

## Oregon Alpha News

**Sigma Alpha Epsilon at Oregon State University** 

2929 NW Harrison Blvd, Corvallis, Oregon 97330

August 2025

# Oregon Alpha Awarded SAE's Chapter Achievement Award and OSU's IFC Chapter of the Year

#### **Eminent Archon Report**

The 2024–25 academic year was one of the most successful and memorable years in recent history for Oregon Alpha.

We hit the ground running in the fall with a highly successful recruitment led by Sean Hanson '26, Davin Lewis '26, and Jackson Hankel '26. Their energy and dedication brought 36 outstanding new members into our brotherhood, setting the tone for the rest of the year.

Our fall calendar was packed with traditions, including the newly rebranded "Dining on Cougar" dinner, held the Monday before the Beavers vs. Cougars football game. This event brought alumni and actives together over a meal prepared by our chef and featured inspiring stories from our alumni network. We were also honored to welcome representatives from our national fraternity, including Chapter Consultant Justin Maidenberg and Province Lambda Archon Taylor Hunter, who joined us for this special night.

Academics remained a cornerstone of our chapter's success. Thanks to the leadership of Nick Ferrero '27 and Nolan Erenfeld '27, along with the hard work of our members, we upheld a chapter GPA above 3.0 throughout the school year. Beyond academics, our athletic teams continued to dominate, winning several intramural championships and bringing home trophies yet again.

Philanthropy was another highlight of the year. We proudly raised over \$4,000 for the Mario Pastega House and the Sam Day Foundation, supporting both local families and children battling cancer. These efforts were fueled by our annual flag football and tug-of-war events, and our chapter's spirit shone through in sorority philanthropies as well. We claimed first place in AXO's Diamond Days and saw record involvement in a wide variety of other events.

Our second annual Ms. Violet Sweetheart competition was a resounding success, with Elaina Whitacre of Alpha Gamma Delta taking home the title. Another major highlight was our Mom's Weekend, organized by Vice President Mitchell Fischer '26.

The event raised over \$16,000 thanks to the incredible support of Minerva's Mom Club. Between the auctions, live band performance by Kurt Van Meter, and countless memorable moments, it was a weekend that truly brought our chapter and families closer together.

We also had the privilege of ending the school year with another well-attended Oregon Alpha Awards Banquet, honoring the contributions of our active brothers and celebrating our outgoing seniors.

This year, Oregon Alpha was recognized for its excellence on both campus and the national stage. At Oregon State, we were named IFC Chapter of the Year, a testament to the dedication and impact of our members. From our nationals, we proudly received a Chapter Achievement Award, recognizing our commitment to leadership, growth, and living our values. Additionally, our past Eminent Archon, Nick Ruscoe '25, earned two prestigious honors: IFC President of the Year and the Relationship Statement of the Year Award. These achievements reflect the hard work and leadership that define our chapter.

We remain incredibly grateful for the support of our alumni, particularly Dick Thompson '73 and Scott Spiegelberg '75, whose guidance and commitment enable us to attend national events like Ritual Academy and Leadership School each year. Their efforts are the foundation on which we continue to build our success.

The strength of Oregon Alpha lies in the bonds we share as brothers and the relationships we continue to foster with alumni and the greater community. As I look ahead to the coming year, I am confident that our chapter will continue to grow, excel, and uphold the proud legacy of Sigma Alpha Epsilon at Oregon State University.

Phi Alpha, EA – Carter Glass '26



Oregon Alpha was named the Interfraternity Council Chapter of the Year at Oregon State and awarded the William Jasper Kerr Cup. The award was accepted by EA 2024 Nick Ruscoe and EA 2025 Carter Glass.



Spencer Gustafson '28, Jacob Tsui '28 and Nick Gianotti '27 attended **SAE's Ritual Academy** August 1-2 held in Evanston, IL.

**SAE Leadership School** January 2025 in Evanston, IL. Oregon Alpha attendees included Luke Young '27, Vlade Thilavanh '27, Mason Gray '27, Carter Glass '26, Mitch Fischer '26, Nick Ruscoe '25, and Ethan Hakala '26.



#### **Oregon Alpha News**

Published annually by alumni and under-graduate members of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity at Oregon State University. Send news, photos, clippings, feature items, and changes of address to Dick Thompson, 4028 NW Live Oak Pl., Corvallis, OR 97330, or thompsonemail@comcast.net.

#### **Alumni Advisors**

House Corporation President — Scott Spiegelberg '75
House Corporation Sec./Treasurer — Dick Thompson '73
Alumni President — Dick Thompson '73
Chapter Advisor — Will Later '12
Financial Advisor — John Thompson '76
House Corporation Advisor — Chris Langton '73
Board Member — Riley Allen '08
Board Member — Justin Strohmeyer '07
Resident Advisor — D.L. "Stro" Strohmeyer '78

#### **SAE Mission**

The Fraternity's mission is advancing the highest standards of friendship, scholarship, leadership, and service for our members throughout life.

#### **SAE Vision**

The Fraternity's vision is True Gentlemen making our global community better.

#### **SAF Creed: The True Gentleman**

The True Gentleman is the man whose conduct proceeds from good will and an acute sense of propriety, and whose self-control is equal to all emergencies; who does not make the poor man conscious of his poverty, the obscure man of his obscurity, or any man of his inferiority or deformity; who is himself humbled if necessity compels him to humble another; who does not flatter wealth, cringe before power, or boast of his own possessions or achievements; who speaks with frankness but always with sincerity and sympathy; whose deed follows his word; who thinks of the rights and feelings of others, rather than his own; and who appears well in any company, a man with whom honor is sacred and virtue safe.

— John Walter Wavland

#### William L. Thomas Scholarship Recipients

The Thomas Fund was established by
Bill Thomas '43 in 1992 with the OSU Foundation.
\$4,000 was used to help freshmen leave their
dormitory and move into Oregon Alpha winter
term. \$6,000 in alumni contributions were used to
help twelve members leave their dormitory and
move into the chapter house spring term.

www.saeoregonstate.com www.sae.net

#### **Oregon Alpha Initiates 31 New Members!**

NAME CLASS	HOMETOWN
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#### October 6, 2024 Initiates

Nathan Aviles		
Lucas Barnwell		
Brady Charon	2028	Beaverton, OR
Max Coker		
Cooper Coleman	2028	Coburg, OR
Asher Connelly		
Camden Christenson		
Tanner Dunn		
Landon English		
Luke Erenfeld		
Landon Fehr		
Lucas Gatto		
Gavin Gladstone	2028	Sherwood, OR
Spencer Gustafson		
Jack Hagen	2028	Portland, OR
Max Johnson		
Hunter Kavanaugh		
Dylan Keyser	2028	Lake Oswego. OR
Trent Kronemeyer		
Joey Lipshaw		
Ryan Lyda		
lake Matlick		



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Oregon Alpha initiates 31 new members on October 6, 2024. Congratulations to Recruitment Chairs Sean Hanson '26, Davin Lewis '26, and Jackson Hankel '26.

Gage Millar	2028	Canby, OR
Ty Mittelstaedt	2028	Anaheim, CA
Tyler Owens	2028	Newberg, OR
Jackson Schweitzer	2028	Sherwood, OR
Brogan Slaughter	2028	Sherwood, OR
Jacob Tsui	2028	Sherwood, OR
Will VanVleck	2027	Aurora, OR
Odin Voss	2027	Sherwood, OR
Bradley Werle	2027	Sherwood, OR

#### **2024 Oregon Alpha Leadership**

	Eminent Archon	
Carter Glass		Lake Oswego, OR
	Eminent Deputy Archon	
Mitch Fischer		Mercer Island, WA
	<b>Eminent Treasurer</b>	
Ethan Hakala		Eugene, OR
	Eminent Chaplain	
Ryan Lyda		Lake Oswego, OR
	Eminent Recorder	
Cal Barrows		Portsmouth, NH
	<b>Eminent Chronicler</b>	
Thomas Anderson		Bend, OR
	Eminent Herald	
Spencer Gustafson		Tigard, OR
	Eminent Correspondent	
Carter Glass		Lake Oswego, OR
	Eminent Warden	
Luke Young		West Linn, OR
	House Managers	
Hank VanderBrake		Dundee, OR
Vlade Thilavanh		Happy Valley, OR
Scholarship Chairmen		
		Tigard, OR
Nolan Erinfeld		Portland, OR
Recruitment Chairmen		
Mason Gray		Tigard, OR
Ryan Schleicher	'27	Tualatin, OR

bud road		
	Philanthropy Chairmen	
Ethan Lassahn		Salem, OR
Nick Gianotti		Portland, OR
Member Educators		
Sean Khouri		Tigard, OR
Landon Elder		Portland, OR
Social Chairmen		
Hyatt Zoller		Medford, OR
	ommunity Service Chairme	
Joey Lipshaw		Broomfield, CO
Nolan Friese		Beaverton, OR
	Risk Manager	
Trent Kronemeyer		Redmond, WA
	Kitchen Steward	
Cal Barrows		Portsmouth, NH
	IM Chairman	
Jacob Tsui		Sherwood, OR
Brotherhood Chairmen		
Will Martini		Portland, OR
Live-out Chairman		
Mitch Fischer	26	Tigard, OR
	IT Chairman	
Jake Matlick		Tualatin, OR

## Dining on Cougar, November 18, 2024

With the change in college conference alignment, Oregon Alpha's 25-year Dining on Duck tradition came to an end.

However, the Fall football dinner tradition continued this past November 18th with a PAC-2 focus and a rebranding – Dining on Cougar. Our guest speaker was "The Voice of the Beavers" Mike Parker. The dining room was filled to capacity for an evening with the only Beaver announcer the current members have ever known. Mike talked about his 50 years in radio broadcasting. He shared this advice with the members in his closing remarks. "If you have something that you are passionate about and really love, don't give it up. I mean this radio broadcasting thing that I have been in my whole life...I found something I love and followed

with passion...don't let go of what you really want to do."

The week culminated with a huge Beaver victory 41-38 over the Washington State Cougars.





Province Lambda Archon Taylor Hunter, SAE Chapter Services Consultant Noah Haddaway, EA Nick Ruscoe '25, Dick Thompson, Mike Parker, Ben Bazel '25, Papa Stro, Scott Spiegelberg.

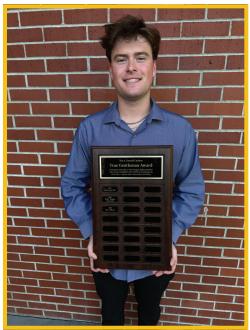
## **A 25-Year Tradition!**

Here is a list of guest speakers for our great Oregon Alpha tradition!

- 2000 Coach Dee Andros
- •2001 Jess Lewis '69
- 2002 Craig Hanneman '71
- 2003 Erin Haynes (Phi Delta Theta 1972)
- 2004 Jeff Hart '75
- 2005 Walt Kelly '51
- 2006 Jeff Hart '75
- 2007 Scott Spiegelberg '75
- •2008 Jess Lewis '69
- 2009 Chris Haag '71
- 2010 Dick Sheehy '76
- 2011 Larry Rich '70
- 2012 Scott Spiegelberg '75
- · 2013 Jess Lewis '69
- 2014 Craig Hanneman '71
- 2015 Jeff Hart '75
- 2016 Rod Petersen '74
- 2017 Brooke Knight '94
- 2018 Doug Blair '73
- 2019 Lenny Holmes '79
- 2020 Robb Thomas '89
- · 2021 Greg Marshall '78
- 2022 Neil Marshall '85, Mike Marshall '87, Tim Marshall '90, Andrew Marshall '20, and James Marshall '22
- 2023 Kerry Eggers (Delta Tau Delta 1975)
- 2024 Mike Parker



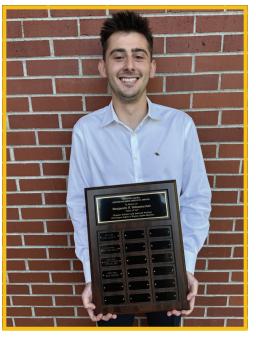
## **Oregon Alpha Annual Awards Banquet, June 2, 2025**



A. Darrell Carlson True Gentleman of the Year Award:



Arthur "Skip" Bedell IM Award: Gavin Wallace '25



Benjamin F. Schumacher Distinguished Service Award: Nick Ruscoe '25



T. Burke Hayes All House Scholarship Award: Javier Ruiz '25



Ronald L. Thiesen Community Service Award: Ethan Lassahn '27



Robert R. Blair Freshman of the Year Award: Ryan Lyda '28

The Oregon Alpha Alumni Association hosted the Oregon Alpha Annual Awards Banquet this past June 2nd in the chapter's dining room. A full house was on hand to celebrate a very successful year of fraternal leadership, scholarship, community service, intramurals, fraternal events and the building of friendship.

The senior class participated in a short "graduation ceremony" to congratulate each member for their service to the fraternity and celebrate their new alumni status.

Part of the ceremony included the following: "Just a few short years ago, you were formally invited to become a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon. You promised to be loyal and true to our Fraternity, to observe its teachings, to be guided by its ideals, and to live the life of a True Gentleman. The Oregon

Alpha Alumni Association wants to recognize your time as undergraduate members of the Oregon Alpha Chapter and to honor you as you complete your educational goals at Oregon State University and leave the chapter to begin your next phase in life. We ask for your continued loyalty and service to Sigma Alpha Epsilon as alumni, devoted to our aims, ideals and history. The ideals symbolized in our emblem – Loyalty, Friendship, Honor, and Fraternity — shall continue to stand as guideposts for you and all succeeding generations. Minerva still offers her wisdom to alumni who follow the precepts and principles of our cherished order."

The Annual Awards Banquet is a 50-year-plus tradition that honors those members whose leadership and service continue to build upon the traditions and fraternal spirit at Oregon Alpha.

#### Order of the Phoenix



The fraternity's highest undergraduate award – The Order of the Phoenix – recognizing commitment and service was presented to House Manager Grant McCulloch '26, EA Nick Ruscoe '25, and ET Javier Ruiz '25.

#### **Order of DeVotie**



Brother Nick Ruscoe '25 presented the Order of DeVotie recognizing proficiency in the Ritual of Sigma Alpha Epsilon to Dick Thompson '73 and Scott Spiegelberg '75.

#### The Shield of Brotherhood



The Supreme Council approved the Shield of Brotherhood for Scott Spiegelberg '75. The award recognizes those brothers who consistently excel in voluntary commitment and service for the Fraternity. Scott has proudly served as President of the Oregon Alpha House Corporation since 2010.

## **Oregon Alpha House Corporation Board**



President Scott Spiegelberg '75, Board Member Justin Strohmeyer '07, Chapter Advisor Will Later '12, Board Member Riley Allen '08, Secretary/Treasurer Dick Thompson '73.

#### Past Recipients of the Robert R. Blair Freshman of the Year 1975-2025:

1975	Tony Dahl
1976	Chris Osgood
1977	Dan Pearson
1978	Bruce Rittenhouse
1979	Pete Hulsman
1980	Lester Dixon
1981	Todd Thomas
1982	Max Umrein
1983	Craig Nelson
1984	Bart Hollowell
1985	Barry Scott
1986	Mark Schleicher
1987	Gunnar Hansen
1988	Kris Rasmussen
1989	John Reinhart
1990	Chris Yahna
1991	John Chesbrough
1992	Chad Layman
1993	Greg Gustin
1994	Jason Regier
1995	John Gulick
1996	Rocky Hardesty
1997	Doug Manger
1998	Josh Huffman
1999	Matt Holden
2000	Paul Brannen

2001	Matt Sinnott
2002	Cory Loomis
2003	Geoff Von Allmen
2004	Rian Berg
2005	Greg Beamer
2006	James Kidwell
2007	Mike Larsen
2008	Mike Boring
2009	Mitch McClain
2010	Nick Boring
2011	Quinn McAndrews
2012	Mike Meade
2013	Jacob Hales
2014	Mark Hall
2015	Ben Peters
2016	Jake Rider
2017	Andrew Marshall
2018	Andrew Jones
2019	Andrew Ramey
2020	Dane Norlin
2021	Warren Smith
2022	Nick Ruscoe
2023	Grant McCulloch
2024	Mason Gray
2025	Ryan Lyda





## Oregon Alpha Celebrates 110 Year Anniversary March 19, 1915 – March 19, 2025



#### Oregon Alpha News 2025









The Oregon Alpha Chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon is 110 years old. The anniversary dinner was held at the Tualatin Country Club Wednesday night, March 19, 2025, exactly 110 years since the chapters founding March 19, 1915.

Highlights of the evening included a review of Oregon Alpha's 110 years presented by Oregon Alpha Alumni Association President Dick Thompson '73. Here are the just the first dates referencing the chapter's founding and creation at 29th & Harrison in 1920:

- November 12, 1909 First meeting of "local fraternity" Delta Omega, founded by nine OAC students.
- December 23, 1914 SAE Convention held in Chicago. By a vote of 104-2, Delta Omega is given a charter in Sigma Alpha Eosilon at 1:30pm.
- March 15, 1915 On Friday afternoon, 21 active members and 15 alumni of Delta Omega were initiated into Sigma Alpha Epsilon. Eminent Supreme Recorder Billy Levere performed the ceremony taking the part of Eminent Archon. SAE becomes the first national fraternity on campus.



• March 18, 1920 – The Oregon Alpha Association of Sigma Alpha Epsilon was incorporated for the purpose of building a chapter house on property at 29th and Harrison. The Southern Colonial house was complete in December, 1921 for \$40,000. Members paid \$17.50 per month for R&B.

Also featured that anniversary evening were Oregon Alpha's Minerva's Golden Sons – the Class of 1978. Fifteen members who were initiated into SAE in 1975 received their 50 Year Certificates. Thank you Greg McLaughlin '78 for encouraging this special membership recognition!

Fifty-five brothers from Hal Engelen '55 to Nick Ruscoe '25 were in attendance. We covered 70 years of Oregon Alpha's 110 years. Well done brothers. The Oregon Alpha Alumni Association really appreciates our True Gentlemen's commitment to friendship and to our membership in Sigma Alpha Epsilon.



## SAE's 169th Anniversary Convention, June 19-21, 2025, Atlanta



Province Lambda – Dick Thompson '73, Oregon Alpha AA; Fred Langton, Puget Sound AA; Will Cabana (UPS); Hayden Roberts (UPS); Nick Gianotti '27 (Oregon State); Aidan MacArthur (Univ. of Oregon); Julian Ponce (Univ. of Washington); Taylor Hunter, Province Lambda Archon.





Dick Thompson was selected by the Past ESAs to serve the next biennium as Honorary Eminent Supreme Archon.





Alumni Speaker Series: Brooke Knight '94 shared time with the current members October 7, 2024. Grant McCulloch '26, Brooke, Nick Ruscoe '25, Ben Bazel '25, Scott Spiegelberg '75.



The Pledge Class of 1975 gathered at Lake Chelan in June to celebrate 50 years of friendship!



Christmas lights at 2929!



Annual tug-of-war philanthropy held March 9th.



Members tour the Mario Pastega House.



Friends, Friends, you and I will be...



#### **Alumni Highlights & Chatter**

Oregon Alpha members entering Chapter Eternal this past year include John Rogers '48, Burt Mack '59, Conrad Schray '59, James Peoples '60, William Kizer '64. Jim McNutt '72. Jerry Eckstrom '75, and Fred Burt '77.

RON THIESEN '61 and Sandra live in Yuma, AZ. They visited Corvallis during the month of August last summer. "Enjoyed visiting the beautiful Oregon Alpha chapter house and reconnecting with DICK THOMPSON '73, SCOTT SPIEGELBERG '75, BILL BRENNAN '62, JUSTIN STROHMEYER '07, and House Dad STRO STROHMEYER '78.

DICK NEEDHAM '64 says he is "Certified old! But I have so many positive memories of my time at OSU and particularly as an SAE."

JERRY MASON '65 sends "Still love the investment real estate game based in Portland...Have stayed in touch with LOU FASANO '64, JOE DEJAGER '65, BILL BEELER '66, RON EMMERSON '66, and MIKE CUTTING '65...Married 58 years to Pi Phi Connie Frank Mason, two daughters and four grandsons...I could not have written a better script of which Oregon Alpha was a great and cherished part."

WALT EBELL '69 added "It's great to see how the new members are doing with the old place and they are doing a great job!" [So true. It is a pleasure for the Advisory Board to work with the current membership and share in their fraternal success]

JAY POMEROY '71 is the Operations Manager for Freeman Motor Company in Portland, OR.

JIM MCNUTT '72 joined Chapter Eternal on November 24, 2024. "Jim graduated from South Eugene H.S. and attended OSU where he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon. While at OSU, he met his lifelong friend DOUG HARDESTY '71 who introduced Jim to the love of his life, Margaret (Margie) Buell. Doug and Jim married sisters, sealing the deal as brothers for life. Jim and Margie were married 51 years and raised three daughters...His motto in all things was if a little is good, more is better and too much is just right. It applied to cars, guns, Harley Davidson motorcycles, cigars, and most of all his love for his family and friends... Jim's legacy is one of unconditional love, generosity, and a zest for life that touched everyone who had the privilege of knowing him."

RAY TAROLI '75 is a retired educator living in Bend with his wife Cyndy of 52 years. Both sons and their families live in Bend as well. There are four grand children. Son Jason was inducted into the Western Oregon Football Hall of Fame. And son Lucas is a teacher with the Bend/LaPine Schools.

The 10th Biennial "MOE-Morial" Golf Tournament honoring the memory of Oregon Alpha Brother TOM "MOE" MOORE '75 was held this past June 7th at the Emerald Valley Golf Course in Creswell, OR. Tom passed



## **Oregon Alpha News**

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away in Eugene on March 10, 2005. SAE brothers attending included: CHRIS LANGTON 73, DICK THOMPSON 73, TIM TOLAN 73, T. JAY MORRIS 75, NORM CROW 75, TOM NELSON 75, TOM EGGE 75, MARK ATWOOD 75, JIM PYLE 75, JEFF HART 75, DAVE LITTLEFIELD 75, TERRY MCCAMMAN 75, DUNCAN KILNER 75, SCOTT SPIEGELBERG 75 & MARK BRENDING 77. Many "Moe Stories" were shared over the weekend and his love for Oregon State, SAE, and the game of golf were celebrated! Oregon Alpha's basketball court "Moe Court" honors brother Moore.

Friday afternoon, June 6th several SAE's along with Tom's widow Nancy met at the fraternity in Corvallis and participated in the unveiling of the refurbished bronze plaque at the base of one of the baskets on "Moe Court". At least two dozen actives were out playing full court hoops that beautiful afternoon as well!

DANFORD SCOTTY AFONG '81 and his wife Kimberly of 40 years make their home in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. "Enjoying the retirement life but also do some limited part-time engineering consulting. Been traveling some and hope to make it back to the chapter house soon. Love getting the newsletter and keeping up with the house news. Appreciate all the efforts of the fellow alumni brothers who support our house."

DAN JARMAN '88 is currently serving as board chair for the OSU Alumni Association. With over 230,000 OSU alumni, the association works to inspire a lifelong connection for alumni, students and friends. Dan is the Founder and President of Crosswater Strategies specializing in Government Relations, Public Affairs and Communications.

STEVE RADOSEVICH '89 is Head of Global Demand Management for HP, Inc. (Print Category) in Vancouver, WA.

JOTH RICCI '90, former CEO and President of Dutch Bros and current executive Chairman for Burgerville, made the announcement last November that he and his family have given a \$3 million gift, which establishes a \$1.5 million endowment, managed by the OSU

Foundation, that provides ongoing support to both the men's and women's basketball teams. "I don't think there's ever been a better time to invest in OSU Athletics" Joth said in the release. "As intercollegiate athletics continues to change, at Oregon State we have the chance to build and make our programs even stronger." Joth is also serving as executive in residence for OSU's College of Business.

BROOKE KNIGHT '94 spent this past winter in Australia serving as Head Coach of the Sydney Blue Sox. This was Brooke's third stint in the Australian Baseball League. In the summers, it's Corvallis Knights baseball. Brooke is in his 17th season and has guided the Knights playoff appearances in all 16 seasons, 13 championship appearances, and 10 West Coast League titles.

KENNETH COX '10 is "still working as a home health physical therapist in the Boston suburbs. Just celebrated ten years of marriage with my wife Amanda. Love coaching daughters Huxley (6) and Hawklynn (4) for baseball, basketball and soccer with son Hendrix (3) close on their tails to get out on the field/court."

BRIAN ERRICO '11 — "My wife and I, along with our two kids, live in Seattle just a stone's throw from downtown. I work at Amazon in corporate internal real estate, leading space optimization for our offices. I help manage the headcount shifts and align teams with the right spaces as all of our businesses change."

MIKE HALES 12 is a Senior Financial Advisor, Hales Wealth Management, Advisors with D.A. Davidson & Co. in Pendleton, OR.

JAMES MARSHALL '22 served as an Assistant Baseball Coach at Linn-Benton Community College this past season. He ended the year as the interim manager for the last 10 games. The LBCC Roadrunners ended the year going 5-1 in the Northwest Athletic Conference tournament coming back to win three elimination games to win the championship.