

Winter/Spring
2006

THE Mountaineer

EASTERN OREGON UNIVERSITY



Bombhunters

an independent film by
EOU alum,
Skye Fitzgerald

INSIDE

Alumnus saves lives in
New Orleans – Page 12

EOU Homecoming – Page 10



CELEBRATING
COMMUNITY
SINCE 1929

President's message



Greetings EOU Alumni,

I am pleased to inform you that Eastern Oregon University is moving forward in accomplishing its mission and goals. Since my arrival on campus, we have worked on projects to increase opportunities for students to fulfill their educational aspirations, including an expansion of our distance education programs in Hermiston, serving Umatilla and Morrow counties and parts of southeast Washington. International agreements with universities in France, Poland, Chile, Taiwan, and Kazakhstan have also opened new opportunities for growing our international programs on campus. Supporting our new endeavors is the news that our fall enrollments had the highest percentage growth in the state – an increase of nearly six percent.

We continue to grow and provide the quality education that alumni and friends know and expect from the institution, your support is important, now more than ever. Alumni play a vital role in the composition of the life and history of the campus. Your achievements and successes bring pride to the University.

I want to thank and encourage you to become involved in our future and I hope to see you soon at an EOU event.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kfatemi".

Khosrow Fatemi,
President
Eastern Oregon University

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Cover photos: Skye Fitzgerald, photographed
by Chris G. Parkhurst, *Unexploded Ordnance*,
by photographer Per Toftager.

In brief

President returns to the classroom

If the globalization of the U.S. economy or the way organized sports affect the identity of a developing country sound like issues that deserve a second look, then they probably do.

And University President, Dr. Khosrow Fatemi, was counting on it when he teamed up with Jeff Dense, associate professor of political science, to teach a class that examined these and other politically charged issues. The class, New World Order, was the first of its kind to be offered at EOU last fall.

"I was very pleased to get back into the classroom," Fatemi said. "I enjoyed teaching before moving into administration, and this was a wonderful opportunity to connect with students in the learning environment."

Students in the senior-level seminar class looked at the concepts and processes of globalization. They studied different cultures and how they change in relationship to globalization and the spread of technology in developing countries. It seemed natural for Fatemi, who holds a Ph.D. in international relations to teach such a class.

"President Fatemi is an internationally respected scholar on international relations and I felt students had a good opportunity to learn from his expertise," Dense said. "I like to engage our best students in a spirited dialogue about the future of the world."

EOU unveils new North and South Halls

In January, Eastern Oregon University opened two new \$10.2 million residence halls. Portland firms Gerding Edland Development Company and SERA Architects, Inc. worked with EOU's master plan to design a living space that would meet the needs of students and create a sense of community.

"Opening the new North and South Halls

is the culmination of 10 years working with the University's master plan and we are very pleased that the facilities are meeting the needs



of today's students," said Mike Daugherty, director of Residence Life at EOU. "Students have a new home, and they're proud of it."

The halls opened the first week of January allowing for students to relocate by the start of winter term on Jan. 9.

Alumni, Boosters host rally bus

Eastern Oregon University alumni and boosters cheered on the Mountaineers at a recent game against Albertson College. On Feb. 17, fans boarded a rally bus headed for Caldwell, Idaho, and watched as EOU proceeded to win both games, 78-63 (men's) and 52-50 (women's).

A hosted booster room with food and beverages provided a chance for alumni to catch up with old friends and reminisce about their days at EOU.

"The event was great. You could feel the Mountaineer pride in the stands as alums cheered on as the teams gave their best to win both games," said Bennie Moses, EOU alumni coordinator.

For more information on next year's event, please contact the EOU Athletics Department at (541) 962-3236 or the Alumni Office at (541) 962-3740.

EOU President
Khosrow Fatemi

**University Advancement
Associate Vice President**
Tim Seydel

Director of Advancement
Grady Goodall

**Alumni Coordinator/
Mountaineer Editor**
Bennie Moses

Managing Editor
Laura Hancock

Graphic Designer
Karyl Kramer

Contributors
Dick Mason
EOU Athletics

The Mountaineer is a free publication distributed to alumni and friends of EOU.

Vol. 14 Issue 1

Direct any correspondence to:

The Mountaineer
EOU Advancement Office
One University Blvd.
La Grande, OR 97850-2807

Phone: (541) 962-3740

E-mail: alumni@eou.edu

Web site: www.eou.edu

2006 Eastern Oregon University

*For other EOU news go online to www.eou.edu.
News links are located on the home page.*

CD features sweet sounds of jazz

When Matt Cooper takes a break from teaching music, he is still busy making sweet sounds. The professor at Eastern Oregon University can be heard playing his signature jazz piano on an album released in July 2005 under the Teal Creek Music label.

The title track CD, "Clovis," is the collaborative effort of musicians Tom Bergeron, Keller Coker, Garry Hagberg, Glen Moore, Graham Lear and Cooper. Bergeron, a long-time friend of Cooper, taught at EOU from 1987 to 1990, and directed the EOU Jazz Ensemble from 1989 to 1991. Together, Cooper and Bergeron formed the group Pacific Five and recorded several demo tapes of original jazz.

Cooper said the idea of recording, producing and marketing a CD sprung from those first demo tapes. The search for musicians began, and with a full band in place, the group started recording during the summer of 2003 at the Big Red Studio in Corbett, Ore. The completed full-length album featuring all original material includes Cooper's "Home in the Blues," a piece he wrote in the early 1990s.

"We had really good musicians. All the conditions were right, making for a quality recording," Cooper said.

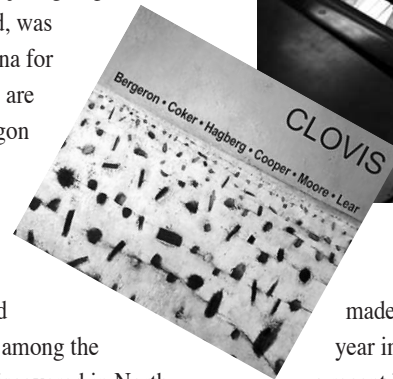
Cooper and Bergeron searched far and wide for musicians to collaborate on the project. Hagberg is a philosophy professor at Bard College in New York when he isn't playing guitar. Moore is a bass player from Portland and a founding member of the jazz group, Oregon. Lear, also of Portland, was the drummer for Carlos Santana for 11 years. Coker and Bergeron are both teaching at Western Oregon University in Monmouth.

As for the name "Clovis," Cooper explained that it is a direct reference to the Clovis spear points. Fashioned of flint, these spear points are among the oldest man-made tools ever discovered in North America.

There has been talk of recording another album, Cooper said, and possibly even a "Clovis" tour. Since its release, the album has



Matt Cooper



made the top 10 jazz albums of the year in Kamloops, B.C., is ahead in a recent listeners poll in Italy, and is getting air time in 20 different countries.

The CD can be purchased in La Grande at Sunflower Books, Sound and Vision, or at Betty's Books in Baker City.

EOU theater garners awards with alum's new play

Eastern Oregon University's production of "Coyote Tales," an adaptation of American Indian tribal legends, received regional recognition from The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.



The cast was presented with a Certificate of Excellence in Acting, an award that is rarely given to an ensemble, and a Certificate of Excellence in Design went to the puppet design team. Twenty larger-than-life sized puppets were created for the show.

The Kennedy Center American College

Theater Festival encourages the celebration of student work, hosting regional conferences across the country. The "Coyote Tales" script was submitted as an associate entry, enabling a representative for the Kennedy Center to view the show, present certificates and nominations, and provide feedback on the performance.

Students Ken Faust and Frederick Stutzman were nominated for Irene Ryan Acting Awards for their individual performances as "Coyote" and "Eagle," allowing them to compete for scholarships at the regional conference.

The show opened on campus in November 2005 and was written by Micheal Leslie Minthorn, an EOU alum, and April Curtis, professor of theater and speech. American Indian legends were carefully selected for their ability to help

perpetuate the tradition of storytelling as a learning tool and to entertain through live theater.

"It was a unique experience and it has opened the door for more creative projects between the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and the EOU arts programs," Curtis said.

"It was very exciting to find out about the awards," said Minthorn, who narrated the stories. Minthorn is a descendent of the Cayuse and Yakama tribes and a member of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla.

"Coyote Tales" was the result of the collaborative efforts of the theater, art and music departments on campus. Support from the EOU Foundation and the Wildhorse Foundation helped finance the project.

EOU establishes Alumni Chapter in Micronesia

Eastern Oregon University alum David Panuelo, of Micronesia, paid a special visit to the University in the spring of 2005 to present a gift of appreciation and to explore the possibility of creating an EOU alumni chapter in Micronesia.

Panuelo attended EOU from 1983 to 1987 and is a national of the Federated States of Micronesia. Like many Pacific Rim alumni, EOU made a lasting impression on him, and 18 years later, he was thrilled to visit his alma mater.

"I love EOU so much because of what it gave me. EOU has been an important part of the building blocks of my life," Panuelo said. "More important than my own little experience, is the collective contribution EOU has had in the human resource development of the Federated States of Micronesia and the region. Today, we have many prominent members of our small island communities in Micronesia who are alumni of EOU."

The Micronesian Program at EOU was established in 1977, providing counseling, academic

advising, and other related services to students from the former U.S. Trust Territory Islands of the Marshall, Pohnpei, Yap, Kosrae, Chuuk, Palau and the Marianas islands.

The program has served more than 300 students since it began, with an average of 40 students from Micronesia attending EOU each year.

Panuelo and fellow alum, Bruce Robert, have been instrumental in the creation and operation of the chapter. Currently, there are ten EOU alumni located in the state of Pohnpei that are active members of the chapter.



Chapters of the EOU Alumni Association are created for the purpose of connecting, engaging and involving alumni with the University and each other.

For more information on the Micronesian Chapter, or to establish a chapter in your community, please contact the Alumni Office at (541) 962-3740 or send an e-mail to alumni@eou.edu.

Going global – new international exchanges now available to students

Eastern Oregon University is on the fast track to internationalizing its campus with five new exchange agreements established with universities around the globe. These agreements provide unique opportunities for students and faculty to participate in scientific and educational exchanges, enriching their understanding of economic and social issues and the traditions of different cultures.

The new exchange programs are with the University of Lodz in Poland, the Groupe Sup de Co-Montpellier in France, Kainan University in Taiwan, the International Academy of Business at the Almaty School of Management in Kazakhstan, and the Universidad Autonoma del Sur in Chile. A diverse and enriching experience awaits EOU faculty and students at each of these universities.

The University of Lodz was founded in 1945

and offers 16 different fields of study. The Polish university is partnered with 91 higher education institutions in 25 countries across the globe. Established in 1897, the Groupe Sup de Co-Montpellier is part of the Montpellier Chamber of Commerce and Industry, providing state-of-the-art training in business management. On average, 6,000 students graduate from the institution's programs every year, and the school is a partner with 140 universities in 32 different countries.

Located in Xinxing Village in Luzhu Township, Kainan University has grown from a commercial and technical high school into a fully accredited institution of higher learning recognized throughout Taiwan. The International Academy of Business at the Almaty School of Management in Kazakhstan offers the only International Executive MBA (IEMBA) program in Kazakhstan as a result of the collaborative



EOU students participating with the International Student Association club in the 2005 Homecoming Parade.

partnership with EOU.

Established in 1989, the Universidad Autonoma del Sur is among the most prestigious, private universities in Chile. The school has three branch campuses in Santiago, Temuco and Talca, with a total of 8,000 students. For more information on these and other international exchange opportunities, visit www.eou.edu/international.html.

Cool science – new lab equipment a boon to research

A super-conducting magnet with the ability to analyze the very structure of a molecule may sound like science fiction.

But at EOU, a new \$350,000 piece of equipment is busy proving it to be science fact.

It's called a nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer, or NMR. Specifically, the new acquisition is a 400-megahertz unit that operates much like a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) instrument used in medical diagnostics. The strength of the magnetic field emitted by the core is enough to bend the hands on a watch.

"This is a fundamental piece of instrumentation," said Ron Kelley, associate professor of bio-organic chemistry at EOU.

The NMR is housed in a special room in a controlled area of the chemistry department in the Badgley Science Center. Vital liquid nitrogen and helium course through the shiny stainless steel body, stabilizing the temperature of the magnetic core. A temperature of four degrees

Kelvin must be maintained at all times. Zero on the Kelvin scale is equal to minus 459.67 degrees Fahrenheit – essentially, the temperature of outer space.

Kelley will use the new NMR to look at plant-derived natural products, specifically toxic alkaloids that plants produce for their protection. He will be able to chemically identify different plant species, analyzing their makeup on a molecular level. This will help him understand the systematics of how related plants are evolutionarily connected. The NMR detects signals produced by unique carbon and hydrogen atoms in a molecule, displaying them as a plot of their frequency versus their intensity.

"It's like putting together the pieces of a puzzle," said Anna Cavinato, EOU professor of chemistry.

The practical application of Kelley's research will potentially have an impact on the livestock industry. Identifying toxicity in plants will be



Laura Hancock/University Advancement

Ron Kelley, associate professor of bio-organic chemistry, inserts a sample into the nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer (NMR) housed in the Science Center at EOU. The NMR can process twenty-four different samples at once.

helpful to landowners concerned with controlling the harmful species that may be growing in their fields. Kelly said that new plant compounds are being discovered all the time, an estimated 90 percent of which remain unknown.

To read the entire story go to www.eou.edu/ua/news/10_27_05_nmr.html.

New scholarships offered through EOU Foundation

Four new scholarships are now available through the EOU Foundation. Thanks to the generous individuals who have established each fund, the dream of going to college will become a reality for more students each year.

Daniel Rama Memorial Scholarship

Dave and Judy Rama, of Baker City, established a scholarship in remembrance of their son who was killed in a vehicle accident on June 21, 2002. Rama was a firefighter working for Grayback Forestry, traveling to Colorado when the accident occurred.

The \$2,000 Daniel Rama Memorial Scholarship is intended to help an EOU student with financial need who has firefighting experience.

Jeanne Kincaid Rogers Education Scholarship

In 2005, Lisa Mangum, of La Grande, established a scholarship in honor of Lisa's aunt, who was a teacher in eastern Oregon for many years. Rogers set an example of service and quality education in her teaching career.

The \$1,000 scholarship established in the EOU Foundation will be awarded to a student studying at EOU.

Darcy Justine Howlett Memorial Scholarship

Darcy Justine Howlett passed away on August 3, 2005 at the age of 22. She was a graduate of Rainier High School and continued her education at EOU, majoring in psychology and history. She cared a great deal for the outdoors, working as a packer and wrangler in the Eagle Cap Wilderness. She had a desire to use her education in conjunction with horses and the outdoors to help at-risk youth.

After her death, family and multiple community contributors established the scholarship in remembrance of their daughter. The fund will provide at least one scholarship per year to an EOU student studying history or psychology. Preference will be given to a graduate of Rainier High School who plans to major in history, psychology, or shows interest in outdoor recreation.

Julie A. Geraci Memorial Vocal Music Scholarship

The music scholarship fund was established by the friends and family of Julie Geraci as a tribute to her passion and dedication to music. Geraci took voice and piano lessons and was a member of the Community Chorus. Her favorite activities were centered on music, either as a participant or an observer. Geraci passed away suddenly in October 2004.

The fund provides one \$750 award each year for four years beginning in the fall of 2005. Preference will be given to talented vocal students wishing to study music at EOU. Current students may be eligible if no new student applications are received.

For more information on scholarships offered through the EOU Foundation, please call the Office of University Advancement at (541) 962-3740 or e-mail advancement@eou.edu. To reach the Financial Aid Office, call (541) 962-3550.

Investigating Inlow – EOU covers human remains

By Laura Hancock / University Advancement

The remains of early pioneers have found a final resting place under Eastern Oregon University's historic Inlow Hall. Their bones will not be moved from the hilltop cemetery where they were laid more than a century ago.

The headstones are long gone, but the hard work of two professors and a dedicated graduate student will ensure that these settlers will never be disturbed again.

Stories of the skeletons under Inlow Hall have circulated on the campus since the 1970s. Khosrow Fatemi, EOU president, set out to find a solution to the problem as soon as he learned that the stories were indeed true.

Early on a chilly September morning, two white-clothed figures entered the crawl space under the southeast extension of Inlow Hall. Breathing heavily through their respirators, Linda Jerofke, assistant professor of anthropology, and EOU graduate Erik Harvey, began their work – preparing the dead to be encased beneath a permanent cement cap.

Five-inches of soil must cover the remains to protect them from the cement, Jerofke said. But before that could be done, a map of the entire corner of the building had to be made.

Carefully avoiding pipes, old wiring and rusty nails so as not to break the seals on their suits, Jerofke and Harvey investigated every corner of the exposed earth.

Harvey is the co-owner of Blue Mountain Consulting, the company hired to document the site. He, Jerofke and a third member of the investigative team, Laura Mahrt, associate professor of biology, all received professional hazardous-material training. The suits and masks were worn to protect them from the asbestos present under the building.

"This is an important historic marker for La Grande because this was the first cemetery in the city," Jerofke said.

Inlow Hall was built in 1929 and during the excavation many of the plots were uncovered and relocated to a mass grave at Hillcrest



Laura Hancock/University Advancement

Dr. Linda Jerofke, left, assistant professor of anthropology at EOU, and EOU graduate student, Erik Harvey, prepare to enter the crawl space under Inlow Hall where the remains of early settlers were discovered.

Cemetery, adjacent to the campus. The exposed remains first discovered by a maintenance crew were among those left behind.

A detailed survey, including a full lands research report and historical analysis of the area have been turned into the Oregon State Historical Preservation Office. Because the cemetery is more than 50 years old it is considered a cultural site. Once proper documentation was submitted, the state of Oregon formally recognized it as such.

Mahrt was responsible for identifying the age and sex of the bodies. To do this, Mahrt looked for a visible line on the long bone called the epiphyseal line. This line closes at age 21, making it fairly easy to determine age, she said. There is also a marked difference in the size of the pelvic girdle. Women have a much broader pelvis for bearing children.

Jerofke was aware that there might be other artifacts in the crawl space that could help lead to a more specific date of when the bodies were buried.

Right before lunch, the team made one such discovery: a broken iron cross that Jerofke believes ties directly to the pioneer period. A brown, woolen suit was also found.

The question of whether or not Native Americans may have once used the area as a burial ground has also come up. There are stories, Jerofke said, but there is little to no written evidence to support this as fact. Yet, Jerofke and her team conducted their research with the utmost care and respect for the dead.

Jerofke plans to utilize this project as a teaching tool, incorporating the history of Union County and the University into her archeology and anthropology classes. The permit issued by the state of Oregon, however, required her to withhold specific information regarding the condition of the remains from the public.

As a chapter of EOU's history drew to a close, three figures emerged from the crawl space under Inlow Hall – their suits no longer sterile and white, but covered with the dust and dirt of a different age. Harvey expressed a common feeling of relief and a sense of closure.

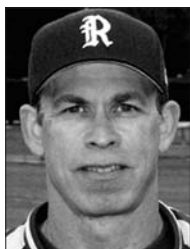
"It's taken nearly 80 years, but I'm happy to see it finally happening."

The University plans to install a memorial plaque, acknowledging the historical cemetery and those buried here so long ago.

500th win ranks alum with top Oregon coaches

Don Heuberger always knew he wanted to be a coach, and over the course of 27 years, he carved a niche for himself as one of Oregon's best.

From the time Heuberger first stepped onto the practice field in the fall of 1972, then Eastern baseball coach, Dr. Howard Fetz, knew there was something special about the wiry college freshman with a strong arm.



Don Heuberger

"His defensive skills were so advanced that he immediately moved ahead of more experienced catchers and became the varsity catcher for the next four years," Fetz recalled. "I knew all along that Don would become a teacher and coach. That was his calling and his passion. He had good baseball savvy."

That experience has helped place Heuberger among the greatest coaches in Oregon high school baseball history when he achieved his 500th win in April 2005.

Fetz, the second baseball coach in EOU history, saw many talented athletes come and go during his 20-year career. He led teams to win six Division Championships, five Conference Championships and one District Championship.

Under his watchful eye, Fetz saw Heuberger's batting average continue to increase each year. Soon, others began noticing his talent. With Fetz's encouragement, Heuberger tried out for the Portland Mavericks and signed a contract to play professionally for the 1975-76 season. After a year of playing with the Mavericks, Heuberger returned to help coach at EOU. He was the assistant varsity and junior varsity coach for the Mountaineers during the 1976-77 season.

"Howard was a great teacher," said Heuberger, who is the head coach at Regis High School in Stayton, Ore. "If you can teach younger kids a love of the game, you're doing something important." Heuberger has worked at Regis, his alma mater, for the past 23 years.

It has been more than 30 years since Heuberger and his head coach first met on the practice field at EOU, but Fetz was not surprised when he heard Don had broken the 500-win mark.

"The friendships I made and kept were in college, because of baseball," Heuberger said.

He hopes to pursue another state title, teaching his team an appreciation of just how demanding the preparation is along the way. Not one to seek the limelight, Heuberger expressed relief when he reached, then later surpassed, the 500th win of his coaching career. But he's not even close to being finished.

"It would not surprise me to see him surpass one of his former Mountie colleagues, Art Thunell, as the winningest baseball coach in Oregon High School history," Fetz said. "Don may never retire. I suspect that they will bury him under home plate at Regis High School. Until then, I expect him to keep coaching and winning."

Art Thunell retired in the spring of 2005, making Heuberger the only active coach to achieve the 500-win benchmark. Only four other Oregon coaches hold this status.

Alum named Oregon 4A Coach of the Year

For the Southridge Skyhawks, a stunning 29-0 record of straight wins is tough to beat, and for Eastern Oregon University alum and Skyhawks Coach, Michael Meek, the love of the game of basketball runs in his blood.

Meek, a 1999 graduate of EOU, was voted Oregon's 4A Coach of the Year in March 2005. In his college days, he played basketball under EOU coach Art Furman during the '93-'94 season.

"He proved to me that he should be one of the top players," said Furman. "He was a student of the game."

The love of the game runs deep in the Meek family. Furman remembers that Michael's

father, George, was a big supporter and visible presence during Michael's years playing college basketball. From playing hoops, Meek went on to coaching the game. He began by helping out EOU's junior varsity basketball team. Before long, Meek was coaching teams at La Grande High School. Working his way up, he spent two years coaching the freshman and junior varsity teams and stayed on to coach the LHS Tigers girl's varsity basketball team for three years.

Meek grew up in Puyallup, Wash., an outlying area of Tacoma. When he made the move to attend college at EOU, the small-town atmosphere of La Grande reached out to him like a welcoming hand.

"I really liked living in La Grande," he said. "Going to Safeway meant meeting someone you knew every time. I miss that smallness."

In 2000, Meek and his wife, Lisa, made the difficult decision to move away. Meek had a good job offer at Southridge High School in Beaverton, and he felt it was an opportunity he could not pass up. The Southridge Skyhawks would be his new team.

"We had a good year," said Meek of his team's latest 29-0 win record. "I'm really lucky to have such great kids."

Meek remembers the rush when the Skyhawks played their best in front of a crowd of 4,000 in the Challis Center at the University of Portland. His team took home the state championship that day. Shortly after their big win, The Oregonian newspaper conducted an annual poll to select the coaches of the year in Oregon.

Coaches from more than 80 4A level schools in the state, including Meek, cast their vote. On March 27, 2005 Meek opened up The Oregonian to find his name listed as Oregon's 4A Coach of the Year.

"I knew our team was really good, but I also knew there was a lot of competition," Meek said. "I feel honored, but it's really about the kids."

In building relationships with the individuals on his team, Meek takes great joy watching each player make progress. This is the true reward for Meek. That and knowing his wife Lisa and daughter McKelle are in the stands watching every game.



Michael Meek

Shields named new head football coach

The EOU Athletic Department has named Ian Shields as the Mountaineer head football coach. Shields was the successful candidate after a national search and will become the 11th head coach in the program's history.

"I am very pleased that Shields has accepted my offer to lead our program," said Rob Cashell, director of athletics. "His reputation for demanding quality citizenship and high academic performance is impressive and his ability to teach and coach the game of football has been well chronicled throughout his career. In many ways, this is a homecoming for Ian and his family."

Shields, an Oregon native and former Oregon State University quarterback, most recently served as the offensive coordinator at Division 1-AA Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo. Prior to being at Cal Poly-SLO, Shields spent one season as offensive coordinator for 1-AA Bucknell University. From 2000-2003 Shields was the offensive coordinator at 1-AA Saint Mary's College in California.

After a stellar career at Oregon State in football and a stint as a graduate assistant coach with the Beavers, Shields became the offensive coordinator for the EOU Mountaineers. The 1997-1999 teams are still considered by some as the best offensive teams at EOU. These teams set 35 school records and included alums Chuck Nyby, Kyle Washburn and Steve Goss.

Shields and his wife Norma, an EOU alumnus and former Mountaineer volleyball standout, have two sons, Beau Bryant, 3, and Jonah Robert, 1. Shields is now busy preparing for the Mountaineer's 2006 inaugural season in the Frontier Conference.

Mountaineers induct record holders

The inaugural Mountaineer Athletics Hall of Fame and Alumni Awards Ceremony was a great success. For the first time since 1987, when the Hall of Fame Ceremony started, both awards were given on the same night.

The class of four individuals and two teams were highly decorated with a combined eight school records and first place finishes.

Track and field standout, Talia (Hackney) Welch, said, "I didn't expect to be remembered for these accomplishments 16 years later, but it's a great honor to be here tonight."

Welch also showed the fight that this class had. With six school records to her credit she was 27-years-old when she returned to EOU.

The 1979 men's cross-country ski team holds an honor that may never be accomplished at EOU again: they defeated Notre Dame and Michigan.

A team that felt out of place in their sweat pants and long johns showed they belonged in the snow.

"We were just a bunch of cross country runners, and we stunk in our first year in 1976. But we came a long way, and can say that we beat Notre Dame," said team member Greg Castellaw.

For two inductees, the best thing they took from their experience here was each other. Dennis Hunt and Colleen (Wigle) Hunt both competed in track and field in their time at EOU and were married after Dennis graduated.

The couple hold the record for the long jump, with Dennis at 23-feet-10.

"I left with a lot more than I had. The friendships and memories can't be replaced," Dennis said.

The 1974 women's volleyball team also remarked on the experience of competing at EOU. The team truly represented eastern Oregon, with all the team members from small towns close to the area.

"We were just girls having fun. We were all from small towns and got to beat big colleges," said Peggy Halloran Weishaar.

The toughest and oldest inductee, Charles "Chuck" Halliday, couldn't help but to tear up when talking about his time at EOU.

"I feel like a fossil tonight," Halliday said. "Wrestling was a brilliant sport, and it influenced



Talia (Hackney) Welch



Dennis Hunt



Chuck Halliday



Colleen (Wigle) Hunt



Members of the 1974 women's volleyball team from left: Kay Critchlow Kludt, Arlene Gentle Pené, Peggy Holloran Weishaar, Kenna Jo Smith Panches, and LeVelle Boyer Cornwell. Not pictured: Nola Asher Miller, Jo Dale Carroll, Lori Guerrigotia, Elaine Baron, Karen Wetherall and Sherry Potter.



Gary Schroeder, left, and Greg Castellaw, both members of the 1979 men's cross-country ski team.

all the other sports here."

He also thanked the University for shaping him into the individual he is today.

"I came away with a strong set of values and a strong work ethic. That's what made us champions, and it's important to pass these good things on."



Photo/Chris G. Parkhurst

An amputee holds a mortar deposited at the Kilo 4 scrap yard in Poipet, Cambodia, where he works. His job requires that he render ordnance safe to sell to metal buyers in Thailand. To do this, he must pound open the mortar with a large hammer.

Filmmaker and EOU alum documents

Cam

By Laura Hancock / University Advancement

“Dusty, dirty, hot, and altogether exhilarating,” is how documentary filmmaker and EOU alum Skye Fitzgerald described his camp on the other side of the world in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

In October 2004, Fitzgerald embarked on a six-month long journey in Cambodia to make a film that tells the shocking, yet not uncommon story of a people surrounded by the remnants of war: The story of bomb hunters.

The countryside of Cambodia and Vietnam is riddled with unexploded bombs dropped by different military forces, including the United States, throughout the 1970s. The deliberate handling of unexploded ordnance (UXO) is reported to be the leading cause of UXO and landmine related casualties in Cambodia.

“Where else are you going to see a man squatting on top of a bomb, hacksaw in hand, puffing on a cigarette as he tries to choose the safest place to begin the cut?” Fitzgerald wrote in an e-mail while filming on location.

It was in 2001 that Fitzgerald, a 1993 graduate of EOU, became committed to telling this story. He was co-producing the feature film, “Monsoon Wife,” with a cast and crew from Oregon and Los Angeles who made connections with several individuals while on location.

“The stories of former Khmer Rouge and government soldiers retrieving landmines and UXO from the ground long after the armed conflicts were resolved fascinated me,” he said. “The more research I did, the more I realized that the stories are a lingering legacy of armed conflict in many

ments

Cambodian bomb hunters

areas of the world.”

Locals working as de-miners turn a profit in the UXO recycling business – a profit that is barely worth the risks by Western standards, but is often one of the only viable sources of consistent income in rural Cambodia.

The metal salvaged from the bombs is sold to scrap yards. Mountains of metal are sorted through and then shipped to smelting yards in Thailand.

“It is here that we came to discover the economics of war debris,” he said of the scrap yards. “Hundreds of rockets, mortars, and bombs laid in varying states of decay. A mother was rocking her child to sleep 50-feet away. Children walked through the piles to get to their huts. Dogs slept nearby.”

The filmmaker is quick to point out that the driving force behind this dangerous work is not always monetary. Most of the time, villagers are clearing the land in order to plant crops and make the area where they live safe.

Flying down bumpy dirt roads on motorcycles with equipment strapped to their backs, Fitzgerald and his crew arrived at one location deep in the jungle. A villager had discovered a bomb. Safety was always a concern when preparing to film such a process and whenever a situation became too risky, Fitzgerald employed body-mounted micro cameras on the person disassembling the bomb.

“I believe deeply that the risk shouldn’t be a deterrent to an important story being told, even if it is a challenge to shoot,” he said.

The resulting footage gives an eerie and intimate look at a very real and life-threatening situation. At any moment, the bomb could explode in the man’s hands and send a wave of destruction up to half a mile in every direction.

Always supportive, Fitzgerald’s family was forced to come to grips with the risks he takes. His fiancé, Patricia Duncan, a professor at Portland

State University, was also involved with the project but was adamant that he follow the safety first rule when filming.

“She is a constant and gentle reminder that no shot is worth stepping on a landmine,” he said.

Fitzgerald received a Fulbright Scholar Award in 2004, aiding his research and production of the film, and throughout the project, Fitzgerald worked closely with the Institute of Fine Arts in Phnom Penh and Clear Path International, an organization dedicated to helping survivors of landmine and UXO related accidents in Cambodia and Vietnam.

“Bombhunters,” the completed 85-minute film, will be released on DVD domestically and internationally. In this documentary, Fitzgerald captures the human will to survive against all odds and the innate ability to adapt to an ever-changing environment.

The filmmaker saw extraordinary things become ordinary through his lens.

“When people are surrounded by the remnants of war on a daily basis – when they wake up next to them, step over them on their way to school, and use them to build their houses – they become commonplace,” he said.

In December 2005, an audience of nearly 500 people watched as the story of bomb hunters unfolded for the first time on the big screen at the Hollywood Theater in Portland. The preview screening was planned to coincide with the celebration of Cambodian Heritage Month and the Cambodian American Community of Oregon, (CACO), showed Fitzgerald tremendous support.

“It was a pretty amazing feeling,” Fitzgerald said. “I didn’t expect that kind of response. I am very thankful to CACO for their involvement.”

Another screening at EOU in January marked the beginning of Fitzgerald’s tour of universities across the country. By introducing the film into the educational market, he hopes to increase public

awareness of the long-term consequences of war.

Although Fitzgerald doesn’t consider himself an activist, his storytelling inspired two CACO members to host a series of fund-raisers in Portland for a young Cambodian woman featured in the film. Living with tuberculosis and struggling to survive, the woman was left to raise two children after her husband was killed trying to dismantle an artillery shell.

Another screening of “Bombhunters” for an awareness series sponsored by the Salem Cinema generated additional funds which Fitzgerald donated to the cause. The money was then hand-delivered to the woman in Cambodia.

“It (the money) is totally transforming her life,” Fitzgerald said. “This is exactly why I started making documentaries. If I never make a cent, it will be worth it because I was able to help that woman.”

To learn more about Fitzgerald’s work in Cambodia and his film, “Bombhunters,” visit www.bombhunters.com or send an e-mail to spinfilm@gmail.com.



Laura Hancock/University Advancement

Fitzgerald visited with EOU theater students prior to the screening of “Bombhunters” at EOU in January. Sharing his personal journey to becoming a filmmaker, Fitzgerald encouraged the class to pursue their passion. “The best thing you can do is learn as much as you can, and be curious about the rest of the world,” he said.



A Celebration of Tradition

For five days in October, all activity on the Eastern Oregon University campus is focused on one thing: Homecoming.

And in 2005, EOU's Homecoming celebration came full circle with the return of Oktoberfest, a tradition the University successfully revived after more than 20 years.

For five days, everyone from students, alumni, faculty, staff and the community could find something to do, whether it was playing a friendly game of baseball, or listening to live music in the quad. Returning alumni also had the chance to give something back by participating in the Mountaineer Booster Club Scholarship Scramble at Buffalo Peak Golf Course. Every year, the golf scramble helps to raise money for scholarships for EOU student athletes.

The Mountaineer Athletic Hall of Fame Induction and Alumni Award Ceremony in McKenzie Theatre was another highlight of Homecoming. For the first time, the ceremonies were combined into one with the goal of recognizing alumni for contributions to their communities and EOU.

Mountaineer fans also had a full schedule of exciting activities and athletic events to look forward to during Homecoming weekend.

"Cheering on the Mountaineer teams has been a part of the EOU Homecoming tradition for more than 75 years, and 2005 was no exception," said Bennie Moses, EOU's alumni coordinator.

Numerous Oktoberfest booths, a beer garden and fun family activities greeted fans in Community Stadium after the annual Homecoming parade through downtown La Grande. Oktoberfest pro-

vided a great opportunity for local businesses and organizations to showcase their wares and services to EOU students, alumni and the community.

Businesses also make connections with EOU students who live and shop in Union County by participating in the Homecoming parade. Local businesses gain advertising exposure by sponsoring a float for the parade, while showing support for the University.

The Homecoming celebration reached a high point when fans packed the 2,800 seat Community Stadium to watch the Homecoming football game. The Mountaineers surfaced victorious over Rocky Mountain College, winning the game 38-7.

"We encourage family, staff, students and the community to take part in as many events as they can during Homecoming" said Rob Cashell, director of athletics. "The week showcases athletics, as well as the University. There is something for everyone."

"We couldn't do this without student groups and campus departments, including Eastern Student Entertainment, the International Student Association, the Associated Students of EOU, Student Activities, the Athletic Department, Facilities, and the Alumni Association," said Moses. "With the help of all these different groups, Homecoming 2005 was an exciting celebration that students, alumni and the community all were able to enjoy."

To learn more about EOU's Alumni Association, visit www.eou.edu/alumni and mark your calendars for the 2006 Homecoming and Oktoberfest celebration, Oct. 20-21.

2005 Alumni Award recipients

Eastern Oregon University's Athletic Hall of Fame Induction and Alumni Awards Ceremony paid special tribute to alumni who have made contributions to their communities and their alma mater. Homecoming 2005 marked the first year for the two ceremonies to be combined into a single event honoring alumni.



Keith Baker



Don Heuberger



Michael Meek



Doug Campbell

The Alumni Awards Ceremony recognizes alumni who have provided outstanding service to their community, distinguished themselves in their careers, and have brought honor to themselves and EOU. Awards are also given to businesses or organizations that have shown outstanding support to EOU and the Alumni Association.

The 2005 recipients of the Alumni Awards are: Keith Baker, Distinguished Alumni Award; Don Heuberger and Michael Meek, University Merit Award; Doug Campbell, University Service Award; and the Union County Commission, for the Outstanding Community Partner Award.



Schedule of Events

Friday, October 20, 2006

- 10:00 a.m. Mountaineer Booster Club Scholarship Golf Scramble
- 3:00 p.m. Community BBQ and Oktoberfest booths & Beer Garden opens
- 6:00 p.m. EOU Hall of Fame Induction & Alumni Awards Ceremony
- 9:00 p.m. Bonfire
- 10:00 p.m. Alumni After Hours start

Saturday, October 21, 2006

- 8:00 a.m. EOU Alumni Association Annual Meeting and Reunion Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. Alumni Softball and Baseball 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

Calling all 1984, 85 & 86 Mountaineer Baseball Varsity Alumni!

Join us for a reunion with Coach Fetz and the 30 win teams at the 2006 Homecoming!

October 20 & 21

For more information, contact
EOU Alumni Program at (541) 962-3740
or e-mail alumni@eou.edu.

It's a Reunion!

EOU Resident Assistants (RAs) are celebrating a reunion in honor of Mike Daugherty's retirement, at the 2006 Homecoming & Oktoberfest on
October 20 & 21



Director,
Mike Daugherty
1974-2006

For more information, contact EOU Alumni Program
at (541) 962-3740 or e-mail alumni@eou.edu

EOU Alumni Association is currently seeking nominations for the 2006 Alumni Awards

Distinguished Alumni ~ Alumni Merit Award ~ University Service Award ~ Outstanding Community Partner

Alumni awards recipients will be honored at this year's Homecoming event.
To submit an award nomination, visit the alumni Web page at www.eou.edu.

EOU grad saves lives in New Orleans

Published: November 4, 2005
By Dick Mason / The Observer

Benjamin Berman's U.S. Coast Guard training had given him the knowledge, skills and confidence needed to respond heroically to this moment.

Still he felt unprepared.

Unprepared for a Category 5 psychological jolt.

Berman, a 2005 graduate of Eastern Oregon University, was in New Orleans in late August with a Coast Guard helicopter rescue team shortly after Hurricane Katrina hit.

"I couldn't believe this was the USA. This isn't supposed to happen to us," Berman, who is based in Mobile, Ala., said in a telephone interview. "It looked like a tsunami had hit."

"It looked like an excavator had come with a 500-mile swath and taken out the area," Berman said.

Everywhere he looked there were shattered buildings and lives. People who had lost everything were clinging to a few islands of high ground in flooded New Orleans. Clinging to a ray of hope that they and their loved ones could be rescued.

Berman's U.S. Coast Guard helicopter represented such a ray. Unfortunately it lacked unlimited capacity. The helicopter could carry no more than 10 passengers at a time.

"We had everyone packed in like cord wood. I was hanging out the door," said Berman, who is his helicopter's crew chief.

Rescue helicopters had no room for pets or baggage of any kind. Still, people begged for the chance to bring their bags — pleas that tugged Berman's heart.

"Sometimes it was all they had," he said.

The pleas had to be ignored. Lives depended on it.

"We would tell them that if they all brought their bags that would be one less person (who could board the helicopter), one less life saved," Berman said.

Berman and his Coast Guard unit worked feverishly for two weeks to rescue people. His crew flew at least 80 people to safety during that time.

Nobody exemplified the plight of those in

since his helicopter was only 30 to 40 feet away. He walked over to them and discovered they were dead. They seemed serene, with the man resting his head against his backpack as if it were a pillow, Berman said.

"I felt horrible that they had died. Yet at the same time they appeared peaceful," he said. "It was the only peaceful thing I saw in all that chaos."

Keeping one's emotions in check in such situations is critical for rescuers.

"When you see that much catastrophe, it is impossible to repress your emotions," Berman said. "Several times I wanted to let go."

Releasing his emotions made him feel better. Still, Berman had a hard time sleeping at night.

"I felt guilty lying there in a comfortable bed with a roof over my head. I felt I should be helping people," Berman said.

He couldn't, though, because strict U.S. Coast Guard rules limit how many hours a crew can fly in a 24-hour period.

The Mobile U.S. Coast Guard station conducted rescue missions around the clock despite its facilities being seriously damaged by Hurricane Katrina. The roof of the hangar had been "peeled off like a tin can" by the hurricane. The floor was covered by 2 inches of water. There was no electricity.

Outside the Coast Guard station, Mobile also suffered significant damage, though a far cry from that suffered in New Orleans. People had to drive around debris and fallen power lines and street lights. Finding a route to the Coast Guard station was difficult.

"Everyone is reaching out. People in this region bounce back graciously from natural disasters."



Photo/U.S. Coast Guard

A Coast Guard rescue swimmer prepares a hoist to lift a survivor into the waiting helicopter above. If fuel or time were running short, Berman and his crew would sometimes perform double pick-ups, where the rescue swimmer and the survivor were lifted up at the same time.

need better than a man in a gutted apartment complex with a serious heart condition.

"He had spent all day on aspirin and nitro pills because he had lost his heart medication in the hurricane," Berman said.

A Coast Guard rescuer and a stretcher were lowered by Berman's helicopter crew into the apartment building. The man was placed in the stretcher and then pulled hydraulically into the helicopter.

Another rescue involved a middle-aged couple he spotted lying along a high point of Interstate 10. Survivors had flocked there waiting for help. Berman noticed that the couple didn't move as he was landing. This surprised him

Mountaineer Tracks

Greetings from the Alumni Association



Lori Jordan Brown

Dear Alumni & Friends,

During the springtime, we often think about resolutions, renewal and making a difference. More and more, people view renewal as a means of self-indulgence – a new diet or exercise program, a new look, or a more positive outlook on life.

As we think of renewal, we often think of serving oneself. We live in a world of self-gratification and so often people feel like supporting a larger cause isn't significant because we are not able to see immediate results.

Jim Rohn, a well renowned author, business coach and motivational speaker once said, "Only by giving are you able to receive more than you already have."

As you read the Mountaineer and ponder thoughts for your new year's resolution, think about this concept of renewal and ask yourself, how can you really make a difference?

There are all kinds of ways to contribute to your alma mater – participate in events, volunteer for the board, or give to the EOU Foundation. However you decide to get involved, know that the time or financial contributions of EOU alumni represent a vital resource for the University's programs and services.

The strength of the Alumni Association is based on the energy and connection with our alumni. Your commitment and involvement is the key to the future success of the University and our Association. We encourage you to be involved, informed and in touch with Eastern Oregon University as much as you can! For information on how you can get involved, contact the EOU Alumni Office at (541) 962-2740 or e-mail alumni@eou.edu. Until next time...

Lori Jordan Brown

Lori Jordan Brown
President, Alumni Association

Bennie Moses

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, 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

Gary Webster, '56, is a lifetime cattle rancher in the Grande Ronde Valley. He served on the La Grande School Board for 12 years, and on the OSBA State Legislative Committee for six years. Now, semi-retired, Gary gives historical presentations to schools and organizations in eastern Oregon.

1970s

Kathryn (Elizabeth) Burt, '68, '70, recently retired from a rewarding teaching career at South Albany High School in Oregon. She was able to use much of her knowledge gained from honors classes at EOU, specifically those taught by Dr. Loso, Dr. Davidson, Jack Evans, and others. Looking back, she feels she received an excellent education and has many fond memories of faculty and students at EOU.

James M. Cohen, '76, lives in Eagle River, Alaska. After graduation he joined the Navy and pursued his master's degree. Nine years later he joined the Air Force, retiring in 2003. He is currently employed as a Federal Contract Specialist at Elmendorf Air Force Base and serving in the Alaska Air National Guard as a clinic administrator for the 168th Medical Group in Fairbanks. He is a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives, the Anchorage chapter of the National Association of Purchasing Management's board of directors, and he is a licensed massage therapist. He looks forward to hearing from fellow classmates.

Floyd Shenfield, '73, lives in Omaha, Neb., with his wife Gail. He has been with the Union Pacific Railroad for nearly 37 years and is looking forward to retiring in May of 2007 and doing a lot of traveling. Floyd would like to hear from others who graduated from EOU with degrees in business near the time he did.

Galen Scrivner, '75, moved with his wife Caren from Leaburg to Yuba City, Calif. He is a retired math teacher, basketball coach, and athletic director.

Randy N. Simmons, '75, retired on Sept. 1, 2005, after 28 years with the U.S. Postal Service as a rural mail carrier with the Cove Post Office. He lives in La Grande with his wife Shelley.

Jimmy Lloyd Rea, '74, and **Marydee (Leep) Rea**, '72, live in Baker City. After he graduated, Jimmy intended to run his father's insurance business in Baker City. Instead, he hooked up with legendary bluesman John Lee Hooker. Since then he has won many awards for his bass playing, has been inducted into six different blues society halls of fame, and has played and recorded for some of the top blues artists in the world. He fronts his own award-winning blues band, Jimmy Lloyd Rea and The Switchmasters, and travels both far and wide singing the blues. Marydee currently works for the city. The couple have raised four children.

1980s

Paul Tuohy, '82, lives in Sonoma, Calif., with his wife Kathy. He was recently named vice principal at Sonoma Valley High School where he has worked as the resource specialist teacher for the past eight years.

Eric Delora, '83, '89, lives in San Francisco where he is working as the music instructor at the Jewish Community High School and as a coach/accompanist with several theatre companies in the city.

Marguerite (Goodwin) Powell, '86, '05, and her husband Russ recently moved from Union to Mt. Vernon. She earned her master's in teacher education from EOU over the summer and is working at Dayville High School. They have three children, Hunter, 11, Walker, 9, and Skylar, 7.

EOU Alumni board member profile

From banking to real estate, alum takes pleasure in seeing others succeed

Barry Bradham always had a rising entrepreneur in his nature. While a student at EOU, he served as president of the Business Club and helped to bring SIFE, (Students in Free Enterprise), and a printing business to campus. He also taught an INTACT class called Financial Investments.

Barry left EOU in 2000 to begin a very productive career in the banking industry where he entered into successful management positions. He graduated from EOU in 2001 with a degree in business. Barry soon began looking into other potential business opportunities in the real estate market and realized his chance for success, as well as an opportunity to help others realize their

potential when it comes to money management.

"I love being a positive influence to others and helping them succeed financially," he said. "It is an amazing feeling. I believe passive income and control over spending can help most people feel empowered to pursue their dreams and live life more fully. Now I can focus on what is truly important to me."

Barry became a member of EOU's Alumni Board in 2004 because he felt the need to reconnect with the University. Barry said that he experienced some of his biggest ups and downs while a student. Likewise, he believes his greatest self-development happened in La Grande.

"I hope my involvement in the board can



Barry Bradham

somehow improve things for generations to come," he said. "It is an exciting and fulfilling opportunity."

Barry believes that the Alumni Board can really make a difference in people's lives, both on and off of campus, and encourages other alums to help represent their alma mater.

Bruce E Robert, '88, lives in Kolonia, Pohnpei with his wife Evelyn and his daughter. He is in charge of the archives and the inter-library loan section at the College of Micronesia-FSM Learning Resources Center. In 2003-05 he served as the president of the Federated States of Micronesia-Associations of Archives Libraries and Museums.

Karl Kemper, '88, lives in Talent with his wife Laurie, and two young sons. He is currently the athletic director at Ashland High School in southern Oregon.

Suzan Turley, '88, lives in King City. She was recently elected to a two-year term as director at large of the Association of Social Work Boards, which is her second board appointment in Oregon. Recently retired from the Department of Justice in the Charitable Activities Section, she also worked in the financial industry for 20 years and was executive director of a Northwest Economic Development District.

1990s

D. Shane Essency, '92, graduated from the Army National Guard Office Candidate School in August 2005 at Camp Murray, Wash., qualifying him as a 2nd Lieutenant with the National Guard. He works as a business and marketing teacher at Hanford High School in the Richland School District. Richland is home to Shane and his wife Angela, son Cole, and daughters Jill and Ashley.



Lt. D. Shane Essency

Jennifer (Thew) Munson, '94, recently moved back to Cove with her husband Brian. The couple has two children, Henry Josiah, 2, and Elsie Jane, born Aug. 29, 2005. Brian works for Weaver Construction in La Grande. Jennifer is able to stay home with her children and coach the junior varsity girls basketball team at Cove High School.

Rose (Eakin) Reich, '92, '93, lives in Nampa, Idaho with her husband Dean. She taught 7th-12th grade math for five years in Echo and then retired after the birth of their first son, Connor Melvin, on Feb. 26, 1998. The couple gave their son the middle name Melvin in honor of Rose's father who died of cancer the year before. They moved to Athena for a few years during which time Rose gave birth to their second son, Cody. When Dean's teaching position was cut, they moved to Nampa to build a house. When Rose is not officiating volleyball or basketball games, she is busy landscaping and decorating their home.

Laura Peacock, '96, lives in Hamilton, Mont., with her husband Mark. She completed her Ph.D. in biomedical science from the University of Connecticut Health Center in Farmington, Conn., in March 2005 and took a post-doctoral position with the Rocky Mountain Laboratory in the Laboratory of Persistent Viral Disease division.

Lisa Montgomery, '96, lives in Pendleton with her husband, **Chet Sader** '97. The couple has two boys, Hunter, 6, and Tanner, 4. Lisa works as a detective for the Oregon State Police and Chet works for the Bureau of Reclamation, dealing with water use issues. They have been living in the Pendleton area for eight years and are enjoying it.

Robert Bynum, '97, lives in Pendleton with his wife **Susan** '94 and their four-year-old son and six-year-old daughter. He has been working as a software engineer at the Interpath Laboratory for six years. Susan is a substitute teacher in Pendleton. Visit www.bynum.us for the latest Bynum family news.

Kelly Cline, '98, lives in Helena, Mont., with his wife Jamie Harmon. He attended graduate school studying astrophysics at the University of Colorado in Boulder and finished his doctorate in June 2003. He is currently teaching mathematics, physics and astronomy at Carroll College in Helena.

Jay Smith, '97, lives in Avondale, Ariz., with his wife Sena. Since graduating from EOU, Jay spent eight years teaching and recently received his master's of education in administration. He got his first administration job as the assistant principal at Sundance Elementary School in the Buckeye School District. He is excited for the new challenge and is looking forward to being a school administrator.

Justin B. Voelker, '97, lives with his wife Tamie in Murrieta, Calif. In Oct. 2005, Justin was promoted to chief financial officer at Fallbrook Hospital. Previously he was the assistant chief financial officer at Western Arizona Regional Medical Center.

Lisa Itel, '99, lives in Woodburn, where she works as a marketing and events manager at Woodburn Company Stores, Oregon's largest outlet shopping center. She keeps in touch with many of the friends she made while attending EOU.

Tod Haneberg, '95, lives in Moses Lake, Wash., with his wife Krystal. They own the Anytime Fitness Health Club in Moses Lake, where Tod is also the training director. Krystal helps train as well, and the couple has three children, Kyler, age 6, and twin girls Ashlyn and Serina, age 3.

2000s

Gary D. Will, Jr., '00, lives in Turner with his wife Tamara. He recently accepted the position of chief of police with the Turner Police Department.

Cody Ritter, '00, lives in Washougal, Wash., with his wife Kelly. He is working as a constructing credit analyst for River-view Community Bank. Kelly is the band director at Washougal High School.

Davey Peterson, '01, and wife Alyssa live in Baker City where he is currently working for the family business, C&DP Enterprises. The couple are preparing to attend graduate school next year and have been visiting campuses in Idaho and Washington.

Les Balsiger, '01, lives in La Grande with his wife Carol. He is the director of student relations and marketing at EOU and he graduated from Gonzaga University School of Law with a juris doctorate degree in May '04.

Janelle (Thibert) Roberts, '99, lives with her husband Jeff in Palmer, Alaska. She finished her degree at the University of Alaska, Anchorage and the couple has two daughters that Janelle has the privilege of staying home with everyday.

Judith A. James, '02, lives in Homer, Alaska, with her husband, Dr. M. Walter Johnson. She returned to her childhood roots in Homer and is working as an office manager for a water taxi on Kachemak Bay, and as a freelance technical editor. The couple were married on March 6, '05, and live on a canyon acreage overlooking the bay and the surrounding mountains. They care for 50 apple, cherry and plum trees, and raise other fruit and berries.

Maria (Darby) Crowley, '00, '02, lives with her husband Bryan in Culver where she teaches seventh-grade social studies in Madras. The couple were married on Nov. 6, 2004.

John Mahon, '03, lives with his wife Jennifer in a new home in Washougal, Wash., with their three children, Brayden, Clayton and Max. John is working in Vancouver as a mortgage specialist and Jennifer is a math teacher at Hockinson High School.

Births

Christopher Samuel Breeland was born June 27, 2005, to **Lillian Breeland**, '98, and **Jason Breeland**, '94, in Mississippi. The family resides in Manokotak, Alaska.

Jacob Theodore Corey was born June 9, 2005, to **Katie Corey**, '01, and **Adam Corey**, '99, in Tualatin. The family lives in Camas, Wash.

Claire Tolan was born June 15, 2002, to **Majalisse Tolan**, '02, '03, and **Jacob Tolan**, '04, '05, in La Grande. The family lives in Milton-Freewater.

Robert Townsend Miller was born January 24, 2005, to **Greg Miller**, '87, and Mary Horrall of Portland.

Cheyenne Marie Brock was born August 18, 2001 to **Angela (Tucker) Brock**, '00, and Edward Brock, in Shantee, Kan. The family lives in Bonner Springs.

Cade Kaiwikani Souza was born July 4, 2004, to **Keala Souza**, '97, and Craig Souza. The family resides in Mililani, Hawaii.



Cade Kaiwikani Souza

Josephine Nichole Ashley was born Feb. 12, 2005, to **Stephne Ashley**, '03, and Justin Ashley in The Dalles. The family resides in Tygh Valley.

Joseph "Joey" Robert was born Sept. 9, 2004, to **Jennifer Firestine-Scanlon**, '95, and Robert Scanlon in St. Louis, Mo.

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

Crae Bernard Campbell was born August 29, 2005, to **Mandi (Duby) Campbell**, '00, and **Marty Campbell**, '99, in Pendleton.

Anastasia and Madison Jensen were born March 9, 2004, to **Rebecca Jensen**, '96 and **Eric Jensen**, '88, in Pendleton. The family resides in Athena.

Jake Ryan Crane was born Jan. 31, 2005 to Jude and **Barbara (Howard) Crane**, '92, of Converse, Texas.

Sarita Whitmire, '96, and **Jared Skeith** were married on July 23, 2005 in Seattle. The couple lives in Monroe, Wash.

Sarah Lemar, '01, of Portland announced her engagement to **Jared Carter**. The wedding is planned for July 2006.

Jeni Chambers, '94, and **Scott Fellman**, '93, were married on Sept. 18, 2005 in Eugene. The couple honeymooned in Kauai'I and plan to continue living in Eugene with Jeni's two dogs and Scott's two cats.

Weddings & Engagements

Jocelyn Foster, '98, married **Allen Sheldon** on July 9, 2005, in Breckenridge, Colo. The couple lives in Denver.

Maria Darby, '00, '02, married **Bryan Crowley** on Nov. 4, 2004. Maria teaches seventh-grade social studies in Madras. The couple resides in Culver.

Andrija Barker, '03, married **Patrick McCurry**, '00, on July 30, 2004 at Moosehead Lake in Maine. The couple resides in Meridian, Idaho.

Obituaries

Enno Klammer, retired EOU English faculty member, died on August 24, 2005. He taught at EOU from 1968 to 1991.

Thor Henry Anderson, a 1939 graduate of EOU, died in September 2005, of an aortic aneurysm. Anderson played basketball while at EOU and later went on to become the basketball coach at Gonzaga University and Montana State. In 1974 he became the athletic director at Northern Arizona. He is survived by his wife Betty, of Tacoma, Wash., and their five children.

Jeffrey Alan Lucas, 33, son of **Patricia Lucas**, '70, of Corbett, and **Rick Lucas**, of Prineville, was killed in action June 28, 2005 in Afghanistan when the helicopter he was on was shot down. Patricia wanted to let her friends from EOU know that her son had served and died a hero. She remains a proud and grateful mother.



EOU Alumni Association Board 2005-06



Pictured from left, Tyler Whitmire, '00, Barry Bradham, '01, Sally Wiens, '66, secretary, Carol Knopp, '81, Roger Ediger, '68, Mary Jo Lemon, '67, vice president, and Lori Jordan Brown, '95, president. Board members not pictured: Anne Billing, '93, treasurer, William Frazier, '68, previous president, Joe Sullivan, '68, Steve Gilmore, '97, Karen Tsiatsos, '92, Nathan Reinhard, '00, and Judy Turner, '04.

To update your information, visit www.eou.edu/alumni and click on Update Your Information Here.

If you wish to share photos with your news e-mail to alumni@eou.edu and we will publish as space allows.

EOU Alumni Reunion at PGE Park Saturday, August 26, 2006



EOU alumni are invited once again to the 3rd annual reunion at PGE Park. Come and have a great time with fellow alumni, reminisce about days at EOU and cheer for the Portland Beavers as they take on the Las Vegas 51s.

For more information, please call (541) 962-3740 or e-mail EOU Alumni Programs at alumni@eou.edu.

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Giving the gift of education



Photo by Laura Hancock

“EOU is a vital force in the community, bringing diverse cultural and educational opportunities to the residents of eastern Oregon. It also serves as an outreach to individuals who do not have the information needed to pursue a college career, or knowledge of job market demands.”

-Rod Sands, EOU President’s Club Member

Rod and Sheila Sands have deep roots in the Grande Ronde Valley. Raised in La Grande, they each attended Ackerman Laboratory school on the EOU campus and graduated from La Grande High school. After living in the fast-paced metropolitan lifestyle of Seattle, the Sands returned to their roots to raise their two sons, Tobe, 6, and Shaeylan, 9 in their home town. Today, Rod owns an independent engineering consulting firm in La Grande while Sheila serves as the chair of the La Grande Education Foundation.

Even though Rod and Sheila didn’t graduate from Eastern Oregon University, they believe in the school’s mission, and in 2005, they joined the Foundation’s President’s Club to help lead EOU into the future. The President’s Club is EOU’s most prestigious group of donors, including benefactors who give a minimum of \$1,000 each year unrestricted.

“Sheila and I support EOU because of the diversity it brings to the cross section of people who live here, but most importantly, EOU has taken a lead role, working with high school students to help them better understand that the job market is different than it was 30 or 40 years ago,” Rod said. “A college degree is now essential.”

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/

Calendar

2006 Calendar of Events

* All dates are subject to change. For more information on campus events, visit the EOU Web page at www.eou.edu. Also, visit the alumni Web site at www.eou.edu/alumni for updated information on alumni events.

April

8 Alumni Association
Board Meeting

21 EOU Foundation
Tea and Trumpets

*Annual reception for scholarship donors and
2005-2006 recipients

May

3 Union County Alumni
Chapter Meeting

20 Foundation Annual Meeting
20 President's Gala

24 EOU Spring Symposium

June

16 EOU Awards and
Honors Assembly

17 2006 EOU Commencement

July

(TBA) EOU Foundation Legacy
Society Luncheon

August

26 Portland Beavers
Alumni Reunion

September

(TBA) Union County Alumni
Chapter Meeting

October

20-21 2006 Homecoming
& Oktoberfest

21 Alumni Association
Annual Meeting

(TBA) EOU Foundation
Tea and Trumpets

*Annual reception for scholarship donors and
2006-2007 recipients

For detailed schedule of events contact Univer-
sity Advancement at (541) 962-3740 or visit
the alumni Web page at www.eou.edu/alumni

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

