

WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

WINTER 2010



CAN \$50 CHANGE A LIFE?

Microcredit loans in Guatemala

GOING LONG

Former football players, coach reunite

DREAM WEBER

Turning education dreams into reality

WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE
Vol. 15, No.2, Winter 2010

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January 17
Harlem Gospel Choir

February 18-19
Circo Aereo

March 5
Punch Brothers
featuring Chris Thile

wsuculturalaffairs.org



DEPARTMENT OF PERFORMING ARTS

January 28-29 and February 1-5
Anything Goes

March 2, 4, 7 and 9
Bonneville Chamber Music Festival

March 4-5 and 8-12
The Lion in Winter

March 31 and April 1-2
Orchesis Dance Theatre

weber.edu/performingarts



WSU FESTIVALS

Story Telling festival

February 22-24

This popular annual event will feature three nationally recognized storytellers. In addition, local, regional and student storytellers will lend their voices for the celebration.

Visit weber.edu/storytelling for schedules & information.



ATHLETICS

February 10 @ 7 p.m.
Men's Basketball vs. Northern Arizona

February 12 @ 7 p.m.
Women's Basketball vs. Eastern Washington

February 16 @ 7 p.m.
Men's Basketball vs. Portland State

February 24 @ 7 p.m.
Women's Basketball vs. Idaho State

weberstatesports.com

ALUMNI EVENTS

10th Annual WSU Alumni Golf Classic
June 10, 2011
Drive for Scholarships



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weberstatetickets.com

JOHN KOWALEWSKI, UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

MATTER OF DEGREES

Weber State University began offering three new degree programs this fall:

The College of Applied Science & Technology now offers a bachelor's degree in electronics engineering. The degree, housed at WSU Davis, offers courses at flexible times to accommodate students with full-time jobs. The degree was created in response to the growing demand for electronics engineers to support Northern Utah's aerospace and defense industry.

The John B. Goddard School of Business & Economics has added

a Master of Taxation degree through the School of Accountancy. WSU is one of only a handful of institutions in the Intermountain West to offer a stand-alone MTax degree, which provides students with in-depth knowledge of the U.S. taxation system.

Radiologic technicians can pursue a master's degree in the Dr. Ezekiel R. Dumke College of Health Professions. The Master of Science in Radiologic Sciences, the only one of its kind in the state, allows medical personnel the opportunity to shift into educational and research careers, or advanced clinical practice.



STAR TREATMENT

WSU's Ott Planetarium recently received a Gold Star from NASA, one of only 10 Gold-Star winners nationwide. The facility was honored for its entry in a yearlong contest that recognized the best examples of educators using Hubble telescope images in science, technology, engineering or mathematics. Ott Planetarium specialist AmyJo Proctor created the award-winning planetarium show called "Expanded View," which explores some of the most beautiful deep-space objects through the eyes of the Hubble, Spitzer and Chandra space telescopes. Proctor, along with the planetarium staff, has developed a technique to take a 2-D telescopic image and bend it around the planetarium to create a 3-D feel, transforming the dome into a 3-D window on space. Visit weber.edu/planetarium/productions to watch the award-winning show.

LARGER THAN LIFE

This basketball season, when Damian Lillard's shot hits nothing but net, Wildcat fans will have a whole new vantage point. A Daktronics video system recently installed in the Dee Events Center will bring fans closer to the hardwood action than ever before. The new four-sided scoreboard hanging over center court features **video screens 6 feet high & 8 feet wide**, showing live game action, video replays and candid crowd shots.

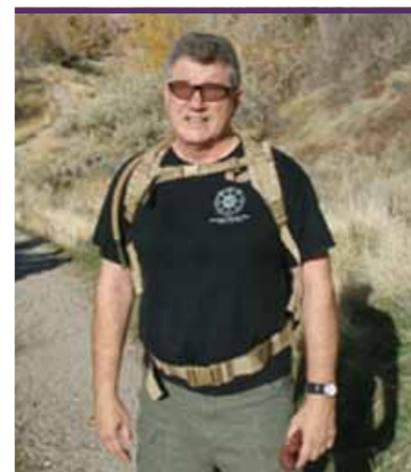


AT THE MOVIES

History professor Greg Lewis is spending this academic year at the movies ... in China. Lewis received a prestigious Fulbright Scholarship to research the history of Chinese cinema. After a year spent reading and translating books chronicling Chinese film, Lewis will return to the States and write a textbook on Chinese cinema for western audiences. Since joining the WSU faculty in 1999, Lewis has organized the annual WSU Chinese Film series, offering free public screenings of acclaimed Chinese movies.

IN THE ARMY NOW

Two years ago Weber State University anthropology professor Ron Holt spent six months as a civilian with the U.S. Army in Afghanistan. Now that experience has led to a new assignment with the military back in the States. Holt is one of eight people nationwide hired by the Army to serve as culture and foreign language advisors. He will spend the next two years at Fort Benning in Georgia, working with military educators and developing a strategy for long-term cultural and foreign language training for Army personnel.



HOME AWAY FROM HOME

Student housing reported an all-time high 774 residents living on campus this fall. That news comes as the university is constructing a new housing project. After 50 years, LaSal Hall was torn down in June to make room for the first of three new residence halls. Students are expected to move into the first hall in fall 2011, with two additional buildings scheduled to come online by fall 2013 as replacements for Wasatch and Stansbury halls and Promontory Tower.

FLOATING ON AIR

Computer and electronics engineering technology professor Bill Clapp is looking forward to the day when his students' senior project is blown to smithereens. Since 2008, 25 students have spent more than 15,000 hours working on a hovercraft, a 6 feet wide by 10 feet long remote-controlled vehicle that floats on air while mimicking

the maneuverability of a standard pickup truck. Clapp envisions the vehicle as a potential light-weight, inexpensive, environmentally friendly craft that could be used for military target practice. According to Clapp, the vehicle's recent tests on the Bonneville Salt Flats were "spectacular," attracting the U.S. military's attention.



Dream Weber helps make education dreams a reality

ALLISON HESS, UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

BIG DREAMS AND AN INNOVATIVE NEW PROGRAM

brought freshman Nicole Valdez back into the classroom eight years after high school. At age 25 she thought her dream of an education in criminal justice was out of reach, until her sister told her about Dream Weber, a tuition-assistance program at Weber State University.

"She told me to hurry up and register and do all the requirements," Valdez said. "So I did."

To meet the requirements, Valdez, like other students, had to be a Utah resident, have an annual household income equal to or less than \$25,000, and qualify for a Pell Grant.

"Weber State University has a tradition of making educational dreams a reality."

—WSU President, Ann Millner

Dream Weber is especially important in this time of economic challenge and has sparked tremendous response. In the fall of 2010, 1,947 students with a household income less than \$25,000 applied for federal financial aid — an 88 percent increase over 2009.

The program is made possible by generous private donations. It also will be funded by unrestricted gifts given to the university through the annual fund. Donor money fills any gap that might exist between federal and state financial

aid and the cost of a student's tuition.

"I think it's awesome to have a program to back you up," Valdez said. "I am excited to get closer to my goals in life, to get my associate's and work toward a bachelor's and then toward a career as a police detective."

Dream Weber will provide up to eight semesters of tuition for those who qualify. The extra help is geared toward students from socioeconomic backgrounds that wouldn't typically pursue higher education because of a lack of financial resources, especially those who may be the first in their families to attend college.

FIRST-GENERATION STUDENT LIVING THE DREAM

Belia Alvarado is one of those first-generation students who said her life got back on track when she came to Weber State three years ago.

"When Weber accepted me I was so ecstatic," Alvarado said. "To me it was my second chance to do everything right because I had done everything wrong when I was younger, so I was really excited to come back."

Today, Alvarado is a senior majoring in psychology. Her goal is to become a school counselor, to set an example for teens who may be headed for trouble, as a way to pay back those who have helped her.

Alvarado says the money from Dream Weber is only one of the benefits of being a Weber State student.

"Dream Weber helped me to finish, because I had the university believing in me. They are pushing me to succeed," Alvarado said. "Weber State sees that people are trying and says, 'We are going to help you out. Let's get you there as fast

as we can. What do you need?' And I love that about Weber." Modeled after a program in Texas, the tuition outreach is the first of its kind in the state of Utah.

"Weber State University has a tradition of making educational dreams a reality," adds WSU President Ann Millner. "This program has tremendous potential to lend a hand and improve the economic circumstances of many individuals all across our community."

DREAM WEBER EASES TRANSITION FROM SOLDIER TO STUDENT

Brandon Anderson is a student who understands the value of an education. Anderson delayed his education out of high school to enlist in the Reserves. He spent 15 months as a combat engineer in Iraq clearing roadside bombs.

Three soldiers in his company died in a bomb blast. During another mission, the tire on Anderson's vehicle detonated an explosive device, which damaged the vehicle and left him shaken but uninjured.

Anderson said his military experience trained him to think and respond quickly and to work as a team member, but it also solidified his desire to complete an education.

"Coming back from Iraq was difficult; I had stress issues associated with having been deployed," Anderson said. "It was overwhelming at first, so the support I received made the transition easier. I am really grateful for a program that has helped things work out so well for me."

WSU continues to seek donations to make Dream Weber an ongoing program of help and hope for students who dream of a better future, with an education. 🍌



NICOLE VALDEZ



BELIA ALVARADO



BRANDON ANDERSON

SMALL $\$$ CHANGE,
BIG
IMPACT

YOU DON'T HAVE TO MAKE A LARGE DONATION TO HAVE A BIG IMPACT.

Whether you give \$25 or \$5,000, your gift to the WSU Annual Fund directly supports more Dream Weber scholarships.

Make your gift online today.

weber.edu/give



annual fund
WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY

Math + Technology = Success

DEVELOPMENTAL MATH PROGRAM ALLOWS STUDENTS TO LEARN MATH ON THEIR OWN TERMS

JONATHAN MCBRIDE, UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

MATH JUST NEVER QUITE CLICKED

with Ashlee Miller. Aaron Parker got by, but never enjoyed math. Nicole Spallino never had a teacher who would spend time explaining concepts to her one-on-one. Weber State University developmental math students come from myriad backgrounds, but it's safe to say many of the program's students have struggled through their WSU course work. Until now. After watching too many math students fall behind, the WSU developmental math program has started offering courses in a new, technological way.

"My confidence in math has skyrocketed," Miller said. "I feel so much better about math now. It makes me feel good about myself that I can actually understand it."

Parker and Spallino offer similar testimonials about Technology Enhanced Redesign of Mathematics (TERM). The new developmental math program utilizes a Web-based computer program to help students more effectively learn math at their own pace.

STUDENTS STRUGGLING + TRENDS NATIONWIDE = A NEED FOR CHANGE

The process for implementing TERM started in March 2009 when Dale Ostlie, dean of WSU's College of Science, attended a conference and heard numerous success stories about Virginia Tech's Math Emporium, a center that blends Web-based learning with personal interaction from faculty and peer tutors.

A few months later the WSU developmental mathematics faculty formed a 16-member steering committee to study the emporium model. John Thaeler, director of developmental math, and remedial education instructor Kathleen Lukken served as committee co-chairs. By spring semester 2010, the TERM pilot program was implemented in Math 0950.

"The primary driver of the decision-making process was the likelihood of improved student performance," Ostlie said. "As a result, we looked very carefully at the statistics and at examples of successful implementations of the emporium model across the nation. We also wanted to know what wasn't working at institutions."

It's no secret that WSU students have struggled with developmental math in the past. But Ostlie said most individuals don't realize that the pass rates in WSU's traditional developmental math courses were similar to other open-enrollment institutions across the country.

Numerous individuals at WSU, and nationwide, had been devoted to finding better teaching methods. When Ostlie saw the results from the emporium model and its successful implementation, he knew it had the potential to actually make a difference.

HOW TERM WORKS = WEB-BASED PROGRAM + INDIVIDUALIZED ATTENTION

In a TERM instructional setting, students meet each week for one hour in a classroom and spend a second hour in a TERM computer lab. In both the classroom and the lab, students work on math using the Web-based program, and faculty and peer tutors provide individualized help. Students also are able to work on the Web-based program from their home computers or any computer with an Internet connection.

Carrie Quesnell, WSU math instructor and member of the TERM steering committee, is quick to point out that the TERM program, despite its emphasis on Web-based learning, actually gives students more individualized attention from faculty, not less.

"In a TERM class, I can actually spend time with each student," Quesnell said. "In that interaction, I'm helping a student learn something that they have already spent time trying to understand, and when they ask for help, they are ready

complete more than one course in a semester. Alternatively, it allows students to take more than one semester to complete a course. When they register for the course again, they can pick up right where they left off the prior semester, without having to repeat information.

Kaci Welch, a WSU freshman and TERM student, finished her course work eight weeks early. The Web-based format resonated with her, and she took the opportunity to ride that positive momentum. According to Welch, with the TERM format she "better understood the process of learning math."

STUDENT FEEDBACK + SOME EARLY DATA = TERM IS WORKING WELL

TERM is now included in all sections of Math 950, 960 and 1010. While it may be too early to evaluate changes in the pass-fail rate, the developmental math faculty are encouraged. They've seen the average grade go from a 'C' to a 'B.' Many students have provided positive feedback about their experiences with TERM.

"It's just made it a lot easier. That's really the biggest thing," Parker said.

"This is the first time that I've ever used 'fun' and 'math' in the same sentence," Miller said.

It also appears as though the positive feedback has made its way to other students. The program expected an enrollment of 550-600 students in the TERM classes for summer semester 2010 but ended up with more than 850 students enrolled. In WINTER 2010, nearly 3,500 students enrolled in the developmental mathematics courses.

"Students tend to like the TERM approach because, to a great extent, they are in control of the learning experience," Thaeler said. "The program will set minimum standards, but students quickly move from meeting the minimums to shooting for the maximums. The TERM approach may result in better grades, but it's not grade inflation so much as work inflation."

After three semesters, the developmental math department is still reviewing the TERM model and how it's working, but overall, they're encouraged.

"I believe that our philosophy of mastery learning will produce students who are better prepared for their QL [quantitative literacy] class," Quesnell said. "Since the faculty of the developmental mathematics program all teach QL classes for the math department, we designed the TERM program to produce well-prepared students." 🍌

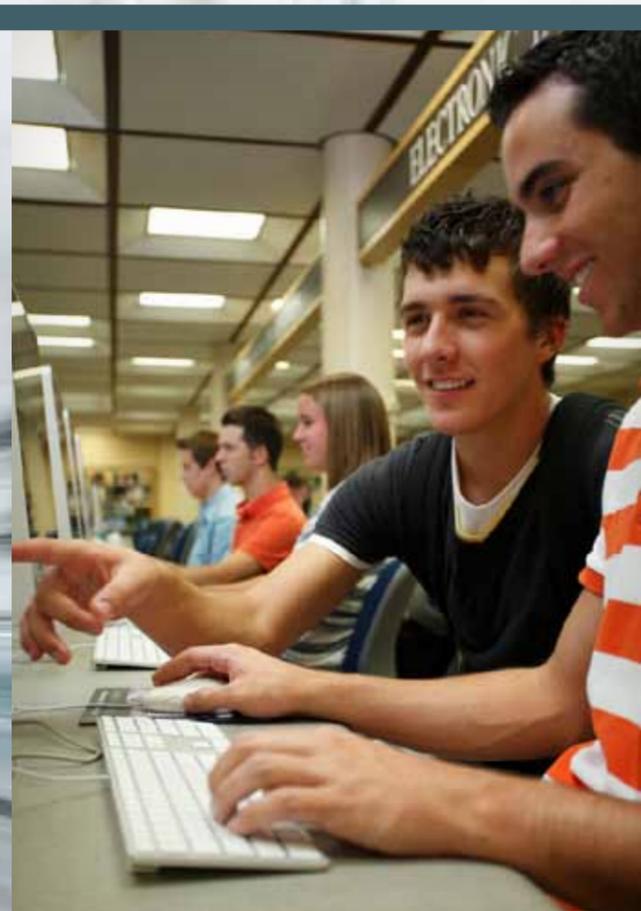
"My confidence in math has skyrocketed. I feel so much better about math now. It makes me feel good about myself that I can actually understand it."

-Student, Ashlee Miller

to receive it. Compare that to a traditional classroom where I'm talking about a topic that some of the students are not ready to understand, some are perfectly ready to understand and some already understand before I talk about it."

Faculty are helping students at the point when students most need the help.

This individualized attention enables students to either move ahead or move more slowly through the curriculum. The TERM program has deadlines, but students have much more flexibility to meet them. This allows students to



IMPROVING LIVES \$50 at a TIME

ALLISON BARLOW HESS, UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

IN SAN PEDRO LA LAGUNA, GUATEMALA, mothers are used to supporting their families by picking coffee for \$2 a day when the crop is in season. The rest of the year they scramble to find ways to supplement their incomes.

Their financial distress is not for lack of industry or desire. For example, one mother named Rosa embroiders constantly. Her thread and needle flash nearly unceasingly as she embellishes women's blouses. For many years she collected her sewing supplies from a middleman and returned the finished product to him. She was paid about 50 cents per blouse.

Her life and economic circumstances have now improved tremendously thanks to the generosity of some Weber State University students and faculty.

MUCH MORE THAN A TOUR

In May of 2009 and again in 2010, foreign language professor Alicia Giralt organized trips to Guatemala to give students a chance to practice the language, experience the culture and bond with native Spanish speakers. The students donated their time and \$50 to make small loans to each of 40 women in the village.

"We give to the poorest of the poor, and they don't need hundreds. They need, for example, enough money to buy a pot or pan."

-Foreign Language Professor, Alicia Giralt

Money from the loan now allows Rosa to buy material and thread and then sell the blouses herself. She has tripled her income by eliminating the middleman.

"You don't need much money for microloans," Giralt says. "We give to the poorest of the poor, and they don't need hundreds. They need, for example, enough money to buy a pot or a pan."

With those pots and pans, Guatemalan women can build small businesses making and selling tamales, tortillas or hot drinks.

"One mother earned enough money to put a roof over her kitchen. Another one bought shoes," Giralt explains. "One woman told us she had cornflakes with milk for the first time, and several told us that before the loans they only had meat for Christmas, and now they are eating meat once a week. For us that was a 'Wow!' It's really a major thing when you can increase the consumption of protein that much; it was very moving for us."

A LITTLE GOES A LONG WAY

The ability to significantly improve an individual's economic situation with so little money is a difficult concept to comprehend, especially in the comforts of a university classroom.

"The experience is definitely life changing," says Latin American geography major Sarah Rumpsa. "Living with the people, we could relate on a much deeper level. I used to think a hard day was a tough exam at school. The Guatemalan families think, 'Where's my next meal coming from?' It makes my problems seem insignificant, which is good."

Rumpsa says the experience has deepened her commitment to a career in international humanitarian aid.

Jason Herman, a Spanish major and chemistry minor, also knows about helping people; he volunteered two years of ecclesiastical service in Mexico and wants to become a doctor. Even with that background, he was surprised at the economic impact of microloans. Herman was paired with a woman who owns a tiny store. Together they made plans to increase the store's inventory and visibility with a new sign.

"On this trip we got to know the people and helped them out in their financial lives by discussing their homes, their needs, their hopes and their goals," Herman says. "It was a phenomenal experience."



Rumpsa and Herman were part of the second WSU visit, which was especially rewarding because students witnessed the transformative power of the first loans. They learned the Guatemalan women had formed a cooperative to collect loan payments as well as to support each other. Each woman is still in business, and in just six months, all have repaid the original loans with interest. In fact, not only are the loans repaid, each of the women has contributed another 25 cents per month savings to their cooperative for the future.

Adjunct foreign language professor and Guatemalan native Dolores Jasmer participated in both trips as a facilitator. According to Jasmer, studies show that when women earn income, it trickles down to their children's health and education, and eventually the whole community benefits.

"Studies show that the loans haven't had the same outcome and success when they have been given to men," Jasmer says. "Women have been shown to be more responsible in helping their families and paying back their loans."

A third WSU trip to Guatemala is planned for this summer and will include education majors under the direction of Melina Alexander, an assistant professor from the Department of Teacher Education.

The ultimate goal is to create a learning center and museum where Guatemalan women can become literate while still operating businesses in shops below the school.

BIG RETURN ON INVESTMENT

"Anything we can do is going to be a benefit, any kind of service we can provide, not only for the individuals in Guatemala, but also for our students," Alexander says. "I honestly believe you need to step outside yourself and outside your comfort zone to truly feel as if you've accomplished something."

The teaching majors from Weber State will not only teach the women how to read, but they also plan to teach them how to instruct other women and children, so eventually the education and economic improvement can continue far beyond a summer visit.

"Microcredit is exceptional because it creates sustainable development," Giralt explains. "It helps whole communities come out of poverty, which could eventually help the whole world." 🌱



BOYS WILL BE BOYS

FOOTBALL PLAYERS REUNITE WITH 'COACH SARK'

AMY HENDRICKS, UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

The conversations went much like you would expect they would at a reunion of Weber State College football players ...

There were lively discussions about victories, like the unexpected win against the University of Idaho in 1965, the year the Wildcats shocked the Big Sky Conference — and the nation — by going 8-1. And the loss. *Oh the loss.*

"It still gives me nightmares," said former offensive guard Harry Diavatis only semi-jokingly. "It" was a heartbreaking 15-14 defeat at the hands of the University of Montana. "One point from perfection," he said shaking his head.

There were also reenactments of plays, like the time WSU Hall of Fame running back Henry Owens fumbled the football only to have it miraculously bounce back into his hands so he could complete a 60-yard run for a touchdown. Then there was the time quarterback Tim Jones was told to call whatever play he wanted, as long as he "put it in the end zone." And he did. Both Owens and Jones were later drafted to

the NFL, Owens to the New York Jets and Jones to the Detroit Lions.

Naturally, one would assume that football is the tie that binds this group of Wildcats together. And it is, in a way, but the camaraderie doesn't come from having played the game. It comes from being coached by Sarkis Arslanian, who led the Weber State football program for eight seasons, from 1965-72.

They call him "Coach Sark." They call themselves "Sark's Boys," out of loyalty, friendship and pride.

"Coach Sark didn't just forge great teams; he forged friendships that would last a lifetime," said Diavatis, who played for Arslanian on the 1965 and 1966 teams and now coordinates the biannual Sark's Boys reunions. "I look at this group and see players from every year Sark coached. And while we may not have all been on the same team, we all bleed purple and we all have a great respect for Coach Sark."

THE GLORY DAYS

When Arslanian arrived at Weber State in 1965, no one ever imagined the Wildcats would end the season as Big Sky Conference co-champions and ranked fifth in the nation in what was known then as the "College Division." That is until Weber State upset the University of Idaho.

"Idaho was a real powerhouse. We beat them when nobody in the world thought we could. That set us off on the right tone," recalled Arslanian, who is now 86 years old. "And you know what was great? Everybody got behind us. The students, alumni, professors and administration ... we were all one."

Arslanian came to Weber State from Dixie College, where he had led the then-Rebels to back-to-back Intermountain Collegiate Athletic Conference championships. While many of the players followed him to Ogden, he recruited a number of others to build a strong team. "We added some really fine players," he said.

"Coach Sark was a spellbinder when it came to recruiting," Diavatis said. "He was extremely charismatic, and he cared about his players. That's what made him really special. He believed in us; we believed in him."

Jim Schmedding, a first team All-American, was one of Arslanian's recruits. Originally from California, he found his place with Coach Sark in Ogden. "Other schools had recruited me, but Coach Sark was the only one to come to my home and that made an impression," he said. "When I visited Weber State two more things sold me: assistant coach Tom Ramage, who had coached the famous Merlin Olsen at Utah State University, and the Ogden community.

"Looking back, I needed someone like Coach Sark in my life. He's been a real inspiration to me," said Schmedding, who played for Weber State from 1965-67 before the Chicago Bears drafted him. He went on to play for the San Diego Chargers and later became a successful real estate businessman.

While at Weber State, Arslanian achieved a 50-26-2 record, but he doesn't count successes by wins; he counts them by the sheer number of players who went on to do great things in life. "Every man here has contributed positively to the way of life," he said. "The education they received at Weber State helped make them who they are."

OUTTAKES

A reunion just wouldn't be the same without funny stories, and Sark's Boys can deliver. Former linebacker Roger Trincherro, for example, told an amusing tale about his second away game:

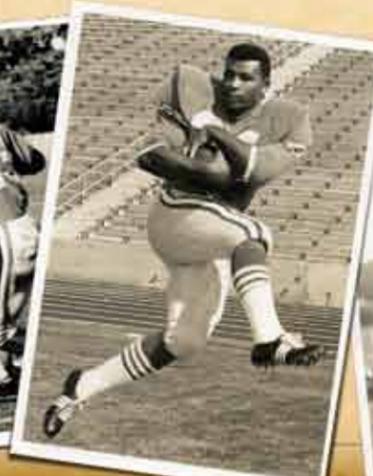
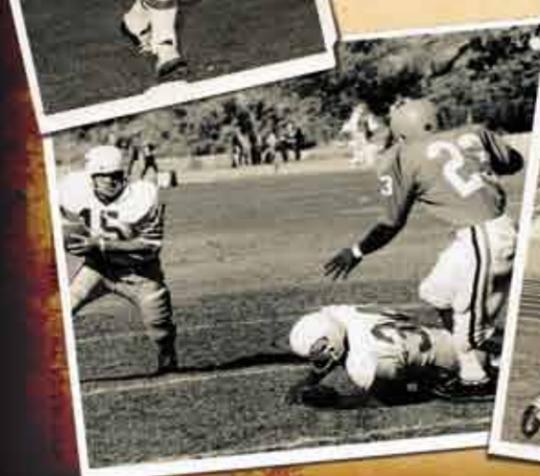
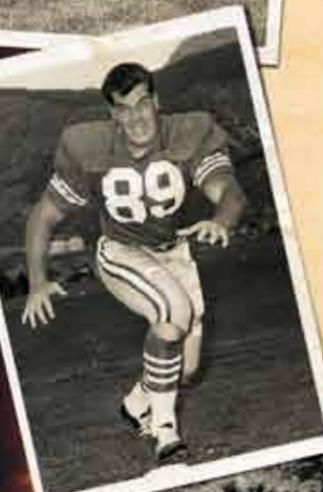
"When we got to the Ogden airport we learned the plane had a slow drip, but a mechanic was working on the problem. When he thought it was OK he took his overalls off and he was the *pilot*. We went down that runway three times, and he couldn't get that thing off the ground. Fortunately, after the third time someone opened the door and we fought each other to get out. That's when Sark casually said, 'I think we'd better go buy some plane tickets,' and we flew out of Salt Lake.

"Sometimes I still lie awake at night and think of how blessed we were that we didn't ever crash," said Trincherro, who today is president of Sutter Home Winery.

Arslanian's shoulders shook with laughter as his players recalled fond memories. "I could tell stories on everyone in this room, but we'd be here all night," he told them. "These get-togethers are so special for me; we ought to do this every month. You guys have made me proud. I love you all and am just so happy you're happy."

To read more Sark stories or to share one of your own, visit weber.edu/wsumagazine.

Photos, counterclockwise from top left: Sark and Coach Ralph Hunter; Jim Schmedding; Ron McCall; Sark's Wildcats take the field; Lee White; Sark and Hunter; Sark and Carl Barbeau; Tony Cox, McCall and Harry Diavatis; Cox, former equipment manager Ron Flygare and Diavatis; Sark. 📷



FOOTBALL TRIVIA

SARK'S BOYS EDITION

Q: From where did Coach Sark's family immigrate?

A: Armenia. After his college football career, he coached teams in Japan and Italy and introduced American football in Armenia. "I've coached in many different places. Everywhere else, football was just football. For these Weber State guys it's a way of life," Coach Sark said.

Q: Where did Coach Sark play football?

A: Dixie College, where he graduated in 1949. He also played basketball, ran track and was class president.

Q: True or false: Coach Sark's son, Dave Arslanian, was once head football coach for the Wildcats.

A: True. Dave spent nine seasons, 1989-97, at Weber State, but the family ties go beyond even that. Coach Sark's son, Paul, was once an assistant coach at Weber State; his son, Jim, was a defensive back for the college; and two of his daughters attended Weber State.

Q: How many Weber State players were drafted by NFL teams between 1965 and 1972?

A: 21. The 1968 draft proved to be the most successful for the Wildcats, with six players selected. To put that in perspective, the University of Southern California had 11 players drafted and Notre Dame had eight. "Not bad," Coach Sark said of his players' success.

Q: When were the west stands added to Weber State's stadium? Hint: It was still called Wildcat Stadium, so before 1997 when it was renamed Elizabeth Dee Shaw Stewart Stadium.

A: In 1966, the year after Coach Sark's successful first season. The east-side seating was also expanded, bringing the capacity to 17,500.

Q: Where did Coach Sark go after Weber State?

A: Colorado State University, where he served as head coach from 1973-82. In retirement he is currently the proud coach of a team of 9-year-olds in St. George, Utah.

best of facebook

WILDCAT ADVENTURES IN SOCIAL MEDIA

Since its creation in the summer of 2009, the Weber State University Facebook page has become a popular medium for former, current and future Wildcats to connect with the university.

With more than 10,000 fans now utilizing the site, we've seen numerous interactions — both fun and functional — that are worth highlighting.

So without further adieu, we present the inaugural Best of Facebook awards ...

Wall post with the most comments in a thread: What's the best class you've ever taken at Weber State?

We asked this simple question on May 13 and received a record 97 comments. Responses were incredibly varied, but a lot of people were passionate.

Chelsea Layne Cassel Baker Philosophy with Prof. Miller. Definitely made me think more than any class I've taken thus far.
Shelly Lyn Blanchard I would have to say my English 1010 class this past Spring semester. The teacher Prof. Carper was very inspiring and encouraged me to write and learn like no other teacher I had before. I have found a new passion for reading and writing. Thanks for the "bump" in life Prof. Carper!
Nancy Funes Television as Literature with Dr. Rogers. Watch TV as homework? Okay!

Best viral find by a fan:

Shaun White rides down the Student Services Building. WSU Facebook fan Peter Owen came up with a great find on May 17 on YouTube, which he posted to our Facebook page. The video was a compilation of clips from Olympic gold medalist snowboarder Shaun White. From the 1:05 to 1:12 mark of the video, White is seen grinding down the west stairwell of the Student Services Building on campus. That's a pretty cool seven seconds of fame for WSU.



Most popular photo: Shock and awe at a basketball game.

A number of WSU photos from the past have been popular on the Facebook page. This one, posted on April 27, captures some frantic excitement at a Weber State basketball game of yesteryear. We asked WSU Facebook fans to come up with their own creative captions.



Kris Daugherty Finals did not go well for everyone.
Felix Lleverino What? Tuition is going to be raised to \$15 per semester?
Sally Yoo Oh my gosh nooo!!! I left my curling iron on at home!!!!
Judith Wright Joy Alien space ships are circling the clock tower-coming closer & closer!
Zachary Wight Well the lady third to the right is saying "Hey everyone it's ok I just saved a bunch of money by switching to Geico!!!!!"

Most incredible use of the WSU Facebook Page: Facebook friends become actual friends.

Last summer three incoming transfer students came to the WSU Facebook page looking for information. A few months later Anisa Ferguson, Shreya Patel and Kelly Reiss were answering each other's questions and becoming friends via the Facebook page. The three decided to room together in University Village on campus. A fourth roommate, Jessica Baker, was assigned to the group and quickly became friends — in person and on Facebook — with the other three.

WSU Salutes

On Sept. 23, 2010, the Weber State University Alumni Association celebrated Homecoming by honoring these outstanding WSU alumni and friends. Some teach, some volunteer, some lead, but each honoree gives heart and soul to his or her endeavors and to our community. We salute their accomplishments and are proud of their affiliation with Weber State University.



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

Utah Sen. **Jerry Stevenson**, former Layton mayor and past chair of WSU's Board of Trustees, and Sen. **Stuart Adams**, past chairman of the Utah State Transportation Commission, show great dedication to higher education. Both lawmakers bring their Wildcat enthusiasm to the halls of the Utah State Capitol where they work steadfastly to provide support for WSU as it strives to meet the needs of students and employers of the region.



EMERITI ALUMNI LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

Mario Pellegrini '59, president of Vita Productions, has written, produced and directed many award-winning motion pictures, television programs and commercials, including the NFL's "Great Moments" series. His interest in film began with a class assignment from Weber State philosophy professor Jennings Olson. Since then, Pellegrini has worked with stars like Elizabeth Taylor, Mickey Rooney and Sylvester Stallone.



LEWIS W. SHURTLIFF AWARD FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION

Helen Farr '43 joined the faculty of Weber College in 1959 after serving as head nurse in the pediatric unit of Ogden's St. Benedict's Hospital. In doing so, Farr became the first instructor in Weber's nursing program and the fourth woman on campus to be named a professor. Farr taught for 27 years at her alma mater and was also the coordinator of nursing.



EMERITI ALUMNI HOMECOMING ROYALTY

Stanley Roberts '50 and **Donna Miller Roberts '67** both have enjoyed successful careers - Stanley as a supervisory systems analyst with the Defense Logistics Agency, and Donna as an associate professor in Weber State's Department of Telecommunications and Business Education. Today, the Roberts are lifetime members of the WSU Alumni Association and have both served as volunteer leaders of the Emeriti Alumni Council. Donna is the daughter of former Weber State President William P. Miller.



WSU PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Scott Marquardt is president and CEO of Management & Training Corporation and has a distinguished record of support for higher education. A former chair of the WSU Board of Trustees, he now serves on WSU's National Advisory Council and the State Board of Regents. He brought business leaders together to form the Friends of Utah Higher Education, which advocates for increased support at the Utah State Capitol.



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS

Javier Chavez '84, an international track star and revered Weber State athlete, already had a record replete with honors and awards when he gained instant success as a restaurateur in 1991 with the opening of Javier's Mexican restaurant in Ogden. Chavez is known for his willingness to help others and is actively involved in the community in many ways.



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA

Sheryl Laukat '82 and her husband, Tevis, started Cannonball Musical Instruments, a company known for crafting hand-made and acoustically hand-customized saxophones. The company, which, originally operated out of the Laukat's basement, is now housed in a 12,000-square foot facility in Sandy, Utah, and the instruments are sold through 235 distributors worldwide.

50s

After receiving a doctorate in medicine in 1958, **Arthur F. Budge '50** completed an internship at the U.S. Public Health Service Hospital in Seattle and a residency in Baltimore. He became a board-certified radiologist in 1964. Arthur worked at Ogden's Thomas D. Dee Memorial Hospital and later at McKay-Dee Hospital as a staff radiologist. He has worked with the Boy Scouts of America for 35 years. He and his wife, Marian, have five children, 21 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Delsa D. Colvin '50 worked part time for Lindquist's North Ogden Mortuary as a secretary and organizer for more than 25 years. She and her husband, Don, have been married almost 60 years. Delsa enjoys cooking,

music, needlework, quilting, gardening, traveling and being a member of the Mystae Literary Club. She has two children, 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

While serving in the Utah National Guard, **D. Boyd Crawford '50** was called to active duty in Germany. From 1953-55 he was first sergeant of a medical detachment in the 1st Infantry Division. Boyd later became a business teacher and spent 30 years at Highland Junior High School. He served as a ski patroller in Utah and Southern Germany and recently received his 50-year award from the National Ski Patrol. He and his wife, **Claudia Malan '59**, have four children and 10 grandchildren.

Richard L. Carter '54 served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and later

worked for Alton Halverson Plumbing, Cream O' Weber Dairy, Langford Plumbing and Anderson Lumber Co. He was an English teacher at Central Junior High School and Ogden High School, where he also served as assistant principal. In 1987 he retired from the school system after spending 32 years as principal at Hillcrest Elementary School. For 27 years Richard sang with the group The Lost Chords. He has four children, 11 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Jay R. Glad '55 served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. He later worked at Hill Air Force Base as a tool and die machinist, retiring in 1992. He and his wife, Edris, started the Northern Utah Speed Skating Club. It was the first club of its kind and is still active today. At 64, Jay participated in the Utah Winter

Games, winning several medals including gold in the long track speed skating competition.

Orrell M. Moss '58 served in the Korean War and worked 27 years for Pacific Fruit Express Co. and Hill Air Force Base. After retiring, he worked as a mechanic from his home. Orrell and Diane, his wife of 60 years, enjoy traveling and spending time with their family in the Uintas. They have four children, 13 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

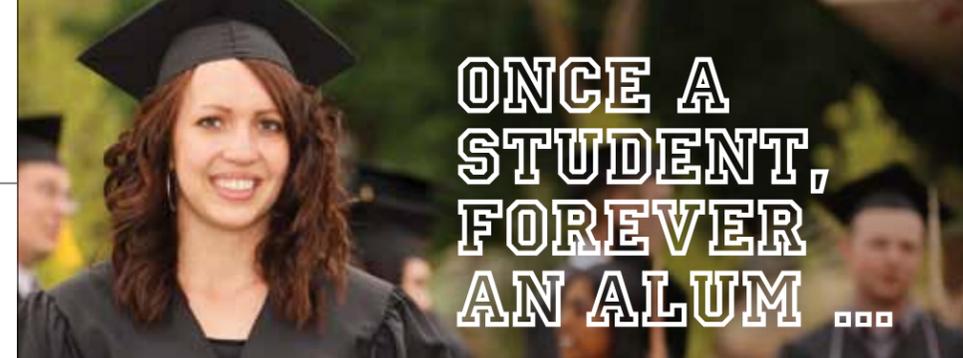
60s

After **Orlin H. Smith '60** served in the U.S. Army, he joined the National Guard. During the Korean War his battalion was sent to the front lines. He served as a unit radio operator reporting enemy sites from observation planes to

artillery guns. Upon returning home, he worked at Hill Air Force Base as a radar systems technician on F-4s and F-16s. He retired in 1985. Orlin was also a deputy sheriff in the Weber County Motorcycle Patrol Search and Rescue Team and a captain in the Civil Air Patrol.

David-Glenn Anderson '69 served in the U.S. Navy until 1963. He then worked at Defense Depot Ogden and Hill Air Force Base until he retired in 1993. He has since worked for the Ogden City School District. David is active with the Ogden-Weber Community Improvement Council, as well as several Utah neighborhood conventions. He directed the AboutSF education workshop at the Montreal World Science Fiction Convention in Canada. He and Sharron, his wife of 50 years, live in Ogden.

Georgia Ricks Richey '69, '95 was named the 2010 Ogden City Mother of the Year. She and her husband, **Stephen L. Richey '65**, met on campus in a courtship and marriage class.



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Stephen is vice president of marketing and sales for Justice Works, formerly DefenderData, Inc. The Richeys have been married 43 years and many of their eight children attended Weber State. They have 24 grandchildren.

70s

Richard L. Judd '70 is founder and managing director of Leland Resources, a company that funds capital acquisitions. Richard has a broad background of leadership in business, serving as vice president and director of sales for a bank holding company, a regional and district manager for international manufacturing distribution companies, and a management and financial consultant.

Timothy M. Leyden '70 moved to Georgia in 1974 where he worked for IBM as a computer systems program manager until 1993. He then worked as an independent consultant in the computer systems field until 2003. Tim and his wife, Sharon, have three children who live in Georgia and Louisiana.

George R. Maxwell '73 is the resident scenic designer for Pioneer Theatre Company in Salt Lake City. He currently is designing sets for "White Christmas," "Rent" and "Sunset Blvd." George has designed sets for the Utah Shakespeare Festival and for Utah Opera Company's "The Coronation of Poppea" and "The Ballad of Baby Doe." He is a member of United Scenic Artists.

Sharon Schirack Kerkman '74 retired after 35 years with Merrill Lynch/Bank of America. She began in the Ogden office in 1974, transferring to Salt Lake City in 1988. Sharon enjoys traveling and spending time with her children and grandchildren.

80s

Leonard K. Arave '80 is mayor of North Salt Lake City. He was appointed to two terms on the

city's Planning Commission and also has volunteered with the parks and trails advisory committee. Len was previously CFO of Woodside Group, a regional housing developer. He and his wife, Carol, have three children. Len has black belts in Taekwondo, Goju and Genjutsu.

Patrick John Smith '82 is currently employed by Kraft Foods in sales and customer logistics finance. Prior to this, Patrick worked for Ford Motor Company for 18 years. He is married to the former Christine Wight. They have five children and have lived in Japan, Indonesia, Michigan and Ohio. They currently reside in Chicago. Patrick has completed the Chicago Marathon and has written his first book, "Camping, Simple and Cheap."

Glenn R. Hover '84 is a colonel in the U.S. Air Force. He moved from his position as deputy director for the Future Learning Division, HQ Air Education & Training Command, to deputy chairman of the Aeromedical Research Department at the USAF School of Aerospace Medicine in San Antonio, Texas. In the spring, the school is relocating to Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio, where Glenn will be stationed.

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Kay Gruis '85 taught third grade at Roosevelt Elementary School for 25 years. She retired in 1997. Kay enjoys quilting, reading and gardening. She sings in the choir and plays handbells for her church. Kay and Willard, her husband of 51 years, live in South Ogden.

LM Michael B. Purcell '86 retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1985 and taught for many years in the public schools in Bountiful and Layton, Utah. Mike now substitute teaches in the Davis School District. He and his wife, Yvonne, live in Layton.

LM Jo-Anne Morritt '88 is a lieutenant colonel in the National Guard. She served in the first Gulf War in the early 1990s and has been in the military ever since. Her assignments brought her to many interesting places and allowed her to help promote peace and freedom throughout

the world. Jo-Anne is proud of her affiliation with Weber State, and when she has the opportunity, she enjoys watching Wildcat football.

90s

LM Jaren K. Price '95 is a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army. He is stationed in Seoul, South Korea, where he serves as the operation officer for the 501st Military Intelligence Brigade, which provides intelligence support to the commander of U.S. Forces in Korea. He and his family enjoy traveling throughout Northeast Asia.

A 1987 graduate of Utah's Morgan High School, **Wade T. Murdock '96** is now the school principal. He began his career at Wendover High School and later served as a counselor and then assistant principal at

Morgan Middle School before becoming a middle school principal for North Summit School District. He lives in Henefer, Utah, with his wife, Merilee, and their four children.

Jason R. VanShaar '96 graduated from Temple University's School of Medicine and is currently in the Abington Memorial Hospital resident program in Abington, Penn. He is specializing in family practice. His wife, **Anna Muir VanShaar '97**, also graduated from Temple University, earning her degree in psychology with a minor in cognitive neuroscience. They have three sons and two daughters.

Matthew J. Dixon '99 is the South Ogden city manager. Prior to working for South Ogden, Matt served as the city manager for South Weber. His experience also includes

work for South Salt Lake as a board administrator and for Centerville, Utah. Matt and his wife, Jennifer, have four children.

Taylor S. Fielding '99 is licensed to practice law in both Utah and Idaho. He formed Morrill & Fielding, LLP, in Ogden, a law practice focusing on family law, criminal defense, and wills and trust preparation.

Dara Riordan Lippolis '99 began her nursing career in the emergency department of Lakeview Hospital in Bountiful, Utah. She moved to Plymouth, Mass., in 2000, where she worked in the local emergency department for eight years. Dara also has worked as a sexual assault nurse examiner in southeastern Massachusetts and Cape Cod. She is currently teaching medical assisting at Lincoln Technical Institute in Massachusetts. She and her husband, Jeff, have two children.

00s

Nicole Dowell Dalrymple '00 works in the Public Affairs Office for the U.S. Africa Command, where she is the media action officer for West and Central Africa in the Press & Media Affairs Division. She lives in Stuttgart, Germany. Nicole has completed two voluntary deployments to Iraq and calls them the highlights of her career. Previously, she was deputy director of Public

Affairs for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in St. Louis, Mo.

Formerly a special agent for the U.S. government, **Mark Padilla Viau '00** currently serves as a public affairs officer for the 101st Information Operations Flight Unit for the Utah Air National Guard. An aspiring actor, he was in the Utah Department of Veterans Affairs feature "Transmission on Transition," which addresses the issue of returning veterans facing post-traumatic stress disorder. He has been cast in his first leading role in a full-length feature film "Diva Force." Mark recently created *Imagineitskins.com*, which helps produce decorative removable images for children's hospital rooms.

Robert Wayment '00 is a urologist at the Ogden Clinic on Harrison Boulevard. He completed his urology residency at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine after receiving his medical degree at the University of Utah. Robert, who was raised on his family's dairy farm in West Warren, Utah, enjoys spending time with his wife and four children.

Sean T. Shepherd '02 is a study director for Nelson Laboratories, Inc., and is a registrant of the National Registry of Certified Microbiologists. He is certified as a specialist in consumer and industrial microbiology.

Sarah Padilla Hanisko '03 works as a testing center technology specialist at Weber State University. Sarah, who currently lives in Roy, Utah, graduated from Syracuse University's Master of Social Science program and is pursuing a doctoral degree in conflict analysis and resolution.

Michelle Miller Litchman '03 was selected from a competitive pool of applicants as the University of Utah's 2010-12 Jonas Hartford Scholar. She is a board-certified family nurse practitioner with Wasatch Endocrinology & Diabetes Specialists in Salt Lake City. She is an emerging leader in diabetes prevention and management in geriatric populations. In 2007 she developed Diabetes Outreach Services, a house call program dedicated to homebound elders with diabetes.

AM Jason M. Carlton '04 is a communication specialist for Primary Children's Medical Center in Salt Lake City. He is vice president of membership for the Greater Salt Lake Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America. He lives in Layton, Utah, with his wife and three children.

Christopher E. Rogers '04, '05, '06 received a Juris Doctorate degree from the Roger Williams University School of Law. Christopher served as president of the Tax & Business Law Society and vice president/treasurer

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of the Student Rhode Island Association for Justice. He also served as the senator and treasurer for Phi Alpha Delta. He was a member of the Honor Board and Student Bar Association. Christopher lives with his wife, Stacy, in Bristol, R.I.

Sam Sampier '04 lives in Price, Utah, and works as an independent consultant who specializes in networking, active directory, security and Linux for information technology systems.

AM Alex Lawrence '05 is founder and owner of Lawrence Capital Management and *TwitJump.com*, which helps corporations, individuals

and small- to medium-sized businesses build their social brand. Alex, who currently teaches an entrepreneurship course for Weber State's John B. Goddard School of Business & Economics, also serves on the Board of Directors for the WSU Alumni Association. He and his wife, **Natalie Lawrence '00**, live in Bountiful, Utah.

Kedrick R. Ridges '05 currently runs his own graphic/web design company. Prior to this, Kedrick worked as a project manager/graphic designer at Weber State University. Kedrick lives in Kaysville, Utah, with his wife, **Kori Martin Ridges '03**, and their four children.

Noah Munyer '06 was one of 135 graduates who received a Juris Doctorate degree in the spring from the University of Akron School of Law, which promotes justice, the protection of individual liberty and the rule of law through commitment to excellence in teaching, scholarship and service.

AM Evan C. Nelson '09 was recently named assistant comptroller in the financial department of the Overland Corporation, which owns and operates the Hertz Rental and Sales businesses in northern Utah. Evan and his wife, Andrea, live in Clinton, Utah, with their family.

Joshua B. Pedersen '09 is the CEO of the United Way of Frederick County in Frederick, Md. Prior to this appointment, he was chairman of the board of directors for the Utah Nonprofits Association. He and his wife, Cydamarie Klc Pedersen, have three children.

Christopher A. Portillo '09 was promoted to lance corporal in the Marine Corps Reserve while serving with Inspector and Instructor Staff, Company C, 4th Tank Battalion, in Boise, Idaho.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 2010-2011 LEADERS



Rex Baxter '96

President, WSU Alumni Association

Rex Baxter studied finance at Weber State University and earned a bachelor's degree in business administration. Baxter is currently an associate vice president of investments at Ameriprise Advisor Services, Inc. An avid golfer, Baxter is a proud supporter of the WSU Alumni Classic golf tournament. He served on the Wildcat Club board of directors from 1998-2005. As WSUAA president, Baxter's goals are to attract new alumni association members and strengthen community involvement. He also hopes to increase the number of scholarships awarded by the association. Baxter loves attending WSU athletic events and spending time with his wife, Jenni, and their six children. **LM**



Carol Freestone '65

President, WSU Emeriti Alumni Council

Carol Freestone graduated from Weber State College with a bachelor's degree in sociology. She worked at America First Credit Union for 32 years before retiring in 1997. She and her husband, Ed Freestone '67, have three children, all of whom are WSU graduates. The Emeriti Alumni Council provides engaging opportunities for those who attended Weber 40 or more years ago, as well as for retired faculty and staff. The EAC hosts reunions, provides volunteers for student-sponsored and athletic events, honors outstanding alumni, and raises money for scholarships and a student emergency fund. **LM**



Andy Skillman '12

President, WSU Student Alumni Association

Andy Skillman is a junior majoring in telecommunication administration. He is a 2006 Horatio Alger National Scholar and maintains a 3.7 cumulative grade point average at Weber State. Skillman loves Weber State sports with a passion and has served as the basketball chair for Student Alumni Association/Purple Pak with a goal to someday have 2,000 students chanting in the student section. When he's not studying or helping out with Purple Pak, Skillman can be found working at Associated Fresh Market in Layton, Utah. He looks forward to involving even more WSU students by letting them know about the benefits and opportunities of SAA/Purple Pak membership.



Peter J. Owen '08

President, WSU Young Alumni Council

Peter Owen is a former student body president who is so proud to be a Weber State Wildcat he claims that "he bleeds purple." In fact, the former finance major enjoyed his undergraduate experience at WSU so much he recently returned to pursue a Master of Accounting degree. Owen helped organize the Purple Pak — the alumni-sponsored student fan club whose members display their contagious school spirit at athletic events and pep rallies. Owen is currently employed by JD Clark & Company as a hedge fund accountant and is married to Rosann Parkin Owen '05. **LM**



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Star Search

Rhett Zollinger's first foray into physics didn't go exactly as he had planned. He started his undergraduate studies at Weber State University in the construction management program. One physics class later — taken just for fun — he changed his major.

It was the start of something good.

Two years ago, Zollinger, along with WSU physics professor John Armstrong, predicted the discovery of a new Earth-like planet during an undergraduate research project. In September 2010, astronomers at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and the Carnegie Institution of Washington located that particular planet, which has a high probability for harboring life in the universe.

"One of our students predicted the properties of the first Earth-like planet around another star, and that planet has subsequently been discovered — with nearly the same parameters as the prediction," said Armstrong. "That is pretty exciting and illustrates exactly how science is supposed to work."

Since graduating from WSU in 2008 with a bachelor's degree in physics, Zollinger has enrolled as a graduate student in physics at the University of Utah.