

Summer/Fall  
2006

# THE Mountaineer

EASTERN OREGON UNIVERSITY



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CELEBRATING  
COMMUNITY  
SINCE 1929

# President's message



Greetings Alumni,

In September, I had the privilege of welcoming new and returning faculty, staff and the freshman class of 2010 as we began our 77<sup>th</sup> academic year. This year promises to be one full of new opportunities and a continuation of EOU's tradition of excellence. Events like Homecoming and Tea and Trumpets, (the annual reception for scholarship donors and recipients), are great ways to celebrate Eastern's heritage while looking to the future.

As alumni you can take pride in the accomplishments that your University has achieved over the years and you can expect the future of EOU to hold even greater promise. In order to seize these extraordinary opportunities, we need the support and commitment of you – our alumni. You play a vital role in the composition of the vitality, history and future success of our campus and we will continue to provide you with great alumni programs, engaging events and timely information to keep you connected with your alma mater.

I encourage you to visit the campus and participate in some of the alumni events planned for the coming year, or even just call us to share your memories of Eastern.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Khosrow Fatemi".

Khosrow Fatemi  
President, Eastern Oregon University

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**Cover photo:** Historic photo of Inlow Hall and Grand Staircase circa 1950s.

# In brief

## EOU in planning stage for new library

A public forum held in May helped to gather community input regarding EOU's future plans to build a new library on campus.

"We are very interested in hearing what our community patrons would like to see in a new or remodeled library facility," said Shirley Roberts, past interim library director.

Karen Clay, EOU's new library director, moderated the forum. Clay began work at EOU in July and is excited to look more closely at the results of the forum. The goal is to find out what the basic needs of the community are in a university library setting, including how often people use the library, why they visit, what resources they use most frequently and in what format. EOU also sought input on preferences for the location of a new library.

"We're all very excited about the prospects of the new library project," said Tim Seydel, associate vice president for University Advancement. "We are actively pursuing private and public funding resources for the library and we are very optimistic about the ability to bring in the additional resources needed to fund the project."

Focus groups for on-campus students and faculty, as well as distance education students have also been organized in what has been the initial step forward in the planning effort.

## Biz program named a "Best Buy" on top 25 list

EOU has been named one of the top 25 best buys for undergraduate schools in 2006 by GetEducated.com, LLC, an online degree

directory of accredited distance learning institutions in the U.S.

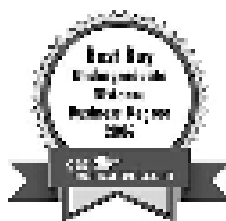
EOU's business administration program is ranked number 13 on the GetEducated.com Web site. The list is based on the results of the company's national spring 2006 survey of 78 regionally accredited distance bachelor degree programs in business and management.

The total four-year cost of tuition for a distance degree in business at EOU is estimated at \$25,380 – a great value in comparison to the \$40,224 figure found by the survey to be the national average among accredited universities that offer online degrees. EOU also does not charge any out-of-state tuition.

"We have long believed that EOU offers private school quality at a public school price, so we are pleased to be recognized in this category as an excellent academic value at a reasonable price," said Michael Jaeger, dean of the College of Education and the College of Business.

The College of Business at EOU currently offers bachelors of science degrees in business administration, business/economics and a minor in business. Courses delivered to off-campus students are available at Blue Mountain Community College, Treasure Valley Community College, Chemeketa Community College, the EOU-Portland Center, and online through the Division of Distance Education.

The complete top 25 list is available at [www.geteducated.com/rankings/best\\_bachelorsbm.asp](http://www.geteducated.com/rankings/best_bachelorsbm.asp).



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2006 Eastern Oregon University

*For other EOU news go online to [www.eou.edu](http://www.eou.edu).  
News links are located on the home page.*

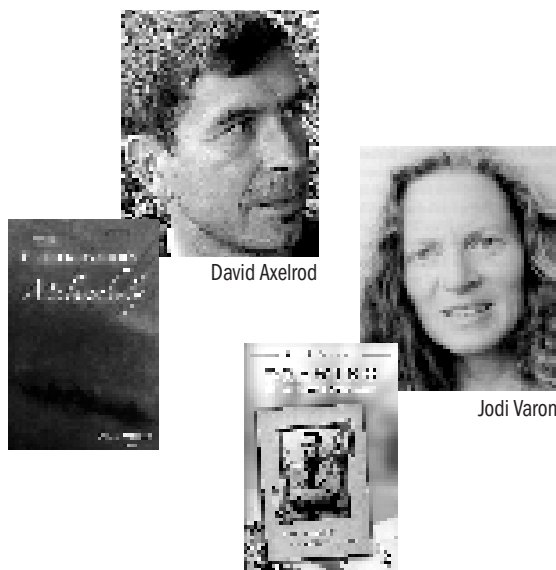
## New books by EOU English profs run parallel course

Each a skilled practitioner of their craft, David Axelrod and Jodi Varon, professors of English and writing at EOU, are united by their profession, their marriage and by their pasts.

In April 2006 they returned home to La Grande from sabbatical in Germany to promote two new books: Axelrod's "The Cartographer's Melancholy," (Eastern Washington University Press, 2005) and Varon's "Drawing to an Inside Straight, The Legacy of an Absent Father," (University of Missouri Press, 2006).

Although their new books are very different in style and subject – one is a collection of poetry, the other a memoir – the authors agree that their writing runs a parallel course.

Axelrod completed "The Cartographer's Melancholy" during two previous summers he and Varon spent traveling through Europe. Winner of the 2004 Spokane Poetry Prize, the book is largely fictional, but Axelrod says it feels like the most personal writing he has ever done.



David Axelrod

Jodi Varon

Much of his inspiration was drawn from a visit to the site of the small village in Lithuania where his ancestors lived, and later fled from in the 1920s.

"Both books are about what is there, and what is not there. The encounter with Europe is what

is present and real in memory, and how it endures even when it has been obliterated," he says.

Like her husband, Varon's writing is also very personal. It wasn't until after the death of her father that she began writing "Drawing to an Inside Straight." A Ladino-speaking Sephardic Jew, Varon's father was the descendant of immigrants expelled from Spain in 1492. She had tape recordings of him retelling the stories about Spain that had been passed down from generation to generation.

"He had a paradoxical longing for something that is not quite real," she says. "His longing defined him as a character and identified him with a cultural moment that he wasn't there to see."

The central emotion of her memoir, Varon says, is the mysterious month-long disappearance of her father after he gambled the family business on a poker game and lost.

Both books are available for purchase at bookstores in La Grande or from the publishers.

## College of Business graduates 17 in first MBA cohort

Seventeen students received master's degrees in business administration through EOU's College of Business in June. They are the first cohort to graduate from the new MBA program.

The MBA program offers comprehensive and professional training, preparing students for careers as innovative business leaders, managers and entrepreneurs. Students may complete the program in either five terms or nine.

"The first cohort was a very diverse and creative group of people," said Les Mueller, associate professor of business and MBA program adviser. "We were thrilled with the quality of the

students and they set the bar high for the next group."

Approximately 15-18 graduate students have been accepted into the program for fall term. The second cohort has expanded to serve students in Hermiston and The Dalles. Students living in the Tri-Cities area can take the course through the site in Hermiston. Distance students will have all the same benefits as those enrolled on campus, and there is no out-of-state tuition charge.

For more information, call the College of Business at (541) 962-3668 or e-mail [business@eou.edu](mailto:business@eou.edu).



Corinne Nelson of Homedale, Idaho, graduated with the first cohort of the master's of business administration program in June 2006.

## Biology students play part in restoration projects

As biology students at EOU were busy completing coursework this spring, they were also making significant contributions to the conservation efforts of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Grande Ronde Model Watershed.

In April and May, students conducted a survey of Oregon spotted frogs at Ladd Marsh and began a bio-monitoring project at Bear Creek, a tributary of the Grande Ronde River.

To find out if Oregon spotted frogs were breeding in any of the new ponds at Ladd Marsh, the students in Karen Antell's Principles of Biology class assisted the ODFW in conducting a survey of the population. The Oregon spotted frog is considered a sensitive species and tracking its breeding patterns is essential in helping to protect them. Students canvassed nearly 500 acres of the marsh, checking each pond and flooded area to see if they could find any egg clusters.

"Ladd Marsh has many acres of suitable habitat and few staff, so the students provided an important amount of human-power to survey a large area of the marsh in a short time," Antell said.

The survey found that the spotted frog population is contained to only one breeding pond, but more egg clusters were discovered this year

than last year – a good sign for the spotted frogs, as their numbers have been threatened by the invasive bullfrog.

Later in May, Antell and her class volunteered for another hands-on service learning project at Bear Creek in collaboration with the Grande Ronde Model Watershed. Bear Creek has been restored from a drainage ditch to a natural channel meandering through Longley Meadows. Biology students took samples of aquatic macroinvertebrates living in the stream to help monitor the quality of the water. Students will be involved with the monitoring project for at least the next three years.

"Some species are more tolerant to disturbance than others, so as vegetation grows and water quality improves, we should begin to see changes in insect species composition," Antell said. "The data collected now will become more valuable in the next five to ten years."

Back in the lab, six senior biology students



Photo by Karen Antell

Students in Professor Karen Antell's biology class collect samples of aquatic invertebrates at Bear Creek to be identified back at the lab.

received research credits for identifying each species sampled. Their findings will help to establish a reference collection of macroinvertebrates living in Bear Creek.

James Stafford, a senior student in Antell's class, participated in both projects. Although he is not planning to pursue a career in field work, he said that the experience was beneficial.

"We have the power to preserve and improve upon our natural environment so that future generations can not only enjoy its beauty, but also the resources it has to offer," he said.

## Capabilities of new Science Center showcased

Ever wondered what cutting-edge research is taking place behind the doors of the new Science Center facility at EOU?

How about getting a close-up look at high-tech instrumentation like a DNA sequencer or nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer?

The Science Center and the research equipment it houses were the main attraction for an open house in May. Activities included student-led tours of the building and a reception and poster session for all EOU science programs and university partners.

The tours included a look at the labs, such as

the OHSU Center for Research on Occupational and Environmental Toxicology, and simple demonstrations of water and soil analysis to illustrate how some of the equipment works.

The nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer,



Laura Hancock/University Advancement

Student Meaghan Hammers and Professor Anna Cavinato insert samples into the new NMR spectrometer.

or NMR, is a new acquisition of particular importance, and is referred to as the center's "masterpiece" by chemistry department faculty.

The open house was the first of what many hope will become an annual event. It was sponsored by the Center for Support in Assessment, Learning and

Teaching (C-SALT) at EOU.

# Mother and daughter graduate with honors from EOU

Whenever Jeannie or Carrie Goyne were seen walking alone through the hallways of Mt. Hood Community College, the question was always, "Where's your sidekick?"

That's because the pair does almost everything together, short of finishing each other's sentences. Although there is a 24-year difference between them, Jeannie, 54, and Carrie, 30, are not separated by their age. On June 17 they both graduated with honors from EOU's College of Business.

The mother and daughter duo enrolled as freshman in 2003 at Mt. Hood Metro Center in Gresham, both entering EOU's residential business administration program. They even took all of the same core classes together.

"It's been quite the ride!" Carrie said of their joint college experience.

Jeannie received her degree in business administration with a concentration in leadership, organization and management. Carrie's degree is also in business administration, with a focus

in accounting. They were both inducted into the Pinnacle Honor Society and the Cornerstone Program.

"Jeannie and Carrie have trekked through ice, snow and rain to get here, and as returning adult learners looking to expand and enhance their skills, it shows their determination and dedication in their own lives and to the program," said EOU adviser Bob Costi.

"They are really wonderful people."

Each admits that furthering their education has been a challenge, but as students they relied on one another and their family as a constant source of support.

"We just have so much fun!" Jeannie said. "My husband says 'Go! Go! Go!'"

"I couldn't have done it without him."

On the day of EOU's Commencement Ceremony, Carrie, clad in cap and gown, was reliving a special memory while also creating a new one.



**Mary Fox/Mt. Hood Community College**

Jeannie Goyne, left, and daughter Carrie Goyne, both received their degrees in business administration from EOU in June 2006.

"My dad graduated from college the same day I graduated from high school," she said. "This is pretty exciting."

More than 40 students in the Portland metro area alone graduated from EOU's residential business administration program at Mt. Hood Community College this year.

## EOU, public library partner to promote literacy

With the assistance of the experienced faculty and staff in EOU's College of Education, the newly created Literacy Advancement Resource Center, (LARC), on campus is filling an important niche in the community.

Carol Lauritzen, professor of education and LARC director, helps facilitate workshops and summer seminars to encourage literacy and language arts. The LARC provides the resources needed by teachers in the region through professional consultation, development, research, advocacy and tutoring.

Whether a teacher is specializing in working with English as second language learners, or just wants to brush up on the latest literacy research findings, the LARC gives access to EOU's education faculty who are qualified in language arts and the humanities.

Last spring, the La Grande Public Library received a brand new collection of children's books entitled "We the People: Becoming American."

Laurel Stewart, temporary research assistant for LARC, collaborated with library staff and wrote the grant for the collection, awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. When the new public library opened its doors in downtown La Grande in Sept., it joined 2,000 other libraries across the country involved with promoting the "We the People" bookshelf.

The city library will sponsor programs centered on the new book collection, the main attraction being a "story corner" featuring living history presentations at the La Grande Farmers Market during the summer. During the school year, story hours, book talks, and book clubs will

engage the youngest readers on up through high school level. Education students at EOU may also work as tutors for students and adults at the library to fulfill a portion of their practicum.

The "Guys Read" book group for middle school age boys is yet another effort of the LARC. The group meets twice per month at EOU's Pierce Library. Each of these programs are moving toward what Lauritzen hopes will be the beginning of an enduring partnership with the public library that will continue to foster literacy in the community.

"We're just fledgling, but we're hoping to fly," she said.

For more information on the LARC and its programs visit [www.eou.edu/larc](http://www.eou.edu/larc).

## Bringing scholarship donors and students together

Scholarship donors had a chance to meet face-to-face with students who have received scholarships during a reception at EOU in April.

Guests were treated to a trumpet fanfare, finger sandwiches, and other dainties typically served at a "high tea." The special reception is called Tea and Trumpets and has been revived after several years as a way to bring scholarship donors and students together.

The EOU Foundation gave out over \$116,000 in scholarships to students in 2005, and plans to increase its support to students each year.

"I am so proud of the tremendous impact the Foundation scholarships make at EOU," said Foundation President Lyle Schwarz. "Our contributions provide students the wonderful gift of education and I cannot think of a more worthy cause to support."

At the reception, scholarship recipient Loretta Crisp spoke about the importance of a college education and what a difference it has made in her life.

"It is such an honor as a scholarship recipient to be able to publicly thank the EOU scholarship donors of our community," Crisp said. "The



**Laura Hancock/University Advancement**

Heather Irby, right, recipient of the Quinn Memorial Scholarship, chats with Foundation donor Betty Driggers, at the Tea and Trumpets event at EOU in April.

fact that people in our community are caring, empathetic, and willing to donate financially to help a student become successful in their present college career and in the life of that student's

future, is wonderful."

Tea and Trumpets will be held again this fall to recognize 2006-07 scholarship recipients, and will continue as a tradition each year after.

## Chemistry Club garners national award from ACS

The Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society at EOU received a national award from the organization for the 2004-05 academic year.

Five student chapter members attended a national meeting and exposition of the ACS in Atlanta in March where the award was presented in recognition of the chapter's commendable achievements, including involvement with campus activities, the community, and professional ties with the local Richland Chapter of the ACS.

The University of Portland was the only other school from Oregon to receive an award. More than 1,000 undergraduates attended the national meeting and more than 12,000 scientists gave presentations. For the past 10 years, the student

chapter at EOU, better known as the Chemistry Club, has received an award, placing it among the more active student chapters in the country.

"This is a remarkable achievement for us because we are a relatively small school," said Anna Cavinato, professor of chemistry and faculty adviser to the club. "They are a very dedicated group of students."

EOU's chapter is actively involved with the



**Submitted photo**

Members of the EOU Chemistry Club at the national meeting of the American Chemical Society in Atlanta in March. Students who participated were Ricard Tache, Amanda Justesen, Matthew Bechaver, Tara Boethin and Julia Deutsch.

campus and surrounding community, regularly giving magic shows for elementary school students, helping with programs at the children's Think Link Discovery Center, and assisting with the annual Girls in Science event.

# Remembering Rollin

*Rollin Schimmel always had wrestling in his blood. For most of his life, he was either wrestling himself, or coaching the sport he loved so much.*

Schimmel was born January 1, 1945, in Hillsboro and grew up on a dairy farm. He attended Rainier Union High School and went on to graduate from EOU in 1967 after making a name for himself in wrestling, coming away with a title in the 160-pound division at the NAIA national wrestling tournament. His distinguished college wrestling career ended with a 94-9-1 record, four Oregon Collegiate Conference championships and four NAIA District II titles to his name.

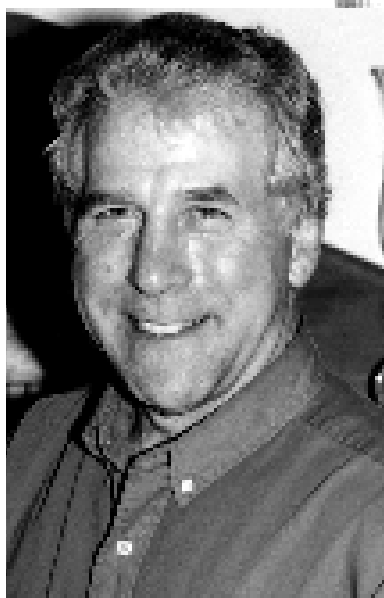
Schimmel also made a mark in EOU's football record book. As a freshman, he rushed for 270 yards against George Fox University, delivering the top rushing performance in Mountaineer history to date.

On May 20, 2006, the talented athlete died in a rafting accident on the Klickitat River. He was 61.

"He truly believed that sport taught lessons for life through hard work, dedication, sacrifice and community service," said Rob Cashell, EOU athletic director.

"Rollin exemplified these qualities and pursued excellence in all that he did. He left a indelible mark on everyone who knew him."

After returning to EOU to complete his master's in education in 1968, Schimmel contributed significantly in developing the wrestling program at Pendleton High School where he



spent 19 years coaching and teaching. He worked for several years at Glencoe High School in Hillsboro and in 1991 he moved back to Pendleton, serving as the high school athletic director for six years until his retirement in 1997. Under his leadership Pendleton's wrestling program grew to be a powerhouse competitor in the Class 4A Intermountain Conference and at the state level.

The only regret of his personal career may have come after he received his wrestling title in 1967 and then attempted to qualify at the U.S. Olympic Trials in New York City. During one of the matches at the trials, Schimmel was injured. A dislocated elbow kept him out of the finals — the only significant wrestling injury he ever sustained.

In 2002 Schimmel was honored by being inducted into the Oregon Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. He was also a member of the Oregon High School Wrestling Hall of



**EOU file photo**

Rollin Schimmel, pictured above, claimed the first National Championship in EOU history. He also set more individual wrestling records than any previous competitor at EOU. **Above left:** Schimmel in 2002.

Fame and the EOU Athletic Hall of Fame.

His lifelong dedication to the sport he loved so much and the students he served with such dedication will be remembered for years to come.

"Athletics in general lost a great ambassador with the death of Rollin," said Cashell.

Schimmel is survived by his fiancé Joyce Follis, sons Rick and Randy Schimmel, brothers Irwin and Don Schimmel, 11 grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

# Homecoming athletic highlights

## Schedule of Events

### Wednesday, October 18, 2006

3:00 p.m. Women's Soccer  
vs. Albertson College

### Friday, October 20, 2006

10:00 a.m. Mountaineer Booster  
Club Scholarship Golf  
Scramble

6:00 p.m. EOU Alumni Honors  
Ceremony

7:00 p.m. EOU Volleyball vs.  
The Evergreen  
State College

### Saturday, October 21, 2006

9:00 a.m. Alumni Softball game

1:00 p.m. EOU Football vs.  
Montana Tech

5:00 p.m. 5th Quarter Celebration

7:00 p.m. EOU Volleyball vs.  
Northwest University

For more information, go to  
[www.eou.edu/athletics/](http://www.eou.edu/athletics/)

## Teammates get together in August



Members of the 1973-74 Mountaineer baseball team held a reunion at EOU in August. The team was named Evergreen Conference Champions in 1973 and was coached by Dr. Howard Fetz. Larry Glaze, EOU alum, and Bennie Moses, alumni coordinator, organized the event. Pictured from



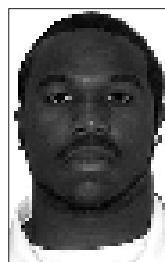
left are the baseball alums who attended the reunion banquet: Tim Labrousse, Coach Howard Fetz, Don Hodge, Bill Burns, Larry Glaze, George McGhee, Terry D. Watson and John Frederiksen. Inset is a photo of the 1973-74 baseball team. Not pictured: Dean Hinchliff, Scott Tibbling, Don Heuberger and Rick Ewing.

Submitted photos. Top photo by Anne Watson

## Two EOU alums try out for NFL

Two former EOU Mountaineer football players are still on the rosters of their respective NFL teams.

Tyronne Gross, who played his senior season at EOU, was signed as an undrafted rookie to a two-year deal with the San Diego Chargers in May.



Tyronne Gross

Gross set a single-season record for net rushing yards with 1,223 and average yards per game (135.9) for the Mountaineers during the 2005 season. He broke Craig Henderson's 20-year old record of 1,183 yards set in 1986. Gross' 12 touchdowns were the most by an EOU running back since Justin Marshall's 13 in 1999. Gross is slotted at the running back position with the 'Bolts.

San Diego began their four-game, 2006 pre-season schedule at home in August against Green Bay. The Chargers opened up their regular-season schedule on ESPN's Monday Night Football in September.

Nick Hannah, who signed as free agent a year ago with the Indianapolis Colts at linebacker

and was subsequently released, is back on Tony Dungy's roster.

After signing his free-agent contract, Hannah was assigned to NFL Europe by the Colts. Eventual World Bowl runner-up Amsterdam picked up Hannah in the fourth-round of the Allocation Draft. With the Admirals, Hannah tallied 31 tackles, including 12 on special teams.

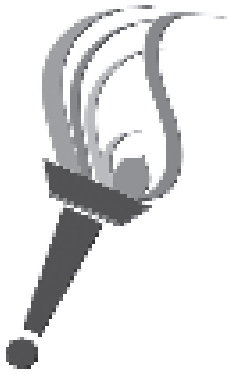
During his 2004 senior season, Hannah garnered a second-team NAIA All-American honor at his linebacker position, while recording 121 tackles. In the postseason, Hannah was named third-team All-American linebacker by Don Hansen's Football Gazette. He saw NFL action in 2005 in the pre-season with the Colts prior to being released.

Indianapolis opened pre-season play at St. Louis in August. The regular season began in earnest in September when the Colts visited the New York Giants in East Rutherford, New Jersey.

*\* Editors note: Gross and Hannah were cut from their team's rosters since this article was first published.*



Nick Hannah



## *Ignite the Future campaign*

# Gifts keep flame alight for generations

By Laura Hancock / University Advancement

As Mike Daugherty prepared for all the freedoms of retirement, he and his wife Sue were also preparing to give the gift of a lifetime.

During his 26-year career at EOU, Daugherty made an indelible impression on the University community and beyond. Amidst all the fond farewells, backyard barbecues and tears, it is hard for many to imagine the campus without Mr. Mike, a nickname coined by members of the student body.

However, Mr. Mike's legacy is sure to live on at EOU. In addition to the hundreds of students who have taken his lessons of integrity, tolerance, reliability and humor with them into the world, the Daughertys have made one of the largest financial gifts in EOU's history. The couple has designated half of their estate to the EOU Foundation to fund scholarships and provide unrestricted revenue for the Foundation.

"Our hope is that the investments supporting this gift will continue to mature and will result in a high six figure amount that will fully endow several scholarships," Daugherty said.

"We felt it was important to support our beliefs through this gift and hope that it may provide some opportunities for future generations of EOU students for personal and professional development."

The scholarships will support education students and residence assistants. Their generous gift also helped launch the Foundation's new *Ignite the Future* campaign with a bang. The campaign began in May 2006 and is one of the largest fundraising

endeavors undertaken in the history of the Foundation with a goal of raising \$2 million by December 2008.

"This campaign will help us celebrate our heritage and provide for the future," said Lyle Schwarz, EOU Foundation president. "The Daughertys have contributed so much to education at EOU and in this community, and now have given even more. Igniting the future is just what their gift will do."

The inspiration for the Foundation campaign slogan came from the torch carried by the Evensong Queen of Knowledge – a lost tradition at EOU since the final Evensong Ceremony was held on the steps of Inlow Hall's Grand Staircase in 1971. In addition to creating new scholarships, funds raised will strengthen current activities such as alumni programs,

faculty development grants, and special projects, including the restoration of the historic Grand Staircase.

"This campaign is so important to our goal of helping EOU students," said Julie Bodfish, treasurer of the EOU Foundation and local business owner.

"Many EOU students benefit from specific scholarships given by generous donors. But what happens to a student who doesn't qualify for scholarships because they are limited to a specific major

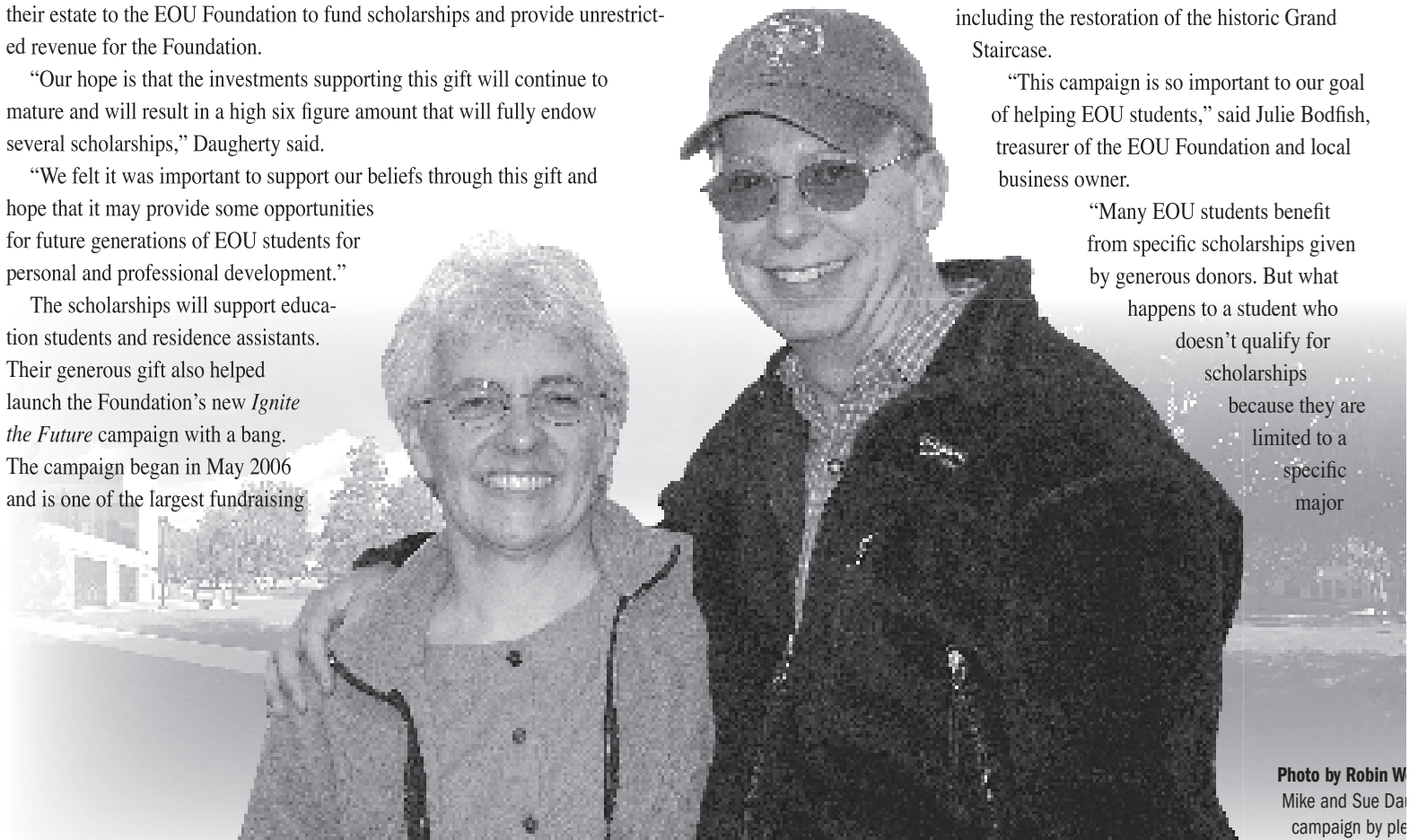


Photo by Robin W  
Mike and Sue Daugherty  
campaign by ple

# Generations to come

or high school? The Foundation is committed to raising flexible funds that will support many more students who need our help," she said.

Already, many others have followed the Daughertys' example and given to support the EOU Foundation. Over 120 alumni and supporters of EOU made their first gifts in the initial two months of the campaign. Over the next two years, the Foundation will work with the EOU Alumni Association to increase reunions and alumni activities, continue to build community support, and search for new and returning donors.

"The outpouring of support for our campaign has been pretty amazing," Schwarz said. "We still have a long way to go, but it makes me so proud to see so many people supporting their alma mater."

As alumni, the Daughertys share a strong connection with the University and its students – and it is a connection they plan to keep. Even though he is now officially retired, it is certain that Mr. Mike's face will still be seen on campus. Beginning fall term, he will be working part time as an admissions counselor and will continue to lead outdoor adventure trips for students involved in the Outdoor Program, a resource he established when he was a student at EOU.

The Daughertys believe in EOU, and it makes them feel good to be able to give back in such a big way.

"It is our chance to give back to EOU in the areas that we have been so dedicated to, both professionally and personally," Daugherty said. "Higher education is an investment in people and our future. We value the personal growth and opportunities it provides and are especially thankful for the experience and preparation we received at EOU."

To find out more about the *Ignite the Future* campaign, visit [www.eou.edu/foundation](http://www.eou.edu/foundation) or call the Office of University Advancement at (541) 962-3740.

bin Weinman

ue Daugherty, pictured at left, helped jump- start the "Ignite the Future" by pledging half of their estate to the EOU Foundation.

## From small potatoes to big dreams, EOU Foundation continues to grow

In 1964, Jack Harmon, Willard Carey and Bill Dobbin created the Eastern Oregon College Foundation. The following is a conversation with the only surviving member of the visionary trio, Jack Harmon, who has witnessed the realization of their dream.



Jack Harmon

*Interviewer: Why did the three of you decide to start the Foundation?*

Harmon: "In 1964, community members were beginning to see a real need to bring in outside support for the University. We thought it was time to expand and we saw that there was growing support for the college in the community."

*Interviewer: How much money did the Foundation first start with?*

Harmon: "The Foundation operated on a budget of just \$3,000. The main goal of the organization was to provide scholarships to students. The average scholarship awarded amounted to about \$150, which was usually enough to cover tuition, but it was a beginning. We were a very quiet group compared to what the Foundation is today."

*Interviewer: Why was the Foundation established as a separate entity from EOU?*

Harmon: "To provide an outlet for people who wished to make donations to the University. Separating the fundraising side from the actual operation of the college enabled each group to focus more clearly on the respective needs of the university."

*Interviewer: What do you think about the Foundation's new Ignite the Future campaign?*

Harmon: "It is exciting for me to see the Foundation grow, and all of the things that have been accomplished. The expansion of the University and its programs . . . it makes you feel good to see something you worked hard at expand, because it was pretty small potatoes back then."

# Alum publishes second book full of hints and tips

By Laura Hancock / University Advancement

When Catherine Mcnerney became a mother at age 16, she never imagined she would be a published writer one day. Her world as she knew it, had changed forever. Providing for her young daughter, Misty, became priority number one, not chasing after dreams.

Today, Mcnerney is a different woman. She is the confident author of two self-published books, "Someone Help Me, I'm a Teen Parent," and "The Distance Education Survival Guide," and Mcnerney has plenty to say about her past, and her future.

Mcnerney's books offer helpful hints and tips that she hopes will reach people who have experienced similar situations in life that she has – as a struggling young mother and as a non-traditional student in pursuit of a college degree.

In middle school and on into her first years in high school, Mcnerney was a 4.0 student, showing great promise both academically and athletically as a gymnast. She was so skilled at the sport that her mother planned to send her to the gymnastics academy in Eugene where she was to begin training for the 1988 Olympics.

Then, the unthinkable happened. She fell during a routine, ripping the cartilage in her knee and shattering her ankle. The hardest part, Mcnerney says, wasn't the pain in her leg. It was the feeling that she had disappointed her mother. That she had somehow let her down.

With the dream of competing in the Olympics gone, Mcnerney began to sink into a depression.

"It changed my life," she says. "I started partying, and then I got pregnant. I always told myself that I wouldn't have kids until I turned 30. Then I had my daughter and realized that I loved her so much, it didn't matter."

Several years later, Mcnerney, then a single mother of two, found herself living in La Grande with her daughter and son, Nathan, trying to juggle work with going back to school. She enrolled in the distance education program at EOU and completed her associate's degree in office administration.



Laura Hancock/University Advancement

Catherine Mcnerney recently published her second book, a survival guide for students enrolled in distance education degree programs like EOU's. In 2005 she earned her bachelor's of science degree from EOU, and hopes that her books will help others to overcome some of life's hurdles.

"I had just moved here and had a job that prevented me from being on-campus for most of my classes," Mcnerney says. "I had small children, so it was also easier for me to stay home."

Then in 2001, Mcnerney moved more than 2,000 miles away to Tennessee, which is where she says she was inspired to write her first book.

"I saw how different it was from here (La Grande) in the west," she says. "I wrote a teen parenting book because I saw just how little help teenagers get over there."

Mcnerney drew insight for her book from her own experiences as a teen mother, and began to research the sociological aspects of teen parenthood and how teens find themselves in the predicament of parenthood.

"A lot of teenagers glamorize having a baby," she says.

In her research she found a need for information that didn't chastise or talk down to girls for being in that situation. Facing an innumerable amount of teen parenting books already on the market, Mcnerney decided to write a simple, step-by-step guide detailing how to live within

one's means while promoting self-empowerment.

While living in Tennessee, Mcnerney worked on her own self-empowerment by continuing her education through EOU online. The school near where she lived, Tennessee Technological University, allowed her the use of a classroom for exams, and she delved into her studies again, focusing on sociology, psychology and anthropology.

During this time, she found the perception of distance education on the east coast to be very different from that on the west, and she had an idea for a second book – a survival guide for non-traditional students searching out their options for college.

"People over 30, like myself, may be intimidated by everything out there," she says. "I looked for other books on the market that were similar to my idea and couldn't find any, so I said, 'I'll write one.'"

Mcnerney began by e-mailing and writing letters to colleges and universities across the country to find out what distance education courses were offered. She found that while

many schools did have programs in place, they offered no online help, counselors, or even the same degrees that were available to on-campus students. Tuition was also significantly higher for distance education students. Mcnerney says that the distance education program at EOU is strikingly different than those of other schools. There is no out-of-state tuition charge at EOU, a major benefit for students enrolling either on-campus or at a distance.

"If EOU didn't have the Division of Distance Education, it would have taken me much longer to complete my degree," says Mcnerney, who highlights EOU in both of her books. "The counselors . . . everyone here is wonderful."

Mcnerney, who has never taken any journalism or writing classes beyond general education requirements, just published her second book in June, "The Distance Education Survival Guide."

"I was so excited, I looked it up on the Internet to see which bookstores were carrying it, and I saw it at Barnes and Noble!" she says.

She plans to spend as much time as she can to promote both of her books at bookstores in La Grande, Baker City and Pendleton this summer. Mcnerney's work was published by Publish America, a company based in Baltimore.

Both of her books are slim, pocket-style paperbacks that are easy to handle and carry.

"I didn't want them to be thick books," she says. "I'm intimidated by thick books!"

Regardless, "The Distance Education Survival Guide" covers everything from managing finances, different delivery formats of online classes, to simple steps for preparing quick and healthy meals.

In 2005, Mcnerney received her bachelor's of science degree from EOU. She admits that she did have a few discouraging experiences while a student, and surprisingly enough, one such experience was taking a writing proficiency exam.

But in the same way that Mcnerney is open

about her achievements, she is just as candid about expressing her weaknesses.

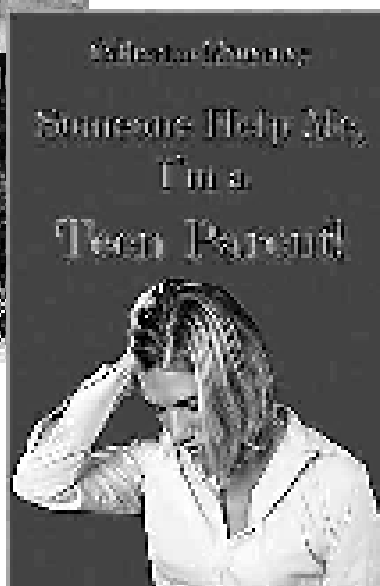
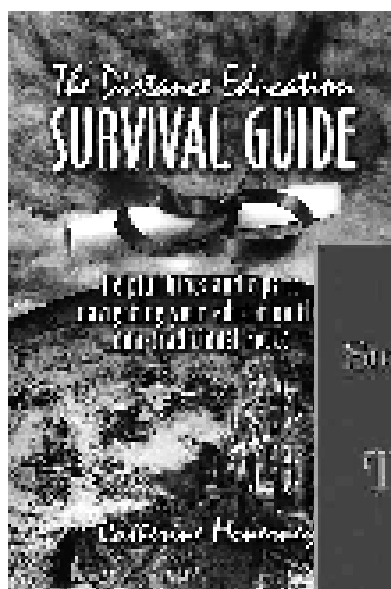
"I have dyslexia, and I had to take a math test three times before passing it," she says.

Pat Arnson, disabilities services coordinator at EOU, worked with Mcnerney and encouraged her not to give up, and Mcnerney came away with a different attitude.

"There is nothing wrong with taking extra time to learn. I'm a

whiz at reading and writing, but it's the numbers that are hard," she says.

"Catie was an outstanding, dedi-



cated student at EOU with a burning desire to learn and earn a degree. While attending school, she maintained an excellent grade point average, took care of a family and worked full time," Arnson says.

"Mandi Mullins and I in the Disability Services Office are so proud of Catie and what she has accomplished since graduation. We are confident that she will continue to be a meaningful, important voice in society."

Mullins is an office specialist in the Learning Center at EOU who also worked with Mcnerney.

Mcnerney just turned 37 and is now a grandmother for the first time. Her daughter is all grown up with a family of her own, living in Tennessee. Her son just turned 19. As her children's lives are just now beginning, so in a

way, is Mcnerney's.

She returned to La Grande in 2004 and after quitting her job at the Flying J Truck Stop, she is starting over with a new career that will allow her the time she needs to promote her books.

She is also engaged to someone who shares and supports her goals, and is even starting to work on an outline for her very first novel called, "Too Young to Know."

"I want to give something back, and help someone at the same time," she says.

Mcnerney's long-term goal is to work for the Department of Human Services' teen parenting program and tutor college students during the summer. She would also like to begin gathering personal stories from students and write more books offering tips and hints on overcoming life's hurdles.

Although she has encountered many obstacles, both physically and emotionally, Mcnerney beams with self-confidence and excitement as she looks toward the future. And as for the feelings of shame and the fear of disappointment she felt so long ago when her chances of becoming an Olympic gymnast were dashed? They are all behind her, she says. She has no regrets.

"My mom never said, 'I told you so.' She has always been supportive," she says.

Mcnerney tries to be just as supportive of her children, while trying to set a good example for them. She believes that it doesn't matter how late in life someone decides to follow their dreams, just as long as they do.

"Don't ever be afraid to ask for help, but if you think you can do it on your own, give it a try and you might find out you're better than you thought you were," she says.

In the dedication of her latest book Mcnerney writes, "Thank you Misty and Nathan, for never giving up on me when I was on the verge of tears and cranky from lack of sleep . . . I love you more than anyone in the world, and I hope that your adult lives are full of all the love and happiness that you gave to me while you were growing up. Love always, mommy."



## EOU gears up for Homecoming and Oktoberfest 2006

With everything from golfing to musical performances on the docket, there's bound to be something everyone can get excited about at EOU's Homecoming and Oktoberfest celebration this year.

Perennial favorites such as the Mountaineer Booster Club Scholarship Golf Scramble and the EOU Alumni Honors Ceremony are returning along with the Oktoberfest booths and beer garden.

"The Alumni Association has compiled a full weekend of fun activities for all alumni," said Bennie Moses, EOU alumni coordinator. "Come help us celebrate Homecoming and Oktoberfest – enjoy exciting activities, reconnect with your alma mater and reinforce that good 'ol Mountaineer spirit!"

The main festivities start on Friday, Oct. 20 and continue through Saturday, Oct. 21. The golf scramble starts at 10 a.m. on Friday at Buffalo Peak Golf Course in Union. Oktoberfest activities begin at 3 p.m. and a community barbecue will follow. Bringing the day to a close is the Alumni Honors Ceremony at 6 p.m. in McKenzie Theatre. The ceremony, formerly the Alumni Awards Ceremony, was combined for the first time with the Mountaineer Athletic

Hall of Fame Induction last year and was a huge success. Everyone is also welcome to attend a bonfire behind Community Stadium following the ceremony at 9 p.m.

On Saturday morning, the EOU Alumni Association will host its annual reunion breakfast at 8 a.m. Alumni softball games, the Homecoming parade and Oktoberfest all lead up to the big finale of the weekend – the Mountaineer football game followed by the 5<sup>th</sup> quarter celebration.

Two reunions have also been scheduled for the weekend, one for all baseball players and the other for current and former RA's (resident assistants) and hall directors. The RA reunion has been organized in honor of retiring Residence Life director Mike Daugherty. Each event provides an excellent opportunity to reconnect with classmates and friends.

For a detailed schedule of Homecoming & Oktoberfest events, visit [www.eou.edu/alumni/homecoming/](http://www.eou.edu/alumni/homecoming/). To register online for the RA reunion, go to [www.eou.edu/alumni/RAREunion.html](http://www.eou.edu/alumni/RAREunion.html). For any other questions, please call the Office of University Advancement at (541) 962-3740 or e-mail [alumni@eou.edu](mailto:alumni@eou.edu).

### Schedule of Events

#### Friday, October 20, 2006

10:00 a.m.	Mountaineer Booster Club Scholarship Golf Scramble
3:00 p.m.	Oktoberfest booths & Beer Garden opens
4:30 p.m.	Community BBQ \$6 per person BBQ is free to the first 50 people
6:00 p.m.	EOU Alumni Honors Ceremony
9:00 p.m.	Bonfire
9:00 p.m.	Alumni After Hours

#### Saturday, October 21, 2006

8:00 a.m.	EOU Alumni Association Annual Meeting and Reunion Breakfast
9:00 a.m.	Alumni Softball games
11:00 a.m.	EOU Homecoming Parade
11:30 a.m.	Oktoberfest activities and Beer Garden
1:00 p.m.	EOU Football vs. Montana Tech
5:00 p.m.	5th Quarter Celebration

# Mountaineer Tracks



## Greetings from the Alumni Association

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Each fall the EOU campus reawakens as students and faculty return, ready to begin a new school year.

Over the years, alumni have become actively involved in reviving traditions in an effort to improve events like Homecoming. In 2003, alumni brought back the parade, and by popular demand, Oktoberfest was added to the celebration last year.

We urge you to come to Homecoming this year and to reconnect with old friends, make new ones and take a stroll around the campus to see the wonderful things we are doing. This year we are especially excited because we have two special reunions planned for resident assistants and hall directors and former EOU baseball players.

We also hope you will keep us up-to-date on what you are doing. Call the Office of University Advancement to tell us what's on your mind and take a moment to update your contact information so we can keep you informed of what's happening at EOU.

Looking forward to seeing you at alumni events this year!



Bennie Moses  
Alumni Coordinator

*The Mountaineer Tracks are compiled from update forms that alumni send to EOU. If you'd like to share news, visit the EOU alumni Web page at [www.eou.edu/alumni](http://www.eou.edu/alumni), update your address and enter your news in the "Mountaineer Tracks Update" box. We'll print as many updates as space allows!*

## Class notes

### 1950s

**Jane (Vickers) Elwood, '54,** and **Alvin Cary Elwood, '57,** currently live in Dallas, Ore. Jane retired from a career in teaching in 1991 after serving a total of 30 years in education as a full-time teacher, seven years as a substitute. She taught first and second grades at Riveria Elementary School in La Grande from 1956-57. Alvin joined the military in 1953, serving with the U.S. Army from 1953-55. He was a principal for the Echo School District in 1956-57 and then took a job as superintendent in Gervais. He retired in 1987 from an equally long career in education. In their retirement, the couple enjoys traveling in their RV, participating in church activities, hunting, fishing, quilting and painting.

### 1960s

**Robert Tolar, '62,** of Portland, is the president and CEO of The Echo Group, Inc., an international consulting firm providing services in business and education. He has been involved in education in the U.S., Canada and internationally for the past 40 years, and has taught students from over 100 countries. In 1991, Robert and his wife Maria established the Foundation for International Development Education Advancement, (the IDEA Foundation), a non-profit organization that provides financial assistance to the elderly poor in Romania, as well as books and scholarships to rural schools in Namibia. During a trip to



Robert Tolar's induction into the Kingdom of Mankon

Cameroon in May 2006, Robert presented workshops and visited a rural school in Mankon, which the IDEA Foundation helped provide the funds needed to complete the roofing of the classroom. While in Cameroon, he was inducted into the Kingdom of Mankon, joining the likes of Stevie Wonder, another American to receive the honor.

**Bernard Burnham, '68,** of Vancouver, Wash., retired in March 2006 with over 30 years of federal service. Prior to retiring, he was a hydroelectric power policy specialist with the Northwest Regional Office of the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs.

### 1970s

**Diana (Young) Stroe, '75,** lives in Pilot Rock with her husband Gheorghe. The music and elementary education major is working for Blue Mountain Community College, teaching the GED program at the Eastern Oregon Correctional Institute in Pendleton. The couple's youngest daughter is attending EOU and pursuing her degree in dental hygiene. They have six grandchildren.

**Janer Bartosz, '79, '82,** of Salem, is putting her skills in community service and education to work teaching at Connections Academy in Scio, the first public virtual charter school to reach everywhere in Oregon.

### 1980s

**Robert Grove, '80,** recently completed his Ph.D. dissertation defense in toxicology with a minor in wildlife. He is currently employed with the U.S. Geological Survey, Biological Resources Division in Corvallis, where he lives with his wife Caren and their eight dogs.

### 1990s

**Charles Bennett, '94,** of Beavercreek, Ore., retired in March 2006 after teaching for Portland Public Schools for the past 26 years. He spent 16 years at the Vocational Village High School and the last 10 years at Benson High School teaching graphic arts and desktop publishing and Web design for the past five years.

**Jane (Butsch) Hassler, '95,** and her husband Sean Hassler, daughter Catherine, 9, and Son Brendan, 7, are living in Salem. Jane received her master's degree in June 2005 from Northwest Christian College in Eugene and is currently a school counselor at Lee Elementary School.

**Dennis Quinn, '95,** and **Janet Quinn, '95,** live in Haughton, La., with their daughters Victoria Ann and Isabella Grace, born in May of 1998, and May of 2003. Dennis majored in business administration and Janet received her degree in English.

**Tim Moses, '96,** was honored at the 2006 meeting of the American Educational Research Association and the National Council on Measurement in Education in San Francisco. He is the recipient of the Alicia Cascallar Award for an Outstanding Paper by an Early Career Scholar. He has a doctorate degree in educational psychology with a specialization in measurement, statistics and research design from the University of Washington, Seattle. He is a researcher for Educational Testing Services (ETS).

**Andrea (Jacobson) Knutsen, '99, '01,** is living in Coos Bay with her husband Michael and daughter Grace. The couple is also mom and dad to two house cats, Salem and Macie. Andrea has been

## EOU alumni profile

## Suzanne Bunker, '71, remembers the lost tradition of Evensong

When Suzanne Bunker was a senior at Eastern Oregon State College she received a special honor. In the spring of 1971 she was selected by her classmates to be the Queen of Knowledge at the Annual Evensong Ceremony, the title reserved for a high scholastic achiever in the graduating class.

Even though Bunker was active in many areas on campus, she was astonished to be chosen. The Queen reigned over the annual Evensong Ceremony, held on the Grand Staircase each year.

"I was neither a brain, nor one of the popular students, so I was surprised and very touched," she said.

Being named the Queen of Knowledge meant even more to Bunker because she was the first person in her immediate family to earn a college degree. To Bunker, the symbolic nature of the ceremony and obtaining an education required a responsibility to carry knowledge out into the world. At the time, she never imagined that she would be the last queen and that Evensong

would disappear after that year.

"As I stood there during the ceremony, I remember thinking about how La Grande embraced its student population and provided them with many opportunities. It was a very moving event and it represented a symbolic passage from an earlier time," Bunker said.

"It was a fitting good-bye to Eastern."

After graduation Bunker taught in the Enterprise School District and in Minneapolis. She earned her master's degree in speech at the University of Oregon and accepted a position at Kansas State University in 1976 where she met and later married Robert Melnick. The couple moved to Eugene in 1982 where they raised their two children, Amy, 21, and Garth, 24. Bunker



**EOU file photo:**

Above, back row from left are Donna Maeda, Toni Walker, Linda Patton, Suzanne Bunker, (Queen), Ella Boardman, Penny Isaacson and Linda George. Front row, from left: Roger Rade and Joe Wilson, chroniclers.

**Submitted photo:** Suzanne Bunker today, pictured left.

now teaches in the speech department at Lane Community College.

Bunker once revisited her Evensong experience when her children wanted to audition for the play "Snow White and the Seven Dwarves." They thought their mom would be the perfect fit for the part of the wicked queen, and for the first time, Bunker related to them the story of Evensong. All three were cast in the play.

"It was my return as queen," she said.

self-employed since 2002, working in the biology field with reproductive endocrinologists around the world. They recently built a new home and enjoy gardening and bird watching on their 15 acres of property. While the family travels as much as possible, Andrea always looks forward to the trips back to EOU.

**Jennifer Keene, '99**, of Beaverton, recently completed her master's degree in public administration from Portland State University. She has a son who was born on April 21, 2005.

## 2000s

**Tyler Johnson, '00**, married Robin Lisak in 2000. They are currently living in Milton-Freewater with

their two children, Madeline, 5, and Benjamin, 2. Tyler is the owner of Jim's Body Shop.

**Angie (Litchfield) Bachara, '01**, lives in Fairview with her husband Michael. The couple married in Sept. 2005 in Milwaukie. She majored in English discourse and was the editor and publisher of *The Voice* in 1999-2000, an experience she says led her to where she is today. Angie currently works as an advertising writer for TDM, Inc. in Portland.

**Pamela (Marston) Wachter, '02**, of Pendleton, majored in business and psychology. She enrolled at EOU for the first time in 1962 and later married EOU basketball player George Wachter in 1964. The couple divorced in 1996 and Pamela decided to

complete her degree from EOU online. She would love to hear from other alumni from 1962-65.

**Luke Burton, '04**, and his wife **Courtney Magnuson Burton, '04**, are taking time to travel throughout the U.S. and Canada this summer. Luke is the youngest student to earn a master's degree in social work from the University of Montana, which he completed in May 2006.

**Erik Haakenson, '04**, majored in psychology at EOU and went on to attend Western Washington University in Bellingham where he graduated from on June 10, 2006 with a master's degree in psychology.

**C.J. Gish, '04**, and his wife Catherine Gish, live in Nampa,

Idaho, where C.J. recently started his new position as Program Director and Administrative Assistant to the General Manager at KTRV Fox 12 in the Boise metro area. Prior to moving to Idaho in 2004, he worked at EOU in the Advancement Office from 2001-2004. His wife is a registered nurse at Mercy Medical Center in Nampa and attended EOU in 2000-01. The couple has three children – Darrien, 10, Kylie, 9, and Dylan, 3.

**Kelsey Anderson, '05**, received her degree in bilingual and Hispanic studies and is currently teaching English to students at the Dari Language Academy in Sokcho City, South Korea. Her pupils range in age from young children to adults.

## Births

**Sophie Marie Moeller** was born Jan. 27, 2006 to **Annette Moeller, '98, '99,** and **Mark Moeller, '99,** in La Grande.

**Sydney Ann Stocker** was born March 17, 2006 to **Erin Ewing Stocker, '00,** and **Joshua Stocker** in Hermiston, joining big brother Tyson.

**Audrey Lynn Anderson** was born May 25, 2006 to **Sarah (Richelderfer) Anderson, '02,** and **Wesley Anderson** in The Dalles.

**Savannah Margaret Greenfield** was born Jan. 31, 2005, to **Mesa (Partin) Greenfield, '98,** and **Shawn Greenfield** in Lakeview. The couple also has a son, Kaden, 5.

**Jasmine Hermens** was born September 9, 2005 to **Charonda Hermens** and **Michael Hermens, '88,** in Portland. The family lives in Vancouver, Wash.

**Patricia Grace Kirby** was born January 20, 2006 to **Sara Kirby, '03,** and **Chris Kirby, '03,** in Eugene. The family lives in Roseburg.

**Joshua Little Bear Whitmire-Skeith** was born August 28, 2001,

to **Sarita Whitmire, '96,** and **Jared Skeith.** The family lives in Bellingham, Wash.

## Weddings & Engagements

**Kris Petersen, '90,** and **Steve Rasmussen, '92,** both of La Grande, were married on March 17, 2006 in Kauai, Hawaii.

**Jeni Chambers, '94,** married **Scott Fellmam** on Sept. 18, 2005 in Eugene.

**Swanee Herrmann, '99,** married **Brent Pearson** on Dec. 22, 2005 in La Grande. The couple lives in Olympia.

**Lisa Smiley, '99,** married **Christopher Shipman** on Dec. 27, 2005 in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

**Elizabeth Gunter, '01,** married **Aaron Magee** on May 27, 2006 in Silverton. The couple lives in Salem.

**Sara Mickelson, '02, '06,** married **Troy Marks** on July 22, 2006, in Hermiston, where the couple resides.

## Obituaries

**Robert Leslie Brandon, 65,** of La Grande and Battlement Mesa, Colo., professor emeritus at EOU, died unexpectedly June 12.



Robert L. Brandon

Mr. Brandon was born in 1940 in Seattle. He graduated from the University of Washington in civil engineering in 1962, and served in the Navy. He earned a master's degree in mathematics from California State University at Northridge in 1969, and a Ph.D. in mathematics from Colorado State University in 1972.

He represented EOU on the Oregon Inter-Institutional Faculty Senate and served as Chairman of the Athletic Committee. In 2000 he was awarded the Distinguished Faculty Teaching Award from EOU. He retired from teaching in 2002 and was inducted into the Cascade Collegiate Conference Hall of Fame the same year.

Mr. Brandon was a member of Pi Mu Epsilon, Tau Beta Pi, the American Mathematical Association and the Mathematical Association of America. A memorial fund has been established in his name through the EOU Foundation.

**Dr. John Logan Cobb, 71,** died July 4, 2006 of complications due to pneumonia.



John L. Cobb

He was born September 25, 1934 in Rochester, New York. Dr. Cobb graduated from La Salle-Peru High School and went on to earn a bachelor's degree in music from Illinois Wesleyan University. He received his master's degree in music from Indiana University, and his doctor of musical arts from the University of Oregon.

He taught music for two years in the Mt. Pulaski, Illinois public school system before moving to La Grande in 1960 to take a position teaching voice and conducting choirs at Eastern Oregon State College. For the next 30 years, he taught voice to hundreds of students, developed and conducted many choral programs at both the college level and in the community, adjudicated regional and state music events, and often performed as a tenor soloist.

Dr. Cobb sang in the Oregon Bach Festival Chorus and was a founding member of the Male Ensemble Northwest, (MEN). He retired in 1991 from his teaching career and moved to the Portland area. In October 2004, he was a guest conductor at EOU's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Concert.

**Welcome New Alumni!** Your friends and classmates want to hear about you! This information may be included in the next edition of *The Mountaineer* alumni magazine.

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ (Maiden Name) \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ M.I. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ check here to sign up for the Alumni E-newsletter  
 \*Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
 Profession \_\_\_\_\_ Degree (circle one) AA BS BA MTE  
 Date Entered \_\_\_\_\_ Date Graduated \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_  
 Information for *The Mountaineer* \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Eastern Oregon University, University Advancement – One University Blvd., La Grande, OR 97850-2807

\* Social Security Numbers are for internal use only. They are not released or sold to vendors.

## ALUMNI UPDATES

**Dr. Ali Reza Shapur Shahbazi**, 63, of La Grande passed away on July 15, 2006 in Walla Walla, Wash., after a long battle with stomach cancer. He was born September 4, 1942 in Shiraz, Iran.

Dr. Shahbazi retired in 2005 from a 20-year career at EOU, where he taught art history, historiography, ancient history, women of the classical world and Middle Eastern history. He was one of the world's foremost authorities in several areas of pre-Islamic Iranian history, language and culture and authored 16 books and 180 articles and publications.

Founder of the Institute of Achaemenid Research at Persepolis, Persia's ancient ceremonial capital, Dr. Shahbazi served as its director from 1973 until the Islamic Revolution of 1979. In 2005, he received the Distinguished Teaching Faculty Award from EOU.

In recognition of his role as an Iranian national treasure, he will be buried at the tomb of the 14th century mystic poet Hafiz in Shiraz, an honor reserved for the most beloved literary figures of Iran.

**John "Jack" Evans**, 78, died August 24 at his home in La Grande after a long illness.



**Ali Reza Shapur Shahbazi**

Mr. Evans was born in 1927 in Wallowa. He graduated from Wallowa High School in 1945 and attended the University of Oregon, graduating with honors in 1951. He earned his master's degree in 1956 from the University of Washington.

Mr. Evans' career at EOU spanned more than 30 years. He first became employed at Pierce Library in 1956 and later served as its director from 1974-87. He retired from EOU in 1988 with emeritus status.

His knowledge of local history was profound, and he was passionate about preserving that history for generations to come. In 1990, Mr. Evans wrote a book, "Powerful Rocky: The Blue Mountains and the Oregon Trail," featuring diary entries of pioneers who passed through the Grande Ronde Valley.

Mr. Evans' knowledge was called upon many times throughout the years. More recently, his detailed account of Union County's past was recorded and published in 2004 by the Union County History Project. He served on the board of the Historic Preservation League of Oregon and the Union County Museum Society, and was involved in numerous other organizations including the Oregon Historical Society.



**John "Jack" Evans**

**Glen McKenzie**, 88, died August 14, 2006 at a care center in La Grande. He was born Aug. 22, 1917, in Summerville and attended La Grande High School, graduating in 1934. Two years later he graduated from Eastern Oregon Normal School.

Namesake of EOU's McKenzie Theatre, McKenzie was a trustee of the EOU Foundation, a charter member of the EOU President's Club and a board member of the Grande Ronde Hospital Foundation. A member of the Theta Delta Phi Honor Society, he also served as a civilian pilot in the Army Air Forces and farmed with his father in the Grande Ronde Valley.

McKenzie was a member of numerous county and community associations including the Union County Cattlemen's Association, the Oregon Wheat Growers League, the Imbler school board, and the Union County Planning Commission. Awards include Man of the Year in 1974 and Cattleman of the Year in 1989.



**Glen McKenzie**

**Is there a story you would like to see in print? We invite you to contribute your news to *The Mountaineer*.**

The Mountaineer magazine serves the entire EOU community and beyond reaching alumni and donors as well as current students. If you or someone you know has a story idea to share for possible publication in The Mountaineer, please send us the details. We will gladly accept submissions regarding any of the following:

- Awards, honors, or other news for alumni faculty and staff
- Alumni, faculty and staff who notably contribute to and engage in their communities
- New or rediscovered works by faculty, staff and alumni including publications and art
- Faculty, staff and alumni conducting influential projects and research
- Digital photos of events and get-togethers involving alumni, faculty and staff.

Send your story ideas to University Advancement via e-mail to: [lhancock@eou.edu](mailto:lhancock@eou.edu) or phone: (541) 962-3585.

**Note – please send photos with caption information attached either as a Word document or in the body of your e-mail.**

To update your information, visit [www.eou.edu/alumni](http://www.eou.edu/alumni) and click on Update Your Information Here. If you wish to share photos with your news e-mail them to [alumni@eou.edu](mailto:alumni@eou.edu) and we will publish as space allows. The more information the better!



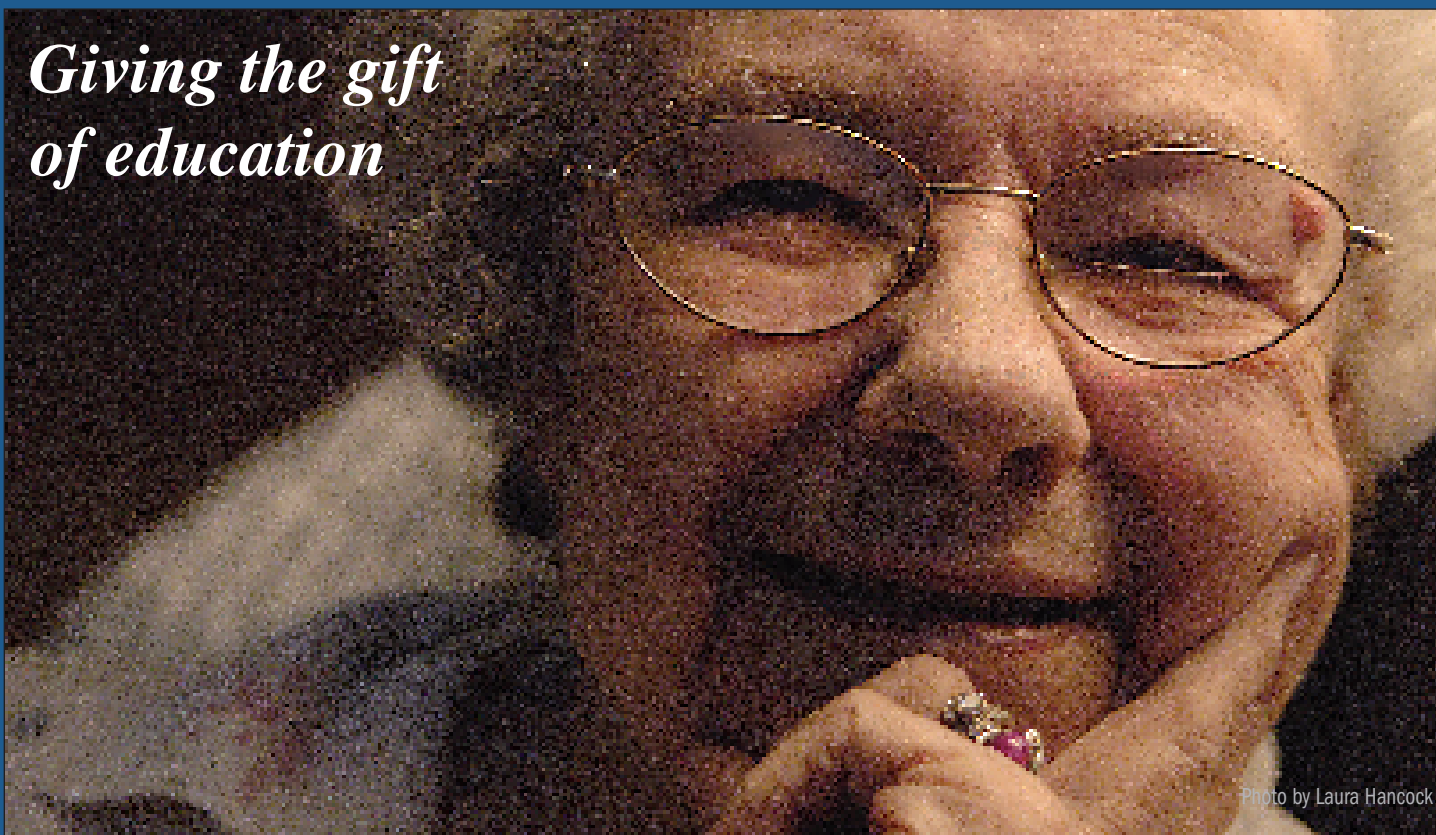
## From the Archives

**Photo by Sam C. Saunders /** 1950 Homecoming parade complete with floats and cars decorated for the occasion.

If you recognize anyone in this photo, please contact Pierce Library's Electronic Research Center at (541) 962-3780.

# DONOR SPOTLIGHT

## *Giving the gift of education*



"Leaving a planned gift is a great way for me to thank the college and to help out other students who want to be teachers."

**-Jennie White**

More than 75 years ago, Jennie White climbed the steps of the Grand Staircase and entered what was then Eastern Oregon Normal School. With a firm belief in her future and a passion for educating others, Jennie joined the graduating class of 1932 and immediately took a position teaching all eight grades in a one-room schoolhouse in the Grande Ronde Valley.

Long since retired from her career in education, Jennie knows firsthand how important the role a teacher plays in the classroom.

"When I was at Eastern the classes were small enough that we all got to know each other, even our instructors, on a personal level. That level of attention really made us want to achieve inside the classroom... it was the basis of a very solid education," Jennie said.

Going on picnics with the dean of women and eating ice cream served with canteloupe is one of Jennie's favorite memories of her days at Eastern.

Wanting to help preserve EOU's tradition of small class sizes and strong academic programs, Jennie worked with her attorney and University Advancement staff members to create a planned gift that will benefit future students.

For more information on how you can leave a planned gift with the EOU Foundation, please contact the Office of University Advancement at (541) 962-3740, or speak to your attorney or financial adviser.

To find out how you can play a significant role in EOU's future, please contact the Office of University Advancement  
Phone: 541-962-3740 Fax: 541-962-3680 Web: [www.eou.edu/ua/foundation/](http://www.eou.edu/ua/foundation/)

# Calendar

## 2006-07 Calendar of Events

\* All dates are subject to change. For more information on campus events, visit the EOU Web site at [www.eou.edu](http://www.eou.edu). Visit the alumni Web page at [www.eou.edu/alumni](http://www.eou.edu/alumni) for updated information on alumni events.

### October

20-21 2006 Homecoming  
& Oktoberfest

21 Alumni Association  
Annual Meeting

28 Mountaineer Alumni  
Basketball game

### November

10 EOU Foundation  
Tea and Trumpets

\*Annual reception for scholarship donors and  
2006-2007 recipients.

(TBA) Union County Chapter  
Alumni Meeting

### December

1 Caldwell Alumni Event

3-4 Holiday Music Festival

### January

(TBA) Alumni Board Meeting

### April

(TBA) Alumni Board Meeting

### May

19 Foundation Annual  
Meeting

### June

15 Student Awards Ceremony

16 Commencement 2007

For a detailed schedule of events contact University Advancement at (541) 962-3740 or visit the alumni Web page at [www.eou.edu/alumni](http://www.eou.edu/alumni).

For more information, contact the Office of University Advancement at 541-962-3740 or e-mail: [alumni@eou.edu](mailto:alumni@eou.edu)

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