

# June 1997

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Michael holds Wetlands Award certificate

## **Michael Davis and Jackie Niemi Receive National Award**

Michael Davis and his wife, Jackie Niemi, received the 1997 National Wetlands Conservation Award for an individual accomplishment from the Interior Department's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Award was established in 1990 to recognize efforts to protect, restore, or enhance wetlands. They received the award for their successful efforts to obtain private funding for the permanent protection of Beaver Creek Marsh. In slightly more than a year, they raised \$94,000 to acquire and manage the 77-acre marsh and obtained a commitment from the Wetlands Conservancy to assume ownership and management of the property. Under the Conservancy's management, public access and environmental education will occur at the marsh.

Davis works for NMFS Alaska Fisheries Science Center's Fish Behavioral Ecology Program at the Center and lives near the marsh. He is a believer that individuals can accomplish things to preserve the environment themselves, rather than expecting government to do things for them. "The marsh can be a model to remind people that this is theirs and it belongs to everyone," he said. "When you rely on laws to take care of things for you, it disenfranchises you. This kind of effort puts you back in touch."

Beaver Creek Marsh is one of the few undeveloped freshwater wetlands on the West Coast. The marsh is nearly pristine and provides habitat for bald eagle, peregrine falcon, Chinook and coho salmon, steelhead, cutthroat trout, and Pacific lamprey. Waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds and song birds also use the marsh and adjacent forest.

The property was purchased thanks to a major donation for Lela Wagner of San Antonio, Texas. The donation was made in honor of her sister, Estella Matilda Happ, after whom the wetland is named. Residents of the area, including classes from Newport High School and Waldport Elementary School, also made contributions to the purchase of the marsh.

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## **The TIME Has Come! (Tsunami Inundation Mapping Effort)**

The new Center for the Tsunami Inundation Mapping Effort (TIME) started off the HMSC dedication ceremonies on Saturday, May 17 at 10:00 a.m. Don Hull, Director and State Geologist from the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, was master of ceremonies. The first speaker, Dr. Eddie Bernard from NOAA's Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory, showed

video clips and computer simulations of the tsunami at Okasura, Japan in 1993, explaining the science behind the prediction of tsunamis and the goals of this joint project.

Representing another partner of the project, the Federal Emergency Management Agency Region X Director, David de Courcy, talked about the Federal Emergency Management's role in the project, followed by former U.S. Senator Mark O. Hatfield, who emphasized his interest in preparedness for Oregon coastal communities in the event of a tsunami.

Other speakers were Sean Sinclair from Congresswoman Darlene Hooley's office and Dr. Antonio Baptista from Oregon Graduate Institute of Science and Technology (OGI). OGI will be participating in the Oregon mapping of Gold Beach and the Astoria-Warrenton area using the latest computer modeling techniques for both nearshore tsunamis generated by earthquakes on the Cascadia Subduction Zone and by the distant earthquakes around the Pacific Rim.

The information provided by the Center is a key element in the production of tsunami evacuation maps to prepare coastal residents and visitors to take the life-saving steps that are necessary to avoid the devastation that has resulted in other tsunami-prone areas.

A temporary display of information on TIME will be set up in the Resource Information room in the Public Wing.

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Plaque honoring Mark Hatfield in USFWS foyer

### **USFWS Dedication**

May's festivities included dedication of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Oregon Coastal Field Office and presentation of this year's National Wetlands Conservation Award. Gifts of appreciation for their contributions to construction of the office and its interpretive displays were presented to William Wilson Architects, J.R. Turner Construction, and Promotion Products, Inc. Dr. Weber was also presented with a gift in appreciation for his integral role in locating a Fish and Wildlife Service office within the Marine Science Center, and his invaluable assistance during construction of the building.

Finally, in recognition of his role in establishing the Oregon Coastal Field Office, and in honor of his lasting contributions to the conservation of our Nation's natural heritage, a gift was presented to Senator Hatfield and a plaque was unveiled which dedicated the building in his honor. The event was also a celebration of Michael Davis' and Jackie Niemi's receipt of the National Wetland Conservation Award for Individual Achievement. The Service presented Michael and Jackie with this National award in recognition and appreciation of their outstanding efforts to preserve the Beaver Creek Wetlands.

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## Grand Opening a Success

On Saturday, May 17, the HMSC Public Wing reopened after being closed for two years for renovation. The day was a beautiful sunny and windy spring day and the spinning kites and red-and-white-striped tent created a festive atmosphere. Press and invited guests for the Tsunami Inundation Modeling Center were the first arrivals for their 10:00 dedication in the auditorium. Their temporary display and video outside the auditorium drew many of the public as well as guests.

Thanks to many late-night and early morning hours worked by the physical plant, exhibit installers, public wing staff and an all-volunteer clean-up party, the Public Wing was ready for opening right on time. The tanks were stocked, the computers ran the closed-loop videos and interactive programs, the octopus was visible in the new octopus tank and the water wheel added a pleasant sound to the Pattern Garden. The parts of the exhibits that were not completely finished passed unnoticed by most visitors. Many volunteers were on hand to help the public and there was a steady flow of visitors throughout the day. Many former HMSC staffers came back to join the festivities and scope out the new attractions.

### New octopus tank draws crowds with better visibility

The HMSC Dedication Ceremony began at 2:00 p.m. with an overflow crowd in the auditorium for the guest speakers: Senator Mark Hatfield, Mayor Mark Jones, State Representative Terry Thompson, OSU President Paul Risser, Sea Grant Director Bob Malouf and COAS Chair Brent Dalrymple. Dr. Weber served as the emcee. After the speeches, the crowd all adjourned to the new entry plaza where the Coast Guard Color Guard assisted the Senator, Terry Thompson and Dr. Risser raise the national, state and OSU flags. The Yachats Big Band played the national anthem as the flag was raised. The Newport Fishermen's Wives served a delicious snack buffet in the new Ship Operations kiosk.

All those involved in the Public Wing renovation ended the day with a very pleased sigh of relief and satisfaction and went home to catch up on all the sleep they had missed the last two weeks.

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### Rose stands in hands-on laboratory **Rose Burbee - Marine Educator**

Rose Burbee has been working for Vicki Osis officially since September 1996, but volunteered before then. She is one of the staff of marine educators who handles the school groups, hands-on labs and summer aquatic day camps. A long-time resident of Lincoln County, Rose and her husband Terry own the *F/V Umatilla II* and for a number of years provided estuary excursions for the Center. They have not been doing as much of that since Marine Discovery Tours opened. She is also quite an expert of fish, as she filleted the *Umatilla*'s catch for ten years.

Rose earned her B.S. in Integrated Sciences from Western Oregon State College and is currently enrolled in the OSU Master's of Science Education program. Her specialty is geology especially fossils. She learned a great deal from "Mr. Fossil," Guy Pearson, and loves to have the kids try and stump her with a fossil find.

Rose has three children: Damien who works as an interpreter at the Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area; Jake, a junior who works with his dad on the boat; and Sarah, a sophomore.

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## **HMSC Summer Softball Team**

### **Needs Captain**

Bud Balloch and John Chapman, last year's co-captains, are looking for a replacement captain for this season's coed softball team. Rogue Ales has agreed to sponsor the team in the City League. The team also needs at least five more women to qualify for the league. This is one of the Center's most popular sports, so step up to the plate and join in!

If you would like to volunteer or need more information, please contact Bud (867-5002) or John (867-5021) immediately.

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Left to right: Ray Conser, Linda Conser, (back row) Bob Olson, Dave Sharp, John Graham, Paul Crone, (front) Bill Peterson, Milly Kander, Tonya Builder and Barb Lagerquist. Not pictured: Bud Balloch, Erik Conser, Kyle Kardong, Tom Rippetoe and David Sharp.

### **HMSC Runners Unite to Form a Team!**

The Hatfield Marine Science Center has a team of runners that will be participating in the 16th Annual Hood to Coast Relay run on August 22 and 23, 1997. The relay is a 195 mile run starting at Timberline Lodge on Mt. Hood and finishes on the beach in front of the turnaround in Seaside, Oregon. The team's name is the "Fish Heads" and is being sponsored by Rogue Ales Public House on Newport's Historic Bay Front. The team is composed of 12 people with each person running 3 legs (an average of 5 miles each leg). HMSC runners participating in the relay are: Tonya Builder, Ray Conser, Bob Olson, Jon Graham, Bud Bulloch, Barb Lagerquist, Paul Crone, Milly Kander and Bill Peterson. Other members of the team include: Erik Conser, Kyle Kardong and David Sharp. Tom Rippetoe is an alternate runner. Linda Conser and Mark Builder are van drivers.

The race must be completed in 30 hours (a team average of 9.5 minute miles). The Fish Heads are shooting for a 26 hour finish time (a team average of 8.0 minute miles). So, if you see the runners training, give them a cheer for motivation and encouragement because they are going to need it! If you want to join the team as an alternate or join them for next years race contact Tonya Builder (70237).

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Robert Kamphaus  
**First Staffer for TIME Arrives**

Robert Kamphaus is the first of the two scientists assigned to the HMSC's newest research unit, the Tsunami Inundation Modeling Effort. A lieutenant in the NOAA Corps, Robert is the support scientist responsible for coordinating the efforts of both federal and state cooperators in the TIME project. He is currently gathering bathymetric and topographic data needed for the mapping project.

Originally from Cincinnati, Ohio, Robert earned his B.S. from the University of South Carolina in Marine Science, with an emphasis in physical oceanography. He then applied to NOAA and served two and a half years at sea aboard the *R/V Discoverer*. During that time he traveled to Chile, Easter Island, Alaska, the Marshall Islands, Australia, New Zealand and across the Antarctic Circle.

He has already been recruited for the VENTS basketball team, but also enjoys softball, mountain biking and live music.

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**Library News**

**Bird Exhibit**

Finally, there is a new exhibit in the Library! This one focuses on observing birds, the books used to look and the information generated from looking. The work of Range Bayer is highlighted as a great example of one person's dedication to collecting and preserving the observations of many.

**Web Access to Aquatic Science and Fisheries Abstracts (ASFA) and Environmental Sciences**

As many of you know, we had a trial service this spring for web access to several databases. The OSU Libraries have contracted with two providers for access. We currently will be using Silver Platter's web site to access ASFA and several other databases. You need the login name and password to get in to this. It is currently posted on the Libraries' access page

(<http://www.orst.edu/dept/library/database.htm>), but will be coming off soon for security. If you have trouble getting in, call Janet (70108).

We are using Cambridge Scientific for access to their Environmental Sciences & Pollution Management database. It has many useful indexes including Water Resources Abstracts and Pollution Abstracts. Access to this is limited to machines (with people at the keyboards) with IP addresses within the OSU domain. Let Janet know if you have problems getting in.

Both services are available through the Libraries' databases web page (<http://www.orst.edu/dept/library/database.htm>) under CSA - Cambridge Scientific Abstracts and Silver Platter Databases. Or you can start from the HMSC homepage (<http://www.hmsc.orst.edu/>), click on Library and then choose your database. Either way will take you to the same place.

Please let Janet know how these different ways of using the indexes work for you

## ANNUAL RENEWALS

It's that time of year that library materials checked out by faculty are due. You can renew in person, by phone or by email. If you want a list of what you have checked out, ask the library staff for one. Please renew pronto to avoid weird letters or lost book charges.

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### Personnel Notes

Sara Rogers

Welcome to our first summer intern, **Sara Rogers**! Sara is a sophomore at George Fox University in Literature and Communications and is working in the public wing and in the bookstore. She worked at the Center last summer as a student worker in the HMSC Business Office. She has lived in Newport most of her life and has earned money for college by collecting and shipping algae samples to the East Coast. She began in early May and will continue through the summer.

Barbara Lagerquist

Congratulations also to **Barbara Lagerquist** on her successful Master's defense! Her thesis was "Dive characteristics of NE Pacific Blue Whales (*Balaenoptera musculus*) monitored by satellite telemetry." She can now continue her work as a research assistant with that major step behind her.

Cindy Sweitzer

Welcome to **Cindy Sweitzer**, who replaces Karen Hervin as the part-time secretary for the NMFS Alaska Fisheries Center. Cindy's husband, Dave Sweitzer, worked as project manager for Team Support Services at the EPA several years ago. She and Dave moved to the coast from Corvallis in 1993 and she has worked for Kelly Temporary Services for two years. They enjoy snorkling,

Volunteer **Rudy Mate** passed away on May 19. He and his wife Barbara worked in the Giles Memorial Volunteer Library. They moved to Newport to be near their son, Bruce Mate, and grandchildren in 1990 and began volunteering here soon after. Rudy also enjoyed working in the bookstore, where he enjoyed hearing all the interesting stories shared by visitors or volunteers. The family requests donations to the HMSC Public Wing in lieu of flowers.

Congratulations to **Karl Brookins** on the birth of his first child, a boy, McKenzie Viar Brookins! He weighed in at 7 pounds 10 ounces, 20 inches long, on May 20. Karl reports he has a full head of curly dark brown hair as well. Karl was a graduate student who completed his Ph.D. and is now teaching in Washington.

