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Welcome to the March 2004 issue of @ **uwyo**, a monthly digest of news briefs about the University of Wyoming. Want to have your @ **uwyo** delivered to an alternate e-mail address? Send a message to [foundation@uwyo.edu](mailto:foundation@uwyo.edu) If your e-mail is not set to receive HTML messages, you can also visit [www.uwyo.edu/newsletter](http://www.uwyo.edu/newsletter) for a Web version of this issue.

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**JUSTICE SPEAKS** -- United States Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor shared humorous stories with retired U.S. Sen. Alan Simpson during a presentation Tuesday at the University of Wyoming. O'Connor signed books and spoke to an overflow crowd in the Fine Arts Center concert hall. O'Connor became the Supreme Court's 102nd justice in 1981 after being nominated by President Ronald Reagan. (UW Photo)

#### Legislative budget session roundup

The University of Wyoming budget requests were supported by the Wyoming Legislature and approved by Gov. Dave Freudenthal.

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#### Athletics facilities campaign receives first gifts



A capital campaign to improve University of Wyoming intercollegiate athletics facilities received a major boost with the announcement that two Wyoming families have made the first pledges of \$500,000 each to start fund raising efforts.

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### Hathaway selected dean of UW College of Business

Brent Hathaway, interim dean of the University of Wyoming College of Business since last May, has been named permanent dean following a national search process. His appointment is effective July 1.

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### Design/build team selected for hotel-conference center

Two Wyoming firms, Delta Construction of Laramie and GSG Architecture of Casper, have been selected for the design and construction of "University of Wyoming Plaza."

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### UW production, students, win national theatre honors

A rock musical written by University of Wyoming student Sean Keogh of Casper and directed by Associate Professor William Missouri Downs has been selected to be performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. during April.

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### \$800K grant funds electrochemical research at UW

A recent \$800,000 grant from the W. M. Keck Foundation of Los Angeles is making it possible for the University of Wyoming to develop a tool for researching battery and fuel cell technology that could lead to revolutionary changes in the way energy is produced, moved, and consumed.

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### Anthropologist sees modern human features in Croatian fossils

Late Neandertals may have passed genetic traits into the modern human gene pool, according to University of Wyoming Anthropologist James Ahern. He is among scientists who analyzed hominid fossils and archeological remains discovered in a cave in north-central Croatia.

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### UW debate team ranks in the top five

The University of Wyoming debate team is ranked fifth among 336 schools in the nation, according to current National Parliamentary Debate Association rankings.

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### Detailed Atlas of Wyoming online

Detailed information about the state's economy, geography, climate, population, history and culture can now be downloaded from the Wyoming Digital Atlas produced by the Wyoming Geographic Alliance in cooperation with the Wyoming Geographic Information Sciences Center at the University of Wyoming.

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### Internet technology supports biomedical research and teaching

New technology is providing the University of Wyoming unprecedented access to research tools and computing power and the ability to communicate with the finest biomedical researchers anywhere in the world, says UW Vice President for Research William Gern.

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### Family of the Year nomination deadline April 30

Nominations for the 2004 Family of the Year are being accepted through April 30. Since 1992, the Associated Parents – University of (APUW) has annually recognized a family who has demonstrated consistent and sustained involvement with and support for the university and state of Wyoming

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## UW Cowgirls, Kinner repeat as national champions

Jennifer Kinner and her University of Wyoming Nordic ski team members now can call themselves back-to-back national champions. The Cowgirls made it a clean sweep at the recent United States Collegiate Ski and Snowboard Association (USCSSA) national championships in Sugarloaf, Maine.

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## 2004 football schedule announced; track members earn all-America honors

The 2004 UW Cowboy football schedule has been released. Five UW indoor track members earn All-America honors. New Hall of Fame inductees announced.

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### From the pages of UWYO magazine:

#### 'Play's the Thing'

*UW early childhood education experts say fun and games can help children learn more about their world and themselves.*

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KEEP IN TOUCH – Let fellow UW alumni know about the changes in your life by filling out this short online form at [www.uwyo.edu/uwyo](http://www.uwyo.edu/uwyo) Your notice will be published in UWyo magazine's class notes section so you can stay connected with your classmates.

### Share your story:

Do you have a great story to share with other UW graduates or know of someone who does? UWyo magazine, the university's flagship publication for alumni and friends, seeks feature stories about graduates who are making a difference in their communities and around the world. Past issues have highlighted alumni such as Dr. Stephen Nicholas, a Harlem, N.Y. physician who cares for children suffering from HIV-AIDS, and Avis Blackie, who has helped members of her Northern Arapaho Tribe recover from alcohol and substance abuse on Wyoming's Wind River Reservation. If you know of someone whose work and life has impacted hundreds of lives or just one, contact Editor David Eisenhauer at [davide@uwyo.edu](mailto:davide@uwyo.edu)

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Jennifer Kinner and her University of Wyoming Nordic ski team members now can call themselves back-to-back national champions.

The Cowgirls made it a clean sweep at the recent United States Collegiate Ski and Snowboard Association (USCSSA) national championships in Sugarloaf, Maine, Saturday, winning the fourth and final race. Kinner, a Casper senior, who earlier swept all three individual races, led UW to first place in the 3x5 kilometer relay event in a time of 50:39. Other relay team members were Brooke Umphlett, senior, Casper, and Kristen Boroff, junior, Pinedale. Clarkson College of Potsdam, N.Y., placed second at 52:13 and Cornell University was next at 53:10.

The UW women took team honors with 33 points, outdistancing Clarkson, which had 69 points, for the second straight season. Third went to Cornell with 94.

Kinner won all three individual races for the second straight year, and again was named the USCSSA's overall individual skier.

"The women were simply awesome. They stamped their mark during the first race and never looked back," says UW coach Christi Boggs, technology coordinator in the UW College of Education. "Jennifer won all the individual events, and if someone had a bad race, the next girl would just step up and move on. Putting five women in the top eight overall is absolutely amazing," Boggs says.

To be considered for All-America status, a skier must place among the top 10 in individual point production from the three races, the 1 km skate sprint race, the 15 km classic and the 8.5 km skate interval. The top five individuals are named to the first team and the sixth through 10th skiers are placed on the second team. Also earning All-America status for the UW Cowgirls were Boroff, third place overall; Melissa Gangl, freshman, Casper, fourth; Umphlett, seventh; and Erika Edgely, junior, Lake Placid, N.Y., eighth.

The UW Cowboys finished third in the nation behind Clarkson College and Cornell University. Clarkson had 36 team points, Cornell 76 and the Cowboys 92.

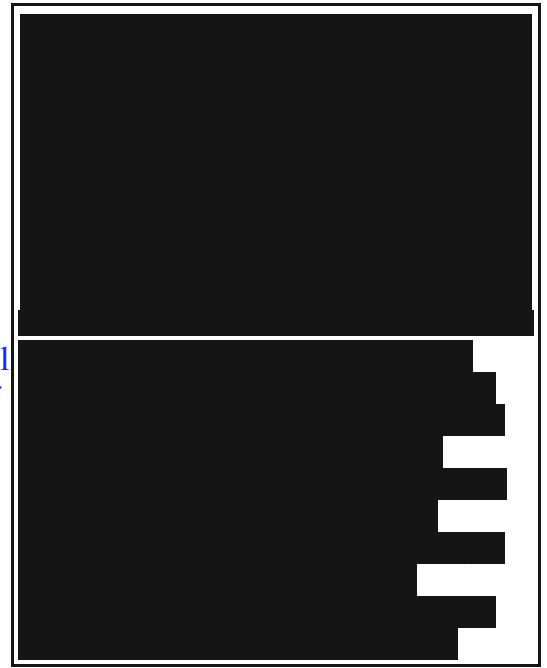
Clarkson won the week's final team race, the 3x5 km relay, in 41:54, Cornell's time was 42:21 and UW finished at 44:02.

Steady Riley Hopeman, a junior from Lander, led three UW skiers on the All-America team. He was the fifth highest scoring individual in the USCSSA national championships. Teammates Justin Daraie and Joshua Peterson were seventh and 10th, respectively, to earn second team status. Daraie is a Casper junior and Peterson is a freshman from Lander. Hopeman, Daraie and Peterson were on the 3x5 km relay team.

"The men did well, but the field was just really strong," Boggs says. "Riley had a good nationals and our freshmen were amazing."

The Cowboy and Cowgirl ski team members also earned Academic All America status and also combined with UW's women's Alpine ski team to win the President's Award.

Named to the Academic All America first team were Peterson, Boroff and Laramie sophomore Ava Bell.



Umphlett earned second team honors and Gangl and Daraie were named honorable mention.

The Cowgirls also won the President's Award, which is given to the team with the best scores from both the Nordic and Alpine ski teams. UW had 44 points, Cornell 62 and Colorado Mountain College 78. The Cowboys placed fourth in the men's competition with 147 points. Cornell won the President's Award with 63 points, Clarkson had 654 and the Air Force Academy 140.

Brandie Yeik, a second bachelor's degree candidate from Eagle, Colo., was the only UW Alpine skier to finish both giant slalom runs, placing 39th overall. In the women's slalom, Yeik was 56th; Megan Yeik, senior, also from Eagle, took 63rd; and Stacie Fredrich, junior, Rapid City, S.D., finished 83rd.

In the men's competition, Nicholas Houfek, sophomore, Big Piney, had the highest UW finish at 60th; Ryan Poulin, freshman, East Winthrop, Maine, was 74th; and Hunter Maddox, junior, Steamboat Springs, Colo., was 82nd.

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