

NEWSLETTER

February 2026

ISUAA Newsletter

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

WHAT IS THE BOARD UP TO?

Let's Find Out!



Above: Donna Hays (the BAB Director) and Ryan and Jamie Howerton at an ISU Women's Basketball home game



Left: Cam Coleman #3, Jamie and Ryan Howerton, and Aurora Elder #20 at the Big Sky Conference Tournament 2025.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL Jamie Howerton

The ISU Women's Basketball team is having an exciting season! They just came off a big win over last season's Big Sky champions, winning by a commanding 19 points! The team is currently in 4th place in a tight race for the top of the conference with a month left in the season. The Big Sky Conference Tournament will be held in Boise, Idaho from March 7-11th. Come out and cheer on a team full of amazing student athletes!

FOOTBALL ROADSHOW Doug Balfour

President Adams and I, along with 150 other boosters, attended the 2026 ISU Football Road Show on February 4th. Coach Hawkins gave his overview of last year, which finished strong with victories over our main rivals, Idaho and Weber. Coach then outlined his work for 2026 and had his position coaches give synopses of this year's recruiting class. We have a big new class coming, with transfers and high school players. With 7 home games and 12 total games in 2026. Coach was very enthusiastic about the team's chances to make the playoffs.

ALUMNI LOOK BACK

Stan Cope is a true Bengal original! A 1967 ISU grad, Stan spent 37 years shaping young minds, served in leadership roles across education, the arts, and community organizations, and even logged an incredible 56 years with the National Ski Patrol at Pebble Creek. He's also a talented artist whose work recently found a permanent home in a local Pocatello bank.



Whether on the slopes, in the classroom, or behind the easel, Stan continues to make ISU proud!

NEXT GEN BENGALS Shawnee Burt

Homecoming 2025 was so much fun! This is the first time in years my husband Ryan and I were able to bring our whole family to celebrate! We are both very proud Bengal Alumni, and we love to bring our four kids to campus as often as we can! We are raising the next generation of Bengals! Nothing says Homecoming like a family pic with Benny the Bengal!



**Idaho State
University**

ISU CELEBRATES 125

Princess Young

This year marks an outstanding ISU anniversary milestone: 125 years of Bengal Pride!

As we roar into our 125th year, there will be special events and celebrations throughout 2026. You can learn more about upcoming

events and ISU's history at <https://www.isu.edu/125years/>. (Fun fact: the university's Alumni Association was established in 1906 with just 14 members. Now there are over 85,000 members!)

Additionally, ISU invites you to share your favorite or pivotal ISU memories with comments and pictures through an online recognition board. Enjoy other's contributions and add your best Bengal moments at <https://isu.kudoboard.com/boards/KnjNykw>.



Left: Jamie Howerton, Tracy Wagner & ISUAA Board President Stephanie Adams at the Serval House near Pocatello campus.

ISU WOMEN & MRS. WAGNER

Mrs. Tracy Wagner hosted the ISU Women's Club members at her home in January. She gave tours, shared photos and treasures found in the home, and walked the members through the history of the home. The home was built in 1917 and officially became the ISU President's home over 70 years ago. ISU Women's Club is open to all women with all kinds of ties to the university. Jamie & Stephanie are members of the club!

SAN DIEGO ALUMNI TOUR Amy Dressel

The Alumni Tour's latest stop was in sunny San Diego on February 3. It was wonderful to connect with alumni and supporters of ISU, including Carol, who celebrated her 94th birthday the day before. With



ISU's 125th anniversary year officially underway, gatherings like this feel especially meaningful. The enthusiasm and support help carry our legacy forward and strengthen the Bengal community. Next stop, Dallas on Feb. 19 and then Boise for the Big Sky Kickoff on March 7. Learn more about the Alumni Tour at isu.edu/alumni/alumni-tour/

IDAHO STATE MOM

ISU lost a proud Bengal Mom with the recent passing of Mike Keckler's wife, Melinda. We take a moment here to remember her. Melinda was the marketing director at Boise State but that didn't keep her from being very proud that her son Kyle decided to leave the comfort of his hometown and attend college at Idaho State. She visited regularly and attended home games as often as possible. She proudly wore her "Idaho State Mom" sweatshirt around the house and in public, particularly when she visited Kyle in Pocatello. She will be missed by all who knew her.

