

Solely our story

Site captures character of Athens and region



Close your eyes for a moment. Recall your favorite things about Athens and Southeast Ohio.

Can you see yourself walking along the Hocking River? Smell the rich java that drew you into your favorite coffeehouse? Hear the piercing fiddle and sweet harmonica of one of the region's bluegrass bands?

Nestled in the green, forested hills in a corner of Ohio, Athens blends a laid-back Appalachian culture with the vibrancy of a college town. It has a complicated character, offering haven to environmentalists, students, skateboarders, artists and academics alike. Now, alumni and other lovers of the town can visit whenever they want.

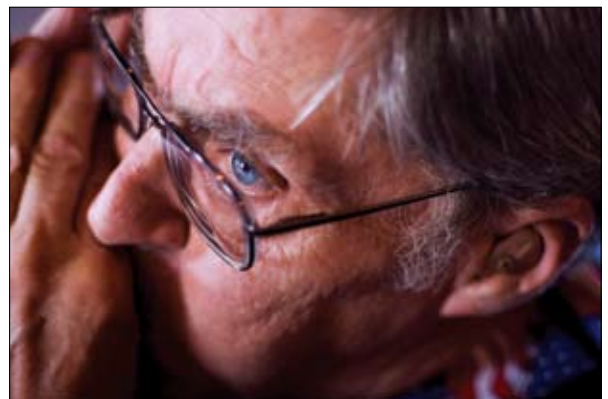
The Soul of Athens — found at www.soulofathens.com — is a mixed-media Web site created by more than 100 School of Visual Communication students. It incorporates video, photos, music and graphics to create a rich profile of our beloved burg. Visiting Professor Zach Wise and adviser Brian Storm assisted with the site, which features such figures as local activist and humanitarian Peggy Gish, who was held captive for three days in Iraq, and Emrys Taylor-Milner, an 8-year-old “reverse hippy” who wears a suit to school every day.

Allowing for an all-encompassing portrayal, viewers can “submit some soul” by uploading photos via the site's Flickr group. More than 50 members have submitted photographs now displayed on the site, which was launched in May.

The Soul of Athens has not gone unrecognized. It averages 464 unique visitors

a day and has had more than 1 million total hits. It was profiled in *PDNedu*, a magazine for emerging photographers, and was awarded a TIGAR (Technology Industry Gurus of the Appalachian Region) award for best noncommercial Web site. And it was a finalist for a SND.ie award from the Society of New Design, up against such heavy hitters as WashingtonPost.com and NYTimes.com.

— Laura Yates



Millfield, Ohio, is a great place to catch the music of the Federal Creek Dance Band, as Ross Mantle, BS '08, learned when shooting images for the Soul of Athens site.



Rick Fritza

By the numbers

Take a look at the stacks of resources available through Ohio University Libraries. — Breanne Smith

Exploring traditions, transitions in Zuni art

Displays of brilliant turquoise, rich coral and sparkling silver shine throughout the Kennedy Museum of Art exhibit “Art of the Zuni.”

It is the first large-scale exhibition of the Kennedy’s rarely seen Zuni art collection, which ranks among the best in the world. The collection preserves the works of the Zuni Native American tribe,

These inlay figures are the work of Zuni artist Edward Beyuka.

based in western New Mexico.

“Zuni jewelry and stone carvings record complex intercultural influences,” says curator Jennifer McLerran. “At the same time, they stand as expressions of the continuity of ancient cultural traditions rooted in the American Southwest.”

The museum’s Edwin L. and Ruth E. Kennedy Southwest Native American Collection draws on multiple generations of Zuni artists, from the “Old Masters”



Don't baby that bad back

Study finds you're better off not working around your pain

People who fear aggravating a backache will change the way they move to prevent more pain. But doing so may set the stage for further injury, researchers warn.

In a study published in the journal *Spine*, Ohio University researchers Jim Thomas and Christopher France examined 36 adults who recently had experienced lower back pain. They split them into two groups: one that confessed a high fear of aggravating the backache and another that was less afraid of reinjury.

The researchers next asked the participants to perform a series of three reaching tasks, such as bending to open a mailbox or leaning to ring a doorbell. Sensors attached to the study subjects recorded their muscle movements.

The study confirmed what researchers have long suspected: People with a high fear of back pain will twist, bend and make other unusual moves to try to avoid more aches. It might be OK to baby sore muscles for a while, but protecting them for too long can cause them to weaken. When those muscles are called into play unexpectedly — such as when lurching forward to grab a falling bag of groceries — more



A volunteer models one of the reaching tasks used in the back pain study, and the computer screen shows the skeleton image that results.

injury can occur, says Thomas, an associate professor of physical therapy whose study is funded by a four-year, \$1.5 million grant from the National Institutes of Health.

“It’s like if you run every day, and then a friend invites you to a game of racquetball,” Thomas says, noting that the sports use different muscle groups. “The next day you feel like you’ve been run over by a bus.”

The latest findings are part of a larger study that also is tracking 100 subjects in Athens and Columbus for a year after their recovery from a back pain injury.

This second piece, which will wrap up in May, aims to confirm whether pain avoiders are indeed more likely to reinjure their backs. Thomas says about half of the data has been collected to date, in partnership with Ohio State University.

Researchers hope the study findings will help physicians create new treatments for backaches. Eight out of 10 adults will suffer from back pain at some point in their lives. While many of those aches go away on their own, about half of those people will experience a recurrence of pain within the following year. Medical expenses and work absenteeism due to back pain disability are estimated at \$20 billion to \$40 billion per year in the United States, the researchers say.

— Andrea Gibson

of the early 1900s through the “Modern Masters” of the 1970s renaissance era and today.

In the main galleries, multimedia displays demonstrate enduring Zuni traditions as well as shifting perceptions on artistic collaboration and market competition. Meanwhile, a hands-on education gallery by Education Curator Sally Delgado lets visitors explore materials used in Zuni art and view videos detailing the jewelry-making process.

The accompanying “Gallery 66,” curated by Ohio University students

Cara Romano, Rachel Crouch and Emily Cranz Richards, tracks the crossroads of Native American culture and popular tourism along U.S. Route 66 in the middle of the 20th century, when Edwin Kennedy accumulated the museum’s Zuni and Navajo collections.

Support for “Art of the Zuni” comes from The Ohio University Foundation’s 1804 Fund and the Ohio Arts Council. For more on the Kennedy museum, visit www.ohiou.edu/museum/.

— Anita Martin

'Cat Facts

How well do you know your presidents?

- 1 Who served as the first president of Ohio University?
- 2 Nine U.S. presidents have visited the Athens campus. Which two did so while in office?
- 3 How many people have served as president of Ohio University?
- 4 President Roderick McDavis is the second OU alumnus to lead the university. Who was the first?
- 5 Name the university president who held the office twice.
- 6 During this president's tenure, the Honors College was created and the university switched to quarters.
- 7 This College of Liberal Arts dean twice served as acting president.

Answers on page 9

Blasts from the past

Heritage Line brings back fond memories — but for a limited time only



This version of the Bobcat looks familiar to alumni of the 1960s and '70s.

As Ohio University has changed over the years, so have its logos. In an effort to reach out to alumni and introduce students to these signs of times past, Ohio Athletics has authorized the use of five historic symbols for a limited time through a Heritage Line collection of clothing and other items.

The line includes the block lettering logo of OHIO, worn by the 1940s and '50s basketball teams, and the full-body Bobcat of the '60s and '70s. Some symbols date as far back as the 1900s, such as the interlocking letters of OU, while others are more



recent favorites, such as the paw print adopted in 1978. Every mark has its own significance within the university's history. The Heritage Line version of the "Attack Cat," for example, was the original midcourt logo at the Convocation Center.

The response to the collection thus far has been tremendous, especially for one classic mark. "Anything with the paw has been a great seller so far," says Assistant Director of Alumni Marketing and Communications Jim Harris. "People are stocking up because they know it won't last forever."

The clothing line, which was introduced in August, and other merchandise will be available for purchase at Athens retailers and online for at least a year. The Ohio Alumni Association has a Heritage Line of clothing available at its online store at www.ohioalumni.org/store and will develop new items throughout the year.

— Jessica Alfrey

By the Way...

When the goal is graduation, Ohio University students make the grade. In *U.S. News & World Report's* annual guide to colleges, the university's graduation rate performance was fourth out of 257 ranked national universities and a full 18 percent higher than predicted. This is the third year in a row the university made the top 10 in this category.

The magazine plugs years of data from hundreds of schools into a sophisticated model to forecast what graduation rate an institution should expect. The

model controls for such factors as entering student characteristics and institutional expenditures per student.

U.S. News predicted Ohio University's graduation rate should have been 53 percent; instead, it was 71 percent.

In the overall *U.S. News* rankings, Ohio University tied at 112 with Florida State University, Loyola University Chicago, University of Dayton, University of South Carolina Columbia and University of Oregon. Among 164 national public institutions, Ohio University is ranked 52nd nationally.

Meanwhile, the NCAA recently announced Ohio student-athletes who entered school between 1997 and 2000 boast a graduation success rate of 83

percent, six points higher than the national Division I institutional average of 77 percent.

Nine of the Bobcats' 16 varsity sports programs posted rates of 86 percent or better. Four programs had perfect scores (field hockey, men's and women's golf and women's swimming/diving). The other top scores were women's soccer (96), women's cross country/track and field (91), volleyball (88), women's basketball (87) and men's basketball (86).

The men's basketball program's score is 22.4 percent higher than the national average, while the Ohio football team's mark is 10.4 percent higher than the national football mark.

ARCHIVAL

IMAGES



As a student at Ohio University, Corinne “Corky” DeLuca Hawkins was outgoing and social, enjoying nights of dances, complete with corsages and midnight curfews.

Photos in the four scrapbooks she recently donated to Ohio University’s Robert E. and Jean R. Mahn Center for Archives and Special Collections show how university life has changed since the 1940s. Her scrapbooks chronicle 1945–1949, the four years she spent as an undergraduate after enrolling at the age of 16.

An only child, Hawkins has fond memories of living with so many new friends and the busy social calendars they kept, including nightly study dates at the library.

“Toward the end of senior year, we used to call it four years in heaven,” says Hawkins, AB ’49. “We hated to see graduation.”

Today, she’s just as busy: She bikes 10 miles every other day, hosts friends from all over the world and sits down every day to write letters to a close friend in Illinois. This past summer, Hawkins, 78, took a two-week trip to Ecuador and toured the Amazon.

She and her late husband used to have a running joke about traveling the world in a hot air balloon. While they didn’t quite accomplish that, they did plenty of traveling before he passed away in 1998. She estimates she has visited at least 60 countries.

Hawkins’ scrapbooks and other pieces of Ohio University’s past can be viewed in Archives and Special Collections on the fifth floor of Alden Library.

— Jessica Alfrey

‘Cat Facts answers

1. Jacob Lindley taught all courses from the time they were first offered in 1808 until 1814. He served as president from 1808 until 1822. **2. Herbert Hoover** visited in 1932, and **Lyndon Johnson** visited in 1964. **3. Twenty presidents** have served. **4. William Henry Scott** was the first graduate to hold the office. He served from 1872 to 1883. **5. Charles Super** resigned in 1896 after 13 years as president, but remained on the faculty. Friction between him and his successor, Isaac Crook, limited Crook’s presidency to two years, after which Super returned to the position for two years. **6. President Vernon Alden** held office during these developments. Today, he lives in Boston. **7. Edwin Watts Chubb** served as acting president in 1920–21 and 1934–35.

Keeping Up

The College of Business welcomed a new dean, **Hugh Sherman**, in August.



Sherman returned to the university after serving as dean of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock’s College of Business. Earlier, he served on the Ohio University College of Business faculty and as an associate dean.

Sherman succeeds Glenn Corlett, BBA ’65, who retired in June.

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Ralph Amos, executive director of the Ohio University Alumni Association, resigned in July to accept the position of assistant vice chancellor for alumni relations and executive director of the alumni association at UCLA.

Amos, MPA ’04, led the Ohio University Alumni Association since 1998, overseeing an expansion in the Ohio University Alumni Association Board of Directors’ role and enhancing association services. A national search is under way for his successor. The association provides programming, services and other opportunities for Ohio University’s 192,000 living alumni.

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Alan Geiger, MBA ’82 and PHD ’84, assistant to the president and secretary to the Board of Trustees, retired after 40 years of service.

Geiger began his career at Ohio University in 1967 as the university’s first campus planner. He went on to work in government relations and in 1984 joined the president’s office.

Tom Davis, a College of Education faculty member, is serving as interim secretary.

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Terry Hogan resigned as dean of students and senior associate vice president for student affairs in August. Hogan, BS ’77, MA ’84 and PHD ’92, had been dean of students since 1998 and with the university since 1979.

Hogan headed to the University of Northern Iowa, where he took the position of vice president of educational and student services.

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Bill Smith, executive assistant to the president for institutional equity, retired June 30.

Smith began his work at Ohio in 1978 with the former Office of Affirmative Action.

A national search is nearing completion for a vice provost for diversity, access and equity who will handle many of Smith’s former duties.

— Compiled by Jessica Alfrey