human resources at Albertson College of Idaho. Miller previously worked in various human resource positions for the city of Boise, Alliance Title and Escrow and most recently at Extended Systems. She also serves as president of the Human Resources Association of the Treasure Valley.

CHERESE REBECCA WENDLAND, Alterte Systems, BBA, elementary education, '96, has been a sixth-grade teacher and a mentor teacher for new teachers for the Turlock (Calif.) Unified School District for five years. She recently completed her master's in education from Chapman University. Her husband is Nicole DEVER. WENDLAND, BA, history, '96, is a pharmaceutical sales representative for Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals in Modesto, Calif.

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TRIUNE V. MCCORMACK, BAA, criminal justice administration, '96, is personal aide to Vice President Dick Cheney. McCormack worked as an intern for the National Criminal Justice Association in Washington, D.C. When the internship ended, he landed a job in the Washington office of then-Sen. Dirk Kempthorne (Idaho). After Kempthorne was elected governor, McCormack returned to Idaho to be Kempthorne's personal aide. Later, McCormack worked as an "advance man" for the Bush-Cheney campaign, which eventually led to his current post.

BLAKE E. BRINEGAR, BA, communication, '97.
Anderson finally gets it — write

K

eith Anderson (BA, speech communication, ’80) was 12 years old when he first felt the urge to write. But the plot of his life led him through numerous twists and turns before he wrote his first book, A Field Day, last year.

Anderson, a member of the Bronco football team in the late 1970s, continued his education in Utah State’s speech communication graduate program. He later returned to Boise and worked in the corporate world for several years before yielding to the urge he felt as a boy. “Finally, it hit me like a ton of bricks, and I knew I had to write,” he says.

A Field Day, based loosely on Anderson’s childhood, takes place in California during the racial strife and turbulence of the 1960s. In the book, Anderson uses his childhood memories to create a story about young boys who escape to a place where racial differences are set aside, where friendships are formed and nurtured — the baseball field.

While on the diamond, the boys adhere to one important rule: There is no such thing as racism. The book has already elicited interest from a Hollywood filmmaking agency, says Anderson. And it is only one of several of his undertakings.

Earlier this year, Anderson submitted his first screenplay to the prestigious Austin Film Festival, a screenplay competition for undiscovered writers. In writing A Season Within, Anderson again used his sports background to create Jordan Hicks, a stalwart teenage athlete who survives the jealousy and malevolence of a man he thought was his friend.

Anderson is an adjunct instructor in Boise State’s communication department and also is an educational specialist for Educational Talent Search, a program for first-generation, low-income students.

— Molly Griffin

recently received his master of divinity degree from the Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. He lives in Austin.

JEANNA MARIE BURRUP, BA, French, ’97, recently completed her master’s degree in teaching English as a second language from the University of Arizona in Tucson. Burrup resides in Boise.

DEBORAH A. (LUKE) HIRSCHI, BA, history, ’97, is a doctorate student in late medieval/early modern history at Georgetown University. Hirschi graduated from USU with a master’s in history in ’99 and taught as an adjunct professor at Boise State for a year before she married and relocated to Laurel, Md.

TERESA JEAN HUGHES, BS, biology, ’97, is a graduate student in plant pathology at Washington State University. Hughes received her MS in plant pathology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in spring 2001. She lives in Pullman.

MICHAEL R. WARRICK, MA, education, ’97, was one of eight Treasure Valley teachers who received a $1,000 award from Albertson College of Idaho in recognition of their innovative teaching styles and commitment to mentoring student interns from the college. Warrick has taught eighth-grade history and law at Middleton Middle School for 10 years.

CHARLES JASON ANSTRAND, BS, biology, ’98, graduated in May with a master’s in health science from Lock Haven University in Pennsylvania. Anstrand lives in Tomball, Texas.

THERESA MARIE GRANT, BA, Spanish/BS, political science, ’98, is a trade show and marketing manager for Euphonix in the Silicon Valley. She resides in San Mateo, Calif.

KIMBERLY J. PEEEL, BBA, management, ’98, is the donor relations specialist for the Idaho Community Foundation in Boise. Peel previously worked for the J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation and the Boise State University Foundation.

GRETCHEN W. CLELAND, BBA, general business management, ’99, is an investment representative for Edward Jones, a financial services firm. Clelland will be responsible for opening the company’s first branch office in Jerome. She previously was a sales representative for The Times News in Twin Falls.

JACQUELINE FOLKMAN, BS, nursing, ’99, is working as an office nurse.

CHRISTINE M. JARSKI, MPA, public administration, ’99, is the new director of external affairs for the Boise Art Museum. Jarski will be responsible for fund-raising, development membership and marketing of the museum. Jarski serves as a community development specialist at Ida-Ore planning and development for two years. Prior to that she served as a membership executive for the Silver Sage Girl Scout Council and was an admission counselor at Albertson College of Idaho.

BRIAN W. SMITH, MS, raptor biology, ’99, is a doctoral student in forestry and wildlife. He resides in Morgantown W.V.

ANGELE MICHHELLE WRIGHT, BA, communication, ’99, has joined LSI Systems LLC in Boise as client manager. Wright will be responsible for caring for current clients’ needs and assisting new prospects in the purchase of business accounting software.

WESTON will be working on the implementation team for Sage Enterprise Suite Accounting Systems. TENA GARNER, BBA, accounting, ’99, is a project manager for LSI. Garner started with the company in 1998 and has worked in various capacities, including controller, client support and was recently promoted to project manager.

TRINA WYSE, AS, nursing, ’99, is a surgical nurse at Baptist Memorial Hospital-East in Memphis, Tenn.

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CHRISTOPHER A. BRUCKS, BS, health science studies, ’00, is the clinical research coordinator for Advanced Clinical Research in Boise.

BRIAN JOHN FLATTER, MS, interdisciplinary studies, ’00, was promoted to regional fisheries biologist at Idaho Fish and Game. He lives in Meridian.

ALEXIS A. IHLI, BA, elementary education, ’00, is an Idaho Youth Engaged in Service (YES) ambassador. The program, administered by the Points of Light Foundation, places people ages 18-25 with statewide partner organizations for one year to provide technical assistance training, advocacy and program development around youth service, service learning and youth leadership. Ihli is currently with the Idaho Commission for National and Community Service in Boise.

NEIL ALLAN KING, AAS, drafting technology, ’00, is...
a draftsman at Trout Architects. King provides assistance for both commercial and residential projects. He lives in Eagle.

MONICA L. MUSICK, BA, Spanish/secondary education, '00, was chosen to travel to Michoacan, Mexico, during summer 2001 as part of a U.S.-Mexican teacher exchange program to learn about the two nations' education systems. Musick is a teacher at Nampa High School.

CRAIG F. SHROADES, AS, nursing, '00, is an RN in telemetry at St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center.

LINDA NGUYEN, AS, health information technology, works with data management as a technician in the Cardiac Lab at St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center.

STEPHEN E. WEST, MHS, environmental health, '00, is the southwest Idaho regional administrator for the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. West lives in Boise.

MEGHAN O’HALLORAN FILLMORE and Devin Cecil (Boise) Jan 20.

“T.J.” GOMEZ and Suzie Hall (Boise) Jan 20.

MICHAEL ALLEN BJORUM and KATY E. PETTY (Las Vegas) Feb 22.

MICHELLE HILL and Samuel Dotson (Nampa) March 24.

CHRISTOPHER W. WITHAM and Autumn Wynette Strouse (Boise) May 5.

JODY LYN CHRISTENSEN and JOSEPH MICHAEL KELSch (Boise) May 26.

AMANDA B. MILBRANDT and Jason David Ashdown (Pocatello) May 26.

APRIL ANN ADAMS and Angus William Power (Boise) June 2.

JAMES M. HICKS and Melissa A. Clukey (Las Vegas) June 15.

DENVER COLCORD and Jennifer Marie Renner (Boise) June 21.

ALAN BAKES and JANICE BURNHAM (Boise) June 29.

JED DAVID "J.D." ANDERSON, BAS, drafting, '99, died March 10 from respiratory failure due to a short bout with pneumonia. He was 38. Anderson attended Idaho State and later graduated cum laude from Boise State, where he was president of the drafting club. He had recently been accepted to attend graduate school at Utah State.

NASH JOSEPH BARINAGA, SR, AA, general arts and sciences, '48, died July 15 at age 78. Barinaga served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He received his law degree from the University of Idaho and practiced law in Boise and Mountain Home before relocating to Portland. He was administrator and co-owner of Milwaukie Convalescent Center for 36 years.

R. GREGG CHAPMAN, CC, welding and metals fabrication, '70, died July 22 in Boise at age 54. Chapman was a welder and fabricator for Morrison Knudsen Locomotive Shop and several other local businesses.

NORMAN W. DAVIS, diploma, general arts and sciences, '58, died July 9 in Sweet Home, Ore. Davis played football for Boise Junior College and The College of Idaho. He taught for three years in Middleton and was head coach for football, wrestling, and track. Davis then moved to Sweet Home where he was head wrestling coach for 28 years and head football coach for four. He also was head coach of the wrestling cultural exchange team in 1976 in Montreal, Canada. He was named coach of the year for the state of Oregon in 1976 and was nominated for national coach of the year in 1988. Davis and his wife also coached the 1988 South African College wrestling exchange team.

JOHN FRANKLIN DECKER, BS, social science, '93, died

**Denker named Alumni Director**

When Lee Denker takes the helm of Boise State's Alumni Office later this month he will draw on his experience with one of the nation's most successful alumni associations at the University of Nebraska.

"There is an obvious difference in the size of Boise State and Nebraska. But there are many things that will work as well here as they do there," says Denker, who was hired as executive director of the Alumni Association after a national search.

"All of the pieces are in place for Boise State's Alumni Association to grow. I want to build on the solid base that has already been established here," he says.

Denker replaces Bob Davies, who left one year ago to lead the SUNY-Buffalo alumni office. Assistant director Dawn Kramer Hall served as interim director during the past year. She will fill a new position as director of membership services and legislative relations.

Denker is the former manager of campus relations for the University of Nebraska Alumni Association, where he directed the alumni affairs of the academic colleges and coordinated the association's national awards programs.

Now a communications consultant with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, he also worked for a year as manager of university relations for zUniversity.com, a company that develops Web portals for universities.

He earned a bachelor's degree in journalism and a master's in marketing, communication and advertising from Nebraska.

Boise State's growth and location in the state's capital attracted him to the job, says Denker. "Boise State and the region are on the move. I'm confident that momentum will carry over to the alumni association as we work to grow our membership and improve programming for alumni, students and friends of Boise State."

The new Alumni Center will be a boost for the organization, he says: "We have a presence on campus that we never had before."

The skills Denker developed at Nebraska will be a "valuable asset in taking the Boise State association to a new level," says Richard Smith, Boise State's vice president for university advancement.

"We're very pleased we were able to hire someone of Lee's caliber as executive director," adds Mark Dunham, president of the Boise State Alumni Association. "We are excited about his credentials and the innovative leadership talent he will bring to the association. He will be an asset to the association and the university."

Denker and his wife, Julie, are the parents of 5-year-old daughter Sadie, 2-year old son Samuel and a newborn daughter Sophie Jean.
Alumni Association

Calendar of Events

October
5-26 Annual Alumni Juried Art Exhibition, Student Union Gallery. 7 a.m.-11 p.m. daily. Presented by Student Union and Activities. Free.
27 Bronco football vs. Nevada, 6:05 p.m., Bronco Stadium. Tailgate party, 4:05 p.m., Alumni Center. Zions Bank Casino Night.

November
9 Alumni Reception in Hawaii, 5 p.m., Outrigger Reef.
10 Boise State football at Hawaii.
13 Quarterly Alumni Association board meeting, noon, Alumni Center.
17 Bronco football vs. San Jose State, 1 p.m., Bronco Stadium. Tailgate party, 11 a.m., Alumni Center.

December
Winter Graduation Celebration. Date TBA.

January
16 Boise State Day at Idaho Legislature.

April
23 Top Ten Scholars and Distinguished Alumni Banquet.

May
9 Alumni Association annual meeting
10 Spring Graduation Celebration.

Membership Info

The Alumni Association Board of directors has approved the following changes in membership dues for 2002: $35 single membership; $50 couple membership; $350 single lifetime membership; $500 couple lifetime membership.

These are changes from the current rates of $25 per household for an annual membership and varied rates for lifetime members.

If you sign up now for a new membership in the Alumni Association or renew your current membership, your dues will cover the rest of this year and all of 2002.

May 8 in Boise at age 58. Decker spent several years in the service as a medic. He completed a physical therapy course and worked in the physical therapy department at Mercy Hospital in Altoona for five years. Decker was also part of the Seventh Mobile Emergency Department Unit to be started in the United States. In 1976 Decker moved to Pueblo, Colo., where he worked as an emergency room technician, and in 1978 he and his wife moved to Nampa where he re-entered the service and worked as a recruiter for the National Guard.

E. CHANNING FANCKBONER, AS, general arts and sciences, '38, died July 15 in Boise at age 84. Fanckbuner served in the U.S. Army during World War II. After the war Fanckbuner returned to Boise where he worked for Idaho Camera for 10 years before briefly owning his own photography studio, and then completed a 25-year career with Bach Photographs. Fanckbuner was active in the Boise Host Lions Club, Boise Jaycees and the Boise Elks Lodge. He also was a tireless volunteer for the Bronco Athletic Association and was recognized for his efforts in 2000 when he was awarded the Bronze Bronco Award. Memorials may be made to the Bronco Athletic Association.

JANET (EBY) GALLOWAY, BA, elementary education, '67, died Aug. 7 in Boise at age 59. Galloway taught at Franklin, Uintack and Jackson elementary schools in the '60s. She also had operated a dance studio and was goat division superintendent for the Western Idaho Fair for many years. After her children were grown, she returned to teaching in 1995 as a resource aide, working with children with learning needs.

JOHN LANCE GUIASOLA, BBA, finance, '76, died Aug. 15 in Boise after a battle with cancer. Guisasola served in the U.S. Army in the late '60s and was discharged in 1970. After his Boise State graduation, he began a long career in banking and was an assistant vice president for Wells Fargo Bank at the time of his death.

STEPHANIE LAUREL JOSLYN, AAS, horticulture, '88, died June 16 in Gленeden Beach, Ore., at age 41. Joslyn owned a business called Wild about Nature's Designs and was also an accomplished photographer, potter, artist, clothing designer and seamstress.

ROBERT "BOB" NELSON, BS, construction management, '86, died May 15 in Boise at age 50. Nelson worked for Sletten Construction Companies in Great Falls, Mont., and Boise.

DEBORAH A. (ASHER) POND, BA, elementary education, '74, died April 11 in Boise at age 52. Pond taught special education in Ontario, Ore., and in Meridian, where she was named teacher of the year by her peers. In 1981, Pond started Tomorrow's Hope Inc., which provides training and living skills for people with mental retardation. She was the program director for almost 20 years.

STANLEY SADO SAKAI, BA, social science, '70, died Aug. 9 in Rupert. He was 54. Born in Honolulu, Sakai grew up in Hawaii and then attended school at Boise State. He was the produce manager for Albertson's in Burley for more than 28 years.

LONNIE O. SHOEMAKER, BBA, management/behavioral, '82, died Aug. 19 in Lubbock, Texas. Shoemaker served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. Originally from Texas, Shoemaker returned there after graduating from Boise State and earned a master's in education from the University of Texas at San Antonio. He worked in the personnel office for the Bureau of Reclamation and was active in the Masons, the American Legion and the VFW.

GENEVEVE G. (GRANT) SMITH, diploma, arts and sciences, '57, died Aug. 9 in Boise of complications from Alzheimer's disease. She was 78. Smith graduated from high school at age 16 and attended Boise Junior College briefly before her marriage. She later returned to BJC, achieved her teaching certificate and began a long career in the Boise School District as a teacher, assistant principal and principal. She also earned a bachelor's from Northwest Nazarene College and a master's from the College of Idaho.

LEONE ALLYNE "SWEANY" STEARNS, AA, general arts and sciences, '54, died May 12 in Boise at age 66. Stearns taught school at Collister Elementary School in Boise and taught Head Start and second grade in the Orofino school system. Stearns worked for the Idaho Department of Water resources and then returned to teaching. Stearns taught first through fourth grade at Joplin Elementary but did most of her teaching in first grade.

STEVEN D. STODDART, AAS, business systems and computer repair, '80, died May 19 in Idaho Falls at age 43. Stoddart graduated from Skyline High in 1976 and served for a short time in the U.S. Navy.

JANELLE (HANKINS) THORNTON, BM, music/secondary education, '73, died May 23 in New York of bone cancer. She taught private music lessons and worked for Holsinger Music in Boise, and later was an office manager at a funeral home in Phoenix. After returning to Boise in 1991, she worked for the Secretary of State's office until retiring in 1999.
Boise insurance executive and civic leader WILLIAM CAMPBELL died July 13 after an extended battle with cancer. In a life devoted to politics, local sports and community service, Campbell played a key role in the development of many programs at Boise State. He was one of the founders of the Bronco Athletic Association, served as president in 1981 and was instrumental in the fund drive to build The Pavilion. He assisted the university with the establishment of the Len B. Jordan endowment and along with former Gov. Phil Batt founded the Gene Harris Jazz Festival. He received Boise State’s highest award, the Silver Medallion, in 1983.

RICHARD CAVAUNAUGH died of a heart attack Aug. 3. Originally from Massachusetts, Cavanaugh enlisted in the U.S. Air Force after his high school graduation and retired in 1986 as a master sergeant. Since then, he had been employed as an HVAC technician at Boise State.

Emeritus professor of biology HARRY K. FRITCHMAN died Sept. 7 in Boise. Known as K., he graduated from Boise Junior College in 1946 after serving as a copilot in WWII. He earned his bachelor’s, master’s and doctorate degrees at the University of California at Berkeley. Fritchman returned to BJC in 1954, teaching for the next 34 years until he retired in 1988. At Boise State he served as department chair, was adviser to many students who went on to medical schools and received numerous awards for his teaching and service to the university. He was a charter member and past president of the Idaho Academy of Science. Memorials to a scholarship to honor Fritchman can be sent to the Boise State University Foundation.

Campus carpenter RICHARD HOLLAND died July 10. He was 52. Holland joined the U.S. Air Force and trained as a carpenter in Oxnard, Calif. He was stationed at Zaragoza Air Force Base in Spain. After his enlistment, Holland returned to the Treasure Valley and began work as a carpenter at Boise State, where he was employed for more than 27 years.

JOSEPH JOLLY, emeritus, died Aug. 26 in Columbia, Mo. While at Boise State, Jolly was employed in the library. He was a member of St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church and Ruth Circle in Columbia.

KATHERINE E. TIPTON died July 5 in Boise at age 79. As a military wife, Tipton had lived in New York, Puerto Rico and Japan. For more than 20 years she worked for the registrar’s office at Boise State, where her husband Carl was a business professor. She had also worked as an executive secretary for the Idaho Red Cross.

By Mark Dunham, President
Boise State Alumni Association

"Boise State does not have traditions like other schools." How many times have you heard this lament? In reality, Boise State does have strong traditions. Consider the following:

Thousands of Broncos tailgating for home games year after year; 25,000 fans in Bronco Stadium yelling "Boise" then "State"; Homecoming; Graduation Celebration; The Top 10 Scholars and Distinguished Alumni Banquet; holiday concerts at the Morrison Center, student concerts and art exhibitions; 50,000 alums making contributions throughout the world.

Yes, Boise State has many positive traditions, and I’ve touched on only a few of the most obvious. Unfortunately, there is one Boise State tradition that warrants reflection, action and change: funding inequity.

A recent independent study commissioned by the State Board of Education by MGT Inc., a higher education research company from Texas, provides irrefutable evidence that Boise State receives less money per student than other Idaho universities.

The study is complex and does not offer easy solutions for Boise State, other universities or the Legislature. However, the facts cannot and should not be ignored. Criticism of the study has already begun as some erroneously suggest that salient factors such as research programs were not considered. In reality, the study compared Idaho’s higher education institutions in 18 separate ways, and in fact, the equity study did consider research.

The MGT equity study took into account the number of undergraduate and graduate students as well as the types of courses that are offered at each institution. These are called weighting factors or weighted credit hours in the language of higher education funding. The results of these weighting factors show Boise State receives $103 per weighted credit hour while the University of Idaho, for example, receives $143.

A student at Boise State receives $7,419 in appropriations per full-time equivalent student; ISU students receive $8,003, and UI students receive $10,892. Therefore, a full-time equivalent student (15 credit hours) at BSU receives $3,473 less in fiscal support than a student at the UI.

Former Boise State President John Barnes eloquently summarized the impact of this undeniable disparity when he noted that the current funding formula means 64 percent of Idaho’s higher education students, those at BSU and ISU, receive less state funding than a student at the UI for general education programs.

Ninety percent of the students who attend Boise State are Idaho residents, and it seems only fair that tax dollars be distributed equitably. While no one is suggesting that certain school budgets be cut to make up the disparity, it is time for the State Board of Education and the Legislature to carefully review the inequity of the funding formula to assure that 100 percent of Idaho’s university students benefit.

While this regrettable tradition is an undeniable fact, Boise State also has a tradition of working positively to affect change in cooperative and innovative ways. I know we will approach the equity problem in this way. As of this writing, a State Board of Education committee is drafting a proposal to address the problem in a proactive and cost-effective manner. I encourage you to keep informed and be supportive of positive changes that will neither target nor hurt any institution but will level the playing field to benefit 100 percent of Idaho’s university students rather than a chosen few.

The Alumni Association will work with Boise State toward solutions to this problem in the coming months... and perhaps years.

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