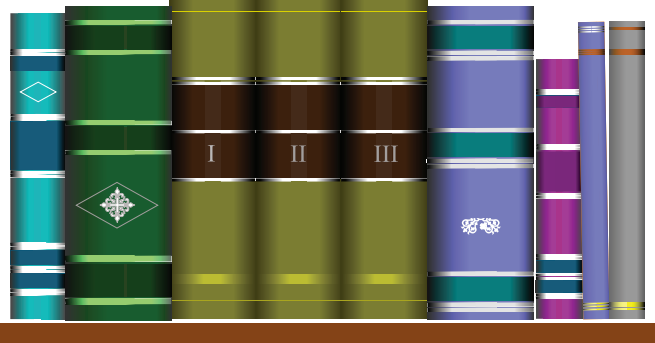
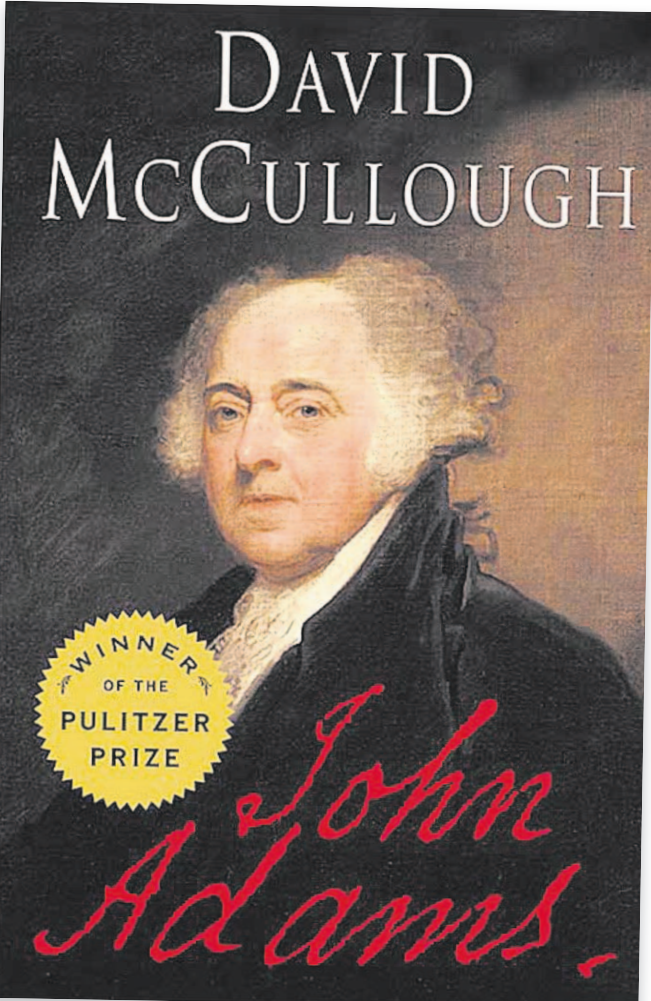
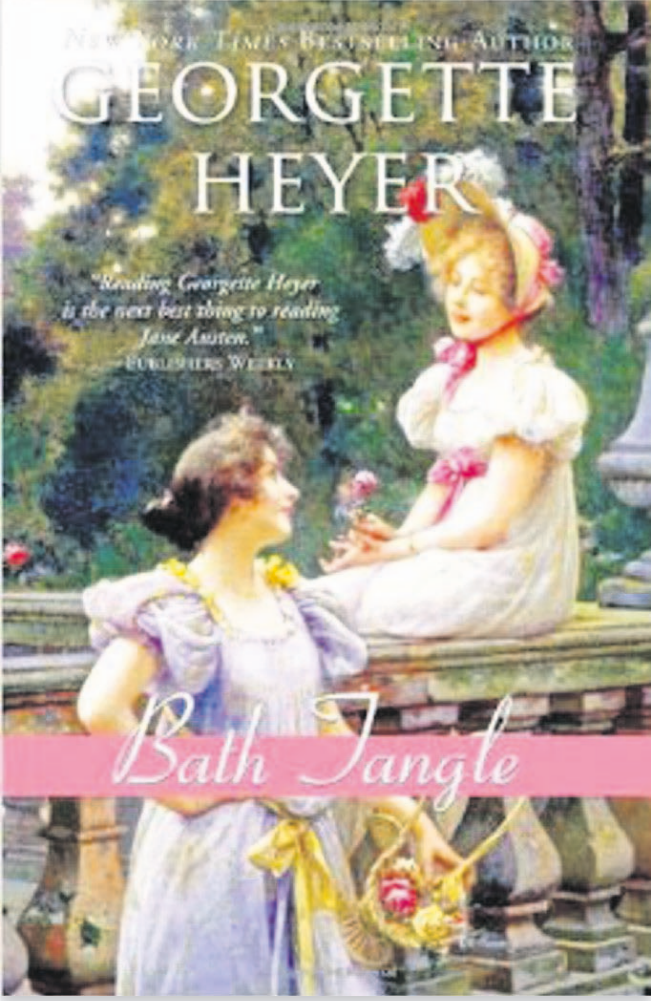
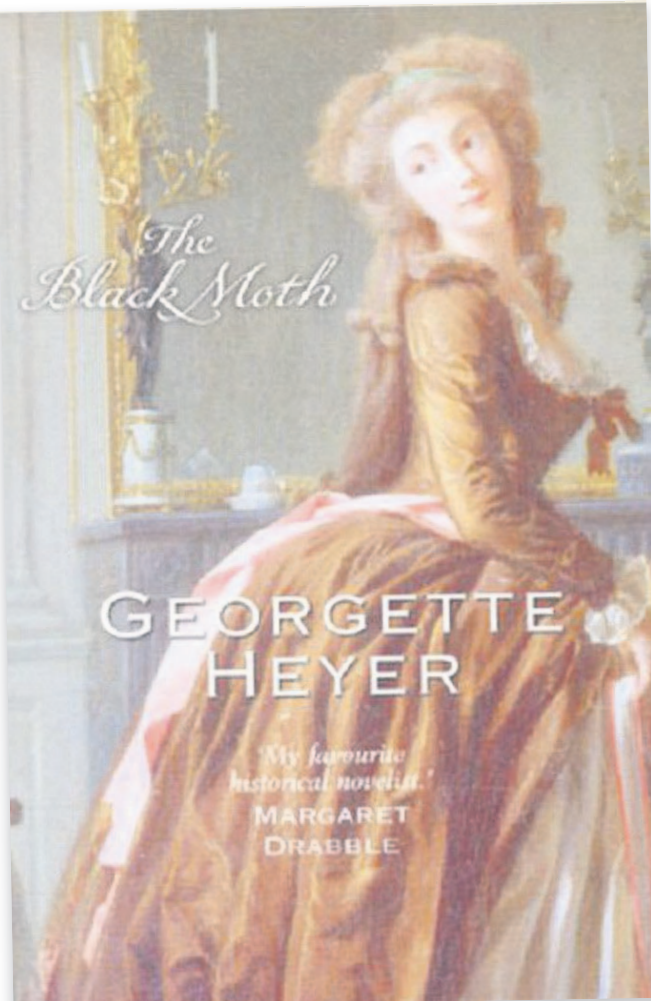




BOOKS

WHAT ARE THEY READING?





The Daily Astorian invites people to submit titles of books they are reading and share a few thoughts about the work. This week, local author Muriel Jensen shares some of her favorites. Jensen, a regular contributor to The Daily Astorian, has published more than 70 books and novellas. To submit, send to news@dailyastorian.com

I read Georgette Heyer in my 20s and fell in love with the Regency period. She brings that time alive as well as Jane Austen did, though Heyer was born in 1902. Her research and immersion in that time are very thorough. Also — she wrote her first novel at age 17 (“The Black Moth”) and published



Muriel Jensen

it at 21! As someone who didn’t get published until age 38 — and to far less acclaim and adoration — I’m trying not to hold that against her.

I recently came into ownership of Heyer’s entire collection through a brief acquaintance (45 minutes, I think) of a woman waiting for her niece by my desk in the reception

area of an accounting office when I worked between writing careers.

We began to talk about favorite books and discovered a mutual love of Heyer’s hysterical period romances. The woman passed away several months ago and left her collection to me. I am beyond thrilled, particularly since I’m plotting a story with a Regency subplot. This will simplify accurate use of the language and manners that are so specific to the period.

I’m currently reading “Bath Tangle” (Not the water in the tub, but that English city built on the site of ancient roman baths that were a spa destination for thousands of years.) A young woman and her widowed stepmother, who are about the same age, create a ro-

mantic knot with two unsuspecting gentlemen that’s so much fun to untangle. And I have another 30 more books to explore.

Primarily, I look for romance, laughter, cozy mysteries, and general fun. So I love Kristan Higgins, Janet Evanovich, Jill Barnett, comedienne all, who never compromise story for a laugh.

Because I’m from Massachusetts and so admire John Adams, my husband, Ron, gave me his biography written by David McCullough, several Christmases ago, and I’m still reading it. It’s very interesting, but I keep reading romance in between to see what my friends are up to.

When I’m writing, there are research materials all over my desk

and on the floor — books on Oregon and New England because that’s usually where my book are set, baby names books, a great book that tells you the names of all sort of everyday items we don’t usually know. For instance, that plastic or fabric piece on your shoelace that keeps it from unraveling, is called an aglet. Interesting, huh?

Ron’s afraid the weight of all the stuff in my tiny office — four or five incarnations of manuscripts for each book I’ve written, tons (literally) of research material, the computer, the desk and all the accompaniments, the futon with the Husky mix on it, me — will one day come crashing down into the living room.

Watch The Daily Astorian for that story.

Nike chairman looks back in upcoming memoir

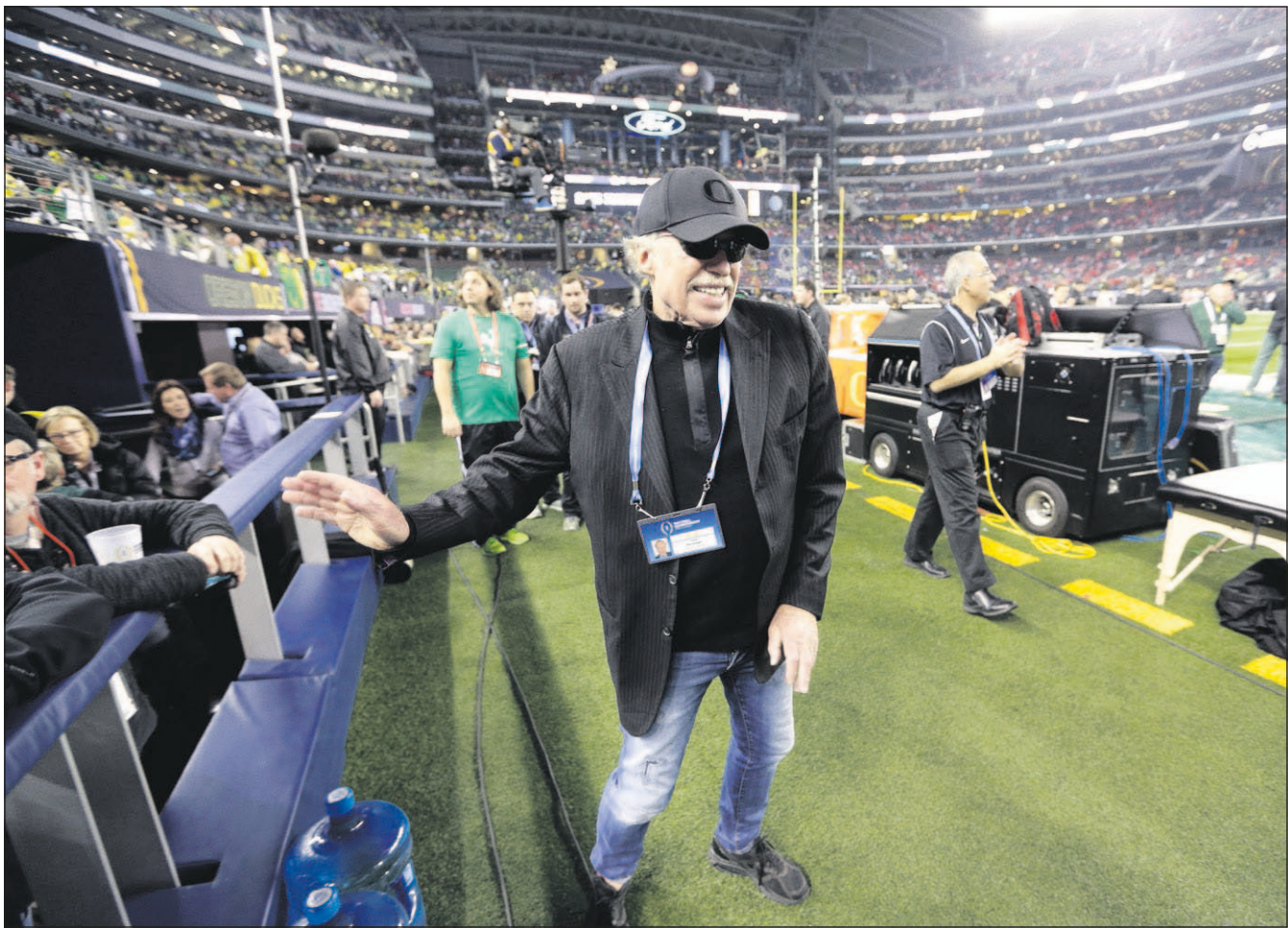
Company began in handshake deal with UO track coach

By HILLEL ITALIE
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Finally ready to step back and reflect, Nike Chairman Phil Knight has written a memoir.

The Scribner imprint of Simon & Schuster Inc. told The Associated Press that Knight’s book is scheduled for next spring. The 77-year-old Knight, who announced in June that he will step down as chairman next year, is known for his reluctance to talk about the past. But in a statement released through Scribner, he said he welcomed the chance to look back.

“For a long time, I have had requests — from a couple of prominent publishing houses and many diverse individuals — to write the story of how Nike began,” he said. “I had neither the time nor the inclination — until the last couple of years. Giving up



David J. Phillip/AP Photo

Nike Chairman Phil Knight walks near the field before the NCAA college football playoff championship game between Ohio State and Oregon in Arlington, Texas, in January.

more and more daily responsibility, I have found the time and the perspective. Or said another way: If I didn’t do it now, it wasn’t going to be done at all.”

Financial terms for the book deal weren’t disclosed.

Knight was represented by Washington attorney Robert Barnett, whose clients range from President Barack Obama to Barbra Streisand. According to Scribner, the memoir will be “candid, humble, gutsy and wry.”

Knight’s book, currently untitled, will touch upon such controversies as working conditions at factories overseas. But his focus will be on the early years. In 1964, Knight began what became Nike in a handshake deal with his track coach at the University of Oregon, Bill Bowerman, and initially sold running shoes from the trunk of his green Plymouth Valiant. In Forbes’ most recent list of the country’s richest people, Knight ranked No. 17 with an estimated worth of \$24.4 billion.

“Those from the early days at Nike were part of, and contributed to, an industry going through a revolution, and a world changing so dramatically, it is not likely a story like this will ever be told again,” Knight said in his statement.

“The lessons learned might be helpful to others — about life, business, resilience and risk. One way or another, everybody has a start-up.”



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