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Thursday, March 7, 2002

Around the  WORLD in 270 days

■ Eugenean Rosetta Russo will talk about her travels and volunteering around the world

By Jen West
Oregon Daily Emerald

Trekking with gorillas in Uganda, hiking up mountains in Nepal and climbing glaciers in New Zealand may sound like an adventure straight out of Hollywood, but for one lone woman, it became a reality.

In Sept. 2000, Rosetta Russo began traveling east from Eugene and just kept on going, volunteering for days or weeks at a time in different countries around the world, until she returned to Eugene in June 2001. Her travels took her from the United States to Uganda, Kenya, Nepal, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Australia and New Zealand.

Russo will share her world traveling experiences for the International Resource Center's series "Travel Talks" at 7 p.m. Thursday in the International Lounge.

The "Travel Talks" are part of a program the IRC began in February to bring travel topics to campus, IRC coordinator Anne Williams said. She said she met Russo in Sept. 1999 while volunteering at the Child Advocacy Center, and when the idea for the "Travel Talks" program came about, she said she immediately thought of Russo's solo trip around the world.

For some travelers, "volunteering is a nice way to go," Williams said — it offers a different kind of experience from the normal vacation.

Russo said she began planning her voyage when a friend told her about volunteer opportunities in an orphanage called Makindu Children's Center, located in a small village in Kenya. Though she did not



officially become a volunteer for the center, she spent three or four days playing with the orphans.

Although the kids didn't speak English, she said, they were used to interacting with foreigners using facial expressions and hand gestures. Despite the poor economic and education levels in the underdeveloped countries, she said she was surprised at the number of people who spoke English.

"English is a universal language," Russo said.

In Nepal, Russo said she worked at a camp called Friendship Club Nepal for two weeks with 30 other volunteers from around the world to build steps from a village in the mountains down to the main road. She said the existing trail was often washed out from heavy rainfall.

There was no electricity and no running water in the village, she

said, but at night, the villagers would play drums, and they would teach her their cultural dances.

"It's not just all hard work," she said.

Williams said Russo's trip was especially appealing to the "Travel Talks" series because she is proof to other potential travelers that unconventional trips are possible, even for women on their own.

"She did it all by herself,"

Williams said.

Russo said she left the United States by herself, but she always met other travelers and locals in the inexpensive hotels, guest houses and local families with which she stayed.

"I was never really by myself, because there's a whole world of people" out there, she said.

Turn to **Travel**, page 8

'KESEY' lets readers peek behind the curtain

■ The revived UO Press reissues a classic collection that looks at the Northwest's 'most important writer'

By Jen West
Oregon Daily Emerald

Few readers have the opportunity to explore the road authors take on their way to creating great works of literature.

"KESEY," a book that reveals Ken Kesey's writing process through a compilation of manuscript notes, photos, drawings and poems, has been reissued as part of the revival of the University of Oregon Press. The University's literary magazine, Northwest Review, originally published the book in 1977.

Last year, the UO Press began searching for books from the University campus that hadn't been published in several years, and they came across "KESEY" in their search, said acting director Tom Hager.

"He was a fabulous person as well as a great writer," he said. "This book gets across a lot of his personality."

"KESEY" introduces the reader to the author's creative process and shows

UO Press celebrates return to publishing

The University of Oregon Press has been revived and is celebrating by reissuing backlisted books produced by the University.

The UO Press began operation in the 1920s and published more than 100 books and journals. Budget cuts in the 1970s caused the press to become inactive for the next 25 years, according to acting director Tom Hager. The University's literary magazine, Northwest Review, continued publishing a small number of books in the interim, he said.

"KESEY" — a compilation of Ken Kesey's notes, drafts and artwork — is the first of five Northwest Review books that the UO Press is reissuing as a part of the revival. Other books from Northwest Review include "Dia-

logues with Northwest Writers," "Pioneer Letters" and "Warnings: An Anthology of the Nuclear Peril," all edited by John Witte and "An Anthology of Northwest Writers 1900 - 1950" edited by Michael Strelow.

Hager said he wanted to revive the UO Press as part of the University's 125th anniversary. Together with journalism Professor Duncan McDonald, they published a new edition of "Atlas of Oregon" through the UO Press.

"It signaled the press's return to active publishing," Hager said.

Since the release of "Atlas of Oregon," the UO Press has begun reissuing books that had been out of circulation for many years. More information on the backlisted titles can be found at www.uopress.com.

— Jen West

the progression of his works, such as "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" and "Sometimes a Great Notion," in draft form.

"Kesey hadn't done much to preserve the papers," said John Witte, editor of

the Northwest Review. He said when the magazine had approached Kesey about the book back in the '70s, they found most of his notes and early drafts scattered on the bottom of his chicken

Turn to **Kesey**, page 8

