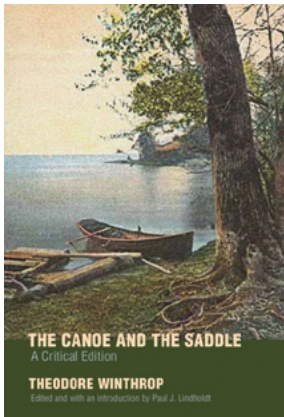


Sights and Sounds



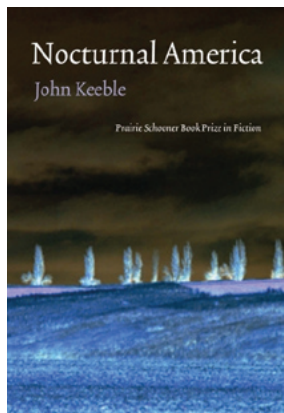
The Canoe and The Saddle: A Critical Edition

By Theodore Winthrop, Edited and with an introduction by **Paul J. Lindholdt** (EWU associate professor of English), University of Nebraska Press

Paul J. Lindholdt edited, introduced and annotated the recently published critical edition of *The Canoe and the Saddle*, an account of Theodore Winthrop's 1853 tour of the Washington Territory. Originally published in 1862, the story is Winthrop's novelized memoir of his experiences traveling in the wilderness. Lindholdt's engaging introduction is the result of meticulous research into the privileged scion's life and the prevailing mores of the culture that produced him. The book renders Winthrop's story anew, offering contemporary readers a primer on late-19th century values and revealing society's outlook on matters as diverse – and still timely – as concerns over the environment, the impact of nature on modern man, and the tensions generated when cultures clash.

Winthrop traveled the territories of California, Oregon, Washington and British Columbia, and when his account was published posthumously after his Civil War death, it became a bestseller. Lindholdt's research reveals intriguing insight into the people, realized in Winthrop, whose values and actions would shape the settling of the last of

the frontier lands. Winthrop's story provides further evidence of the undisputed fact that the people who had already settled those lands – the Native Americans – would suffer dearly in the process.



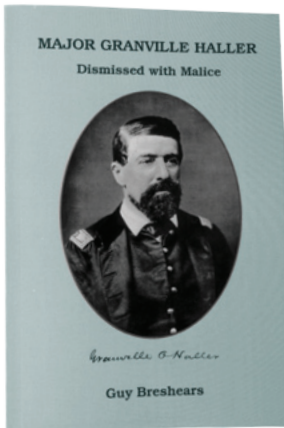
Nocturnal America

By **John Keeble** (EWU professor emeritus of English/creative writing in the Inland Northwest Center for Writers, EWU's Center of Excellence Master of Fine Arts Program in creative writing), University of Nebraska Press

In *Nocturnal America*, award-winning writer John Keeble details the ordinary but captivating lives that reflect living in rural eastern Washington at its most real. Populated with characters ranging from a woman mourning the death of her husband and taking a job on an oil vessel to a neighbor suspected of burying murder victims in his ravine, this loosely connected collection of short stories evokes the character of a region that at once seems desolate and mesmerizing.

This spell is cast from the first sentences of the first story where he writes, "In winter the glazed bunchgrass and wild oats tuft the roadsides and edges of fields. In spring the exhausted grass will still be there, a blond whiskering to the green."

Keeble, whose words have been described as a "Faulknerian portrait of the Pacific Northwest," introduces flawed lead characters struggling with addictions, abusive parents and strained relationships. The author, born in Winnipeg, Canada, and raised in Saskatchewan and California, has lived with his family in eastern Washington for more than 30 years and clearly has a deep understanding of rural lifestyles, human behavior and emotion. Raw, chilling and ultimately poignant, this Prairie Schooner Book Prize in Fiction winner is a must read for anyone interested in literary fiction. (www.johnkeeble.net)



Major Granville Haller: Dismissed with Malice

By **Guy Breshears** ('93 BA education), Heritage Books

Guy Breshears has always been interested in history, but his enthusiasm greatly increased when he took an undergraduate history class at Eastern. The results of this deep interest culminated in his recent book, *Major Granville Haller: Dismissed with Malice*.

Haller fought in the Second Seminole War, the war against Mexico, the Indian Wars of the Pacific Northwest, the San Juan Islands boundary dispute and the Civil War. Then quite suddenly, in July 1863, Major Haller's 23-year military career was over. "Haller was dismissed from the service for disloyal sentiments toward the Union," says Breshears. "When I found out that this was done without even a court martial, I became even more curious. I'd discovered his name in Civil War records and right after the battle of Gettysburg, then he disappears from military records."

Breshears' research revealed that Haller's accuser, a naval officer, spent several months in an insane asylum and only met Haller once during the Fredericksburg campaign. *Dismissed with Malice* uses Haller's personal writings, official reports and court depositions to unveil this man's struggle of nearly two decades.

"When Haller was dismissed, he moved to Whidbey Island in Washington Territory, where he spent the next 16 years clearing his name," adds Breshears. "This man helped bring us into statehood, but when he dies he's quickly forgotten from history."

To learn more about state of Washington military history, visit Breshears' website, www.washingtonwars.net

If you are an Eastern or Cheney Normal School alum or faculty member and have written a general interest book or have a music CD on the market (no self-published works, please) and would like to have it considered for inclusion in *Eastern* magazine's Sights and Sounds section, please send it (along with your contact information) to: *Eastern* Magazine, 300 Showalter Hall, Cheney, WA 99004-2445.