

## Warren publishes first book, examining civil war

ALLI HEITZENRATER  
H&SS writer • creative writing major

Dr. Craig Warren, an English professor, had his Civil War book, *Scars to Prove It: The Civil War Soldier and American Fiction*, published by the Kent State University Press in July of 2009.

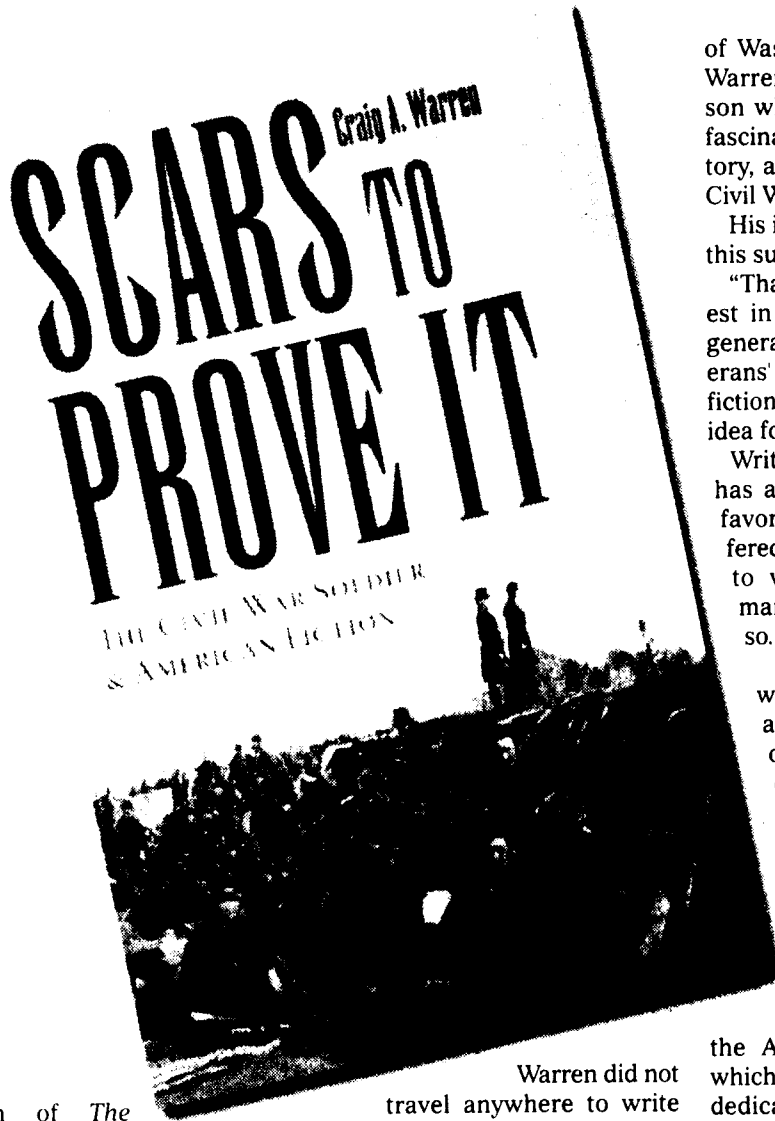
The book is a close look at the complicated relationship between the numerous memoirs, regimental histories, and other narratives put out by Civil War veterans, and the thousands of Civil War novels published since 1865.

"In order to focus my study, I devote attention to seven Civil War novels," Warren said. "In particular I focused on Stephen Crane's *The Red Badge of Courage* (1895), Margaret Mitchell's *Gone with the Wind* (1936), Caroline Gordon's *None Shall Look Back* (1937), William Faulkner's *Absalom, Absalom!* (1936) and *The Unvanquished* (1938), Michael Shaara's *The Killer Angels* (1974), and Howard Bahr's *The Judas Field* (2006)."

Originally, *Scars* started as his 2004 dissertation. Warren wrote his 2004 doctoral dissertation as a graduate student at the University of Virginia.

Over the next two years, he revised about a third of the dissertation.

In 2007, he added his discus-



sion of *The Judas Field*.

Soon after the final round of revisions, what had originally started as a dissertation became Warren's recent publication.

Warren did not travel anywhere to write the book; however, much of his time writing it was spent in the research libraries at the University of Virginia.

Growing up in the Northern Virginia region, on the outskirts

of Washington D.C., provided Warren with much of the reason why he has always had a fascination with American history, and more specifically the Civil War.

His inspiration for writing on this subject is simple.

"That subject led to an interest in soldiers' writings more generally. Once I saw how veterans' memoirs had influenced fictions about the war, I had the idea for the book."

Writing about the Civil War has always been a particular favorite of Warren's. He offered up some explanation as to why he, along with so many others, decided to do so.

"It is clear that we write about the Civil War as a way to understand our own moment in time, especially with regard to the social and political issues of today: race, gender, region, human rights, the nature of liberty, and the role of the federal government in our everyday lives."

Warren is the Editor of the Ambrose Bierce Project, which is an online forum that is dedicated to the study of Ambrose Bierce. Bierce is considered to be a master of the short story genre and a very important satirist.

Warren has also been featured in the introduction to the



Penn State Behrend Marketing  
Dr. Craig Warren.

book, *The Devil's Dictionary* by Ambrose Bierce.

Along with editing and writing for this project, Warren designs and oversees the humanities computing project and is the editor for the electronic journal.

Warren has also written multiple articles on a variety of topics, including "Presidential Wounds: The JFK Assassination and the White Male Body," which was featured in a 2008 issue of *Men & Masculinities*, and "It Reads Like a Novel: The 9/11 Commission Report and the American Reading Public," from the *Journal of American Studies*.

## Weekly Political Ticker

ADAM FRACASSI

H&SS editor • political science major

All 74 teachers were fired from their job at a Rhode Island public school as a dramatic turnaround proposed by the superintendent...Toyota had a massive recall on thousands of their cars...chairman of Toyota Akio Toyoda has been meeting with Congress on the safety of their products...Former Vice President Dick Cheney suffered from a heart attack and was hospitalized...this is his fifth...New York Terror suspect Najibullah Zazi pleaded guilty to conspiring to detonate bombs inside the U.S...President Obama outlined a new 11-page proposal for the health care debate...he held a televised summit with Congress on health care last night...Former Secretary of State Alexander Haig passed away at the age of 85...A man crashed his plane into an IRS office building located in Texas...Iran is rumored to be developing a nuclear warhead...President Obama met with the Dalai Lama last week...China had strong objections about this given their history with Tibet...The Senate passed a jobs bill 70-28...there are still 290 bills that have passed the House and are waiting to be passed by the Senate...this is drawing much controversy over the Senate abuse of the Filibuster...Sen. Scott Brown has come under fire for his recent vote with Democrats.

## On This Day in History: February 26

1848: The Second French Republic was proclaimed.

1892: President Lincoln's birthday was declared to be a national holiday.

1930: New York City installed traffic lights

1952: Prime Minister Winston Churchill declared that Britain had an atomic bomb.

1993: Islamic extremists exploded a bomb in a parking garage beneath the World Trade Centers.

2009: Former Serbian President Milan Milutinovic was acquitted by the International Criminal Tribunal regarding war crimes during the Kosovo war.

## What's hot this week:

### Pop Chart:

"Tik Tok"  
Ke\$ha  
*Animal*

### Country Chart:

"Why Don't We Just Dance"  
Josh Turner  
*Haywire*

### Rock Chart:

"Break"  
Three Days Grace  
*Life Starts Now*

### Hip Hop/R&B Chart:

"It Kills Me"  
Melanie Fiona  
*The Bridge*

### Album:

*Soldier of Love*  
Sade

## First H&SS career fair to visit Behrend

ZACK GONCZ  
H&SS writer • political science major

The GNPC Careers Fair is an event being held by Academic and Career Planning Center (ACPC) and is cosponsored with the Political Science Society.

The Government, Non-Profit, and Creative Careers Fair might seem like a mouthful but in the context of what it describes, it's accurate.

Other options for the fair's name were Jobs for the Rest of Us, and Alternative Careers Fair, but these imply some exclusion and in the end the name chosen is a simple description of just what it is, no more and no less.

The event will focus on government, non-profit, and creative careers, because most students don't know how to break into these industries.

The idea began after this fall's Career Fair.

Phil Heidenreich, a junior History major, wrote a letter to the Beacon pointing out that the Career Fair is focused on business and engineering majors, but did not offer much for

the rest of campus.

Robert Speel, an associate political science professor, contacted the Academic and Career Planning Center as well.

"Previous career fairs on campus seemed to be more targeted toward business and engineering majors," Speel said.

"I talked to the Academic and Career Planning Center about organizing a career fair about government jobs, an idea that has expanded to non-profit and creative careers as well. These are jobs that offer excellent opportunities for majors in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences and also offer a lot of positions for business and

engineering majors."

The idea turned into action when the ACPC organized a planning committee to make this happen. It consists of a collaboration between the ACPC, H&SS, Communications and English, the Erie VA, and student representatives from relevant organizations.

When asked why this career fair is different, Andrew Watters, an associate director of ACPC said, "It's specifically targeting employer's in the GNPC careers."

He mentioned that it does not exclude business or engineering students.

"That's what's nice about government. It can apply to

"These are jobs that offer excellent opportunities for majors in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences and also offer a lot of positions for Business and Engineering."

Robert Speel

Associate Professor of Political Science

## Rob Speel wins University-wide award



Penn State Behrend Marketing  
Rob Speel is the recipient of Penn State University's 2010 Undergraduate Program Leadership Award.

ANDREW TARR  
H&SS writer • political science major

Robert Speel, an associate professor of political science, has received Penn State University's Undergraduate Program Leadership Award for 2010.

President Spanier will present Speel the award at the Faculty/Staff Awards Recognition on April 12 at the Nittany Lion Inn in State College.

The Undergraduate Program Leadership Award is a university-wide award and is meant to recognize a faculty member who has demonstrated exemplary leadership benefiting an existing Penn State undergraduate degree program.

The goal of the award is to recognize those individuals who have major responsibilities for the delivery of undergraduate education within a unit and who are providing leadership that has transformed or revital-

ized the undergraduate program within the unit in some way.

"The award is a recognition of growth in the political science program at Penn State over the past decade," Speel said.

Speel started the monthly political science newsletter that highlights news on upcoming courses, course deadlines, public speaker events coming to Behrend, upcoming career fair events, faculty and student news, and news from student groups.

All political science students receive the monthly newsletter. The newsletter keeps students up to date on politics.

"We have more majors, a large group of interested alumni and the new advisory board made up of prominent community members," Speel said.

Speel is in charge of the student field trip to Washington

D.C. every other year. Students that go on this trip see a variety of unique features that most do not get to see, like a private tour of the Pentagon. They also meet with alumni from the Behrend political science program that are currently working in the D.C. area.

Speel also started the North American Politics class in Toronto. The class analyzes relations United States - Canadian history. The class will take place in May, following the end of the spring semester.

Speel has also recently received the 2008/09 Council of Fellows Excellence in Outreach Award and the 2006 George W. Atherton Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Speel has recently been interviewed by the Erie Times-News for an article about this year's U.S. Senate race in Pennsylvania.

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