

## EMU construction ravages memories

Memories are bizarre and strange animals. Some things you feel you will never forget, like the day your car broke down 20 minutes out of Eugene, or the moment you realized that your parents weren't mean, just weird like you. It's hard to tell, in the moment, what is forgettable and what will last.

Now, as I walk through campus on my final days as an actual college student, I'm lost in looking at things and wondering where my memories are and what will stay with me. I'm liable to get hit by a bicycle, something I've avoided for four years, if I stare any more at Johnson Hall wondering if the office of the Dean holds any meaning for me. So far, I've found none.

A few of my memories of college life I have already recognized: going through sorority rush (what the hell was I getting myself into) and then leaving my chosen house three years later

(people and good times I won't soon forget); climbing to the top of PLC to photograph the dousing of the KWVA antenna with anti-freeze during a snowstorm; and working at the *Oregon Commentator* and developing a lust for hate mail.

1997 GRAD



Amanda Erickson

But, what's bothering me right now are not the memories but the visible destruction thereof that is accompanying the gutting of the EMU. This is not because the building is a thing of beauty or because my experiences there were passionate or vastly life-changing, but because I know the building. Did you ever go back to your old high school or grade school and marvel with a friend that, "My old locker is still right here;" or,

"Wow, we didn't have that — must be new"? I know the EMU as well as or better than my old high school. My career exploration of all the back hallways and elevators and random, mysterious levels of the EMU began when I finally found the office of the OC. If you've ever noticed, the layout of the massive structure makes little sense; it's as if Mrs. Winchester herself had a hand in the construction.

Mastering the EMU is a triumph only equaled in emotion by the search for a call number in the Knight Library and actually finding the book.

However, before my very eyes the guts of the building are being torn out. I watch, along with others, at the windows overlooking the destruction. Some of that has to do with a simple fascination with life-size Tonka trunks doing things we only dreamed ours would do. But, I feel it has more

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