



PUBLISHER STEVE HAYNES watched as a guard placed a memorial wreath at the Shrine of the Martyrs, Taiwan's equivalent of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, for the National Newspaper Association. Like in America, the visitor's role is to hold the wreath briefly.

— Herald staff photo by Cynthia Haynes

Friend's work eases travel

We left Los Angeles on a Sunday night, a couple dozen publisher couples, including a few retirees, a couple of college students, a few friends and hangers one, our "den mothers," Allen and Linda, and one old war correspondent.

It would be a long night, 14 hours on the 747 and then the formalities of entering a foreign country — even as guests of the government — and settling into our hotel.

It was no problem at all, I tell you, getting a good night's sleep on China time (just 12 hours off Eastern Daylight Time, and that would be important later) once we got checked into the Grand Hotel in Taipei.

The next day, we'd be busy, laying a wreath at the tomb of Taiwan's unknown soldier, known as the Shrine of the Martyrs, then meeting with the president at his palace.

Among our group were three former presidents of the National Newspaper Association, all of whom had led foreign missions during their terms, so I had some expertise to call on. Still, I wasn't quite ready to get up and talk to the president, or to present the wreath at the tomb.

Then again, our "den mothers" were on their 23rd trip to Taiwan. Allen Beermann today is executive director of the Nebraska Press Association, but for 24 years he was the elected secretary of state there. He began his Asian adventures by arranging trade missions for the governor and got so good at it he organized them for a couple of other states, including Kansas' Bill Graves.

Allen has graciously organized several of these trip for our publish-



Along the Sappa

By *Steve Haynes*
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ers, and his contacts are invaluable. I am convinced there is not a city in the world where you could not go and find someone influential who would proclaim himself a friend of Allen Beermann.

And that person would gladly give you, another friend of Allen Beermann, the shirt off his back.

I can tell you not every group that visits Taiwan gets to meet the president, and we spent more than an hour visiting in his reception chamber. It helps to know Allen Beermann.

That morning, we had to get the World Series scores from Liz, who got a play-by-play on her cell phone. Amazing things, those new phones. Liz is a Red Sox fan, though, and the rest of us were rooting for our Rockies, the six from Denver, Cynthia and I and a couple of other westerners.

The next day we politely told Allen we'd skip the morning visit to an opera school and watch the game at the hotel. We had high hopes, a huge wide-screen television in the suite and an 8 p.m. start in Boston meant 8 a.m. in Taipei.

No beer or peanuts, but that early in the morning it was just as well. Of course, we had to listen to Liz gloating through the whole game. It was miserable, but at least we were watching the Series.

That afternoon, the buses came back for us — our guide was afraid we'd never find the rest of the group at the main train station, and after seeing the place, I thought he might have been right — and we were off for Tai-Chung, halfway down the island, by bullet train. There we had a tour, saw a saxophone factory — big business there — and ate a delightful dinner with the mayor, Jason Hu.

The next morning we watched the Series live on the television on our tour buses, but the game wasn't any better than the last two. We visited monuments, including the tomb of former President Chiang Kai-Shek (the tomb was closed, but the museum was open), then loaded up our bags for the flight to Ho Chi Mhin City, the former southern capital of Saigon in Vietnam.

After a couple of quick days there — more on that later — we flew Vietnam Airlines to Hanoi. It was not a good experience, but the airline did deliver us for three days of relaxation, interspersed with a couple of official visits, in Hong Kong. Some bought real and "replica" Rolexes; others got new suits. Everyone was in awe of the city.

But enough for this week. More later, if I can find the notes in my baggage.

States hope to tax Internet

By *JONATHAN WILLIAMS*
Flint Hills Center
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If you think the concept of state and local governments taxing your Internet access is preposterous, think again.

For years, revenue-hungry governments have been itching for the opportunity to tax new technologies, and now they might actually have their chance.

If Congress doesn't act by fall, state and local governments will be allowed to tax Internet access. If the current ban is allowed to expire, it could increase Internet connection costs for the average user by \$85 or more per year.

In 1998, the U.S. Congress, in a move to protect the further development of the Internet-based marketplace, instituted a three-year moratorium on Internet taxation. This moratorium was renewed in 2001 and again in 2003. The current moratorium is set to expire Nov. 1.

If state and local governments are allowed to tax Internet access, individual and business consumers will shoulder the burden. According to the National Association of Manufacturers, if the Internet Tax Moratorium expires, it would give over 7,000 taxing jurisdictions the ability to tax Internet access for America's businesses. This would increase the cost of doing business and slow the tremendous growth in productivity that the Internet has provided.

Allowing state and local governments to tax Internet access will put U.S. firms at a disadvantage in their competition with foreign firms. Today, companies based in the U.S. already face the second-highest combined state and federal corporate tax rate in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development — higher than

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even France or Sweden. Subjecting domestic firms to an additional taxation can only make America less competitive.

Of course, many state and local government officials will fight vigorously for the additional tax revenue that taxing Internet access would provide. However, increasing government revenue has never been the central aim of good tax policy.

Now more than ever, electronic commerce needs to be left free from excessive government interference. Our nation's explosive economic growth in the past decade was spurred largely by increases in productivity. The main factor in this productivity growth was the uninhibited development of the Internet and related electronic commerce. This growth was further aided when Congress passed the moratorium on

Internet access taxes.

The old economics axiom is true — when you tax something, you generally get less of it. Taxing the very technology that has fueled much of our economy's productivity growth doesn't sound like an economic or a political winner. The Internet is one of the last frontiers the tax man has been unable to conquer. Let's hope our representatives in Washington keep it that way.

As they say, "once the camel gets its nose in the tent, it is not easily removed."

Jonathan Williams is a fiscal policy fellow with the Wichita-based Flint Hills Center for Public Policy and director of tax and fiscal policy at the American Legislative Exchange Council. He can be reached at williams.jonathan.p@gmail.com. To learn more about the center, go to www.flinthills.org.

Photo Policy

The Oberlin Herald wants to emphasize photos of people doing things in the community. If you know of an event or news happening that we should attend, please call 475-2206.

Please be sure to allow a couple of days' notice so we can arrange to be there.

Space in the paper is limited and so is the time of our staff, so we may not be able to get to every event, but we will try.

Because space is so limited, we cannot run team or group photos,

any pictures of people lined up or of people passing checks, certificates and the like. (We will always try to make room for a story about any of these events, however.)

From the Bible

And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? There is none good but one, that is, God.

Mark 10:18

We appreciate military, especially those in state

By *LYNN JENKINS*
Kansas State Treasurer

Recently I spoke to a group of soldiers, officers and civilians at Fort Riley. After the talk, an Army officer approached me and said how much she appreciated being in Kansas.

She explained that she had been stationed at a hospital in Virginia before being deployed to the Middle East. When she returned, she was sent to Kansas.

This officer said that Kansans, more than people in any other place she's been stationed, were constantly thanking her for her service, offering to help her and other soldiers in any way they could, and generally supporting the military and the mission these brave men and women are trying to accomplish.

I think back to that conversation and realize how proud I am to serve as treasurer of such a fine state. Kansans truly understand the sacrifice military personnel are willing to make and want to show our support. Call it Midwestern friendliness if you'd like, but I believe it is the true character of Kansans shining through.

We know the sacrifice because so many of our Kansas families live it each day. In addition to the thousands of military personnel at the posts and bases across the state, we also have a strong force of citizen soldiers in our Kansas Army and Air National Guard, as well as reservists from the various branches of service.

Each day, more than 7,700 Guardsmen wake up knowing they could be pulled away from their families to be deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan, the Mexico border or even places within our state.

It has been a tough year for Kan-

sas. We have had many natural disasters, from destructive snow and ice storms in western Kansas to flooding in eastern Kansas, and a devastating disaster F5 tornado that nearly destroyed Greensburg.

At each of these disasters, Kansas Guardsmen responded swiftly. More than 1,000 of your neighbors, friends, sisters, brothers, husbands, wives and co-workers left their homes and families to help fellow Kansans.

When the ice storms hit western Kansas, with only hours' notice, Kansas Guardsmen responded by air and road. Some were bringing generators to towns that had lost electricity, others flew hay to stranded livestock.

While on their way to help, a group of soldiers rescued three people from overturned vehicles. The soldiers administered first aid, directed traffic around the accident, gave the victims their own arctic winter gear for warmth, and sheltered them in trucks until emergency workers arrived nearly an hour later.

The morning after the tornado, 50 Kansas Guard troops were in Greensburg. Four days later, nearly 500 were assisting with recovery efforts.

One soldier volunteered to help lead search and rescue efforts in the countryside north of Greensburg even though he knew his home had been destroyed by the tornado.

Kansas Guardsmen and women are also responding to needs around

the world. At any given time, the Kansas Guard reports, there are around 1,000 soldiers and airmen either deployed or training for deployment. They can be found in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kosovo, Djibouti and other points around the world.

Back in February, the commander of the Kansas Guard, Maj. Gen. Tod M. Bunting, wrote to his troops, "We are the Kansas Guard. We have proven we can perform any mission our nation asks of us."

Little did he know that just a few months later, his soldiers and airmen would be responding to the needs of fellow Kansans and again proving that they can perform any mission asked of them.

Each November, I make a point of remembering and honoring veterans, those who are serving and those who have given the ultimate sacrifice.

Please take a moment to remember three Kansas Guardsmen who have died while serving their state and country this year: Staff Sgt. David Russell Berry, Sgt. Courtney Dean Finch and Sgt. 1st Class Travis S. Bachman.

We owe our respect and appreciation to the men and women who have chosen to protect our state and our nation. Please take a moment to offer a silent word of thanks and for the safety of the many men and women who are in harm's way right now, as well as for the families awaiting their safe return.

Honor Roll

Welcome and thanks to these recent subscribers to *The Oberlin Herald*:

E. June McGatlin, Renton, Wash.; **Roxie Tuller**, McCook; **Paul Holliday**, Palestine, Texas; **Donnelle and Tom Manton**, Umpqua, Ore.; **Jim Ater**, Hilo, Hawaii.

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	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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						Nuclear Stress Test MRI Mobile Unit Vasc Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab	
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Cardiac Rehab	McDonald Clinic - p.m.	Diabetic Clinic Echocardiograms Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab	Dr. Reeves Podiatry	Nuclear Stress Test MRI Mobile Unit Vasc Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Dr. Reeves Podiatry	
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		Cardiac Rehab	McDonald Clinic - p.m.	Diabetic Clinic Echocardiograms Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Dr. Frankum Surgery	Dr. Saba Orthopedics	MRI Mobile Unit Vasc Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Nuclear Stress Test	
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		Cardiac Rehab	McDonald Clinic - p.m.	Diabetic Clinic Echocardiograms Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Dr. Curtis Cardiology		MRI Mobile Unit Vasc Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Nuclear Stress Test	
	25	26	27	28	29	30	
		Cardiac Rehab	McDonald Clinic - p.m. Dr. Miller Cardiology	Diabetic Clinic Echocardiograms Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab		Nuclear Stress Test MRI Mobile Unit Vasc Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab	
	In House Services Available Daily CT Scan ** Bone Mineral Density ** EKG Electrocardiograms				TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT WITH A VISITING PHYSICIAN, PLEASE CALL (785)626-3211 Cheryl Banister, RN Specialty Clinic Director		

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Internet Tonight!

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