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TODAY

Portland novelist Whitney Otto will read from her latest novel tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the Knight Library Browsing Room.



INSIDE

Olympic runner Mary Slaney will speak in the EMU at 4 p.m. today as part of a symposium

The Eugene City Council approved a tax break that will enable parking structure construction to start

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WEATHER

Mostly cloudy.
High 75. Low 55.

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Child care sign-up may shift dates

■ **CENTER:** A spokesman said a proposed amendment would give the University child care center the 'ability to plan more effectively'

By Amy Palanuk
Higher Education Reporter

Students with young children will be able to apply for child care services at the same time they register for fall term classes if a proposed amendment to the EMU Child Care and Development Center rules is approved.

CHANGES

■ **CURRENT REGISTRATION:** Just before beginning of fall term

■ **PROPOSED REGISTRATION:** Beginning in mid-May with course registration

The amendment also proposes expanding child care services at the two Westmoreland sites by up to four spaces. The spaces would

be set aside for children who qualify for special needs.

This change would provide the center with the option to set aside space regardless of whether the spaces are needed for the Westmoreland toddler or preschool sites, said Dennis Reynolds, child care coordinator for the EMU Child Care Services.

Currently, students with children register for classes during May but cannot apply for child care services until just before the beginning of fall term. The proposed change would integrate the application and prioritization time lines with the University's Duck Call registration period, which begins in mid-May.

"The amendment is designed to give us the ability to plan more effectively," Reynolds said. "Fall term classes now register in June, and we would like to do the ini-

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WATER SAFETY



Using a special airboat, the fire and EMS division of Eugene Public Safety converge on a plane that crashed into the Willamette River in the summer of 1995. The airboat allows rescuers to maneuver over rocks and other obstacles in Eugene's waterways.

TREACHEROUS WATERS

Summer sun can tempt many people to hit the rivers, but caution is key

By Ryan Maughn
Community Reporter

With the summers so hot in Eugene and the nearby waterways so scenic and refreshing, it is a struggle for many of the University's students to take water safety tips seriously.

Water safety is a concern throughout the year in Lane County, but during the summer months the number of problems escalates because of the larger amount of people swimming and playing in the water.

The Willamette River is a popular place for University students to swim because of its close proximity to the campus, but according to Corey Miner, a water safety expert with the American Red Cross, it is also a consistent problem spot because of the strong current and submerged rocks.

WATER SAFETY TIPS

- Alcohol and swimming don't mix.
- Watch out for the "dangerous too's" (too tired, too cold, too far from safety, too much sun, too much strenuous activity).
- Know your swimming limits and stay within them.
- Be aware of the weather conditions and prepare for electrical storms.
- Know how to prevent, recognize and respond to emergencies.
- Avoid jumping in bodies of water that may have submerged objects.

— Source: American Red Cross

The current can easily take a swimmer downstream fast and it is impossible to see what you are about to run into. Fatigue can set in and getting back to the

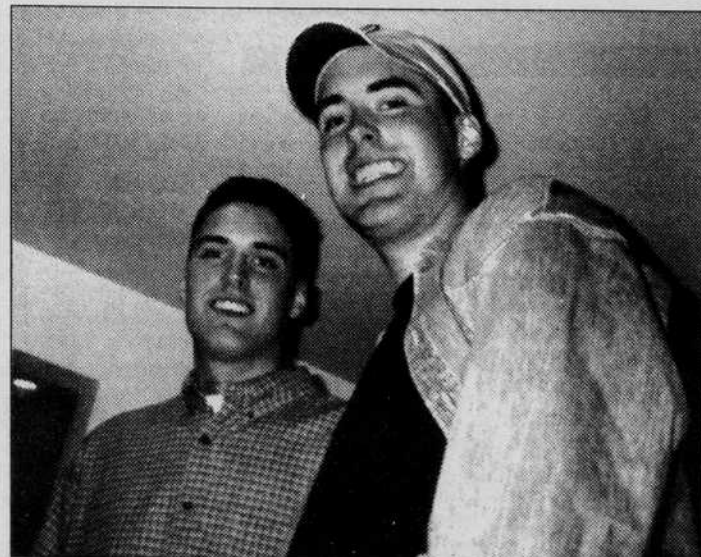
shore can be difficult, especially when submerged rocks and debris are obstructing the path.

"The rocks under the surface often shift and when people are jumping in the river and they think they know what spots are safe, but they are often surprised," Corey said.

"The county's water levels have been tremendous after last winter's floods and there have been many changes in the river," said Ken Armstrong of the Eugene fire department's water rescue team. "It is difficult, even for us as the rescue team, to keep up on all these new obstructions under the surface."

Divers from the Eugene fire department have dived in many of the areas in the Willamette, including the Autzen

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Brothers Jay (left) and Rian Patrick hope to travel across the country to raise awareness for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. However, more money is still needed to make the trip happen.

Rian Patrick to make trek of a lifetime

■ **TRIP:** Rian, a cancer patient, wants to travel across the country with his brother Jay to speak about the Make-A-Wish Foundation

By Laura Baker
Multicultural Issues Reporter

Traveling across the country is not an unusual dream. What is a little different is the reason why Rian and Jay Patrick want to make this "journey of a lifetime."

Rian, who was a student at the University and Lane Community College, was diagnosed with a brain tumor when he was 17 years old on New Year's Day. He underwent treatment and surgery for the tumors three times and finally went into remission.

That was until April, when 22-year-old Rian discovered the tumor had returned and was inoperable. Rian said his discovery

has not meant the end to his dreams — it only speeds up the time he has to complete them.

"This has made me change my outlook on life," said Rian, who is currently in Washington undergoing chemotherapy treatment. "But instead of just laying around and dwelling on it, I decided to take a road trip."

Rian wants to take this trip to visit friends and family and see the country. However, this trip is more than a chance for Rian and Jay to visit; the two will also be speaking about an organization they said has been important in their lives since Rian's diagnosis — The Make-A-Wish Foundation.

In order for this trip to happen, Rian and his twin brother Jay, who currently attends the University, are in need of a larger vehicle to travel in, phone cards, tapes for a

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"Rian has decided to live life to the fullest. He doesn't worry about the bad stuff, he is so excited and so positive."

Jay Patrick