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The Open Air



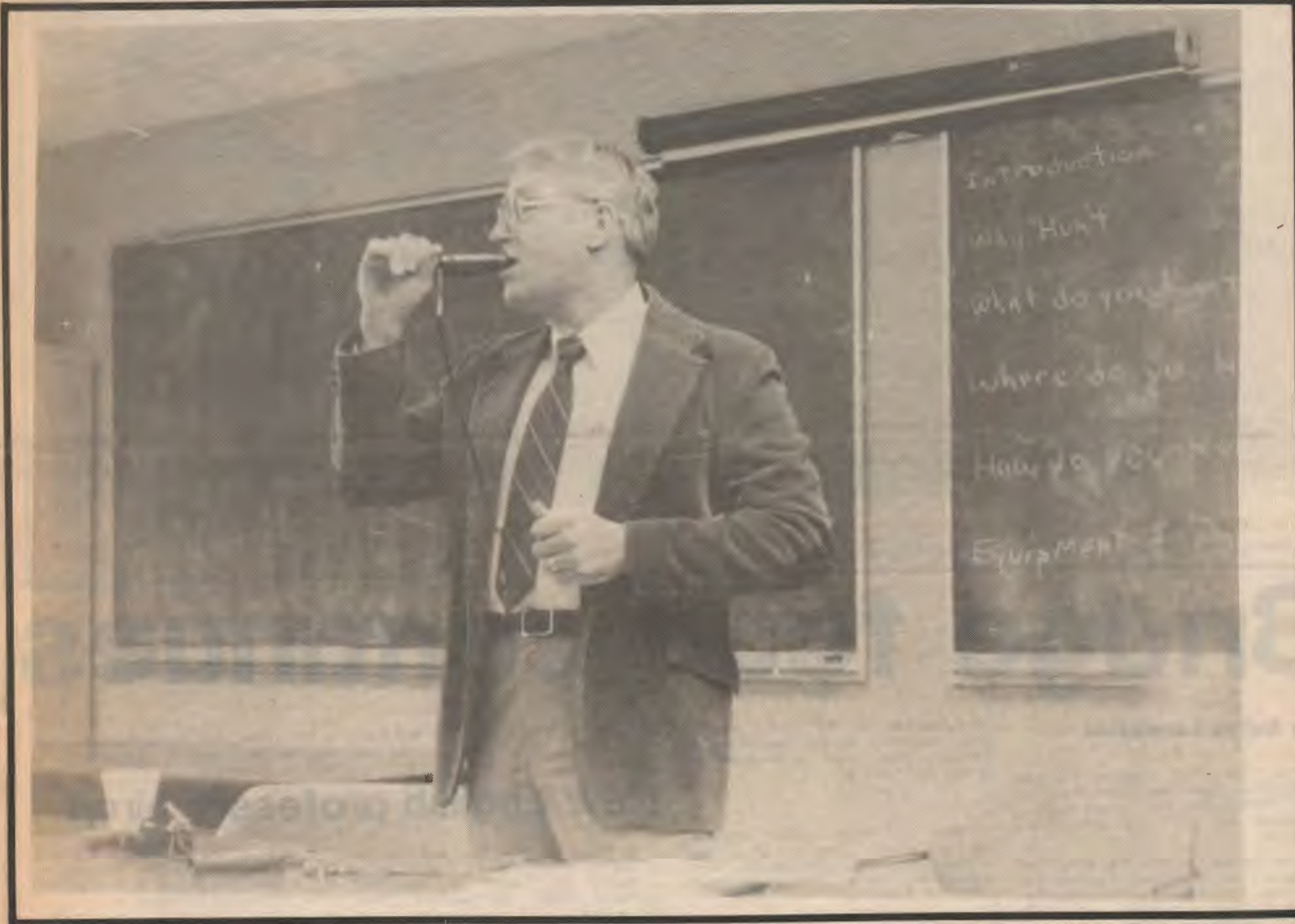
"Houses are built for you to hold councils in. Indians hold theirs in the open air. I am a Shawnee."

—Tecumseh, Shawnee chief, 1810

Shawnee State University

Nov. 23, 1987 Vol.2 Issue 9

Portsmouth, Ohio



Dick Howard, vice president of student services demonstrates the fine art of duck calling at last week's Brown Bag Lecture. Photo by Bev Tadlock.

Restricted
Collection

FOR REFERENCE

**Do Not Take
From This Room**

Page 2
Ohio, KY
till Feuding

Page 4
Eating
Disorders

Page 6
Smoke and
Smokeless



Is it a Brachiopod or a Bryozoan? This is the question asked by students of Geology 201 on a recent field trip in search of fossils. Photo by Janet Nesler.

Bridge feud continues

By Debra Lancaster

The new Carl Perkins bridge, connecting South Portsmouth, Ky. to West Portsmouth, Ohio, opened ahead of schedule on Oct. 30, with little fanfare.

The bridge across the Ohio River bypasses the Portsmouth downtown area and the SSU campus, with connections to U.S. 23, in Kentucky, and U.S. 52 west of Portsmouth, in Ohio.

On the Ohio side, the bridge passes east of the site of Alexandria, the first white settlement that preceded the nearby city of Portsmouth. On the Kentucky side, the bridge was built through South Portsmouth, the oldest settlement in Greenup County. No homes

were located on the bridge site in Ohio. However, several households in Kentucky were moved to allow for the bridge construction.

Steve Halloran, project engineer for Traylor Bros., Inc., of Evansville, Ind., the bridge prime contractor, said the bridge piers stand 128 feet high.

The piers on the Ohio and Kentucky sides are erected differently. "The two states could not come to an agreement on how the bridge would be built," Halloran said.

"Kentucky built the bridge and the southern approach, while Ohio built the northern approaches to the bridge," he said.

The piers (substructure) of the bridge are made of approximately 15.5 thousand cubic yards of concrete and the roadway (superstructure) consists of 5,000 cubic yards of concrete. The bridge's steel truss weighs approximately 10.6 million pounds, Halloran said. The bridge cost an estimated \$19 million to build.

Hazelet and Erdal, Inc., of Louisville, Kentucky, designed the bridge structure. The steel fabricator

was Bristol Steel and Iron Works of Virginia and Javier Steel erected the steel trusses.

No formal opening has been planned, but Halloran said a ceremony may be held in December.

New English professor hired

Dr. Carlson Yost has been hired as an English instructor.

Yost has been an assistant professor at Northwestern State University of Louisiana in Natchitoches.

The New York State native has a

bachelors degree in general agriculture from Cornell University, and a bachelors degree in biology from Utica College of Syracuse.

Yost has taught at Texas A. & M. University, where he earned a masters and a doctorate degree.

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**Admit one student
\$2.50**

Expires Nov. 30, 1987

Med-Tech programs may be moved

Two programs may be moved from the for-credit curriculum, Dr. A.L. Addington, provost, told the SSU board of trustees on Nov. 9.

The Practical Nursing program may be moved to the Scioto County Joint Vocational School and the Emergency Medical Technician program may be taken over by the Continuing Education department, he said.

There have been major increases in student enrollment in the 18-21 and 30-39 age groups, Dick Howard, vice president of student services, told the board.

The number of returning students, students from Scioto County, full-time students and day-time attendance have also increased, Howard said.

A revised proposal for the fine arts building will be presented to the

Ohio board of regents, said Dr. Robert Ewigleben, president. The building will be half the size of the building previously proposed, and will focus on academics instead of featuring community use, as had been planned in the previous proposal.

SSU officials also told the board that a student union is of prime importance. A plan to share the cost of construction of the student union

by issuing revenue bonds has been advanced, and officials believe the board of regents will accept the revised plan.

The board approved hiring Dr. Robert Deal as associate professor biology and Eric Hilton as admissions representative for minority, handicapped and special services.

SAC attends Great Lakes Conference

by Nancy Adkins

Fred Chrisman, Richard Adams, Jan Stein and Nancy Adkins attended the 1987 National Association of Campus Activities (NACA) Great Lakes Regional Conference on Nov. 1-4, in Grand Rapids, Mich.

The students and faculty attending the conference are members of the first SSU Special Activities Committee (SAC).

The conference gave the SAC members the opportunity to view more than 50 acts and 88 exhibits, with everything from jugglers and magicians to movies and rock bands represented.

SSU's first Special Activities Committee is chaired by Fred Chrisman, director of student activities. The members are Tom Stead, faculty representative; Richard Adams and Jan Stein, student representatives; Eric Zempter and Dave Nelson, Student Senate representatives and Nancy Adkins, The Open Air representative.

There were nearly 60 educational sessions available at the NACA conference for the delegates to participate in, including everything from alcohol and suicide awareness to leadership and communication styles.

The conference enabled the committee to purchase acts for the upcoming year and to make contacts with the colleges and universities

attending the conference.

"The conference will enable SAC to bring in quality entertainment from all across the country," Stein said.

Christmas Beach Bash

Dec. 4, 1987
8pm-1am
SSU campus

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NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES

9 p.m. -- Every Monday night,
Monday Night Football,
free food and drinks with ID,
in Student Union.

Noon -- Every Thursday,
Brown Bag Lecture,
free with ID.

Nov. 26-27
University closed,
Thanksgiving.

DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

Dec. 4, 5 and 7
All day and night classes -- three
days of school added to
Fall Quarter schedule.

Dec. 8
5 p.m. -- Portsmouth Civic Forum,
Theater Production.

Jehovah, the musical,
will be presented at
the Evangel Temple, 8th
and Gay Sts., 7 p.m.,
Nov. 27. Free to all.

We recorded SSU'S first year. We want you to help with the second.

Shawnee Star won first place in the nation for community colleges for last year's issues. Now the Star has grown into the Open Air and we're gearing up for this year's competition in the tougher university division. And we need your help! We need winners like you, who know how to work as a team and who are willing to put in that extra effort to make your team a winner!

Earn credit while working on your student newspaper. Whether you're interested in writing, editing, photography, drawing, graphic arts, advertising sales, bookkeeping or business, here's your chance.



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Editorial Editor	Advertising Manager
Features Writers	Sports Writers
Graphic Designer	Copyeditor Office Manager
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Business Manager	Cartoonist
Entertainment Editor	Opinion Writers
Distribution Manager	

The following arranged courses will be offered during the fall, winter, and spring quarters:

Newspaper	Newspaper design
ENGL 290A (2hrs.)	ARTS 280A (2hrs.)
ENGL 290B (3hrs.)	ARTS 280B (3HRS.)

For more information see
Alvin Madden-Grider
or call

354-3205 EXT.278

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Is food a narcotic?

Dr. Paul Crabtree, assistant vice-president of student services, and Dan Evans, director of continuing education, recently attended the Sixth Annual National Conference on Eating Disorders, in Columbus.

The conference for health, mental health and allied health professionals, focused on research and

clinical applications for anorexia and bulimia nervosa.

According to Evans, "Our society often views eating habits and food as more than a source of nourishment. Many people use eating as a means of coping with stress."

Compulsive overeaters, out of control around food, may become obese.

The anorexic, threatened by food, slips into patterns of self-imposed starvation. "The bulimic, using food as a narcotic, binges and purges in an attempt to cope with overpowering emotions," Evans said.

"It's a serious problem," Crabtree said. "People with eating disorders may deny that they have a problem until the physical symptoms become

alarming and life threatening."

"Our goal is to inform our students so they may recognize and understand eating disorders and to know that help is available and recovery is possible," Crabtree concluded.

Information is available in the counseling center or from the National Anorexic Aid Society, 5769 Karl Road, Columbus 43229.

Senate Suggested Secret Santa

by Nancy Adkins

Student Senate member Dave Wolery presented a revised proposal for a Secret Santa fund when the student senate met on Nov. 17.

Wolery asked the senate to make a donation of \$300 to a Secret Santa fund. He also proposed a charge of \$1 for each student attending the Christmas Beach Bash on Dec. 4, with proceeds also to be donated to the

fund. The money collected would be given to Scioto County Children's Services to buy Christmas gifts for needy children and elderly people. The proposal was ratified by a unanimous vote, pending approval by Dick Howard, vice-president of student services.

The trip for two to be awarded at the bash has been changed to a trip to Orlando, Florida. Expenses will be paid for the winner to stay four nights and three days in an Orlando hotel. Air fare, a rental car and \$300 cash will be given to the winner.

Wolery also proposed an amendment be made to the student senate constitution to have senate members selected by a committee. The election of senate members would be eliminated, according to Wolery's proposal.

Wolery then asked that open meetings be abolished so that when there is something important the senate could be allowed to go into executive session.

Keith Keys, student senate president, proposed that members not

be removed for falling below grade-point average requirements below full-time student status. said members could be given one-quarter probation to enable them to regain the required status.

Wolery proposed to eliminate article requiring that rule changes and grievances go before the president of SSU before final approval. action was taken on any of Key's Wolery's proposals.

Author brings Dickens to life

Dr. Elliot Engel, renowned author, lecturer and performer, uses anecdotes, analysis and large doses of humor to bring Charles Dickens to life by revealing the unique genius which made him an immortal literary figure.

Don't miss this thoroughly entertaining event sponsored by the SSU Cultural Affairs Committee.

There will be tea and crumpets at 7:00 pm, the charge will be one dollar for students and four dollars for the

public. Dickens will be at 8:00pm, there is no admission for the show.

Professor Henry Bourgeois in the Department of Radio-TV and Film at Howard University is willing to speak at SSU on "Latin American Cinema and Social Change within a Third World Perspective" on Nov. 30, from 1 to 2:30 pm.

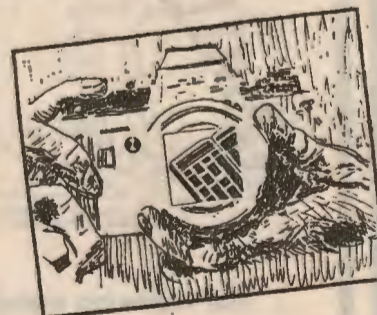
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In The Open Air Office.

Rangerettes stomp Redwomen

By Carrie Craig

The SSU Rangerettes defeated the Rio Grande Redwomen, 90-84, in the opening basketball game of the season, on Nov. 10, in the South Webster High School gym.

Although it was a hard fought game, the Rangerettes managed to pull off the win with the help of Susan Conley, who pulled down 12 rebounds.

At the end of the first half, Rio Grande was on top 43-41, but the Rangerettes came back in the second half and stayed on top for most of the half.

Although Rio Grande played very well, they found it tough to stop Stephanie Hagen, who came up with 26 points. Susan Conley matched her rebounding effort well, with 16 points, and Dena Austin followed closely behind with 14 points.

Jamie McGraw contributed 12 points

and Lisa Brandenburg made 10.

Jamie Mougey, Kim Danner, and Jennifer Maynard all came up with 4.

All of the women played well and are looking forward to a successful season.

New activities group forming

By Jan Stein

"An intramural club is now forming for SSU students," said Tom Bowman, intramurals director.

"We are looking for a president, a vice president and a secretary for the club," Bowman said.

"Students will have a say in what type of intramural sports they want to get involved in," he said. "For

example, a student wants a ski trip. We'll coordinate a ski trip with another college and if possible have a tour. We'd really like to know what the students want.

"We are offering intramurals at the activity center and the James A. Rhodes Natatorium. Activities such as basketball, volleyball, tennis, swimming, weight lifting, walking, running, water polo, racquetball and football, are available."

Bowman said, "We are having scheduled volleyball and basketball. Collegiate intramural 3 on 3 basketball championships, with a men's and women's division, will be held. Students who are to compete at the top team league level can go to Columbus."

The winner in Columbus will then compete with the winners from the eastern part of the United States. Two top teams in the men's and women's division will advance to the final round in NBA markets.

Bowman said all expenses will be paid to Columbus. There will be prizes as teams advance in the tournament. At the regionals, lunch will be provided for all participants. Schick sponsors a give away of tickets to the Cleveland Cavaliers professional basketball game.

Free gym bags will be furnished for participants in the tournament.

Those interested may sign up for the intramural club or the tournament in the James A. Rhodes Natatorium.

Football results

By Carrie Craig

The intramural football season officially ended on Nov. 15 when the

Burners defeated the Beer Busters in the championship game.

The Burners began with possession of the ball, but Dave Nelson intercepted a pass for the Beer Busters. They took advantage of this opportunity and scored on a pitch from Jason Burchett to Dee Bendenelli. The extra point attempt failed, so the score stood at 6-0.

The Burners did not score on their next attempt, but when the Beer Busters again took possession of the ball, Leo Gillen intercepted Burchett's pass and ran it in for a touchdown. Gillen also came up with the extra two points and the Burners led 8-6.

In the second half, the Beer Busters once again scored on a safety by Nelson. This tied the score at 8-8. Bruce Workman came back on a run for the Burners which made it 14-8. The Beer Busters failed to score, so the Burners became the 1987 intramural football champions.

Corrections

On page three of the Nov. 16 issue, the phone numbers were listed incorrectly in the National Scholarship Service advertisement. The numbers should have been, Ohio WATS 800-522-2131, ext. 110 and national WATS 800-522-3141, ext. 110.

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The Open Air, Shawnee State University's student newspaper, is a vehicle of expression for students reporting news and views.

Opinions expressed in the newspaper are not necessarily those of the advisers or the administration of the university.

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POINT



Michelle Medlin, who is a former The Open Air staff member, has an Associate of Arts degree from SSU. She was an organizer and researcher on the committee to review smoking areas at SSU during the 1986-87 school year.

Smoke gets in my eyes

A very serious health hazard is affecting every single person who goes to school or works at SSU. The hazard is second-hand smoke.

Second-hand smoke is the smoke that wafts off the end of a cigarette and fills the surrounding air. This smoke is more dangerous than the smoke entering the lungs of a smoker because it contains 50 times the amount of carcinogens. One reason this is so, is because the smoke goes through a filter before it enters the smoker's lungs but the nonsmoker breathes non-filtered smoke.

There are 3,000 known chemicals in the smoke that we must breathe here every day. One of the most dangerous chemicals is carbon monoxide.

Many people are not aware that 5,000 non-smokers die of lung cancer each year, in this country alone. Millions more are negatively affected in other ways by second-hand smoke.

This is not some fly-by-night concern. In the past decade, there has been mounting evidence of the damage second-hand smoke does to non-smokers.

If you find the statistics hard to believe, just take a look at some of the thousands of magazine articles that are listed in the SSU library.

Let me make you aware of another danger associated with second-hand smoke. There is a carcinogenic chemical called radon gas that builds up over time inside of buildings. The level of radon gas rises sky-high in buildings that are constantly filled with second-hand smoke.

The level of radon gas can be measured by a simple test. I am going to bring a specialist in to do that test. Then, maybe, if the level is high, as

I suspect it is, something will get done around here to solve this danger to human health.

I realize that cigarettes contain an addictive drug, and that it is very hard for people to quit. People have the right to do whatever damage to themselves that they want to, but only if it doesn't harm anyone else.

Some people, like myself, are allergic or sensitive to cigarette smoke. As soon as I enter the east Massie Hall doors, I am overcome by smoke and my nose clogs before I pass the theater!

The second and fourth floors of Massie Hall often contain massive smoke clouds. I used to choke to death while walking through the halls when only a couple of people were smoking.

Now, there are so many people who smoke in the halls that the smoke comes into the rooms during class. Not only do people like me suffer going to and from class and on breaks, but all during class as well. Give us a break! How can we concentrate during a lecture with such symptoms as sinus clogging, heartburn and headaches, to mention only a few?

Since there are so many students here that smoke, a place should be provided for them to do so where people who like to practice good health are not affected by these cancer causing chemicals.

Some people may argue that making them go to a certain place to smoke is taking away their rights, or some sort of communism, but hey! What about nonsmokers rights to breathe clean air in their learning environment?

Also, what about the people who are in choir, voice class or respiratory therapy? They are either learning things about the pulmonary system, or doing exercises to build up their lungs, only to walk out in the hall and undo some of the good things they have been taught in the very same learning institution!

All over the world, people are suing businesses that allow smoking in the workplace — and they are winning. If someone here could prove their pulmonary damage was caused by exposure to second-hand smoke at SSU, they would have every right to sue, and they would no doubt win.

Remember that old saying, "Everything's bigger in Texas." Well, I have one of my own: "Everything's slower in Portsmouth."

Over a year ago, Ohio State University banned smoking except in limited designated areas on their campus. Many businesses and colleges in bigger cities all over the world have banned smoking in their buildings altogether. In Cincinnati, smoking is prohibited in many public buildings.

Many businesses will not even hire smokers. It saves them money because non-smokers don't call off sick as often. It also saves them money because they don't need as many people to clean up cigarette butts, ashtrays and cigarette residue on windows and walls.

Last year, after doing extensive research and a speech on second-hand smoke, I organized a committee to review the smoking areas at SSU. The committee was made up of students and staff members who were both smokers and non-smokers.

The committee realized there were no areas suitable to designate as smoking areas on campus. The only other solutions were to restrict smoking to the outside, or wait until new buildings were designed that included rooms with direct ventilation to outside the building.

I don't think a student like myself should have to take time out of a busy schedule to prepare studies for the administration. The people who are responsible for running this school are the ones who need to act now before more damage is done, or before somebody gets lung cancer and dies.

In conclusion, please think about the following idea. It has been said, "Why should a person have to breathe smoke anymore than he should have to inspect the kitchen of a restaurant to see that it follows the proper health codes?"

They are both violations of our health!

COUNTERPOINT



Jeff Horton, The Open Air Opinion editor, is an SSU Elementary Education major. He is a heavy smoker, and often irritates staff members by blowing smoke in their left ear, just above the earlobe.

We've come a long way baby

Every now and then, someone brings up the argument about smoking in public places. Both non-smokers and smokers feel that their rights are being violated in some way or another.

The non-smokers cry and whine that they have to breathe in second-hand smoke, which they claim is more harmful to them than actually inhaling the smoke directly from the cigarettes.

The smokers, in turn, cry and whine that the non-smoking segment of society is stepping out of its bounds in trying to legislate to the smokers where they can or cannot smoke.

I have to take the viewpoint that non-smokers are getting out of line by trying to force their wills and personal opinions on those of us who smoke.

It is not the place of others to try to impose their will on those of us who enjoy smoking. Yes, I am aware of the hazards involved, but I am also aware of some of the basic liberties that we are promised as Americans. Does it not say in the

Declaration of Independence that we are promised the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness?

What if I decide that part of that includes my right to enjoy a cigarette? Do you have the right to try to legislate where and when I can partake of that right?

I was standing out in the hall with a lighted Marlboro in my hand, wondering how I could refute articles such as today's point. It is full of statistics and often quoted sources that are supposed to convince me to set aside one of my favorite habits. The answer is obvious: I'm not about to refute the scientific evidence that is recorded by the experts. All I have to use as ammunition against this vicious attack on one of my basic freedoms is human nature and social experience.

America is basically a hedonistic society. This fact becomes evident by just observing the media. Sex is used to sell everything from soap powder to automobiles. The bottom line seems to indicate that we are a society motivated by pleasure.

We seek pleasure in everything from the products we purchase to the lifestyles that we choose to live for ourselves. I have to claim that right for myself. I acknowledge that I live in a hedonistic society, and consequently I am a product and a participant of that society. As such, it is my right to enjoy a cigarette if I so desire.

I allow common sense and a basic sensitivity to others to dictate to me when and where I should

smoke. I feel that I am old enough and mature enough to make such a decision for myself.

As for other people, well I cannot speak for them, but it has always been that with rights comes responsibility. We as human beings have a responsibility to our fellow man (this includes woman), not to purposely allow the exercise of our rights to infringe upon theirs. That is part of our basic freedom, too.

But I absolutely will not stand for someone trying to tell me when and where I am allowed to smoke when I am in public. More specifically, here at SSU there are guidelines to go by and I adhere to them. I do not smoke in the classroom out of common courtesy (it just happens to be the law also). When in the cafeteria, if I'm going to smoke, I sit in the smoking section.

Between classes, or during a break, I refuse to walk down four flights of stairs in order to sit in a restored broom closet just so I can smoke a well deserved cigarette. If it is against school policy to smoke in the halls, why are there so many ashtrays stationed on every floor?

As it stands now, yes, I admit there is a problem with excessive smoking. But legislation is not the answer to something that people enjoy doing. If you think it is, all you need do is review American history not too long past and see what happened during a little action called prohibition.

I can guarantee a smoker's rebellion if you try to take this right away from us.

Thanksgiving: a family tradition

As we get ready to go through the robotical motions of celebrating Thanksgiving, let us pull out of the fast lane for a few seconds and ask ourselves, "Just what is the Thanksgiving holiday, anyway?"

Let us explore round and about and try to discover an answer to our question.

The Thanksgiving holiday, as we know it, is an American holiday going back to the 1600's. The pioneers were grateful to God for having brought them through a successful crop year and harvest, therefore preparing them to face the long, hard, cold winter which lay ahead.

The pioneer believers got together with their heathen red neighbors (I believe God had revealed himself to some of the Indians, though, through the Spirit), and prepared a Thanksgiving feast toward God. Although this feast was peculiar in itself, and the beginning of our American holiday, it really wasn't anything new, but rather just a new expression of the old.

Being Christians, the pioneers knew that the Israelites had, at least since the time of Moses, offered thanksgiving feasts unto Jehovah. For one,

there was the Feast of the Firstfruits. When the first grain of the crop was ripe, it was harvested and used in the Feast of the Firstfruits.

So what is Thanksgiving? It is a time for giving thanks to God for all our being and gifts, and a time to thank the pioneers for our American heritage.

My oldest son (16) asked me the other day, "Dad, are we gonna work again this Thanksgiving like we always do?"

"Son," I replied, "we'll do it like we always do. We'll work on the farm the first half-day while Mom and Sis fix dinner. Then we'll eat Thanksgiving dinner, and take off the rest of the day."

Our Thanksgiving dinner usually consists of baked turkey, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, yeast rolls, turkey dressing, corn, tomatoes, gravy, pumpkin pie (made from fresh pumpkin, no store bought stuff for me), apple pie (from the canned apples in the cupboard that the womenfolk canned), fruit salad with sour cream, banana pie, and a tall, cold Pepsi-Cola. Before eating, all members of the family will be encouraged to have a thankful heart towards God for the many gifts

received since last Thanksgiving.

I assume my position at the head of the table at head of the household, with my wife on my right-hand side, and the kids around the table.

If you care to share such a Thanksgiving holiday with us, you are welcome. Come on out.

So long for now.



Clayton Madden, Jr. is a regular The Open Air Opinion page contributor. The free-thinking Kentucky native is an Ohio University Elementary Education major, who also studies at SSU.

No place like home for the holidays

We take so many things for granted in America. Education, employment and family are often put aside in order to pursue our life as we feel fit to live it. Many times I have decided to drop out of the fast lane and take time to smell the roses. When was the last time you took time out for something that you wanted to do?

I have had the opportunity of being in a position to hear a number of older peoples' insights on what they would do differently if they could re-live their lives. Many times I have heard the tearful refrain, "I wish I had done that when I was younger." After hearing many good people voice the dismay in all they missed, I decided that no way will I ever end my last years in sorrow, because I never did anything for myself or my family. I decided to live my life to the fullest and not to say "maybe tomorrow."

Stop now, while your kids are at home, and your parents are alive, and take time to know them. I do

not regret one minute that I have taken to spend for myself or my family. I have learned through the despair of others to make time for those close to me.

Some of the holidays celebrated by family and doing all sorts of things together are just a month or two away, so make it a point to stop your world, and take a look at who you are and who's close to you. Now, make it a point to thank whoever may be responsible for what you are. If the picture isn't a good one, take time to make adjustments to change what you see.

Remember these thoughts, so when you reach the end of your days, that someone won't hear a sorrowful refrain from what might have been, but see tears of joy in memories of what was. Stop others, so that they may see what they might be missing. Society is guilty of robbing us of our time by pushing us through life, unless we dig in and break out. Once you have experienced the

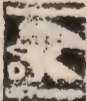


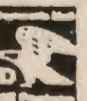
feeling that comes from your time out, then you will find each stop you make just a little easier.

Commentary

by

Bonnie Bayless



letters  letters  letters  letters  letters

The Open Air encourages readers to write letters for publication expressing views on issues affecting the university and the surrounding community. If you either agree or disagree with any opinion expressed in this paper, write us a letter.

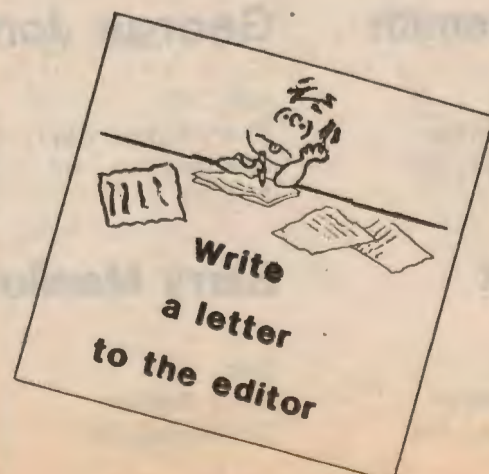
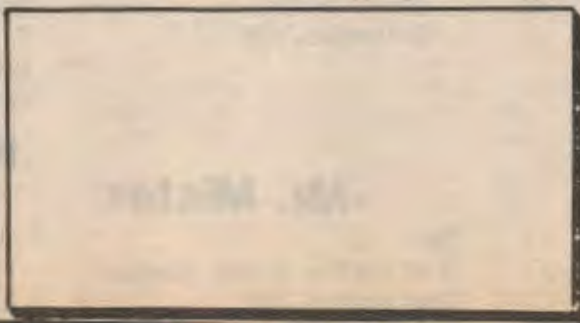
Letters should follow these guidelines:

Address letters to: Letters to the Editor, The Open Air, Shawnee State University, 940 Second Street, Portsmouth, Ohio 45662, or letters may be delivered to the newspaper office in Room 411 on the fourth floor of Massie Hall.

The best-read letters are brief and writers should observe a 150-word maximum. We reserve the right to edit letters containing obscenity, profanity or libel. Also, we reserve the right to edit letters for length and to limit publication of letters from frequent writers.

All letters must be signed and contain the address and phone number of the writer for verification. Print or type your name beneath your signature.

This space was reserved for your letter to the editor . . .



Indians are Thanksgiving material



Truman Throckmorton, The Open Air Copy Editor, is an SSU Communications major. He has an Associate of Individualized Studies degree from SSU and teaches history and writing in the SSU Enrichment program.

•WILDERNESS EMPIRE by Allan W. Eckert. Little, Brown and Company.

"...but before he had a chance to take even one step, a willowy, crudely made arrow fletched with turkey feathers plunged deeply into his breast and stuck there quivering."

The great Mohawk war chief, Tiyanoga, had survived many battles. In his declining years his poor condition easily made him a target for the slowest marksman. Now he had escaped again. But as the sounds of battle echoed in the distance, three Caughnawaga boys, not yet even young men, brought him to an inglorious end: "The leading boy, brandishing a length of sapling that had been stripped of branches and bark and its end whittled to a point to make a crude lance, reached him first and lunged with the spear, driving it into the Mohawk's chest close to the arrow and with such force that it passed through Tiyanoga's heart and protruded redly a foot or more from his back. He fell."

In *Wilderness Empire*, Allan Eckert leads us through the battles and adventures that led to the settling of the "old west." His stories tell of such familiar characters as Daniel Boone, Tecumseh, George Washington and Pontiac. Better yet, his stories also tell of some not-so-well-known characters as the Mohawk Chief Tiyanoga, whose leadership played an important part in our history.

The most minute detail does not escape telling, as Eckert takes us from the time when the east coast of the North American continent was the only civilized region to when the Ohio Valley was dotted with the smoke of white men's fires.

Yes, the "old west" was right here in the Ohio River valley, not on some remote Colorado mountain top nor some barren Texas rangeland, as we are so often told. The stories Eckert tells show that more adventures, heroism and tragedies transpired here in the midwest than could possibly have happened during the relatively short time it took to settle the far west.

Nearly 200 years elapsed from the time white men first lived on the continent's eastern shores to when the Ohio River valley was populated with farms and factories, while it took only another 50 years or so to settle the rest of the North American continent.

Wilderness Empire is the second in Eckert's "The Winning of Americas" series, and is in its fourth printing. Six books have been written, beginning with *The Frontiersman*. All of the books are concerned with the events leading up to when Ohio became a state in 1803.

Although written as fiction, Eckert says his stories are all fact. Meticulous research, documented by detailed notes and references at the rear of the book, has enabled him to take the reader into the thick of battle, or into the boardrooms and bedrooms of the leaders who are responsible for securing the homelands we occupy today. The Indian leaders are not ignored, either. Detailed stories are given of the red man's struggle to resist and adapt to the influx of the white man into Indian territory.

If any fault can be found in Eckert's approach to relating these historic events, it can only be in the perspective from which we view them. One moment the reader is soaring high in the sky, viewing the scene from a distance and capturing an historic moment in a very broad sense, when all of a sudden the view shifts in a swoop to the ground to study the same scene in fine detail. Sometimes the detail, such as the description of Tiyanoga's grisly death, may be a little more than the reader

may care to hear. It is just such detail, however, that enables the reader to feel he is standing there with Tiyanoga; feeling the elation of knowing he has escaped death one more time and knowing the despair he feels when he realizes he will meet his end at the hands of two miniature warriors.

The *Wilderness Empire* story begins in a flashback to 1671 when French explorers claim the Great Lakes and all the surrounding area to the seas as French territory. The real story begins with the birth of Chief Pontiac near the present site of Detroit, Michigan, in 1720, and the birth of William Johnson, in Ireland in 1730. Johnson came to North America, became a land owner in western Pennsylvania, and led battles throughout the midwest.

Everyone knows the ending to this story, but each chapter, each related story, whets the reader's appetite for more of the same.

At 611 pages, Eckert's book is a cumbersome volume, but at the end the reader has only one word to say. More.

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Of
Our Lives

Salem came to
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Read about it
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in The Open Air.

Upcoming Concerts

Public Image LTD & Lime Spiders

Nov. 26
Bogart's
Cincinnati, OH
Doors 8:30 pm; \$13.75/\$14.75

B.B. King

Nov. 27 8 & 11 pm
Bogart's
Cincinnati, OH
\$12.75 advance
\$13.75 at the door

Lethal

anywhere!!

Nov. 28
Bogart's
Cincinnati, OH
Doors 8 pm; \$3

Aerosmith

Dec. 3
Ohio Center
Columbus, OH

George Jones

Dec. 3
Charleston Civic Center
Charleston, WV
\$14.65

John Cougar

Dec. 4-5
Ohio Center
Columbus, OH

Greg Allman Band

Dec. 6
Bogart's
Cincinnati, OH
Doors 7:30 pm
Tentative

Marshall Tucker Band

Dec. 10
Bogart's
Cincinnati, OH
Doors 7:30 pm
Tentative

Heart

Dec. 11
Ohio Center
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Barry Manilow

Dec. 12
Ohio Center
Columbus, OH

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Dec. 15
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