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# Shawnee State University Chronicle

Volume 24 Issue 7

The editorially-independent student newspaper.

December 6, 2010

## The Dark Lord moves on

By **ABBY TESKE**

Staff Reporter

Darren Harris-Fain, Ph.D., walks into the first day of his Special Topics class on graphic novels. Special Topics classes are his favorite kinds of classes to teach. The students are interesting, and the topics discussed in class are those he likes to research. Harris-Fain looks around the room and pulls out the class roster. Name after name he calls until he gets to the end of the list. "And you may refer to me as the Dark Lord," he finishes. The name stuck.

Harris-Fain earned his Ph.D. in English from Kent State University. His concentrations were in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century American and British Literature and Science Fiction. After earning his degrees, Harris-Fain taught as an adjunct at multiple colleges before applying for and receiving his first full-time professorship at Shawnee in 1996.

While Harris-Fain always knew he wanted to go to college, he originally intended to attend seminary and go into the ministry. As his religious views changed and he began to re-think his plan, he realized that he enjoyed the academic environ-

ment and wanted to be a professor.

And professorship has worked out well for Harris-Fain. In his years at Shawnee he has taught multiple literature courses as well as courses on pop culture, American film, and, of course, Special Topics classes. Harris-Fain has also written and edited a number of books and articles during his time at Shawnee. His publications include books on science fiction and graphic novels,



Harris-Fain discusses his departure from Shawnee State University.

Photo by Stephanie Phillips

his two favorite areas of study. "Comics and science fiction have long been interests of mine," Harris-Fain said. He added that his fascination with comics as a child morphed into a more academic interest as he grew older. He liked "how science fiction and graphic novels appeal to the imagination and how both can tell compelling stories."

Students who have taken Harris-Fain's classes seem to agree that Harris-Fain shares his love for these topics with his students.

"He puts everything into context," Christina Jones, SSU student, said. She explained that the way he lectured let her see the big picture of the piece of literature the class was discussing.

It is this fascination with research, in part, that has led Harris-Fain to accept a position at Auburn University Montgomery  
See Harris-Fain, 3

## Don't forget to pick up your new Bear Card

► *New student identification cards available; old cards deactivated Dec. 20*

By **ABBY TESKE**

Staff Reporter

Have a broken student ID? Or one that is showing major signs of wear? As of Nov. 29, you can kiss your old ID good-bye and pick up your new SSU Bear Card.

SSU is switching to a new ID system for students. The new student ID, the Bear Card, will work just like the old ID card—you can swipe it for meals in the Bear's Den, use it to check out books from the library or access exercise equipment in the Athletic Center, and slide it like a credit card to pay for your textbooks in the bookstore with your extra financial aid. The new Bear Card may also save you money off campus, as many businesses in town offer discounts to students who show the card.

The new Bear Cards will be available for students to pick up beginning Nov. 29 in the University Center. Students should make sure to pick up their cards before they leave at the end of the semester, because the old student ID cards will be deactivated on Dec. 20.



## Shawnee ladies learn self-defense

By LYDIA SMITH  
Staff Reporter

All female students of Shawnee State University were invited to a top secret training session in self-defense. Well, it wasn't exactly top secret, but all women there were warned never to show their moves to another person outside of the class. That is, unless they were doing so to protect themselves from serious injury, then it's time for the attacker to learn the definition of pain.

The trainers were two men, Mike Price and his assistant Lee Sandfer. Mike has worked for the sheriff's department, been a part of the U.S. military, and studied martial arts since the 80's. Both of the men had personally experienced situations in which their female friends or family members had been attacked. This made both men passionate about what they were teaching the women in the self-defense class.

More than 30 women were instructed in several different escape techniques and a few offenses after an attack. All of the training was centered on getting free and running, something that Mike Price emphasized multiple times.

"Run, and scream like a banshee," Price said.

The ladies were told to be aware of their surroundings and take precautions to remain safe. Parking in a well-lit area, making sure you make eye contact with someone that looked suspicious, and staying in groups.

He also reminded them that campus security was available to walk them to their cars thus providing an extra measure of safety to those walking in the dark.

"Even if you don't remember the exact stuff they're telling you, people that have taken this class can improvise," Brooke Barnes, one of the attendees, said. "I think everyone who has taken this class has come away with a better understanding of how to protect themselves."

"The women here need to take all they have learned and use it wisely, they need to take it seriously," Sandfer said. "Most accidents and abductions are right outside your door, always be aware."

The attendees were given a free whistle and the two free hours of instruction. The event was sponsored by the Women's Resource Center, which can be found in Massie 019.

"The goal of this class in self-defense was to give women empowerment," Price said. "Ladies, knowledge is power."



## Maggie Taylor talks Alice's Adventures

Maggie Taylor, author and illustrator of "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" published by Modernbook Editions, 2008, presented "Images and Other Things ... the evolution of imagery and creative process with the scanner and computer" on Friday, Nov. 12 at the Howland Recital Hall in the Vern Riffe Center for the Arts. She talked about how she created the images digitally.

From SSU Office of Communications

## Life of a Resident Advisor

Column

By KRISTINA KIEFFER  
Staff Reporter

Several residents believe that being a Resident Advisor is a dream job. They think it's easy because we tend to all hang out and joke around with each other and our residents. We also have the perks of having our housing and meal plans paid for as well as getting a small paycheck every two weeks. Trust me, there is a lot more involved in it than that.

Resident Advisors make sure that your campus living experience goes as smoothly as possible with some fun added in. Every month we have to come up with a program to get the residents involved and meeting new people. Sometimes it is really hard to come up with ideas for programs that your residents are interested in, especially when you share different interests. Some of these programs are purely social events, like a movie or game night. Other programs are meant to be educational. Those can be really hard to come up with ideas for.

Once a semester, Resident Advisors work with a partner to come up with a campus-wide program. If the event is to be during the week it must be an educational program, if it is during the weekend it must be a social program. For these programs, we must fill out paperwork asking to reserve a space. We also have to work with Sodexo if we choose to serve refreshments. We are given a budget to pay for the refreshments, prizes, and any supplies we might need.

Resident Advisors are required to be on call once every two weeks during the weekdays and once about every six weeks during the weekends. This means that we are trusted with master keys for all of the housing units. One of the Resident Advi-

sors would be the operator. This person must stay in their apartment the entire night and answer the MyRA phone line.

When a problem arises, the operator then calls one of the other Resident Advisors and that person is given whatever details the operator has then they handle the problem. Also while on call, the Resident Advisors who are on call but aren't operator must go on rounds twice. This means that they walk around the housing buildings to see if anything is going on that shouldn't be happening.

As a Resident Advisor, you fill out a lot of paperwork. Before residents move in, we have to fill out a form called Room Condition Report for each resident moving into the housing. These forms are easy to fill out, just time consuming. Resident Advisors also fill out maxient reports. These reports are online and are used for maintenance or student issues such as a lockout report. Weekly reports must be filled out and e-mailed to the supervisor every Sunday. You write a little about how you are doing and then talk about what your residents are up to. There are programming forms that are filled out before and after events. These are rather simple, you just describe the event.

Being a Resident Advisor is a lot of work, especially when you add in the homework load from classes and any other student activities you are involved in. Despite all the work, it really is a fun job. You work with a lot of great people who end up being some of your closest friends. It is a bonding experience and one I know I will not forget.





## Hispanic Awareness Day Celebrated at Bear's Den

Shawnee State University's African American, Hispanic, Asian and Native American (AHANA) student organization sponsored Hispanic Awareness Day at the Bear's Den in the University Center. Students participating are, from left, Deontae Bannerman, Michael Bannerman, Orlando Currie, Tiyywana Hudson, Jessicah Gordon, Nick Ball and Gerrika Fizer.

*From SSU Office of Communications*

## Students wrap presents for Operation Christmas Child project



Shawnee State University students Markee Osborne, left, and Rachel Peters wrap shoe boxes full of gifts for the Operation Christmas Child Project. The OCC project was started by Samaritan's Purse International Relief and last year sent eight million shoe boxes to children in impoverished countries.

*From SSU Office of Communications*

## SSU offers workshops for water and wastewater personnel

Three workshops are being offered at Shawnee State University for water and wastewater personnel beginning Monday, Jan. 21. Each workshop is 5.25 contact hours and will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at SSU's Advanced Technology Center, Room 221. Lunch will be provided.

The first workshop on Monday, Jan. 21 is called AC Generators. Students in this workshop will learn how to identify the type of load and the power factor correction needed for an AC generator, how to connect the generator to a load, and how to parallel two or more generators for increased capacity. Students who take this course will also learn how to calculate voltage regulation and efficiencies for AC generators.

The second workshop will take place on Feb. 18. This workshop is about transformers. Students will learn how to calculate current, voltages and power for Wye and Delta transformer circuits. Students will also learn about the safety issues dealing with transformers, how to connect transformers as needed in various electrical circuits, how to design a basic electrical service supply system, how to test for proper polarity and determine the efficiency of a transformer system.

The third workshop will take place on April 15. In this workshop students will learn to

solve mathematical problems associated with the operation and design of waste water treatment facilities. The course topics include detention time, flow rate, removal efficiency, hydraulic loading, SVI, BOD loading and removal, sludge age, sample volumes, chlorine demand, dose and feed rates, D.O. saturation, pump capacity, digestion time, sludge application rates, oxygen uptake rates, motor HP, tank size and volumes. The class includes a 1-hour practice exam.

Ken Warfield, associate professor of Electromechanical Engineering Technology at Shawnee State University is the instructor for the workshops. He has more than twenty years of teaching experience and more than ten years of industrial experience in electrical, mechanical, water and wastewater fields. He is experienced in the operations, maintenance and management of EPA governed treatment facilities. Warfield designed the SSU Environmental Engineering Technology degree program. Contact him at [kwarfield@shawnee.edu](mailto:kwarfield@shawnee.edu).

The course fee is \$100 per course. Register for two or more courses for \$85 each. For more information or to register, contact University Outreach Services Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at (740) 351-3274 or toll free (866) 672-8778.

*From SSU Office of Communications*

From Harris-Fain, 1 in Alabama. There he will be a professor of English and the chair of the Department of English and Philosophy. Harris-Fain said he was excited about this new position because it will allow him to devote time to research in his favorite field.

"I enjoy teaching, but working at a teaching institution limits the amount of time I can devote to my research," Harris-

Fain said.

Many Shawnee students have acknowledged regret at seeing Harris-Fain leave—and not only because of his academic knowledge. "My favorite thing about him as a professor is just how personable he is," Courtney Flint, SSU student, said.

Stephen Howard, another Shawnee student, agreed. "He is always willing to sit down with you and work out any problems

you are having, go over an assignment, and help you with a paper or project," Howard said.

Students will miss this balance of high academic quality and personableness. His title as the Dark Lord demonstrates the affection, respect, and humor with which students regard Harris-Fain. "Shawnee has some big shoes to fill trying to replace him," Jones said.

## Book pulls back the curtains of the computer

By LYDIA SMITH  
Staff Reporter

Jim Reneau, a professor on campus, has been working on a book that teaches children how to program. The book is titled, "So you want to learn how to program?" It's a free, open source file, and can be downloaded right off the Internet.

"The whole purpose of the book is to teach people that want to learn to program how to program" Reneau said. "It was written for middle school students and it gets people started on programming."

His work on the book started when he was looking for a computer language to teach and found BASIC-256. "The language was written by a lieutenant in the U.S. Army, Ian Larson," Reneau said.

Larson wrote the language with the same goal that he himself had in mind when he wrote his book: to give the skill to everyone that wants it.

"It takes a decade to create a good programmer," Reneau said. "The sooner you start the better."

Directing this book at middle school students is a way to get them started early.

"Think of Dorothy with the Wizard and how magical and powerful he looked but when she pulled the curtain back all she found was a scared little man with some buttons," Reneau said. "Imagine now if you could pull aside the curtain to the Internet, to the World Wide Web, to your pc, and see the simple beauty and all the personalities of the people that created it. That's what I'm trying to do with the book."



From SSU Office of Communications

## Ohio State University marching band performs at VRCFA

By JOSH GARRETT  
Staff Reporter

The Verne Riffe Center for The Arts was drenched in Scarlett and Gray for the performance of the Ohio State University Marching Band on Oct. 16. The 225-piece orchestra returned to the Center for the first time since Nov. 9 2004. Dr. Jon R. Woods conducts the band rotating with Assistant Director Jonathan Waters, Percussion Director Gary Hodges, and Graduate Assistant Directors Chris Hoch and Kyle Huston with Drum Majors Jason Stuckert and Matthew Berndsen appearing at times to twirl the baton for the crowd. Seven of the Marching Band members are from the Scioto Valley and were met with thunderous applause when their names were announced.

Director Hoch led the audience on a trip to movie and TV-land with the band playing the themes of such classic TV shows as *the Flintstones*, *the Simpsons*, and *Scooby-Doo* along with the theme songs of the

*Star Wars*, *Spiderman*, and *The Incredibles*.

After intermission, the band took us to Graceland and the music of Elvis Presley playing classic hits like "Hunka Burnin' Love," "Jail House Rock," and "You Ain't Nothing but a Hound Dog." Some of the band members went into the audience for volunteers to do "The Chicken Dance." During a break between songs the announcer broadcast the score of the Ohio State vs. Florida basketball game, 75-93, with the Buckeyes winning the audience roared with approval.

After playing music from the hit Fox show *Glee*, Journeys' "Don't Stop Believin'" and Bon Jovi's "Livin' on a Prayer," the band finished with their own classics like "Hang on Sloop" and "I wanna go back to Ohio State." The bands' staff gathered on the stage to take their bows alongside the musicians. Overall, the performance was spectacular and it is no wonder the show was a sold out success.

## Shawnee State University to offer GED courses year round

Shawnee State University, in cooperation with Scioto County Adult Basic Literacy Education (ABLE), offers courses year round to anyone in the community who is interested in obtaining their GED.

"There were previously two sites, a county site and a SSU site but recently the two were combined to make Scioto County ABLE," Marcia Tolliver, BASICS coordinator, said.

The Shawnee State University site is called Shawnee Basic Adult Skills in Col-

lege Setting (BASICS) and is available year round.

The brush-up course is for students who have a high school diploma and want to brush up on their skills before entering college.

Two orientations are scheduled every Monday and Tuesday at SSU. On Mondays, orientation is from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and every Tuesday, orientations are at 5 p.m.

The program is a preparation course and is completely free; the GED test itself

is \$40.

Some students in this program can expect to be in the course a week and others may be in the course six months.

Several locations are available for taking the courses. These locations can be found in the Northwest Family Resource Center, Career Tech Center, Minford High School, South Webster, and SSU.

The program is funded through a grant from the Ohio Board of Regents and is considered part of the University System of Ohio.

From SSU Office of Communications

# Pick up America walks to SSU

By LYDIA SMITH

Staff Reporter

"We see that this is a huge problem for our culture, our generation, and our children," Davey Rogner, Campaign Coordinator of Pick up America, said, Thursday Oct. 14 in an environmental lecture.

The group, Pick up America, consists of four adults that are walking across America and picking up trash as they go. Their brochure defines this it as, "a walking adventure to pick up trash across the country and inspire a transition toward zero waste."

Davey Rogner, Kelly Klein, Jeff Chen, and Kim Alexander have remarkably raised the majority of their own support though they started with a \$1,200 grant that allowed them to purchase cleaning supplies for their trash cleaning endeavors.

Originally from Maryland, the group Pick up America and more than 200 volunteers from around the country have managed to collect an estimated 32 tons of trash with this number climbing daily. This incredible feat has been accomplished after only 10 months of hard work.

"It's been really hard to get people to volunteer to pick up trash," Kim Alexander, volunteer coordinator, said. "People don't have enough enthusiasm about cleaning up the environment."

"It is really important that people get on board with taking care of the environment, treating it with respect is treating humankind with respect," Rogner said. "We're operating under the approach that takes the environment first and the economy second."

The group is trying to get to the point where the country is zero-waste. This means that all products can be recycled or disposed of in a way that doesn't hurt the environment.

"When the country is at that point it will help with pollution elimination, it will save money, conserve resources, and create jobs, Rogner said.



Mandie Maxwell, of Wooster, Ohio, coordinated a clothing drive for underprivileged troubled boys in Bulgaria that needed warmer clothes for winter. Within a couple of weeks, she recruited volunteers and sent over 40 shirts and 30 pairs of socks to the boys. Many of the events that Mandie works on are in the new SSU University Center where she poses for a moment at the tropical fish tank.

## Resident Advisor gets the job done

When Mandie Maxwell, resident advisor and Student Government Association secretary at Shawnee State University, volunteered to coordinate a clothing drive to get some shirts and socks for boys in a boarding school in Bulgaria, she got the job done with more than 40 shirts and hoodies plus 30 pairs of socks sent to the school. She is also an M3C Ameri-Corps Fellow at SSU.

"I recruited some volunteers and took my group into the community to ask for donations," Maxwell said. "Then I e-mailed all the other resident advisors and they helped."

She found a garage sale in South Shore that donated more than 20 items and Rita Haider, the director of the Center for International Programs and Activities, opened their lending closet and donated shirts, then the university community donated shirts and socks also.

The items collected were for a group of boys from ages 8 to 18 that have been put into a boarding school in Zavet, Bulgaria, on a court order because they have been in

trouble.

"Most of these boys only have one set of clothes that they wear day in and day out," said Tim Steflik, SSU alumni from Evans, Ga., who joined the Peace Corps after graduation in May as a Youth Development volunteer in Bulgaria.

Steflik sent a plea to Shawnee State University in October to help these boys get some warm clothes for winter. He was thrilled when he heard about the clothing drive.

"Wow, that is absolutely amazing," Steflik said. "I am actually flabbergasted right now. You really went above and beyond to help and I am overwhelmingly thankful. These kids are going to have a big surprise and will be ecstatic. It will be an early Christmas present for them. They are not used to receiving anything."

Maxwell is a International Relations major in her sophomore year at SSU from Wooster, Ohio.

From SSU Office of Communications

## Women's Center donates comfort bundles for St. Lucy's Sober House




Susan McComas, director of Resource Development at The Counseling Center, left, picked up comfort bundles from Ann Linden, interim director of the Women's Center at Shawnee State University, right. Bedding and toiletry supplies made up the comfort bundles that were donated to benefit the residents of St. Lucy's Sober House for Women in Portsmouth.

From SSU Office of Communications

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# The ultimate Moroccan experience

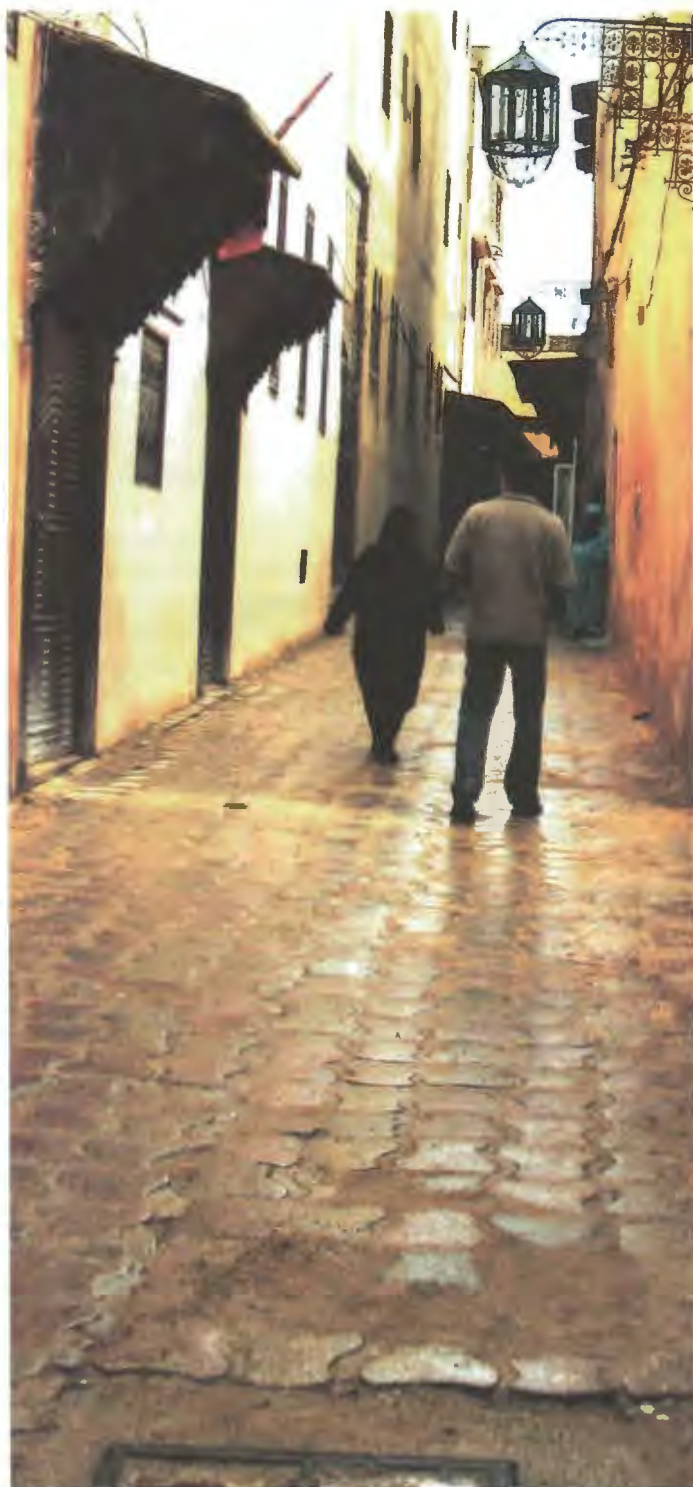
By NARJIS FATIMA  
Staff Reporter

Seeking a contrast to his life experience, a white, blonde American student landed in the North African Muslim state of Morocco last spring. The 1940s legendary blockbuster, *Casablanca* (based on French invasion in Morocco) is all that Jonathan Phillips, history major at Shawnee State University, could relate to when he first decided to embark on this study abroad journey.

"I knew nothing about Morocco," Phillips said. "I had no idea it was an African country, with an Arab nation and culture dominated by Islam."

Notwithstanding, for Phillips, traveling abroad to Morocco was the "coolest and most important experience" of his life.

Reminiscing the memories, he shared the glimpses of his travel



within the country and the daily life encounters of an entirely different culture.

"Lifestyle is absolutely different in Morocco. Theirs is a more family oriented and cohesive society," Phillips said.

To give an insight into the family dynamics, he mentioned a prevalent tradition where sons move out only after they get married.

The most glaring difference though, for Phillips was the Moroccan perspective on dating. It was in a conversation with his Moroccan roommate that Phillips learned about the 'no dating' norm of the society.

"My roommate was not going to date unless there was an intention of marriage (setup by his mother-arranged marriage)," Phillips said. "More puzzling was that he (the roommate) would not think about marriage unless he gets established. He is 24 already."

However, Phillips said he did not want to generalize it for the entire country because he was in a small town and life in cities is different.

Based on the Islamic value system, the Moroccan society has clearly delineated boundaries for interaction between the opposite sexes. Providing a sneak peek into the college life, Phillips shed light on the one rule that was stressed the most in the orientation for those living on campus-'no boys in female dorms'. No one dared to break it. There was a separate women's dormitory building, which was a no entry zone for male students.

The wardrobe is another aspect of the Arab culture that stood out for Phillips.

"Male students usually wore western clothing, but in the community one saw the cultural white garb with embroidered necks and sleeves to be the dominant choice," Phillips said. "Caps were usually a part of the attire of Moroccan men, with different regions having their own variety.

Skullcaps are specifically worn during the ritual prayers performed five times a day. With his female colleagues though, it was a half and half ratio of those in western attire and the ones in traditional veil.

"It was confusing to see such differences in dressing styles, but was refreshing at the same time," said Phillips. "It presented a lot more diversity about the followers of Islam than what I had conceived."

The landscape of the region was a whole new adventure.

"The landscape is diverse," Phillips said. "As a famous dictum goes, 'In Morocco you can travel from coast to Snowcap Mountains to deserts in one day'." The old architecture in the city of Fes, part of the 8000 years old heritage, was a feast for the eyes of a history student, he added.

It came as no surprise that the visit to the desert was one of the most special and unique experiences of Phillip's stay. The huge canyons that surrounded the trail to the desert mesmerized him.

"The desert was a beauty in itself. It was vast, an ocean of sand," Phillips said. "The Buemen as they were called-named after the blue turban they wore- guided the way of his caravan to the small little mud brick towns in the middle of the desert separated from rest of Morocco by mountains. For the two hours we were riding on the 'chilled out' camels, I felt we were just moving in circles with nothing but sand all around. But these men definitely knew their way. One of them was proud to declare, 'I was born with sand in my teeth.'"

Recounting his visit to the largest city, Casablanca- that was now something more than a movie title.

"First travel in Casa was scary," Phillips said. "Driving is bad. There is lots of honking, cars cut off at each other and bikers are



[Top-left] Phillips on a camel in the Sahara desert [Top-right] About 15 or so international students organized a trip to the South tourist the desert's impressive dunes. [Bottom-left] The Meknes medina was one of many stops Phillips made. [Bottom-right] This photo was taken in Ifrane, the city where AUI is located. "This lion is wildly popular among Moroccans their for some strange reason that I could never find out," Phillips said. Submitted photos.

very impatient."

"Older children in Casa were more cunning and tricky. Once I had to toss a kid to the ground who wouldn't stop putting his arm around me. After you make a scene like this, they tend to leave you alone because they can get into trouble," Phillips said.

Despite of such misadventures, the most special memory of his stay is linked with a cheerful lot of kids from a small town. It was his trip to the mountainous terrain South that he found himself "pursed and surrounded by several children, who wanted nothing but to say 'hello (in English surprisingly)'.

"Having a foreigner in their midst was a source of enjoyment and happiness for those kids, it lifted my spirits," Phillips said. "They were smiling and running around me. I managed to snap a picture, capturing a couple of kids and for some reason the experience is stuck with me."

Still searching for a definite course for his professional life, Phillips is certain though about the consequences emanating into his future from his precious experience in Morocco. There were obvious challenges that came with being away from everything and everyone he knew, but he believes the experience gave him more than he bargained for.



# A look back on the semester

► Many changes for *The Chronicle* including a new look and new website

## Editorial

By STEPHANIE PHILLIPS

Editor-in-chief

When accepting the position of editor-in-chief of *The Chronicle* at the beginning of the semester, I was naïve to think that it would be a breezy task. I thought, how difficult could it be to manage a staff and put together a student newspaper?

I soon realized the job was a bit more complex than I expected. My dreams of simply enjoying a latte and editing came to a halt and did so quite suddenly. Issue one was one hot mess. I will admit it. The quality was not what I expected and my proofing as a new editor was not yet up to par.

As the semester progressed, my performance got better, the staff's performance excelled as well but the quality did not.



Issue after issue sat stale on the stands. I knew that something needed to change for *The Chronicle* to succeed. We ultimately made the decision to find another publisher.

The goal was to provide quality news on quality paper that is more modern than typical newsprint. *The Chronicle* is changing dramatically to better needs of students, faculty and

fit the Shawnee community.

The only logical choice was to publish through SSU Printing Services and I believe it was a beneficial one. The quality has changed dramatically between issue five and six and the staff and I could not be happier.

During this time of rebuilding while

virtually every print newspaper is suffering, Printing Services has provided a quality palette for a new look.

Not only do we have a new look and a new publisher, *The Chronicle* will be unveiling our new website after break. In the Information Age, at the university level, you should be able to check out what's going around campus as soon as possible.

Students and faculty will be able to join *The Chronicle* online community and submit blogs as well as photos, comment on our forums and stay current with campus events and happenings.

Until then, we're on Facebook and you can check out this issue, as well as photos from previous events this semester. You'll also be able to catch our Special Edition before it hits stands on Thursday.

# Why the TSA are not protecting us

## Column

By ADAM SHEETS

Senior Reporter

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has recently introduced several controversial new airport security methods. Among these are the "naked body scanners," machines that allow the TSA workers to view the nude bodies of passengers and possibly save the photos, and the "enhanced pat-down," a procedure which more than one passenger has compared to sexual assault and molestation.

In North Carolina, a middle-aged breast cancer survivor was forced to publicly expose and then remove her prosthetic breast for the TSA workers. There have been numerous reports of young children being targeted and the American Civil Liberties Union said they have received over 900 complaints regarding these procedures.

The Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution says, in full, "the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized."

Therefore, these methods are unconstitutional assuming the TSA does not have probable cause for every passenger.



Nobody is denying that basic fact. Yet some commentators have stated that this violation of U.S. law is acceptable because it is supposedly keeping us safe.

Our forefathers disagree. Benjamin Franklin once said, "They who would give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety."

This country's military fought against fascist nations in Europe that sought to control every aspect of the lives of their citizens, yet we do nothing when the government attempts to turn our democracy into a police state. Have we become so uncaring that we do not even notice when we are being stripped of our rights?

Although I would much rather die from a terrorist attack in a democracy than live as a mindless robot in a fascist dictatorship, I do care about being safe from terrorist attacks. This is why I propose less security at airports and more security on the planes themselves. Put several armed TSA workers and officers trained with dismantling explosives onboard every plane, thereby ending the invasion of privacy being induced on innocent Americans and better protecting every passenger.

It is time for the American people to wake up and realize that allowing the agents of our government to become more

like the terrorists is doing nothing to stop the spread of terrorism. In fact, it is only angering more people and making an attack more likely.

Congressman Ron Paul has introduced the "American Traveler Dignity Act" as a way to curtail this problem. Right now, it seems highly unlikely that it will even make it to the House floor, let alone pass. That is where you come in. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, writing from a Birmingham jail cell, said, "One has not only a legal but a moral responsibility to obey just laws. Conversely, one has a moral responsibility to disobey unjust laws."

Take Dr. King's advice and call your Senators and Congressperson begging them to support Congressman Paul's bill. If that doesn't work, force the lobbyists for the airlines to begin backing it. Refuse to be scanned or sexually assaulted by agents of your government being paid with your tax money. Stop flying if you have to. The law will only be changed through action. That's the way a democracy works.

It is time for the American people to wake up and realize that allowing the agents of our government to become more like the terrorists is doing nothing to stop the spread of terrorism. Stand up for your rights, because the government has proven again and again that they will not take any step in the right direction until we the people force them to.

# Regulating video games: at what cost?

Column  
By **BRETT BIHN**  
Staff Reporter



It strikes me as odd that the Supreme Court is now hearing a 2005 California law that deals with regulating the sales of computer and video games. Specifically, it is looking at the issue of whether or not it is unconstitutional to sell mature rated video games to minors. To be clear, Mature (M-rated) games are for adults 18 and up, and normally deal with sexual situations, violence and language. After reading up on this issue, I have questioned the notion of giving our government more power over regulation of media, and though I believe they have the best intentions, I think people need to take personal responsibility and that it should not be necessary to involve the government.

When this case was presented on Tuesday, November 2, Justice Stephen G. Breyer said that "common sense should allow the government to help parents protect children from games that include depictions of 'gratuitous, painful, excruciating, torturing violence upon small children and women.'" Here is my question: why should the government even have to get involved?

I want to be the first to point out that I do not in any way think that minors should

have access to *any* kind of media that is not to be intended for them, but I believe that people should be taking more responsibility before we have the government step in. Media, be it music, television or literature, is no stranger to controversy but video games have the distinction of being attacked so harshly.

For example, take movies. They have a rating system to help people determine what the movie contains, and whether it is applicable for certain groups of people or not. Now then, what happens if a minor sneaks into an R-rated movie and is found out? Worst case scenario is that they are kicked out of the movie. If the cashiers did not check for identification, we find fault with the theater but nothing comes of it. Now then, imagine if that same theater was charged \$1000 for every minor that got into the film.

That is precisely what the law is planning. The fine will go to stores that sell these games to underage children. What strikes me as odd is that this would be the first time that the government would be allowed to expand its principles on regulating depictions of sex and violence. Well, that really only extends to violence, since the

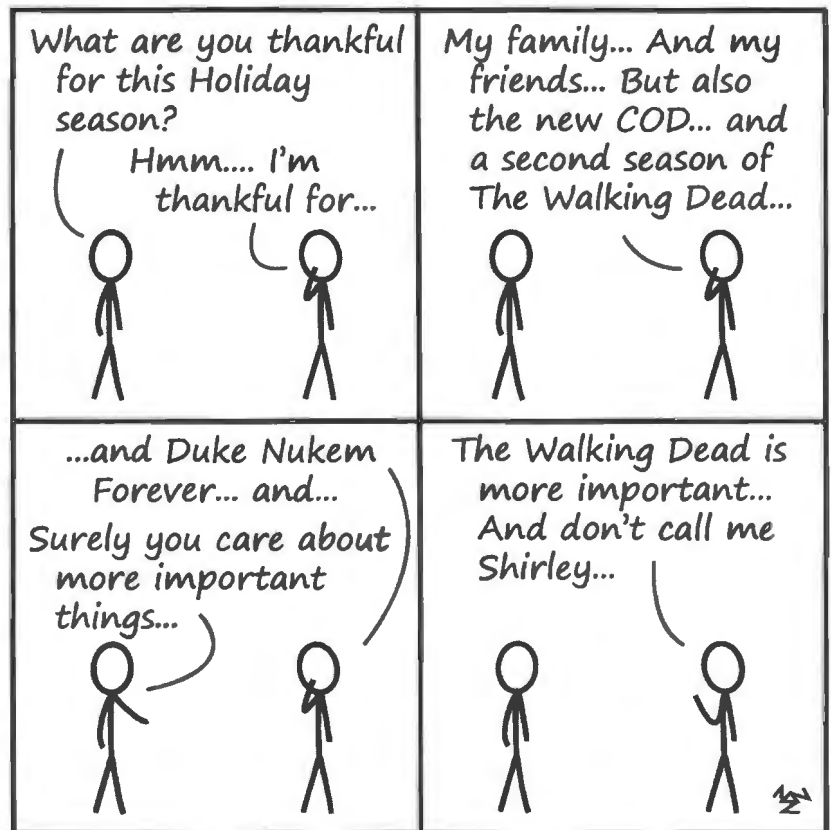
1968 *Ginsberg vs. New York* trial dealt with restricting sexual material that was considered obscene. But we already have rating systems in place for this very reason.

The Entertainment Software Rating Board (ESRB) rates all video games released in the United States. They have clear-cut labels for games: E for Everyone, T for Teen, M for Mature and AO for Adults Only. In addition to that, the ESRB added E10+ for games that are intended for ages 10 and above, just to make things more clear. All games, in addition to the rating tag, also include a brief description of content in the game, such as sexual situations, violence and so on.

These ratings, like any other rating system for media, are merely guidelines that parents and guardians should follow. But if we regulate video game distribution, who's to say we couldn't keep going and start regulating TV and movies?

Regulation can only go so far, and we have to face the fact that children can't be sheltered from everything forever and that we can't monitor them every second of every day. Still, I believe that clerks should be taking responsibility in checking customer ages and that parents should be doing their best to monitor what their children are exposed to, but the government shouldn't have to do all of this for us.

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Happy Holidays from Triple Z

# Men's cross country place 4th at NAIA championship

The Shawnee State men's cross country team placed fourth at the NAIA National Championship in Vancouver, Washington again this year. Galen Dills was the first Bear to finish, with a time of 25:45. Michael Owen finished in 26 minutes flat, placing 40<sup>th</sup> overall. Keegan Rathkamp was close behind, placing 42<sup>nd</sup> with a time of 26:02. Chuck Wentz finished 4<sup>th</sup> at 26:27 and Josh Linkous rounded out the top five at 26:36.

Shawnee State women's cross country team placed 25<sup>th</sup> at the NAIA National Championship in Vancouver, Washington this year, their second time competing in the National Championship in school history. Sara Armstrong was the first finisher on the team with a time of 19:06, placing 71<sup>st</sup> out of 331. Brittney LiPira finished second, placing 147<sup>th</sup> (105<sup>th</sup>) with a time of 19:40. Kasey Hosier was third, 171/121, with a time of 19:47. Freshmen Sarah Ruggles and Ashley Peters finished out the top five, with times of 20:21 and 20:41, respectively.

Department of Sports Information

# Bond and Purpero earn Honorable Mention All-MSc

The Shawnee State men's soccer team had two players earn postseason recognition at the Mid-South banquet Wednesday morning at the University of Rio Grande.

Junior Cody Bond (Minford, OH) was named Honorable Mention All-MSc. Bond, a defender, scored two goals for the Bears on the season.

Junior Luke Purpero (Waverly, OH) earned Honorable Mention All-MSc recognition. Purpero, a forward, led the Bears in goals with 10 and points with 24 on the season. He was also second on the team with four assists.

Department of Sports Information



Bowles Brooks Kennedy Rhoads Westendorf

► Five Bears earn postseason recognition at the Mid-South Conference banquet

# Bowles named 1st team All-MSc

The Shawnee State women's soccer team had five players earn postseason recognition at the Mid-South banquet Wednesday morning at the University of Rio Grande.

Senior Kelley Bowles (Cincinnati, OH) was the only Bear to earn 1st Team status. Bowles, a midfielder, led the Bears with season record 13 assists as well as in points 27 points. She also is second on the team with seven goals scored. Bowles ranks first in the Mid-South as she averaged 0.87 assists per game and fourth in points per game averaging 1.8.

Sophomore Brittney Brooks (Cincinnati, OH) earned Honorable Mention All-MSc status. Brooks, a midfielder, led the Bears with 11 goals on the season and with three game winning goals. She was also second on the team in points with 24. In the

Mid-South, Brooks ranks third with a 0.79 goals per game average and fifth with a 1.71 points per game average.

Junior Marie-Elana Kennedy (Canton, OH) earned Honorable Mention All-MSc recognition. Kennedy, a defender, accumulated five assists on the season. She did not score from her defensive position but did take seven shots on the season.

Sophomore Stephanie Rhoads (Hillsboro, OH) was named Honorable Mention All-MSc. Rhoads led the team with three game winning goals on the season. She also scored six goals and tallied two assists.

Junior Kat Westendorf (Cincinnati, OH) earned Honorable Mention All-MSc status. For the Bears she scored six goals, including one game winner and accumulated four assists on the season.

Department of Sports Information

# Shawnee State gets revenge on Indiana East

The Shawnee State volleyball team slaughtered Indiana East in the Opening Round of the NAIA National Tournament at home in front of a crowd of over 300 fans on Saturday afternoon. Shawnee State improves to 35-9 on the season while Indiana East finishes their season 39-4.

Shawnee State dominated the match from the beginning. Indiana East held a 19-15 lead in the first set but after a SSU timeout the Bears pulled within one at 19-18. Indiana East got the side out to extend their lead to 20-18, but the answered back and behind the serving of senior Jami Turrill the Bears went on a 6-0 run to take set one 25-20.

The Bears never trailed in set two and pulled away early behind freshman Kirsti Yates. Yates put the dagger in the Red Wolves as she served 10 straight points for Bears including four service aces in a row to give the Bears the 14-3 lead. Indiana East never regrouped as they Bears went on to win 25-17.

The two teams battled back and forth early in set three however the Bears rallied behind Yates' serves again to go on a six point run to extend their lead to 13-

7. Shawnee State never allowed the Red Wolves to get within four points and they went on to take the match 25-18.

The Bears had a stellar day at the net. Shawnee State tallied 40 kills in the match, compared to Indiana East's 30 and out blocked the Red Wolves 7-3 in the game. Seniors Jami Turrill and Heather Koehler led the Bears with 13 and 12 kills. Sophomore Kim Rosen added five kills, while Shaye Berry added four. Sophomore Alex Pohl led the Bears with a game-high four block assists, while Turrill added three block assists. Berry and Rosen each had two blocks in the game for the Bears.

Shawnee State's defense along with their blockers held Indiana East's leading attacker Brianna Strete to just seven kills in the game. Strete, which is ranked third in the NAIA with a hitting percentage of .422, managed only a hitting percentage of .176 against the Bears.

Senior Haley Halcomb set up 33 assists in the game to go along with three kills and six digs. Senior Tiffany Dailey led the Bears with 11 digs, while Yates added six more for the Bears.

Department of Sports Information

## Men's basketball team defeats Cincinnati Christian

The Shawnee State men's basketball team defeated Cincinnati Christian in a high scoring battle, 109-103, on Saturday afternoon in the final game of the Harry Weinbrecht Classic. Shawnee State improves to 3-4 on the season.

The two teams battled hard in the first half, tallying 15 lead changes and 11 ties. Shawnee State managed the largest lead of the first half, 16-12 just 5:35 into the game as neither team could shake the other. Freshman Jordan Laster gave the Bears a spark off the bench. He tallied his 14th point of the half on a jumper with 1:53 remaining to give the Bears the 44-43 lead. Cincinnati Christian regained the lead with a 3-pointer by Corey Evans and Josh Reid went 1-of-2 at the line to extend the Eagles lead to 47-44 with 1:13 remaining. Sophomore Mark Bryant tied the game at 47-47 as he converted a free throw after scoring a lay-up. Bryant finished the half with 11 points. Freshman Hank Leslie made it 49-47 in favor of the Bears with a lay-up with 38 seconds remaining. The Eagles tied the game as Chris Scott made a lay-up with 20 seconds remaining. Sophomore Tyler Boyles hit a three as time expired to give Shawnee State the 52-49 advantage at the break.

Shawnee State came out strong in the second half. The Bears controlled the momentum much of the second half and stretched their lead to as many as 13 with just over 10 minutes to play. Trailing 83-72 with 8:21 remaining, the Eagles began to make a comeback. Their backcourt defense cause the Bears to turn the ball over three times as the Eagles went on a 7-0 run to cut the lead to 83-80. Sophomore Zak Metz finally broke the Eagles run with a jumper with 6:48 left in the game. CCU's Zachary Joseph hit two free throws to cut the lead to three again but that would be as close as the Eagles could get. Bryant hit 1-of-2 free throws then stole the

ball and hit two more to stretch the Bears lead to 88-82. The Eagles answered with two points from Corey Evans, however a lay-up by Morgan and a 3-pointer by Boyles extended the Bears lead to nine with just over four minutes to play. Cincinnati Christian got within four points as Reid converted two free throws with 1:03 remaining to cut the lead 103-99. Morgan stepped up big in the final minute as he pulled down an offense rebound and got the put back and hit two free throws on their next possession to stretch the lead back out to eight. Metz capped off the Bears scoring as he made 2-of-4 free throws down the stretch in the Bears 109-103 victory.

Six Bears scored in double-figures. Freshman Jordan Laster came off the bench to lead the Bears with a career-high 22 points. He also had four rebounds and three assists in the game. Sophomore Mark Bryant added 19 points, eight rebounds, four assists and three assists. Sophomore Tyler Morgan tallied his fifth double-double of the season as he finished the game with 19 points, 13 rebounds to go along with five assists. Sophomore Zak Metz finished with career-high 17 points, while sophomore Tyler Boyles added 13 points and dished out a team-high six assists in the win. Senior Keelyn Franklin finished with 11 points.

The Eagles were led by Corey Evans who led all scorers with 26 points.

Shawnee State shot well from the floor as they made 36-of-68 attempts for 53%. Cincinnati Christian made 38-of-78 attempts for 49%. From beyond the arc the Bears made eight 3-pointers for 44%, while the Eagles made nine 3-pointers in the game for 35%. At the line, Shawnee State went 25-for-38 for 66%. The Eagles went 22-for-26 for 79%.

Department of Sports Information

## Lady Bears defeat Midway in home opener

The Shawnee State women's basketball team easily defeated Midway 80-60 on Tuesday evening. The Bears improve to 5-2 on the season, while Midway falls to 1-8.

After trailing 20-19 the Bears outscored the Eagles 19-10 in the final eight minutes of the first to build a 38-30 halftime lead. The Bears did not let down in the second half outscoring Midway 42-30 en route to a 80-60 win.

Offensively the Bears shot an outstand-

ing 50% from the field draining 28 of their 56 attempts. Midway shot 27% in the game making 19-of-71 attempts. From beyond the arc neither team shot well, as the Bears went 4-for-19 for 21% while Midway went 4-for-25 for 16%. At the charity strip Shawnee State converted 20-of-29 attempts for 69%. For Midway at the line they made 18-of-23 attempts for 73%.

Shawnee State was led by junior Abby Ballman who had a big night as she tied her

career-high with 19 points. She also pulled down six boards, had seven steals, three assists and a block in the game. Sophomores Catrice Mitchell and Alex Pohl added 12 and 10 points respectively while each tallied five rebounds in the game. Freshman Tabitha McKinney added nine points, six rebounds and four assists for the Bears.

Jackie Hicks led Midway with 13 points and six rebound.

Department of Sports Information

## SSU Women's Soccer: Bears End Season with Tough Loss

By Ali Thompson

Staff Reporter

The Bears ended their season with a 1-0 loss in tournament play to Campbellsville University on Nov. 6 in Campbellsville, KY. The only score of the game came on a penalty kick in the 43<sup>rd</sup> minute of play.

"We played the best we had all year," head coach Rob Appell, said. "You can't question our effort. It's tough to lose a tournament game on a penalty kick, but we played our best at the end of the season when it counts, and that's all you can ask for."

The Bears ended the season 9-7 overall, 4-4 in conference play.

"It was our first year in a strong conference, so you have to be happy with the results, but not content with the outcome," Appell said. "We have to take the positives and negatives from the season

and build on them. We have to use them to motivate us in the off-season. We know what we have to do to be competitive in the league. We know where we need to be mentally and physically to be successful. We just have to work hard and come back stronger next season."

The Bears will lose one senior, Kelley Bowles. Bowles is the most decorated women's soccer player in school history. Bowles has started in every game of her collegiate career, accumulating 35 goals and 34 assists. She has set two school records and led her team to 35 wins, the most by any senior class in school history.

"She is a great person, and a great role model," Appell said. "As good as she was on the field, she was even better as a person and in the classroom, which often goes overlooked."

## Student veterans at Shawnee State University help paint flag on levy



Shawnee State University student U.S. Army veterans helped with the painting of the American flag on the levy at the university on Monday. In the photo are Tony Jones, Andrea Werner, Jackie Conley and J. Kane Conley.

From SSU Office of Communications

## TKE wins canned food sculpture contest



The Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity not only won a canned food sculpture competition at Shawnee State University, they also collected 503 cans and non-perishable foods for the Scioto County Homeless Shelter. Runner up in the competition was Omega Pi Mu. In the photo, the TKE designers pose with their "Stegasaurus" creation. Cory James is lying in front of the display. From left, kneeling, are Alex Burns, Douglas Kemerer, James Morgan, Logan Hill, Cameron Gulley and Cody Entenman. Other teams who participated were the Environmental Club, the M3C AmeriCorps Fellows and the Zombie Education Defense Club. Altogether, 1097 canned goods and non-perishable food items were donated.

From SSU Office of Communications



## Children's Learning Center participates in annual St. Jude Trike-A-Thon and Trick or Trike

The Shawnee State University's Dr. Miller and Genevieve Toombs Children's Learning Center (CLC) participated in the St. Jude Trike-A-Thon program in October. The program teaches children tricycle and bicycle riding safety and raises money for the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The children also participated in a Trick or Trike event that raises money for St. Jude's. The children go on campus to different offices and the university staff gives the children candy along with monetary donations for the hospital. More than \$700 has been raised by the CLC students this year with additional pledges still coming in. Pre-school teacher Hetty Phillips leads one group of children to Massie Hall.

From SSU Office of Communications

## Rummage Sale fundraiser scheduled

During winter break at Shawnee State University, 11 students have volunteered for the annual Alternative Winter Break to work on a service project instead of going to the beach or hanging out with friends.

In order to raise money to help pay expenses, students are having a Rummage Sale from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 6 and Tuesday, Dec. 7 at SSU's University Center lobby by the book store. House wares, movies, clothes and numerous other items will be on sale at very low prices. The public is invited.

"In order for trips like this to become a reality, these students have to do a great deal of fundraising," said Nikki Karabinis, coordinator for the Center for Community Service. "We would love to invite the campus and surrounding community to the Rummage Sale to help support our students' efforts."

SSU's Alternative Break trips immerse students in a week-long service experience for communities in need across the United States.

While each trip is different, all trips focus on a particular social issue such as homelessness, the environment or youth. Trips in the past

have volunteered at soup kitchens, in National Parks, at YMCAs, and in areas that were devastated by Katrina.

This year's Alternative Winter Break will explore the history and culture of the south in Savannah, Ga., and will focus on hunger and homelessness. Service projects will include working with Savannah's Habitat for Humanity.

Both before departure and while on site, students will study hunger and homelessness. They will also learn about the history and culture of Savannah from a variety of individual readings which they will share with the rest of the students on the trip.

"The students will have an invaluable opportunity to discover more about themselves and how they can become productive citizens in their own communities," Karabinis.

The students who have chosen to be a part of this year's Alternative Winter Break along with the coordinator for the Center for Community Service will be on Tybee Island on the coast of Savannah for one week, leaving on Saturday, Dec. 11.

From SSU Office of Communications