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The Open Air

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7-5-1988

July 5, 1988 Open Air

Shawnee State University

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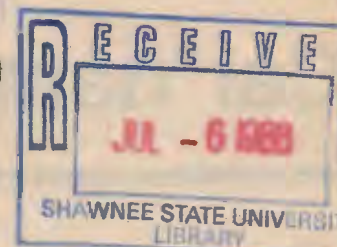
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The Open Air



"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

Vol. 2 Issue 31 July 5, 1988

Portsmouth, Ohio



Dr. Hagop Pambookian, professor of psychology, takes one of his psychology classes out into the open air during the recent run of hot weather. Photo by Janet Nesler, OA Photo Editor.

**Another
award-winning**



**Open
Air
issue.**

Page 2 Cars and bikes

Page 3 Tuition increase

Page 6 Congratulations

**Inside:
The Open Air**

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Car names vs performance

By Phillip Kaltenbach

OA Staff Writer

Today I was asked the simple question, "Why do you always ride your bike to school?" To which I answered simply, "Because I don't have a car."

"Oh!" I believe I was being primed for a story, so I got to thinking as I rode off through the parking lot, "What if all these cars actually lived up to their 'given' names?"

Just last night I was riding in a "Reliant." It broke down in Grayson, Ky.

Does the name imply that the car is suppose to rely on me? I thought it was the other way around.

Hmmm.

I also had the privilege of riding shotgun in a "Citation" yesterday. According to the New World Dictionary, citation is defined as a summons to appear before a court of law. Heaven forbid! I've had enough of those without benefit of advertising. I couldn't get home soon enough. Whew!

Then I considered some of the cars I have owned over the years. "Fury" ... violent anger, wild rage. That's about all that car ever drove me to. Now I see they're making a "Grand" Fury. Look-out.

Let's discuss my "Gremlin" ... an imaginary creature humorously blamed for faulty operation of airplanes or the disruption of any procedure. On second thought, that one pretty much speaks for itself.

Who gets paid to think-up such names?

I'm sure at one time, (with the invoice still intact) that each car was some owners pride-and-joy. What happened? I didn't have much time for research, but I did try to take note of such names as the insects ... Hornets, Crickets, and Honey-Bees. Why not rodents and other vermin, such as fleas and lice?

And the ferocious fish and birds, such as Stingrays, Barracudas, Falcons, Eagles, and Thunderbirds. Why not tuna, trout, carp, parrot, pigeon, or turkey mobiles?

Next come the predators such as Cougars, Foxes, Jaguars, and Lynx. And the fleet-footed Impala,

Mustang, and Pinto? (Ha!) Anyway, what's wrong with weasel, hyena, and ostrich? Are they not as cunning and swift?

It seems the cars that draw the most attention are those with all the hi-tech letters and numbers — Z28 or RX7. X's and Z's are pretty popular these days. What's wrong with Y and W? G and K seem to have some appeal also, but F is definitely out! Whatever happened to the good ole model "A"?

Who really cares as long as it runs, right? I know I always gave all my cars nicknames anyway. And most of those couldn't be legally posted.

I'm certain some folks own or have owned any number of the aforementioned cars. And I'm not suggesting that you haven't been thoroughly pleased. I'm merely taking a light-hearted, objective look at what's really in a name.

If I'm fortunate when I'm again in the market for a car, there will be a generic TYT-BYB model (take you there-bring you back.) One that does live up to its name.

The name on my ten-speed (which is actually a one-speed) says, "Charger." Right! Charging downhill, maybe? If there is a point to all this it hasn't occurred to me yet. So just drive safely no matter what kind of "critter" you operate. (And watch out for bicycles.)

I walk a lot too. Maybe sometime we can take a close look at some of the names they're coming up with for tennis shoes?

letters letters letters letters letters

mailbox mailbox mailbox mailbox



The Open Air

Shawnee State University
Portsmouth, Ohio 45662

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 newspaper staff, the adviser or the university.

Editor

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News Editor

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Johnny Terry

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Art Editor

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The Open Air
Shawnee State University
940 Second Street
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Male abuse questioned

To the Editor

This letter is in response to Dave Crisp's letter about men being abused. There is now some controversy surrounding the subject of battered men.

In the Dec. issue of Social Work, there was an article titled "The Truth About Domestic Violence: A False Framed Issue." The article stated that from 1975 to 1985, the rate of domestic violence against men has been proportionally the same as that against women. Needless to say, the findings weren't accepted as factual by some other researchers. The debate is still raging on.

As far as my opinion of the men that I talked to about the battering of women, none mentioned anything about male abuse by women, to themselves

or someone they knew. While it is true that they might have been embarrassed to mention it, it seems that one of them would have, since according to the writers of the article in Social Work, it is such a wide-spread problem.

The point that men are abused is a valid one, but Crisp weakened it with his obvious anger toward his ex-girl friend.

I know the details of the situation and I don't consider it a true case of abuse. I don't feel it is right to discuss their private lives in a public manner. It's too bad he didn't feel the same way. His letter seemed more like revenge against the ex-girl friend instead of social commentary.

Tim Parsley
Social science major

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.

Letters To The Editor



mailbox

Students go behind bars

By Mike Wilson

OA Quest Writer

SSU Student at SOCF

Teacher Alvin Madden-Grider of the news writing class at SOCF brought three Open Air staffers to class with him on June 15 to allow SOCF students to ask questions.

Students were given the opportunity to learn about the different steps involved in putting together a student newspaper, from choosing a good story, reporting, and editing the contents to laying the article out and putting the final copy into print.

Gwyn Barker, advertiser/staff writer, said her primary function was to secure paying customers to fill the advertising spots in the paper. According to Barker, "advertising gets a high priority," in newspapers.

Barker is the writer that recently covered the four-part "Cruising" feature story. When asked about public response to her articles on cruising problems, Barker said The Open Air "has received positive reaction to the series." She also plans a follow-up in the near future.

In response to a student's question as to why it is important to have a student newspaper, Bev Tadlock, editor/writer, said, "the students needed a voice," and this was why the paper was first started in 1984. Originally, the paper was called The Shawnee Star, but was changed to The Open Air in 1987.

Tadlock said she was responsible for what goes in the newspaper, and edits the contents of submitted material before allowing the articles to be printed. She explained, "All sources are positively verified for authenticity before being committed to print." Putting a newspaper together

"is a lot of work," concludes Tadlock.

Jeff Horton, news/opinion editor, supports Tadlock's "lot of work" theory. "I dropped two classes in order to keep up," he said.

Horton is responsible for editing all the opinions submitted for print. He said The Open Air doesn't print letters containing libel. "Letters that defame one's character or appears as tools of revenge, I just throw away," explains Horton. But in most cases, "... opinions are usually printed in their entirety," continues Horton.

Horton referred to his position at The Open Air as a "glorified assignment editor." He assigns articles to the writers for coverage. Horton said The Open Air tries to select stories, "... so the students can get credit for newspaper classes." All three guest staffers are active students at the university.

Madden-Grider, The Open Air adviser

and teacher, said his present Open Air staff is one of the "best" he's seen at the university. He said The Open Air is presently contemplating a changeover to a laser printer, in exchange of the older techniques which Horton refers to as "stone knives and bear skins."

All three staffers said they enjoyed working on the student newspaper, but would pursue other lines of employment after graduation. Tadlock said she would like to go into advertising; Barker is considering a teaching career in math; Horton is interested in teaching elementary education.

The entire class was conducted on an informal level. The staffers appeared to be at ease among the prison inmates. And the prisoner/students accepted the three guests with great respect, and asked the guests to return sometime in the future.

Tuition increase announced at meeting

Tuition and fees will increase in the 1988-89 school year, the board of trustees were told at the board's meeting on June 17.

Bill Decatur, budget director, said SSU full-time tuition will be \$485 a quarter, an increase of \$97. General fees will increase by \$11, to \$46 a quarter.

The board also was informed:

• A series of four courses required for chemical operator's certification is being re-instituted for the employees of Martin-Marietta and is being taught at the Pike County joint vocational school.

• Interest in the associate degree allied health programs continue to be high, and the dental hygiene and physical therapist assistant programs

have already closed for the full quarter. Additional students will be accepted on an alternate basis only.

• The medical laboratory program evaluation report in preparation for ongoing accreditation was positive.

• SSU is undertaking a self-study on services to the handicapped.

The board hired Dr. Stylianos Hadjiannes as assistant professor of

political science; Dr. Robert Clay as professor of mathematics; Dr. Dan Moore as associate professor of management; Roy Payne as dean of the division of business administration; Richard Vournazos as student services coordinator of Southern Ohio Correctional Facility and Dale Taylor as coordinator of student academic assessment services.

Students complete GED

Twenty-four GED students have received certificates of completion for the spring quarter 1987-88 GED 10-week program.

The certificates were presented at the 14th SSU GED awards and recognition ceremony held June 9 in Massie Hall auditorium.

Carolyn Gross, an instructor in the GED program, was guest speaker for the ceremony. A plaque was presented to Gross by Dr. Gene Beckett, director of developmental education, for her outstanding service to the program.

A new award honoring the GED student of the quarter was given to Judith Barfield and presented by Jackie Evans, GED program coordinator.

The highest grades were earned by Jane Bare, math, science, reading and English; Diane Porter, math; Freda Clarke, science; Carolyn Whipple, reading; Debora Baker, English and social studies; Cindy Anderson, English; Vera Blaine, reading and social studies; Melanie Steinhauer, social studies, and Ethely Nylund, social studies.

Students who maintained perfect attendance were Baker, Bare, Barfield, Blaine, Ronald Cline, Ellen Murphy, Darrell Nunley and Betty Stiltner.

Students whose test scores showed the greatest improvement were Cline, math; Linda Hood, math; Melanie Steinhauer, science and English; Cindy Anderson, science; Darrell Nunley,

reading; Clarke, English; Stiltner, reading; Bare, social studies and Barfield, social studies.

The GED program is offered four times each year, and is funded by the Community Action Organization and the Private Industry Council. For information, call Evans at 355-2298 or 354-3205.

GED Info

The General Educational Development (GED) for high school equivalency test will be given at 8 a.m., July 16 and Aug. 20 in room 406, Massie Hall.

Those wishing to take the test should bring a letter of authorization from the state education department, a photo identification with signature and a receipt from SSU's business office.

For information about GED classes, call Jackie Evans at 354-1571 or 355-2298. To register for one of the test dates contact Alvin Madden-Grider, GED examiner at 355-2287.

• S E R F S •

Will meet in the student union, Fridays throughout the summer quarter, from noon until eight p.m. Everyone is invited to come and play Advanced Dungeons and Dragons.

FOR SALE

Camera Filters

Five camera lens filters, 49 mm.: U.V.Haze, orange, green, red and polarizer and camera bag.
Call 574-5644

You could have advertised here, but you didn't

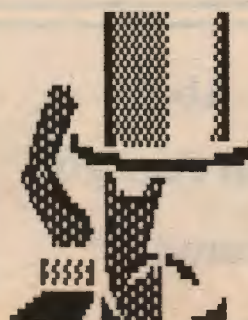
So, you need an invitation to work on your college newspaper do you? Well here it is...

Personal Invitation

You are hereby personally invited to come up to the fourth floor of Massie Hall to room 411 and become a staff member on SSU's nationally award winning student newspaper.

To become a staff member, all you need to do is contact Alvin Madden-Grider in The Open Air office or simply call 355-2278.

Just be sure you bring your invitation.
White tie optional.



Come on up

and try us out!

Campus Capsules

Condoms yes, clgs no

The Los Angeles Community College district board of trustees has voted to ban the sale of cigarettes on its nine campuses. At the same time, it decided to require the sale of condoms through bookstores and vending machines.

Special ed benefits

Project Friendship pairs 100 St. Olaf College students and 30 Carleton College students with elementary school children. Pairs spend one or two hours each week doing whatever they choose, from baking cookies to visiting museums. The project's purpose is to increase the children's self-esteem. "How a child feels about himself is the single most powerful force in determining how that child will live his life," says Laurie Cowles, project director.

Friendship for children

Special ed benefits

The University of New Hampshire has started a pen-pal program. Elementary education students volunteer to write letters to special-education students to help them improve their writing and thinking skills. The New Hampshire students choose children with hobbies and interests similar to their own. The program is modeled after a similar one in Maine.

Commencement held

Commencement exercises at SSU were held Fri., June 17 at 8 p.m. in the Activities building. Three hundred twenty-six students received diplomas.

Dr. Elaine H. Hairston, vice-chancellor for academic and special programs, Ohio board of regents, was featured speaker. Dick Hyland, chairman of the SSU board of

trustees, introduced Dr. Hairston.

The Alma Mater was sung by the college ensemble under the direction of Shirley Crothers.

The ceremony began with an invocation by Father William Maroon, pastor of St. Mary's Church. The pledge of allegiance was led by Dr. A.L. Addington, provost, who also welcomed the graduates, parents and guests.

Degrees were conferred by Dr. Robert Ewigleben, president of SSU, and were awarded by Dr. Addington.

Diplomas were presented by Linda Wooddell, assistant professor of nursing; Loretta Jenkins, senior instructor of accounting; C. Ray Irwin, director of electro-mechanical engineering technology and Betty Hodgden, associate professor of English.

Psyc prof to tour Indonesia

Dr. Hagop S. Pambookian, associate professor of psychology, will participate in scientific conferences to be held in Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia and Australia in August.

Following a meeting of the International Council of Psychologists (ICP) in Bangkok, Thailand, Pambookian will be in Singapore for the 46th annual convention of ICP, where he will lead a conversation hour on Soviet psychologists and their role in society.

Pambookian will also chair a session on death and suicide with participating psychologists from the University of Montreal, Tel Aviv University and the University of Arizona.

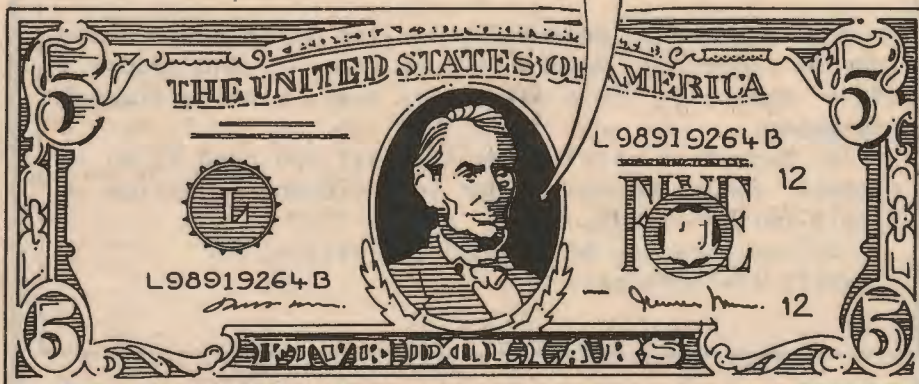
He will speak at the ICP's regional meeting in Jakarta, where his topic will be psychology and psychologists in the USSR.

Pambookian also will attend the 24th ICP of the International Union of Psychological Science in Sydney, Australia.



WINNERS OF MEN'S DOUBLES. SSU held its Intramural Tennis Tournament on May 16, Tim Chandler (R) and Robert Isgett (L) were the winners in the men's doubles division. The tournament was co-sponsored by SSU and Domino's Pizza. Free pizzas and drinks were provided by Dominos at the tournament.

Take my word,
Open Air advertising
doesn't cost,
it pays....



Take it from honest Abe.
By advertising in The Open Air, you
can get the college crowd
into your business



WINNERS OF MIXED DOUBLES. Diane Chamberlin, Cheryl Cook (back L to R) Jason Jenkins and Tim Brown (front L to R) were the winners in the mixed doubles division.

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There's a new gym in town

By Johnny Terry

OA Sports Editor

There's a new gym in town, courtesy of two local gentlemen who are known for their knowledge of putting muscle on the human anatomy.

Chris Baxter and Carl Priode have collaborated and opened a gym at 1101 Gallia Street that goes beyond the realms of a fitness center or health club. They call it C.C. Power Plus and it definitely has the appearance of a hardcore weight training facility.

Public demand brought on the idea to Baxter (who has competed in several major events and qualified for national competition in the mixed pairs category) and Priode (who is returning to the body building scene after 16 years and looking forward to

being on the competitive circuit in two years).

Baxter and Priode feel the men and women of the community need personalized attention and instruction on how to lift properly and effectively. The proud owners of the Power Plus plan to hold powerlifting meets and seminars with guest hosts to give pointers and explanations for successful body building, weight training and general overall conditioning.

"Ladies are sometimes intimidated by the looks of heavy weights and the atmosphere of a weight training facility," Priode says. He welcomes females to come in and learn more about how to gain personal satisfaction with their bodies.

Baxter said he would like to get more college students involved in weight training.

Power Plus will be opened from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., Monday through Friday and noon to 6 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays.

Membership fees are \$100 per person for a year, and can be paid by putting \$30 down and paying \$10 a month until the balance is paid off, Baxter said.



I'm Hanz and I'm Franz, and we want to pump you up! Actually this is Carl Priode (L) and Chris Baxter (R), the owners of the new C.C. Power Plus weight training gym. Photo by Mark Richard, OA Photographer.

Basketball workout begins

By Johnny Terry

OA Sports Editor

The SSU recruits for the 1988-89 men's basketball season met June 22 for their first workout of the year.

Under the direction of Jim Arnzen, head coach and Eric Hilton, assistant coach, 13 talented young cagers from

several colleges around the country got together for about two hours of fast-breaking, whole-court action and drills.

The coaches are in the process of putting together the best set of players possible to compete in the upcoming season's tough schedule, they said.

Arnzen recognizes Britan Jackson, a transfer from Cincinnati Technical College and Brian Williams, from

Toledo's Owens Technical College, as his most experienced players.

Jackson was the most valuable player of the Ohio Junior College Athletic Conference last year as a freshman. Williams was the leading scorer in Owens Tech's history.

The roster will hold 15 players selected from the present group of recruits and from walk-ons who will try out on October 1.

The SSU Bears will host their

season opener on Nov. 12 against Walsh University.

Deadlines

The Open Air
Schedule of Publication
Summer Quarter '87-'88

- 30. June 20
- 31. July 5 (SSU closed July 4)
- 32. July 18
- 33. Aug. 1
- 34. Aug. 15

Numerals before the dates represent the issue number for the 1987-1988 school year, volume 2. From Aug. 15 through Aug. 31, the staff will be putting together the first issue of the 1988-1989 school year, volume 3; tentative publication date is Sept. 19.

The Open Air is published every Monday when SSU classes are in session except:

•During the summer quarter, when the newspaper is published every other week.

•On the Monday of finals week.

•On any Monday holiday when SSU is closed, and then the newspaper will come out on Tuesday.

Deadlines for news, announcements, advertising and photos are as follows:

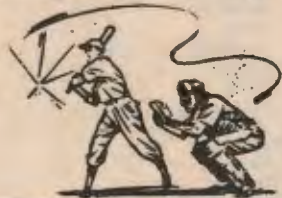
•News, announcements and photos: Two Fridays before publication (usually 10 days).

•Advertisements: Monday the week before publication (usually 7 days).

Papers scheduled to come out the first week of any quarter will be prepared for publication during finals week of the prior quarter. Therefore, deadlines for those papers will be two or three weeks earlier.

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The Open Air accepts advertising as written by the advertiser.

Claims made in advertising do not necessarily reflect views or approval of the newspaper staff, advisers or the university.

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TOM JOHNSON
GENERAL SALES MANAGER

Congratulations and Good Luck Graduates

1987-88 Graduates School of Allied Health

Name

Melissa A. Adams
Robin A. Adkins
Bryan K. Applegate
J. Scott Arbogast
Lucy A. Bailey
Cynthia A. Balzer
Beth E. Bandy
Kathryn L. Barringer
Denise A. Baxter
Bonnie L. Bayless
Brenda K. Benner
Debra L. Bentley
Jay Biggs
Sandra D. Blanton
Kathleen M. Bondy
Pauline A. Brickey
Dianna L. Brower
Theresa L. Brown
Carolyn S. Brunner
Suzanne M. Campbell
Shelly L. Canter
Rhonda L. Carver
Lori A. Castle
Mildred S. Clay
Merle E. Collins
Angela D. Conley
Austin K. Conley
John B. Cook
Mark A. Cottrell
Malinda M. Crabtree
Randall L. Crabtree
Jane Cremons
Shirley M. Crowder
Angie K. Cullum
Diana J. Davis
Sherry L. DeBord
Mark W. Doll
Anna B. Essman
Ann M. Ford
Cheryl L. Freeman
Deborah J. Garrett
Aundrea R. Gilliland
Tami S. Graham
Nancy J. Hansen
Sharon K. Hartwig
Angela R. Hashman
Tracy L. Heaberlin
Donna S. Henry
Connie D. Hodge
Kathy D. Holsinger
Megan N. Howard
Sue E. Howard
Jennifer L. Humble
Gina A. Ison
Vicki L. Jewell
Maryann Johnson
Melinda S. Johnston
Maureen A. Kovach
Carol J. Lanthorn
Brenda K. Leeth
Bronna L. Logan
Paula F. Long
Sonya R. Lute
Donna A. Lyon
Christine G. Mahajan
Belinda G. Mantel
Melissa L. Maple
Marlene C. McIntire
Dianne C. Mefford
Michelle M. Merritt
Nikki R. Mitchell
Jeanette C. Mohr
Deborah L. Moritz
Robert E. Morrow
Melissa L. Nagel
Walter L. Nelson
Pamela L. Payton
Brenda G. Perdue
Kimberly A. Pierce
Kristin M. Piguet
Olive A. Piguet
Dolores M. Potter
Peggy S. Price
Debra A. Purvis
Tammy S. Rider
Marilyn E. Robinson
Lavonda K. Ross
Melissa E. Roush
Mary E. Ryan
Jessica L. Sanders
Lorna S. Sears
Shawne S. Senters
Sally J. Shiplatt
Reva J. Shope
Kelley L. Sissel
Bonita S. Sparks
Clara A. Sprague
Martha E. Staker
Rebecca L. Stake
Elizabeth A. Stearos
Bonnie L. Stockton
Terry A. Stone
Debra J. Stringer
Melissa J. Sturgill
Julie A. Sutton
Michael L. Tebor
Keith A. Terry
Michael D. Thompson
Kristel K. Titus

Ida R. Tomlin
Sheri M. Turner
Linda S. Warnock
Jennifer L. Weber
Margaret A. Williams
Pamela K. Williams
Patricia A. Williams
Pamela S. Willis
Barbara L. Wilson
Melinda K. Yates

* Graduating with Honors
** Graduating with High Honors

1987-88 Graduates School of Business

Administration

Name

Nader T. Abraham
Christopher G. Arnett
Lisa L. Beam
Thomas A. Bennett
Patricia A. Blaney
Robin A. Blevis
Jeffery A. Burchett
Joan E. Byers
Clarence R. Carlisle
Alice M. Castle
Ellyn M. Cawthorne
Deborah A. Click
James G. Collett
Shelia M. Crabtree
Raymond E. Davis
Stacy C. Davis
Michael E. Day
Michelle D. Derry
Danny R. Fyffe
Kimberly G. Gibson
Leo C. Gillen
Christina A. Gleim
Thomas A. Gleim
Susan L. Gregory
Sue A. Grose
Michael A. Hammerstein
Jesse H. Hammond
Bernadette B. Hannah
Sharon Q. Hannah
Nita L. Hodge
Kenneth J. Horsley
David E. Hottle
Janice E. Johnson
Sherry Johnson
Trina M. Johnson
Keith E. Keys
Phillip Ledger
Brian D. Leonard
Ralph E. Litteral
Jerry A. Lyons
Delilah R. Madden
Donald E. McGraw
Sondra K. McWhorter
Catrina L. Mershon
Rhonda K. Mershon
Christina K. Mignerey
Baron L. Miller
Claudia E. Miller
Tamitha L. Miller
Sherry L. Oakes
Barbara S. Plymale
Glenna S. Porter
Vickie L. Raines
Andrew T. Riehl
Laura L. Rockwell
Teresa L. Roe
Gloria S. Rolf
James E. Scott
Rodney L. Scott
Carol Sexton
Lisa K. Skaggs
Robert V. Slone
Angela D. Smith
Angela R. Smith
Pamela K. Spires
Janice L. Streitenberger
Beverly A. Swaim
Jerry Taylor
Donna M. Vallery
Beverly F. Vaughn
Charles T. Wente
Dale D. White
John F. Williams
Tracie D. Williams
Anita L. Workman

* Graduating with Honors
** Graduating with High Honors

1987-88 Graduates School of Engineering Technologies

Name

Gary C. Adkins
Wayne K. Baker
Jon B. Bapst
Terry E. Barnett
Brian A. Bear
Matthew D. Biggs
Scott D. Burcham
Everett R. Crabtree
Dwight Dennis
Jerry L. Dodds, Jr.
Stephen E. Euton
Herbert L. Evans
Phillip G. Fitch
Paula D. Frost
Julie M. Glockner
Charles D. Goddard
Timothy R. Holbrook
Richard C. Howard
Kenneth K. Kamer
David A. Katz
Marty C. Kelley
Richard S. Knauff
David A. Lawless
William H. Lodwick, Jr.
Larry A. Maddy
William J. McDonie

Kevin D. Mershon
David E. Miller
Ty R. Mitchell
Joseph E. Monroe
Craig S. Moore
Mark S. Moore
Steven A. Moore
Carlos E. Morris
Mark I. Parker
Timothy R. Pitts
Brian S. Pyles
Shane E. Ross
James R. Shope, Jr.
Brian W. Throckmorton
Rick A. Webb
Keith M. Wines
Scott M. Wisniewski
Carl D. Woodall

* Graduating with Honors
** Graduating with High Honors

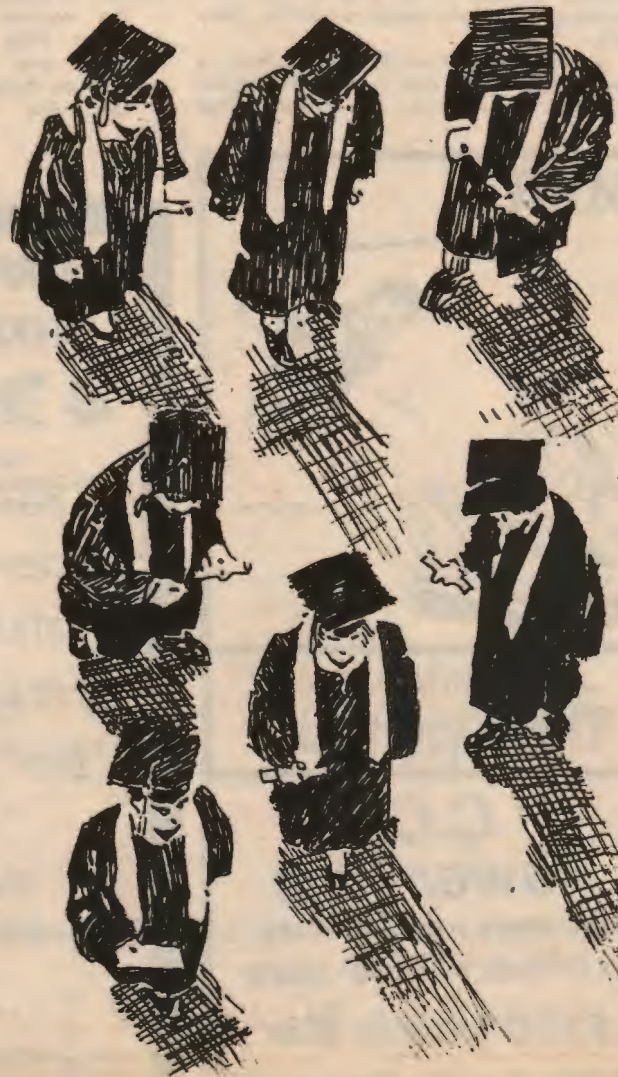
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Stanley Waller
Darrell C. Ward
Debra L. Weems
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Elmer Wilman
Michael F. Wilson

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** Graduating with High Honors



Bull Durham strikes out



Natalie Throckmorton is an *The Open Air* staff writer. She is a recent Portsmouth West High School graduate where she was editor of *The In-Sider*. She also participated in theater, and music programs at West. She is a SSU communications major.

I hate to disagree with such an exalted company of film critics as David Anisley, Siskel & Elbert, and Peter Travers, but *Bull Durham* is a really bad movie.

The reviews range from "a grand slam," to "the most romantic, best-written and wittiest screenplay since *Moonstruck*."

Bull Durham is a movie about baseball, but it's also a love triangle, so you don't have to be a

baseball fan to like it. The problem lies in the triangle between characters played by Kevin Costner, Susan Sarandon and Tim Robbins. Specifically, the fault is with the two men.

Costner plays "Crash" Davis, a minor-league catcher who knows he's lost his shot at the majors but can't bring himself to quit the game.

Crash is recruited to aid a new, young pitcher (played by Tim Robbins) for the Durham Bulls, a North Carolina minor league team. The pitcher has an incredible arm and is assured a future in the major leagues, but he is cocky and untrained, which is where Crash comes in.

Sarandon portrays a small-town college English professor who, each year, chooses one player from the Bulls and treats him to her lessons in baseball and sex. Sarandon, seen most recently in *The Witches of Eastwick* (a film where her role was overpowered by those of Jack Nicholson and Cher), shines as the sexy teacher.

Sarandon is terrific in this comical, yet sinfully erotic role. She is definitely the best reason to see this movie.

Robbins character is supposed to be a young stud, with women falling all over him. The casting is simply not probable, as Robbins is not attractive. There is no way that any of these

women, Sarandon included, would be interested in him.

Costner is attractive, at least, but that's about all he is. The man cannot act. He reads the lines as if he were in a really bad high school play. I was surprised. Maybe by speaking in monotone voice he thought he was exuding sexuality — that's the only way to explain it.

Although the baseball aspects of the film are basically boring, when Costner and Sarandon finally get together, the screen explodes. At least the sex is good — especially the scene where Costner paints Sarandon's toes.

The print advertisement certainly caught my eye — Crash Davis believes in the small of a woman's back, the hanging curveball, high fiber, good Scotch, chocolate chip cookies and long, slow, deep, soft, wet kisses that last for three days — but Costner utters this line with absolutely no emotion, and very quickly, as if he were afraid he might forget it.

Bull Durham doesn't live up to the raves surrounding it. Although the screenplay is often witty (especially Sarandon's lines), it simply isn't often enough.

However, if you can sit through the rest of the film, Sarandon's performance is certainly worth it.

Fatal Light is excellent first book

By Alan D. Zak

OA Guest Writer

SSU Student at SOCF

*FATAL LIGHT by Richard Currey. E.P. Dutton/Seymour Lawrence, New York.

As anyone who has read a few of the dozens of Vietnam novels written by veterans knows all too well, there's an unwritten plot law at work. Virtually everyone tells the same kind of story. More often than not, it goes something like this:

middle-class, apolitical white kid either gets drafted into the Army or joins the Marines.

He goes through basic-training hell, is shipped directly to Vietnam, is involved in heavy fighting, becomes disenchanted with the war and the way it is being fought, gets a "Dear John" letter from his girlfriend back home, comes to hate his ticket-punching officers and the weak-willed South Vietnamese military, wins a grudging respect for the enemy, gets severely wounded and comes home to a bittersweet reception — accent on the word bitter.

Very few vet/novelists have been able to resist this formula which comes with more pitfalls than a babby-trapped jungle trail. The typical first novelist is wont to over-describe everything and present a cast of clichéd characters. Do the dopey, by-the-book-lieutenant, the street-smart black or Hispanic jungle fighter, the jungle-wise, kind-to-his-men sergeant and the college-educated platoon intellectual ring a bell to the average vet today? And there's also the tendency to go way overboard on the blood and guts to make sure the reader gets the point that fighting in Vietnam was

a special kind of hell.

Richard Currey's *Fatal Light* fits perfectly into the "first-novel-by-a-combat-vet" category. Currey's a veteran. He spent four years as a combat medic with the Marines. And this is his first book of fiction. But make no mistake, *Fatal Light* is by no means a typical Vietnam War novel. In fact, it is one of the better literary treatments of the Vietnam War.

What stands out above all is Currey's writing style. *Fatal Light* reads more like a series of well-connected, finely written short stories than a novel.

The dozens of very, very short chapters are written in a jumpy, fragmented, staccato-like rhythm. In this way, Currey convincingly and stylishly spills out the shocking story of the unidentified narrator who goes through a harrowing tour of duty as a medic with an infantry unit in Vietnam.

I highly recommend the reading of this fine book to anyone interested in the hazards and heartaches faced by American teenagers caught up in the war of Vietnam.

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