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Also: Jazz Festival Receives National Medal of Arts



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Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival makes history.

ON THE COVER:

Piyush Sabharwall is a nuclear engineering doctoral student from India who sees an important role for nuclear energy to sustain the future energy needs of the world. He is an Idaho National Laboratory fellowship recipient and studies the use of nuclear reactor process heat for industrial processes including generating hydrogen.
Photo by Ron Paarman/
Fluke Photography

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University of Idaho

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Letter Policy

We welcome letters to the editor. Correspondence should include the writer's full name, address and daytime phone number. We reserve the right to edit letters for purposes of clarity or space.

From the President

In October, we held the inaugural President's Sustainability Symposium on our Moscow campus. More than 500 participants and leaders from all sectors of society were able to identify, discuss and understand the significant issue of greenhouse gas emissions, carbon and climate change, and the role of government, business, non-profit and higher education partnerships in solutions to emissions problems.

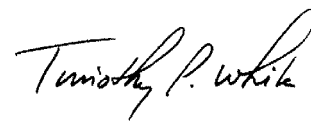
Presenters also stressed that energy will be one of the compelling challenges to the nation and the world. The world's six billion population is expected to grow to nearly 9-10 billion by 2050, and the demand for energy will double or triple. Many believe that access to a stable supply of affordable energy will be key to world peace and prosperity.

A unanimous point of agreement was the fact that there are no silver bullets to solve the problems created by climate change. Instead, an arsenal of technology that is safe, cost effective and mindful of the environment, along with energy conservation measures, is needed.

The University of Idaho, along with our state partners – Boise State University, Idaho State University and the Idaho National Laboratory – already have embarked on an ambitious initiative to develop research, policy and education programs supporting America's clean and effective energy future through the formation of the Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES). As part of this initiative, the universities are enhancing nuclear science and nuclear engineering research and education by hiring new faculty in key disciplines, and by providing expanded student opportunities.

Key to a nuclear renaissance is our ability to find solutions for problems identified in the past that have limited the availability of nuclear energy. This issue of "Here We Have Idaho" features the University's nuclear engineering program and how, working in partnership with CAES, it is leading an effort to develop safe, sustainable energy resources for our future.

The University received a historic honor in November. President George W. Bush selected the Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival as a recipient of the National Medal of Arts. It is the nation's most prestigious arts award, and we are gratified and excited that this honor shines a bright spotlight on the University of Idaho, the festival, Moscow and all of Idaho. It means so much to have our educational, musical and cultural leadership recognized at such a high level. For more details on the award ceremony held in the East Room of the White House, please read the story on page 7.



Tim White
President



TODAY@IDAHO

For more on these stories and for daily University of Idaho news, go to www.today.uidaho.edu.

The National Endowment for the Arts has awarded a \$10,000 grant to Greg Halloran, associate professor of dance. The grant will support the reconstruction of Arnie Zane's and Bill T. Jones' work, "Continuous Replay" for the Dance Theatre's Fall Concert in 2008.

Rebecca Tallent, professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Media, has been named a Diversity Leadership Fellow by the Society of Professional Journalists. Tallent is of Cherokee heritage, a descendant of "teachers, preachers and herbalists," which she said is a natural fit to the fields of education and journalism. "Native Americans come out of a storytelling tradition," Tallent says. "Yet, she points out, there are few indigenous people working as journalists or journalism teachers.

Public policy has a new name at the University of Idaho. The institution's Bureau of Public Affairs Research has been renamed **The James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research** in recognition of the McClure's passion for matters of public policy."

The Counseling and Testing Center has received accreditation from the American Psychological Association for its pre-doctoral internship training program in professional psychology. Accreditation will help the University and the state address the shortage of internship opportunities and the shortage of psychologists in Idaho.

Frederik Willem (F.W.) de Klerk, former South African president and Nobel Peace Prize recipient, will present the keynote address April 1 at the 2008 Borah Symposium. The symposium runs March 31 to April 2.



Extension nematologist Saad Hafez at the Southwest Idaho Research and Extension Center in Parma.

Name that Nematode

Over the past 26 years, nematologist Saad Hafez has been the first to detect the presence of 31 species of nematodes in Idaho. Some of these microscopic roundworms had been found elsewhere in the United States, while others had been previously detected only in other countries.

Now, CABI – a British-based intergovernmental scientific organization – has informed Hafez that a nematode he had sent them for identification in 2006 hadn't been reported anywhere else in the world. To honor that discovery, the agency named the newcomer *Longidorella saadi* after Hafez.

Nematodes are found throughout the Earth's soils and waters as well as in its cold- and warm-bodied animals. Some can spread diseases, others attack crop tissue or transmit crop diseases while still others are beneficial and destroy grasshoppers and mosquito larvae and recycle organic matter.

Identifying new nematodes is all part of a day's work for Hafez. When he spotted *Longidorella saadi* in a routine soil sample from eastern Idaho and shipped it to CABI, he knew only that he had never seen it before. He didn't know that nobody else had ever seen it before either. "I was really very honored that they thought to name it after me," he said.

Pi Phi Regroups After Fire

Quick response by Moscow firefighters, combined with an effective building fire suppression system, helped minimize damage from a fire at the Pi Beta Phi sorority house on August 2. No one was in the building at the time of the fire. The 60 women who live in the house were able to move as a group into the Wallace Residence Center. They plan to return to the house for the 2008 fall semester after repair work is finished.



Amy Probert models the first-place design in a wearable art contest.

If You Design It, You Have to Wear It

It's called wearable art, and the creative impulses of Art and Architecture students resulted in some free-spirited, recycled fashion this fall. Students were provided with a palette of supplies, such as plastic grocery bags, trash bags and other things that normally would be thrown away. Amy Probert and Rebecca Stucki, both of Boise, won first place.

Just listen to the announcer: "Amy wears a stylish, strapless green dress made out of a recycled tarp and tastefully accessorized with a belt made from an old window screen. Topping off the ensemble is a shimmering gold bubble-wrap shrug."



Artificial turf on the playing field at the Kibbie Dome has resulted in a new year-round recreation facility.

The merits of faux grass

The new artificial turf covering the playing fields on the east side of the ASUI-Kibbie Activity Center are a big hit. There's no more mud, and the fields are now used year round by the Athletic Department and student recreation.

In addition, rubber granules are used as infill and provide an environmentally responsible way of recycling rubber tires. There's no watering, fertilizing or spraying for weeds, so the turf saves approximately \$50,000 annually in field maintenance costs.

The Idaho Montana Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects took notice of the positive effects of the conversion from natural to artificial turf and selected the project for a 2007 merit award.

Cardboard as a design material?

Well, it is lightweight and surprisingly strong. Cardboard also makes up 14 percent of the nation's municipal solid waste, so it's readily available and cheap.

This fall, students in the College of Art and Architecture's furniture design class took on the challenge of recycling cardboard into something beautiful and useful; a chair.

For Todd Thompson, a master's degree student from Moscow, the project was fun, but a bit repetitive since his design required that he glue about 160 sheets of cardboard together.

"I liked the fact that the material is a waste product and so has the potential to be reused as something productive," said Todd. "The pieces I gathered were, ironically, from a furniture store – large boxes to crate sofas and recliners. Now, parts of those boxes are furniture. I find that aspect enjoyable."

The students will enter their designs in the national Chair Affair competition. The Furniture Design course is taught by Frank Jacobus, assistant professor of architecture, and Jay Pengilly, the college's shop technician.



Four-Footed Vandals

It seems there are a lot of Vandals out there with a desire to connect their pets to their alma mater. To meet that demand, the Bookstore has added to its offerings a more robust line of gear for pets.

"Companion animals are taking on a new role in family structures," said Shelby Silflow, assistant manager and buyer at the Bookstore. "For many people, pets are like additional family members. And pet owners are looking for ways to include their four-footed companions in all aspects of their lives, including a display of loyalty to one's alma mater."

Among the pet-focused gear available at Bookstore outlets: tees, sweatshirts, jerseys, food dishes, collars, leashes, dog tags and chew toys.

The big seller?

Vandal football jerseys.

Not only has the Bookstore had to re-order, they also added sizes up to 4X to fit dogs weighing up to 120 pounds.

For more information about ordering: www.uivandalgear.com.

A "Bright" Idea

The University will begin testing solar powered lights along walkways leading from the Student Recreation Center. Each light has a solar panel and a battery pack that supply the electricity needed for a high-efficiency streetlight. Since there's no need to install underground utilities to the fixtures, it saves money on trenching and avoids disturbing sensitive areas. The lighting project is part of the University's ongoing efforts to increase safety on campus.

Campus Quote



"No matter what the theory you accept or what evidence you recognize, the public reality is that our planet is getting warmer. And as much as I believe true leadership requires independence and personal responsibility, those of us who are the policy makers also are accountable to the public and its perceptions, so we ignore perceptions at our own peril."

—Idaho Gov. C. L. "Butch" Otter,

Oct. 1 at the inaugural President's Sustainability Symposium, "Carbon, Climate and Our Environment: Partnerships for Success"

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ghazi

Thank you for the article on Dr. Ghazanfar in your Fall 2007 issue. I can truly say Ghazi was one of my favorite and most inspirational professors. At a time when idealism was not apparent, or never seemed to come to the surface, Ghazi expressed some welcome idealism into his classroom instruction. Until your article I was not aware of Dr. Ghazanfar's interesting and challenging history.

Mike Hall '88
Boise

Growing Moscow

It was gracious of the staff at "Here We Have Idaho" to publish a story about Moscow's Mayor Nancy Chaney, and her unique history with the university. I am pleased to see Moscow is forging the way and priding itself on being a leader as an "environmentally responsible" community. For Moscow to be on the cutting edge of environmental responsibility is only inherent since Moscow hosts a university that prides itself on being on the cutting edge in many fields of studies from the sciences to the arts.

With this in mind, I would like to encourage Mayor Chaney to rethink the idea of growth for Moscow. Rather, encourage the mayor and city council to find ways to create sound and "creative" growth for the city. Visualize Moscow being a pioneer for "small town" urban renewal. By reclaiming unused industrial and run-down housing areas, developers could create urban villages with higher density living with more open spaces and parks. Moscow could be a trendsetter for "small towns" throughout the United States.

A stronger Moscow, a growing Moscow, will aid greatly in the efforts of the university administration to increase enrollment and retain Idaho's flagship status of higher education in the state of Idaho.

Jeffrey J. Wagner '85
Walla Walla, Wash.

Correction

The Center for Intelligent Systems Research, led by Professor Dean Edwards, sponsors the student hybrid Humvee research project, presented on page 10 of the Fall 2007 issue of Here We Have Idaho. The center is part of the Microelectronics Research and Communications Institute at the University of Idaho.



Barley is Better

New heart-healthy barleys are creating excitement among Japanese consumers, Idaho grain growers and University of Idaho crop specialists.

High levels of beta glucan, a soluble, heart-healthy fiber, in some new barley varieties drew the interest of Japanese consumers because the grain cooks, looks, tastes and almost feels like rice. But it has healthy fiber.

The allure of a profitable overseas market stirred interest across Idaho, which produces the nation's second largest barley crop. Most barley grown goes for livestock feed or to produce malt, much of which is used to brew beer.

Driven largely by higher corn prices associated with expanding ethanol production, prices for all barleys were strong in 2007. When corn prices weaken, the high prices for heart-healthy barleys promise to help keep prices higher for the entire barley market.

University of Idaho Extension specialists are testing the performance of several high beta glucan barley varieties developed by private and public plant breeders.

"We're trying to make sure we have sustainable, productive, agricultural systems for our growers," says Juliet Windes, Extension crop management specialist at Idaho Falls. "We really do have a great market potential for these food-barley varieties. The future is bright."

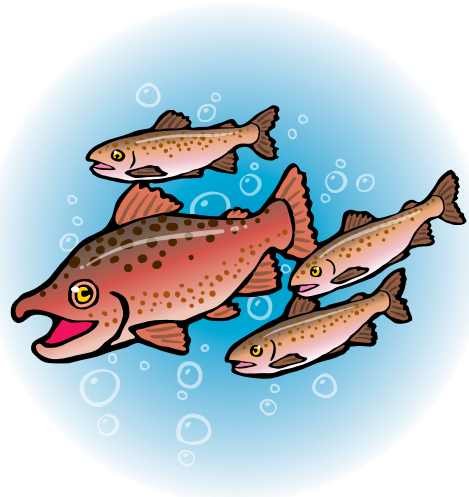
E. coli Turnaround

From the "that which does not kill us makes us stronger" file: the toxin that gives *E. coli* O157:H7 its lethality has shown that silicon nanowires someday could carry drugs into cells to fight disease.

A team of microbiologists and physicists from the University of Idaho and Seoul National University coated nanowires with fibronectin, the molecule critical for cell interactions, then attached a fragment of Shiga toxin from the lethal *E. coli* that is unable to enter cells alone.

The nanowires, 2,000 of which would equal the diameter of a human hair, carried the toxin into cultured human cells and killed them.

The system could be used to deliver drugs to cells with low doses and reduced toxicity, say researchers on a team led by University of Idaho microbiologists Greg Bohach, Carolyn Hovde Bohach and physicist David McIlroy.



Fish Unlimited

When Japanese scientists announced this fall that they had modified salmon so they could spawn trout, the world took notice.

University of Idaho biologist Joe Cloud, an associate of the Japanese researchers, noted the technique could have important conservation implications.

The technique hinged not so much on employing salmon as trout surrogates but on the preservation of the cells that produced the trout eggs. Fish culturists have long been able to preserve fish milt or sperm by freezing it in liquid nitrogen.

Fish eggs, because of their large size and high fat content, suffer catastrophic damage when frozen.

The Japanese work and related research in Idaho showed primordial germ cells from male trout can be transplanted and develop into either testes that can produce viable sperm or ovaries that can produce eggs, Cloud said.

"For the first time, we're able to preserve both the male and female lines of a fish species," he added.



Idaho President Tim White and Jazz Festival Artistic Director John Clayton receive the National Medal of Arts from President George W. Bush.

2007 National Medal of Arts recipients

University of Idaho Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival, music competition and festival

Morten Lauridsen, composer

N. Scott Momaday, author, essayist, poet, professor, painter

Roy R. Neuberger, arts patron

R. Craig Noel, Old Globe Theatre director, San Diego, Calif.

Les Paul, guitarist, inventor

Henry Steinway, arts patron

George Tooker, painter

Andrew Wyeth, painter

The Nation's Highest Arts Honor

The Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival Receives the National Medal of Arts

President George W. Bush selected the University of Idaho Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival as a recipient of the nation's highest honor for the arts, the National Medal of Arts.

Idaho President Tim White and Jazz Festival Artistic Director John Clayton accepted the award at a Nov. 15 ceremony in the East Room of the White House. The University of Idaho is the first public university to receive the award since it was created by Congress in 1984.

"On behalf of a grateful nation, we honor your great talent and accomplishments," said President Bush to the nine award recipients. "Our honorees represent the great strength and diversity of the American culture... I congratulate our honorees, because in your work we see the creativity of the American spirit and the values that have made our nation great."

"We are very, very proud of the recognition," said White. "It reflects years of support and dedication by many, many thousands of people who have worked to make the festival what it is today."

The jazz festival, now in its 41st year, was recognized for "preserving and promoting the uniquely American art of jazz."

"I had a feeling of elation and disbelief," said Clayton after the awards ceremony. Clayton had been a frequent

performer at the jazz festival before being named the festival's artistic director in June 2006. "This award is well-deserved, and I think about Lionel Hampton and Doc Skinner and what the two of them have brought to the school."

Lynn J. "Doc" Skinner was the executive director of the festival for 35 years and developed a rewarding relationship with jazz legend Lionel Hampton. Skinner and Hampton collaborated to expand the festival, attract the world best jazz artists to Moscow, and develop an educational mission for the festival to share the spirit of jazz with future generations.

Skinner was a guest at the awards ceremony at the White House.

"I had tears in my eyes at the White House ceremony when the award was made by President Bush, and I felt Hamp's presence by my side," said Skinner. "I would like to thank all of those who gave of their time and commitment to make this happen. It was a great moment in history for the Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival, the University of Idaho, Hamp's legacy and for me personally."

The jazz festival will celebrate the award, Hampton's legacy, and what would have been Hampton's 100th birthday, at the 2008 festival February 20-23.





PAM BENHAM

Patty Miller '83, executive director of the Basque Museum and Cultural Center in Boise, and Pete Cenarrusa '40, Idaho's longest serving elected official, celebrate their Basque heritage through cultural and educational programs offered at the University of Idaho.

Basquing In Success

Nine time zones and more than 4,000 miles from Idaho, in the southwestern part of Europe, there exists a near-mythical land of craggy green mountains and steep, narrow valleys beside a cobalt sea. The people of this land are ancient. They wear black berets, speak a strange language, and their white-washed houses with red roofs cluster around brown churches. The Basque Country, this place of legend, might seem impossibly far away from the Gem State. Yet, as many Idahoans know, the passionate pursuit of the American dream by Basque immigrants and their children have drawn these two regions together and intertwined their histories. The University of Idaho has played an important part in this connection. The Basque story as it relates to the University is one steeped in history, alumni achievement, and ongoing opportunities for faculty and students.

BY JEFF P. JONES

Following Sheep to Idaho

The Basque Country begins at the Adour River in southwest France and extends over the western Pyrenees and along the Bay of Biscay to the Ebro River in northeast Spain. It consists of seven provinces – four in Spain, three in France – that have a total area equivalent to that of New Hampshire. The population is about three million. In the Basque language, Euskera, there's no word for Basque; instead, they call their land Euskal Herria, the land of Euskera speakers.

Two of the first Basque immigrants to set foot in Idaho were a pair of sheepmen who, in 1889, struggled, thirsty and near death, up the Owyhees into what was then Idaho Territory. "Thus it can be rightfully said that the Basques followed the sheep into Idaho," one author wrote.

Many Basques, seeking opportunity, followed similar paths, coming from California and Nevada to Idaho. The Idaho Basque population swelled into the 1920s. Like most immigrant groups, they took the jobs no one else wanted – at the time, that meant herding sheep.

It was a rough life, filled with months of dizzying loneliness in the most rugged and isolated areas. The sheepmen faced sickness and snakebite, lightning and snowstorms, coyotes, cougars, bears.

Author Arsen Alzola claimed that it was the Basque sheepmen's "obstinate determination to achieve success" that helped them survive.

When the sheep industry declined in the 1930s, many Basque herders took over the outfits and became entrepreneurs.

"They in turn created opportunities for their descendants, the chance to make a successful entry in American society and still be part of something larger, a community and a rich tradition," wrote historians John and Mark Bieter.

The Political Path

The Idaho Basque experience is exemplified by Pete Cenarrusa '40, among the first University graduates of Basque heritage. Cenarrusa is an Idaho icon. Born in Carey, he grew up in the sheep camps, learning Euskera and listening to the herders' stories. He eventually served nine terms in the House of Representatives and was Secretary of State from 1967 until he retired in 2002. Idaho's longest-serving elected official, he credits his time at the University, where he studied agriculture, as the basis for his success, both as a sheep farmer and a legislator.

"My schooling at the University of Idaho is a great asset to me. I carried out my entire profession with the knowledge I gained."

In 2003, the Cenarrusa Foundation for Basque Culture opened in Boise, its goal to promote Basque culture, language and history throughout Idaho and eastern Oregon.



A Basque sheep camp with shepherd Agustin, 1950. Photo courtesy of the Basque Museum and Cultural Center, Juanita Uberuaga Hormaechea Collection.

Dave Bieter '87, another Idaho Basque politician, worked in the Ada County Prosecutor's Office and successfully argued several cases before the Idaho Supreme Court. His brother, Chris Bieter '79, '83, also is a University success story and serves as Ada County magistrate judge. After their father, Pat Bieter's, untimely death in 1999, Dave assumed his father's seat in the House of Representatives. Then, in 2003, he was elected mayor of Boise and was reelected in November 2007.

"I'm hopeful the Basque community is pleased with the way their mayor has conducted his time in office," he said. "My work at the University has made it possible to practice law in government and allowed me to serve in elected office. My whole professional run is thanks to that time."

An Entrepreneurial Spirit

As diligent livestock farmers, the Basques in Idaho gained respect and many decided to become U.S. citizens. In the 1950s, in support of Basque immigrant naturalization, Sen. Frank Church wrote, "In Idaho, we do not look at immigrant Basques as foreigners but as Idahoans. They have contributed much to Idaho's culture, its economy and its history."

Throughout their history, the Basques have shown an entrepreneurial spirit, becoming the world's first commercial whalers and renowned shipbuilders. Author Mark Kurlansky called the ancient Basques "capitalists before capitalism." Judging by the success of many of the University's Basque alumni, that tradition continues.



Delores Hormaechea Chapman '61 was the co-owner of Four Seasons Travel in Boise, and currently is a University of Idaho Foundation board member.

In 1958, when a Harvard MBA classmate called with the idea of starting a semi-conductor company, Paul Araquistain '51 seized the opportunity. Rheem Semi-Conductor later sold out to Raytheon, and Araquistain stayed on.

A decade later, he started a consulting firm and worked with numerous start-up companies in semi-conductors, robotics and fiber optics in the Silicon Valley. With a self-deprecating laugh he said, "I didn't get a Google or a Sysco or an Intel, but I did pretty good for an old sheep herder."

A close friend of Araquistain's, John Ascuaga '51, became one of Nevada's most famous business owners. President and owner of John Ascuaga's Nugget Casino Resort in Sparks, Nevada, his company has grown from a 60-seat coffee shop with a handful of slot machines to a multi-million-dollar enterprise that employs nearly 3,000 people.

"Today, when I talk to my employees," Ascuaga said, "I tell them that whatever you do, you have to love your work. At the University, I enjoyed all my time and developed a great deal of friendships. To be successful, you still have to be able to communicate with your fellow man and all your workers."

"My dad felt that we ought to be 100 percent American. Still, Basque heritage and language and cooking were very much a part of our growing up. I enjoyed all the wonderful things about being Basque, yet I was just a regular American girl."

—Dolores Chapman

Hilario Arguinchona '65 remembers his experience differently: "To be honest, my time at the University was one big blur. I was already married, had a family, carried 18 credits and worked 40 hours a week."

With his business degree, in 1986 Arguinchona founded Idaho Financial Associates, a secondary market for student loans and developer of custom computer software. A decade later, he became one of 12 founders of Syringa Bank, where he remains its chairman.

His self-described "fantastic childhood" represents another aspect of Idaho Basque life: his parents owned the DeLamar, a boardinghouse in downtown Boise.

The boardinghouse was a home-away-from-home and helped the Basque community remain tightly-knit. As John and Mark Bieter pointed out, the boardinghouse became "the village church, the town tavern, the bank and the health dispensary."

Dolores Hormaechea Chapman '61, University Foundation board member for several years, knew the Basque boardinghouse well: her grandmother ran one in Gooding. As a girl, she learned Euskera and Spanish, so her language studies, including a degree in French, came naturally. As co-owner of Four Seasons Travel in Boise for 15 years, speaking several languages helped her immensely. She enjoys talking about her quintessential Basque-American upbringing.

"My dad felt that we ought to be 100 percent American. Still, Basque heritage and language and cooking were very much a part of our growing up. I enjoyed all the wonderful things about being Basque, yet I was just a regular American girl."

Faculty Exchanges

More than a dozen Idaho faculty and staff have taught, studied or done research in the Basque Country.

Eric Jensen, professor of political science, spoke with great enthusiasm about his four trips. In a wistful voice he said, "If you ever go to San Sebastian and walk the promenade along the two main beaches on a nice day, you'll never forget it."

And though he had several gastronomic adventures, he got serious work done, too. He presented criminal justice papers and co-organized a conference in the Basque Country, out of which came a book in 2006.



Through the University Studies Abroad Consortium, more than 230 University students have been able to visit the Basque Country.

STEVE BANKS

Anna Banks, associate professor of film, and her husband, Steve Banks, professor of psychology and communication studies participated in a faculty exchange program and taught at two universities in the Basque Country. Anna is shown in the main plaza of St-Jean-de-Luz in the French Basque Country, just across the border from the Spanish Basque Country.

Steve Banks, professor of psychology and communication studies, and Anna Banks, associate professor of film, experienced the Idaho-Basque connection firsthand one day during their faculty exchange when they were strolling through a village.

Steve was wearing an "IDAHO" sweatshirt when they passed a men's club and a man cried out.

"Ee-daho! Ee-daho!" He embraced Steve, ushered them inside, and pushed glasses of wine into their hands.

"We couldn't understand a word he said because we didn't speak Basque," Steve said. "And they could barely understand our Spanish. But we had a good time. They were just so excited that someone came from Idaho to visit their little town in the middle of the Basque Country. We felt really special."

The Banks taught at two universities and still draw on their Basque visit.

"I use it when I teach Core Discovery," Anna said. "Just last week I taught a Basque film and was able to talk about my experience."

Visiting Instructors

Bob Neuenschwander, manager of the Study Abroad Program, has made such exchanges possible, and as he readily points out, another key component is the University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC), which, fittingly, began in the Basque Country.

"USAC has been behind a lot of the faculty and scholars that we've received, and they've opened a lot of doors for our researchers over there as well. It's just been a great working relationship," said Neuenschwander.

Another essential person in the University's Basque connections is Irina Kappler-Crookston, senior instructor in Spanish.

"Irina deserves all the credit in the world," said James Reece, chair of foreign languages and literature. "She has been on these exchanges in San Sebastian and Bilbao and gotten to know the people there and helped us develop what you could call a partnership."

Starting in the early 1990s, several scholars and teaching assistants from the Basque Country began coming to teach at the University. For the 2007-08 year, there are three visiting Basque instructors: teaching interns Jone Guillén and Arantxa Munarriz, and Spanish lecturer Esther Plaza.

"The students know that I'm from the Basque Country," Plaza said. "And they ask me about that."

In summer '06, Plaza and Kappler-Crookston arranged an internship in the Basque Country for Jill Schwartz, a senior double-majoring in agricultural industry



Learning to make organic cheese: Jill Schwartz spent a summer internship on a farm in the Basque Country.



Visiting scholars from the Basque Country at the University of Idaho this year include, left to right: Arantxa Munarriz, Jone Guillén and Esther Plaza. At far right is Irina Kappler-Crookston, senior instructor in Spanish, who helps coordinate the faculty and student exchange program.

management and Spanish. She worked on a small farm and learned how to make chorizo and organic cheese.

"It was good for me to see a different way of thinking and a different way of life. Sometimes in the U.S., we're so busy that we don't notice things. The people there always took time for each other."

Upon her return, Schwartz incorporated her Basque experience into a business plan that she developed for an entrepreneurship class, gauging whether a similar farm might be viable in the U.S.

Kappler-Crookston likes to encourage students to go beyond just studying language.

"That's what I love about my job," she said, "combining the Spanish language with another discipline. I think we do a great job in this department."

Through the USAC program, more than 230 University students have been able to visit the Basque Country.

"I like to think that we have the best Study Abroad Program in the state," Neuenschwander said. "So students with Basque heritage come here to participate. We've had an enormous success getting students over to the Basque Country."

Jill Aldape '98, at right front, is a dancer with Oinkari, a Basque dance group from Boise. The group is shown performing in the town of Onati in the Basque Country.

A Look to the Future

Like their forebearers, the younger Basque generation is helping to secure a place for their culture in Idaho. Yasone Lejardi, senior in English and secondary education, and Ryan Johnson, freshman in biology, are members of Oinkari, a Basque dance group. Lejardi has been around the world to dance, including to the Basque Country and Argentina. Both have made lifelong friends through the group.

A past Oinkari president, Jill Aldape '98, also continues to dance. "It connects me to the heritage and tradition. It's also a social activity for me. All my real close friends are dancers and we've traveled together. It's very fulfilling."

Colleen Asumendi Fillmore '05 wrote her doctoral dissertation on the dietary intake of Basque people in Boise. "The Basque people and culture is who I am, what my life is. This study was perfect for me. It put both of my lives together, the world of the Basque people and the world of dietetics."

Joe Lasuen '05 is president of the Basque Association in Mountain Home. Their 200 members raise money for local charities and celebrate their heritage. "We do whatever

we can to perpetuate our culture, whether it's starting a Basque language class or dancing group or purchasing a new property for a place to meet."



MATE IRIBARREN-GORRINDO

An alumna with a strong interest in keeping the Basque community vibrant is Patty Miller '83. She proudly comes from a family of all University graduates. Since 1993, she's been the executive director of Boise's Basque Museum and Cultural Center, which has "grown significantly." She added, "the downtown Basque Block has been developed into an area that's recognized by the community for its historical and cultural significance. I see a very bright future."

Each summer for the past six years, thanks to an endowment from the Cenarrusa Foundation, a University student has interned at the museum.

Jessica Mullins, senior in journalism, started her internship four days after returning from a study abroad program in the Basque Country.

"Being on the museum staff felt like being a new member of a huge happy and friendly family," she said. "After studying abroad and working at the Basque Museum and Cultural Center I have great respect and admiration for the Basque culture. I just wish I was Basque!"

If the past is any indication of the future, the University's Basque connections will continue to foster opportunities for success, not only for Idaho's Basque population but for all those who can only wish that they were Basque. ■

A Connection For The Generations: The Basque Cultural Endowment

BY JEFF P. JONES

When Pete Cenarrusa '40 fought for the University, it used to be, quite literally, with his fists.

"I was 135 pounds. Too small to be a football or basketball player, so boxing was the best choice. I started as a novice there and ended up fighting lightweight on the varsity."

Although he didn't go to nationals in 1940, he feels fortunate to have been part of the team that year, when Ted and Frank Kara led Idaho to a national championship.

In the years after hanging up his gloves, Cenarrusa fought for the University in other ways – by lending his political and financial support. Now his support is being honored by a new initiative, the Basque Cultural Endowment, created in the fall of 2007.

"Through the establishment of this endowment," said Bob Neuenschwander, manager of the Study Abroad Program, "University of Idaho would like to honor special friends, Pete and Freda Cenarrusa, and their family. They have been, and continue to be, strong supporters of the University and its programs. Through their kindness and generosity, they have come to exemplify the goodwill generated by initiatives such as this."

University President Tim White's office committed \$220,000 to establish the endowment, along with a similar initiative, the Internationalization Endowment, both in partnership with the University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC).

The Basque Cultural Endowment is an important step in relations between the University and USAC, which is comprised of 33 U.S. universities and runs programs in 25 countries. It formalizes their relationship and will provide four benefits: scholarships for Idaho students to study in the Basque Country, grants for Basque Country graduate students to teach on campus, faculty exchanges, and Basque cultural activities at the University.

Kathy Aiken, Dean of the College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences, said, "We're excited because this will allow for permanent programming. Certainly, the Basque community is an important part of Idaho history and the Idaho community, so it's a good way to know that we'll continue to recognize that connection forever."

As a fighter tossing leather, Pete Cenarrusa strove to connect with his opponent's jaw. Now he and his family are part of an endowment that will create connections for new generations – connections, it's hoped, with less pain but lasting impact.



Pete Cenarrusa as a member of the Idaho boxing team, pictured in the Gem of the Mountains yearbook.



Alaska Governor Sarah Palin '87 is the youngest governor in Alaska's history and a rising star in national politics.

From Journalism to Politics – Alaska's Governor Asks the Important Questions

STORY AND PHOTO BY JENNIFER CASTRO

Sarah Palin '87 is warming up the chilly political climate in America's northernmost state.

In early 2006, she was little known outside of Wasilla, 40 miles northeast of Anchorage, where she was mayor. But Alaska voters' desire for new leadership rocketed her past the incumbent governor in the primary, then over a former two-term governor in the general election.

Now, Palin is seen as a rising star. She was featured in a Newsweek article about women in state government and interviewed on Charlie Rose's national PBS program. She is mentioned as possible candidate for Congress or the U.S. Senate. And, there's even a Web site promoting her for vice president in 2008.

The youngest governor in Alaska's history and the first born since statehood, Palin is a 1987 journalism graduate of the University of Idaho.

Born in Sandpoint, Palin moved as a child with her family to Skagway, Alaska, where her father, Chuck Heath, was a schoolteacher. Heath wanted to experience Alaska's prime fishing and hunting. After five years of teaching in Skagway, Heath decided to get a master's degree and moved his family closer to Anchorage.

Current events were discussed often, Heath recalls. "We are one of those rare families that sit down together at the dinner table every night and discuss what's going on in the world and in our lives," he recalled. In school, Palin had a strong interest in history and government.

Combining her curiosity with her love of writing, she decided to pursue a degree in journalism. "I was always asking everyone the questions, and I still am today," Palin said.

Palin began her college career at Hawaii Pacific University. Wanting to reconnect with her family's roots, she transferred to North Idaho College, then finished her journalism degree at the University of Idaho.

After graduation, Palin moved back to Alaska. She began her career as a TV reporter for Anchorage's NBC affiliate, KTUU. Reporting on Alaska's politics sparked her interest in government. A few years later, she met her husband, Todd Palin, whom she now refers to as "Alaska's first dude." Palin left journalism to fish commercially with her husband and start a family.

Palin first got into politics running for city council in Wasilla. Palin said her youth was more of an issue to voters than her gender, but that didn't stop her from running for mayor of Wasilla and winning when she was only 32.

"We accomplished a lot in the fastest growing area of the state, we reduced a bunch of taxes," Palin said. "Our agenda worked." She became president of Alaska's Conference of Mayors and served on the state's Oil and Gas Conservation Commission.

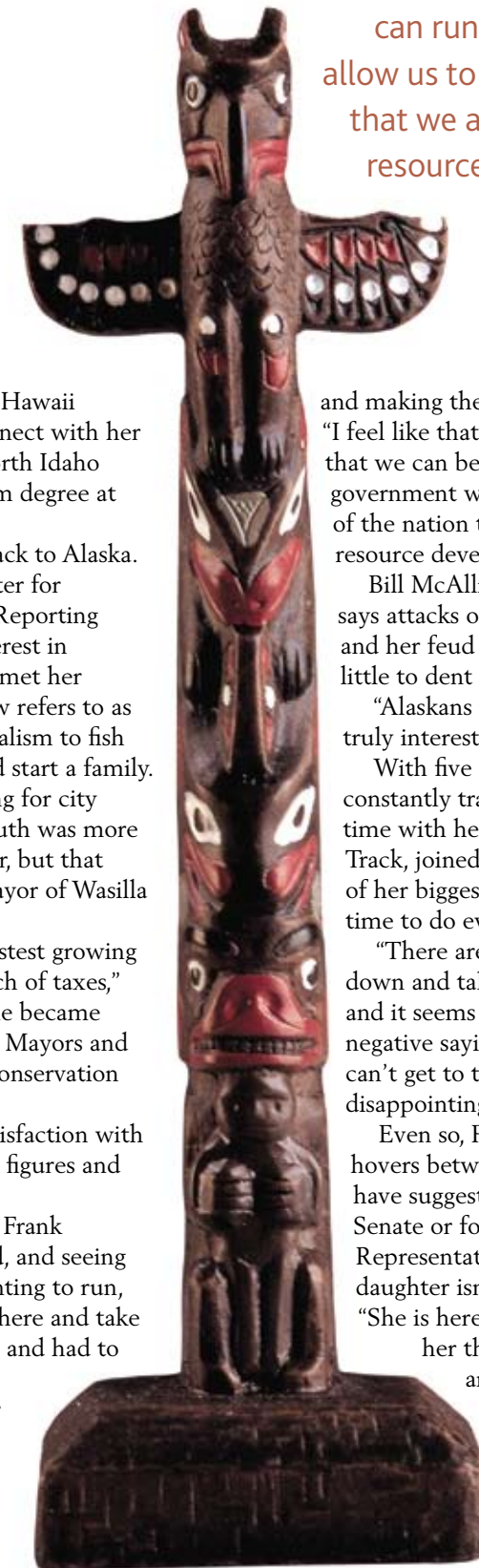
In early 2006, Palin sensed dissatisfaction with some of Alaska's long-time political figures and decided to run for governor.

"Knowing that former Governor Frank Murkowski's term was about to end, and seeing that it was the same old people wanting to run, I said to myself, 'Let's get way out there and take a stand for things that weren't right and had to be changed.'"

As governor, Palin has two major goals: restoring Alaska's reputation after a series of political scandals

"I feel like that is a reason that we are here – to show that we can be trustworthy, and we can run a clean government which will allow us to convince the rest of the nation that we are capable of being responsible resource developers to supply the U.S."

—Sarah Palin



and making the state less reliant on federal funding. "I feel like that is a reason that we are here – to show that we can be trustworthy, and we can run a clean government which will allow us to convince the rest of the nation that we are capable of being responsible resource developers to supply the U.S."

Bill McAllister, a political reporter for KTUU-TV, says attacks on Palin from right-wing talk radio hosts and her feud with a leading state senator have done little to dent her image.

"Alaskans perceive her as genuine, above board and truly interested in their welfare," McAllister said.

With five offices located across Alaska, Palin is constantly traveling while trying to spend as much time with her husband and four children. Her son, Track, joined the U.S. Army on Sept. 11, 2007. One of her biggest disappointments is not having enough time to do everything she would like.

"There are so many people who just want to sit down and talk to you or have you attend their event and it seems like we're constantly responding in the negative saying 'I'm so sorry I can't get there and I can't get to that part of the state today,' so that's been disappointing," Palin said.

Even so, Palin's approval rating among voters hovers between 80 and 90 percent. Some Alaskans have suggested her as a candidate for U.S. Senate or for Alaska's single seat in the House of Representatives. Palin's father, Chuck, says his daughter isn't interested in higher office – for now. "She is here to stay," he said. "Her honesty has gotten her through everything in her political career, and we're proud of the effects her honesty has had on the state." ■

The New Nuclear Reaction

There's a fresh bloom of nuclear engineers at Idaho

The inexorable search for more sustainable carbon-free energy resources is driving Idaho, the U.S. and the world to take a new look at nuclear energy.

Once considered an environmental pariah, nuclear technology is steadily emerging as one of the most promising near-term solutions – ironically, for its environmental strengths. Nuclear energy can cost-effectively produce the multitude of gigawatts needed to meet growing energy needs, without generating greenhouse emissions.

BY MIKE HART

Today, after decades of limited construction, there is an international bloom of nuclear plants with some 30 facilities currently being built and more than 100 on the drawing board. In the U.S., a Texas utility recently filed the first complete request to construct not one, but two, new reactors. This marks the first such application in the United States in nearly three decades, and dozens of nuclear plant license applications are anticipated in the coming years. The nuclear industry refers to this movement as a “nuclear renaissance,” and like its namesake from the Middle Ages, it has an intellectual component.

The University of Idaho's nuclear engineering program is centered in Idaho Falls at University Place, but also has students at the Moscow campus. Besides providing graduate education for the next generation of nuclear engineers, the program aims to support and complement ongoing research at the Department of Energy's nearby Idaho National Laboratory.

Working together with national laboratories, universities and international researchers, the program will help actualize nuclear energy to reach its full potential – providing safe, reliable and environmentally responsible energy that is as sustainable as is technologically possible.



Michael Figueroa, left, a master's degree student in nuclear engineering, and Fred Gunnerson, right, director of Idaho's nuclear engineering program. Before joining the University of Idaho, Gunnerson lead a national laboratory research program on alternative and renewable energy sources. “I am still a firm believer in geothermal, wind, solar and other renewable energy sources,” said Gunnerson, “but there is also a very strong role for nuclear energy.”

Emerging from Dormancy

Just a decade ago, the University of Idaho graduate program in nuclear engineering was nearly moribund. “We had one graduate student in 1995, and few prospects for future students,” said Fred Gunnerson, director of the nuclear engineering program at the University of Idaho center in Idaho Falls. “With no enrollment, we put our program into a state of dormancy, like a desert flower awaiting a day when the rains would come again.”

The situation was not unique to Idaho; the nuclear education and research drought was a national phenomenon in the 1980s and 90s, with precipitous declines in nuclear engineering programs across the country. Many graduate programs disappeared entirely. According to the American Nuclear Society, of 41 nuclear engineering graduate programs in 1980, less than 30 still existed in the late 1990s.

After the change of millennia, the winds began to shift. In 2002, after seven years of silent classrooms, interest re-emerged and new students began asking about the Idaho nuclear engineering program. But the real weather occurred in 2005, after a new contractor took over management of the U.S. Department of Energy's newly named Idaho National Laboratory (INL).

Designated by the Department of Energy as the lead laboratory for nuclear science and technology, INL's

budgets for nuclear research and education began to grow and the University of Idaho's nuclear engineering program grew along with it. The new INL contractor arrived with a priority to work with universities to replenish the cohort of nuclear engineers nearing retirement age, a critical problem because decades of dormant interest had taken its toll on the pool of graduate students in nuclear engineering.

“By 2005, it was clear that our program was in full bloom again,” said Gunnerson. “We had a clear mission, strong funding support, and quality students seeking advanced degrees in nuclear engineering.” The following year, the University's nuclear engineering graduate program reached critical mass, with more than a dozen graduate students working on a wide variety of engineering problems.

With an Idaho undergraduate degree in chemical engineering, Rob Hoover of Caldwell is one of the latest crop of graduate students seeking a master's in nuclear engineering. “After taking an undergraduate class in nuclear engineering in Moscow, I decided it was a field with immense potential for the next 20 years,” said Hoover. “Idaho has a great engineering school in general and I was impressed with the faculty I spoke with here in Idaho Falls.” Like a salmon heading upstream, Hoover moved from Moscow to Idaho Falls.



The Center for Advanced Energy Study research facility at University Place in Idaho Falls is scheduled for completion next year. The 50,000-square-foot research facility will allow faculty and students from the University of Idaho, Idaho State University and Boise State University to work collaboratively with Idaho National Laboratory researchers on common energy-related projects.

Jon Carmack of Idaho Falls saw the program as a chance to upgrade his graduate training to a Ph.D. “My graduate degree was in nuclear engineering,” said Carmack, who also works at the Idaho National Laboratory. “But the resurgence in the nuclear industry created so many opportunities in the field, it made sense to get a more advanced degree.” Carmack added that the new faculty and strong program support give the program the resources it needs to continue growing.

Today, less than a decade since the program had nearly disappeared, it boasts an astonishing 19 master’s and nine doctoral students, with more students on the way to Idaho Falls

A Multi-institutional, Multi-disciplinary Approach

Dealing with such dramatic program growth requires new faculty and strategic leveraging of other academic resources in Idaho. So far, three new faculty members have been hired, whose expertise complements University of Idaho faculty, as well as the strengths of faculty at Idaho State University’s robust undergraduate program in nuclear engineering and Boise State University’s top-notch material science program.

Coursework is coordinated across all three institutions. “There was no way we could offer a nuclear engineering

graduate program as rich and deep as the one we now have without coordinating and collaborating with other institutions,” said Bob Smith, University of Idaho-Idaho Falls associate vice president. Students can use distance-learning capabilities to take classes in Idaho Falls, Moscow, Boise or Pocatello. “We fully expect students in our program to take a number of advanced courses from other institutions,” said Smith, “but in the end, they will have a graduate degree in nuclear engineering from the University of Idaho. We are clearly the home organization and the Idaho Falls center now offers an impressive array of classes and research concentrations in nuclear engineering that is enviable.”

While nuclear engineering is a legitimate discipline unto itself, the University program resides within the Mechanical Engineering Department. The operating philosophy is that the program and students are stronger when they train in other disciplines, such as mechanical or chemical engineering, or material science. “We always advise students to be careful not to over specialize,” said mechanical engineering Professor John Crepeau, who is on the Idaho Falls nuclear engineering faculty. “Whether it is nuclear engineering or aeronautical engineering, it is good to have solid roots in a broad engineering field with an additional specialty providing a career bonus rather than career shoe-horn.”

Strong Ties to the National Laboratory

Besides having strong relationships with other universities and disciplines, the University’s nuclear engineering program also has strong ties to INL. “It is not a coincidence that our program is centered here in Idaho Falls,” said Gunnerson. “INL has been an historic center for nuclear energy research, hosting some of the world’s first generation reactors for power production, propulsion and engineering. This is where nuclear energy got its start, and it remains a dynamic hub for nuclear energy research and funding.”

Funding for the nuclear engineering program’s faculty, staff and research is primarily from the Department of Energy. Joint appointments that permit qualified INL researchers to act as adjunct faculty further strengthen the relationship. The mutual relationship is beneficial to all: the Department of Energy desperately needs additional qualified nuclear engineers with advanced degrees, and that requires strong graduate programs to produce them. They support the University of Idaho program because it is a good investment.

The Idaho Falls campus offers benefits for other institutions as well. The Center for Advanced Energy Study (CAES) is a public/private partnership among the University of Idaho, the State’s other research universities (Boise State University and Idaho State University) and INL that combines the efforts of these institutions toward common energy-related research.

CAES is building a 50,000-square-foot research facility scheduled for completion next year. It will accommodate 150 researchers from the academic community and INL. The facility will offer an opportunity for faculty and students to work collaboratively in state-of-the-art laboratories, and provide INL researchers the freedom to work with international colleagues in an open, academic environment.

“There is an exciting nexus of institutions in Idaho Falls,” said Harold Blackman, director for the Center for Advanced Energy Studies. “The role of CAES is to foster collaboration among institutions, both to maximize intellectual productivity at the INL, and for advanced next generation research.”

Meeting Nuclear Energy’s Technical Challenges

The technical challenges for next generation nuclear technology are the same ones that prompted the technology’s past dormancy: the need to reduce waste, address proliferation concerns and increase safety. They are the three Ws – waste, weapons and worries – and some argue these are largely issues of perception, but each has an underlying technical challenge that demands advanced engineering and research. Current research efforts are finding innovative solutions to these challenges.

Fast reactor technology, a promising approach that tackles the three W’s en-masse, has become a central focus for research programs at the University of Idaho. Most of the 438 nuclear power plants operating in the world today use thermal or “slow” neutrons to sustain the nuclear reaction process. Astonishingly, these plants use only one to two percent of the energy potential in their nuclear fuel before it is removed for disposal.

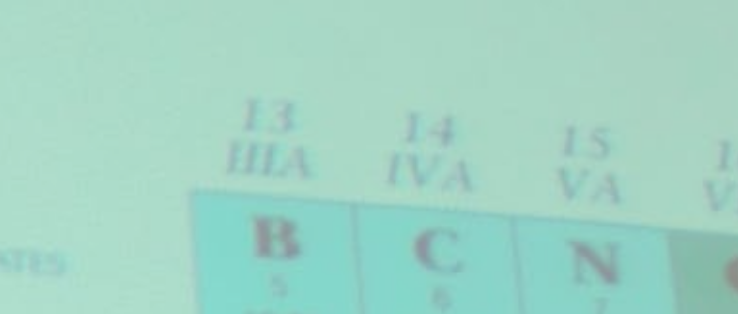
“It is like eating the peel and throwing away the banana,” said Gunnerson. “We are throwing away fuel that has barely been used.”

A current joint research program with INL is studying ways to increase nuclear fuel utilization efficiencies closer to 50 to 70 percent. “Efficiency gains alone could significantly reduce the demand for waste management and geologic disposal, but the fast reactor approach offers much more.”

Fast reactors – next generation reactors at the heart of the nuclear

engineering program’s research – use a different nuclear process that sustains the nuclear reaction with the high-energy “fast” neutrons. The process not only provides more efficient fuel use, it also produces excess neutrons that can be used both to refresh and extend the fuel life while converting or “transmuting” nastier long-lived components of nuclear waste into less troublesome isotopes. As an added benefit, transmuted waste from a fast reactor can be safely discarded after only 300 years, instead of requiring 300,000 years of long-term management required by spent nuclear fuel from traditional reactors. The elimination of weapons-grade byproducts in spent fuel also means reduced potential for nuclear proliferation.

The technical challenges for next generation nuclear technology are the same ones that prompted the technology’s past dormancy: the need to reduce waste, address proliferation concerns and increase safety.



Undergraduate student Natalie Gese, left, and graduate student Lucus Fowler, right, in the nuclear engineering laboratory on the Moscow campus. Gese was an intern for Idaho National Laboratory this summer where she worked with research scientists on reprocessing spent fuel using surrogate chemicals. She is a double major in metallurgical engineering and materials science engineering. Fowler, who is pursuing a master's degree in materials science engineering, is working with a tabletop scanning electron microscope.

Idaho's Role in Nuclear History

In 1951, one of the most significant 20th century events took place in Idaho Falls – the first usable amounts of electricity were produced by nuclear power. Today, the Idaho National Laboratory sponsors research into the next generation of nuclear power including research being done by Idaho students.

Another current research focus is the development of robust fuel forms that substantially improve safety margins. The partial melt of the Three Mile Island reactor core exposed the vulnerabilities of nuclear fuel, but stands as an object lesson for nuclear engineers on the importance of fuel design, fabrication and survivability as a critical safety factor. Engineering forensic analysis of the Three Mile Island core debris was conducted at INL and the results of that work and the follow-up design improvements are helping University of Idaho researchers as they develop new fuel forms. Their ultimate goal is developing a form that is inherently safe.

“By inherently safe, we mean fuel in a form so robust that it is virtually indestructible, even in the most severe accident scenarios,” said Gunnerson. The goal is not

unattainable. Since the accident at Three Mile Island, there have been significant advances in material science, including development of advanced ceramics, composites, new alloys and nanomaterials. With advanced engineering techniques applied by graduating researchers, the safety margin built into fuel fabrication and design will continue to grow.

University of Idaho nuclear engineering researchers are also applying the green maxim – reduce, reuse, recycle – to the nuclear industry. “By recycling nuclear fuel, we can reduce waste volumes, and most critically, reduce the length of time waste must be managed in long-term disposal facilities,” said Gunnerson. “Recycling nuclear fuel that has been irradiated is not simple, but it is definitely workable.”

Building on work pioneered at the INL and other national laboratories, nuclear engineering graduate students are examining ways to improve the processing and recycling of spent nuclear fuel to separate reusable fuel from long-lived and short-lived radioisotopes. “Our program benefits from its proximity to the INL, and when the CAES Building is complete, we will have the state-of-the-art infrastructure required for the most challenging nuclear research.”

“There are some tough problems in our field,” said Gunnerson. “They demand advanced engineering solutions and the sharp, focused people who know how to find them. But it is an exciting time to be a nuclear engineer, and as I think our students would agree, engineering challenges are our raison d’etre.” ■

Help is on the Way



Vickie and Jerry Tanner found the help they needed from the Idaho Assistive Technology Loan program.

The Growing Need for Assistive Technologies

BY CHERYL DUDLEY

Vickie Tanner of Emmett is glad that she can now see out the front and side windows of their van from her wheelchair, and even pesters her husband, Jerry, with a little back seat driving. Tanner has multiple sclerosis and also suffered a stroke, and that leaves her in need of some assistive technologies.

With the help of the Idaho Assistive Technology Loan Program (IATP), the Tanners were able to purchase a van with a floor that lowers so Vickie easily can be loaded and travel to doctor appointments and to visit family and friends. With the Tanner's purchase, the Idaho Assistive Technology Loan Program surpassed the million-dollar mark in loans made to Idahoans.

The IATP is a federally-funded program administered by the Center on Disabilities and Human Development (CDHD) in the College of Education. In partnership with the Idaho Community Foundation, Key Bank and Zions Bank, IATP can assist persons with disabilities in acquiring low interest funding for expensive assistive technology devices. "We're very thankful that the program exists," said Jerry Tanner. "We could not have purchased the van without their help."

Nearly every one of us will need assistive technology at some point in our lives as the result of a temporary or permanent disability. Some are born needing it, while others may not need it until they're elderly. Assistive technology is any device or piece of equipment that helps individuals with disabilities and older persons lead independent and productive lives.

It can range from a simple tool such as a cane to something complex like a wheelchair, adaptive computer keyboard or augmentative communication device. There currently are more than 20,000 assistive devices in the marketplace designed to help individuals.

Larkin Seiler, who works at CDHD, has been using assistive technology devices for years. On his desk is an oversized, flat keyboard about the size of a cookie sheet that allows him to input data. Seiler also works for a local environmental consulting firm where he uses the same assistive technology device.

"The big keyboard helps me type," said Seiler, who works as a data input specialist. "I get to do the fun stuff," he said sarcastically, "but I have a job to do, just like everyone else."

Seiler's electric wheelchair keeps him mobile, and the special cell phone connected to the arm of his wheelchair keeps him in touch with family and friends. Seiler also uses a shower chair at home and a communication device when he's out in the community. These devices have helped him lead a productive life that otherwise would be far more difficult.

The IATP began at the University of Idaho in 1992, and it increased the availability of assistive technology devices and services for Idahoans with disabilities with a special emphasis on children, individuals living in rural areas, members of underserved groups and older persons.

As the number of individuals with disabilities continues to grow, and given that more than 25 percent of the population will be over 65 years old between the years 2010 and 2020, assistive technologies will continue to play a significant role in helping members of these populations remain independent and live longer in their own homes.

Ron Seiler, project director of the IATP, directs three national assistive technology grant programs in Idaho that total nearly \$800,000 annually.

One of those projects, the Idaho Assistive Technology Reutilization Program, measures the effectiveness of efforts to reutilize used assistive technology for persons of low and middle incomes.

"The project is in its formative stages," said Seiler. "We're looking at establishing a statewide system to sanitize, repair and distribute used assistive technology." Idaho currently has 10 distribution centers and a Web site that allows individuals to donate devices or to locate assistive technology devices.

"The Web site, www.idaho.at4all.com, is a great tool," said Sue House, information specialist for the project. "Right now, there are about 300 pieces listed, and many of them are free. If people aren't eligible to get a device through Medicaid, they can come to us," she said. IATP can help recipients find funding for expensive assistive technology pieces.

"The financing program allows applicants quick access to funds and it helps them build a good credit history and take charge of their own finances," says Seiler. "The interest rate is lower and there is a relaxed eligibility. We also guarantee a portion of the loan because we maintain a trust fund. But it's usually not a problem because people with disabilities generally have a lower default history than the general population."

Another assistive technology program, the AgrAbility Project, is operated by the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, University Extension, IATP and United Cerebral Palsy of Idaho. The national program was authorized by Congress in the 1990 Farm Bill to assist people employed in production agriculture who have disabilities.



The Assistive Technology Reutilization program repairs used assistive technology equipment and distributes the items at several distribution centers and through its Web site, www.idaho.at4all.com.

Agriculture is one of the most dangerous careers in the state of Idaho. Thousands of people working in agriculture in the U.S. sustain disabling injuries in work-related accidents each year that jeopardize their rural and agricultural futures.

By adapting equipment, modifying operations, promoting accessibility and using assistive technologies, the majority of agricultural workers who have disabilities can continue to earn their livelihoods in agriculture and participate fully in rural community life.

"We are in the process of getting the word out to the agricultural community so that individuals who may need our services could contact us," said Tom Karsky, Extension farm safety specialist in the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering, and co-director with Seiler on the project. "We are still seeking clients and would be happy to hear from individuals that may need our services or know of someone that would be in need," he said.

Assistive technologies can be an essential part of life at some point along any person's journey. Knowing that there are agencies and programs in place to help find and obtain these technologies is reassuring. ■

For more information about Idaho's three assistive technology programs, contact Project Director Ron Seiler at (208) 885-3557, 1-800-432-8324, or at rseiler@uidaho.edu. The Web site address is www.idahoat.org.



Alumni Director Steve Johnson '71 and Bill Crea '62.

Crea launched his career at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida. Three years later, his education and training led him to Texas where he joined the NASA Johnson Space Center in the Earth Resources Division.

Crea spent the next 10 years committed to data analysis. His projects grew from working with data gathered from medium altitude aircraft, to Apollo spacecraft, to the unmanned LANDSAT spacecraft. This experience led to an appointment on a four-man USAID team to the Philippines, and eventually the chairmanship of an Agricultural/Forestry panel.

Crea's work eventually culminated with the Large Area Crop Inventory Experiment (LACIE). He directed

the development of a wheat growth-stage model that still is used for monitoring select areas and predicting international supply and demand.

The second half of Crea's career began in 1977. He returned to his family's farm in Grangeville with his wife, Virginia, and their children, Camille and Ron. He took up wheat and barley production and maximized his operations with the same skills that originated in Moscow.

After sharing his findings with neighbors, a desire ignited within him to build a strong future for the next generation of farmers. He joined what would become the Idaho Grain Producers Association, then took the lead in developing policies on vital issues like property taxes, water use and residue burning that continue to affect the state's grain industry.

In 2005, his decades of work were honored by the Idaho Wheat Commission with a Distinguished Service Award.

"I don't know whether I've done a lot..." Crea said. "But I've kind of enjoyed it." ■

1950

Val Ross Johnson '59 has published a nonfiction book, "Night Owl Fighter Pilot," about flying over North Vietnam in 1966. He tells about growing up in northern Idaho and attending the University of Idaho where he was a four-year letterman in baseball.

David Youmans '59, '69, '75 has written a new book entitled "Wherever Home Is, Recollections of an Itinerant Academic." The book describes earlier times in the rural West, educational landmarks, years of work around the world, dynamics of university life, search for faith and social justice and challenges of aging with dignity in America.

1960

Adrian Huff '62 is completing her sixth year as a school improvement facilitator for the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction in Washington. She works with low performing schools to assist them in meeting adequate yearly progress.

Kay Rowley '63 is the Pacific Northwest facilitator for Amyloidosis, president of Rowley Rentals, LLC, and president of the Powderhorn Bay Water Association.



Mary Lynne Evans, '64, retired as long range planning manager for Snohomish County in Washington. During her 30-year dual teaching-planning career, she received awards both as an outstanding teacher in

Boise and Kent, Wash., public schools and the Myer Wolfe Award for professional achievement in Washington state planning. She travels much of the year and resides partially in Seattle, Wash., and Himachal Pradesh, India, where she teaches English as a second language.

Don Barlow '67, of Spokane, Wash., was elected to his first term in the Washington State House of Representatives from the Spokane-area sixth district. He also is serving as chair of the advisory council for the College of Education.



James J. England '68 was honored as the Idaho Veterinary Medical Association's Veterinarian of the Year in June at the Jackson Hole Veterinary Rendezvous in Jackson Hole, Wyo. He is a past president of the IVMA

and of the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians. England is professor of veterinary medicine at the University's Caine Veterinary Teaching Center in Caldwell.

Roy Truby '69 is senior vice president of state and federal programs for Renaissance Learning, Inc. Roy is responsible for increasing awareness of Renaissance Learning's computerized assessment products at state and federal levels.

1970

Michael C. Jessup '70 has, following his retirement, been elected as the vice president of the Greater Spokane Drum Corps Association. The drum corps they sponsor, The Spokane Thunder Drum & Bugle Corps, competed in the Drum Corps International World Championships in Pasadena, Calif.

Roxann M. Jensen '71 has retired after 32 years as an educator in Idaho. She taught learning disabled students in Bellevue, Hailey, and Idaho City before becoming a gifted and talented facilitator in the Meridian School District where she taught for 24 years. She is excited to explore the opportunities that retirement offers.

Sam Carroll '72 taught high school mathematics in the state of Queensland, Australia, from 1974 through 2006. He has since served as a volunteer tutor in Daly Waters, Northern Territory, Australia, and has started a full-time position at a private high school as finance manager.

Patricia Lee Johnson '72, '77 joined the Spokane law firm of Witherspoon, Kelly, Davenport & Toole as a partner after practicing law since graduation from the College of Law in 1977.

Elaine Ambrose '73 received a national bronze award in the humor category from Foreword Magazine during its national book competition. Elaine's humorous book is titled "The Red Tease - A Woman's Adventure in Golf." Elaine's next book "Menopause Sucks!" will be released nationally in 2008.



Jim Hall '73 has been director of the Boise Parks and Recreation Department since 1991. He received the

Dr. Leon Green Fellowship Award and recognized for "his many years of excellent and tireless work to advance the goals of parks and recreation services for the health and well-being of all citizens." The award is the Idaho Recreation and Park Association's highest honor.

Jim Sedore '73, '75 and his wife, Liz, were commissioned in June 2007 as missionaries to Mongolia. After 32 years with the Washington Department of Natural Resources, Jim will retire and work in reforestation in Mongolia for six to 10 years.

Lynn Johnson '74 has assumed the role of Regional Director for St. Luke's Idaho Elks Rehabilitation Services (SLIERS) in Ontario, Ore. Johnson is responsible for all therapy services provided in conjunction with SLIERS' contract at Holy Rosary Medical Center.



Gerry D. Galinato '75, principal energy specialist of the Idaho Department of Water Resources' Energy

Division in Boise, was honored and featured in the centennial book "CLSU Heroes of the Century" that recognizes the contributions of selected alumni achievers who have made significant contributions for the fame and glory of the Central Luzon State University in the Philippines. He also received the 2006 Gintong Butil (Golden Grain) Award for professional achievement and the 2006 Outstanding Engineering Alumni Achiever Award from CLSU. In May 2005, he received the Excellent Leadership Award for leading the most outstanding wind power working group in the nation from the U.S. Department of Energy and National Renewable Energy Laboratory.

Jerry Hume '75 retired from the U.S. Air Force in July 1992 after a 26-year career. He followed that with 13 years with the City of Lewiston, and retired as a building official in October 2006. He served on the board of directors of the Idaho Association of Building Officials for five years; two as its president.

Vicki Lynn Schildmeyer '75 recently took a position with the Presbytery of Missouri Union in Jefferson City. Previously, she was Director of Children's Ministry with Fayette Presbyterian Church, Fayetteville, Ga.

Alan Wittbecker '77, has written a new book called "Global Emergency Action."



Marc Chavez '78, '88 has joined Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Architects in Seattle, Wash., as a specifications

writer and associate partner. Previously, Marc worked at CollinsWoerman as a senior specifications writer and architect.



Air Force Lt. Col. Philip S. Defenbach '78 is pictured here with the Baghdad International Zone Palace Dining Facility director as they prepared to put up the Vandal banner in the dining facility sports room with the flags from other colleges and universities. Defenbach is the comptroller of the Joint Area Support Group Central, International Zone, Multi-National Force, in Iraq. He is responsible for a \$6.1 billion program that, in partnership with the Iraqi government, and Multi-National Force-Iraq, conducts full-spectrum counter-insurgency operations to isolate and neutralize former regime extremists and foreign terrorists, and

organizes, trains, and equips Iraqi forces in order to create an environment that permits Iraq's transition to an independent, democratically-elected government.

Jonathan Mueller '78 was inducted into the Council of Fellows of the American Society of Landscape Architects in October in San Francisco, Calif.

Daniel I. Schultz '78 was promoted to brigadier general in the Army Reserve in August. Schultz, a part-time citizen-warrior, assumes command of the 143rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) in Orlando, Fla. He will command a force of more than 9,000 located in seven states throughout the southeastern U.S. His command provides full spectrum logistics to combatant commanders. He oversees more than 100 Army Reserve units. Schultz received his officer commission from Idaho's ROTC program, and is a resident of Brandon, Fla.

Elise Huggins '79 was inducted into the Council of Fellows of the American Society of Landscape Architects in October in San Francisco, Calif.

Scott Tudehope '79 is a full-time instructor at ITT Technical College in San Bernardino, Calif., where he teaches English composition and economics. He also is a background actor and will appear in "Ugly Betty," "The Game" and possibly in a new Clint Eastwood movie.

1980

Howard B. Campbell '80 was promoted to professor of anthropology at the University of Texas-El Paso. He is the son of Howard E. Campbell, who was head of the Mathematics Department for many years.

Stanley L. Palmer III '82 has been promoted to senior associate at NBBJ Architects in Seattle, Wash. He has been with the firm since 1998.

Dave Wilde '82 has been hired in the dual role of field engineer and project manager at Blue Waters Technology, Inc.

Alumni

Molly Knoff Vaughn '83 is working as the office manager for Ochoa Foods, a potato processing company. Molly has two daughters, Stephanie, age 17, and Megan, 13, and two stepsons from her recent marriage. Both daughters plan to become Vandals after high school graduation.

Chris DeBord '85 started a construction company in Boston, Mass., in 2003 after 17 years in high customer care, technical training, sales, project implementation, and three years living in South America. He specializes in historical building renovation, re-defining and re-capturing interior space, and interior construction. He lives and has his office in Boston's South End in a 1880s building that he rehabbed in 1996.

Kathleen Dickerson '85, a teacher at Moscow Junior High School, has been named a Teacher of the Year by Wal-Mart stores. She received a \$1,000 grant for her school, a \$100 gift card to buy classroom supplies, a Teacher of the Year polo shirt, and a personalized certificate.

Steve Entzminger '85 has been hired as a senior electrical engineer by Telect, a designer, manufacturer and supplier of connectivity solutions for the communications networking industry.

Maureen Catherine Feeley '85 was awarded a doctoral degree in political science from the University of California in San Diego in 2006. Her dissertation was titled "Transnational Movements, Human Rights and Democracy; Legal, Mobilization Strategies and Majoritarian Constraints in Kenya, 1982-2002."

Nate Fisher '85, former executive director of the Idaho Council on Industry and the Environment and an adviser to Gov. Phil Batt, was appointed by Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter as administrator of the Governor's Office of Species Conservation. Fisher has been an environmental liaison for the Office of Species Conservation since June 2001, to coordinate federal Endangered Species

Act programs with state agencies and work to promote collaboration among state, federal and private stakeholders.

Charles Mikesell '85 and his wife, Evelyn, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 15, 2007. Their children hosted a celebration at the Amity United Methodist Church.

Mike Terrell '86 has been selected for promotion to captain in the Navy Reserve. He also has been selected to be the commanding officer of U.S. Fleet Forces Command Naval Cooperation and Guidance for Shipping Detachment Delta.

Licia Hillman '87 received her master's of technology in education degree from Lesley University in August 2007. She is a Level Two teacher of mathematics in Roswell, N.M.

Alane Olson '87 is the chief medical examiner at the Clark County Coroner's office in Las Vegas, Nev.

Alan Griffiths '88 is the ARD technical director and 726 branch head at the Acoustic Research Detachment in Bayview. Alan is responsible for overall direction of the activities being conducted at the facility, including test preparation and planning, financial management, infrastructure maintenance, as well as safety, security and environmental compliance.

Ronald D. Hillman '88 graduated cum laude from the University of New Mexico School of Law in May 2007. He has accepted a position with the Hinkle Law Firm in Roswell, N.M.

Bill LaMunyan '89 retired in June 2007 from the Garfield, Wash., School District after 36 years as an educator.

1990

Bonnie Barber '90 was awarded the Coeur d'Alene School District Middle School Educator of the Year award. She won the middle school award based, in part, on her technology integration. During her 16-year teaching career,

she has been an inspiration and resource to her peers by teaching university classes and presenting at national technology conferences.

Jennifer Parkins '90 has been elected to the Genesee school board. She also is working on a degree through the University of Idaho to teach high school biology.

Beverly Chambers '91 has been awarded the Coeur d'Alene School District High School Educator of the Year award. She is a tireless volunteer in the community, has served on numerous district and regional committees, and has helped initiate several teaching programs for at-risk students.

Melissa Fuentes-Dannenberg '91 was presented with a 2007 MVP Award in Orlando, Fla., for HP Services Americas, Operations and IT. She is based with Hewlett Packard in Boise. She resides in Eagle with her husband and three children: Lauren, Blake and Bryce.

Tammy Everts '91, Yakima, Wash., completed her master's of business administration degree from City University in June 2007. Everts is employed as marketing and development coordinator for New Vision, the Yakima County Development Association to promote economic development in the Yakima Valley.



Steve Kincheloe '91 was awarded the Boise Police Department's Medal of Valor for risking his life by

entering a burning building and saving a woman's life. He also has been nominated for the State of Idaho Medal of Honor Award for this incident. He is currently working an assignment as a juvenile detective and as a student resource officer in the Boise schools.

Gary Lester '92, CEO/president, and **Scott Lindstrom '93**, CFO/vice president of EcoAnalysts, a

company they started more than 12 years ago, have been awarded two contracts, worth up to \$1 million, by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to provide laboratory services for the National Lakes Survey Project. EcoAnalysts specializes in the identification of aquatic life forms, such as insects, fish, algae and plankton. These organisms are used as indicators of water quality in the nation's lakes.

Brian Oswald '92, professor of fire ecology, silviculture and range management at Stephen F. Austin State University since 1995, has been appointed to fill the Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture Lacy Hunt Distinguished Professorship in Forestry. Oswald previously was on the faculty at Alabama A&M University for three years. He was the 2002 recipient of the Society of American Foresters Carl A. Schenck Award for outstanding forestry education and the 2004 Mid-career Alumni Achievement Award from the University of Idaho's College of Natural Resources. Oswald is president of The Association for Fire Ecology, an organization of professionals dedicated to improving the knowledge and use of fire in land management through science and education.

Kenneth Carl Ames '93 earned his doctoral degree in geology from the University of Washington and is an associate professor of geology at the University of Delaware.

David Boie '93, electrical engineering graduate, has published a Platonic dialogue addressing "blind spots" within physics and scientific cosmology that is written from a perspective informed by Zen Buddhist practice as well as studies in Christian Mysticism.

Leslie Cossairt Hammer '93 moved to Walla Walla, Wash., to work at the Western Regional Office of the McGregor Company. Her duties include finding, training and retaining employees, as well as providing farm customers with information that could help them become more successful.



2007 Alumni Hall of Fame; left to right, President Tim White; Keith Riffle '62, '63; D. John Thornton '70, '73; Kirby Dyess '68; Sharlene Gage '64, '66 and Alumni Director Steve Johnson.

Coming home to Idaho

BY LESLIE EINHAUS

The rich and multi-layered student experience is a trademark at the University of Idaho. When alumni ponder their own time on campus, those layers from yesteryear spill forth like the ripples in the Idaho flag at game time.

During spring Commencement, the 2007 Hall of Fame recipients reminisced about the advantages of a residential campus; the quality of faculty mentors; the numerous fellow students who became lasting friends; and the campus community that felt like family.

"It's remarkable what this place has done for us – nurturing us to succeed," said Sharlene Gage '64, '66 of Detroit, Mich.

Gage was joined by fellow Hall of Fame inductees who, not surprisingly, became fast friends: Keith Riffle '62, '63 of McCall and Bellevue, Wash.; Kirby Dyess, '68 of Beaverton, Ore.; and D. John Thornton '70, '73 of Boise.

The Alumni Association Hall of Fame award recognizes graduates who have achieved distinction and displayed leadership on the national and/or international stage. The recipients agree that the University itself and the opportunities available made their success possible.

"The University of Idaho has an education that is unbeatable," Riffle said.

The supportive nature of the campus stood out to Dyess, whose father passed away during her college years. She credits

the people at Idaho – students, faculty and staff – for helping her during such a life-altering time. "I had so much support at the University of Idaho. The community got me to my degree," she said.

Glancing at Hall of Fame recipients of year's past, Dyess shook her head in amazement. The 30-year Intel executive immediately, and modestly, thought: "Why me?"

She wasn't alone. Gage, a long-time Ford Motor Company executive, said receiving such an accolade was "never on my radar."

Thornton and Riffle also were humbled by the award.

Thornton has developed a successful law, estate and wealth planning practice. Upon hearing the news, he felt a wave of "shock and surprise."

Riffle's reaction was similar. The owner and president of Northwest Satellite Network Investments admitted, "It blew me away." In fact, "It didn't register at first."

The best part about being named a Hall of Fame recipient may be the opportunity to return to one's alma mater – the starting point of success. In May, or any month of the year, it feels like coming home. "What a wonderful place to come back to," Riffle said.

Further information on Alumni Association awards is available at: www.idahovandals.com. The nomination deadline is August 1.



Dean (D.J.) Thompson '93 made his debut on the Golf Channel's reality show, "Fore Inventors Only" in July. His product

is the Z Factor Perfect Putting Machine. The show is a competition and the winner will be chosen by a vote, American Idol-style. He has sold about 1,000 machines in the last four years, including about 50 to PGA professionals.

Capt. Patrick L. Devine '94 is attending the chaplain officer basic course in Fort Jackson, S.C. He was commissioned in the Army through Idaho's ROTC program.

Keiko Yoshida Holton '96 is a program manager for Savannah, Ga.-based Gulfstream Aerospace Government Programs-Special Missions department, in charge of managing a flight test program for the National Science Foundation's High Altitude Platform for Environmental Research aircraft. She also is an assistant program manager for a German air and space agency's new research platform development and modification program.

Lloyd B. Knight '96 is a financial management analyst in the Division of Financial Management for the Executive Office of Idaho Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter. Knight previously was executive director of the Idaho Cattle Association.



Amy Michele Ridenour Little '96 is the executive director for the Greater Sandpoint Chamber of Commerce.

She lives with her husband, formal Vandal Mark Little, and their two children in the Sandpoint area.

Alumni

Gregory J. Iverson '97 has joined Apollo Group as vice president and corporate controller. Apollo Group is the parent company of the University of Phoenix, and offers educational programs and services from high school through college level at 263 locations worldwide, as well as online.

Michelle Marie Eaton '98 has earned her doctoral degree in philosophy from Kansas State University.

Vernon Harvey '98 has been awarded the Coeur d'Alene School District's Educator of the Year award and the Elementary Educator of the Year award. He will represent the Coeur d'Alene School District in the 2008 Idaho Teacher of the Year competition.

Joni Kirk '98, has been promoted to associate director of media relations at the University of Idaho. She has been with the University for two years, previously serving as media relations officer. In her new position, she is responsible for the University's day-to-day media relations activities.



Michelle Sonnenberg '98 was presented with the Boise Police Department's Officer of the Year award

for her excellent service to the community and the police department, and her involvement with the Make a Wish Foundation. She is assigned to the Neighborhood Contact Officer team that serves the specific law enforcement needs of different areas of the city of Boise.

Jessica Ann Bunch '99 is a small animal veterinarian practicing on Comano Island, Wash. Her husband, Mark Taschereau, is an EMT for Rural Metro.

To be profiled, mail information, including graduation year, to Annis Shea, Alumni Office, PO Box 443232, Moscow, ID 83844-3232 or e-mail information to alumni@uidaho.edu. Photos can be e-mailed in a .jpg format.



Joe McCarthy '99 was awarded the Boise Police Department's Medal of Valor for risking his life by entering a

burning building and saving a woman's life. He also has been nominated for the State of Idaho Medal of Honor Award for this incident. He works as a juvenile detective and student resource officer in the Boise schools.

Russell Schnitzer '99 was presented the EPA Environmental Achievement Award for taking extraordinary steps to clean up a polluting, abandoned mine site, helping to save a watershed and in the process, blaze a trail for other good Samaritans to follow.

Stacey Stemach '99 became a registered architect in Oregon in April 2007. He also is a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) accredited professional.

2000



Kendra Koontz Bizeau '01 has been teaching at Portland Christian School in Portland, Ore., since her graduation.

Luke Bizeau '01 is employed with Bonneville Power in Vancouver, Wash.



Capt. Andy Koontz '01 was promoted to Delta Company commander in April 2007, and serves in Al-Dora

region of Baghdad, Iraq. **Jody Podrabsky Koontz '01**, as the spouse of a Army Company commander, assumes the role of Family Readiness Group leader. She is responsible for communication with all the

families of deployed soldiers, as well as first point-of-contact for support. Jody and Andy have one son, Oakley, who is one year old.

Mathew Hall '02, '03 has self-published a book titled "Things to do Outside on the Palouse." The book covers biking, hiking, walking and paddling activities at public parks, trails and on Moscow Mountain.

Jonathan Parker '02 is the district director in Boise for Congressman Bill Sali.



Kristin Pond '02 works for Kieffer Design Group in Boise as an interior designer. She and her husband plan to honeymoon

to England and France.

Laura Ann Pierce Boerste '03 graduated from Oregon Health and Science University in June 2005 with a bachelor's degree in nursing. She married Michael John Boerste in July 2005 in Portland, Ore. They currently reside in Virginia where Laura is a registered nurse for the U.S. Navy.

Kent '03 and Annie Chalmers '03 both received master's degrees in instrumental conducting from American Band College at Southern Oregon University. Kent is the band director for the Cashmere School District and Annie is the band director for Cascade School District in central Washington.

Jeffrey Duplessis '03 is a senior reactor operator at the Advanced Test Reactor at Idaho National Laboratory.



Kyle E. Johnson '03 is a first lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps and is finishing his second combat tour

in Haditha, Iraq as a mobile assault platoon commander. He is stationed in Hawaii and plans on applying to medical school after the completion of his service commitment in November 2008.



Lynzie Poole '03 works for Lafayette, Colo.-based Design Concepts on planning and design support for parks and

schools, from master planning to construction documents. She previously worked at DTJ Design in Boulder, Colo., on large-scale community planning projects.



Jenny Anchondo '04 began her career as a producer and reporter at KNDU/KNDO-TV in the Tri-Cities

and Yakima, Wash. She now works for KOLD News in Tucson, Ariz., as a reporter for the weekday morning show "This Morning."

Kristen Anders-Garcia '04 has been teaching second grade at Fernley Elementary School in Fernley, Nev., for three years. She also is teaching adult English (ESL) classes to non-native speakers at the Adult High School.

Shannon Gabby '04, in her second year as a counselor, has been awarded the Coeur d'Alene School District Rookie award for her career counseling efforts for Project CDA Alternative School.

Nate Meyers '04 developed a project in his Illinois school that required students to build a full-size mini golf course in the school's gymnasium over a three-week period. His project earned a "School to Watch Award," presented to the best schools in Illinois. Following the completion of the project, Meyers received a \$5,000 National Education Grant that he plans to use for continued support of the project.

Ryan Montgomery '04 is working for SuperValu in Boise as an accounting clerk. He and his wife plan to honeymoon to England and France.

Justin Weathermon '04 has joined the land development team of W&H Pacific as a landscape architect-in-training. He will work with the company's engineers and planners on their commercial, residential and resort projects.

Laura Zahm '04 is a science teacher at Clackamas High School. She previously taught for three years at Reno High School in Reno, Nev.

Jenny Breier '06 has joined Johnna Johnson & Co., a motivational speaking and training company in Boise. She will focus on enhancing internal operations and systems at the company as they plan a large expansion early next year.

Jeff Mitchell '06 has been hired as a project engineer in DCI Engineers' structural division.

Pamela Rogers '06 has been accepted into the Peace Corps in Lesotho, South Africa, to work with nutrition education programs designed for households that are headed by children orphaned by HIV/AIDS.

Allison Rolig '06 accepted a position with Albertsons in the treasury department.

Timothy E. Sprano '06 has joined the faculty of Francis Marion University as an assistant professor of mathematics.

Adrienne Boland '07 climbed Steven's Peak in May with 10 other members from the University of Idaho Women's Center and the Outdoor Program mountaineering class.

Jennifer E. Canfield '07 has accepted a position with Judge Stephen S. Trott of the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in Boise.

Dirk Hendricks '07 has been hired as a project engineer in DCI Engineers' structural division.

Brenda K. Kotewa '07 moved to Moscow to work for the University of Idaho after two years with the Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.

Christopher Tockey '07 is currently working on his master's degree in mechanical engineering.



Vandal Pride in Ada and Canyon Counties

There are more than 15,000 Idaho alumni in the Treasure Valley, and the Ada County and Canyon County alumni chapters offer events year-round for Vandal alumni and friends of all ages to meet and keep in contact with their University. Here are some popular alumni events.

Ada County events

- Vandal Night with the Idaho Steelheads – early spring
- Silver and Gold alumni award reception – Spring
- Vandal Picnic in Boise city park – mid-June
- Vandal Night with the Boise Hawks baseball – July
- Thirsty Thursday no-host socials – July-September
- Football televised game watch parties at SportZone in Qwest Arena – fall
- Vandal Night at Shakespeare – September
- Festival of Trees – November
- Ada County Alumni Chapter leaders are Kelly Wood '83 and Jody Hinton '83.

Canyon County events

- Silver and Gold social – winter
- Wine tasting at Carmela Winery in Glens Ferry with the Magic Valley alumni chapter – November
- High school send-off for recent high school graduates attending the University of Idaho – summer
- The Canyon County Alumni Chapter leader is Truman Kohtz '67, '70.

Also active volunteer alumni leadership in Treasure Valley include alumni association national directors **Jim Dickinson '77, '81**, **Kristen Ruffing '93**, **Lou Aldecoa '76** and **Tom Limbaugh '79**.

Visit www.idahovandals.com for more information on these events, or contact Sandy Larsen at the University of Idaho Boise Alumni Office, 364-4030, sandy@uidaho.edu.

Alumni



ACHABAL



BAKER



BERGESON



BIZEAU



BOOTH



CASEY



CHAMBERS



ELLIOTT



ERWIN



GARCIA



HANSEN



HARDY



HOLT



HOLTON



HOOKER



HUETTIG



HUFNAGEL



JOHNSON



KOONTZ



MARONE



MCGUIRE



MIDDLETON



MILLER



STEBBINS



THOMPSON



VORE



WARR



WISE



ZEIDLHACK



ZIMOWSKY

Future Vandals

Ava Laurén, daughter of Steve '97 and Carmen Mendez '95 Achabal

Aubrey Reese, daughter of Josh and Janelle Baillie '01, '03 Baker

Makenzie Renee, daughter of Rick and Angela Hill '01 Baldwin

Valerie and Amanda, daughters of Loren and Kristin McKie '82 Bergeson

Levi Elwood, son of Luke '01 and Kendra Koontz '01 Bizeau, grandson of Dave Bizeau '71, and great-grandson of Elwood Bizeau '51

Tucker Owen and Katie Jo, children of Chad and Jodi Tucker '98 Booth

Carson Joseph, son of Brian '00 and Barbara Casey

Caedie Isabel, daughter of Curtis '02 and Cameo Nelson '00 Chambers

Brenna Grace, daughter of Bryan and Kathryn "Katie" G. Cooke '98 Elliott

Wyatt Wesley, son of Wes and Debby Mikesell '96 Erwin

Trinity Rain Garcia-Anders, daughter of Bayron and Kristen Anders '04 Garcia

Lauren Elizabeth, daughter of Colby '01 and Tami Hahn '01 Hansen

Joshua Brady, son of Brian D. '95, '99 and Jennifer Huettig '95, '98 Hardy

Sabrina and Sophia, daughters of Sarah and Jared Holt; granddaughters of Russell '80 and Kathleen '69 Joki

Henry, son of Dan and Keiko Yoshida '96 Holton

Bryson Thomas and Rielyn Ruby, children of Will and Jenny Neville '02 Hooker

Alexia Marie, daughter of Brian J. '00 and Andrea Huettig Thompson

Nicholas Owen Joseph Hufnagel, son of Karl Hufnagel '68 and Julie Vorhes

Kyle Russell, son of Eric '97 and Leah Smith '95, '96 Johnson

Oakley, son of Andy '01 and Jody Podrabsky '01 Koontz

Jackson August, son of John and Rachel Lambacher '99 Marone

Dabne Flynn and Dempsey Clare, daughters of Michael and Shaley Denler '95 McGuire

Sierra Alexis, daughter of Al '95, '01 and Christina Carlson '97 Middleton

Preston Bennett, son of Craig Miller '00 and Amanda Felts '01 Miller

Audrey Ann Page, daughter of Jordan '06 and Noelle Graybeal '05 Stebbins

Audrey Elizabeth, daughter of Luke '03, '05 and Stephanie Thompson

Madeleine Elise, daughter of Seth '98 and Jennifer Odle '99 Vore, granddaughter of Professor Marla Kraut, Department of Accounting

Jack, Lily, and Riley, children of Brad '97 and Alicia Larson '95 Warr

Elliott John, son of Tyson John '04 and Janelle Agnes Bettis '04 Wise

Madelyn Ann, daughter of Dennis and Tamera Leigh Cann '92 Zeidlhack, granddaughter of Jerry '71 and Sandra Everett '90, '95 Cann

Maxwell Jamison, son of James '93 and Jenni Zimowsky

Marriages

Jessica Lynn Anderson '02 to Jeffrey Roy Emtman

Brandi Ellen Dawn Appleford to Kolten Henry Kock '04

Julie Balch '94 to Jason Ellis Kimberly Ann Bielenberg '96 to David Joseph Jackson '93

Jessica Ann Bunch '99 to Mark J. Taschereau

Jennifer Butler '01 to Matt Cambier '00

Salva Cangelosi to Dallas Palmer '07

Briana Eckles '03 to Greg Cortaberrria

Mary Richelle Hanft '04 to Seth Thomas Godwin '02

Christine Marie Haugen to Daniel Jacob Hardy '05

Laura L. Heady '00 to Noah C. Nesbitt

Ashley Holley to Christopher Nau '05

Catie Holm '02 to William Wardwell



Christina Jensen '04, '06, '07 to Jacob Ray Cahill '04

Boonnum Kheawpinetong to Larry Jeppesen '60

Tai Koehler to Tony Louis Crawford '06

Molly Knoff '83 to Greg Vaughn

Annie Lawhead '06 to Kyle Buchanan

Julia Marcum to William Lee Hart IV '94

Michaela McGuire '04 to Jeff Sager '05

Summer Rae Miles '03 to Vu Hoai Da Tran

Jenna Osiensky '07 to Brett Rode

Laura Ann Pierce '03 to Michael John Boerste

Kristin Pond '02 to Ryan Montgomery '04

Allison Pope '05 to Scott Kaptein '07

Joyce Ellen Rudeen '03 to Phillip John Arpke '04, '07

Abbie Lynn Severa '03 to Matthew Michael Quesnell '97

Chelsea Sherman '07 to Jake Leachman '05

Angie Spears '06 to Adam Mattison '06

Julie Ann Walmsley to Brian Matthew Bieda '98

Michelle Ward '02 to Eric Miller

Diana Warrington '03 to Patrick Haglund '04

Heidi Waterkotte to Joe Cook '04

In Memory

1920

Kathryn H. Taylor '29, Laguna Woods, Calif., Sept., 2006

1930

Beulah K. Archer '31, Twin Falls, Sept. 5, 2007

Sam Bida '39, Ely, Nev., Aug. 29, 2007

Eugene W. Bowman '36, '37, Ashland, Ore., Aug. 10, 2007

Elizabeth T. Coffin Ferebauer '39, Boise, Sept. 15, 2007

Mildred Fraley '36, Spokane, Wash., June 11, 2007

Dorothy I. Dewey Hereth '32, Clarkston, Wash., Aug. 14, 2007

Harold Kirkpatrick '38, Colfax, Wash., June 3, 2007

Alma Hodson Koster '37, Moscow, July 6, 2007

Eldred Lee '35, Grant, Sept. 10, 2007

Ella Loretta Smith Passic '39, Federal Way, Wash., Aug. 28, 2007

Dorothy R. Peterson '36, Boise, June 29, 2007

James B. Phipps Sr. '38, Hayward, Calif., Aug. 5, 2007

Frank C. Piper '39, Baker City, Ore., June 1, 2007

Mildred L. Sanborn '37, Sacramento Calif., Dec. 12, 2006

Dale Leroy Schubert '38, '49, Tacoma, Wash., Sept. 3, 2007

Donald R. Thomas '36, Albuquerque, N.M., Sept. 2, 2007

Alice B. Tubby '36, San Marcos, Calif., July 20, 2006

Mary K. Woodward '38, Payette, June 16, 2007

Correction:
Don J. Linehan '37 Genesee, May 13, 2007 was incorrectly listed in the previous issue as Lineham.

1940

Keith Bing '49, Diamond Head, Miss., July 30, 2007

Beverly Brainard Austin '43, Spokane, Wash., June 25, 2007

A.G. "Gil" Camm '49, Kellogg, June 7, 2007

James William Chaney '49, Walnut Creek, Calif., Aug. 15, 2005

Howard V. Copenhaver '48, '49, Moses Lake, Wash., July 30, 2007

BG John O. Gray '41, Arlington, Va., July 22, 2007

Betty Lue Rankin Grover '49, St. Anthony, July 30, 2007

Roy E. Grush '48, Vancouver, Wash., June 2, 2007

Frances Roberta Sanborn Hopper '44, Austin, Texas, Sept. 8, 2007

Earl V. Horning '49, Othello, Wash., Aug. 5, 2007

John Kantola '42, Donnelly, Sept. 20, 2007

Hugh Kirkpatrick '42, Mukilteo, Wash., Sept. 20, 2007

Anton Clarence Kramer '48, Shelter Bay, Wash., Sept. 29, 2007

Virginia Barrows Loftin '46, Los Altos, Calif., Aug. 13, 2007

Maude Long '46, '80, Moscow, June 22, 2007

Ruth Marie Rhoads Macy '43, Culver, Ore., March 2, 2006

Ralph C. Miller '41, Lakewood, Calif., Oct. 10, 2006

Virginia G. Moore '40, Wilmette, Ill., May 29, 2007

William G. Mouat '44, Billings, Mont., Aug. 10, 2007

Helen Eleanor Lindsay Nelson '40, Pocatello, Sept. 17, 2007

Pauline Brady Norberg '40, Lewiston, July 31, 2007

John S. Retherford '40, Sun City, Ariz., April 13, 2007

William L. Sahlberg '47, King City, Ore., July 5, 2007

Burton Schmidt '43, Lewiston, Aug. 14, 2007

Melvin L. Smith '49, Ammon, Aug. 29, 2007

Melvin C. Snow '47, Spokane, Wash., Aug. 24, 2007

Charles S. Thomason '88, Craigmont, June 30, 2007

Wade A. Titus '45, Emmett, Aug. 2, 2007

Wallace Boyce Webster '41, Bakersfield, Calif., July 10, 2007

Ferdinand Fred Wetter '42, Coeur d'Alene, Sept. 19, 2007

Floyd F. Young '49, Port Angeles, Wash., July 6, 2007

Joanne Hunter Young '45, Meridian, Aug. 29, 2007

1950

Carroll Anderson '58, Bellevue, Wash., June 19, 2007

Harold R. Baer '56, Lewiston, Aug. 29, 2007

Arnold T. Beebe '50, St. George, Utah, Aug. 12, 2007

Stephen L. Brunson '50, Idaho Falls, Sept. 15, 2007

Duncan A. Cameron '51, Dixon, Calif., April 23, 2007

Herbert F. Chaffee '55, Boise, Sept. 1, 2007

Jack C. Chugg '53, '61, Tucson, Ariz., Aug. 29, 2007

James H. Clayton '56, Lewiston, Aug. 30, 2007

Wendell P. Coombs '54, Sun City, Calif., Jan. 1, 2007

Gordon William Cordes '52, Sandpoint, July 24, 2007

Jack B. Elliott '52, Nampa, Aug. 26, 2007

Alumni

*In Memory continued
from page 31*

Thomas W. Feeney '50,
Lewiston, Feb. 21, 2007

Dolores A. Espeland Fuller '54, Lake Havasu City, Ariz.,
July 2, 2007

Bernel R. Fullmer '50, Malibu,
Calif., July 2, 2007

Grant W. Gillette '54, Twin
Falls, Aug. 15, 2007

Paul B. Hayes '50, South Bay,
Calif., Sept. 4, 2007

Hallie Ann Miller Hibbs '59,
Spokane, Wash., June 26, 2007

Bette J. West Holmes '50, Las
Vegas, Nev., Aug. 22, 2007

William H. Hutchinson '59,
Ft. Myers, Fla., Aug. 30, 2007

Graham R. Knox '58, Hood
River, Ore., June 24, 2007

**Clifford Sherman McConville
Jr. '59**, Fallbrook, Calif., June
11, 2007

Donald E. McMahan '51,
Riggins, May 3, 2007

Rae Salisbury Mills '52,
Vancouver, Wash., April 21,
2007

Robert H. Moll '53, Raleigh,
N.C., Sept. 19, 2007

Robert L. Myers '54, Diboll,
Texas, March 24, 2007

John Thomas Nicholas Jr. '55,
'58, Vancouver, Wash., July
14, 2007

Orville H. Roberts '52, Boise,
Aug. 10, 2007

John C. Sheeley '50, '51,
Hermiston, Ore., July 31,
2007

**Phyllis Lou McAlexander
Sheppard '59**, Coeur d'Alene,
July 17, 2007

**Jane Elizabeth Jenkins Stern
'54**, Redmond, Wash., Sept.
12, 2007

Al "Port" J. Wagner Jr. '51,
Grangeville, July 10, 2007

Charles E. Williams '54, '56,
Meridian, June 7, 2007

Don R. Zaring '53, Ogden,
Utah, Aug. 21, 2007

1960

Richard T. Baker '64, Spokane,
Wash., June 24, 2007

Marvin L. Bingham '69,
Rupert, June 9, 2007

Helen F. Bundy '65, Lewiston,
June 8, 2007

John D. 'Jack' Cook '64,
Keokuk, Iowa, June 17, 2007

George C. Van Deusen '62,
'63, Port Angeles, Wash., Aug.
13, 2007

Wallace P. Earle '66, Phoenix,
Ariz., March 2, 2007

Benson Ellis '61, San Rafael,
Calif., July 12, 2007

Roger D. Emmen '69, '77,
Torrance, Calif., July 27, 2007

Diann Nordby Haslett '61,
Sunset Beach, Calif., Aug. 7,
2007

Sandy Banks Kimball '65,
Walla Walla, Wash., April 28,
2007

John Mincks '65, Portland,
Ore., June 27, 2007

Kaye M. Moomaugh '66,
Bajamar, Mexico, June 2, 2007

James Charles Norton '60,
Garland, Texas, June 12, 2007

Robert "Dale" Selle '61,
Colville, Wash., June 30, 2007

Michael J. Smith '66, San
Diego, Calif., March 9, 2007

Nancy E. Vosika '63, Idaho
Falls, June 4, 2007

Kristian L. Wales '65, Spokane
Valley, Wash., Aug. 12, 2007

Shelby E. Williams '60, Buhl,
June 15, 2007

Marjorie V. Peden Willis '61,
Riggins, July 4, 2007

1970

Ronald Neil Bauer '77, Troy,
July 16, 2007

Gary R. Crum '77, Spokane,
Wash., Aug. 13, 2007

**Debra Ann Skrederstu Davis
'79**, Boulder, Colo., Sept. 28,
2006

Elizabeth A. Gordon '72,
Colfax, Wash., July 19, 2007

Rick L. Hanna '78, Boise, July
16, 2007

David A. Hash '71, Moscow,
Sept. 20, 2007

Iver Brian Iverson '70, Boise,
July 13, 2007

Steven N. Jurey '76, Olongapo
City, Philippines, June 11,
2007

**Janice M. Christman Metz
'76**, Troy, Mont., Aug. 29,
2007

Thomas James Parkinson '79,
Lewiston, Sept. 15, 2007

Ronald L. Strand '72, Burley,
June 26, 2007

Lisa M. Villano '79, Boise,
June 27, 2007

Mary E. Welsh '75, Moscow,
June 17, 2007

Douglas John Westhoff '79,
Green creek, Sept. 18, 2007

1980

David W. Trail '98, Genesee,
Aug. 23, 2007

Marlene Tierney Triplett '93,
Lewiston, Aug. 16, 2007

Patricia R. Ruggio '01,
Moscow, Dec. 26, 2006

2008 Alumni Award Recipients

Alumni Hall of Fame

*Recognizes living alumni who
have achieved national or international
distinction by their accomplishments
and leadership.*

Dr. Todd Kuiken '82, Chicago, Ill.
Otis Livingston '91, New York, N.Y.
Dayaldas T. Meshri '68, Tulsa, Okla.

Silver and Gold Award

*Recognizes living alumni who have
a distinguished record of achievement
and/or service in their specialized
areas of endeavor.*

Daniel Alsaker '72, Spokane, Wash.
Dennis Johnson '79, Boise
Wellington "Skip" '53 and Bee Pierce, Boise
Wayne Thiessen '62, Boise

Jim Lyle Award

*Recognizes living individual who has shown
long-term dedication and/or service to the
Alumni Association through volunteerism.*

Dennis Faucher '60,
Philadelphia, Pa.
Brina Hill '65, Portland, Ore.
Dr. Herald Nokes '50, McCall



Idaho Outlook

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO | FINANCIAL AND ESTATE PLANNING NEWS | WINTER 2008



Dear Friends of Idaho

With this issue of Idaho Outlook we announce a change of leadership in Gift Planning Services. Pete Volk took over as director of gift planning in early August. Pete comes to Idaho by way of Washington State University, where he was on the planned giving team for the past 10 years. Pete is a graduate of WSU and of Idaho's College of Law, and brings a wealth of experience and background to this key position.

Ed McBride has taken on some additional administrative responsibilities in the Development arena at the University. He will continue to work with donors and prospective donors, especially those interested in planned gifts, but on a reduced level.

Heidi Linehan has recently replaced her planned giving hat with two new ones: Operation Education and the Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival. Heidi has made some wonderful friends and acquaintances in her five years with Gift Planning Services, and hopes to continue to have opportunities to interact with those people in her new roles. Both Ed and Heidi agree as they pass the gift planning baton to Pete: our many generous supporters will continue to be in good hands.

In this issue of Idaho Outlook, you will find several articles about students who are receiving scholarship assistance as a direct result of the vision and generosity of the University's alumni and friends. We think you will find them inspirational, uplifting and profound.

As a closing note, we are looking at some possible major changes to Idaho Outlook beginning with the next issue. If Idaho Outlook remains a part of "Here We Have Idaho," its stories and articles will take on a broader appeal, and those focusing strictly on planned giving will be conveyed in direct mailing pieces. If you have an opinion you'd like to share about this, please call, write or e-mail Pete. He wants to ensure that you continue to be well served by Planned Giving Services. See his contact information on page 8.

Sincerely,
Gift Planning Services

Pete Volk
Pete Volk
Director

Ed McBride
Ed McBride
Senior Development Director

Heidi Linehan
Heidi Linehan
Director of Development



"No problem can be solved by the same consciousness that created it. We need to see the world anew."

—Albert Einstein

This quotation is particularly important for society today. The complex problems we all have played a hand in creating, all-be-it with the best intentions, need to be solved by young minds who can take a fresh look at the situation.

The bright, young men and women at the University of Idaho represent our hope that the world can be seen anew. They are the next generation of problem solvers. If their accomplishments in the classroom, the laboratories and in the community are any indication, our future is bright and in capable hands.

The chance to learn and grow, as you have done, is not always available to the best and brightest students. The cost of higher education can be an overwhelming obstacle for some families. That is why scholarships are so important, and scholarship support is one important way you can make a significant contribution to our university's future. It is through your unmatched generosity that the students highlighted in this edition of Idaho Outlook have been able to attend our fine institution.

So, on that hopeful note, please take a moment and read the stories of the people who have received a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to attend the University of Idaho, and the people who have made that dream a reality through gifts that support scholarships.



Andrea Neahusan

This year's Laurie Laird Memorial Scholarship recipient is not your traditional student. Senior **Andrea Neahusan** decided to attend the University as a landscape architecture student three years ago while her husband was attending the law school.

Andrea's experience here at the University of Idaho has resulted in success beyond her expectations. The scholarship is a great financial assistance and she is extremely grateful. Andrea further stated, "More than the monetary award, the honor of just being noticed for my efforts was really appreciated."

As a landscape architecture major on the beautiful University of Idaho campus, Andrea has exposure to scenery some only see in picture books. When asked of her favorite aspect of the University's campus, she enthusiastically said the Camperdown Elm trees. Other equally important elements include the small class sizes and the practical experience she has gained through her public presentations to propose solutions to a variety of real-life design problems.

Her education here at the University of Idaho has been a very positive and eye-opening experience for her. When asked what she would say to her benefactors she said, "Thank you from the bottom of my heart! Especially when I think that [you] help in this way every year to a deserving student, it is very touching. It is a very generous way to give back to the community. Thank you again."

Laurie Laird Memorial Scholarship
Barbara Laird and Allan Laird Jr.

Esther Ngumbi was raised in a small, rural village called Mabafweni in the Kwale District of Coast Province in Kenya. "In this community, there were no role models to look up to. Without the encouragement of my family, coupled with hard work, higher education would not have been possible," she said.

Ngumbi has high goals that she set for herself and wants to be the first girl from her community to obtain a doctoral degree. "I plan on being a role model to many girls who have no one to look up to for encouragement," she said.

"To Dr. Gene and Marlene Easton, I want to say thank you from my heart! Your scholarship funding and support will help me concentrate on my research and produce excellent results and publications. Your kindness further encourages me to later in life start a scholarship fund to assist needy students. May God bless you richly and be with you as you age!"

Gene and Marlene Easton PSES Scholarship
Dr. Gene P. Easton and Marlene A. Easton



Esther Ngumbi



Nathan Arnold

Nathan Arnold, a non-traditional student, juggles being a full-time student with being a full-time family man.

"I appreciate the scholarship that I receive because it enables me to spend more time with my family when not focusing on my studies, instead of worrying about working to support them.

"There are many things that I enjoy about the University of Idaho. One is the School of Music, particularly because it has a feeling of family, and I like that.

"If there is one thing to say to the donor that provided my scholarship it is, thank you. Know that you are enabling me to be successful in my studies and you are helping to propel me in the right direction for my future music career."

Jones Family Music Scholarship
Deloris D. Jones and John W. Jones Jr.

The combined aid of the Harriet Shrontz Scholarship, the Liberace Scholarship and the Westerlund Scholarship has allowed **Robert Harder**, an art and design major, the flexibility to concentrate on the academic aspects of his education and worry less about the financial burden.

"The one thing I love about the University of Idaho is the sense of community. Not only are the faculty and staff readily accessible, but you can drop in on classes or walk through studios and talk to students, attend lectures or gallery openings and mingle with professionals from any number of backgrounds."

To those who provided the scholarships he receives, he said, "I thank you for your support. I believe that education is the most important thing that we can pass on to other people. It broadens horizons and creates opportunity while promoting understanding and cooperation. The world needs more of all these things and I encourage you to continue to fund scholarships."

Harriet Shrontz Art and Design Scholarship
Harriet A. Shrontz

Liberace Foundation Scholarship
Myron G. Martin, Executive Director,
The Liberace Foundation

Arnold Westerlund Memorial Scholarship
Donna El-Din and Sylvia Henderson
in honor of Arnold Westerlund



Robert Harder



Lindsey Simon

Lindsey Simon, a Boise native, came to the University of Idaho to pursue a degree in law. The Hall Farley Law Scholarship enables her to lessen the financial burdens and allows her to have the freedom to pursue a field of law of her choice immediately upon graduation.

“The community atmosphere at the College of Law is something that I really value, and I think that it exists in part because of the small-campus feel at both the College of Law and the University in general. We are often told at the law school that the Idaho legal community is more tight-knit than what would be found in other states, and that practicing law in Idaho is a positive experience because of it. So, in a sense, it is nice to know that the close relationships that are developed at the University will carry on throughout my legal career.”

Simon’s own words of appreciation to the donor who provided her scholarship are: “I would thank them primarily for allowing me the opportunity to go through law school with an attitude completely open to finding the area of law that is best suited for me, without worrying about whether or not such a career will enable me to pay off my school loans. That freedom to choose my own path is something that I can’t put a price on, and something for which I will be eternally grateful!”

Hall Farley Oberrecht & Blanton College of Law Scholarship
The Law Firm of Hall Farley Oberrecht & Blanton P.A.



Allix Lee-Painter

This All-American earned three all-state honors and two district cross country titles at Moscow High School. She also was the 2002 recipient of the Idaho State Citizenship Award.

Now, **Allix Lee-Painter** is majoring in education at the University of Idaho. The scholarship assistance she receives dramatically affects her ability to attend the University.

“The atmosphere of both the school and most significantly, for me, the athletic program, makes this one of the best decisions I have ever made, and it’s been a dream come true!” Lee-Painter exclaimed. “I want to personally thank those who created the Armstrong Scholarship and my Athletic Scholarship. You have made a HUGE impact and I couldn’t be here doing all that I am doing without your help. I’ll never forget that. Thanks for helping me make my dreams become a reality!”

Terry Armstrong Teacher Education Scholarship
Department of Teaching, Learning and Leadership
in honor of Terry R. Armstrong
Skip and Bee Pierce Athletes in Science
Scholarship Fund and Endowment
Wellington C. “Skip” Pierce and Berniece B. “Bee” Pierce

There are approximately 1,200 students enrolled in the College of Business and Economics. One of those is **Yawa “Agnes” Koffi**. Koffi comes to the Pacific Northwest as an international student from Togo, West Africa, and now is a permanent resident of the United States.

But, in order for her to become a student at the University of Idaho, she needed to obtain financial assistance. She struggled to find a scholarship, but then consulted with the assistant dean of the College of Business and Economics and found the Boeing Company Scholarship.

“I was so happy that tears came onto my eyes,” exclaimed Koffi. “I was hopeless and felt like all my effort to have a higher education were gone. Now, I have this open door from the Boeing Company that I’m pleased about. I want to say thank you very much to the Boeing Company and Mr. Dean Cooper, the manager of Higher Education Relations, for the generous assistance that supports my education.

“This scholarship enhances my ability to study, to get my bachelor’s degree in finance in May 2008 and to pursue my goal, which is to get a master’s degree in accounting. I personally and sincerely appreciate the Boeing Company’s involvement in education with the College of Business and Economics.”



Yawa “Agnes” Koffi

Boeing Company College of Business and Economics Scholarship
Dean E. Cooper, The Boeing Company

The students featured here and the people who gave of their estate to support their educational dreams are as varied as snowflakes; no one story or estate situation is the same. But, they all have one common theme – a desire for the students to learn and serve the future of society, supported by the willingness of people to give and to define their lives by leaving a legacy that will endure forever.

Your gift can take multiple forms and I can help you address a variety of personal financial goals. Do you want to make a significant gift during your lifetime or would a gift as part of your estate work better? Do you have a particular asset that you are thinking of donating? Do you want to increase your retirement income or is your primary goal estate preservation? Are you carrying excess life insurance or a large balance in your retirement plan? These are just a few questions to ask yourself.

I am ready to work with you and your advisers to craft the gift plan that satisfies your needs.

On the following pages are the latest names of the people who have supported the University of Idaho through an estate-planning gift. While the method of their estate giving is varied, please take a moment and look over the chart following the list of Heritage Society members. It gives a brief summary outline of the various methods of giving available and I invite you to give me a call if you should have any questions.

Pete Volk, Director of Gift Planning Services



Heritage Society – FY07

The Heritage Society was founded in 1993 to recognize alumni and friends of the University of Idaho who have made a future commitment through planned gifts to support the strategic initiatives and goals of the university; student scholarships, faculty enhancements, classroom facilities and technology advancements.

J. Robert and Sonja J. Alexander
Richard W. and Sharon L. Allen
Leona Ambrose
Ethel K. Anderson
Michael M. and Jeannie Anderson
Phillip D. and Janell K. Anderson
John Lee Armitage
Clen P. and Emma L. Atchley
Steven A. and Patsy M. Atkinson
James H. Austin
John M. and Lois E. Ayers
B. Bernice Bacharach
Evalyn I. Baker
John A. and Cecilia Baldus
William P. Barnes
Bart M. and Elna M. Barton
June Bauer
Maxine C. Behrman
Bill S. and Donna G. Belknap
Melinda Ann Belt
J. Burton Berlin
Charles A. Berry
Edith Betts
Harvey T. and Myrna Bickett
Thomas E. and
Caroline M. Bitterwolf
Linda L. Blackwelder-Pall
Clara R. Bleak
Edward and Barbara Bickford
Calvin W. and Doris Boice
Roy A. Bowman, Jr.
Michael L. Bozzini
Ben L. and Annette Brooks
James B. and Shellie A. Bronson
Mark W. Brown
Frederic H. Burrow
Billy and Margery A. Bush
William D. Butler
E. Jack Byrne
Laila N. Carson
John S. Chapman
Arthur W. Chiko
Richard M. Childs, Jr.
Charles O. and
Caroline E. Christenson
Russell L. Chrysler
Dave C. and Lisa M. Churchman
Kathy D. Clark
James E. Clovis
Gregory C. and Melissa L. Coman
Elwood E. and Dorothy E. Cone
Mary Jean Craig
Robert L. Culbertson
Alan B. and Mary Ann Curtis
Robert R. and Lynn M. Curtis
Robert L. and Carol E. Dahlberg
Glen W. and Bonnie J. Dahmen
Paul W. and Dorothy J. Dale
Richard H., Jr. and Cindy L. Darnell
Brenda G. Dau
Madeline David
P. Michael and Linda S. Davidson

Emily P. Davis
Martha I. Davis
James A. and Alice B. DeShazer
Sandra D. Dunn
Xavier E. Durant
Ruth Parks Durham
Gene D. and Marlene A. Easton
Thomas L. and Helen J. Edmark
Dorothy Ann Effertz
Karen I. Elder
Valerie R. Elliott
Roy J. and Frances Tovey Ellsworth
Matthew J. and Lori S. Espe
Maryon E. Evans
Richard E. and
M. Eleanor Fahrwald
Virginia A. Farrell
Robert M. Finlayson
Bonnie J. Fisher
Melville W. Fisher II
John O. and June Fitzgerald
Frank L., Jr. and Peggy Fletcher
Ronald W. and Jo Ellen Force
Bonnie Kuehl Ford
Meta Foster
Eloise Frank
Richard E. Fredekind
Robert E. and Carolyn A. Gaddis
Sharlene F. Gage
Matthew J. and Janna R. Galbraith
Clinton J. and Eleanor R. Gardner
Thomas R. and Bette J. Gates
Jerald D. and Lois M. Gentry
Alfred E. Giese
Paul S. Giles
Florence W. Gillette
Larry L. Goins
Harold E. Granlund
Ronald N. and
Diane Plastino Graves
Robert C. Greeley
Nancy Gregory
Robert M. and Dolores A. Griffith
Charles D. and Judith A. Gross
Timothy D. and Joan M. Gutzwiller
Garth D. Haddock
Timothy J. and Christine M. Haener
Glenna Hamilton
Gail E. Hanninen
Lucille M. Hardgrove
Pauline W. Harris
Michael B. Harrison
Norbert and
Eileen Potucek Hartmann
Miriam Hatch
F. Marshall and Sharon A. Hauck
David H. and Bonnie J. Hawk
Jack W. and Julie Holden Hawkins
James V. and Gail R. Hawkins
Mary Jane Hayes
Harold F. Heady
Eloise B. Helbling

Thomas M. and Alice E. Hennessey
Betty Jane Hervey
Frances W. Hirschi
Melva Hoffman
Dennis T. and Sharon L. Hopwood
Larry G. and Nancy K. Huettig
Bonnie J. Hultstrand
Arthur E. and Sheila D. Humphrey
Pauline D. Hunt
Nancy B. Hutchins
J. Robert and Bonnie J. Jackson
Richard W. and Trudy J. Jackson
Ruth W. Jensen
Erling J. and Amy L. Johannesen
Alan B. and Kyle-Jean John
Myron E. Johnston, Jr.
Kenneth M. and Jan Jones
Robert T. and E. Jean Jones
Roger L. Jones
Richard A. and Jill H. Jurvelin
Marion G. Kalbus
Thomas A. and Lillian Keegan
Norman D. Kimball
Taso C. Kinnas
John M. Kirtland
Barbara L. Kitchens
George M. Klein
Ruth Ann Knapp
Lawrence L. and Kathryn A. Knight
Barbara J. Langdon
Carol Ann and Jerry Lange
Margaret Larson
Elsie E. Lathen
Richard K. Lehlbach
Duane J. and Phyllis LeTourneau
J. Bradley and Jennifer Lee Lewis
Edward G. and Susan Kay Lieser
Grete Lindeborg
Gregory D. and Heidi C. Linehan
Randall G. and Jo Ann Litton
Marjorie Logue
Gregory W. and Pamela Lynch
Maurice B. and Alice J. Lynch
George and Mary Ann Macinko
W. Don Mackin and
Elisabeth A. Zinser
Gene C. and Lila M. Maier
Scott L. and Maria G. Mallory
Martin J. and Linda A. Marler
Kenneth B. and Dorene Marshall
Olive Marshall
Harold and Velma Martindale
William H. and Tomar Mason
Elsie Krey Matthews
Edward J. and Connie L. McBride
F. Parker and Beverly S. McCreary
Doris M. McGinty
Eugene A. and Alice J. McHale
Thomas A. and Corinne K. McKean
Helen M. McKinney
Elizabeth G. McKissick

Marilyn Hammer Meechan
M. Helena Meltesen
Richard W. and Jan W. Merrill
John A. and Margaret Ann Miller
Laurie Ann Miller
William C. Miller
Carlos E. Milner, Jr.
John L. and Faith G. Milton
Leland L. and Mary Margaret Mink
Terry P. and Ann Mix
Larry W. and Janice A. Moore
William B. and Marilyn Moore
Joseph W. Mrachek
Sharon A. Murray
Robert E. and
Faye Sargent Mytinger
Richard J. Naskali
Shirley A. Newcomb
Glenn W. and Beckie A. Nichols
John M. Nickerson
William W. and Judy A. Nixon
Bradford C. and Anne O'Connor
Frederick M. and V. Gayle Oleksiak
Jeffrey K. Olson
Wayne L. and Annette T. Olson
Richard H. Paris
Lyle H. and Sharon K. Parks
William A. and Beverly A. Parsons
Richard A. and Marion J. Patterson
Richard Q. Perry
Hazel C. Peterson
Julius E. Peterson
Robert A. and Victoria E. Peterson
James D. Pittenger
Kenneth W. and Patricia Pober
David A. and Mary Alice Poe
Fred R. and Cherie B. Pond
Cary D. Poston
James I. and Judith M. Powers
Stewart W. Pugh
Leonard G. Pyne
Brian Robert Raber
Donald D. and
Kathryn Daly Ramseyer
Janet Orr Randall and
Bruce MacEvoy
Betty Lee Raymer
Robert L. and Karla Reed
Edgar E. Renfrew
Malcolm M. and Carol C. Renfrew
Laurie Retherford
Marjorie D. Richardson
Marjorie Rieske
Michael D. Roach
Richard B. Roberts
Susan B. Roberts
Charles L. and
Dianne H. Robertson
G. Wayne Rodeback
Ben R. and Anna M. Rolphe
Elaine Ambrose and
Michael Romano

Richard H. Ross
George W. Rothweiler
Editha W. Rowell
Chris W. Rullman
Gavin B. Rumble
Joseph N. and Susan Rumble
Lois E. Samuelson
Marilyn Ruth Sargent
Donald B. and Ann K. Schaechtel
Richard A. and Linda G. Schellenger
Rodney K. and Kathy L. Schenck
F. Wayne Schultz
Sidney J. Scribner
Miriam Sellers
David M. Sellgren
Shirley K. Severn
Donna K. Shepard
Richard L. and Sally S. Shoup
Victor H. and Ruth N. Skiles
Jack R. Smiley
Daryl L. and Deborah L. Smith
Richard R. and Ruth A. Smith
Gerald J. and Trini Snow
Richard L. and Patty Sorensen
Richard C. and Bertha Sorensen
James A. and Janet Steele
Herman F. Steger
James D. Stephens
Donald P. and H. Maxine Stewart
Richard B. Stewart
J. Robert Stillinger
W.G., Jr. and Laura J. Stover
Robert C. and Shirley L. Strom
J. Kirk and Elizabeth M. Sullivan
Kathryn A. Supko
Albert H. Suttman
Bruce L. and Marilyn M. Sweeney
William A. and Dorothy S. Sylvies
Richard K. and Kathryn M. Talbott
Trevor S. and LeeAnn K. Tarter
Richard E. Tavis
John R. and Earlene J. Taylor
Richard E. and Anne M. Thatcher
Wayne L. and Peggy J. Thiessen
Richard D. and Lavonne M. Thomas
Wayne W. and Wilma I. Thomas
Eugene and JoAnn C. Thompson
Jacqueline A. Thompson
Marjorie R. Thompson
D. John and Vikki Thornton
Jon G. Trail
Margaret A. Trefren
Vincent J. and Lois J. Tretter
Bryson D., Jr. and Shirley D. Trexler
Harry B. Turner and
Geraldine Hastings
Raymond G. and Bonnie K. Turner
Wayne H. Valentine
Chien M. and Lily C. Wai
Susan K. Waltner
Jeff and Pearl Watts
Lindarae P. Watts

Elizabeth Ann Webb
Garry R. and Linda I. Webb
Lucinda Weiss
L. Dean and E. Gay Welch
Wayne L. Weseman
Franklin K. Wheelock
Darrell G. and
Patricia C. Whitehead
Marie H. Whitesel
Daniel B. Whiting
George D. and Kathleen D. Whitlock
Craig A. and Linda B. Wiegman
Claud R. And Diana Lynn Wilhite
Larry D. and Winnie E. Williams
Ronald M. and Ella Mae Winans
Mary Lee Wood
Parker G. and Myrna K. Woodall
Elizabeth P. Woodcock
Robert K. Woodhead
Thomas C. Wright
Theodore W. and Joan C. Yocom
Jack R. and Helen K. Yuditsky
John R. and JoAn W. Zanot
Joe L. and Dorothy J. Zaring
John Zbozen, Jr.

Emeriti

Listed below are those persons who were Heritage Society members by virtue of their expressed intentions during their lifetimes. Though they have passed on from this life, they shall be remembered and honored for their generosity and foresight.

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Bernard A. Anderson
Mary Margaret Anderson
Beulah K. Archer
Paul W. Atwood
Myrtle Bain
Herbert D. and Dolores S. Barnes
Dorothy T. Barnes
Robert W. Beamer
Sherman Bellwood
Nancy J. Berry
Ralph Bleak
Betty T. Brockett
Harry A. Campbell
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Fred and Dorothy Dyott Clagett
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Edward G. Davis
Kenneth A. Dick
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Frederick E. and Heloise M. Drager
Frances G. Drake
Mary Ellen Durant
C. Gordon Edgren
Herbert M. and Beulah M. Edwards
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Mary E. Giles
Leslie H. Gillette
Fred R. Gleave
Elma M. Goodman
John O. Gray
Leon G. Green
Mildred M. Haberly
Margie A. Haddock
Leonard Halland
Eugenia A. Hamblin
Bobby C. Hamilton
George A. Hardgrove
Walter C. and Myldred Hayes
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Shirley P. Horning
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Ways to Give Through Your Estate Plan

There are many ways you can support the University of Idaho in addition to an outright gift. Below is a brief listing of how you can participate in this vital component of the University of Idaho's mission.

Type	What is it?	What are the tax benefits?	What are some other benefits?
Bequest in Will or Revocable Living Trust	A gift you make by naming the University of Idaho in your will for a certain dollar amount, percentage or the residuary.	Reduces size of taxable estate.	Gives you flexibility in providing for family needs first. You become a member of our Heritage Society.
Charitable Gift Annuity	A contract in which the Foundation agrees to pay you back a percentage of your gift annually for your lifetime.	Immediate income tax deduction for part of gift's value, capital gains spread out over life expectancy, a portion of the income is tax-exempt.	Gives you and/or another beneficiary a set income for life. Heritage Society membership.
Life Insurance Gift	A gift of an existing or new policy with the Foundation named as beneficiary and owner.	Immediate income tax deduction for gift's value, plus possible estate tax savings.	Provides a way to make a significant gift with minimal capital outlay. Heritage Society membership.
Retirement Plan Gift	A gift made by naming the Foundation as remainder beneficiary after your death.	Heirs avoid income tax and possible estate tax.	Preserves 100 percent of plan's value and allows you to leave heirs other, less costly bequests. Heritage Society membership.
Retained Life Estate	A donation of your home or farm, but with the right to remain there.	Immediate income tax deduction for the charitable value of the gift, plus no capital gains tax due.	Allows you to live in your home or farm and still receive charitable deduction; assures immediate passage of title on your death. Heritage Society membership.
Charitable Remainder Trust	A trust that pays a set or variable income to you or those you name before the University receives remainder.	Income tax savings from deduction, no capital gains tax liability, possible estate tax savings.	Provides guaranteed annual income that could increase if trust value increases. Heritage Society membership.
Charitable Lead Trust	A trust that pays the University an income for a period of years before you or heirs receive the trust remainder.	Gift or estate tax savings for value of payments made to a charity.	Allows you to pass assets to heirs intact at reduced or even no estate or gift tax. Heritage Society membership.
Wealth Replacement Trust	Life insurance for your heirs to replace the asset funding your charitable gift.	When properly established through a trust, the insurance passes to heirs estate-tax free.	Tax savings and cash flow from a life income plan may be enough to pay the premiums. Heritage Society membership.

Please let us know if you have remembered the University of Idaho in your estate plans.

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VANDAL Sports



The Idaho women's golf team won the Western Athletic Conference championship last April at the University Golf Course at New Mexico State University. Showing off the championship trophy are team members Renee Skidmore, Kelly Nakashima, Beth Stonecypher, Cassie Castleman and Amanda Jacobs.

Silver and Gold Champions on the Green Nakashima and Skidmore are two driving forces for women's golf

BY DOUG BAUER

Renee Skidmore and Kelly Nakashima's golf careers have followed divergent paths, but both routes have brought prosperity to the University of Idaho. Together, they led the Idaho women's golf team to last season's Western Athletic Conference crown, and they hope to take things a step further during their final season as Vandals.

"I think it's pretty interesting to see how we've developed into the players we are," Nakashima said. "I didn't have a great start to my college career, and Renee had a wonderful start. And she's maintained that level, where I've had to work my way up."

Skidmore burst onto the scene as a freshman, winning the first tournament she played in for the Vandals. She went on to claim medalist honors in the Big West Conference Tournament during her inaugural campaign, and she has been a high-level performer ever since.

Meanwhile, Nakashima plugged along, steadily gaining the momentum that helped her become the first Idaho women's golfer to compete in the NCAA Women's Golf Championships, a feat she accomplished last spring.



Renee Skidmore

"I get adrenaline rushes from making a birdie, or when you get up and down to save par."

—Renee Skidmore

Different strokes

In many ways, Skidmore and Nakashima have little in common. One grew up in Washington and the other in Hawaii – and they were introduced to golf at different stages of their lives.

"I've had a club in my hand since I was really, really little," Skidmore said. "I had the little Fisher Price set when I was 1 or 2 and I'd go to the driving range ... with my dad to hit golf balls."

Nakashima became interested in the sport when she was 10, during an excursion to the driving range with her mom.

"She was taking lessons, and I decided to pick up the game," Nakashima said.

Like Skidmore, golf came naturally to Nakashima.

"I wasn't always the best when I was little," she said. "But I wasn't bad, either, I guess. I was always up there."

For the love of the game

Both relish the constant challenge golf provides above any other aspect of the game.

They are driven to get better every time they step on the course.

"There's always something to work on in golf; there's always something you can improve," she said. "Every single shot is different. You may have had a similar shot, but every time you step up to swing, you know it's not going to be the same as last time."

Nakashima agreed.

"I like that it's hard, and that it's different every time out," she said. "It's very competitive. ... I like the diversity."

They enjoy golf so much, it's a major part of their plans after college. If a professional playing career doesn't materialize, both would consider becoming teaching pros.

"I want to try to go pro and qualify for the professional tour," Nakashima said. "If that doesn't work out, I would like to try to work in a pro shop or do something affiliated with golf."

Nakashima is a sport/exercise science major; Skidmore, who dreams of starting a golf academy someday, is majoring in business/marketing.

"I plan on playing golf until I'm really old and can't play anymore," Skidmore said. "It's a game you can play forever, which is awesome. No other sport I know is like that."

First-year Idaho coach Lisa Wasinger said both Nakashima and Skidmore have what it takes to play at the next level.

"It's just a matter of working hard and making the commitment to do that, and getting your mind-set wrapped around the idea of playing professional golf," Wasinger said.

"Professional golf is not as glamorous as it looks when you're first starting out. You have to be truly committed."

Soaking it in

Nakashima and Skidmore enjoyed standout prep golf careers, and they both knew other golfers who played for Idaho who recommended they do the same.

They committed to the University after making recruiting visits to Moscow and haven't looked back since.

Surprisingly, Nakashima, who grew up in Hawaii, says she didn't have any problem adjusting to the cooler Palouse climate.

"Everyone thinks I'm weird because I don't wear a lot of layers of clothes, but I've adapted really well to the cold weather and the snow," she said.

The biggest thing Nakashima misses about the islands is the cuisine.

"My mom will send me food from home, because I can't find it here," she said.

In it to win it

Competition gives Skidmore an emotional charge.

"I get adrenaline rushes from making a birdie, or when you get up and down to save par," she said.

However, she and Nakashima maintain a cool composure on the course.

"We're both pretty calm," Skidmore said. "I don't think we get overly excited or overly down on ourselves very often, which is an asset to both of our games."

The Vandals aspire to defend their WAC title this April



Kelly Nakashima

"I want to try to go pro and qualify for the professional tour."

—Kelly Nakashima

and become the first Idaho women's team to qualify for the NCAA Championships, and Skidmore and Nakashima hope to garner some individual accolades along the way.

"I would like to win at least two tournaments this year, and I would like our team to win a few tournaments," Nakashima said.

Skidmore also plans to go out strong, which would bring her college career to a fitting conclusion.

"I think just now, my senior year, I'm starting to get a grasp of just how awesome an opportunity it is to travel around a lot and play golf," she said. "Not many people get to do that."

Wasinger said having Nakashima and Skidmore around has been a delight, both for her and the Vandals' other players.

"It's an awesome opportunity for the younger players to play with them on a daily basis," she said. "Kelly and Renee inspire and encourage their teammates to get better. There's a very positive, energetic competition to beat each other and to beat Kelly and Renee, and that only makes us better."

"They're both phenomenal people," she added. "They work hard, they're great students and they're very enjoyable to coach. They're great." ■

Golfin' Around – Ryan Benzel '01 Takes a Shot at the PGA Championship

The best golfers in the world teed up at the Professional Golf Association Championship Aug. 9-12 in Tulsa, Okla., and Ryan Benzel '01, got his first chance to play in the rarified environment of the professional golfers tour.

"This is huge," said Benzel, in the weeks prior to the tournament. "I'm competing in the same tournament as Tiger Woods, Phil Mickelson and Zach Johnson."

Nearly all off the 100 top ranked golfers in the world competed at the tournament, and Benzel was in 31st place after two days. He finished in 71st place at the end of the four-day tournament.

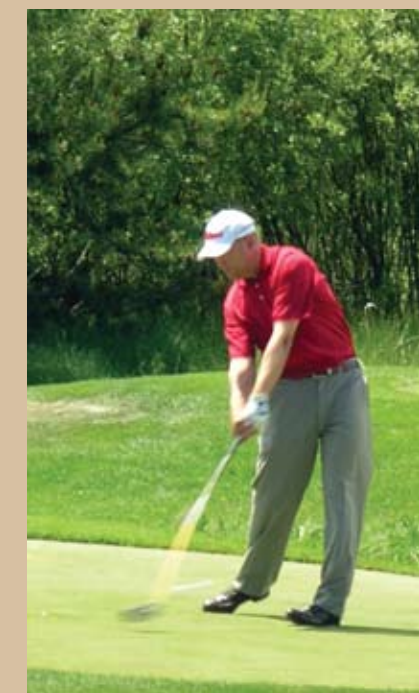
Benzel isn't a stranger to professional golf. He's been the assistant golf professional at the Seattle Golf Club since 2002. He also competes in PGA Professional tournaments for golf course professionals, and tied for second at 2006 PGA Professional National Championship. Benzel and other top 20 finishers were invited to play at this year's PGA Championship, which features the best golf course professionals competing with the PGA Tour professionals.

"This is one of the four major tournaments in professional golf," said Benzel. "I think I'll need to allow myself to be 'the kid in the candy store' and get it out of my system, and then be as focused as I can be as a competitor."

Benzel experienced some of the media attention that comes with professional sports. The Golf Channel produced a special called "The Road to the PGA Championship," and Benzel was one of the golfers profiled.

"I had a camera crew come to Seattle to interview, film and highlight what I do each day as a PGA professional," he said. They also interviewed my wife and me down by the Space Needle."

Benzel graduated from the University of Idaho in 2001 with a degree in sports science. He was a member of the Idaho golf team for four years, including the 2000 team that won the Big West Men's Golf Championship. He was first-team all-conference in 2000 and second-team all-conference in 2001.



Ryan Benzel '01



"Cellular Medley" – Gerri Saylor '07 is the director of development for the College of Art and Architecture and recently received her bachelor's of fine arts degree from Idaho. She also is the winner of the Boise Art Museum's 2007 Idaho Triennial, a statewide art competition.

The Golden Touch

BY KATE BALDWIN

Gerri Saylor, '07, can turn straw into gold. "It's very much something out of a fairytale ... an alchemy process," she said. "You learn to follow what is in your heart and transform it into something."

Saylor proved it this September when her artwork earned the first place award in the 2007 Idaho Triennial, a statewide competition held by the Boise Art Museum. The prize included \$1,000 and the chance to have a solo exhibit in the museum's atrium in June 2008.

Unlike typical artwork that comes on canvass in oil or acrylic, Saylor gravitates toward ordinary materials. Even her winning pieces used the unraveled fibers of sisal twine and rope that can be found on the shelves of hardware store.

After Saylor's hands manipulate the material, it emerges as part of an installation that evokes her lifelong experiences of tromping through the countrysides in Minnesota, watching nesting birds in North Dakota, and living surrounded by the rolling wheat in northern Idaho.

"I was fascinated by fibers and getting my hands on the stuff of life," she said.

But it's more than that.

"These aren't works of art," she said. "They are relics of a sacred process."

Saylor had to transform her own life to make them. After her divorce in the mid-1990s, she took the occasional art class and began to develop her signature style.

"I wanted to take worn out, broken things and transform them into something stunning and beautiful that would take your breath away," she said.

Everything changed in 2004. Her father became diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and her son got deployed. Saylor needed an escape from concerns she couldn't control.

"You've got to have a part of yourself that is not about survival," said Saylor, who quit her job at the University and enrolled to earn a bachelor's degree in fine arts.

Until this point, Saylor's creations began with the materials. Her faculty encouraged her to try a different method – to let her work evolve from a concept.

"I fought it tooth and nails but it's the only way anymore," she said. "It's thinking about what you want to say."

Her senior year lab became the catalyst that allowed her to share the solace she found in the land and the seasons. Saylor watched the emergence of grass, then its growth into waving fields that dry and freeze and begin again. It reflected her own healing path into a new marriage, a career with the College of Art and Architecture, and a renewed passion for sharing the earth's beauty.

"That's where my art comes from... out of nature's cycles," she said. ■

EVENTS

Upcoming



JANUARY

January 9
Start of spring semester classes

January 18
Fall Sports Banquet, SUB Ballroom

January 25
Winterfest, Twin Falls

FEBRUARY

February 20-23
Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival

MARCH

March 21-22
Tutxinmepu Pow Wow

March 28
Vandal Friday – new student recruitment

March 31-April 2
Borah Symposium on "Reconciliation"

APRIL

April 1
Borah Symposium keynote address by F. W. de Klerk, Nobel Peace Laureate and former president of South Africa

April 4
Vandal Transfer Day – transfer student recruitment

April 7
Silver and Gold Day

April 18-20
Moms' Weekend

April 25
Engineering Design Expo

April 25-27
Alpha Gamma Delta 50th anniversary

April 30
Commencement, University of Idaho – Boise

MAY

May 1
Commencement, University of Idaho – Idaho Falls

May 5
Commencement, University of Idaho – Coeur d'Alene

May 9
Alumni Association Hall of Fame Luncheon

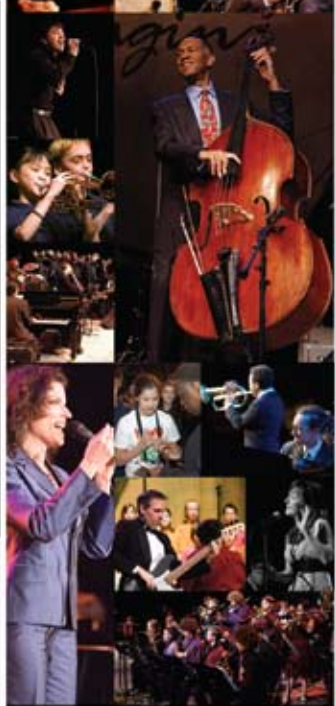
May 10
Commencement, University of Idaho

JUNE

June 27-29
Reunion Weekend

All events are in Moscow unless state elsewhere.

For more information on alumni events, go to www.supportui.uidaho.edu on the Web.



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