WINNING TEAMS

By now there should be few OSU alums who don’t know that the mighty football Beavers (Castor canadensis) have managed to achieve the first winning season in 30 years. I haven’t been much of a football fan since I crushed a knee playing for the Fighting Sioux of the University of North Dakota, but I am a fan of “winners.” The Department of Fisheries and Wildlife has been a family of winning teams for decades. The Associated Press doesn’t report rankings every week. And reporters don’t even care if our students do something terrific for the community—or find themselves in a legal “pickle.” But virtually every week I hear about another one of our “winners.”

About a week ago, I attended the final oral presentation by one of our undergraduate student “group projects” at the Corvallis Public Library. You may recall, we recently adopted a requirement where all students must complete a “real world” problem-solving exercise, under the guidance of several faculty. This group of eight students (7 Fisheries and Wildlife and 1 Animal Science) tackled a water quality problem associated with OSU’s Dairy and its impact on Oak Creek (see page 7). For over nine months, the students researched, argued, considered and reconsidered, argued, consulted with countless officials, argued, and ultimately proposed a reasonable solution to address a major chronic insult to the biota of Oak Creek—and a serious management issue for OSU. Almost all of them wanted to quit at one time or another. Although the solution (a waste water storage cell for periodic high runoff events) was good, the winners were the students. When asked “what they learned,” they shared a clear understanding of...
what it takes to be a winning team in the real world. They learned to understand and support each other; they learned that simple solutions (e.g., closing the dairy) may fix one problem but cause others (e.g., urban sprawl); they learned that they each had something special to contribute; they learned the essence of what it is to be a winning team.

Winning teams can be found elsewhere also. Over the last few years, we’ve developed collaborative opportunities for graduate students, a recent example being an expanded orientation program. Sessions have dealt with issues ranging from academic protocols to data management. But one recent session on “ethics” was particularly profound. Carl Schreck, who is part of a cross-campus ethics study team, organized two role-playing exercises—one regarding a natural resource issue and the other about data ownership. Students performed well and learned in the process. One relayed to me, “being grounded in ethical relationships to others is fundamental to success as complex, multidisciplinary work becomes standard practice in the field.”

Of course, faculty and students in Nash Hall have been engaged in collaborative research for a long time. I regularly have the opportunity to tell the story of the “Stream Team”—whose record of 30+ years of achievement is legendary. But other strong research collaborations of multiple faculty are common—the Cooperative Forest Ecosystem Research Program (CFER), the “Blue Crew,” the “Red Banders”—each representing productive collaborative research projects around the state.

So we are very pleased that the football team has joined us—the many winning teams of Nash. It’s a winning spirit that never left.
was playing in the irrigation ditch above our house outside of Jacksonville, Oregon, when I was growing up. Or, perhaps it had to do with family weekends spent at our cabin at Diamond Lake. Most likely, it had to do with my avocation as a whitewater rafter. My husband, Jan, and I have rafted lots of beautiful rivers: the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon, Middle Fork of the Salmon, the Main Salmon and the Selway in Idaho, Rogue, Illinois, Clackamas, and even the Sarapiqui in Costa Rica and the Futalefu in Chile. Our son, Toby, was convinced that he had been brought up on the river, earned a B.A. in biology from Colorado College, and was last seen kayaking rivers from Nepal to South America and guiding ecology tours in Aspen during the winter.

My trusty cataraft came in handy for my masters research on the McKenzie River. I repeated a boat survey of the river between Trailbridge Dam and Leaburg Dam to compare the number and relative size of pools to a historical survey that was done on the river in the 1940s. I compared present day channel and riparian conditions to the past, using measurements from aerial photos taken in the 1980s and in the 1940s. This historical landscape view of the river drew me into two “black holes” of technology: aerial photogrammetry and geographic information systems (GIS). These technologies allowed me to measure changes over time in both the riparian vegetation and channel structure and position in the McKenzie. To my great relief (and my committee’s relief, too, I’m sure) I defended my thesis in June of 1994 and waited for the phone to ring with my first job offer.

Next came a series of small but interesting research projects, completed under contracts through OSU. I helped a multidisciplinary research group summarize the possible effects of gravel mining on salmon habitat for the Oregon legislature. I traced the historical changes in the Kissimmee River, Florida, for the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD). That’s kind of an odd assignment for someone based in Oregon, but the original connection was between Jim Sedell, a U.S. Forest Service fisheries scientist and adjunct professor who was a member of my graduate committee, and Ken Cummins, formerly of OSU who was a distinguished scientist at SFWMD. More than a century of channel straightening has shortened the Kissimmee River from a natural channel greater than 120 miles long to a canal 60 miles long. Channelization and reduction of vegetation has altered the flow into the Everglades, damaging those productive wetlands. The multimillion-dollar restoration effort needed a better idea of conditions prior to alteration. I combed through textual and map references in the National Archives in Washington, D.C., and the Florida State Archives and located maps and descriptions made in the 1850s by the Army Scouts during the Seminole Indian Wars. As you may imagine, the scenes they described bear little resemblance to what we see now in the area south of Orlando. These historical investigations help us realize how much we have altered our environment and give us a better idea of what the term “restoration” might really mean.

Last year I completed a study of historical conditions on the Deschutes River, including comparison of historical photographs, aerial photo analysis for large wood, and redistribution of in-channel wood by the flood of 1996.

For the past few years, I’ve been working with Stan Gregory, Linda Ashkenas, Randy Wildman, and the rest of the Stream Team as a member of the Pacific Northwest Ecosystem Research Consortium, composed of scientists from
The Registry of Distinguished Graduates is intended to recognize a select few of our alumni who have made major contributions to the field of fisheries and wildlife, and who have achieved real distinction in a career in natural resource education, research, or management.

**Nominations Sought for 2000 Inductees**

The committee for the Registry of Distinguished Graduates, composed of two faculty, Hiram Li and Bruce Coblentz, and two alumni, David McIntire and George Buckner, is seeking nominations for the 2000 inductees. Candidates should be nominated from among those OSU graduates with at least 20 years of experience in the field. Nominations can take many forms, but should describe the highlights of the nominee’s professional career. A resume may be the most useful format, but a letter describing the nominee’s career and achievements also would suffice.

Please send nominations to:
Department Head
Department of Fisheries and Wildlife
Oregon State University, 104 Nash
Corvallis, OR 97331-3803
From the Mailbag

by Lee Kuhn

Dean E. Painter, ’38, Col. USA Retired, writes, “... on graduation from Fur, Fish and Game Animal Management in 1938 I went directly into the U.S. Army. Thirty years of military service including three wars, travel in forty foreign countries and one three-year ROTC tour at Oregon State College... Toward the end of my military career I earned a MS degree in Microbiology from Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas then took over the Sanitary Engineering Department at Fayetteville Technical Institute. From there to Greenville, North Carolina to set up a new department called Air and Water Resources Technology at Pitt Technical Institute, which I ran for 11 years. While at OSC I remember helping Jim Leekley, ’38, build and run the fur farm raising mink and silver fox. I also remember... I caught a skunk and one of the OSC veterinarians ‘de-skunked’ it. But, when he took it on a leash into Wagner’s restaurant downtown he was quickly escorted out the door.” Thanks again Dean for your newsy letter and for your generous contribution to News and Views.

Congratulations to Jim Rearden, ’48, for being selected as “Historian of the Year” by the Alaska Historical Society. The award was for Jim’s book, Alaska Wolf Man: The 1915–55 wilderness adventures of Frank Glaser. First published in April 1998, it is now in its 3rd printing by Pictorial Histories Publishing Co. A very busy guy, Jim recently wrote “...I haven’t kept a count of the magazine pieces I have written and sold except for Outdoor Life where I recently counted 50 plus. The total is beyond 500 and most have dealt with Alaska and its fish and wildlife. Jim’s articles have appeared in magazines in the U.S., Canada, Germany, France, and England and in practically every magazine even remotely related to the out-of-doors. In addition, his book, Arctic Bush Pilot, is due off the press in late January or February. Keep ’em coming Jim!

A brief note from David Marshall, ’50, last August to report that he has pretty much dropped out of the consulting business which he carried on after retiring from the Fish and Wildlife Service in 1981. Dave says he now spends his working hours between recreational trips as Chief Editor for Birds of Oregon—a general reference which they hope to have in the hands of OSU Press in June 2001. Dave also reported a new address in Lake Oswego and a new wife in late August. Congratulations Dave!

Always good to hear from Jim Haas, ’53, who sat in several of my classes 46 years ago! Jim says, “... I keep thinking we will see something from M. Naggiar, ’48, in News and Views. Hopefully he is still exploiting the wildlife of Florida (insult intended!).” Sorry Jim, haven’t heard a peep out Morrie since his retirement from the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission but would guess he’s still tramping the swamps of Florida and waging war on nutria and other furbearing critters. Jim says, “...I don’t exploit much of anything anymore with the exception of trying to win an occasional cup of coffee from Bob Gunsolus, ’50, Art Oakley, ’53, and Don Swartz, ’65, on the golf course. Yes, it’s come to that!”

And speaking of golf games, the Trysting Tree Golf Course took a terrific beating last summer when the “Fearsome Foursome” of Hank Schneider, ’41, Francis Ives, ’49, Rollie Rousseau, ’58, and Chris Christianson, ’61, met in battle. While I doubt that any money changed hands, the twosome of Schneider and Ives claimed a decisive victory over their younger and less experienced cohorts. In any case, Jack Nicklaus and Tiger Woods need not lose any sleep over this bunch. And, though retired for 8 years, Rollie Rousseau reports he is finishing his 8th year as Oregon Commissioner on the Pacific Salmon Commission (part time). He says, “We (U.S. & Canada) finally got agreement in June for a 10-year harvest plan. We should start seeing a few more chinook showing up in coastal streams this fall.”

Continued on page 6
Mail Bag - continued from page 5

In a note to John Adair, ‘50, from Otto Florschutz, ‘57, now living in Washington, North Carolina. Otto says, “…yes, we really have had one heck of a September. One darn hurricane after another starting with Dennis that came through, went east to the ocean and sat there for a week and came back. We got about 20” of rain from him and then Floyd’s 10-20” more so widespread an area was too much. Nancy and I were blessed however, no flooding here. Blew some nice large trees down in our yard but none toward the house. We have three daughters living here and two had no problems but one… had to be) evacuated by helicopter and many neighbors lost everything.” Maybe you’d better consider moving back to Oregon Otto, we don’t get that much rainfall in a year, even in Corvallis.

After retiring from the California Department of Fish and Game where he was a wildlife manager, Ron Powell, ‘59, has moved back to Oregon. Ron says “…moved back to Oregon so I can enjoy my retirement and maybe see a few OSU games.” Ron’s new address is P.O. Box 358, Glide, OR 97443.

Jim Griggs, ‘59, also seems to have a new address and is now at 6875 SW Molalla Bend Road, Wilsonville, OR 97070. And thanks Jim for your contribution to News and Views.

In June of this year Paul Hemerick, ‘61, received his 40-year certificate and pin from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Paul’s address is still Spring Creek National Fish Hatchery, M.P. 61-75, Underwood, WA 98651.

Dick Fisher, ’62, MS ‘63, checked in last April but his note came too late to include in the summer issue of News and Views. Dick writes, “…retired in 1994 after 24 years with FWS and 7 with FERC. Recently moved to Ridgefield, Washington, and I am finishing a new home. I live half mile from a refuge and a mile from a marina. Still fishing, mostly in Alaska… gave up hunting when I left Colorado but may start again on waterfowl since the refuge is so close.”

When you go hunting for a Christmas tree along in December you never know who you might run into. In my search for a tree I ended up at the Boy Scout lot on Kings Road, and who do you suppose was there helping Santa and the scouts from Troop 37? None other than Ted Will, ‘62, MS ‘65, and Larry Gangle Jr., ’67. Both retired and with time on their hands had volunteered to help the scouts sell and load Christmas trees for customers. With my 8’ Noble fir firmly stored in my pickup we managed to find time for some catch-up on old friends and Fish and Wildlife happenings. Nice going guys!

I always enjoy hearing from Major Les Amick III, ’67. Though retired from the service, he keeps busy as a beaver or ex-beaver at his home in Metairie, Louisiana and at his farm (deer camp) in nearby Mississippi. Les and I have exchanged Christmas cards and notes for over 15 years but I goofed last year and didn’t get one sent. After more than a dozen years he still enjoys teaching Navy Junior ROTC and probably some wildlife biology at Brother Martin High School in New Orleans and plans to continue for at least another 5-6 years. “…with two children in college, wife Susie and I are not even thinking ‘retirement’. Daughter Tracey is in Mississippi State University, and son Todd is in pre-med at University of New Orleans. Les is still harvesting the surplus white-tailed deer and other wildlife crops at every opportunity and even sent me some recipes for ‘nutria etouffee’ which he says is yummy, “…I’ve been eating nutria since Jay Long taught me how to trap them on the mighty Willamette.” According to the note Les enclosed, nutria has more protein and less fat than turkey or chicken, but thanks anyway Les, I’ll stick with turkey, and I do promise you a card this year.

The mailbag for the grads from the ’70s and ’80s and ’90s was pretty flat this time but Michael Cairns, MS ‘80 came through. Michael got his MS in 1980 in Fisheries then a BS in Public Policy and Administration at Western Oregon University in 1989. He is currently pursuing a PhD in Environmental Science at OSU. His current address is 593 E Street, Independence, OR 97351.
Solving Problems on Oak Creek

Water quality of Oak Creek has been the subject of close scrutiny in a three-term course entitled Group Problem Solving (FW 441, 442, 443), designed to give students an opportunity to work in small groups and solve resource management problems. Our group focused on resource concerns of the agricultural reach of Oak Creek. This reach flows through campus from 53rd to 35th Streets. Students analyzed the problem of non-point source pollution attributed to the application of dairy waste on pastures adjacent to Oak Creek.

OSU dairy managers face water quality concerns that affect all managers trying to balance agricultural production with clean water. Animal waste is traditionally used to fertilize crops and pastures in order to increase production and recycle nutrients. Animal waste contains nitrogen and phosphorus, key elements in plant growth. The waste also contains \textit{E. coli} and other microorganisms that can be harmful to humans and affect the natural biota of streams and rivers. Most pollution from livestock occurs when manure comes in contact with surface water and reaches streams and rivers, a possible problem for the dairy because they apply fertilizer in liquid form. The dairy has a closed cleaning system where stalls and feeding pens are flushed with water to remove manure. The water is held in a large storage tank and a solid particle separator discards the solid waste for later removal. The remaining water is held in a large-capacity tank and the water reused several times for the same purpose. Winter months are problematic to dairy managers because of excessive amounts of rain. Dairy managers are faced with increasing amounts of liquid waste during times that are least favorable for fertilization and more apt to create surface run off situations.

The types of nutrients and bacteria that are of concern are excess nitrogen and \textit{E. coli} bacteria. Excess nitrogen can be harmful to aquatic organisms and humans. If nitrate levels exceed 10mg/l, infants can suffer from metahemaglobinemia more commonly known as blue baby syndrome and results in lack of oxygen in the blood. Fish are also susceptible to this type of stress. Unhealthy levels of \textit{E. coli} bacteria have been documented in the agricultural reach of Oak Creek. Test results have exceeded 406 \textit{E. coli} organisms per 100 ml. In the spring of 1999, the OSU dairy was issued a warning of non-compliance of state water quality standards by the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

If the combined application of rain and manure exceeds soil infiltration capacity, overland flow occurs. Our solution to this concern is the adoption of a dairy nutrient management plan that considers soil types, rainfall, temperature, plant nutrient uptake potential, manure application rates and equipment improvements. Also, we recommended the construction of a catchment for contaminated surface run-off. The water routed into the catchment could be held and, when conditions are favorable, reapplied to the pasture using a pump and existing application equipment. The catchment (located on the south side of Campus Way) would be designed to take advantage of the local topography, aesthetically blending into the landscape. These actions could greatly reduce the risk of contaminants reaching Oak Creek.

\textit{James Cassidy}

\textbf{Oak Creek Problem Solving Group}—James Cassidy, Brandon Culley, Charles Frady, Ona Larsell, April Martin, Diana Painter, Wade Small, and Vanessa Woffinden

\textbf{Instructors}—Kathy Staley, Stan Gregory, and

\textbf{Aerial view of Oak Creek and dairy with the proposed catchment site.}
H. Richard Carlson Scholarship Established

We were greatly saddened when we learned of the tragic death of H. Richard Carlson, PhD ‘85. Dick died after being struck by a motorist last July. Dick was one of several department alums employed at the National Marine Fisheries Service Auke Bay Laboratory near Juneau, Alaska. He was the chief scientist on the lab’s chartered research vessel, the Great Pacific. Mike Dahlberg, BS ‘62, MS ‘63, the Director of the Auke Bay Lab relayed that Dick’s absence leaves a gaping hole in the ranks—both professionally and as a friend. “Dick was always a cheerful person, very easy to get along with, and the type of guy you wanted to be around,” Dahlberg said.

To honor the legacy Dick left, his family and many friends have established an endowed scholarship for graduate students in the department—with priority for those studying marine fisheries biology. We have received donations from over 30 individuals. The first “Carlson Scholar” will be named this spring.

If you would like to contribute to the Carlson Scholarship, contact Pam Powell at the E.R. Jackman Foundation (541) 737-5820.

View from the Past
Internships Teach “Real Life”

Many students from Fisheries and Wildlife spent their summer “interning” in a variety of situations. The lessons they learn are occasionally surprising, frequently valuable and always profound. Here’s a sampling of their thoughts on their summer experiences.

Work in this field is anything but predictable.

Restoration of the Pacific Salmon will take generations to achieve.

Weather considerations play an immense role when planning and executing field studies.

Irregular work schedules, very poor pay, lots of driving, and going home smelling like a pickled squid are part of this field.

Stream surveys are the best outside job in summer when it’s hot.

The new guy has to prove himself in the trap with a deer that isn’t very cooperative.

When studying any kind of wildlife one must try to think like the animal thinks.

Many people who fish have absolutely no idea how to distinguish between a Chinook and Coho salmon.

Patience is a skill that I didn’t know was even a skill that plays a bigger role than I ever imagined.

Fishing on the river provides some good information about the fish as well.

Much work goes into public relations.

One must be ready to work at six-thirty in the morning and to be there until ten at night.

If we want cooperation and support from landowners and the community, we need to help them understand what we are doing.

Jays are notorious at mimicking hawk calls.

Collaboration and working with others is a key element.

Soil scientists look at the same wetland differently.

Educating our youth is only the starting point in a very long, very important environmental restoration process.

Taking data is one of the hardest things to do well.

You must be able to work with all kinds of people in all kinds of weather.

Budget cuts make it even more difficult to collect data that is badly needed.

Summer is the best time for data collection in Lake County.

You can learn more in one summer internship than in 16 years of school.

Although electronic mediums seem to facilitate communication, they often become the topic of communication.

We need to be willing to work in other areas of resource management too.

Because there are so many extra things to do, there is not much time for field surveys.

Learning from a summer internship continues after summer is over.

The only improvement I can suggest is that the summer last longer.
Getting Connected

Each department on campus offers a *Get Connected* activity for incoming students in the fall. Of course, your department offers the best one on (actually off) campus. We start with a float trip on the Willamette River led by Stream Team guru, **Stan Gregory**. The ones that don't drown, get a tour of the Smith Farm salmon laboratory, and are treated to some fine Texas Barbeque prepared by our Texas sage, **Boone Kauffman**. *Get Connected* offers incoming students an opportunity to develop relationships with other new students and to meet and converse with faculty in a nonthreatening atmosphere. By all accounts, it is a great idea! Check out these shots!

*Charlotte Vickers dispenses valuable advice in or out of a raft.*

*Lunch provides another opportunity to tell them what for.*

*Stan Gregory gets them all lined out on what they need to know.*

*This raft sank because of the irresponsible kids driving it.*
Department Electronic Mailing List

This list was created to coordinate and inform both alumni and the interested public of events, meetings, and discussion topics relevant to the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife. Postings, discussions, and announcements should pertain to issues of fish and wildlife conservation, and the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife. The list manager is Melani Bonnichsen. Her address is Melani.Bonnichsen@orst.edu

Subscribing
To subscribe to the list, send a message to:
listserv@mail.orst.edu
The body of the message text (not the subject line) should be the following:
subscribe fwalumni your_real_name
your_real_name is just that (e.g., Bob Smith).

Communicating with the List Members
The list is unmoderated. To write to everyone on the list, send your message to:
fwalumni@mail.orst.edu

Unsubscribing
To unsubscribe, send a message to:
listserv@mail.orst.edu
The body of the message text (not the subject line) should be the following:
unsubscribe fwalumni

Name that Photo
The Department is having a contest for the best name for this photo. We don't know what you will win yet (maybe a copy of the photo), but send your ideas to Editor, News and Views, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, Oregon State University, 104 Nash Hall, Corvallis, OR 97331-3803.
What's Happening?

We enjoy hearing from alumni and Department friends. Send your autobiographical notes to Lee Kuhn and your opinions to the Editor, and we will share them with News and Views readers.

Please make any needed address corrections below. You might also send us a few bucks to help cover costs of your newsletter, which appears twice yearly. Make checks out to F & W Department, E. R. Jackman Foundation.

Name

Address

Class Year Degrees

Please make any needed address corrections below. You might also send them with News and Views readers. We enjoy hearing from alumni and Department friends. Send your autobiographical notes to Lee Kuhn and your opinions to the Editor, and we will share them with News and Views readers.

We're Recycling
Do it again!

Editor, News and Views
Department of Fisheries and Wildlife
104 Nash Hall
Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR 97331-3803