

Original artist updates Eugene businesses map

After 19 years, University alumnus James Cloutier draws a modern version of his poster map of Eugene

BY EVA SYLWESTER
FREELANCE REPORTER

The Eugene Poster Map is famous around town for its pen and watercolor depictions of local businesses and landmarks. That the map is covered with little ducks should not be a surprise, since map artist James Cloutier first came to Eugene to attend the University.

Cloutier was born in Portland, but has lived in Eugene since 1958, when he started his freshman year at the University. He attended the University on a baseball scholarship and served as the student body vice president in 1962. However, art was always his academic focus.

"I knew when I was about ten years old I was going to be an artist," he said. "I also did a lot of art while I was here — I was doing cartooning."

After obtaining his undergraduate degree in art, Cloutier spent two years in Kenya as a Peace Corps volunteer. While he was there, he painted watercolor pictures of Kenyan people and photographed wildlife. When he returned to the University for graduate school, he was given the opportunity to do a one-person show of his paintings and photographs at the EMU. When he learned that it would cost him an exorbitant amount of money to have eight by 10-inch prints of his photographs made for the show, Cloutier resolved to learn to print his own photo-

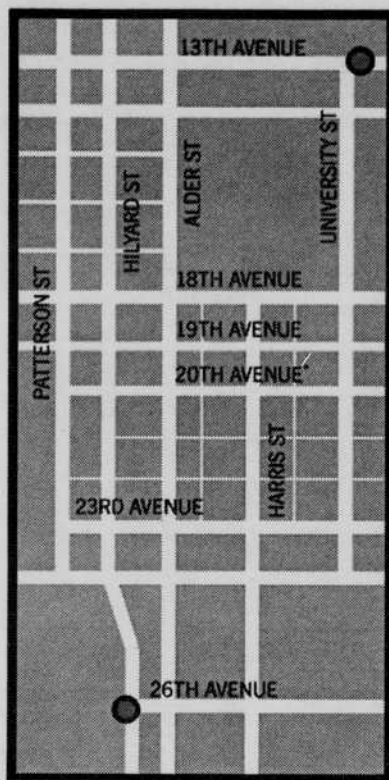
graphs. He took a photography class and got a C because he spent too much time in the darkroom making prints and not enough time taking photographs, he said. That winter, he took the photography class again and changed his major from painting to photography.

At that time, photography was exclusively the domain of the journalism school and not the art department. However, before Cloutier graduated, the dean of journalism and the dean of art met and agreed to let Cloutier and one other student get Master of Fine Arts degrees in photography, rather than the masters in journalism degrees that they would have otherwise received. They were the first photography students to earn MFA degrees at the University. Cloutier's masters thesis is still in the library, a photo-documentary that he spent a year and a half making about the tiny town of Alpine, located between Eugene and Corvallis.

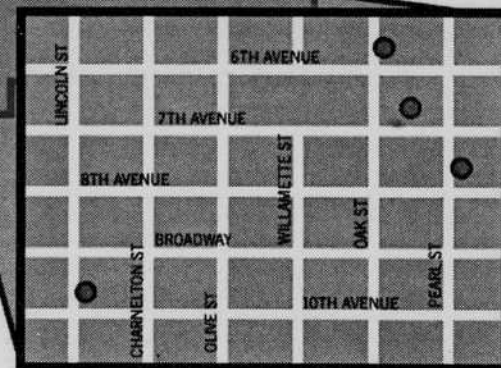
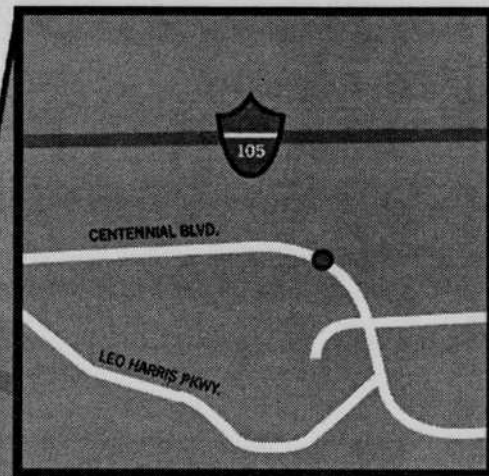
Cloutier entered the publishing business in 1977 and made books and greeting cards featuring his cartoons. However, his big break came in 1985 when he was commissioned to make the first Eugene Poster Map by a small company that a friend of his worked for.

"They gave me a list of all the businesses and I had to go out and

POSTER MAP, page 12



Dots indicate Lane County Elections ballot drop boxes. The boxes are available 24 hours a day and close at 8 p.m. today.



BRET FURTWANGLER | GRAPHIC ARTIST

Election: Court-elected president possible

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ousted, Atkinson said.

The way polls for swing states have been changing, Warren said it's still possible for either candidate to have a fairly decisive victory — he said he is still confident Bush will prevail.

University junior and Carry Oregon volunteer Shannon Tarvin said the polls are not accurate portrayals

of what's really going on.

"There's a huge demographic of students that isn't being tapped," she said.

Tarvin has been volunteering at the Carry Oregon ballot drop-off booth on the corner of 13th and Kincaid.

Senior Ariel Ungerleider, also a volunteer at the booth, is one of the many voters who believes the Supreme Court will be involved in determining the winner of the presidential race.

"I don't think there'll be a clear winner 'til many days after the election," Ungerleider said.

However, concerns about the possibility of court involvement are not prevalent at the Carry Oregon headquarters, Atkinson said, because most feel Kerry will win by a larger margin than polls are assuming.

"If every state is doing the job we're doing right now, then something like that won't be necessary," she said.

Imholte said Republicans feel the same confidence about Bush's chances for victory.

"I don't think the election will be as close as people think," Imholte said.

In 2000, the Supreme Court had to take on the task of determining the winner of the presidential race between Bush and Democratic candidate Al Gore, after the Florida vote was marred by controversial recounts.

University law professor Garrett

Epps said he hopes the Supreme Court will not get involved in this election.

Epps wrote an Oct. 24 editorial for the Washington Post urging the high court to stay away from the election, calling court involvement in election outcomes unnecessary.

Margie Paris, associate dean for academic affairs at the law school, said there has been a "healthy debate" between Epps and law professor Robert Tsai, who has written a piece calling for court involvement in the election if needed.

Paris said this debate has only increased the interest surrounding the elections for those in the law school.

"It's pretty consuming right now," she said.

Tsai said his piece, which is awaiting publication, focuses on the need for consistency on the part of the court, citing the hearing of Bush v. Gore in 2000 as a reason to remain open to the possibility of court involvement.

"If the Supreme Court is asked to take the case I think it would be unprincipled for them not to," Tsai said.

Epps said he hopes the election is not close enough to even warrant discussion of court involvement. He said he teaches a class until 8:30 p.m. today and plans on tuning in to election coverage soon afterward.

"If we're lucky we'll have an answer by then," Epps said.

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