

Soldier's take on war comes home

By Jennifer Kirksey Smith

Editor's Note: This article is not meant to be a statement for or against the war. It is the personal story about the war's impact on one family.

On Jan. 29, Jean Tippett, an administrative coordinator in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, received an e-mail from her son-in-law, Col. Robert Harvey, an F-16 fighter pilot serving in Kuwait. Tippett is just one of many Ohio University employees who are personally touched by the conflict in the Middle East.

Her son-in-law's correspondence opened Tippett's eyes to his strong feeling about being there, half a world away.

"This is something I believe in and want to contribute to. I believe in freedom," Harvey wrote to family and friends.

"Support is so important now."

Tippett, who has five

children, is a proud mother who truly supports her children and their spouses.

"I try not to worry about what they are doing because these are the choices they made," she said.

Tippett's son-in-law is not the only member of her family in the military. Her son, Dan, is a major in the Air Force. Stationed in Panama City, Fla., he is responsible for training F-16 fighter pilots.

Her daughter Connie met Harvey while visiting Dan and his wife when they lived in Germany several years ago. Connie coincidentally works for the national headquarters of the American Red Cross and lives in Phoenix, Ariz.

Tippett is not a debater but she can see all sides to this conflict. "The hard part is seeing and hoping that others will also take a moment to see the other side, too."

In a March 9 correspon-

dence, Harvey began "Hello from Kuwait (where the dust never settles)" to describe a visit he and some of his team took "out to the field."

"I am pleased and proud to say those young men and women are wonderful," he wrote. "They have such a great attitude! One young man had a smile on his face and a cheerful disposition even though the sand was blowing so hard one could not see 50 yards, the mess tent had blown down and they had to eat MREs (meals ready to eat) and they hadn't showered in a week. Again you can all be very proud of our troops!"

Tippett, moved by Harvey's eloquent way of putting things, says "what touches me most is knowing how sincere and dedicated these men and women are in protecting our right to freedom."

Her personal experience is not unlike other families who are touched by this conflict. To date, six

University employees and 51 students have been called to service.

But her experience is just one representation of the other ways people on the University's campuses are impacted by this military action.

In University President Robert Glidden's letter to the campus community, which is posted on www.ohio.edu/alerts, he acknowledges this is a very emotional time, one of strong feelings and varying viewpoints.

"This war will no doubt try our country in ways we have not yet experienced. As quickly as our world changes, we must continue to value differing opinions and hold dear the principles of a free, open and civil society."

Jennifer Kirksey Smith is a writer for Ohio University Communications and Marketing.

Baker Peace Conference April 3 and 4

Bruce Babbitt, former Secretary of the Interior from 1993-2001, is among the national experts who will discuss energy use, national security and international politics at Ohio University's annual peace conference on the Athens campus April 3 and 4.

Babbitt will open the 29th Baker Peace Conference with a keynote address at 8 p.m. on



Babbitt

April 3 in Templeton-Blackburn Alumni Memorial Auditorium.

Throughout the following

day, ten of the country's leading energy scientists, historians, scholars and activists will debate this year's topic: "U.S. Energy Consumption and the Environment." The three panels are: "The United States and Global Warming," from 9:30 a.m. to noon, "Oil Dependence and National Security," from 1 to 3 p.m. and "Fossil Fuels vs. Renewable Energy Resources: The Politics of U.S. Energy Policy," from 3:30 to 5:15 p.m. The panels will be held in Baker University Center. All events are free and open to the general public.

The Baker Peace Conference was established in 1984 by lifelong peace activists John C. Baker and Elizabeth, his wife. Baker was Ohio University's president from 1945-1962.

The conference was created to present an annual interdisciplinary examination of threats to peace. Managed by the University's Contemporary History Institute, this year's academic partner is the Environmental Studies Program in the University's George Voinovich Center for Leadership and Public Affairs.

For more detailed information visit the Web site at www.ohio.edu/news/media/.

Zanesville student poses challenge to get involved

By Abby Rouse

Jobie Siemer is anything but your typical college student. Instead of Monday being just the first day of his weekly classes, it is also a day of decision-making and policy implementing at his weekly city council meeting in Corning, Ohio.

Siemer is a 20-year-old city councilman, a full-time student at Ohio University-Zanesville and, he hopes, the future mayor of his hometown, although he has yet to seek the seat.

Devotion to politics was instilled in Siemer at a young age and he remembers politics as a way of life for his family. With one grandfather being the former mayor of Corning and the other a member of the school board, politics was

a common discussion topic around the house.

When Siemer was 12 and 13 years old his television was tuned not to Jerry Springer or MTV, but to political talk shows, which he would call to argue his opinions. By the time he was 15, Siemer was working with local history groups and art centers helping to get grant money for his hometown.

When asked if he ever felt he is missing out on a college experience, he answered with a firm "no," saying that students should come out of college with some knowledge or skill no matter what it is you are doing. He is coming out of college with life experience that will benefit his

future. Siemer said life "short and you should make of it what you can."

Most politicians are older and get elected based on their firm opinions on issues and their overall life experience. How can Jobie Siemer, a 20-year-old compete? He said the fact that he is young and his ideas are constantly changing is an asset. Certain fundamental ideas stay the same, but since he is always learning, his views are altering constantly. Because of his changing opinions, Siemer continues to research new ideas which give him a broader view.

The question of being mayor of Corning is a lingering one. With his tremendous love of his community,

Siemer feels he would be a good mayor. He faults others for leaving their hometowns, feeling they should stick to their roots and foundation. "The integrity of a town is based on the integrity of its people."

Siemer has advice for his generation and fellow college students across the country, "Take responsibility for yourself and your actions and don't concentrate on the monetary side of life. Ask yourself instead, 'how did I help people or change a life.' Don't make yourself better, make the human race better."

Abby Rouse is a student writer with University Communications and Marketing.

Software switch merges University financial data

By Joseph Hughes

As summer approaches, new growth replaces the winter doldrums. In looking to its financial future, Ohio University is making a key software switch that promises ease of use and bolstered connectivity.

The Oracle Financial Management System (FMS) has replaced the CUFS (College and University Financial System), as of April 1. Ohio University employees will have access to more information than ever before and will position the University to alleviate cumbersome paper processes.

Any Ohio University employee can sign on with his or her Oak ID and password to access the system. "The open architecture of this system won't restrict access," said Richard Siemer, vice president for finance. "If people see something, they can have the information there to ask the question. If we didn't move to this, we would be at a disadvantage because this system allows us to know ourselves."

The system was created to be user-friendly. The language is easily understandable and can be used by a nontechnical person. All a user has to do is push the mouse and click. However, with new technology comes apprehension, said functional team coordinator Shelley Ruff. However, the new system is winning people over at each training session.

"Anytime you deal with new technologies, there is a fear of the unknown," Ruff said. "Once people see it and see how it works, this fear gradually goes away. Seeing truly is

believing. It just takes practice. People are coming to the training sessions and are learning so much about the new system. Once they see it, it's also important for them to go back to their desktops and practice."

Apart from ease of use, the move to Oracle has other benefits for Ohio University and its employees. "The move places Ohio University at the top with the ability to use new technologies," Ruff said. "It also adds to the skill bases of the University's employees. Overall, it helps consolidate data, making things flow much easier."

The switch comes on the heels of an extended development process, Ruff said. Working with the project team has been a fun and exciting adventure.

"We spent a lot of time going through the processes of forming, storming, conforming and finally performing," Ruff said. "We've made it through and continue through all four stages of a typical project team."

Coming from a consulting background, it was refreshing to see a team so interested in the goals of the University as opposed to looking out for themselves and their career. We have a very talented group of folks with a team-centered attitude."

For more information on the move from CUFS to Oracle and training sessions, please visit <http://www.finance.ohiou.edu/financials/training.htm>.

Joseph Hughes is a graduate student writer with University Communications and Marketing.

College of Business continues to challenge undergraduates homeland and overseas

Dan Glenn Corlett recently discussed his vision for the College of Business with Outlook. This is part of a series that gives deans an opportunity to share their thoughts with the Ohio University community.

interact with their peer mentor, a faculty member and a member of the business community.

Ohio University President Robert Glidden has referred to this



Corlett

program as a good example of "innovative teaching" and as "the single most responsive (engagement) idea to come out of the University to date."

What are some of the future goals of the College?

We plan to expand the opportunities for our students to participate in meaningful internships.

We want to work with international students in hands-on consulting projects overseas and to develop specific skills in our students that are important to their future success. The Global Competitiveness Program offers an intense experience, which begins on campus at the conclusion of each spring quarter and ends on-site in an international location.

What are some of the College's most interesting programs?

The College's undergraduate cluster experience in the business core is exciting. The

College is unique among nationally accredited business colleges in offering meaningful action learning programs for undergraduates. Our students take business core courses in one of two "cluster classes," which integrate traditionally independent business disciplines. Students work in teams to solve real problems that are faced by real businesses.

The MBA Without Boundaries (MBA/WB) Program is designed so that working professionals can earn their master's degree through a combination of resident and Internet-based learning. The program was selected as a "Best-Practice Partner" organization in technology-mediated learning.

The Global Learning Community (GLC) is a 30-hour certificate program that focuses on international issues and cultural awareness. The GLC offers students the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in a project-based learning environment. The students will do an on-campus study and then travel internationally to participate in business consulting projects and an international internship.



What goals have you set for the College of Business this year?

This is our self-study year for our reaccreditation. Our primary goal is preparing for the upcoming visit of the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business' in October 2003.

Another goal includes the continued expansion of the MBA program, which has grown from 35 students to over 110 this year.

The College is continuing its evolution of the undergraduate curriculum and is seeking ways to help more undergraduate students participate in global learning experiences.

We will fully implement our Freshman Engagement Program this fall. Through the BA 100 course, about 40 upper-class business student volunteers, who are trained as peer mentors, facilitate small group activities and help acclimate and support first-year business students. In small groups, business freshmen

Commencement

120 administrative contract staff needed as volunteers for this year's commencement exercises on Friday, June 6 and Saturday, June 7.

3 available time slots: Friday, 8 a.m. until noon; Saturday, 8 a.m. until noon or Saturday, 1 - 4:30 p.m. (lunch provided for those who volunteer for both Saturday shifts)

Information/training session: Thursday, June 5 at 10 a.m. at the Convocation Center. Contact Gretchen Stephens at stephens@ohio.edu or Eileen Wirsing at emwirsing@yahoo.com.

Deadline to sign up is April 18

OUTLOOK

OUTLOOK is a weekly publication for the employees of Ohio University. It is produced by University Communications and Marketing, part of the division of University Advancement. Feel free to submit story ideas, event information, etc. Contact the editor three weeks in advance to have your item considered for publication in the print edition and two weeks in advance for the online edition. Send e-mail to outlook@ohio.edu or campus mail to University Communications and Marketing, 102 Scott Quad, or call (740) 597-2938.

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Calendar

Lectures

International Studies Forum: "Brazilian International Immigration," April 4, 4 - 5 p.m., Scripps Hall, Anderson Auditorium. Frank Goza, associate professor of sociology at Bowling Green State University, will present "Brazilian International Immigration." Contact: Jennifer Cochran at (740) 593-1842.

Events

Dance Workshop, April 5, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m., Baker University Center Ballroom. The Jitterbug Club will present four, 75-minute lessons on Lindi-Hop, Blues and Balboa by National Titlists Bob and Gayle Moses. Admission

includes the dance at 9 p.m. Contact: Mike Easterday at (740) 597-9612. Cost: \$15.

Friends of the Library Recognition Reception, April 8, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m., Alden Library. The Friends of the Libraries of Ohio University will recognize the scholarship of Ohio University authors in 2002 at this reception. Books, performances and recordings from Ohio University faculty and staff will be acknowledged.

Financial Education Opportunities Seminar, April 24, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Baker Center room 304: one-on-one counseling: April 24, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Baker Center room 304; and May

21 and June 25, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Baker Center room 331.

Performances

In Process - "Songs of Change" Workshop, April 11, 9 - 11 a.m., School of Music Recital Hall. In Process is an a cappella ensemble from Washington, D.C., consisting of four African-American women who give powerful voice to what it means to be an African-American woman in the U.S. and the world. Their songs comment on the themes of love, self-respect and equality. This event is part of the Ohio University Global Africa and Its Encounters in Southeast Asia and the Americas Conference. Contact: Dianne Bouvier at (740) 593-9141.

OU-COM's prevention program serves local students

By Jack Sowers

Through Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine's Eye to Eye program last fall, more than 1,000 Athens County children received free vision screenings. The "Eye to Eye" screening clinics were some of the many outreach health-care and prevention efforts in Southeastern Ohio offered by OU-COM's Community Service Program.

Volunteers from AmeriCorps and the Alexander Lions Club, as well as OU-COM students, screened children over a six-week period from mid-October to the end of November. Last year, Prevent Blindness Ohio started certifying volunteers for the Eye to Eye program through Athens optometrists Sherry Crawford, O.D., and Kathy Biddinger, O.D., who also assisted in providing vision screenings.

"The screenings went really well," said AmeriCorps's Siobhan O'Connor, who coordinated the volunteers at several school sites. "The only problem was finding a good time for all students to be screened

at one time."

Students from Amesville, Alexander, Coolville and Nelsonville elementary schools, Nelsonville and Alexander middle school and Alexander junior and high schools were visited by the Eye to Eye program.

Ohio requires schools that have a nurse on-site to give screenings. However, if there is no nurse, no screenings are required. Many of the schools visited by the Eye to Eye program do not have a nurse on-site.

"Because school systems are underfunded and understaffed, vision screenings have really become a primary priority for our program," said Nancy Schell OU-COM's Community Service Program coordinator.

The screenings included a left-right acuity (eye chart) test, a colorblindness test for boys (colorblindness is rare among girls) and a stereopsis test that detects problems in depth perception. When a potential vision problem



Candace Brown performs a vision screening. Students from Amesville, Coolville and Nelsonville elementary schools were visited by volunteers of the Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine's Eye to Eye community outreach program

One in four school-age children has vision problems, according to information provided by Prevent Blindness. Also, one in 20 preschool-age children has an eye problem that, if left untreated, can lead to permanent loss of vision.

OU-COM's Community Service Program began as the Childhood Immunization Program in 1994. As the program grew, so grew the realization that there were many unmet health needs in our area. As a result of the desire to meet these needs, Community Service Programs (CSP) was formed in early 1996.

There are now several grant-supported programs in place to help improve the health of southeastern Ohio.

Jack Sowers is a graduate student writer with OU-COM.

was detected, a letter advising a follow-up screening was sent home to parents.

Supplementary screenings will be held on as needed basis for students who missed the fall screenings.

Chillicothe training institute looks toward future of law enforcement

By Carmen Pease

The Southern Ohio Police Training Institute (SOPTI) at Ohio University-Chillicothe is heralding a new era for Southern and Central Ohio's police departments. A unique feature on any college campus, the academy focuses on preparing students for new challenges in the trade's changing times.

Dating back to its first class in March 1995, the 550-hour certification program combines six months of classroom study with valuable hands-on training as it prepares students for the realities a peace officer faces. It is structured around a state-sanctioned lesson plan so that after completing the academy, students are eligible to be certified by the Ohio Peace Officer Training Council.

What sets SOPTI apart from the dozens of other training academies in the state, is its commitment to looking toward the future of policing. The academy features specialized

topics of study including communicating with the deaf and handling hazardous materials, thanks to the success of pre-existing programs on campus. Students also study terrorism and militia groups to be prepared for the variety of situations that have taken precedence since Sept. 11, 2001.

Students are trained in self-defense, firearms, human relations, handcuff techniques, sobriety testing, how to deal with civil disorders and traffic as well as how to investigate crimes.

"It's a good program," said Joe Reass, the academy's commander. "Even if students are not interested in law enforcement as a profession, the training can be useful in other occupations. Some go on to law school or criminal justice careers."

Now in its 12th session, the program boasts an array of professional, certified law



Southern Ohio Police Training Institute students take part in a hazardous materials decontamination exercise using shaving cream. This training is performed cooperatively by instructors from the Environmental Training and Research Center.

enforcement instructors and speakers including detectives and state troopers.

"We've got great instructors — the best of the best," said Matt Shipley, a SOPTI student

with a job waiting when he graduates. "It's real top-notch training. It has given me a lot more confidence and I'm looking forward to serving the public."

Experiential learning focus of educator visit

Janet Eyler of Vanderbilt University, recipient of the Outstanding Research Award from the National Society for Experiential Education, will be on campus April 3 and 4. Her research includes examination of the contributions of experiential learning models to cognitive development, problem solving, transfer of learning and civic engagement.

Eyler will present her research at 4 p.m. Thursday, April 3, Scripps Auditorium. The event is open to all.

Eyler will work with Ohio University faculty interested in joining a new research project funded by the 1804 Fund from 9 a.m. to noon and 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Friday, April 4, in Baker Center.

Faculty who are selected to participate in the project will receive a summer stipend of up to \$750, \$375 in research funds and support from the project graduate assistant.

Information on the project and an application are available at www.ohio.edu/teacher/ or contact Karin Sandell, Center for Teaching Excellence, (740) 593-2942, or Merle Graybill, Center for Community Service, (740) 593-4028.

The academy was launched because most police departments in southern and central Ohio do not have their own academies like metropolitan ones might. To tackle this problem, SOPTI runs two programs a year, making it one of the most reliable academies around.

Open to any eligible student or interested peace officer seeking more training, graduates of the program can receive up to 24 credit hours toward a degree in law enforcement technology at Ohio University-Chillicothe. Open-enrollment students must meet the requirements set forth by the Ohio Peace Officer Training Council, which includes a criminal background check.

Carmen Pease is a student writer with University Communications and Marketing.

Gathering Granites

By Camden Easterling

Trisha Piercey does not travel light. Last summer she returned from a week in northern Michigan and Wisconsin with the trunk of her rental car threatening to scrape bottom.

Piercey, a senior geological sciences major, had not loaded up on blueberries or cheese. She had packed her compact car with gallon-size plastic bags full of granites that are about 1.75 billion years old.

Piercey and other scientists hope such rocks will give them a better understanding of how large sections of the Earth's crust, called tectonic plates, have moved over time.



Piercey used a hammer and a rock pick to break off samples.

Scientists theorize that granites found in Michigan and Wisconsin could offer significant signs of the tectonic evolution that occurred when the rocks formed years ago. To gather specimens at these sites, Piercey used a hammer and a rock pick to break off samples for analyses.

"It's not glamorous," said Piercey, who is most comfortable in jeans and a t-shirt and has no problem getting her hands dirty.

To the layperson, the samples look more like dusty rocks than the sparkling granite slabs used for flooring. A sample in her hand, Piercey licks a finger and then swipes the rock's surface, repeating the motion until the familiar flecks and streaks of minerals and crystals sparkle through.

When she returned to Athens, the student shipped some of her samples, which range in size from rocks as small as a fist to those bigger than a brick, to a lab in

Ontario. Lab technicians pulverize the granites, then process and analyze the remaining fine powder to reveal the elements present in the samples.

By comparing this data to an established database, Piercey can learn more about the geological setting in which the rocks were created. This information enables her to make inferences about the

evolution of the North American plate nearly two billion years ago.

Piercey is in the initial stages of analyzing the results from the Canadian lab and data from her own research in the University labs, gained by examining small sam-

ples of the rocks, called "thin sections." Under a microscope, the minerals in the thin sections resemble a kaleidoscope of bright blues, greens and reds.

The geologist's research will add to the studies of her adviser David Schneider, assistant professor of geological sciences. Schneider's research examines the mountain-building events that formed modern-day North America and Europe.

Piercey, 32, plans to finish her thesis in time to graduate in June, after which she will start work on a master's degree in geology at Ohio University. In the future, she hopes to combine her geology background with her other major, Spanish. But she will have to learn to travel light before heading off in search of rocks on foreign soil.

Camden Easterling is a writing intern with Research Communications.

Correction: Preliminary Administrative Diversity Data

	Minority Total		Black		Asian		Hispanic		Native American	
1993	82	11.8%	48	6.9%	29	4.2%	4	0.6%	1	0.1%
1994	84	11.7%	48	6.7%	26	3.6%	3	0.4%	7	1.0%
1995	88	11.6%	52	6.9%	25	3.3%	3	0.4%	8	1.1%
1996	78	10.0%	49	6.3%	20	2.6%	3	0.4%	6	0.8%
1997	82	9.8%	44	5.2%	27	3.2%	6	0.7%	5	0.6%
1998	96	10.8%	49	5.5%	36	4.0%	6	0.7%	5	0.6%
1999	102	10.5%	49	5.1%	40	4.1%	6	0.6%	7	0.7%
2000	112	10.8%	57	5.5%	38	3.7%	10	1.0%	7	0.7%
2001	125	11.2%	62	5.6%	48	4.3%	10	0.9%	5	0.5%
2002	121	10.5%	63	5.5%	46	4.0%	8	0.7%	4	0.3%

*The wrong data was listed in the administrative table in the March 19, 2003 edition of Outlook.

Renovations settles into historic site

By Amber MacDonald and Karen Deardorff

The chalk-written names and drawings scribbled across the brick walls of the new Facilities Management office complex appear to be quite out of place. The new home for the Ohio University renovation department, at 9 Factory Street, was formerly occupied by the Factory Street Dance Studio, which would explain the chalk.

"People guess that it used to be a dance studio," said Stephanie Bartlett, project manager of the renovation department. "They either like it or they don't."

Most employees left up the graffiti writings in their individual offices, and even added their own name and date, Bartlett said. "This way, we're all part of the history of the building," she said.

But no matter how the new occupants feel about the chalk, there's one resounding feeling about the move—excitement.

"This has definitely been a good move for us as a department," said Joe Fabiny, director of renovation for the project. "It's a perfect fit."

The move allows the entire division to be housed under one roof, which allows for better interoffice communication.

"It makes coordinating new projects and keeping up with the day-to-day operations easier when everyone is in the same



(left to right) Ron Young, Stephanie Bartlett, Marianne Pratt, Joe Fabiny and Bruce Nottke. (not pictured) Robin Faires, Howard Fokes, Dave Leach and Tanya Reimer.

building," Bartlett added.

With a budget of only \$40,000 for the project, two of the most important considerations when choosing a new office building were cost and space efficiency. The new building was able to meet both of those needs with a small amount of renovation.

All of the labor was performed in-house by the construction crew, with the assistance of many other shops, Bartlett explained. New ductwork, lights and walls were installed. Window repairs were made and mechanical systems and air conditions were updated.

Another important factor during the renovation was maintaining the historic

charm of the building, while creating a highly-functional office space.

The newly turned office space used to serve as a grocery warehouse and as a tool rental shop in the early 1900s, when Factory and Union Streets were the industrial hub of Athens.

Fabiny said the department was able to save money by maintaining the "turn of the century feel" that is characterized by its narrow stairways, polished hardwood floors and high ceilings. "It suits our department perfectly," he said.

Amber MacDonald was a student writer with Facilities and Auxiliaries. Karen Deardorff is director of communications for Facilities and Auxiliaries.



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