

The Magazine of the University of Oregon Spring 2009

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# Oregon

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# Oregon

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Editor's Note | Guy Maynard, Editor



## An Oregon Story

Raymond had the thickest fingers I ever saw, muscled and callused, worked to a machined hardness, worn to a leathery shine. Fingers formed by a lifetime of wrenches and winches, of hammers and handsaws, of building and fixing and getting by in the lush and rugged country where the South Umpqua River starts to flatten out after its rush down from the mountains. Yet those oversized fingers could nestle a quarter-inch nut and guide it around fans and manifolds and whathaveyou into the godawfulest crook of an engine and thread it on the barest tip of the bolt where it needed to be. And that, of course, after our young and nimble fingers had failed a dozen times. Raymond, smiling, patient, encouraging, would wait as we tried and cursed and declared the impossibility of getting that particular nut on that stupid misplaced bolt—and then, matter-of-factly, do it.

Raymond Spore was into his seventies when we met him. We were a common early-'70s story, a bunch of long-haired kids from the East looking for a place to create new lives in the wild and open West. We landed in the South Umpqua town of Tiller, about sixteen miles upriver from Days Creek, where Raymond lived. He dropped by to say hello to the early settlers of our group. My friend, Bruce Gordon, who still lives on the South Umpqua, bought a white '52 Chevy pickup from him and a remarkable friendship was born.

I don't know when Raymond got to Days Creek. Delbert "Deb" Moore, who lives not far from Raymond's old place, recalls "driving a nail or two into the Days Creek Store with Raymond Spore back in 1942." Raymond ran the store and the gas station, which were next to his house near where Highway 227 takes a quick southwest turn to a bridge over the river.

When my wife, Shelley (always, for some reason, "Shirley" to Raymond), and I got to Tiller in 1971, Raymond had sold the store, his first wife, Leona, had died, his children were off on their own. We bought a red '52 Chevy pickup from him (at least three other friends bought Raymondmobiles—you couldn't beat the lifetime warranty). His small house, hand built in seven days, surrounded by an assortment of sheds full of every imaginable tool and auto part and canned good, was a regular stop on our trips to town (Canyonville or, for big trips, Roseburg). Often some sort of car repair was involved—Raymond was a graduate of the first class of the Ford auto repair school—but we always spent some time in his small, smoke-flavored living room, visiting. He served instant coffee with evaporated milk in hard plastic cups, sat in his rocker, his little old dog Queenie curled at his feet, and we talked.

Raymond died in 1975. He had remarried and moved into Myrtle Creek. Shelley and I had left Tiller after a year and a half, tried to go back East but realized how deeply Oregon had gotten into us, and wove our way back to Eugene. We visited with Raymond a few times after our return. Our son was born in 1976 and we used a C for his first name for Shelley's grandfather Carl, and his middle initial was R for Raymond. We never did attach a name to that initial, but we have a Rachel and Raswan among the offspring of our Tiller cohort.

In our early Tiller days, most locals didn't like us. The post office routinely opened and examined our mail. We were harassed and hassled by law enforcement and civilians alike. But Raymond welcomed us, helped us, tried to shelter us from the onslaught of our ignorance and naïveté about country life. He was our bridge to this wondrous but hard place called Oregon. He was our friend.

Happy 150 years of statehood, Oregon.

gmaynard@uoregon.edu

**Web Extra!** Go to [www.OregonQuarterly.com](http://www.OregonQuarterly.com) to see photos of Raymond.



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## Everywhere and Here

I find the treatment of cellular technology in the article about the Kim Family's ordeal ["Everywhere is Here," Winter 2008] one-sided and poorly informed. The author, Lisa Polito, apparently set out to write a piece regarding the false sense of security cellular technology has given us. Plenty of speculation and blame is laid at the feet of a false faith in technology, but we see no actual evidence that the Kims continued as a result of their faith in cellular telephone communication. She asserts that "[t]hey never turned back because they had all-wheel drive and cell phones." Likewise, Polito doesn't explore the reason the Mount Hood climbers she mentions were so confident. Again, she fails to provide any evidence. Polito has no grounds to infer that "cellular overconfidence" was fatal in the two cases she examines. As a former colleague of Noah Pugsley, the "resourceful if unauthorized cell phone engineer," I'm disappointed by her dismissive treatment of him. Noah is nothing short of a hero and has been recognized as such. Were it not for the technology Polito seemingly reviles, Noah could have never

### Oregon Quarterly Letters Policy

The magazine welcomes all letters, but reserves the right to edit for space and clarity. Send your comments to Editor, *Oregon Quarterly*, 5228 University of Oregon, Eugene OR 97403-5228; via fax at (541) 346-5571; or via e-mail at [quarterly@uoregon.edu](mailto:quarterly@uoregon.edu).

traced the Kims' cell phone pings, and the search likely would never have been focused on the correct geographical area. James Kim's death is a tragedy, but Katie's and her children's survival is a testament to what the technology can do to save lives. Indeed, the dedicated men and women of search-and-rescue organizations throughout the country use wireless technology as the backbone of their communications efforts.

*Kevin Griffith '02  
Portland*

I can relate to the issues raised in the story about James Kim and Bear Camp Road ["Everywhere is Here"]. I have been across that road. My family and I took it in summer 2003 going from Gold Beach back to our home in Central Point. Why? It was on the map, and it looked like the fastest way. Fortunately it was summer, and we could see the large portions where the road disintegrated down the side of the mountain. It was a slow drive back. The road re-entered our lives again in summer 2008 on a trip from Nevada to Oregon Caves National Monument. The map from Google said the fastest route was straight across from Phoenix, through Jacksonville, to Oregon Caves. The directions didn't mention that it involved a dirt road several thousand feet up on the side of a mountain. We eventually backed down the road, like the Kims. Then we went back to a store we'd seen at an intersection marked on our map at Williams. I asked directions, and the owner told me the story of the Kims and Bear Camp Road. Fortunately he put us on a paved road over the mountain, which was perfect in the summer. Thanks for the reminder about wisdom, caution, and the limits of technology.

*Lou Bubala, J.D. '04  
Washoe Valley, Nevada*

The article about the tragic events of the Kim family ["Everywhere is Here"] omits one very important fact. James Kim drove around, or lifted and went under, a barrier installed by the Forest Service to stop people from driving up Bear Camp Road. To lay any blame on the searchers' timeliness or the Forest Service is ridiculous based on this fact alone. I've been involved in outdoor activities since my school days at Oregon in the early '60s, and it's my opinion that the Kims made some irrational decisions based on a lack of understanding of what it takes to survive in the wilderness. The story brings to mind a similar event that happened in the early '60s when a

**"A couple of sleeping bags in the trunk or back seat may make the difference in surviving if stuck in a winter storm someplace."**

couple and their baby got stuck in the snow and after a day or so attempted to walk to safety. When finally found, they were in some cover under a large log in a sort of cave. The woman, who was nursing her baby, used up so much energy, she died from hypothermia, but the man and the baby survived.

You should print an article about wilderness survival, especially to remind folks that,

### CORRECTIONS



**We owe Phil Hansen '67, J.D. '70, a triple apology.** In "Better Late" (*Old Oregon*, Winter 2008), we misidentified the cannery where he worked. It should have been Diamond A, though he found some humor in our hearing it as "dime-a-day"—"the cannery didn't pay that well, now that I think about it." We also were wrong with his finish in the 1967 Pac-8 championship steeplechase. He finished fourth as attested to by his place on the left of the medal stand in the photograph above. Finally, in his letter to the editor, we got the name of his teammate Bruce Mortenson '66 wrong. We owe him.

**The Great Rotary Duck Race** ("The Delight of the Duckie" *Old Oregon*, Winter 2008) is organized by the United Rotary Clubs, which includes eleven clubs representing Springfield, Cottage Grove, and Fern Ridge, as well as Eugene.



should they get lost, be sure to stay with the car. It is the best place for safety and keeping as warm as possible. We never travel in the Oregon mountain passes in the winter without supplies to last a couple of days in the car, especially extra water. A couple of sleeping bags in the trunk or back seat may make the difference in surviving if stuck in a winter storm someplace.

*Kenneth E. Ehlers '65  
Sisters*

## Stunning Optimism

Thomas Hager's "Thin Air, Fat People" [UpFront, Winter 2008] was stunning in its optimism. Hager tells us that world famine is no longer a worry thanks to chemical fertilizers, and we need only improve food distribution and everyone can be fat, literally. Population will peak mid-century and all is well. To thank petroleum-based fertilizer for allowing human population to grow geometrically to the point where humans are pushing many vertebrate species to extinction is hardly a point of reassurance. Perhaps we won't have famine to worry about but other problems are rushing in. Just before the economic crisis hit in November, world food prices were skyrocketing, largely because high oil prices were making food distribution and fabricating chemical fertilizers from petroleum expensive.

The runoff from nitrogen fertilizers is creating huge marine dead zones in the Gulf of Mexico, off Oregon, and elsewhere, and these fertilizers kill necessary microbes in soil and fill rivers with algae. Producing and transporting nitrogen fertilizer contributes to global warming. The answer is not to celebrate petroleum fertilizers but to move away from them rapidly toward organic, ecologically sustainable, locally based agriculture. This would help restore rivers and oceans and make people healthier. Even so, population is far too high, and our ecological problems and pandemics will take their toll well before Hager's natural population declines take place.

*Tom Ribe, M.S. '90  
Santa Fe, New Mexico*

## Mixed Messages?

In "Slithy Toves Gimbling in the Gyre" [UpFront, Winter 2008], about "the patch" in the Pacific Ocean where all the plastic accumulates, you seem to express concern for our environment. Then in "Delight of the Duckie"

[Old Oregon] you show 63,000 duckies being dumped in the river, which ends up in the Pacific! While for a good cause, there's no chance all those many thousands of duckies get pulled out of the river, and they are bound to end up in the aforementioned patch. So, what are the priorities being displayed here?

*Angela Perstein '84  
Seattle, Washington*

*Editor's note: Organizers of the Great Rotary*

*Duck Race tell us that between a "catch" at the finish line and 150 volunteers in the water and on shore, all ducks are removed from the river.*

## Mistaken Identity

Recent extensive research reveals that everything attributed to Alaby Blivet '63 was actually done by a classmate of the same name.

*Chuck Chicks, M.A. '56, Ph.D. '60  
Sunnyvale, California*



— Marcus Mundy, Class of '07, President & CEO, Urban League of Portland

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# Upfront

Excerpts, Exhibits, Explorations, Ephemera

Presidential candidate John F. Kennedy and campaign worker Joseph S. Miller in Hawaii, 1959.

## I'll Take the Cash

Federal investigators filed shocking allegations in December that Illinois governor Rod Blagojevich tried to sell the Senate seat left vacant following Barack Obama's election. In a wiretapped conversation, Blagojevich responded to the suggestion he should "suck it up" and simply appoint the replacement Obama wanted chosen. "For nothing?" Blagojevich thundered. "(Expletive) him." The tarnishing effect of money on the political process was an all too common sight for Joseph S. Miller '43 throughout his decades-long career as a political operative and a Washington, D.C., lobbyist. He reflects on his life's work in *The Wicked Wine of Democracy: A Memoir of a Political Junkie, 1948–1995*.

**I**S THERE ANYTHING NEW ON MONEY and lobbying, anything to be said that hasn't already been said a thousand times by Senator John McCain aired on the radio during his presidential campaign? Money is the mother's milk of politics. True, but I like the "wicked

wine" analogy a little better. If Utopians took over and political money were outlawed, slick operators would still find ways to infuse it into the process. . . . Passage of Thompson-Hansen [post-Watergate era reform legislation that made it legal for labor unions, corporations, and business trade associations to use union and corporation money to finance the raising of money for partisan political ends] set off a stampede similar to the Great Oklahoma Land Rush. Corporations, business trade associations, and law firms formed

PACs to seek the political dollar. Almost overnight, Washington was awash in new political money. Elected officials are human beings; they lined up at the new troughs as if it was Bank Night in Canarsie. And the cost of campaigns skyrocketed. As an example, Al Ullman of Oregon, who became chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, spent less than \$10,000 in each and every campaign from 1954 to 1974. In 1980, when he was defeated in the Reagan rush, his campaign cost \$796,000. That is how the price of

PHOTO COURTESY UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON PRESS

politics shot up. Ullman's case was not unusual. Congressional districts where a good campaign could be made for around \$50,000 now demanded a million dollars or more. Fundraising suddenly became a necessity and an all-consuming proposition, and lobbying changed with it. . . .

The new PACs proliferated. With expensive media consultants suddenly becoming the new vogue and television entrenched as the main medium of politics, costs increased many fold. Entrenched incumbents, such as Ullman, now felt the need to wage full-scale media campaigns. Some, who heretofore had never taken a nickel in contributions, began shaking every money tree in the new PAC forest.

My exemplar of what went wrong was a man I considered to be the modern personification of Thomas Jefferson's citizen-legislator—Dr. Thomas E. Morgan, Democrat of Pennsylvania. First elected in 1944, for decades “Doc” doubled as his district's congressman and its leading general practitioner. Tuesday to Thursday, he legislated in Washington, D.C.; Friday to Monday he cared for his patients in Washington. Morgan spent his leisure hours to get his patients to get their teeth cleaned in one of his south-of-Pittsburgh offices. He didn't need to remind them at election time. He was just what Jefferson had in mind.

Then came the new PACs. Doc had a nice fellow on his staff, and he and the PAC money-givers discovered each other. They staged a “birthday party” for Doc at \$500 a head. Then an “anniversary party,” same price. Hardly a month went by without some kind of a party for Doc, belatedly basking in all the attention and money that he didn't need. Now, mind you, it was all legal, and Doc did nothing wrong. No one bought his vote. Yet, somehow, I found it sad.

There are still some who will argue that Thompson-Hansen and the 1974 reforms worked, that they brought campaign finance out of the shadows and into the sunlight of full disclosure so that there was no longer any doubt about who was contributing to whom. True and conceded. It is further argued that the creation of so many PACs greatly expanded participation in the democratic process, the goal of the American system. And with the \$1,000 limit on individual contributions and \$5,000 on PAC contributions, no one

person or PAC could dominate. Possibly.

Yet, we all know that Washington is laced with smart lawyers who make careers of figuring ways around such obstacles. Soft money and independent expenditures are obvious loopholes, but there are others, too. Plenty of them. Short of a draconian thunderclap that would ban all money except federal financing (Theodore Roosevelt's idea), I don't see anything—McCain-Feingold or whatever—curing the disease.

And how do you regulate the oldest loophole of all—cash? In all the campaigns I worked, cash made up around one-third of contributions. That cash was historically a principal coin of the political realm was

Short of a draconian thunderclap that would ban all money except federal financing . . . I don't see anything—McCain-Feingold or whatever—curing the disease.

spotlighted when Idaho's famous senator, William Edgar Borah, died in 1940. In his safety deposit box at the Idaho First National Bank in Boise, investigators found \$215,000 in cash, a huge sum at that time. Unspent campaign contributions, they decided, and finally gave the money to his widow. On a number of occasions, I slipped a cash-filled envelope into a legislator's pocket and mumbled that it was for his campaign, knowing that it would never get there. There is, I once heard Senator Russell B. Long observe, “a fine line between bribery and campaign contributions, but I've never determined where it was.”

Some years ago, I was asked to put together a media campaign for John C. Watts of Kentucky, the ranking Democrat on the tax-writing House Ways and Means Committee. I did, and then told Watts that \$52,000 was needed to reserve his radio-TV time and billboards. He nodded and padded off to an anteroom of his commo-

dious Rayburn House Office Building office and opened a huge, old-fashioned safe. I sat in the main office, sipping the fine bourbon his secretary had poured for me. Some time went by, and finally Watts called to me for help. He was nearly blind, but hated to admit it. I entered his inner sanctorum—and was almost blinded myself! A mountain of green sat in that ancient safe, and Watts had spilled some of it on the floor. It was high-denomination stuff, piles of \$50s, \$100s, and \$500s. I had seen bundles of cash before, but never anything like this, an emerald cornucopia that made me salivate. Many of the piles still had lobbyists' cards attached. Calling in his secretary to observe the counting, I left shortly with the \$52,000. When I told [Kentucky Democratic politician Earle] Clements about it, he chuckled and his cheeks dimpled in appreciation. “John's a businessman, my boy. John's a businessman!”

Lyndon Johnson loved cash and hated checks. “Cash is clean and leaves no fingerprints,” he informed me when we first met in 1957. “Stay away from checks. Always ask for cash. Checks can trip you up when you least expect it.”

The late Tip O'Neill had a story about John F. Kennedy that he loved to tell. “In the 1960 campaign,” said Tip, “I was a nobody, consigned to a minor-league circuit of tank towns where I beat the drums for money with the Democratic pols. On my first swing from Massachusetts across New York, Ohio, and Indiana, I did pretty good and arrived in Chicago on the eve of the first Kennedy-Nixon debate with a bundle. Jack was in a suite at the Morrison getting ready, so I went there and checked in with my pal Kenny O'Donnell, told him what I had. He said for me to wait while he checked with JFK. Then he came back and said Jack wanted to see me. He was lying on a bed, nursing a beer, reading briefs for the debate.

“Without even saying hello, he asked, ‘What you got, Tip?’ I told him, so much in checks and the rest in cash. I asked him what he wanted me to do with it. Kennedy waved his arm. ‘Give the checks to Kenny,’ he said, ‘and leave the cash here.’”

Tip chuckled in appreciation. “When I told my roommate [Massachusetts Democratic congressman] Eddie Boland about it, Eddie said: ‘It doesn't matter whether they're running for alderman or president of the United States. It's always: Give him the checks. I'll take the cash.’”

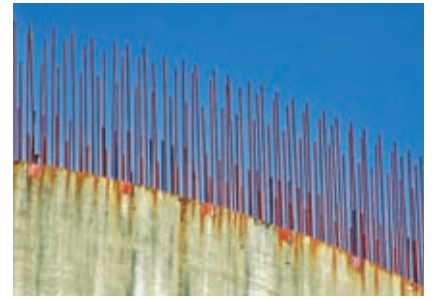
# Whoops!

As gasoline prices soared to more than \$4 per gallon recently, cries for American energy independence grew ever more intense. One candidate to help achieve that goal, nuclear power, has vigorous supporters and detractors, all of whom might benefit from considering the issues raised by and lessons learned from the Northwest's most notorious nuclear misadventure as chronicled in *Nuclear Implosions: The Rise and Fall of the Washington Public Power Supply System* by longtime UO history professor Daniel Pope. This excerpt is from the book's preface.

ON JUNE 22, 2005, PRESIDENT George W. Bush journeyed to the Calvert Cliffs nuclear plant in southern Maryland, about fifty miles outside Washington, D.C. Speaking there, he proclaimed, "It is time for this country to start building nuclear power plants again." The president's endorsement came as no surprise. The press pointed out that he was the first president to come to a nuclear plant since Jimmy Carter had gone to Three Mile Island during the Pennsylvania reactor's 1979 crisis. Fewer reported two days later that President Carter himself visited the Calvert Cliffs nuclear plant in western Maryland for a review. I think the president's endorsement of nuclear power was a good thing. Although Carter was a nuclear engineer prior to his political career, he had been viewed as generally unsympathetic to nuclear power's growth during his term in office. Yet by 2005 a pronuclear political consensus seemed to be emerging.

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Even before the two presidents spoke, there were many signs of revived interest in nuclear power. Utilities, reactor vendors, and construction firms had formed three consortia to explore potential projects in the United States. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission had, as far back as 1989, streamlined licensing procedures. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 contained several inducements to start a new round of nuclear construction. Rapidly rising oil and natural gas prices, along with projections of an imminent peak in world petroleum output followed by a long, painful period of decline, persuaded analysts and policy makers to look afresh at nonpetroleum energy sources. Even some environmentalists had come to view nuclear power as a preferable alternative to fossil fuels' carbon emissions and the climate change they caused. Public opinion was also shifting in a positive direction. According to one sur-



The unfinished Satsop Nuclear Power Plant in Satsop, Washington

vey, 70 percent of those polled indicated support for nuclear power in 2005, up from 46 percent a decade earlier. Communities under consideration as sites appeared receptive.

Yet prospects for a full-fledged nuclear revival in the United States are cloudy. Construction of the long-delayed permanent waste repository planned for Yucca Mountain, Nevada, seems to recede endlessly into the future. The attacks of September 11, 2001, raised concerns about terrorist attacks on reactors and raised questions about the vulnerability of spent-fuel storage ponds at nuclear plant

sites. However, the greatest impediment to resuming nuclear construction in the United States is financial. Not only the foes of nuclear energy but also many of its corporate backers agree that investing in nuclear power at this point would be a risky venture. "Moody's would go bananas if we announced we were going to build a nuclear plant," said Thomas E. Capps. Capps is CEO of Dominion Resources Inc., a major electricity and natural gas supplier and the lead firm in one of the consortia investigating nuclear construction. Marilyn Kray, the president of NuStart Energy Development, the largest of the consortia,

Rapidly rising oil and natural gas prices, along with projections of an imminent peak in world petroleum output followed by a long, painful period of decline, persuaded analysts and policy makers to look afresh at non-petroleum energy sources.

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was a confidence in the process of regulation and in the ability of the government to make a new investment. Financiers are saying they are not yet comfortable."

The story of the Washington Public Power Supply System's attempts a generation ago to build five large nuclear power plants should give utilities and financiers further reason to proceed with great caution. The results of the Supply System's efforts are simple to recount: one plant completed, two terminated in 1982, and another two canceled in 1994, after more than a decade-long construction moratorium. Shortly before the 1982 terminations, the agency estimated costs for building the five plants at \$23.9 billion, more than five times the total of the projects' initial estimates. In 1983, legal difficulties forced the Supply System to default on \$2.24 billion in municipal bonds that it had sold; this, in turn, led to a securities fraud suit of enormous magnitude and Dickensian complexity.

The lessons of the Washington Public Power Supply System debacle are ambiguous. Nuclear proponents can rightly point out that the Supply System's organizational failings were unusual if not unique, even in

the troubled history of American nuclear projects. The court case that brought on the 1983 default was surely a legal anomaly for the nuclear power industry. The political climate for nuclear energy, especially in the aftermath of Three Mile Island, was substantially less welcoming than it is today. The stagflation of the 1970s and the sharp recession of 1981–1982 posed daunting problems for finance. In 2005, only a Pollyanna would state that such conditions could never be repeated; only a Cassandra would claim they were inevitable.

Nevertheless, although circumstances and protagonists have changed since the Supply System's undertakings, an understanding of what happened in the Pacific Northwest a quarter-century and more ago should prove illuminating. Will policymakers turn unquestioningly, as they did in that era, to supply-side solutions for electrical energy? In a competitive utility environment, will utilities and other players strive to build organizational empires without the resources to succeed or the judgment to know whether organizational growth will solve problems or create new ones? A generation ago, WPPSS, the Bonneville Power Administration, and others in the utility community professed a democratic ethos but often reacted to popular pressures with hostility. Can institutions be open and responsive to citizen, consumer, and environmentalist concerns? When conflicts arise over complex technical, legal, and economic issues, can the judicial system resolve them acceptably? In the past, civilian nuclear energy was intertwined with the Cold War and nuclear weaponry. Will our energy policies in decades to come be calibrated with military ambitions?

The Washington Public Power Supply System's story is not simply about nuclear power. It touches on some of the most important developments in contemporary America's political economy: the shift from buoyant expectations of growth to an awareness (though not always an acceptance) of limits; the intermingling of military and civil institutions; the complexities of prediction and planning in an era of large-scale institutions and undertakings; the problems that arise when technological possibilities outrun organizational capacities for large-scale projects; new forms of environmental and consumer activism; and the costs of making decisions and resolving disputes in a litigious society. 

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# Sweet and Sour Globalization

Happy memories of food from the old country are as old as emigration and as current as globalization and gamma rays. Sonia Pai, M.S. '01, published "Mangoes, memories—and motorcycles: The complicated politics of a beloved fruit" in the online food magazine *Culinate*. The article, condensed below, was selected to appear in Best Food Writing 2008. The full article is available online at [culinate.com](http://culinate.com) (search for "mango").

A FEW MONTHS AGO, WHEN I heard that the U.S. government had lifted its eighteen-year ban on importing mangoes from India, I felt a little giddy. I remember eating these mangoes—these amazing mangoes—while visiting my grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins in India. These mangoes weren't like the stringy, pale yellow ones we ate back home in Missouri, the ones that were often sour and so fibrous they made me feel like flossing. These were deep orange inside, buttery soft, and sweet as honey.

Indian mangoes are known as the world's finest because they have the competitive advantage of being the world's first. *Alphonso*, *Kesar*, and *Mangifera indica* have been cultivated in India since, selected for the softest and sweetest fruits with the least fiber, and planting more than two million acres of them.

Mangoes, a symbol of love, fertility, and good fortune, infuse Indian life and culture. On special occasions, like weddings, New Year's Day, and *Diwali*, mango leaves adorn the doorways of Indian homes and temples. The shape of the mango fruit inspired the distinctive Indian pattern, known in the West as paisley, that swoops and swirls across Indian fabrics, artwork, and the henna-inked hands and feet of a bride-to-be.

Portuguese colonists brought mangoes to Africa and the Americas, where they now grow in the Caribbean, Latin America, Florida, California, and Hawaii. But commercial interests led growers in these parts to breed mangoes with more, not less, fiber; the stringy fiber gives mangoes a more shelf-stable structure and, unfortunately, the texture of a wool sweater. These mangoes are cheaper and easier for Americans to get their hands on, but as anyone who has ever tasted an Indian mango will tell you, there's no comparison. Period.

India first applied for permission to



ship mangoes to the United States in 1989. But rather than choose between two agricultural evils—invasive pests or the high levels of pesticides required to eradicate them—the U.S. government barred the Indian fruits from American shores. Since then, the Indian population in the U.S. has grown from just under 800,000 in 1990 to more than 2.2 million in 2004, and demand for Indian mangoes has increased along with it.

When news of the Indian mango's arrival hit, Indians all over America cheered. As I searched for information about when and where I could get them, I read as much as I could about their impending arrival. Steadily, with each bit of new information I found, the thought of eating Indian mangoes in America became a little less sweet.

First, there's the rub. To get from India to me, these mangoes would of course have to travel thousands of miles. How would that fit into my growing insistence on local produce?

Second, there's the tradeoff. Magazines and newspapers widely reported that, in exchange for the mangoes, India would ease its emissions standards to

make room for American Harley-Davidson motorcycles on its already choked roads. Do I really want to add to India's pollution problem just so I can eat some tropical fruit in America?

And third, there's the catch. Still worried about pests—particularly the mango seed weevil, which bores through a mango's flesh and then matures within its seed—the United States is accepting Indian mangoes on one condition: They must first be irradiated to destroy the weevils, which haven't yet made their way into North American crops. That means those delicious fruits—the ones that you can spoon like custard and that taste like sunshine—would have to be zapped with gamma rays before they reached my plate.

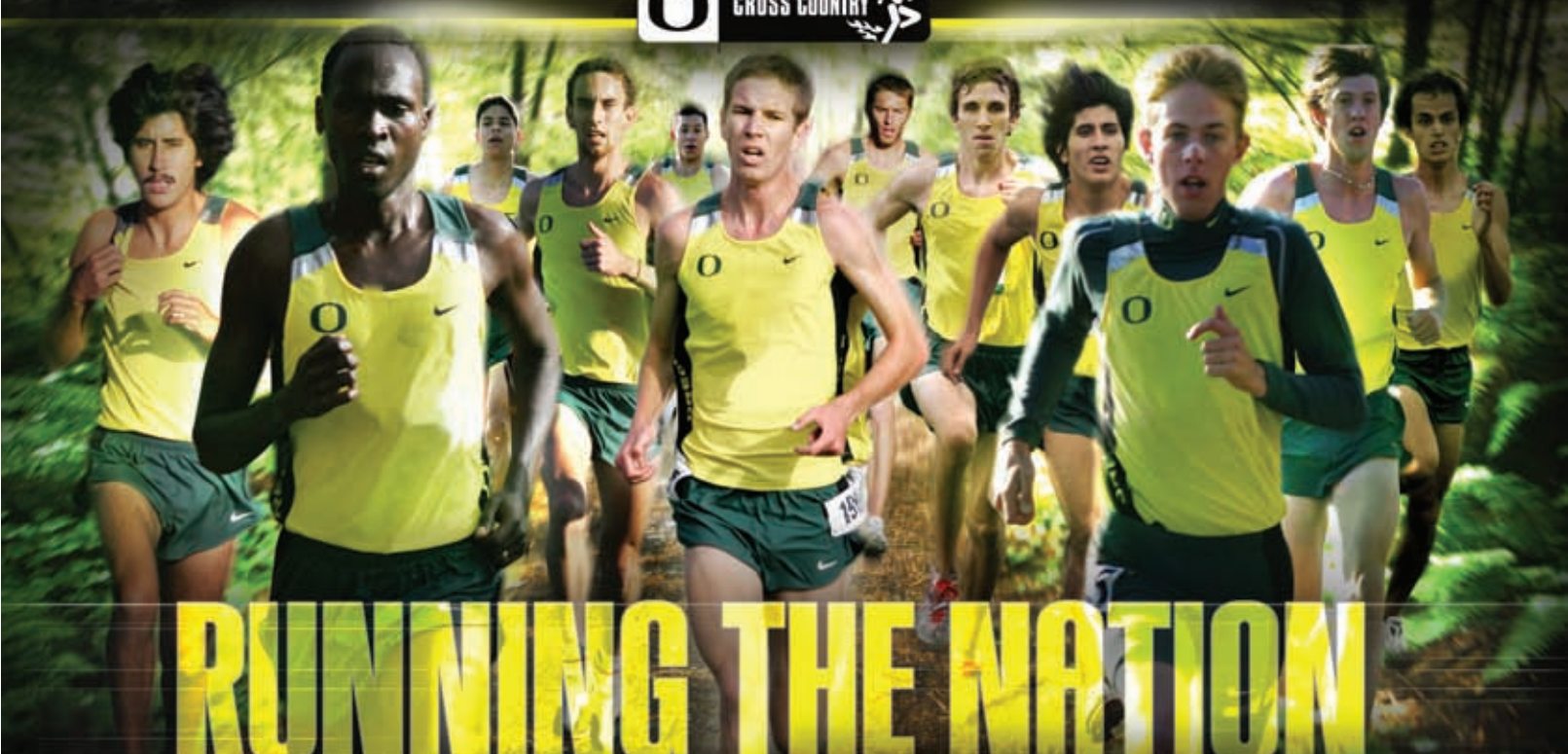
All of this is, frankly, more than I want to deal with when it comes to mangoes. I don't want to think about carbon emissions and food miles or Harleys and gamma rays; I just want to eat my favorite fruit. I guess, like my parents did when they came to this country as immigrants more than forty years ago, I'll simply have to make some compromises.

When I have children, I'll tuck paper towels into their shirts after dinner, like my mom did for me and my little brother. I'll cut a mango in slivers they can slurp right off of the peel, just like my mom did, and I'll watch them get sticky with mango juice all over their faces and arms. Like my mom, I'll stand over the sink, slurping the pulp from the mango's large, flat seed, until the day my kids figure out it's the best part.

When they're old enough, I'll take them to India during mango season, even though it's blistering hot. I'll take them to a bazaar and let them smell the mangoes and squeeze them. I'll feed them the mangoes their grandparents and great-grandparents grew up eating. I'll tell them how the hot, hot sun and the brutal monsoons give mangoes just what they need to grow soft and sweet and perfect, and I'll tell them they won't find mangoes like these anywhere else in the world. 🍌

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Selected new books written by UO faculty members and alumni and received at the Oregon Quarterly office. Quoted remarks are from publishers' notes or reviews.


**Nickelodeon City: Pittsburgh at the Movies** (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2008) by Michael Aronson, assistant professor of English. "A fascinating and intimate view of a city and the socioeconomic factors that allowed an infant film industry to blossom."

**Frontier Publisher** (Deschutes County Historical Society, 2008) by James L. Crowell '60, M.S. '66. The book is "the romance of a young man in a young land," relating the life and times of George Palmer Putnam, publisher of *The Bend Bulletin* and twenty-three-year-old mayor of Bend at the turn of the twentieth century.

**Views from Over the Hill** (Vantage Press, 2008) by Victor W. Doherty '47, M.A. '48. "An informative collection of interesting and highly opinionated essays" covering topics from advertising to politics to sex to the author's twenty-six-year tenure in the Portland public school system.

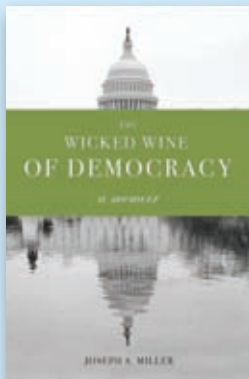
**The Power of Sustainable Thinking** (Earthscan, 2008) by Bob Doppelt, M.S. '75, '76, a research assistant at the UO's Institute for a Sustainable Environment. "With practical outlines, numerous examples, and proven methods, this book gives readers the courage to transform thinking and achieve real and sustainable change."

**Live through This: A Mother's Memoir of Runaway Daughters and Reclaimed Love** (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2009) by former UO journalism instructor Debra Gwartney whose "journey as a parent begins with her holding fast to a vision of a perfect family. It ends on a complex note of reckoning—she gives us a window onto her helplessness, her mistakes, anger, and fiercely overwhelming love for her children."

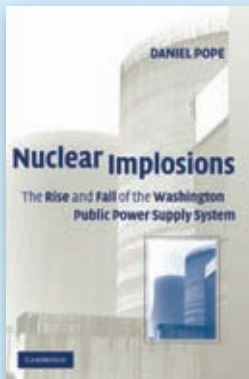
**Lincoln Lesson: Reflections on America's Greatest Leader** (Southern Illinois University Press, 2009) edited by Frank Williams and William Pederson '67, M.A. '72, Ph.D. '79. "This excellent collection of essays is not only enlightening but a genuine treat to read. With such a brilliant group of contributors, how could it be otherwise?" (See story, page 50) 

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Excerpted in this issue:



**THE WICKED WINE OF DEMOCRACY: A MEMOIR OF A POLITICAL JUNKIE, 1948–1995** (University of Washington Press, 2008) by Joseph S. Miller.



**NUCLEAR IMPLOSIONS: THE RISE AND FALL OF THE WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM** (Cambridge University Press, 2008) by Daniel Pope.



**BEST FOOD WRITING 2008** (Da Capo Press, 2008), edited by Holly Hughes.



An Ailey School dancer executes a grand jeté against the Manhattan skyline. Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer Brian Lanker's new book, *Shall We Dance*, represents his yearlong exploration of dance in its many dimensions. Lanker, a Eugene resident and longtime friend of the UO, was on campus recently discussing the book. (Image from *Shall We Dance* © 2008 by Brian Lanker. Used by permission of Chronicle Books LLC of San Francisco, ChronicleBooks.com)



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# Upfront

News, Notables, Innovations

## MUSIC AND DANCE

# Fanfare for Oregon

*The University of Oregon composes a music and dance facility for the twenty-first century.*

**T**HE SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND Dance has long been one of the University's brightest beacons. One of the oldest comprehensive music programs in the West, it's also become one of the best in recent years, with faculty quality and enrollment numbers soaring. The 600-seat Beall Hall, one of the nation's finest concert venues of its size, provides a splendid showcase for everything from student recitals to faculty performances to appearances by some of the world's top chamber music ensembles. The school serves not only University students and faculty members, but also many community groups, and it hosts statewide contests and workshops for Oregon middle and high school students.

Yet the school has been a victim of its own success, as the burgeoning ranks of top-notch students and faculty musicians put untenable pressure on the 1920s-era facilities, still used despite its outdated acoustical properties. Building additions in 1951 and 1978 failed to keep pace with the school's growth. Designed for 300 music majors, the building strained under the presence of 500 majors and 4,000 nonmajors; the faculty and staff size has increased by a third in the past decade. But this spring the school is being reborn as an architectural makeover provides new space and facilities suitable for a twenty-first-century music school.

The expansion and renovation, coordinated on the school's side by assistant to the dean and project manager Janet Stewart, increased the building's square

footage by 50 percent to 90,000, providing desperately needed teaching studios, staff offices, rehearsal areas and practice rooms (students were known to practice in restrooms and stairwells at night), and community spaces. Financed by legislative bonding approved in 2001 and a private fundraising campaign that exceeded matching it by nearly \$3 million, the project was designed by a team led by Portland's Boora Architects, nationally renowned for their work in educational and performing arts facilities, including the Portland Center for the Performing Arts.

The new Thelma Schnitzer Performance Wing boasts a 3,000-square-foot instrumental rehearsal hall capacious enough to accommodate the entire UO symphony. It also adds practice rooms, faculty teaching studios, jazz and percussion studios, a new recording studio, and a freight elevator, which will save the backs of many future percussionists who have to haul literally tons of gear.

The other substantial addition, the Leona DeArmond Academic Wing next to Pioneer Cemetery, adds twenty-eight faculty teaching studios, office space, teaching studios for the Community Music Institute, three new classrooms (including a sixty-five-seat music education teaching lab that can double as a small and informal performance space), and more studios and practice rooms. The new learning spaces are acoustically isolated, bright with natural light, and environmentally friendly—earning a LEED Silver rating for features including a “green” roof that captures rain

runoff and quiet-running, energy-efficient lighting, air conditioning, and heating that provides the controlled temperatures and humidity needed for temperamental instruments. Many of the rooms are flexible, easily converted to accommodate various kinds of teaching and performance practices students need to succeed in a turbulent music business that's changing more rapidly than ever.

The project also looked beyond classrooms. With artistic boundaries falling everywhere, and musical creativity rising as a result, it's essential that students from various disciplines (performance and composition, say, or electronic music and jazz) have informal places to talk and show each other new ideas. “It's common in almost all educational planning now to recognize that a lot of learning occurs not just in the classroom but in the corridors” and elsewhere, explains Tom Pene '71, M.Arch. '74, who headed the design team along with fellow Boora principal Amy Donohue, UO adjunct professor for architectural design. “But the building was defined by hallways—there was no there there.” The spacious new lounge area and a number of other comfortable crannies provide such social spaces. “The idea was to create an area where students felt they had a home and a center—what the University describes as a hearth space, a gathering place for students to perform and just hang out,” says Pene, whose class in music appreciation with professor Robert Trotter kindled a lifelong love of classical music, including service on the board of Portland's



The new Leona DeArmond Academic Wing will provide teaching studios, classrooms, performance space, and student practice rooms.


Chamber Music Northwest. The remodel brings the building into compliance with health, safety, and disabled-access codes and adds restrooms, some of which had been converted to faculty offices (producing both bathroom humor and long lines at concert intermissions). And it dramatically improves the acoustics. A stroll through the halls of the old building was a symphony—or actually a cacophony—in motion. In various rooms, students practiced dozens of different instruments, playing in numerous styles—not just orchestral music, but also voice, electric and electronic sounds, world music, jazz, even rock. Sound leaked from one area to the other, giving students an additional obstacle to overcome as they worked to learn their already challenging passages.

Not all the improvements took place inside. Along with two new wheelchair ramps, the design included a new service road, a new campus gateway structure along East 18th Avenue, bike parking, landscaping, drainage improvements, and a brick floor for the courtyard that will make it usable for events throughout much more of the year. The new additions were

designed to match the classic old building, which was also spruced up. The music school refurbishing, along with similar improvements to the College of Education now nearing completion, should give the University's south side a more welcoming face, and better connect the area to the heart of campus. The project's price tag came to \$19.2 million, with the new wings named after two of the three lead donors; the third, Lorry Lokey, asked that the main building be named the MarAbel B. Frohnmayer Music Building, after UO President Dave Frohnmayer's mother. She graduated from the school in 1932, followed by two of her children, both of whom went on to become music professors. "Music was really the theme of her life," said one of them, Philip Frohnmayer '72, "the glue that held the family together."

The remodel produced a much more inviting, embracing, efficient, and educationally advanced music building. "Our success makes us always have to play catch up with facilities and furnishings," says Brad Foley, dean of the School of Music and Dance, who inherited the project from his predecessor, Anne Dhu McLu-

cas. "It's taken the building this long to catch up. That's a good problem to have. We're going to see even more success in the future because of the quality of these new facilities."

Still, this round of rebuilding omitted a major proposed item that had to be left off the list, as it would have consumed the entire budget: a new, flexible performance hall that can stage the kind of multimedia, dance, and theater performances that Beall Hall's concert-only setting can't. Nevertheless, the architects made sure that the redesigned space could easily accommodate a new hall someday. Maybe that'll be the coda to the never-ending composition that is the School of Music and Dance. 

—Brett Campbell, M.S. '96

*The school hosted an open house on Sunday, March 1, followed by a concert at Eugene's Hult Center for the Performing Arts. The official dedication ceremony was scheduled for March 6.*

## Web Extra!

Go to [music.uoregon.edu](http://music.uoregon.edu) for more information.

## ANTHROPOLOGY

# Oral Histories

*Professor John Lukacs explains why prehistoric women had bad teeth.*

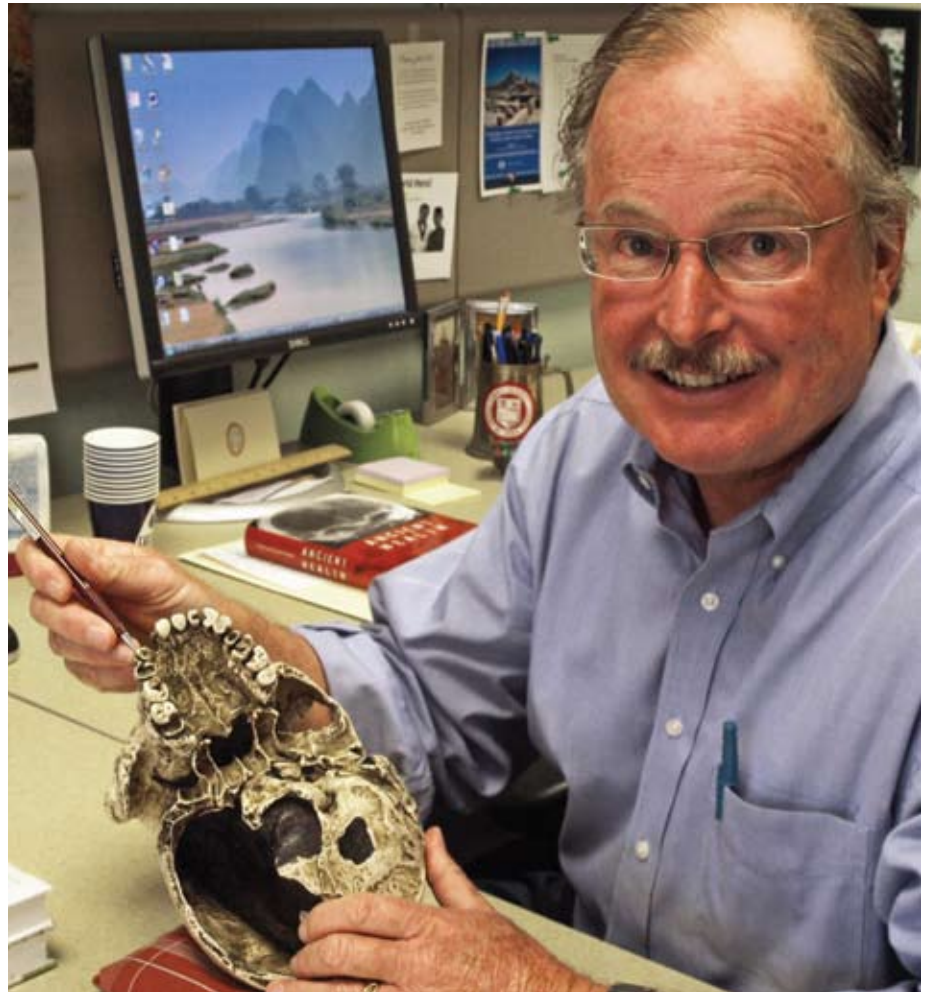
**A** FEW 100,000 YEARS AGO, THE *plat du jour* was fire-roasted woolly mammoth with sprinklings of nuts, and berries on the side. Mobile bands of stone-wielding men chased migrating beasts while women foraged for edible roots and established temporary cave shelters. In time, the constant moving got old.

Quitting their nomadic lifestyle in favor of crop cultivation, most of these primitive peoples survived long enough to reproduce. They evolved into *Homo sapiens* farmers. Saber-tooth tigers ate the unlucky ones, who rather rapidly devolved into teeth and bones.

By studying prehistoric teeth and bones, UO anthropology professor John Lukacs has shown that as hunter-gatherers settled down into agrarian communities—about 10,000 years ago—the incidence of dental caries (cavities) in women rose in comparison to their male companions. He says our ancestors' increasingly sedentary lifestyle gave rise to women's higher fertility rates. Linking pregnancy with higher levels of sex hormones, calcium-depleted saliva, food cravings and aversions, Lukacs says that prehistoric women's dramatic decline in oral health was inevitable.

He recently published his findings in *Current Anthropology*. The article questioned long-standing assertions among dental anthropologists. Most of his colleagues believe diet change and division of labor among the sexes associated with agrarian cultures resulted in the difference in cavity numbers between prehistoric men and women. Another popular theory posits that women have a genetic predisposition to cavities. But Lukacs is "absolutely convinced" that higher fertility rates also play a significant role in explaining the disparity in oral health between the sexes.

Lukacs first studied anthropology in the late 1960s at Syracuse University. His father was a physician, and he says he was naturally drawn to biology and anatomy. In 1977 he received his Ph.D. in evolution and anthropology from Cornell University, where he was first introduced to dental



*John Lukacs examining teeth in a 250,000-year-old skull from Africa*

anthropology. He wanted "to figure out who is related to whom by determining biological affinity through tooth morphology."

For his recent work on cavities, Lukacs began by comparing teeth from persons living in western India with teeth excavated from archaeological sites on the Pakistan-Afghanistan border. After finding that females suffered from cavities more than males—both in living and ancient peoples—he wondered how lifestyle, ecology, genetics, and the environment affected oral health. Our ancestors' transition from spearing woolly mammoths to growing wheat and barley offered the perfect

before-and-after conditions to serve as a model for investigating these questions.

Lukacs gathered data from 142 scientific reports on cavities—about 150,000 teeth—in humans living from 12,000 to 800 years ago. He calculated that, among hunter-gatherers, less than 1 percent of men's teeth showed signs of cavities while about 4 percent of women's teeth had cavities. During the transition time between hunter-gatherer and agriculture-based societies, men's cavity rate was about 2 percent while women's cavity rate was about 6 percent. Those numbers jumped to 10 percent and 18 percent, respectively, when

agrarian communities were firmly established. Lukacs' results were clear: farming females had more cavities than their male counterparts regardless of when or where they lived.

The transition from hunting-gathering to farming promoted a comparatively sedentary lifestyle for both sexes. Diets changed because both men and women became less reliant on hunting and more reliant on grains. Historically women had greater access to food because they were processing, storing, and cooking it. Lukacs says that all of these factors dramatically increased fertility rates. Further, he says that multiple pregnancies caused women's saliva to become calcium depleted—the mineral was needed for fetal development—and therefore more acidic. And high mouth acidity promoted tooth decay.

Lukacs expected his work to raise a few eyebrows, particularly among anthropologists who maintain diet and behavior, and not increased fertility rates, explain why agrarian women have more cavities than men. But since such research is generally considered neither glamorous nor of general interest he was surprised to learn that, earlier this year, the popular magazine *Glamour* ran an article on his work: *Quick question: Who's the cavity king or queen in your relationship?* "My work was relevant 10,000 years ago," he says. "The objective of my research was not to provide health guidelines for modern women."

Lukacs is now examining the teeth of nonhuman primates—orangutans, gorillas, chimpanzees—for evidence of dental disease. The project started when a student asked him to identify a skull, which turned out to be a juvenile orangutan with a complete set of baby teeth. Four of them had enamel defects that looked exactly like humans' enamel defects. "I was startled, impressed to find the same defect in not so closely related species. No one had documented this before."

Lukacs has extended his studies to include australopithecines—a distant human ancestor—who lived about four million years ago. With funds from the L. S. B. Leakey Foundation, Lukacs travels to archaeological museums in Ethiopia, South Africa, and Kenya to examine their *Australopithecus* tooth collections. "The results will give us a window into the health of our ancestors at a stage we know nothing about." 📍

—Michele Taylor, M.S. '03



## Journey to the Center of the Earth

The University's National Geography Awareness Week celebration took on gigantic proportions this fall when the Department of Geography hosted a twenty-foot-tall inflatable globe in the EMU Ballroom. The hand-painted Earth balloon traveled to campus under the care of Celeste Frazier—a seasoned geography educator who offers "tours of the world" with her giant globe exhibit. The sphere's outside shows physical features such as continents, oceans, and mountain ranges—same as any globe, only much bigger than most. What really sets this globe apart is on the inside.

Groups of elementary school students visited the University to see the globe and participate in geography-related events. Each group of thirty-plus children, along with parent chaperones and a teacher, huddled together *inside* the globe, sitting on Antarctica. In this curious, nearly spherical classroom the world's political boundaries are all visible at a glance in accurate geographic relation to one another. Frazier pointed a laser pen to highlight on the dome's interior walls different parts of the world included in her lessons—topics ranged from plate tectonics and climate zones to the historic silk trade route and shifting population distributions.

Geography graduate student Leslie McLees helped coordinate the week's activities. "Everyone that walked inside looked awe-inspired," she says. "We always see the Earth from the outside, and you can't see that all at once. You go inside and you can. You can see it all. It's really something, especially on that big scale."

The Earth balloon was a special addition to the other events (guest lectures and presentations) making up this year's National Geography Awareness Week and was sponsored by a donation from a UO student's father. Geography professor Susan Hardwick met with Paul Weatherhead and his daughter Katie while they toured the University a few years ago. When Katie decided to attend Oregon, her father contacted Hardwick and offered to cover the cost of bringing Frazier and her gigantic globe to campus.

Hardwick and McLees agree the event was a success—and a lot of fun for everyone involved. They recall with a laugh how Frazier brought the exhibit to campus rolled tightly in a duffel bag. She spread the giant balloon out across the ballroom floor and inflated it with a small fan, McLees says, "It blew up in four or five minutes." 📍

—Teresa Stanonik, M.S. '08

JOHN BAUGUES

RESOURCE ASSISTANCE FOR RURAL ENVIRONMENTS (RARE) PROGRAM

# Rural Renewal

*Planners roll up sleeves to help big state's smaller cities.*

**W**ITH THE ECONOMY TANKING, cities—especially rural cities—are struggling to cope with present conditions and to plan for the future. A University of Oregon program is helping with that preparation. Twenty-five college graduates and graduate-level students have fanned out to all corners of Oregon—from Pendleton and Vale to Warrenton and Port Orford—to work in community planning projects. The Resource Assistance for Rural Environments (RARE) program, administered by the University of Oregon's Community Service Center, is focused on helping improve the economic, social, and environmental conditions of Oregon's rural communities.

Laurel Reimer, a twenty-two-year-old UCLA graduate, is a RARE participant working as a hazard mitigation specialist. Reimer is helping Clackamas County cities develop plans to prepare for and recover from natural hazards such as floods and earthquakes. In search of a job related to urban planning and the environment, Reimer welcomed the chance to participate in the program. "I saw the RARE program as a great opportunity for professional development, personal growth, and a chance to experience a new community," she says.

RARE participants come from a variety of backgrounds and bring to their communities a wide range of experiences. They receive special training in areas such as citizen involvement, outreach and communication, land-use planning, grant writing, and project management. A full-time RARE worker provides community service for eleven months (1,700 hours).

Examples of the kinds of RARE projects that have taken place across the state include implementing a county-wide tourism master plan, facilitating the coordination of a "green business" campaign, designing a citizen involvement program for a watershed council, assisting rural residents with small business skills, coordinating development of a citywide economic revitalization plan, and enhancing



*Team members of this year's community service internships from the University of Oregon's RARE program (photo) are now working in towns across Oregon. The map shows the communities in which RARE has been active in the past fifteen years.*

local farmers' markets.

Participants are attracted to the RARE program from all over the country. Virginia Elandt graduated from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, with degrees in geography and urban planning. She's working with the City of Roseburg to improve and revitalize the downtown area and find creative ways to use vacant space and empty buildings. "I'm working directly with the City Council, Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development Commission, and local business owners to improve the economic conditions and provide more stability." Elandt sees RARE as a great way

to gain practical experience before applying to graduate school.

The program is now in its fifteenth year and has provided more than 300 participants to work for local communities (see map). In recognition of the long-term benefits of the RARE program, The Ford Family Foundation, based in Roseburg, has given the program a three-year \$235,000 grant. The funding will help the program plan for its own long-term growth and sustainability. The UO provided matching funds of \$110,000 from the provost's office and the Office of the Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies.

MAP AND PHOTO COURTESY RARE PROGRAM

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I N B R I E F

## New UO Arena to be Named for Matthew Knight

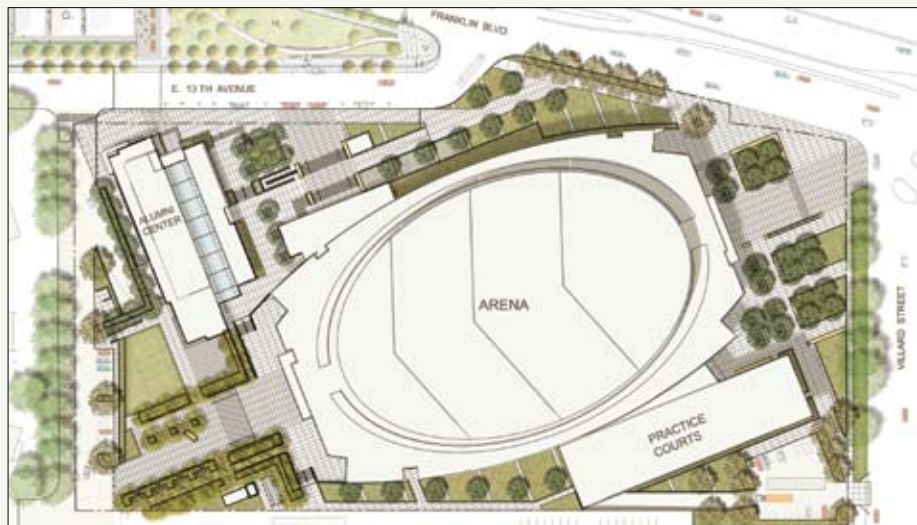
The 12,500-seat arena that will replace McArthur Court will be named Matthew Knight Arena in honor of the eldest son of Nike founder Phil Knight '59 and his wife, Penny. Matt Knight drowned in 2004 at age thirty-four. The arena, to be located at East 13th Avenue and Franklin Boulevard, is scheduled to open by the start of the Pac-10 Conference basketball season in 2011. Excavation work has begun and a groundbreaking ceremony took place in early February. The new arena will feature several elements of Mac Court that made the venerable building appealing to fans and student-athletes—and intimidating to opponents. Almost 2,000 seats, including nearly 1,000 in the lower level of the arena, will be allocated to students. This total is about 400 more reserved student seats than in Mac Court. The pitch of the seating—while not quite as vertical as Mac Court—is significantly steeper than almost any other arena in the country, allowing fans to be right on top of the action on the court. “The economic impact of the arena in our community, region, and state will be significant and sustained,” says UO President Dave Frohnmayer, who conservatively estimates that more than \$300 million will be injected into the local economy from the construction of the facility alone.

## Website Dedicated to Arena Developments

A new website allows fans to keep updated on the construction of the Matthew Knight Arena. Current or soon-to-be-added content on **GoDunks.net** includes drawings of the arena’s exterior; seating configuration; ticket prices; a lighthearted comparison of amenities between Mac Court and the new arena; a construction webcam; student-produced YouTube videos; comments from Oregon athletics director Pat Kilkenny, coaches, and administrators; a grand opening countdown clock; and an archive of some of the most memorable play-by-play calls from Jerry Allen. In addition, fans will be able to post their own images, videos, and comments.

## Alumni Center Also in the Works

Matthew Knight Arena will not be the only addition that will help create a dynamic new gateway to campus (see map). The Cheryl Ramberg Ford




**East Campus Transformation** The Matthew Knight Arena complex will dramatically change the look of the east side of campus. Located on the former Williams Bakery site, the arena (center) will face Franklin Boulevard on the north and be directly adjacent to student dormitories. The alumni center (bottom, left and right) will help welcome visitors to campus.

and Allyn Ford Alumni Center will serve as the University’s official welcome center for alumni, students, benefactors, and general campus visitors. The 60,000-square-foot facility will feature a public lobby, welcome and reception areas, a ballroom, large boardroom, several conference rooms, multipurpose event spaces, a library and lounge area, an outdoor courtyard, and plaza spaces. The center will also serve as headquarters to the UO Alumni Association, Office of Development, and the UO Foundation, a total of approximately 125 employees. Prospective students and their families will meet at the center to begin campus tours offered by the Office of Admissions.

For more detailed information on the Cheryl Ramberg Ford and Allyn Ford Alumni Center, go to [www.uoalumni.com/center](http://www.uoalumni.com/center).

## Athletics Succession Plan Announced

In December, President Dave Frohnmayer and athletics director Pat Kilkenny outlined a succession plan for several key positions in the UO Department of Intercollegiate Athletics. Frohnmayer said he intends to promote Mike Bellotti, head football coach, to athletics director when Kilkenny steps down from the position at a time yet to be determined. When that occurs, Chip Kelly will assume the role of head football coach. Kelly has masterminded the Ducks’ offensive attack for the past two seasons as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach following eight years in those same positions at the University of New Hampshire. 



## PROFile

### Dennis Galvan

Associate Professor International Studies



The Popular Republic of Misericordia isn't a country you will find listed in any atlas. You can't buy its exports and will never travel there on vacation. But for the 240 students in Dennis Galvan's Perspectives on International Development class, the political, social, and economic future of Misericordia is a subject of impassioned debate.

Galvan, an associate professor of international studies, created the fictitious nation to give his undergraduate students a skin-in-the-game learning experience that sums up the course's lessons. As an undergraduate at Stanford, Galvan participated in a role-playing simulation similar to the one he's designed for his students, and he cites the experience as one of the most memorable lessons of his entire education. "There's something about it that really sticks with you," he says.

On the last day of class, students convene at Misericordia's national conference, where they elect a new leader and determine the country's economic future. Each student plays a specific role at the mock conference, acting as, for example, foreign aid donors, business people, representatives of political parties, members of the former royal family, and leaders of the military junta. After a term of studying the development of societies from sixteenth

century Europe to modern-day China, Galvan's students apply their historical and theoretical knowledge to advocate for their particular position as they collectively try to solve Misericordia's many problems. The result is an experience Galvan fondly calls "chaotic," as students suggest ideas, challenge each other's positions, cajole, compromise, clash, and bargain their way toward a new government.

For many students, Galvan says, the Misericordia experience provides the moment when the term's individual facts and ideas suddenly form a bigger truth about the complexities and challenges inherent in solving the problems of any society. Galvan's hope is that his students—regardless of whether or not they decide to major in international studies—will be inspired by their experiences governing a fictional nation to travel, work, or study abroad in very real foreign countries. "No matter what the career you've chosen for yourself," Galvan says, "international experience and exposure pulls you out of your comfort zone and starts to make you look at the world through different eyes."

**Name:** Dennis Galvan

**Education:** B.A. '87 in international relations, Stanford; M.A. '90 and Ph.D. '96 in political science, University of California at Berkeley.

**Teaching experience:** Member of the UO international studies and political science faculties since 2001, head of the International Studies Program since 2004. Assistant professor at the University of Florida from 1997 to 2001. Visiting lecturer at Berkeley, 1996–97.

**Awards:** Numerous teaching awards, including the UO's Thomas F. Herman Faculty Achievement Award for Distinguished Teaching for 2008, as well as UO Mortar Board Professor of the Term for fall 2007.

**Off campus:** A self-proclaimed "tinkerer," Galvan is currently building a fourteen-foot wooden sailboat and loves to go flat-water kayaking with his wife and their two sons.

**Last word:** "We have to come to grips with the fact that we have one view, and it's part of a conversation. We need to be engaged in that conversation." @

— Mindy Moreland, M.S. '08

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I N B R I E F



**Yes we can** now show this photo taken during President Obama's visit to the UO in May (we avoid anything remotely partisan during election campaigns). With Obama at the rally on the quad are Oregon Congressman David Wu and UO basketball coach Ernie Kent '77.

### UN in Eugene

The UO Center for Intercultural Dialogue is the new home for the UNESCO Chair for Transcultural Studies, Interreligious Dialogue, and Peace—one of fifteen similar chairs worldwide. Directed by College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor Steven Shankman, the center will encourage faculty research and teaching in transcultural studies and interreligious dialogue and will initiate and coordinate public programs and events.

### UO Profs Win Oregon Book Awards

Three UO faculty members won 2008 Oregon Book Awards. Law professor Steven Bender won the Frances Fuller Victor Award for General Non-fiction for *One Night in America: Robert Kennedy, Cesar Chavez, and the Dream of Dignity* (excerpted in *OQ*, Autumn 2008). Creative writing associate professor Ehud Havazelet's *Bearing the Body* won the Ken Kesey Award for Fiction. Journalism and communication professor Lauren Kessler's *Dancing with Rose: Finding Life in the Land of Alzheimer's* (excerpted in *OQ*, Autumn 2007) won the Sarah Winnemucca Award for Creative Nonfiction.

### English Online


The UO's American English Institute is helping Iraqis learn the English language from thousands of miles away via Oregon-Iraq Guided Online

English Studies, a program that provides Iraqi students a self-directed online learning course with feedback and guidance from Oregon-based instructors. About 300 Iraqi educators and English language learners have participated in the program so far.

### Walker Receives Distinguished Achievement Award

Education professor Hill M. Walker, who has led the UO Center on Human Development since 1982, received the 2008 Distinguished Achievement Award from the Association of University Centers on Disabilities. In a career spanning forty-five years, Walker, who also is codirector of the Institute on Violence and Destructive Behavior, studies emotional and behavioral disorders.

### Bartlein Named AAAS Fellow

Patrick Bartlein, professor of geography at the University of Oregon, has received the honor of being named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. At the UO since 1982, Bartlein was cited for his "major research contributions involving modeling and visualization of synoptic climatic and vegetation dynamics, including feedback effects, across time scales ranging from recent to geologic." 

JACK LIU



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# Transformers

CAMPAIGN OREGON  
Transforming Lives

## From the nun to the Knights BY ERIC APALATEGUI

After hearing the stories of a few of the more than 90,000 donors to Campaign Oregon: Transforming Lives, the one we most want to share is about the nun. If anyone could have taken a pass at coming to the aid of her alma mater, it's this nun. But, honestly, we'd be remiss if we didn't first dispatch this important bit of business:

**T**HE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON'S CAMPAIGN ENDED December 31 as the largest fundraiser in state history, bringing more than \$853 million to the University and raising its profile among the nation's outstanding educational and research institutions.

Certainly that needed to be said. Anyway, there's this nun who gets a call from a student fundraiser seeking alumni donations in the early days of Campaign Oregon, but she must politely decline. Her vow of poverty made a contribution impossible, we can only assume.

That's obviously not the whole story, but we can't go too far along without telling you how the campaign actually will transform lives. How, for example, there is enough money to offer scholarships and fellowships to hundreds of additional talented students every year, and even more support for recruiting and retaining the best faculty. Or how, once opportunity brings all those bright folks here, they will find so many new hubs of discovery, including amazing, top-of-the-line facilities for the sciences, business, music, education, theater, art, and other disciplines, with more new buildings and major renovations on the way. Or how a new baseball park, a future basketball arena, and other athletic upgrades will keep the Ducks soaring and fans flocking to Eugene, giving a booster shot to a swooning economy.

All right, you can read quite a bit more about that success elsewhere in this issue and online ([campaign.uoregon.edu](http://campaign.uoregon.edu)). Back to the nun, who after that chat with the student returns to Mexico, where her sacred calling is helping at-risk children.

Let's be real, here. This anonymous nun really isn't the reason Campaign Oregon exceeded its fundraising goal by well over \$200 million. We believe in giving credit where it's due. The University is fortunate to have a few donors capable of making a big difference, including the UO's all-time leading booster. Let's extend the favor of anonymity and just say he's an entrepreneur who has built up a bit of an apparel business since the days he sold track shoes out of the back of a Plymouth Valiant. And added a swoosh. And became one of the UO's most famous graduates and Oregon's richest resident. And over the years, with his wife, gave millions of dollars to University athletics and academics. And, quite literally, changed the campus landscape.

There's been a story or two about him, but none about the nun, who didn't forget her conversation with the student fundraiser. Sometime later, she calls the folks in the UO's annual giving program and says something like, "I can't stop thinking about the students at the University of Oregon," recalls director Carlyn Schreck '95. Remember, the nun has some important work of her own. "She felt like what we were doing here at the University was the same as that and wanted to be part of it."

We're reminded here of those legions of other alumni and other friends of the University who also made sacrifices great and small to be a part of Campaign Oregon. We can't overstate this: Their donations will change our world. They will increase our collective knowledge, boost employment and our economy, enrich our culture, and enhance our lives. It's even possible those dollars, put in the right hands, one day will help cure cancer, end global warming, or get the Ducks into the BCS title game.

Whoa, there. Let's come back to Earth a moment to the day an envelope arrives from Mexico. Inside are a collection of U.S. coins— nickels, dimes, quarters—adding up to five dollars. Most of us have that much in a dish somewhere, but it's everything the nun can spare. Schreck couldn't be happier if it were a million dollars and deposits it in the general scholarship fund.

"We talk to so many people," she says. "Every now and then, somebody reminds you of the great work you do."

UO President Dave Frohnmayer, whose passion helped drive this campaign to unprecedented heights, appreciates everyone who contributed: "The number and range of people who cared enough about the University to contribute to Campaign Oregon is simply stunning. They range from a woman who has taken religious vows of poverty to an Oregon native who gave to an institution in the state of his origin even though he never attended the University and lives elsewhere. All are united by a common mission to help our students, reward our distinguished faculty, and build an enduring institution of excellence in one of the world's most beautiful places.

"My response to this generosity is both professional and personal. Everyone who gave to the University made a sacrifice. I cannot tell you how moved I am by each of those sacrifices and the evident affection for the University each reveals."

# “It’s a pretty great place”



MICHAEL MCDERMOTT

## Megan Ward '08 prospective medical student

Megan Ward is no stranger to the long haul.

A long-distance runner who qualified for this year’s Boston Marathon, the 2008 graduate in human physiology took time off from studying for her Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) to sit for an interview.

Ward’s in an enviable position now, especially considering she narrowly survived being born two-and-a-half months premature.

“I was pretty sick the first couple of years of my life,” she says. “My parents always joked that they think that’s where I got my determination. They say I was a fighter from the moment I was born.”

When she was five, her mother showed her the hospital neonatal unit where she spent her first days clinging to life. “I tapped my Mom and said, ‘I’m going to be a doctor someday, and I’m not going to make the babies cry.’”

Ward went on to compete in track, volleyball, and basketball at Henley High School near Klamath Falls, and her excellent academic and extracurricular record earned her one of the first Giustina Foundation Presidential Scholarships endowed during Campaign Oregon.

She already had attractive offers to attend other colleges, but her parents’ alma mater was her first choice.

“The atmosphere on campus and Eugene as a whole—it’s a pretty great place,” she says. “With that [scholarship], how could you not come here?”

# “Not today”

## W. Andrew Marcus professor

Professor Patricia McDowell, then head of the UO geography department, summoned colleague W. Andrew Marcus to her office one day two years ago and handed him a letter announcing his selection for one of the University’s first twenty Fund for Faculty Excellence awards.

The prizes, funded with a \$10.4 million gift from super-donor Lorry I. Lokey, include salary supplements and research support in an effort to retain and recruit world-class faculty members.

“Having a really formal acknowledgment that the University values you and wants you there goes a long way in making you happier in your home setting,” says Marcus, who is among the pioneer

geographers using exciting advances in aerial photography and satellite imagery technologies to document even minuscule changes in river systems. Tracking those changes, in turn, teaches us how human activities influence water quality and habitats necessary to sustain fish, wildlife, and people.

His spirits soaring, Marcus stopped by his mailbox on the way back to his office. There among the envelopes was an invitation to apply for a position with a research group that a large public university was forming in Marcus’ specialty.

The offer was flattering. “I’m pretty sure I would’ve applied for that position about fifteen minutes earlier,” he says. “Literally, I just looked at it and said, ‘Not today,’ and put it in the recycling.”



MICHAEL MCDERMOTT

## “Busting his buttons”



PHOTO PROVIDED BY MARC PERRIN

### George Weyrens UO staff donor

His attorney thinks George Weyrens must be up in heaven “busting his buttons” over the idea that his life savings one day will help young people get a college degree.

Weyrens, who was developmentally disabled, went to the UO not as a student but for his job as a janitor. He was gentle and kind—but so reclusive he had no social life and so frugal he wore his uniform at home and ate all meals with his one plate, fork, spoon, and knife.

“Nobody knew George Weyrens,” says Marc Perrin ’78, J.D. ’81, of Eugene. “They might’ve seen him in the back of Emerald Hall, pushing dust bunnies.”

Weyrens retired in 1987 and died in 2001, not long after Perrin convinced him to make a will so his money wouldn’t simply go to the state, because Weyrens had no close living relatives. He didn’t designate a beneficiary for the bulk of his estate, but he entrusted Perrin with that responsibility.

Perrin donated \$22,000 from Weyrens and added \$3,000 of his own money to meet the minimum requirement to endow the George Weyrens Scholarship Fund in 2004, during Campaign Oregon.

Whenever possible, the scholarship will be awarded to children of UO Facilities Services employees or to special-needs students. “I know George, in his own way, would have been very proud.”

## “Nothing more honorable”

### John Manotti fundraiser

When you walk around the Lorry I. Lokey Science Complex, you won’t see “John Manotti” on any of the buildings. But if you dusted for figurative fingerprints, the UO fundraiser’s mark is all over the place.

Lokey’s the headline story. He’s the Stanford graduate who has given \$132 million during Campaign Oregon, the guy who relishes the transformation that sharing his wealth has made possible at the University, the guy whose contributions President Dave Frohnmayer says have “the potential to change the world as we know it.”

Manotti’s the charismatic guy who first sat down with Lorry in the Bay Area to tell him about the potential for great things in Eugene, even though Lokey

never attended the University.

The fact is, Manotti initially resisted being the subject of this story because he likes it behind the scenes and doesn’t feel like he should be singled out for the spotlight. Or, in his words: “It’s such a team effort. It is by no means that ‘Mr. Fundraiser’ goes out and does this all by himself.”

But his work undeniably illustrates how fundraising is changing the face of the campus.

“People don’t have to give to charity. It’s our job to inspire them, in a way. The reality is, a dollar goes further here than at Stanford or Berkeley,” Manotti says.

“If I don’t ask these people for money, nobody’s going to,” he adds. “There’s nothing more honorable than raising money for a cause you believe in.”



MICHAEL MCDERMOTT

# Big Pie Science

**L**ALLIE MCKENZIE '02, M.S. '03, studies the chemical properties of nanoparticles to unlock their potential for human progress without unleashing perils upon the planet. Over in the psychology department, Cara Bohon interprets the human brain's unique responses to stimuli to help discover the devastating mysteries of eating disorders.

These 2009 doctoral candidates are two among the many faces who make up the future of science—a future that seems to have arrived early at the University of Oregon, thanks in large part to the fundraising success of Campaign Oregon.

"We're building on a tradition of excellence and innovation and creative discovery," says Rich Linton, vice president for research and graduate studies. He says the UO, long a leader in interdisciplinary research, is at the forefront of what's now called "supradisciplinary science," where different areas of scientific research cross-fertilize and strengthen one another. "We're in the process of a major culture shift that way in the sciences."

Nowhere is this shift more evident than at the new Lorry I. Lokey Laboratories, named after the University's record-setting academic donor.

Stepping into the complex, burrowed below the lawn next to Huestis Hall, is a little like walking onto the set of a fantastical futuristic science fiction movie. The lab contains one of the world's best collections of high-powered electron microscopes and other advanced instruments, allowing scientists to "see farther, deeper, and with more clarity" than just about anywhere else, says John Donovan, director of the Microanalytical Facility. Just as critically, the building is carved into the top ten feet of rock that extends deep into the Earth, giving it the fewest disruptive vibrations among similar labs.

"There's no facility that we know of in the world that is like that one," says Jim Hutchison '86, the UO's associate vice president for research and strategic initiatives and among the world's leading researchers in nanoscience and green chemistry. Financed by one of Lokey's donations, state bonds and lottery funding, and other private gifts and industry support, the lab opened last year.

Even Donovan, who left the University of California at Berkeley for the opportunity to help design and operate the facility, can't imagine all of its possible uses. The instru-

ments help archaeologists track nanodiamonds as clues of the possible impact of a comet that wiped out early inhabitants of North America, assist geologists evaluating the eruption hazards of volcanoes, allow geneticists to study zebrafish in ways that could lead to cures for human diseases, and enable chemists to advance solar-cell technology to help some day to reverse global warming. "The sky's the limit," Donovan says.

The lab brings together the University's student and faculty researchers with industrial scientists who can lease access to the equipment and even rent lab space on site. Sharing the instruments not only makes the lab more cost-effective but also lends to productive collaborations between public and private researchers across the scientific spectrum, Donovan explains.

"The idea here is," he says, "let's make a really big pie and everybody gets a slice."

Lallie McKenzie's slice of the pie, for example, is working with Hutchison to find ways to make chemical processes involved in the creation of nanomaterials less wasteful or toxic. "If you look at chemistry as a solution to the world's problems," says McKenzie, winner of the prestigious 2008 Kenneth G. Hancock Memorial Award for green chemistry, "it gives you a more hopeful view of your ability to change the world."

Bohon's research, working with lead scientist Eric Stice '89 of the Oregon Research Institute in Eugene, similarly benefits from access to the functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) machine at the Lewis Center for Neuroimaging, made possible with a donation from Beverly Lewis '48 and her late husband, Robert '46, who met while UO students.

"We are a very unique site, in that we don't have to share with anyone else and that we were designed from the get-go for research," says MRI technologist Scott Watrous '82, M.S. '85.

"It's a humdinger of a magnet," says Helen Neville, director of the Brain Development Lab, whose research using the fMRI already is demonstrating exactly how fostering language development with young Head Start children is promoting beneficial physical changes in the brain. "Everybody likes the idea that you're taking the results of basic science and looking at the implications of those results for real practices in the world," she says. "The Lewis gift just made it all possible."

Lokey, the Lewises, and the many other donors to UO science will continue to trans-



MICHAEL MCDERMOTT

**Lallie McKenzie '02, M.S. '03**



JOHN BAUGUES

**Cara Bohon**

form the University as their contributions attract matching funding from public and private sources to support students, faculty members, and other researchers and improve the places where they do their work.

Next, work will begin in 2010 on the \$65 million, 100,000-square-foot Robert and Beverly Lewis Integrative Science Building, which not only will house an improved neuroimaging center and connect to the Lokey Laboratories, but it will also open doors of discovery to even more students and scientists across campus.

"I think there's a lot of excitement about the future," says Karen Guillemin, an associate professor of biology who hopes to expand her research using zebrafish as models to learn more about human diseases such as cancer.

Even with a building boom in the sciences, the UO's overall program won't be as massive as those at the nation's largest research institutions. The point is not to be the biggest but—with talent, focus, and funding—to be among the best.

Or, as Linton likes to put it, "We're large enough to be great and small enough to be greater."

—E.A.

# “A new angle in understanding”



MICHAEL MCDERMOTT

## Jennifer Pfeifer neuroscientist

Jennifer Pfeifer arrived on campus in the fall prepared to unlock one of the greatest and most frightening mysteries of humankind—the inner workings of the adolescent brain.

With degrees from Stanford and UCLA and a reputation as an up-and-coming psychology researcher, Pfeifer could have landed just about anywhere. She fondly recalls band concerts at the University while attending high school in Clackamas, but she wouldn't have returned to Oregon just for that.

“The psychology department here in general is fantastic. They're really strong in the cognitive neurosciences and in developmental psychology,” says Pfeifer, an

assistant professor. “There's a nice, broad level of support for what I do.”

Campaign Oregon helped boost funding for research and established the Lewis Center for Neuroimaging, which houses the Pacific Northwest's only functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) machine devoted entirely to scientific discovery.

With the fMRI, Pfeifer and her research team can detect differences in brain processing as children transition into puberty and seek to answer for themselves such questions as, Who am I? Where do I fit in? What am I good at?

Now Pfeifer is focusing some of her research efforts on children with developmental disorders such as autism, exploring “a new angle in understanding what difficulties they face.”

# “The generous choice”

## Steve Sandstrom '78 graphic designer and donor

Steve Sandstrom says he transferred to the University to watch one campus icon (Steve Prefontaine) run, but he left nearly having run another (Donald Duck) out of town.

“That was always a thrill to go watch your hero trounce everybody,” Sandstrom says about Prefontaine.

It was another person's idea to have the outspoken Mallard Drake replace Donald as the UO mascot, but as the cartoon character's creator, Sandstrom became the face of the campaign. This time, it was Mallard who got trounced.

Sandstrom drew “Duck Soup” for the *Oregon Daily Emerald* as a special studies project under art professor David Foster, who gave his student both the guidance and the freedom to develop his own talent.

If Sandstrom's edgy cartoons helped shape the UO culture of the late 1970s, his success today as a graphic designer is doing much the same on a wider canvas. Since graduating in fine arts in 1978, he

has branded products at small agencies, for Nike, and now as founder and creative director of Sandstrom Partners. The Portland graphic design firm has had mega-clients such as Levi's and Miller Brewing, but it is best known for creating a brand image from scratch, like they did for Tazo Tea Company, or refreshing the images for existing companies such as Full Sail Brewing.

His UO mentor's death inspired Sandstrom to again stoke change on the UO campus, where he contributed to the David Foster Endowment to support innovative education. He now is on the School of Architecture and Allied Arts' advisory board of visitors. He also annually donates both cash and creativity to the University in part because Foster and other outstanding educators made “the generous choice” to go into teaching, even though the pay would be better in business or entertainment or sports.

“We as a society don't support that enough,” Sandstrom says. “A guy could have a decent four days of golf and make more money than a Nobel Prize winner.”



COURTESY STEVE SANDSTROM



# “The chances that I’ve had”



MICHAEL MCDERMOTT

## Rhea Cramer '08 graduate student

When Rhea Cramer was growing up in Oakridge, her mother worked as many as three jobs. Yet Cramer didn't realize she was poor until she applied for college financial aid. Nor did she recognize until starting course work in family and human services at the University how much her mother, Genia Baines, overcame to provide a stable environment for six children, including an autistic youngest son and three drug-affected nephews she adopted.

Baines' four siblings have struggled with drug addiction, mental health problems, homelessness, or incarceration. "My mom's the only one who's come from the same background and been able to turn that around and break that cycle," even though she left home young and was a teen mother. Her marriage to Cramer's father didn't last.

"I don't want my life to sound like

some kind of tragedy," Cramer says. "Having a single mom and seeing the sacrifices that she made makes me appreciate everything."

One thing she appreciates is the Oregon Community Credit Union tuition scholarship that enabled her last year to become the first in her family to earn a college degree. During Campaign Oregon, the credit union expanded its long-standing scholarship program to reach more students like Cramer, who is now a role model in her own family. Brother Jacob attends Oregon, and Baines is now following her daughter's footsteps into the family and human services program.

Cramer, who is married, is working on a master's degree in special education, with an emphasis in early intervention. Her career plan? Throwing lifelines to pull children and families from tumultuous lives.

"I know what kind of life people lead when they don't have the chances that I've had."

## Campaign Oregon ended without one of its heroes.



MICHAEL MCDERMOTT

**Randy Papé '72**, campaign chair, died in November 2008.

"Though Randy is no longer with us, his bright spirit lives on, in the people and programs being transformed as the result of his absolute certainty that Campaign Oregon would be a success," said UO President Dave Frohnmyer. A noted Eugene businessman, Papé was CEO of The Papé Group, the company his grandfather started in 1938. He also cofounded Liberty Financial Group and served for seven years on the Oregon Transportation Commission. He and his wife, **Susie Yancey Papé '72**, met at a Duck football game, and Randy's unwavering support of the University continued throughout his life. He served on the UO Foundation Board of Trustees for a decade. He also served on the boards of numerous community nonprofits, including the Nature Conservancy, the Boy Scouts of America, and the United Way. He is survived by three sons—Christian '01, Ryan '97, and Jordan, MBA '06—and six grandchildren.



## What's Next?

**C**AMPAIGN OREGON: **TRANSFORMING LIVES** didn't just raise \$853 million for the University of Oregon. It raised expectations. "It's an interesting exercise to walk around the campus and try to find a spot not affected by the campaign. It's nearly impossible to do," says Allan Price, former UO vice president for university advancement. "This campaign will go on transforming lives for generations."

When Price, who now leads fundraising efforts at Oregon Health & Science University in Portland, arrived in Eugene earlier this decade to become chief architect of the campaign, the UO's state funding had been cut to the bone. "There was a great deal of pride in being a place that did more with less. That's a good thing in that a dollar invested here goes a long way. What's more important is becoming a university that wants to do more with more. Then we can take control of our own destiny."

"The impact of the current campaign will still be felt for many years," says Jim Bean, UO senior vice president and provost. "It really raises the capabilities of both our students and our faculty here."

Bean says the campaign's success "certainly keeps us in the arms race among elite institutions." For ex-

ample, Oregon is among the smallest public schools of sixty-two research institutions in the influential Association of American Universities, where it must keep up with larger public and wealthier private campuses to maintain that status.

"It basically is our ticket to being at the table in defining how higher education develops," Bean says of AAU membership. "You want to be among the people who are writing the book, not the people who are reading the book."


Bean believes the broader base of supporters built during Campaign Oregon leaves the UO prepared to attract a steadier \$90–\$100 million a year in donations to continue to raise expectations for students, faculty members, and alumni.

These days private fundraising helps fill the gap left by shrinking support from state coffers, which at one time contributed about 40 percent of the UO budget but now accounts for just 13 percent, Bean says. "There are those who probably still pine for the days when the state funded the University, so that fundraising wasn't necessary," he says. "That's not an argument worth having. The reality is, this is how the University will be successful in the future."

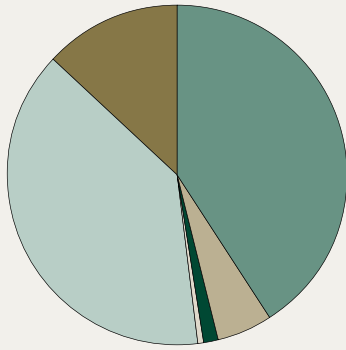
Bean already is plotting that future success by shepherding a group pol-

ishing the UO's new Academic Plan, a broadly ambitious blueprint for the future. Priorities established in that plan will suggest many of the goals of University fundraising for the coming decade.

Expectations are starting high. The University could use a conference center and at least one more science building. Prince Lucien Campbell Hall needs an upgrade. The School of Architecture and Allied Arts, now scattered around campus, would benefit from a central building. Undergraduate and graduate students, and their professors, will need more support. And so on.

So while everyone celebrates the transformational successes of Campaign Oregon, "There's still a lot of work that needs to be done," Bean says. "We're better than we would be [without the campaign] and not as good as we could be. That means that we don't have a party and shut down." 

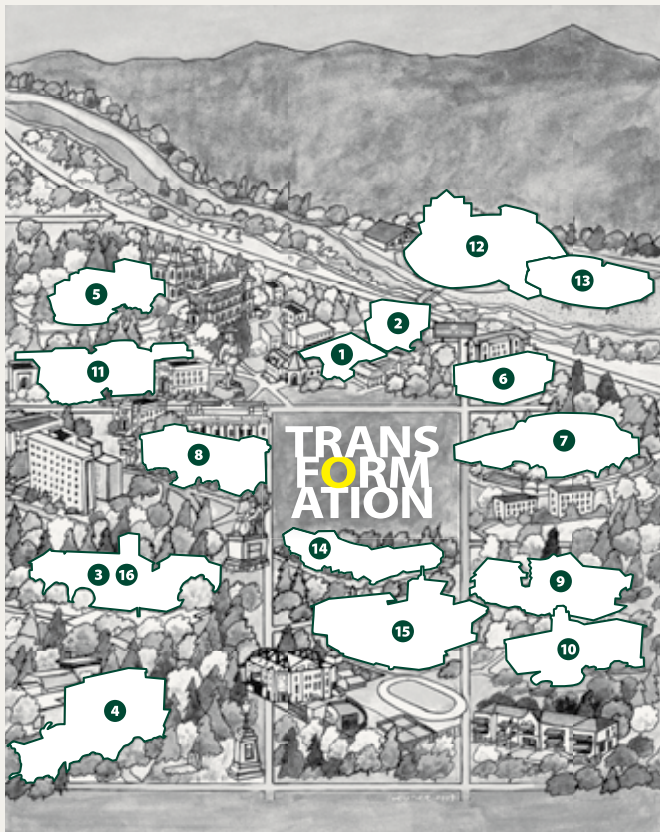
*Eric Apalategui '89 is a Beaverton writer who suspects his very modest donation to Campaign Oregon, rather than that "high cost of bronze vowels" excuse, is the real reason his name has not been attached to any new UO buildings. His last piece for Oregon Quarterly was "The \$7 Billion Call" (Winter 2008).*



Number of Individual Donors: **90,418**

- ALUMNI **36,943**
- CORPORATIONS/FOUNDATIONS **4,992**
- FACULTY/STAFF **1,240**
- FAMILY FOUNDATIONS **426**
- FRIENDS **35,145**
- PARENTS **11,672**

Campaign goals	Outcome
▪ Raise \$600 million	▪ \$853,120,266 raised
▪ Raise \$100 million for student support	▪ \$99.8 million raised
▪ Raise \$167 million in endowed funds	▪ \$362.5 million raised
▪ Increase faculty support	▪ \$106.1 million raised (\$96.7 endowed)
▪ Increase academic and program support	▪ \$186.1 million raised
▪ Improve academic facilities	▪ \$138.2 million raised
▪ Double annual fundraising from \$45 million to \$90 million per year	▪ Average of \$106 million, 2001–08
▪ Increase alumni giving rate from 12 percent to 18 percent	▪ 17 percent in fiscal 2008



### Building Key for Cover Artwork

*Projects supported by Campaign Oregon*

- 1 Lorry I. Lokey Laboratories
- 2 Robert and Beverly Lewis Integrative Science Building
- 3 HEDCO Education Building
- 4 MarAbel B. Frohnmayer Music Building
- 5 James F. Miller Theater Complex
- 6 Cheryl Ramberg Ford and Allyn Ford Alumni Center
- 7 Matthew Knight Arena
- 8 Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art
- 9 Museum of Natural and Cultural History
- 10 Many Nations Longhouse
- 11 Lillis Business Complex, including Peterson Hall
- 12 Autzen Stadium
- 13 P.K. Park
- 14 Lewis Neuroimaging Center
- 15 Powell Plaza/Hayward Field
- 16 Lorry I. Lokey Education Building

For more campaign facts, stories, and videos go to [campaign.uoregon.edu](http://campaign.uoregon.edu)



# Why We Celebrate

## HOME AND OREGON'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF STATEHOOD

By Robert Leo Heilman | Photos by Michael J. Lessner

**W**E MADE OUR three-hundred-and-sixty-third, and final, monthly land payment, just a few weeks ago. Well, actually, I puttered about in the kitchen while my sagacious wife, Diane, wrote out the check and addressed the envelope. It was a good feeling to know that a full third of a century after our arrival in Oregon the old shack by the railroad tracks and two acres of serpentine soil was wholly ours. Seeing her sitting there at the dining-room table, two thoughts occurred to me nearly at the same moment.

“*Sine qua non*,” I thought first—Without whom nothing. We never could have made it through the past thirty-eight years without each other. And then, sudden-like, a shotgun-toting TV hillbilly appeared in my imagination. I looked at my dearest, frowned at her, and in my best pseudo-Ozarkian accent deadpanned an old movie cliché, “This here’s Heilman land, mister.” It worked; she smiled.





**I**'D HAD MY DOUBTS about the place when I first saw it. It seemed too exposed, too small, too thick with yellow star thistle and poison oak. But then, at one time the landscape of Oregon seemed downright creepy to me. In the spring of 1970, about a week after the Kent State University shootings, I passed through the state after living in northern New Mexico for several months. Being accustomed to walking through the austere, open high-desert country, this tall and green land felt threatening, closed-in, a dark and dampish place where things rot and decay. The desert's scattered and small plants had seemed beautiful, little

individual protests against an arid death, heroic somehow in their struggle to survive. Here in western Oregon I saw a tangled forest feast of living things busily devouring the dead and each other. It just didn't seem right—the vegetation was predatory.

I couldn't escape the feeling that this overly verdant land might eat me, too, and hide my skinny young corpse beneath a dimly lit blanket of green oxalis and red duff. It seemed a frightening thought back then, even though, at age eighteen, I felt sure that I would live forever. Now, with the passage of time, the notion of lying beneath blankets of hardwood leaves and evergreen needles forever comforts me.

**D**IANE AND I WENT to a housewarming the other day. Shannon's place up at the north end of the county has been in her family since the 1840s, and the event celebrated the renovation of the newer of the property's two houses, this one a mere 120 or so years old. She and Daniel had done a wonderful job, but it was a hot day and a crowded house and I took my sweetheart for a short, cool walk down to "The Old Place," built in the mid 1850s, back in the pre-Civil War Oregon Territory times.

There is a certain sort of beauty to old homesteads, one that accrues over the long years of human habitation. After the early mistakes have been corrected and generations have added to their comfort and shaped the landscape to fit their ways, the place itself matures, though slowly, much more slowly than the shorter lives of those who shape it. With maturity comes real character, for the older it gets and the longer that people live there, the more it becomes distinctly itself.

By contrast, our own wholly owned piece of Oregon has barely begun to adjust to the land and to time. We live in a 1968 Nashua trailer, already dangerously obsolete by any building-code standards and probably a good ten years past what anyone expected of its planned lifespan. It is the modern

equivalent of a homestead shack of the sort that used to house my grandparents, a temporary solution to the need for a roof over our heads, run-down now and not much longer for this world. The trailer was moved here to this hillside in 1972, onto a thin, marginal strip of ground wedged between the county road and the railroad tracks. I hope that the next house will fit our needs and the needs of the land better than the old one. After three decades here on the place, I know that I understand this place more fully and I hope that time has given me the insightful wisdom to do better.

**T**HE PHONE RANG the other night and the caller turned out to be a pollster, mispronouncing my surname and eager for answers to the questions of the day.

"Do you think that Oregon is heading in the right direction?" he asked first without so much as a neighborly "How do you do?"

I couldn't come up with an honest answer because a sudden swarm of impertinent questions hovered about me. "Heading" somewhere? The whole state of Oregon is going some place? Why wasn't I told about it? Come to think of it, I had heard that it was heading due east at about 500 miles-per-hour along with everything else at this latitude. Then there's the other direction, westward with the drifting continental plates. And then, given the erosion rate, it is true that this entire county is heading downriver to Reedsport. And none of these physical movements are of much concern to me.

Of course, I knew that he was talking metaphorically, as if the passage of time in Oregon and the occurrence of social and political changes here were aspects of an actual journey, which it clearly is not. But if it were, well, what then? Some things Oregonian seem to me to be going quite well, others not so well. It was all much too complicated. What could I honestly say? I had reached a state of mental overload in a matter of seconds.



“Dude,” I pointed out, “you went and skipped a step—you never asked me whether I want to answer your questions or not.”

“Oh . . . Well, then, would you be willing to take part in the survey?”

This second question was much easier to answer honestly, “No, not really.”

■ I'M NOT SURE WHAT people mean when they say “Oregon.” It seems simple enough—a geographical designation for a part of the Earth and for the 150-year-old political entity spoken of in quaintly ornate rhetoric as “The Great State

of Oregon”—but I can't really bring myself to care much about either of those. I suppose that, like myself, when most Oregonians say “Oregon,” what they mostly mean is “my home.”

People cannot love abstractions (though they may be fond of speaking in them). Even what isn't abstract but is merely remote cannot be as effectively loved as what is near. There is a sort of geographical hierarchy of affection that is natural to all humans. I cannot, for example, honestly say that I love Delaware, a place I've never been and which I have never desired to visit—yet one to which I have very real historic, economic,

political, cultural, and other societal ties. Love—the act itself rather than the associated emotion—requires personal engagement. At best I can include the “Great State of Delaware” within a generalized patriotism that embraces the nation itself.

Of course, whenever I return across the state line back into my Oregon, I feel a sense of relief and a contentment that I can only feel here. But then, I feel it again, only stronger, when I enter Douglas County and see any of my beloved Umpqua River valleys and strongest yet when I turn down my own driveway. Within me my allegiances lie in layers like a set of those



Russian nesting-dolls: my little bit of land enclosed by Orchard Valley which contains it; the valley contained within the county; the county within the state; the state within the nation; and on out toward the world itself.

**O**REGON HAS REACHED the venerable age of 150 years, and we have lived on our place for 30 years. What is it that we celebrate when we commemorate an anniversary if not some large or small triumph over entropy, chaos, and death? The mere passage of time is not something worthy of celebration. In itself it is

only inevitable and unremarkable. We are happy because we continue to exist in spite of all the things that could have destroyed what we love—each other and our place here. So many things can pull apart a state, a society, a marriage, and a family that we feel lucky to have survived.

Death is our constant companion, sitting patiently by us all of our lives, teaching us to appreciate life and each other, bringing us to understand the roots of compassion. In the end, each of us must die. Someday, all that we have worked for will be lost and forgotten. Someday this Oregon we've loved so carefully for a century and a half now will no longer exist. This is what makes it worthy of our affection, that it, like us, is transient, and our triumph, only temporary.


Appreciating our luck is a part of this urge to celebrate, but only a part. We also celebrate the necessary good work without which there would be no surviving. Skillful work, attentive work, informed work, lovingly done work: these are essential aspects of both a well-lived life and of a truly viable culture. It is not through the great enterprises nor as a mass that we do good in the world but by individual small, immediate, and informed acts. At heart, it is caring that keeps an individual sane and that keeps a family intact and a society from collapse. What is a well-run state if not a place where people can and do care about each other and about their land?

People, it seems, are overwhelmingly decent—otherwise there would be no continuation of life. It is the fact of continuing survival that gives us hope. For many years I have been fond of telling people that I'm always optimistic in the long run and pessimistic in the short run. Everything always seems to be heading straight off to Hell in a handcart when looked at on a day-to-day basis.

Democracy, like marriage, is often a messy, uncomfortable, and doubtful way to manage things. But, looked at over the long haul, it somehow

works out to be a very good thing for most people. We learn, over time, to be more decent in our treatment of each other. Oregon's 1859 constitution provided for whipping black Americans for the crime of residing within the state for longer than two years and also denied all women the right to vote. We learn how to do things better, and that is cultural change, from which political change follows.

**O**UR ROAD IS OLD—older than both of us put together—though not as old as the hillside it crosses. We walk, two aging lovers who are friends, two golden retrievers who are sisters, and, trailing behind, a half-Siamese kitten who adores the dogs. We walk through tunnels of bright early-fall leaves, yellow big-leaf maple and now-golden oaks, and, below them, the bright red of poison oak back lit by the glow of late afternoon sunlight.

As we walk, it occurs to me that I can no longer walk this road without being in sight of some place or another to which we've attached stories: here we found a kitten, there a naked midnight hitchhiker stood, and beyond that the slope where our errant cow was wandering, the places where various teenagers have driven over the bank, old landslides, and the fallen trunks of once-tall trees. Overlaid on the road of today is another, a road of memories, of old desires, of triumphs and tragedies, and both roads stretch on. We walk, hand-in-hand, not just through space but through time as well and, once in a great while, we pause to consider just how unlikely we are. 

*Robert Leo Heilman lives in Myrtle Creek and is the author of Overstory: Zero: Real Life in Timber Country.*

**Web Extra!** Go to [OregonQuarterly.com](http://OregonQuarterly.com) to read two Robert Leo Heilman essays, "Death of a Gyppo" and "Of Terror," previously published in *Oregon Quarterly*.

# The Logic of Wildflowers

By Michael Strelow • Photos by Robin Cushman

Some time ago I was living in Madrid for a year, and about the middle of February I felt an uneasiness, a kind of malaise I couldn't identify. My work went well, my family was with me, life was a daily adventure—what was wrong? I took a walk on a sunny, cool afternoon in a large park, the Retiro, and found daffodils blooming against a wall where the day heat had seduced these bulbs to be the first bloomers of spring. I looked at more plants and found buds, and suddenly I felt the unease melt away. I realized that on the city streets I had not been able to locate myself in the seasons. I knew it was somewhere in spring, but I was missing all the clues I was used to in Salem—heather, crocus, daffodil, star magnolia, *Photinia*—each in turn telling me where my days were located in the year. I returned to the park nearly every day for an hour or so to keep my sense of when I was, so I could work on where I was in that foreign land.

Back in Oregon and remembering my Spanish adventure, I began to think about how the wildflowers must have done the same job of locating in time for Native Americans and the early European settlers and how they still locate me now.

Early in my Oregon years, 1973, I traveled over the Cascades out of Eugene in the spring, end of May and early June, and remember seeing for



ALPINE MEADOW WILDFLOWERS—LUPINE, INDIAN PAINTBRUSH, AND ARNICA. FACING PAGE: HILLSIDE OF NOOTKA ROSE AND FIELD LUPINE.

the first time a patch of Central Oregon *Clarkia* that looked like it had been sewn in one toss of a giant hand, down a small depression and up the other side—one swipe of hot pink in the gray-green high desert. Then came a succession of other wildflowers: buckwheat, mullein, stonecrop, *Arnica*, cinquefoil, and later (and higher) scarlet *Gilia*, *Penstemon*, lupine, columbine, trefoil pea, yarrow, balsamroot, aster, saxifrage, hellebore. And the more names I learned the more I could not only tell when I was but how high, how dry,

how north, south, east, west I was. In Madrid, I realized I needed to know all these things flowers tell before I got . . . what? Comfortable? Acclimated? Located? At home?

Years later, I now live with house plants that I push and shove into bloom—African violets, *Cyclamen*, a persnickety *Phalaenopsis* orchid—out of season, out of rotation. They begrudgingly bloom for me (except the African violets, which seem to like being pushed around). I wrench their clocks and calendars around with heat and food like a cranky god amusing himself. But I know outside my door are the wild rhododendrons, bear grass, *Penstemon* of the high Cascades, the *Lewisia* and *Clarkia*—all my Oregon and western guides. They are my parents in the cosmic sense; they explain my location and teach me where I am: they father my moods and mother my yearnings after a place in the world.

Perfectly comfortable within the world's absurdity, I could find myself homeless without its natural logic. I grew up absurd. To save ourselves in a nuclear attack we were taught in grade school to duck under our desks. Later a dropout from the London School of Economics in a band called the Rolling Stones sang in an American country-and-western twang: "I cain't get no, satisfaction . . ." (Did Mick Jagger ever use *cain't* in his real life?) We got tomatoes and strawberries in the middle of winter; no fruit or vegetable had its own season, just a price tag. Malls created artificial daylight and artificial nightlife.





Some of the drugs in the 1960s proffered variable realities as weird as Mick's *cain't*. The logic of the world was negotiable every day, every hour. My generation's experiments with drugs had the unsettling effect of suggesting that there were always other realities available. The result was a displacement not entirely unlike the "lost" of the lost generation named by Gertrude Stein in the 1920s. Wildflowers present a location in all this lost, a spiritual GPS to find a steady state among competing forms of real. Wildflowers locate our sensibilities on a grid of necessity and beauty—the protein connection of seed, the allure of color and surprise.

Wildflowers give us their species-memory, their evolutionary clocks: each one calculates the bloom for the year—earlier, later, wetter, dryer—that gives it the best shot at reproducing. The logic of that need is incontrovertible and compelling. And that logic, the pattern of rhythms and interdependencies incumbent on it, is what I think I was missing in Madrid. Part of the logic: in Oregon's high desert, all the seed protein is available in a very short time span; it moves from flowers to rodents and birds, then up to predators in the quick, passionate logic of hunger.

**T**he Strawberry Mountains drain south through Eastern Oregon's Logan Valley at about 5,000 feet, runnel and creek forming the branches of the Malheur river system that flows toward the great Malheur bird refuge. The valley itself is informed by high and low, south slope and north slope, and various microclimates, but the division of wet and dry is most spectacular. At the edges of the valley, one step up puts you in sagebrush dry. One step down and the grassland stretches for miles where cattle, antelope, elk, and



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: CAMAS, FIVE POINT, COLUMBINE, AND PACIFIC COAST IRIS.

deer graze together. The surrounding Strawberries run up to over 9,000 feet, so that walking a switchback trail from valley floor to the talus slopes near the top will take you through the logic of wildflowers. Those flowers that have finished blooming below are just beginning up higher. Lupine has the most obvious logic.


The lupine has become leggy in the lower valley under the trees while stretching for sun. Higher on the trail it has changed color to add more pink at the base of its blue flower and becomes shorter and shorter along with most other plants as it ascends the mountain. Exactly what its logic is—which insects it attracts, stem thickness and length, even adaptations at the cellular level of stomata and chloroplasts—is the stuff of botany. But another logic is apparent, too. The blossom catches the eye, attracts the insect, makes the seed the ground squirrel eats, and then replants the flower. Then a new logic of place kicks in to accommodate the new conditions.

The scarlet *Gilia* prefers the lower valley and refuses more altitude. The trefoil pea likes the roadside. The mullein wants disturbed ground. I remem-

ber learning about the mullein's preference for disturbed ground and thought immediately of soldiers of fortune moving from one disturbance to another, Kosovo to Sierra Leone to Sudan to Iraq. That's the other logic of wildflowers: where, like music, they send our imaginations.

I was recently at a concert in Portland's Rose Garden in which the audience—right at the beginning of the show, in unison—whipped out camera phones and cameras to photograph the giant-screen JumboTron to capture the featured act. Zeroes and ones grabbing at other zeroes and ones while the actual people on stage went unrecorded. Zoo animals on ersatz ice floes and on faux African savannahs. Video games of car heists and wars. Our realities

are manifold and legion, our choices are to stay here or go there. The new human brain, craving this muchness of the world, is just waiting to evolve.

And there are the wildflowers of Oregon, with bloom cycles fluctuating less than the peregrinating date of Easter. Sometimes we must choose to locate ourselves with what is alive in the landscape rather than what is dead or false or concocted. Sometimes we need to find the ancient rhythms and cycles that invented us and still inform our being. Sometimes we will reach out to the wildflowers in the preserved wild places of Oregon to remember where we are and who we are. 

*Michael Strelow, Ph.D. '79, is a professor of English at Willamette University. He edited Northwest Review from 1973 to 1979. His novel, The Greening of Ben Brown, was a finalist for the Ken Kesey Award in fiction from Oregon Literary Arts in 2005. This essay was written for Citadel of the Spirit: A Literary Compendium Commemorating Oregon's Sesquicentennial, edited by Matt Love and published on February 14, 2009, the 150th anniversary of Oregon's statehood.*

# MULLER V. OREGON

## A Class By Herself?

Oregon's 1903 law to protect women factory workers triggered a national debate about the equality of women and men—a debate that continues today.

BY JOHN DVORAK

On Monday, September 4, 1905, the overseer of the Grand Laundry in northwest Portland told one of the female employees that she would have to work beyond her usual ten hours. She filed a complaint and the laundry owner, Hans Curt Muller, was summoned to appear in circuit court and answer the charges. At issue was a new state law that prohibited women from working “in any mechanical establishment, or factory” for more than ten hours a day. The law specifically mentioned laundries.



*Women labeling cans of salmon, circa 1901*

By 1905, more than a dozen states had enacted laws that limited the number of hours an employer could require an employee to work, and many of those laws were being challenged and overturned in the courts. And so, when Muller made his appearance in Multnomah County Circuit Court, he, too, expected the Oregon law to be overturned. He pleaded not guilty. A trial by judge followed.

The seven women who worked at the Grand Laundry were subpoenaed and testified, including Lenna Gotcher, who filed the complaint. Gotcher was twenty years old and married for two years to Edward Gotcher, who also worked at the laundry. The testimony was overwhelming. Muller had repeatedly required female employees to work beyond the ten hours limited by law. Furthermore, he had probably instructed his overseer to require one of the women to work additional hours on September 4, 1905, Labor Day, the new holiday celebrated, as it is today, by many businesses closing for the day. The testimony indicated that Lenna Gotcher might have been singled out because she and her husband had been members of the now-defunct Shirtwaist and Laundryworker's Union. Edward Gotcher was elected a member of the union's board of trustees in 1903.

That same year, the Oregon legislature had passed its maximum work-hour law for women. The laundry owners of Portland reacted by locking out union members. After six weeks, the union essentially dissolved. Those who still regarded themselves as members met once again and voted to go back to work—if they could find any. Muller and the other laundry owners were now determined to challenge the Oregon law and have it declared unconstitutional—and Lenna Gotcher was a good target to set that process in motion.

The judge in Muller's trial was Alfred Sears, a former district attorney. Sears took three months to decide what should have been a simple case.

Muller had obviously defied the law, but Sears was against the law intruding into private enterprise. The judge was also reluctant to overrule a legislative act. In the end, he decided that Muller was guilty of a misdemeanor and ordered the laundry owner to pay the minimum fine of ten dollars. As expected, Muller appealed the decision to the Oregon Supreme Court.



*Woman packer at a biscuit company, circa 1900*

William Fenton, one of Portland's leading attorneys, argued Muller's appeal. Fenton, a benefactor of the University of Oregon for whom Fenton Hall is named, was a new type of lawyer—a corporate lawyer. His major clients included the American Steel and Wire Company, Standard Oil, the Pacific Coast Biscuit Company, and the Equitable Assurance Society, a large insurance company in New York.

In the argument he presented at the state supreme court, Fenton reminded the justices that a similar case had been decided the previous summer by the United States Supreme

Court. In *Lochner v. New York*, the high court had ruled on a New York law that limited the maximum number of hours a person could work in a bakery to ten hours a day and sixty hours a week. Most bakeries were then small, family-owned operations. The work areas were often dark and overheated. Insects ran over tables and flour dust filled the air. The law primarily addressed sanitation issues, but also included a provision that limited work hours. The New York legislature had passed the law unanimously and three times state courts had upheld it, but the federal Supreme Court reversed those decisions, saying that the state legislature had interfered with an individual's right "to contract in relation to his own labor." The majority of justices had found this new right in the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, which, the court said, implied a liberty of contract, that is, the right of two entities, including two people, to bargain freely between themselves the terms of any contract without government interference. Now it was a question whether the Oregon legislature had also gone too far and had abridged that right.

Chief Justice Robert Bean wrote the opinion for the Oregon Supreme Court. Bean was a member of the first graduating class from the University of Oregon, which consisted of three men and two women who received their diplomas in 1878. In the opinion, the court rejected the relevance of *Lochner* because the Oregon law was fundamentally different from New York's. The New York bakery law was to be applied to all workers. The Oregon law, the justices noted, applied only to women.

In writing the decision, Bean cited two recent decisions by other state supreme courts. In 1902, Nebraska's court ruled in favor of a state law that limited work hours for women, reasoning that a woman's "physical limitation" made it necessary for the state legislature to intervene and establish

protective legislation. The same year, in Washington, the court ruled that protective legislation for women was necessary because it advanced “the public welfare and the public morals.”

The Oregon Supreme Court agreed with both rulings. And that changed everything. The Muller case was no longer about protection for labor. It was now a question whether women and men had the same fundamental rights.



**I**N JUNE 1873, SUSAN B. ANTHONY was put on trial for attempting to vote in the 1872 presidential election. Her attorney invoked the Fourteenth Amendment and due process as guarantees that women had the right to vote. The judge, Ward Hunt, a justice of the U.S. Supreme Court assigned to that New York circuit court, rejected the defense, later writing that voting was not a fundamental right, but a privilege that was extended only to certain citizens, decided independently by the various states.

Also in 1873, Myra Bradwell appealed a decision by the Illinois Supreme Court that prevented her from becoming a member of the Illinois Bar Association and practicing law in that state. She had sufficient training and had passed the bar exam, but the Bar Association had rejected her simply because she was a woman. The U.S. Supreme Court upheld the decision. A majority of justices held that the choice of a profession, like voting, was a privilege, not a fundamental right. They justified Illinois excluding women from the law profession because, the court said, it was evident to everyone that the two sexes were destined to occupy different “spheres of action,” and, hence, to play different roles in society. Men were protectors and defenders, while women’s primary role was raising the next generation of citizens.

The rulings against Anthony and Bradwell, and similar decisions on other cases, made clear that the federal court maintained that there was a legal distinction between men and women. Exactly how the distinction was to be drawn was yet to be determined, but the Muller case would change that.

In October 1907, the U.S. Supreme Court announced that in four months it would hear Muller’s appeal of the Oregon ruling. That left little time to prepare briefs, and so the State of Oregon sought outside assistance. It soon settled on Louis Brandeis, a Boston attorney, to argue its case.

Brandeis was one of the most famous—and highest-paid—attorneys in the country and would be appointed to the Supreme Court himself in 1916. His lifestyle, however, was decidedly austere. His two enjoyments were his association with close friends and solving intellectual problems. Known as “the people’s attorney,” because he often took on cases that involved social issues, Brandeis agreed to defend the Oregon law for free.

Brandeis realized that if he followed the normal route and argued from legal precedent, the Oregon law would probably be overturned. He needed a novel strategy. He would have to convince the nine justices of the Supreme Court to accept an exception to liberty of contract and the Fourteenth Amendment.

*Lochner* (the New York bakery case) had been decided by a 5–4 vote. The dissenting opinion had left the door open to challenge liberty of contract if it could be shown that a law was necessary to ensure the health and welfare of the general public. That would be the opening that Brandeis would use. He would argue the case from an extrajudicial view. He instructed assistants to gather expert opinion from doctors, economists, social workers, and others who knew of the negative health effects that poor working conditions and long work hours had on women. The result was a legal brief, a hundred-plus pages

long, that contained only two pages of legal precedents. The remainder was sociological data taken from a wide variety of experts and government and private reports.

On January 15, 1908, the nine justices of the Supreme Court heard oral arguments in *Muller v. Oregon*, Brandeis and Fenton standing before the court. Nineteen other states still had laws similar to Oregon’s. Whatever the outcome, the court’s decision would have national implications.

Brandeis began his presentation by quoting the dissenting opinion in *Lochner*, then launched into his main argument.

“The dangers of long hours for women arise from their special physical organization,” he read from the first sentence of the major part of the brief. Eleven authorities were cited in the brief as proof of the statement. “The evil effect of overwork before as well as after marriage upon childbirth is marked and disastrous.” Nine authorities supported that statement. “The heightened efficiency of the workers, due to the shorter day, more than balances any loss of time.” And that, Brandeis told the justices, was a conclusion found in thirty government reports from other nations and several states.

Brandeis then described for the court the dangerous working conditions found in modern laundries and the fatigue suffered by those forced to work long hours. A commercial laundry was not the simple enterprise most people associate with a woman working over a wash basin. It had become a highly mechanized industry. Huge metal cylinders spun constantly, blasting out steam. The hands and faces of workers were constantly exposed to strong detergents and bleach. One had to be alert if a finger inadvertently got caught on a piece of clothing or entangled in a loose string to avoid the hand being pulled into and crushed between the rollers. The floors were wet constantly, a worker sometimes standing for sixteen hours a day in water. It was an industry

in need of regulation—all the more so because, in places like Portland, 80 percent of the laundry workers were women and most of them either had children or were of child-bearing age.

Fenton began his argument by citing precedent, emphasizing the ruling in *Lochner*, but then offered his own novel strategy to defend Muller.

“Women, in increasing numbers, are compelled to earn their living,” he stated as a matter of fact. “They enter the various lines of employment hampered and handicapped by centuries of tutelage and limitations and restriction of freedom of contract.” Women must have the same fundamental right to contract their labor as men did for them, eventually, to attain the same social equality as men. To do otherwise, to decide the case against his client and uphold the limitations of the Oregon law, the Portland attorney concluded, would be the same as announcing “that women are wards of the state.”

Except for a change of one justice, the court sitting before Brandeis and Fenton was the same as the one that had decided *Lochner*, and so court watchers anticipated that *Muller v. Oregon* would also be decided by a narrow majority. But they were surprised. Thirty-nine days after oral arguments, the nine justices issued their ruling. It was unanimous in favor of Brandeis and the State of Oregon.

The court had accepted fully Brandeis’s contention that protective legislation for women was needed. The unanimous opinion also agreed completely with Fenton’s conclusion that a ruling for the Oregon law meant that women and men were not equal citizens, but the court saw that as a reason for upholding the law rather than overturning it. In particular, the opinion stated, woman “is properly placed in a class by herself.”



**M**OST LEGAL SCHOLARS ATTRIBUTE the success of the State of Oregon in *Muller v. Oregon* to the Brandeis brief. Other shorter and similar briefs had been filed with the court, but the decision in *Muller* secured the strategy. It introduced a new means of legal reasoning, one that is taught today in law schools as “sociological jurisprudence.” Its usefulness in other cases soon became apparent.

In 1917, in another case from Oregon, a Brandeis-style brief of more than a thousand pages was filed with the federal court to support the need of a state law that limited work hours for both men and women to ten hours a day at regular pay and no more than three hours a day of overtime. The court upheld the law. The strategy used by Brandeis in *Muller* would eventually be used to establish the constitutionality of minimum-wage laws. Its most famous application, however, was in a case far removed from labor. In 1954 in *Brown v. Board of Education*, a Brandeis-style brief helped to overturn more than a century of segregation laws.


The decision in *Muller v. Oregon* was heralded immediately as an advance of the rights of labor. That decision supported a proliferation of laws over many years that established safety and health guidelines for working conditions. But there were those, besides private business owners such as Muller, who decried the decision.

A month after the *Muller* decision, *The Woman’s Tribune*, a daily Portland newspaper that supported woman’s suffrage and promoted women’s rights, published a letter on its front page that scolded those who wanted to limit the hours a woman could work and earn a wage. “Who ever heard of limiting the working woman in a home?” the letter asked. “If the government is interested in the welfare of women, one would think it would stop discriminating against them in civil-service examinations and pay them as well as men when they do work for Uncle Sam!”

An editorial in the *Oregon Journal*, published at about the same time, was more circumspect. “The supreme court evidently takes the view,” wrote the editor of the *Journal*, “that women are not citizens in the fullest sense of the term.” And that, in essence, was the long-term fallout of the *Muller* decision.

Woman’s suffrage was approved in Oregon in 1912 and throughout the nation with passage of the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920. That alleviated one of the legal distinctions between the sexes, but the basic thrust of *Muller* remained in force and a rash of protective legislation for women was passed, maintaining women’s status as “wards of the state.” Passage of the Civil Rights Act in 1964 partially changed that, but a legal inequality was still maintained.

In 1972, Congress passed the Equal Rights Amendment and sent it to the states for ratification. More than two-dozen states did so quickly. Oregon gave its approval in 1973 and reaffirmed its support in 1977. But the necessary three-fourths of the states did not ratify the amendment before the end of the ten-year time limit placed by Congress.

An identically worded amendment, renamed the Women’s Equality Amendment, was introduced in Congress in March 2007. Nearly two hundred members of the House of Representatives signed their names as cosponsors. The debate over whether women’s rights are adequately protected under existing laws—whether a constitutional amendment is necessary to ensure that men and women are treated as equal citizens—is about to resume. Many of the arguments, on both sides of the issue, will echo those used in *Muller v. Oregon*, a case that still governs the legal status of women and that began as a dispute between a Portland laundry woman and her male boss. 

*John Dvorak, born in Camas, Washington, is a freelance writer whose articles cover history and science.*



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## The Right Stuff

*Ducks played key roles on presidential candidate John McCain's communications team.*

**T**UCKER BOUNDS '02 HAS BEEN busy since the national election in early November. There was lunch at the Navy Mess in the White House West Wing, attending President Bush's arrival from his trip to the Middle East, a visit to the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives, a private tour of Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell's office, a jaunt to Mount Vernon, a parade of cocktail and Christmas parties.

Anything else?

They were able to bowl some frames "down at the White House, which is kinda cool," says Bounds, who pulled a few strings to get his out-of-town guests into places, well, a little more interesting than the everyday D.C. tour stops.

"The trip wasn't *too* exclusive," says Bounds with a laugh, something the smooth-spoken thirty-year-old does often. But "having friends around town that I've worked with over the years is helpful."

Bounds has been catching up with friends and relatives whom he hadn't really been in touch with since early spring, when he began working in the top echelons of Senator John McCain's presidential campaign, where he teamed with Jill Hazelbaker '03 to form an integral part of McCain's communications wing.

As communications director, Hazelbaker developed McCain's message, and as national spokesman, Bounds delivered it.

And if Bounds' days are busy now, filled with tours of the Capitol and meals at Beltway restaurants—"I sort of go to lunch now as a job"—they were insane then: Working from six in the morning to late into the night, conference calls with top Republican

planners, strategy meetings, near-constant consumption of the news, and an endless gauntlet of interviews and TV spots, fielding questions about McCain, vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin, the Bush administration, the foundering economy, attacks from the Obama camp. "Everything became such a blur when we were working seven days a week, and things seemingly never slowed down."

There was even a brush with fame.

You might remember: It was September 1, and Bounds was speaking with CNN anchor Campbell Brown, who grilled him on Sarah Palin's foreign policy experience. Bounds said that Palin's experience running the Alaska National Guard made her more qualified than Obama to be commander in chief, but Brown didn't buy it. The combative interview itself made a news cycle or two, became a hot clip on YouTube. Bounds even got ribbed for it on *The Daily Show*. The McCain campaign cried foul, saying Brown treated Bounds unfairly.

For his part, Bounds says it's difficult to say if he was abused. "You have to consider the format the interview took place in, the time, that freeze-frame moment in the campaign: Governor Palin was a new candidate not only to the national media, but to our campaign in many respects. And while I think my argument was completely defensible, I think there were probably better arguments to make. But our campaign was making that argument that day, and I did what I could and felt like I was successful."

The circumstances that led Bounds to daily appearances on television and Hazelbaker to a position of shaping McCain's

campaign messages border on the improbable.

In the beginning of the campaign, months before the caucuses and primaries had even begun, McCain was emerging as the front-runner. But the campaign stalled in the summer of 2007.

"When you say stalled, it means a campaign staff of about 250 people became 30," Hazelbaker says. "People believed the campaign was over at that point."

Bounds was out of a job, let go from his post as regional spokesman (representing McCain in the West as well as in the vigorously contested state of Florida) because the campaign was running dangerously low on money. Figuring he was finished with politics for the time, Bounds took a job with the American Insurance Association.

Hazelbaker, twenty-seven, stayed on with McCain as his regional spokeswoman in New Hampshire, where the Arizona senator upset President Bush in the 2000 primaries. In 2008, McCain pulled off an upset there again. Fueled partly by that impressive win, McCain gradually rose past Republican front-runners Rudy Giuliani and Mitt Romney, eventually winning the nomination. With the turnaround, McCain also did some house cleaning, revamping his communications office by putting Hazelbaker in charge.

Falling far behind early in the campaign before shooting back to the fore "is not the way you should run a presidential campaign," Hazelbaker says, laughing. "But it's the way we had to do it."

At the turnaround, Bounds was settled in as the insurance association's vice president of public affairs when Hazelbaker, who





Jill Hazelbaker and Tucker Bounds pose while working on John McCain's campaign.

had met Bounds in a University of Oregon political science class, contacted him about returning to the campaign.

“Even before I came back, it was pretty clear that they had a need for someone to be more actively engaged—they needed a national spokesman,” Bounds says. “They needed someone who would end up being someone at the frontline with the message. It was a rare opportunity and something I didn’t hesitate to jump on.”

“Tucker’s very good at what he does,” Hazelbaker says. “And he’s an inexhaustible worker.”

Even though there was no shortage of memorable moments during the charge to the presidential election, it’s the early moments that stick out for Hazelbaker. “I’d fly to New Hampshire from Washington with Senator McCain on Southwest [Airlines], and he’d carry his own bag. We’d have a volunteer pick us up in a minivan,” she recalls. “I don’t think many people would have that opportunity.”

For Bounds, who hails from Hermiston, the road to Washington began in Eugene and made a number of stops in Oregon, and the list of UO graduates who have influenced him reads like roll call at a College Republicans alumni dinner.

His first job in politics was working for Tracy Olsen ’93 on his Eugene City Council race in 2000, while he was still a student. Later that year, Bounds worked for Jon Kvistad in his campaign for Oregon state treasurer. He then interned in Washington for Representative Greg Walden ’81, who

hired Bounds for a short-term, entry-level position in what turned out to be a busy 2002. After that, Bounds worked for Dan Lavey ’88, who was a consultant to the Oregon Majority Political Action Committee, before being hired by John Easton ’91 to be Senator Gordon Smith’s deputy press secretary.

While it might seem ironic that two of the GOP’s young stars are products of the UO and what many people feel is a bastion of liberalism, Bounds doesn’t see it that way.

“I think people forget that some of the greatest charm of the University of Oregon is that there are people with all different perspectives, and it’s not just those who are stereotypically U of O grads,” he says. “There are a lot of moderate, mainstream conservatives who have gone on to work in Republican politics. Congressman Walden isn’t someone who is viewed as being out of the mainstream but certainly is a Republican, and he’s a proud University of Oregon grad.”

Hazelbaker, a native of Salem who transferred to the University after a year at Loyola Marymount, says she loved her experience there, even if Republicans were outnumbered.

She remembers going for a run in Eugene one day while wearing a Greg Walden for Congress T-shirt. “I found myself in an antiwar rally,” she says. “I’m pretty sure I was the only Republican there.”

—Matt Tiffany, M.S. ’06

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BILL PUTNAM

# Getting Away with Murderball

*Determined Duck excels in international competition.*

PULLING THE BALL IN TIGHT AGAINST his chest and spinning to survey the court, Seth McBride '06 of Team USA looks for a clear path through a jumble of players. Pushing his custom-made, lightweight aluminum sport chair forward, the twenty-five-year-old powers through the defense. His teammates throw themselves in harm's way to set blocks for McBride, and loud cracks from the metal-on-metal contact fill the gym. He lowers his head and sprints down the court with arms working like furious pistons, crosses the goal line, scores a point.

The sport is wheelchair rugby and McBride is playing against China at the 2008 Summer Paralympics in Beijing, the Olympics for athletes with disabilities. Representatives of nearly 150 countries compete in seventeen events. Wheelchair rugby, often called "murderball" for its aggressive nature, combines elements of traditional rugby, ice hockey, and bumper cars. Knocking opposing players to the ground from the force of collision is legal and encouraged.

Raised in Juneau, Alaska, McBride grew up skiing. He ripped expert lines, dropped big cliffs, and could land double backflips and other aerial acrobatics—all before high school graduation. In the summer of 2000, at age seventeen, McBride raced down a slope toward a fifty-foot jump, misjudged the takeoff, over-rotated, and crashed, fracturing the C-6 and C-7 vertebrae in his spinal column. He is now paralyzed from the waist down, with limited mobility in his upper body and trunk.

"I guess [the accident] changed things a bit," he says in typical understated manner.

His ski dreams dashed, he enrolled at the University of Oregon. One day toward the end of freshman year, while surfing the Internet in his dorm room, he discovered the Portland Pounders, a regional wheelchair rugby club team ranked among the best in the country. He had never seen or heard of the game but was attracted to the hard-hitting physical contact and fast-paced action. McBride called the coach, Ed Hooper, who invited him out for a prac-



**Ramming Speed** Seth McBride grapples for control of the ball while playing the Chinese team at the 2008 Paralympics in Beijing.

tice. "I loved it from the get-go, it's a totally new, more natural feeling in a sport chair," McBride says. Despite starting the game out of shape, using borrowed equipment, and being surrounded by more experienced players, he never considering quitting.

After his first practice, his competitive spirit was reignited, spurred by the rush of zipping around the court and smashing into other players. Less than two years after the skiing accident, he was again ready to take on a sport, to drive his mind and body to their limits.

"The first few years were pretty slow," he admits. His schedule only allowed him to make one practice a week, and some of the players with the least mobility could outspurt him. During these seasons, he

didn't attend many tournaments, but used his enthusiasm and what playing time he got to make a positive impression on his teammates.

But after McBride played two seasons, one of the veterans on the Portland team, Will Groulx, told him he had the potential to be a U.S. national player—if he was willing to do the work required to get there. It was a turning point. Now McBride had a goal to strive for. The encouragement from Groulx, who would be playing a few months later on the world stage at the Paralympics in Athens, spurred him to commit to the training and dedication necessary to play at an elite level.

American wheelchair rugby is fiercely competitive. The United States has the

most successful program in the world with the largest pool of players to draw from. The sport received international media attention following release of the 2005 documentary *Murderball*. The film follows the U.S. national team at the 2004 Paralympics in Athens, pulling no punches in its frank portrayal of the combative, sometimes hot-headed, win-or-die mentality of the Team USA players. Team Canada overcame that mentality, however, and took the gold medal in an upset.

Watching the Americans compete in Athens further strengthened McBride's commitment. To improve his speed, he began pushing his chair around the running track at the UO rec center and riding his hand-powered bike around his south Eugene neighborhood. To work on strength, he lifted weights outside of practice. His improved skills and conditioning combined with driving 300 miles per week to practices (in addition to attending games and tournaments) earned him more playing time. In 2005 he traveled with the U.S. team to compete in—and win—a tournament in Brazil.


At the UO, McBride's developing interests led him to pursue majors in both international studies and political science. He visited El Salvador his junior year to immerse himself in Spanish and teach English. A career where he could apply his studies seemed to beckon. But after graduation in 2006, he postponed launching that career to train nonstop for the Beijing Paralympics, a decision he has never regretted.

In December 2007 he officially made the U.S. national team along with ten others, including his old teammate and inspiration Groulx. He was now a part of the top-ranked rugby squad in the world and headed to China and the Paralympics (which are held two weeks after the Olympics and use the same venues, medaling system, and organizational structure as the more famous competition).

In Beijing, after winning against China and Japan by large margins, the U.S. wheelchair rugby team took revenge by defeating Canada. They then held off Great Britain and went on to the gold medal round, playing an Australian team led

by nineteen-year-old wunderkind Ryley Batt, who outscores, outmaneuvers, and outsmarts virtually every other player in the world. Thousands of rugby devotees packed the venue. McBride was a defensive force and scored three goals to go with his two assists. In the end, Team USA's depth, experience, and balance proved too strong for Australia's superstar and the Americans won 53–44. At the final buzzer, players collapsed on each other in a joyous heap, and the usually reserved McBride hollered in exultation.

After the victory, McBride backpacked through four countries in Southeast Asia for two months with a group of friends—keeping his shiny gold medal tucked away tightly in his backpack.

The future? Ideas range from teaching English abroad to working as a Spanish interpreter to going back to grad school to study creative writing. As for rugby, he wants to compete at the London Paralympics in 2012. After that, he's tentatively planning still another adventure: biking from northern Alaska to southern Chile. 

—Dave Zook '05

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# Oregon's Loss, Democracy's Gain

The little-known story of how Oregon nearly ended up with a governor named Abraham Lincoln



WONDERING “WHAT IF . . .” second-guesses life choices and contemplates the role of chance in life. Poet Robert Frost addressed such contemplation in his iconic “The Road Not Taken.” Because history often turns on seemingly small decisions, it especially lends itself to “what if” scenarios. For instance, what if Abraham Lincoln had accepted President Zachary Taylor’s offer to become governor of the Oregon Territory?

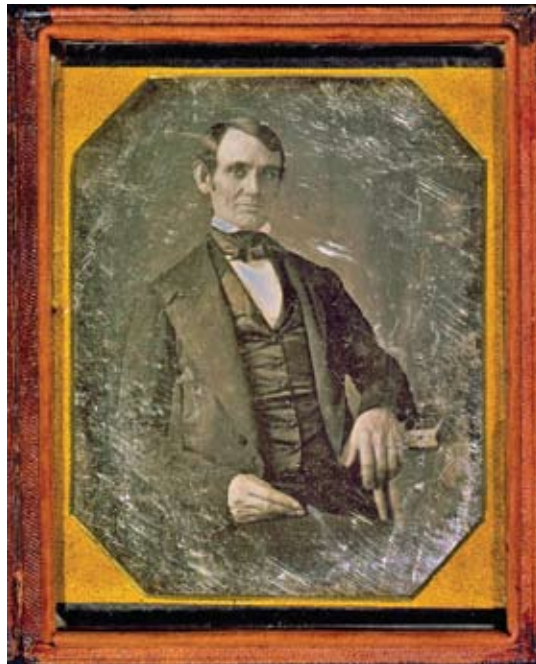
There are so many “what if” moments in Lincoln’s life that Fortuna, the ever-fickle Roman goddess of fate, appears to have singled him out for her attention—both good and bad.

Lincoln was a product of the raw Kentucky frontier. There was little in his upbringing to suggest he would eventually win the nation’s highest elective office. Young Lincoln’s chief assets were native intelligence, strong ethics, and ambition, all of which helped him make the most of the uniquely American opportunity to rise in life. By contrast, Mary Todd, who would become his wife and political partner, was born into genteel Kentucky society and expected to marry someone equally positioned. Among her rejected Lexington suitors was Democrat Stephen Douglas, whose success eclipsed Lincoln’s when Mary first met her future husband.

Born into the high society that created the so-called “Athens of the West” in Lexington, Mary Todd epitomized the classic southern belle of the era, with one important distinction—she was highly educated for a woman.

Although both Abe and Mary were born in Kentucky, their lives were worlds apart, divided by money and power, until Fortuna chose to play matchmaker for the unlikely pair.

Mary was visiting her older sister, who had married into a prominent Springfield, Illinois, family, when she was introduced to Abraham Lincoln, an affable and eligible young Springfield attorney, his lack of social pedigree notwithstanding. Each had



Abraham Lincoln, Congressman-elect from Illinois. Nicholas H. Shepherd, photographer. Springfield, Ill., 1846 or 1847. This daguerreotype is the earliest-known photograph of Abraham Lincoln, taken at age thirty-seven. Within a few years he would be offered the governorship of the Oregon Territory.

husband, Mary Todd Lincoln drew on her social background and provided a home where he could entertain in a manner prerequisite to political advancement. She worked diligently to transform her rough-hewn husband from frontiersman to gentleman. Mary’s insight into Abraham’s potential was right on target.

Having been encouraged by a Todd relative to read law in the custom of the time, Lincoln began a legal practice, but it wasn’t long before he ran for political office.

He first set his eyes on a seat in the Illinois legislature at age twenty-three while serving in the state’s militia. Though he lost the race, he wasn’t ready to abandon his political aspirations. Running in the next electoral cycle for the same office, he handily won. Lincoln served four terms in the legislature, where he quickly emerged as the leader of the Whigs. He then served a single term in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Immediately after his term ended on March 4, 1849, Fortuna tempted Lincoln with a career offer that had the potential to change his life and history. Lincoln had campaigned loyally for Zachary Taylor, the Whig elected president in 1848, and he had expectations of being rewarded with a political appointment. Taylor in August 1849 offered Lincoln, Illinois’s most active Whig, an appointment as secretary of the new Oregon Territory. Lincoln quickly rejected the offer. The following month, Lincoln was offered the governorship of the Oregon Territory. At the time, Democrats controlled Oregon and after it was admitted to the Union there was little prospect that a Whig governor would be elected. But it was Mary Todd Lincoln whose refusal to

**What if Mary Todd Lincoln had not put her foot down and refused to move to the Oregon Territory? History would have doubtlessly been altered dramatically.**

a southern heritage. But most importantly, they shared a love for politics and relentless political ambition.

Not content with bringing the couple together, Fortuna engineered a second twist of fate. The strong-willed and opinionated Mary Todd ignored the advice of her in-laws and married Lincoln, who was well below her social status, following a rocky courtship that foreshadowed their tempestuous marriage.

As ambitious as her up-and-coming

move even further West tipped the scale to “no,” and Lincoln turned down the governorship. Mary Todd had traded her birthright of privilege and social prominence for a political future when she married Lincoln, and she had no intention of ending up in such a distant and unpromising outpost.

Mary’s political instincts proved sound. John P. Gaines (1795–1857) took the governorship of the Oregon Territory after Lincoln turned it down. After just two years in the job, he stepped down and later died in obscurity. The state of Oregon’s first elected governor—150 years ago—was indeed a Democrat, John Whiteaker.

Out of the U.S. Congress and having turned down the governorship, Lincoln found himself out of office for the first time in his adult life. During this hiatus, he pondered the dilemma of slavery that was dividing the nation and developed his political solution for that “peculiar institution.” Mary’s former beau, Stephen Douglas, sought to sell voters on his concept of “popular sovereignty” as a compromise solution to slavery. Douglas’s platform did win him reelection to the U.S. Senate. However, the Lincoln-Douglas debates

about slavery also served to catapult Lincoln into the national limelight.

Fortuna again intervened in Lincoln’s life through the debates. Had Lincoln “won” the debates and captured the U.S. Senate seat, it seems unlikely that he would have stepped down to run for the presidency in 1860. Even more so than with the Oregon decision, by keeping him from winning the Senate seat, fate conspired with Mary’s political strategy for her husband and left Lincoln available to seek the presidency.

With Lincoln’s election as president of a deeply divided nation, the world soon recognized the leadership traits that Mary Todd had earlier discerned in her seemingly unlikely suitor. In short order, President Lincoln was lauded as the “Great Emancipator” at the same time he earned the moniker of “Great Reconciler,” and served as the modern model for magnanimity in politics. As a result of his enduring contributions, governments at home and abroad have named countless streets, schools, statues, and stamps in honor of America’s sixteenth president—more such tributes than any other American president has ever received.

What if Mary Todd Lincoln had not put her foot down and refused to move to the Oregon Territory? History would have doubtlessly been altered dramatically. But when Lincoln and his wife looked down the Oregon career path, they recognized it would not lead them to their dream of being president and first lady of the United States. In retrospect, Oregon’s loss became the nation’s gain. @

*Political scientist William D. Pederson '67, M.A. '72, Ph.D. '79, is the founder of the American studies program at Louisiana State University in Shreveport, where he is the first person to hold the American Studies Endowed Chair. He serves on the National Advisory Committee to the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission to commemorate the two hundredth anniversary of Lincoln's birthday, February 12, 2009. Coinciding with the bicentennial is publication of his most recent book, Lincoln Lessons (see Book Shelf, page 14). In December, Pederson participated in an academic conference—"the first Lincoln symposium in a Muslim country"—at East West University in Dhaka, Bangladesh.*

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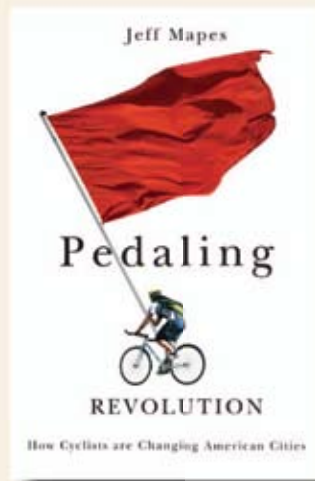
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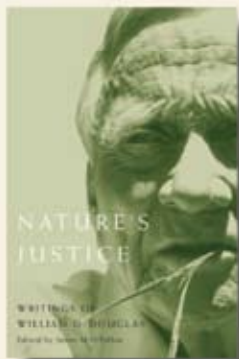
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What gives you the right? Historical perspectives on American rights. (Professor Matthew Dennis, History)

**WEDNESDAYS, 6:30–9:00 p.m.**  
Browsing Room, Knight Library  
1501 Kincaid Street

**April 1, 8, 15, 22**  
**American Medicine**

How did we get here? Regulation, epidemics, ethics, and malpractice. (Professor James Mohr, History)

**May 6, 13, 20, 27**  
**Art and Society**

What do works of art offer groups and individuals searching for meaning? (Associate Professor John Lysaker, Philosophy)



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## UO Alumni Calendar

Go to [uoalumni.com/events](http://uoalumni.com/events) for detailed information

### March 21

PHOENIX, ARIZONA  
**Oregon Alumni Day with the Phoenix Suns**

*The Arizona UOAA chapter invites all area alumni to participate.*

### April 18

SHERATON SAN DIEGO HOTEL AND MARINA

**Sixth annual Taste of Oregon**

*The San Diego chapter invites alumni, family, and friends to enjoy Northwest wines and select hors d'oeuvres.*

### April 30–May 2

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**Class of 1959 Fiftieth Reunion**

*Attendees will enjoy a weekend of fun, reconnecting, and seeing what's happening on campus.*

### May 16

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

**Seventh annual Pac-10 Day at Petco Park**

*Padres vs. Cincinnati baseball with the San Diego UOAA chapter.*

### Upcoming UOAA Travel Opportunities

#### Canary Islands

April 7–15

#### China and the Yangtze River

April 15–27

#### River Life: Dutch Waterways—Heidelberg

April 24–May 2

#### Greece: Athens and the island of Poros

May 22–30



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To register: Community members who have not taken a UO course in the last year should call UO Continuing Education for registration assistance, (800) 824-2714.

Current UO and CEP students and faculty and staff members can register through DuckWeb at [duckweb.uoregon.edu](http://duckweb.uoregon.edu).

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# Class Notes

University of Oregon Alumni

■ INDICATES UOAA MEMBER

## 1950s

■ **Cornelia “Corky” Hoppe** '51, a member of Delta Delta Delta, lives in San Francisco, California, where she has a private practice as a marriage and family therapist. Hoppe recently published a book titled *Growth on the Path*.


■ **Norm Hill** '53 is a retired pharmacist. Hill writes, “The good news is that . . . I have been born again, and I am a believer. My name is in the Book of Life.”

**Joe Rigert** '56 has published his third book, *An Irish Tragedy: How Sex Abuse by Irish Priests Helped Cripple the Catholic Church*. Rigert is retired from the *Star Tribune* newspaper in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

**John Hendrickson** '57, a member of Sigma Nu, and **Marlene Grasseschi Hendrickson** '57 celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary with more than two hundred friends and relatives at the Turlock Golf and Country Club in Turlock, California.



### CLASS NOTABLE

Ninety-one-year-old **Frederick Arthur Lowther** '42 is a former city manager of Golden, Colorado, an author of several books (including his autobiography and *The History of Golden and Its Golden City Cemetery*), and an active blogger interested in questions related to the Bible. 

## 1960s

**Tom Doggett** '60, a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon, recently retired as vice president of television programming at Oregon Public Broadcasting. The Public Television Programmers Association recognized Doggett with a Lifetime Achievement Award at its annual meeting in Boston last August.

**Stan Wisniewski**, M.F.A. '62, lives in Pennsylvania, where his paintings were displayed at a one-man show at the Clinton County Arts Council for the month of September 2008.

In honor of Oregon's sesquicentennial, **Alaby Blivet** '63 and wife **Sara Lee Cake** '45 plan to drive their solar- and biofuel-powered tour bus to every location in Oregon “from Ada to the Zigzag Mountains” and at each stop celebrate by cooking and eating an “etymologically appropriate sesquipedalian hot dog.”

Twelve drawings by **Terry Melton**, M.F.A. '64, are featured in the Fall-Winter issue of *Northwest Review*. The drawings are taken from a limited edition serigraph portfolio titled “Leda and the Swan.”

**Stephen Scott** '67 was chosen as a United States Artists fellow for 2008. Scott and his compositions for “bowed piano ensemble” were the subjects of an article in the Summer 2008 issue of *Oregon Quarterly*.

■ **Victor Marshand Webb**, M.S. '68, has retired from his position as journalism professor at the University of Southern California's Annenberg School for Communication.

**Vivian Wilson Edersheim** '69 retired in October 2008 from U.S. Air Force public affairs after more than twenty-one years of service. She and her husband, Les, have moved to Raymond, Washington, where they plan to pursue a variety of hobbies and enjoy time with their friends and family.

**Jerry Wright** '69 is five years into his second career as a professor of advertising. Wright was honored in 2008 for exceptional teaching in the College of Communications at California State University, Fullerton.

## 1970s

**Kathleen Alban Tahja**, M.L.S. '71, retired after twenty-seven years with the Mendocino Unified School District, and is now concentrating on her work as an author. She published two books in 2008: *Early Mendocino Coast*, a photo history of the Mendocino Coast 100 years ago, and *Rails Across the Noyo: A Rider's Guide to the Skunk Train*, which features information on the local tourist train line. She lives in rural Mendocino County with her husband, David.

**Larry Erickson** '72, M.Mus. '76, is a retired Portland public school music teacher. Last year he played clarinet in the Western International Band Clinic Directors Band in Seattle. He also is principal alto saxophone in the Beaverton Community Band. Last July in Vancouver, B.C., he was concertmaster of the ClarinetFest Conference Choir.

**Marel Kalyn** (formerly Marcia Pander-Lynch) '72, M.F.A. '79, is proud to announce that her son's feature film, *Selfless*, won four major awards at the Bend Film Festival and has screened at film festivals in Portland and Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**Kerry Harms Taylor** '73, M.A. '76, was appointed executive director of the Pay It Forward Foundation in November 2008. The foundation is dedicated to helping individuals change the world, one favor at a time.

**Robert Huffman** '74 is principal pianist at Pacific Artists Dance Center in Southwest Portland and serves as master class dance accompanist for Whitebird Inc. One of the top ballet accompanists in the nation, he recently completed his twenty-fifth summer at Whitman College as principal pianist for the Summer Dance Lab.

**Leslie Martin** '76, M.M. '78 and '79, presented concerts at two European organ festivals last summer. Martin is an adjunct professor of organ, harpsichord, and keyboard harmony at Seattle Pacific University and is organist and choirmaster at Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church in Seattle.

**Van Edwards**, M.F.A. '77, was one of two photographers featured in an exhibit at the University of Houston, Clear Lake titled, “Along the River Grande: A New World Becoming,” on display from November 2008 through January 2009.

**Thomas J. Fullmer** '78 is enjoying his third year as vice president and business development officer for IronStone Bank in Portland and Lake Oswego. Tom has been married for twenty-eight years to **Maureen Casey Fullmer** '78, a member of Alpha Phi. Their daughter Chelsea is a junior at Beaverton High School, and son **Ryan Fullmer** is a sophomore at the University. Tom is a member of the Rotary Club of Portland and board director for the Oregon International Air Show and the State Games of Oregon.

**Gaylord Reagan**, Ph.D. '78, recently completed training in earned value management systems and received his Six Sigma Green Belt certification. He also published an article critique in the journal *CrossTalk* and is currently serving as a member of the team redeveloping Northrop Grumman's enterprise search capability.

■ **Tom Sullivan** '78 is a board member of the Lane County chapter of the UO Alumni Association. He assisted with the Tailgate Auction to raise funds for scholarships and is donating 10 percent of his commissions from his day job as a life insurance agent to the Ford Alumni Center fund.





**DUCKS AFIELD**

**You Can Take It with You** Mike '69, D.M.D. '72, and Peggy (Remington) Mellum '72 and a dozen friends traveled to South America this summer, a trip that included a four-day, twenty-six-mile trek along the Inca Trail to the ruins of Machu Picchu, shown in the background.

**1980s**

**R. Daniel Lindahl** '80 has been elected a member of the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers. Academy membership is by invitation only and is limited to lawyers who have established a reputation for excellence while focusing substantially on appeals during at least the last fifteen years.

**Joy Green**, M.S. '82, has been teaching dance and physical education for more than two decades at Kodiak High School in Alaska. She plans to retire this year.

**Maria E. Rodriguez**, M.A. '84, was recently elected to the Board of Trustees of the Contemporary Museum of Baltimore, Maryland. Rodriguez is a partner at the Baltimore office of the law firm Venable, LLP, where she focuses on business and commercial litigation. She is a member of the American Bar Association, and serves as editor-in-chief of *Litigation* magazine.

**Edgar Beals** '85 married his life partner, Michael Mazzaferro, in October 2008. Their two children, Angela and Carlo, as well as friends and extended families, were in attendance.

**Jason Ruderman** '86 is starting his own DJ business in the San Francisco Bay area, where he plays at weddings and parties. He cites his years in the Oregon Marching Band and Pep Band as evidence of his long-standing devotion to music.

**Kathie Fenton Stanley** '86 was named chief of staff to the UO vice president for student affairs in May 2008. Her husband (**John**) **Brian Stanley** '85 is assistant director of admissions and residency officer for the UO. Much to their delight, their son **Matthew Stanley** is now a freshman at the University.

**Jennifer Thompson** '86, who teaches elementary school in Juneau, Alaska, received an Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship for the current school year. Thompson is one of fifteen science, math, and technology educators selected to spend the year in Washington, D.C., working with policymakers to advance educational programs.

*Continued on page 56*

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**CLASS NOTES** *Continued*

**Joe Arndt** '87 is the proud new father of Beatrice Annabella Arndt, born in October 2008. Joe and his wife, Leslie, were married in early 2008. Joe is managing editor at KGW-TV in Portland and serves on the Oregon Associated Press board. He is also a member of the Oregon State Bar's Bar-Press-Broadcasters Council, a group committed to promoting understanding between Oregon's legal system and news media.

**Sandra Dunn Stevens** '88, a member of Kappa Alpha Theta, owns and operates Ohana Arts in Florida. The company's mission is to instill the values of Hawaiian culture through workshops and performances.

After thirteen years as a freelancer, **Tim Clarke** '89, M.A. '93, is living in New York, having taken a senior-level audio engineering position at Fisher-Price, where he composes and arranges instrumental pieces, works with a lyricist writing songs, and designs sounds for a number of Fisher-Price products.

**Jack M. Coelho**, M.S. '89, retired from a career teaching fine arts in public schools and now operates a ceramic design company in Joseph, Oregon, where he specializes in pottery, sculpture, and architectural ceramics, and leads ceramic design workshops.

## 1990s

**Robin A. Keister** '91 coauthored (with California Academy of Sciences ornithologist Luis Baptista) a paper titled "Why Birdsong Is Sometimes Like Music," which appeared in the journal *Perspectives in Biology and Medicine*. The paper

explores the concept of birds as both vocalists and instrumentalists and examines a variety of compositions from Western music that feature birdsong.

**Michael Waite**, M.F.A. '93, lives in Redmond, Washington, with his wife and two children. He is the studio head of Amaze Entertainment, a video game production company, and recently published a young-adult novel, *The Witches of Dredmoore Hollow*, under his pen name, Riford McKenzie.

**Adam Wendt** '94 started an educational media company in 1999 called Iris Media, which has secured more than \$9 million in federal grants to develop, produce, and distribute media programs. Adam lives and works in Eugene with his wife and three children.

■ **Lyn Travis Hooper** '95 has received awards for her efforts to support historic preservation in the rehabilitation of the historic Antlers Hotel in Lemoore, California, and the Hotel Fresno Rehabilitation Feasibility Study for the city of Fresno, California. The latter received the prestigious Governor's Historic Preservation Award, granted by California's Office of Historic Preservation on behalf of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

**Kristina Britton** '96, a member of Sigma Kappa, serves as vice president of operations at Moore Information in Portland. Britton has worked for the company since 2000 and now manages data collection and processing, human resources, and information technology for the national opinion research and strategic analysis firm.

Though no longer dancing due to an injury, **Chikako Narita-Batson** '96 is a successful financial analyst at KPMG in New York City and says "most of my basic work philosophy comes from my experiences in the UO dance department."

**Susan Lyle**, D.M.A. '97, wrote and directed *Marian Anderson—Her Life in Song*, a retrospective program featuring narration, film clips of the great singer, and live performers, in honor of the installation of a bronze sculpture of Anderson at Converse College in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Lyle is on a research sabbatical from the Petrie School of Music, working on adapting techniques used in functional voice training for the rehabilitation of injured voices.

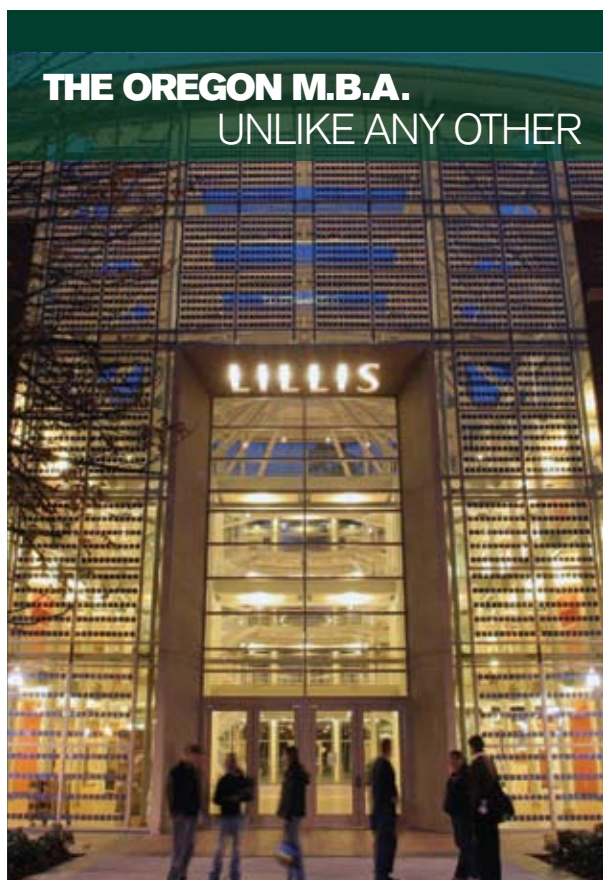
**Don Addison**, Ph.D. '98, has been the music and language producer, writer, and host for the "Wisdom of the Elders" public radio programs. The series covers tribal groups along the Lewis and Clark Trail from Native American viewpoints, with materials drawn from on-site reservation interviews of tribal elder historians.

**Keri Janssen** '98 is executive director of the American Heart Association's Silicon Valley division. Janssen joined the medical nonprofit in 2005, and most recently served as senior business director.

**Lysley Tenorio**, M.F.A. '98, received a 2008 Whiting Writers' Award. The Whiting awards are given to ten young writers each year who display extraordinary talent and promise. Tenorio teaches English and creative writing at Saint Mary's College in Moraga, California.

**Sarah Beth (Smith) Byrum** '99 founded All That! Dance Company the year she graduated and was honored by the National Dance Educators Association for her work in dance education. Her company is growing, with studios in Eugene and Springfield.

*Continued on page 60*



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**D E C A D E S**

Reports from previous Spring issues of *Old Oregon* and *Oregon Quarterly*



*Deady Hall, 1876*

**1919** *Old Oregon* launches. One headline reads “Alumni Magazine at Last” over an article proclaiming “College friendships are said to be the most durable and precious of life. Strengthen and keep them ever fresh through *Old Oregon*.” The inaugural issue also includes “When Oregon’s Doors Opened,” a reminiscence by Ellen Condon McCornack ’78 who writes that in the University’s first year the campus was “a bare rolling hillside” and that “Deady Hall stood alone” with no trees or vines “to soften the austerity of its lonely dignity.”

**1929** Melissa Hall ’94 visits campus and recalls how the women of her graduating class were given to “revolutionizing”: not joining the organized yelling at athletic events, removing their hats during lectures, and taking gym classes—a first for women on campus. One barrier remained unbreached, however, as her female classmates refrained from leaving the city limits without written permission from the dean of women.

**1939** The Oregon “Tall Firs” beat Ohio State 46 to 33 to win the National Intercollegiate basketball championship.

**1949** The Erb Memorial Union is rising in the heart of campus, the result of decades of dreaming, planning, and fundraising since

the class of 1923 initiated a pledge drive for a student center.

**1959** On the occasion of Oregon’s centennial year, assistant professor of architecture Lewis Crutcher bemoans the dismal appearance of Oregon cities, areas that “crush people together like cattle” among billboards, subdivisions with treeless expanses of roofs and utility poles, parking meters, parking lots, and cars.

**1969** In late January, 41.7 inches of snow fall on Eugene, causing the first-ever closing of the UO.

**1979** *Animal House*, filmed in and around Eugene and the UO, is a huge box office hit. “As an alum, I’m suddenly gaining a certain amount of prestige, particularly among current undergraduates,” beams Cathy Castillo ’65.

**1989** UO president Paul Olum announces a recent gift pushing the Campaign for Oregon past the halfway point toward its five-year goal of \$60 million.

**1999** A Mac Court celebration marks completion of the Oregon Campaign, the largest fundraising effort in state history. Surpassing a “wildly optimistic” goal of \$150 million, the campaign brings in \$255 million.



# CONGRATULATIONS TO MIKE RUSSO!

**Professor Mike Russo** was named the 2009 Thomas C. Stewart Distinguished Professor at the Lundquist College of Business. Russo has been instrumental in enhancing the University of Oregon's reputation for sustainability:

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**CLASS NOTES** *Continued*

**Matthew K. Clarke '99** has joined the aviation division of Portland's Landye Bennett Blumstein law firm as a partner following several years with the Wolk law firm, a well-known plaintiffs' aviation law firm in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He has worked on such notable commercial aircraft cases as the US Airways Flight 5481 crash in Charlotte, North Carolina, and the American Airlines Flight 1420 crash in Little Rock, Arkansas.

## 2000s

**Mazdak Khamda, M.M. '00**, was hired to teach piano at Napa Valley College in California. In 2008 he released a new solo piano CD titled *Grey*, containing original compositions that mix Iranian and American cultures.

**Andrew M. Wenrick, M.Arch. '02**, practices architecture in Lucerne, Switzerland, where he lives with his wife, Andrea, and their six-month-old daughter, Ashtyn.

**Dan Flanagan, M.M. '03**, was appointed acting concertmaster of the Sacramento Philharmonic Orchestra and Sacramento Opera. He'll be a soloist with the philharmonic this season in the Beethoven *Triple Concerto* and Astor Piazzolla's *Four Seasons of Buenos Aires*. He also was appointed lecturer of violin at the University of California at Davis, where he will be a soloist this season with the University Symphony.

**Jonathon Banks '05** is a video game designer currently at work on the PlayStation Network title, *Pain*, an action comedy with downloadable expansions.

**Joanna Bristow '05** is in her third year at Dancers' Workshop, a nonprofit dance studio and presenting organization in Jackson, Wyoming. In addition to teaching modern dance and ballet, Joanna's full-time position includes marketing. She says, "Thought you'd all like to know that what you taught me is being appreciated and applied every day out here in Wyoming."

**Tyler Mack '05** was named one of the best and brightest young professionals in the newspaper business in the December 2008 edition of *Presstime* magazine's annual "20 under 40" selection. The feature is designed to recognize those who have proven themselves as "change agents within their companies and the industry, providing much-needed leadership and vision." Mack is director of online sales and marketing for *The Spokesman-Review* in Spokane, Washington, where he lives with his wife, Sally.

**Cassandra Manuelito-Kerkviet, Ph.D. '05**, became the first Native American woman to ascend to the presidency of an accredited university outside the tribal college system when she was inaugurated as president of Seattle's Antioch University in October.

**Dave Camwell, D.M.A. '06**, assistant professor of saxophone and jazz studies at Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa, has had four recent articles published by *Saxophone Journal*. Camwell and wife Jillian welcomed a baby boy into the world in November.

**Christopher Thomas '06** attended USC's graduate program, Scoring for Motion Pictures and Television, after his UO graduation. He interned on ABC's hit show *Lost* as orchestrator and conductor. Thomas was a music editor on Sony Pictures' *Dragon Wars*, which became the highest-selling film in Korean history. He was the youngest nominee

for Best Orchestrator in the 2007 Academy of Film and TV Music Awards, finishing as runner-up in the competition.

**Jerry Hui, M.M. '07**, won the 2008 Robert Helps Prize in Composition from the University of South Florida for his new choral work, *Of Water and Love*.

**Delia Johnson, M.Actg. '07**, received her CPA license in July 2008 and has been working for the Alexandria, Virginia, accounting firm Kositzka, Wicks, and Company since October.

**Bill Belardo '08** works as an environmental specialist for the Cuyahoga County Emergency Management Agency in Ohio. His job entails ensuring that HAZMAT facilities abide by EPA standards.

## In Memoriam

**Betty Jean Taylor Bartholomew '45** died in October 2008 of pancreatic cancer at age eighty-five. She had a long and distinguished career as a pianist and organist, winning many awards for her service to churches and communities in five states. She is survived by her five children and five grandchildren.

**Alva Granquist Treadgold '45, J.D. '47**, a member of Sigma Kappa, died in August 2008. After graduating at the top of her law school class, Treadgold and her husband, **Don Treadgold '43**, moved to England, where he was a Rhodes scholar. After their return to the states, Don took a job teaching Russian history at the University of Washington, while Alva was active in a number of UW organizations, and later worked at a Seattle law firm. The two raised three children and a foster child.

*Continued on page 62*

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## PIONEER AWARD GALA

HONORING *Lynn Frohnmayer*



Lynn Frohnmayer has devoted her life to children, as a case worker and branch manager for the Oregon Children's Services Division, as one of the founders of the Lane County Relief Nursery, and as a volunteer for the Fanconi Anemia Research Fund. She and her husband, Dave, established the fund to combat a rare genetic disease that claimed the lives of two of their daughters and afflicts a third daughter. Lynn also worked as a national trainer promoting an initiative to get abused and neglected children out of the revolving door of foster care and into permanent homes. Lynn has made a difference in the lives of thousands of children and their families while raising five children of her own and dealing with personal tragedy of unimaginable proportions.

Lynn received her bachelor's degree in history from Stanford University and her master's in social work from Smith College.

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**CLASS NOTES** *Continued*

**Donald Harry Stanton '49**, a member of Phi Delta Theta, died in October 2008 at age eighty-four. His role as cocaptain of the 1949 football team helped carry the Ducks to the Cotton Bowl that year and earned Stanton a place in the Hall of Fame. After a career in the lumber industry, Stanton retired to San Carlos, Mexico, with his wife of sixty-two years, **Polly Stanton '47**.

**Frances Robson Brown '50**, a member of Sigma Kappa, died in August 2008 at age eighty. A lifelong Oregonian, Brown worked as a teacher's assistant in the special education department at West Albany High School. In her later years, she enjoyed wintering in Palm Springs and always remained an avid Ducks fan.

**Diane Mecham Williams '50**, a member of Delta Delta Delta, died in November 2008 at age seventy-nine. Williams was the society editor at the Santa Rosa, California, *Press-Democrat* from 1948 to 1950, and later owned a string of clothing shops in the Bay Area. Her two children learned principles of running a successful business while working in her stores, and Williams and her daughter operated shops side by side in Santa Rosa until 2005.

**Lawrence Blunt '52**, a member of Phi Gamma Delta, died in September 2008.

**Kendall E. M. Nash '57** died in August 2008 at age eighty-two. After serving in the U.S. Navy during World War II and completing his education, Nash practiced law in Newport and the Portland area. In later years, he and his wife, **Nancy Peterson Nash '49**, operated a travel company, escorted tour groups abroad, and taught courses in low-cost travel. He is survived by his two sons, Robert and **Douglas Nash '84**, and four grandchildren.

**John R. McCulloch Jr. '63, L.L.B. '65**, a member of Alpha Tau Omega, died in July 2008 at age sixty-seven. McCulloch spent three decades as a trial attorney for the Oregon Department of Justice, serving as solicitor general and chief trial counsel, until he retired in 1999 to enter private practice. He was a Salem city councilor in the late 1970s and helped to create Minto-Brown Island Park's running paths. Equally devoted to his family and the constant pursuit of mental excellence, McCulloch required each of his children to read a book a week in order to stimulate conversation during Sunday waffle brunches.

## Faculty In Memoriam

Emeritus professor of political science **Jim Klonoski** died in late January due to a brain tumor. He was eighty-three. Klonoski earned his doctorate from the University of Michigan in 1958 and came to the UO in 1961. He was an expert on constitutional law and politics and on the American presidency. Klonoski chaired the Lane County Democrats from 1970 to 1974 and then the state party from 1974 to 1980. In 1978, he married **Ann Aiken '74, J.D. '79**, now a federal judge in Eugene. Klonoski retired in 1996, but returned three years later and taught until 2002.

### In Memoriam Policy

All "In Memoriam" submissions must be accompanied by a copy of a newspaper obituary or funeral home notice. Editors reserve the right to edit for space and clarity. Send to *Oregon Quarterly*, In Memoriam, 5228 University of Oregon, Eugene OR 97403-5228.

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## Ducks

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FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Fresno State				6 Santa Clara	7 Santa Clara (H)					3 Wakeford*	4 Wakeford*		
		8 Santa Clara													
		22 TCU	24 Sacramento State	25 Sacramento State	20 Portland	21 Washington Hawaii			5 Washford*	14 Portland				3 UCLA*	
		29 Oregon State*	31 Portland			27 Oregon State*	28 Oregon State*					24 Arizona*		22 Arizona*	23 Arizona*
27 Fresno State	28 Fresno State								26 Washington*						

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# The Inspiration of Osprey

By Melissa Hart

My husband and I had already labored two months to remodel our bathroom when osprey began to build a nest in a nearby park. On hikes, we laughed at their messy conglomeration of sticks and shrill communications in a Douglas fir. I never suspected these noisy birds of prey would teach me the value of perseverance.

The previous year, Jonathan and I had delved into home improvement as we waited to adopt a child. Both processes operated on a fickle, seemingly interminable timeline. "Remodeling gives us something constructive to do," I reasoned as we finished building a fence and moved on to the bathroom.

Demolition comes easy to me. I strap on goggles, shoulder a sledgehammer, and topple walls. It's putting them back together that's problematic. I resent hours spent indoors on a hikeable day, breathing paint and adhesive fumes and replacing lumber riddled with termite tunnels.

One afternoon, faced with gutted walls and a dirt floor, I collapsed in a mess of two-by-fours. "We'll never be finished!" I wailed. "What if we get a child and there's no bathroom? What if we finish the bathroom but there's no child?"

Jonathan looked at me, sawdusted and sweating. He assessed his thumb, bruised in the line of duty. "Let's go for a hike," he said.

"Buford Park!" I leapt up to exchange my hammer for binoculars.

The Howard Buford Recreation Area outside Eugene boasts 2,300 acres on which visitors can glimpse numerous different species of birds. We spotted red-tailed hawks, vultures, bald eagles, and violet-green swallows before Jonathan pointed to an osprey with something long and stringy clutched in its talons. "What kind of fish is that?" he asked.

I'd read about how osprey hunt, snatching a fish from the river and turning it in midair to ride next to their body, streamlined. I lifted my binoculars. "That's no fish!" I said. "It's lichen—old man's beard."

The osprey sailed over us and disappeared into a fir. The previous autumn, we'd spotted a nest high up in the limbs of the same tree, but now we glimpsed only a few sticks above which two birds presided, shrieking.

"Their nest must've blown down in a storm," Jonathan said.

Looking at the larger bird, likely the female, I felt a sudden kinship. "Poor bird." I dropped to the sun-warmed grass. "She's probably outraged that she's got to rebuild the nest before she lays eggs."

Osprey nests are complicated affairs. Approximately three feet deep and four feet wide, they can weigh up to 400 pounds, lined with sticks, bark, leaves, and human detritus. In his book *Return of the Osprey*, David Gessner monitors a series of osprey nests on Cape Cod. One contains a naked Barbie doll.

Jonathan and I assumed that osprey merely picked up debris and carried it to their nesting site. Not so. As we watched, the smaller bird took off again. Suddenly, he swooped toward a branch, talons outstretched, and broke off a twig. Grasping it in his talons, he carried it to his mate who chirped from her station.



"That's right," I chuckled. "The male does the heavy lifting while the female directs."

"Not so. Look." Jonathan pointed at the female who flew off and returned with a hunk of old man's beard. We found, in the hour we watched, that she preferred lichen while her mate gravitated toward sticks.

"We'd better get back to remodeling," Jonathan said at last.

"The birds'll have that nest finished by tonight," I muttered, envious.

But they didn't. When we returned the next week, muscles strained from lifting drywall, the osprey were still working. The nest wasn't much larger than it had been; still, they labored, one twig at a time.

I watched the female fly down to an oak, rip off lichen, and transport it to the nest. What compelled her to keep working? Did she trust that eventually, her home would be finished and the babies would come?

Such faith eluded me. We'd already waited so long for a child. Sometimes, as I struggled to screw drywall into studs, I wondered if we'd even need the toddler commode or the little rubber ducky.

Still, if a four-pound bird could devote herself to home remodeling, I could, too. I painted the ceiling and picked out a light fixture, illuminating our newly tiled shower.

The next week at Buford Park, the skies were devoid of osprey. I climbed a hill and peered through my binoculars. "The nest looks finished," I reported, "but the birds aren't around."

Jonathan and I fell silent, listening. "They're gone," he concluded.


We drove home glumly. We returned to the park several times, but the osprey had vanished.

It took us six months to complete our bathroom. During that time, I read more about osprey—learned that pairs often return to the same nest for years, remodeling it for the season's babies. What had compelled our pair to abandon their nest? In the absence of eggs, had they migrated early toward South America, heartbroken?

In July, Jonathan and I planned a cross-country trip, distracting ourselves from another summer without a child. Then the phone call came. "Congratulations," said our social worker. "You have an eighteen-month-old daughter."

That August, we took our toddler to Buford Park. "Look!" We pointed to the nest in the fir. "Osprey built that. But then they went away."

Suddenly, a movement in the sticks caught my eye. I peered through the binoculars and spotted a black-striped head. "It's the female!" I told Jonathan. "She's on the nest!"

Our new daughter clapped her tiny hands. And I—in a silly but heartfelt effort to reciprocate for the bird's inspiration—lifted her into the air, hoping the osprey could see her. 

*Melissa Hart is the author of the upcoming memoir, Chica (Seal, 2009). She teaches journalism at the University of Oregon.*