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THINK PINK
The volleyball team joins the breast cancer awareness movement.
Page 6A and 3A



Ad-lib actors perform for children



photo by TAYLOR DURHAM | The Bison

Theatron performs for a group of children and other students on the front lawn Monday, Oct. 6, during a children's day event hosted by The Way, Harding's Health Care Management club. Children from toddlers to 12-year-olds played games and had fun from 3 to 6:30 p.m.

Language dept. recognized by national councils

by KIM KOKERNOT
assistant news editor

Harding's Foreign Language Department is now ranked among the top 2 percent of all foreign language departments in the U.S. after gaining nationally recognized status this semester.

As the only Foreign Language Teacher Education Program with the distinction in Arkansas and Tennessee, Harding joins 56 other schools in the nation that have earned this recognition by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages and the National Council for Accreditation on Teacher Education.

The honor was given after Harding submitted data reflecting the past three years of student performance in eight areas, including results from national licensure exams, institutional comprehensive content exams, unit plans and student work sample portfolios from student teachers, oral proficiency results, linguistic samples and professional development/involvement assessments.

Because the department seeks to prepare students for future interaction in the international community, emphasis is placed on the Oral Proficiency Interview, which tests speaking proficiency.

Professors prepare students through an interactive classroom environment that immerses them in the language. Classrooms have been adapted to a setting in which only French or Spanish are spoken, and students are frequently called on to answer questions or discuss a topic.

Taking English out of the classroom has even been implemented in introductory courses. Junior Jenifer Queen, who is in an introductory French class, said she finds this method effective for learning conversational speaking.

"In class, we don't think in

English," Queen said. "We're not translating, we're just responding in French."

Although classroom instruction is instrumental to learning, students are also required to earn Conversational Opportunities Practice Log points, which prompts students to practice speaking Spanish or French outside of class.

"I could be a student that does really well on paper, but if I leave and I can't actually speak Spanish, I'm kind of an embarrassment to the whole program," Queen said.

Opportunities to earn COPL points are provided through Wednesday night devotionals held in both French and Spanish and other events hosted by the department, like watching films in other languages. Students can also eat lunch on Tuesdays and Thursdays at certain tables where only Spanish or French are spoken.

"Speaking and hearing is what counts when you're learning another language so [that you're] able to talk to people," Queen said.

The nationally recognized program holds students to a high standard, but professors are left with the task of motivating excellence in their classrooms.

"I feel honored but accountably challenged," Ava Conley, chair of the Department of Foreign Languages and International Studies, said in a press release Monday. "Having reached this status, the challenge for maintaining this level is even greater."

"There is the challenge of building confidence in the students and creating the desire to achieve the levels of proficiency required."

The Department of Foreign Languages and International Studies offers majors in Spanish and French, along with introductory and intermediate classes in Russian, German, Chinese, Italian, Latin and Portuguese.

Female harassment cases on rise

Public Safety advises students to practice caution, good judgment

by BLAKE MATHEWS
news editor

Cases of female harassment are on the rise this semester, and Harding's Department of Public Safety is turning to students to help combat the problem.

Approximately seven cases of harassment have been reported to Public Safety since the beginning of this semester. These reports come after a two-year lull, according to Chief of Public Safety Craig Russell, in which no female students called in with complaints. Most of the victims this semester said they were verbally harassed.

"What we see normally is a pickup full or a car full of guys ... going around shouting out things at females in parking lots," Russell said.

He said he strongly believes, based on details provided by the victims, that the males responsible are not Harding students.

"We think they're from town," he said.

Identifying the perpetrators has been a challenge for Russell and Public Safety. Very rarely does the same vehicle show up in different reports, and without a license plate number, tracking down the vehicle's owner is extremely difficult. Russell

said that a female student who is being harassed usually does not have an opportunity to write down or memorize a license plate number.

"Her first inclination may not be to look at the license plate," he said. "Her first inclination is probably just to get away."

In the event that a perpetrator or vehicle is identified, Public Safety works in conjunction with the Searcy Police Department to protect students from further harassment. The perpetrators are tracked down at their places of residence and given what Russell called an "official notice to stay off our property." While harassment

in itself is not a prosecutable offense, coming back to the campus after receiving such a warning is counted as criminal trespass. Very few cases are taken that far, Russell said.

So far, only two vehicles have been traced to their owners through their license plates.

However, Russell said Public Safety is less focused on punishing offenders and more concerned with "making sure [female students] are safe and that they feel safe." He and Deputy Director of Public Safety Kevin Davis highlighted the safety features that Harding has installed across

see HARASS page 3a

Presidential campaign member speaks at Harding

National evangelical coordinator for Obama gives presentation

by SARAH SHABAN
student reporter

Harding's chapter of College Democrats invited Dr. Shaun Casey, National Evangelical Coordinator for Sen. Barack Obama's campaign, to speak on campus this past Sunday.

Many who had anticipated a voice at Harding to encourage students who are planning to vote for Obama and College Democrats seized the opportunity when they heard about Casey.

A Christian Ethics professor at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington D.C., Casey received his doctorate in theology from Harvard University.

He is currently traveling the country speaking at several evangelical universities (including Abilene Christian University) and churches discussing Obama's policy positions with the evangelical world.

Casey spoke in the Reynolds Recital Hall to a crowd of about 75 — including Searcy Mayor Belinda LaForce — and shared why he supports Obama, why others should also support him and how evangelicals can reconcile their ethics with the Democratic party.

As Obama's Evangelical Coordinator, he shared his frustrations with claims of

Obama being affiliated with Islam and adamantly defended Obama's being a man of strong Christian faith.

After a short speech, Casey opened the floor for questions. The question and answer session was filled with questions concerning abortion, healthcare, education and the war in Iraq.

The issue of abortion was quickly brought to the table by student Pete Davidson when he asked for clarity on Obama's stance on the topic.

"If you really want to reduce abortion in this country, reduce poverty," Casey said.

He went on and said banning abortion has not brought about any positive change in the past 30 years, and that it was time for a change.

Davidson said he was displeased with Casey's answer, claiming that he didn't understand how economic issues would affect abortion rates and argued that there has indeed been change regarding limitations, including third trimester and partial birth abortions.

One of the few conservatives in the audience, Davidson said he considered Casey's visit to be "a great opportunity" and felt that the room should have been "packed with conservatives."

"That's what college is



photo by NOAH DARNELL | The Petit Jean

Dr. Shaun Casey, Barack Obama's national evangelical coordinator, speaks to a group of students in the Reynolds Recital Hall Sunday, Oct. 5.

about: experiencing new ideas," Davidson said.

The question and answer session began wrapping up with Jenny Thurston's question directed to the heart of Casey's purpose: "Do you foresee a shift in the evangelical vote?"

Casey said that given the economic situation, it is likely more white evangelicals will move their vote from McCain to Obama.

The overall reaction to Casey's visit was a positive one, even from those who didn't agree with him. Many said they were pleased with the opportunity to hear a different perspective.

Though not widely publicized, "it was beneficial and informative," Chris Berry, president of Harding's College Democrats, said.

"We would have liked for a more diverse crowd," Berry

said. "However, we are glad that there was not a preponderance of people trying to derail the conversation."

Berry said College Democrats anticipates similar speakers both before and after the November election.

"The goal of the remainder of my tenure as president of College Democrats is to help students at Harding University know that it's OK to be liberal," Berry said.

Course project becomes more social work class honors those abused

by KATIE RAMIREZ
student reporter

According to the Arkansas Commission on Child Abuse, Rape and Domestic Violence, a woman is battered once every 15 seconds somewhere in America. In Arkansas alone, over 8,000 protective orders are filed every year from women reporting rape, sexual assault, domestic abuse or homicides.

These facts have been studied and researched by Harding's social work majors but now, their senior class will finally be able to put its knowledge to good use during National Domestic Violence Awareness month this October.

A group of nine seniors has been working through their Community Practice course to partner with White County Domestic Violence Prevention, Inc. The DVP is a nonprofit agency that owns and operates Hope Cottage, a local shelter for battered

see ABUSE page 3a

TheNewsreel

Interest rate falls, Wall Street continues decline

Central banks from around the world, along with the U.S. Federal Reserve, decreased interest rates by 0.5 percent on Wednesday in an effort to prevent further financial crisis throughout the world.

Along with the U.S. and Europe, China, Canada, Sweden and Switzerland have all cut interest rates.

This action will allow for an almost immediate decrease in borrowing costs for U.S. bank customers and businesses. Bank of America and Wells Fargo, along with other banks, lowered their prime interest rates to 4.5 percent after the Fed's announcement. Normally this would stir economic activity, but the Dow fell more than 200 points within a minute of opening.

Although Congress recently passed a \$700 billion bill to aid the economy, those with investments in the stock market remain uncertain as stock value is continuing to decline.

Tuesday's sell-off in the U.S. markets dropped stock indexes 5 percent. With Dow Jones industrials closing at its lowest rate in five years, the blue chip index is 33 percent below what it was a year ago.

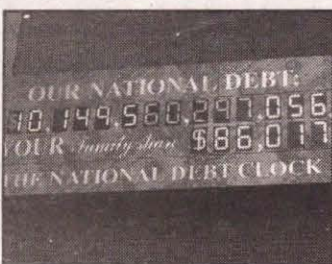
National Debt Clock needs extra digits

The National Debt Clock in New York City was forced to sacrifice its dollar sign in order to accommodate the '1' in \$10.2 trillion on Monday.

The sign was created in 1989 by Seymour Durst and placed about a block away from Times Square in order to draw attention to the nation's debt, then \$2.7 trillion.

The sign is now located next to an Internal Revenue Service office, a block away from the original location, and will be updated next year with the addition of two digits. This increase will allow tracking of debt up to a quadrillion dollars.

Each American family's share of the debt is just over \$86,000.



DEBT CLOCK

Alleged hacker pleads not guilty

A man under investigation for breaking into the Yahoo email account of Republican vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin last month turned himself in on Wednesday.

David Kernell, the 20 year old son of Democratic state legislator Mike Kernell, faces charges of cyber crime after he allegedly guessed his way into Palin's email account through her security questions. Once inside, Kernell created a new password and posted it on the popular website 4chan.org, along with screenshots of her inbox.

FBI investigators traced the original postings back to Kernell's IP address. He pleaded not guilty to the charges and will stand trial in December, although he is not allowed to own a computer until then. If found guilty, the University of Tennessee student faces a \$250,000 fine and a maximum of five years in jail.

Endangered turtles fail to produce offspring

An attempt to breed endangered Yangtze turtles was announced unsuccessful after the eggs failed to hatch, Chinese conservationists said Saturday.

The eggs were laid by the last living female Yangtze turtle, which is about 80 years old. After being discovered in a zoo last year, she was given the protection of a surveillance camera, guard and bulletproof glass.



YANGTZE TURTLE

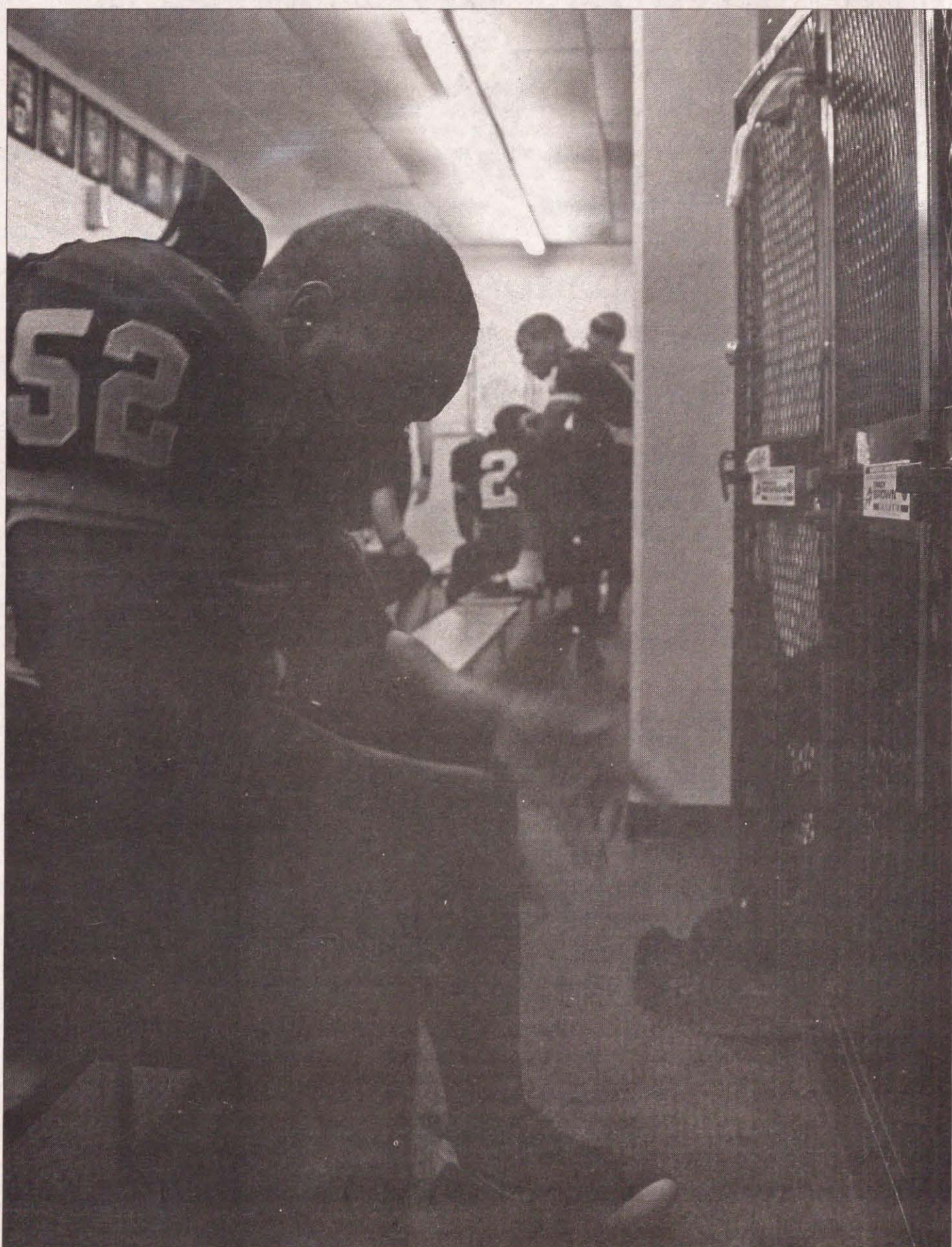
"China Girl," as she was nicknamed, mated with a 100-year-old Yangtze turtle, one of three living males. The pair will attempt to breed again next year. If successful, the turtles will revive a part of China that pollution and hunting have almost completely erased.

TheNUMBER

54.55

—cost, in dollars, of one share of WalMart stock as of Wednesday

TheWindow



NOAH DARNELL | Petit Jean

Junior defensive lineman Roger Hurts takes time to reflect during halftime of the Bisons' game against Southern Arkansas. Harding won the game 39-33 thanks to the Bisons' first kickoff return for a touchdown since 1989.

TheWATERCOOLER

"I think the moment has arrived for the court to shine the light of constitutionality on the reasons for detention."

— Judge Ricardo M. Urbina, ordering the release of 17 Guantánamo Bay detainees by the Bush Administration.

"Mugabe was a teacher himself. He knows the potential of teachers as agents for change. That is why he has deliberately destroyed education."

— Raymond Majongwe, secretary-general of the Progressive Teachers' Union of Zimbabwe, responding to the government's cancellation of the 2008 school year.

"In the last five days, it always comes down to a knife fight in a telephone booth."

— Chris Lehane, a Democratic political consultant, predicting behaviors for the final stretch of the presidential campaigns.

"I am really concerned that we have become deadened to this sort of depressing information and now simply ignore it."

— Mark Wright, chief scientist at the World Wildlife Fund, reacting to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's report that 25 percent of land mammals are at risk of extinction.

"Nations once rich in faith and vocations are losing their own identity under the harmful and destructive influence of a certain modern culture."

— Pope Benedict XVI, disapproving of greed and modern lifestyles during a meeting of bishops in Rome.

"For the first time in a decade, there are economies in Latin America that are doing better than in rich countries."

— Augusto de la Torre, economist at the World Bank, in response to the decreased number of Latin Americans immigrating to the United States.

TheSCOOP

According to WebMD, 90% of Americans consume some form of caffeine every day. Widely available through various energy drinks, pills and even some foods, it is the most commonly used mental stimulant in the United States.

Although 400-500mg of caffeine is safe for

daily consumption, equal to 3-5 cups of coffee, the overuse of caffeine (intake exceeding 500mg per day) has been shown to cause nervousness, insomnia and headaches. It can also cause an increased heart rate and, over time, a loss of bone density.

But caffeine has some obvious benefits. It has been shown to increase activity in parts of the brain that control memory and focus, and it has also been suggested that caffeine can reduce the risk of

some forms of cancer. Studies have revealed that moderate amounts of caffeine can prevent Parkinson's disease and depression, prevent cognitive decline and slow the dementia process.

The key to reaping the health benefits of caffeine is to limit daily intake. With caffeine's half-life of six hours, half of the caffeine from your 8 a.m. cup of coffee is still circulating through your system at 2 in the afternoon.

Caffeine Amounts (mg. per 12 oz.)

- Coca Cola 34.5
- Diet Coke 45.0
- Cherry Coke 34.0
- Pepsi Cola 38.0
- Coffee (drip) 217.5
- Dr. Pepper 41.0
- Mt. Dew 55.0
- Vault 70.0
- Cream Soda 29.0
- Red Bull 115.7

Athletes team up against cancer

By ASHTON REELY
student reporter

In response to the success of events like "Race for the Cure," the women's athletic teams at Harding have become involved in the breast-cancer awareness cause. Combining their love for sports and their love for helping others, the teams collaborated to create "Play for the Cure."

The event was kicked off Sunday, Oct 5 at the women's soccer game against West Florida. On Wednesday, the volleyball team got in on the action. The team sported pink jerseys, and fans were encouraged to wear pink. Sophomore defensive specialist Emily Tate said the idea came about after the women's basketball team had a similar game last year.

"The women's basketball team did a 'pink out' breast cancer awareness game last year," Tate said. "Meredith Rosenbaum, the volleyball graduate assistant, decided that we should start a

tradition of doing a breast cancer awareness game each year."

Rosenbaum and Tate joined forces and created, "Play for the Cure," designing T-shirts for the event and spreading the word to students and community members.

"We believed that Harding would be a great supporter in helping raise money for breast cancer," Tate said. "So many people throughout campus are directly associated [with] and affected by it."

The money raised at the game through donations, halftime games and T-shirt sales will help support the John and Lori Newby family.

Rosenbaum, former volleyball player and present graduate assistant, said volleyball coach Keith Giboney approached her last spring with the idea of a game dedicated to breast cancer awareness and asked her if she would lead the effort.

The campaign became more personal when Lori Newby, a

member of the Harding community, was re-diagnosed with cancer after a two-year remission. Because the cancer came back aggressively, extreme medical procedures must take place, which will cause a financial burden on their family. The funds raised will go toward relieving some of the financial stress. Because John Newby is a teacher and football coach at Harding Academy, the elementary and high school students have also become involved in the effort. Giboney said the academy has already sold 300 T-shirts. Rosenbaum added that combining the university sales with those at Harding Academy brings the number close to 1,000 T-shirts sold.

"We want students to participate in this because we want to help this family," Rosenbaum said. "And how much fun is giving and donating to a great cause when it can be done while watching a volleyball, soccer or football game?"

Giboney said he is proud of

his girls for their involvement and hopes to make this event a tradition.

"They have such good hearts and they want to help people," Giboney said. "It was fun for them last night—the whole 'pink' thing. They didn't let it become a distraction, though."

The night ended on a good note, with the team beating Arkansas-Monticello in a close, 5-set match.

Though involved in a successful, exciting fundraiser, the women still managed to maintain their focus and take care of business on the court.

"Play for the Cure" concludes Saturday at the football game against Ouachita Baptist University.

To encourage students to wear pink, prizes will be passed out to those who are most decked out in the "Proudest in Pink" promotional contest. T-shirts are also being sold for \$10 in the student center this week.

Public Safety Tips

- Always travel with a group.
- Try not to wear "enticing" clothing that would draw unwanted amounts of attention.
- Carry a cell phone at all times.
- Think twice before wearing shoes, like heels, that are difficult to run in.
- At night, stay in well-lit areas.
- If you are harassed or threatened, call Public Safety immediately.
- Keep your keys in hand while walking to your car. Most electronic keys have a panic button, or some other button that makes a loud noise when pressed.
- Never stay in an uncomfortable situation.

HARASS: Students' safety first

CONTINUED from page 1a
campus, such as emergency phones that will call an officer to the scene with the push of a big red button.

Also emphasized was the Courtesy and Safety Escort program, which sends out golf carts outfitted with flashing orange lights to patrol campus after dark. The program was developed during the rash of harassment incidents that occurred in 2004, and female students who feel any unease about walking across campus are encouraged to flag down a cart, Davis said. CASE operates two carts every night, and since October of 2004 they have provided 78,000 rides to students.

Recently, Public Safety has stepped up its efforts to protect females from this new wave of harassment. Flyers were placed around the women's dorms listing steps to follow and a phone number to call in case of a disturbance. Last Wednesday night, an hour-long class was held in the Administration auditorium on ways for female students to protect themselves on and off campus.

"This is our directive at Public Safety, but for me it's doubly important," said Davis, who taught the class.

A dorm dad for Sears Hall in addition to his job at Public Safety, Davis said he feels a sense of responsibility toward young women at Harding. His

lecture touched on ways to deter potential harassers, like always traveling with a group and staying in well-lit areas at night, and a brief demonstration was given on ways to physically incapacitate a threatening male. Above all, he said he encouraged the audience to practice good judgment and avoid exposing themselves to unnecessary risk.

"The most important skill that we teach is to not put yourself in that situation," Davis said.

Self-defense classes for women are slated to be offered at Harding starting next semester. Offered under the name "Sexual Harassment Assault and Rape Prevention" (ShARP), these classes will be free and will be taught by Wayne Westerholm, who is currently deployed with the U.S. military. Several students who attended Wednesday night's class expressed interest in the course.

"That's definitely something I would consider," sophomore Britni Camarata said.

A student from Atlanta, Ga., Camarata said women face dangers in large urban areas.

"When we go downtown, we don't feel safe," she said.

If any student, regardless of gender, feels that he or she is being harassed, they are asked to call Public Safety at 501-279-5000, rather than dialing 911. Davis said Public Safety works closely with local police and can assist them in locating a student in need.

ABUSE: Events planned to raise funds and awareness

CONTINUED from page 1a
women and their children.

To create more awareness of and to remember individuals and their families who have been victims of domestic violence, the senior social work majors, along with Hope Cottage, have created an event at Berryhill Park on Oct. 11. Starting at 9 a.m., the group will honor those who have been battered and abused by displaying a clothesline full of T-shirts representing the past 10 years of domestic violence in Arkansas.

"The families of the victims are designing T-shirts in their honor and [the shirts] will be displayed on the clothesline," senior Lindsey Carter said.

The social work majors' main job during this event will be to plan and execute the children's

activities that will go on until the event ends around 2 p.m.

"Because we desire for this to be a family event, we wanted to include activities for the children as well," Carter said. "We will have face painting, games, a costume contest (around 9), a magician, live music and more."

To prepare for the event, the senior social work majors held a fundraiser at the Sonic on Beebe-Capps on Oct. 4 and then set up a booth in the student center the week before the Oct. 11 event. At the booth, students and faculty were able to read about the clothesline event and received a domestic violence magnet if they donated to the cause.

The booth was manned by senior social work majors who were ready with any other information the

students wanted about domestic violence in Arkansas.

"Our ultimate goal is to raise awareness; this problem hits much closer to home than many would care to realize," Carter said. "Also, we want to honor the victims and support their families."

The social work majors said they felt they were getting so much more than a class grade from helping with the awareness event.

"It's a grade and project, but it's also so much more," senior Maggie Stutzman said. "We aren't tested in this class: it is more about the hands-on activities and applying what we have learned in a practical way."

Others in the class said they felt the same way about having the opportunity to learn outside

of the classroom.

"It has been a really positive experience for everyone involved," Carter said. "After three years of learning about social work through tests, papers, projects, etc., we've finally been able to put it into action."

After the awareness event on the 11th, all are invited to the candlelight vigil at 6:30 p.m. hosted on the Searcy square to honor the 30 victims of domestic violence reported in Arkansas in the past year.

Even though the event's motivation came from a class assignment, all of the students involved shared a real passion to aid victims of domestic violence and to make the Harding campus a little more aware of the daily abuse that goes on behind closed doors.

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Harding updates ads

Television commercials focus on Arkansas

By JEREMY WATSON
editor-in-chief

The Harding Public Relations department recently shot several new television commercials to advertise for the school.

Three 15-second commercials featuring Harding students were filmed in early September by the Little Rock-based advertising firm Mangan Holcomb. The commercials will be combined to create several 30-second spots

that will be shown on networks in Little Rock, Fort Smith, Jonesboro and Fayetteville.

Harding has utilized television commercials for six or seven years, with each set of commercials being used for two years. During years commercials played, Harding received more applications from students in Arkansas, according to the public relations department. Public Relations Director David Crouch said he feels commercials help draw

students to Harding.

"We believe that the commercials helped create the environment for successful recruiting in the state," Crouch said, "[but] the commercials we were using were two years old and had lost their shelf life. They needed to be updated."

The commercials will appear during the two weeks before Thanksgiving, and Crouch said he has hopes that they will be very effective.

THE BISON Fall Publishing Dates

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INFORMATION

The Bison is a campus newspaper, edited and largely financed by students, seeking to provide high-quality journalistic discussion of issues of concern to the Harding community.

It also serves as an educational tool for students, providing practical experience to enhance skills learned in the classroom.

The Bison recognizes its responsibility to be accurate and objective in its reporting while upholding the Christian ideals for which Harding exists.

It attempts to serve as a forum for student perspectives, welcoming letters to the editor which adhere to ethical and professional standards and are no more than 300 words in length.

Signed columns appearing in the Bison are the views of the writer and may not reflect the official policy of the Harding University administration. Unsigned columns represent the view of the editorial board.

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LETTER POLICY

The Bison welcomes your views on issues of interest to the Harding community.

Letters must be signed, contain a phone number for verification and be no more than 300 words. The Bison reserves the right to edit letters for style, clarity and brevity.

Letters to the editor may be submitted to HU Box 11192.



P.I.P.: Process In Peace

Death Of A Personal Computer

I have long dreaded the day when I would have to write this column. Farewells are never easy, but they are doubly hard when the departed has been a daily companion for more than a decade. But I take comfort in the immortal words of John Donne: "One short sleep past, we wake eternally, and death shall be no more." Or William Shakespeare: "Cowards die a thousand times before their deaths; the valiant only taste of death but once." Or Brooke Shields: "Smoking can kill you. And if you've been killed, you've lost an important part of your life." Now for the obituary tribute.

IBM PS/ValuePoint (1994-2008)
A vintage IBM personal computer, 14, belonging to Harding Assistant Professor of English M.J. Claxton of Searcy passed away peacefully at 2910 E. Moore Ave. last Wednesday. The reason of death is still being investigated, but the coroner at the IT Department suspects natural causes. The PS/ValuePoint 325T model was received as a college graduation present in 1994 and had served faithfully and uncomplainingly ever since. Given that the average lifespan of a personal computer is measured in weeks instead of months, this tireless machine lived an unusually full life. "She was 14, which is like, you know, a century in human terms," said one local computer engineer.

She will be fondly remembered as a veritable storehouse of information and a hard worker. "She really took a gigabyte out of life," Claxton said. "She was a hardy soul, having survived the Great Dissertation of 2003, 13 years of typed lesson plans, nearly three years of quasi-humorous Bison



MICHAEL CLAXTON

Guest Space

"Given that the average lifespan of a personal computer is measured in weeks instead of months, this tireless machine lived an unusually full life."

columns, the composition of countless bad limericks, not a few games of solitaire and a seemingly interminable monthly correspondence with one David C. Meyer of Glenwood, Ill."

When reached for comment, Meyer was wistful: "Michael's computer died? How old was that piece of junk... I mean, that's a tragic loss."

Reactions across the country were swift. Upon hearing that the deceased was one of the two last surviving systems still running Windows 3.1, Microsoft CEO William Gates said, "Really?" followed by a muffled expletive. (The lone survivor is now the computer system that controls the traffic light at the corner of Race and Grand in Searcy.) Steve Jobs said, "If this guy had bought a Mac in '94, it would still be going." And a spokesperson for the White House said grimly, "This death is further evidence that we are dealing with a determined enemy," a comment that some found to be irrelevant.

Friends had long encouraged Claxton to replace the tired machine, but

his loyalty never wavered. Even when she started forgetting things, losing her place and spitting out random bits of code, her caretaker remained patient. She survived to witness a host of technological changes — the Internet, e-mail, Wikipedia, eBay, YouTube and eHarmony — but she stuck with old-fashioned applications like word processing. "Better step aside and let the young folks learn all this," she once said. "Besides, she added, "That one time I tried to use a modem, I got a virus."

The PC had been in poor health for some time, but she bravely continued storing notes for a book project, processing letters and keeping a running inventory of her owner's Bullwinkle collection. Among the last of her generation, she is survived by a dot-matrix printer, a rotary phone, an analogue TV set, an Atari game console, a manual typewriter and various slide rules, pocket watches and photographs. A private memorial service was held at home, as Claxton stood silently over the deceased, humming "Nearer, My God to Thee." The hard drive has been willed to the Harding University Information Technology department, which originally declined the bequest but reconsidered after consulting its PR division. In lieu of flowers, please post notes of condolences to the new Facebook group: "RIP Dr. C's PC." Thanks for caring.

MICHAEL CLAXTON is an assistant professor of English and a frequent contributor to the Bison and may be contacted at mclaxto1@harding.edu

Israel v. Palestine Explained

College is supposed to be a place of higher learning and new ideas. It is an experience where young minds can be challenged and horizons broadened and hopefully, in just four short years, students can emerge more enlightened and prepared for life than whence they entered their hallowed institution. But the halls of academia are oftentimes the heart of hypocrisy. Step into almost any political science department across the nation and one will find the typical rhetoric of inconsistency.

Political science professors and New York Times editorials alike delight in endlessly apologizing for the Holocaust and lamenting the flaws of humanity; yet ask them about the Israeli state and one can expect a look of utter horror and disdain.

The professors are not alone in their stances; college students gleefully jump on the pro-Palestinian bandwagon, and Harding is no exception. Art projects denounce Israel for its occupation and control of the Palestinian land and people; newspaper articles promote Palestinians as almost angelic, as if they've done no wrong. But for someone to actually have the audacity to support the Zionist state is simply unheard of. Why? Probably because most haven't heard both sides of the story.

The state of Israel was 2,000 years in the making. The Jewish people had endured torments and persecutions time and time again, finally culminating in the worst of all of these hardships: the Holocaust. It was this event, along with the Muslim — controlled Ottoman Empire siding with Nazi Germany, that all but required the formation of a Jewish state. And with an emerging superpower



PETE DAVIDSON

Guest Space

"But the halls of academia are oftentimes the heart of hypocrisy. Step into almost any political science department across the nation and one will find the typical rhetoric of inconsistency."

named America leading the charge, Israel was formed in 1948. The once homeless, persecuted and abused people finally had a place to call home. But most people don't seem to understand why the Palestinians were expelled. It's simple: they sided with a tyrannical, anti-Semitic dictator who made it his goal to exterminate Jews. He failed, and the world rightfully took pity on the Jews, and when they were given a state, the Palestinians fought them and lost. Thus, the Palestinian refugees.

Fast-forward 60 years, and the Palestinians are still complaining. After a failed Arab Coalition (Six Days War) and a failed sneak attack on a Jewish holy day (Yom Kippur), Israel is still around, and the Palestinians are still refugees. Seeing that they couldn't defeat the Israelis fighting fairly, they resorted to something called terrorism. The Palestinians wanted to alert the world to their unfortunate standing, and they did this at the expense of killing the innocent, from Munich at the 1972 Olympic games where 11

members of the Israeli fencing team were killed, to this past spring in what became known as the "Jerusalem Slaughter." Last April, a Palestinian gunman walked into a Jewish seminary school and opened fire, killing eight boys. One of the first police officers on the scene was quoted saying, "When we got in... we saw young, 15-16 year old guys lying on the floor with Bibles in their hands, all dead on the floor."

These Palestinians are the same ones who strap bombs to babies, drive bulldozers through the streets of Jerusalem and, at the same time, repeatedly ask for sympathy from anyone who will listen. Sadly for them, it is usually only college students and shamed ex-presidents.

The Palestinian-Israeli conflict has little to do with land, or walls dividing neighborhoods. It has to do with an underlying theme of hatred toward the Jewish people. It doesn't matter to Palestinians whether or not they control Palestine; it has to do with Jews not controlling it. There has been a precedent set from the time of Ishmael that Palestinians, and more accurately, Muslims, despise the existence of Zionism and will do everything in their power to stop it.

But do Palestinians deserve their own state, a place to call home? Absolutely. And they should have it, as soon as they stop targeting and killing the innocent as a means to get that home. Suddenly, the Palestinian bandwagon doesn't look so appealing or so valiant a cause when that cause is responsible for the deaths of so many innocent people.

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JEREMY WATSON

Elementary, My Dear

Computers Taking Tests

In two days, on Sunday, Oct. 12, there is the possibility that a true scientific breakthrough will occur. In two days, six computers will undergo the Turing Test, an exercise designed to measure the ability of their artificial intelligence. To understand why this is important, however, one must understand what the Turing Test is and what passing it would mean.

Alan Turing was a British code-breaker during World War II and is responsible for many advances in cryptography and the way computers operate. He is sometimes referred to as the father of computer science.

Turing first described his eponymous test in a paper he published in 1950 called "Computing Machinery and Intelligence." The test attempts to determine whether a machine can think and comprehend by matching it against a human in a text-based conversation. The human sits at a computer with a monitor split in half and has two conversations at the same time: one with another human, and one with the other computer. The human judge then has to decide at the end of the set time limit which conversation was the computer and which human. If 30 percent or more of the judges pick incorrectly or are unsure which is which, the computer has passed the Turing Test and at least gives the appearance of thinking.

I say "appears" because there is an inherent flaw in the Turing Test: can a computer not merely be programmed well enough to give that impression? We've all seen the chat bots on instant messaging programs that can carry on a rudimentary conversation; with programming getting better and better, it is not a stretch to think that someone would be able to pack enough processing power and programming into a computer to allow it to analyze a conversation and spit out a correct response. But would that not be considered "thinking"?

Yes and no. A computer may be able to give a response to a question or statement that makes it seem like it's thinking, but that doesn't mean it actually knows what it is doing. To illustrate this point, a man named John Seale proposed a thought-experiment in 1980 called the Chinese Room.

Seale said to imagine someone has programmed a computer so that it seems like it understands Chinese: someone can type in something in Chinese, and the computer, using its program, will be able to give an appropriate response and do it so well it passes the Turing Test.

The next part of the experiment then says imagine there is a person who does not speak Chinese at all in a room where Chinese questions or statements are slipped under the door. The person only has a book with an English, understandable version of the program the computer used and some basic office supplies like paper and pencils. The person takes the Chinese written on the paper slipped under the door and, using the program, writes a response in Chinese. No one could tell from looking at the response that the person didn't know Chinese or was using the program.

Seale argued that this is exactly what the computer does, only faster: just because it gives a response that makes sense does not mean it understands what it is doing, and therefore cannot be said to "think" or have a mind.

Whether or not the Turing Test can actually prove sentience, or the presence of a consciousness, if a computer passes it, it will still be a historic moment. Futurist and inventor Ray Kurzweil, who has been right on many previous predictions and whom I heard speak a couple years ago at Idea Festival in Louisville, Ky., predicted a computer will pass the Turing Test by 2029, and in fact has bet \$10,000 on it. The computers Alice, Brother Jerome, Eugene Goostman, Elbot, Jabberwacky and Ultra Hal will compete Sunday for the annual Loebner Prize of \$100,000 and all the prestige that goes with it, and the computer industry will be watching.

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THE QUOTE

"You know who voted for it? You might never know. That one. You know who voted against it? Me."

— ARIZONA SEN. JOHN McCAIN, at Tuesday's second presidential debate with Illinois Senator Barack Obama concerning an energy bill both candidates had voted on while in the Senate.

Paternalism Confounds The Moral Compass

Basic rules are essential for any organization or society, but when those rules begin to dictate personal moral decisions, they become paternalistic. Many paternalistic institutions have the best interests of their constituents in mind when they create rules that govern personal moral choices. Their belief is that the rules will create independent moral actors by forcing compliance. Unfortunately, the opposite effect occurs. Paternalism leads to intellectual and moral atrophy and confounds the individual's moral compass.

For an individual's moral compass to develop, that person must contemplate deep questions. Questions about theology and philosophy blend with societal and institutional messages to influence the individual's moral reasoning capabilities. Institutions can help individuals develop their own moral compasses by teaching them and exposing them to new ideas. Under a paternalistic system, however, the rules become a substitute for moral reasoning rather than a supplement.

In a paternalistic system, individuals are divorced from the actual



DAVID MANES

Guest Space

"Institutions can help individuals develop their own moral compasses by teaching them and exposing them to new ideas."

process of moral reasoning. Instead, moral reasoning is delegated to the authorities who dictate boundaries of acceptable behavior. Individuals are relieved of the need for independent moral thought and, in fact, they are often discouraged from such independence by the authorities. Instead of developing an ability to think independently about moral issues, individuals in paternalistic systems are relegated to thinking in terms of rational self-interest.

Under the paternalistic rules, right and wrong are less relevant to the individual than reward and punishment.

Thinking rationally, most individuals will only develop their capacity for thinking on that lower rational level in order to maximize personal reward and minimize personal punishment. The well-intentioned paternalistic authorities may think they are accomplishing their mission when they see compliance, but they delude themselves.

Once individuals graduate beyond the boundaries of the paternalistic rules and they are no longer under the system of rewards and punishments established by the authorities, what will they do? They have not learned how to grapple with the serious issues needed to make independent decisions morally. They are likely to continue operating under the rational self-interest model of decision-making in whatever other systems they find themselves. They will adopt the behavior desired by whatever systems they find themselves in without any real personal grounding.

This is precisely the situation that develops at a Christian university like Harding. Well-intentioned administrators see that the rewards and

punishments they institute usually result in compliance. Students generally follow the rules, and from the administration's perspective, make moral choices. But the surface-level compliance betrays the individual students' vacuous moral reasoning abilities.

Although it is not in their nature, paternalistic systems must realize that their goals are best achieved by persuasion rather than force. Harding must realize that it needs to teach students how to reason as independent moral actors, rather than just as obedient rule-followers. Paternalistic rules, by their very nature, undermine the ability of the individual to develop a personal moral compass that can be used as a guide beyond the confines of this institution. Without that compass and without a paternal structure to do the moral reasoning, Harding students will be lost after they leave this place.

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JARED ABELSON

Gone Phishin'

A Case Of The Blues

If you know me, you probably know I absolutely love music. Some might say too much. In the past, I have been asked if I considered myself a music elitist. Let me just say that even though the word elitist has gotten a bad connotation over the past few months, I proudly embrace the term.

I am indeed a music elitist, only listening to the best and finest quality music. That being said, I have to make a complaint about a trend I have noticed around campus. I would dare say that a very small percentage of our student population has ever listened to the blues. This trend is not found only on our campus, but with the great location of our university, we should be venturing into this very influential branch of American music.

Now some might feel like this is not a very big deal, but I beg to differ. I know that many students on campus come from very different places, and at times may find this great state a tad bit mundane. This is not the case. That is correct. I said Harding is in a great location.

For those who do not know, this weekend the Arkansas Blues and Heritage Festival will be held in Helena, Ark. Formerly known as the King Biscuit Blues Festival, this is the 22nd year of this free music festival. The festival is held Oct. 9th-11th. I have attended the festival twice and must say this is a must for anyone living in Arkansas.

While Helena is about three hours from Searcy, the music is well worth the drive. All of the hotels in Helena will be booked up, and there are no towns close by that will have any vacancies either. Camping is allowed though. I would suggest either driving down on Saturday to enjoy the last day of the festival, or camping out near the festival site on Friday night.

Although Helena is no booming metropolis, this small city is a real hotspot for the blues. The festival was named after the King Biscuit Flour Company, who sponsored the King Biscuit Time radio program many years ago that featured Helena's Sonny Boy Williamson, a famous blues harmonica player. Another famous musician, Levon Helm, drummer for the rock group, The Band, was from Marvell, Ark., a town near Helena.

During the festival, blues greats such as pianist Pinetop Perkins and drummer Sam Carr perform and sign autographs. Unknown artists play on the streets, while other main acts perform on small side stages scattered up and down the banks of the Mississippi River which is found in downtown Helena. Museums and record stores display relics from the mysterious past of the blues, and another great part of the blues culture, food, lines Helena's streets.

Without a doubt, many great musicians have looked to the blues for inspiration. From guitar greats like Jimi Hendrix and Eric Clapton to newer guitarists such as John Mayer and Jack White of the Whites Stripes, the blues have crept into the music both former generations and our own listen to.

Unfortunately, interest in the blues seems to be waning with each new generation. Concerning the blues, the best most students our age experience are reproductions by artists with no real connection to the blues and the music's roots. I feel like the blues offers much more than just good listening. I would argue that the realities of life that created the blues are why many great musicians drew inspiration from the blues, and we would probably benefit from immersing ourselves in this culture too.

Sometimes, the best way to experience something is to experience the original — not a copy. This is exactly the case with the blues. Most music listeners will probably not choose an old blues record to listen to over their favorite modern (or not so modern) musicians. That is perfectly fine.

However, if you love music and hate missing an opportunity, this weekend is right up your alley. Even if you do not listen to the blues, take a cruise down to Helena this weekend. Experience the culture of the blues (and the South) for free, and I guarantee you will not regret it. Who knows, it might even change the way you listen to music.

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Eco-tourism: Efforts to 'Combine' Tourism With The Environment

Staff Member Takes a Ride On a Rice Combine To Watch for Rare Birds

If Harding students somehow attained a weekend free of homework to follow their whims and wishes, what would they do? Perhaps some would flock in droves to jump off Greers Ferry Lake's shoreline cliffs or ascend the heights of Sugarloaf Mountain near Blue Springs in Garland County.

Others might spend their day on the town, roaming the malls and mulling over movies in theaters; still others might choose to attain unforeseen amounts of sleep as a means of playing catch-up. Naturally, a plethora of other options would certainly pique students' interest.

Would anyone jump at the opportunity to ride in a rice combine? Seriously? I did. Two weekends ago, though my weekend was far from homework-free, I happily accepted the chance to ride in a rice combine near DeWitt, Ark., with members of the Audubon Society of Central Arkansas. Our goal: to flush up specimens of two rare bird species, black rail or yellow rail.

Though our goal wasn't met, we did glimpse many other fascinating critters, including a single swamp rabbit, a giant swallowtail butterfly (the name aptly suits its size), and sora rails. But this is beside the point. The greater success that transcended our rare-rail prospect was that of birders collaborating with farmers, benefiting both parties and embodying the essence of an increasing tourism genre, nationally and internationally: eco-tourism.

Riding high in the rice combine, tightly clutching my binoculars in



SAM HOLSCHBACH

Green Without Envy

"The number of recreational visits to national parks has also increased in the past two decades. And according to a 2002 U.S. Department of Commerce study, 13% of U.S. outbound travelers are considered eco-tourists."

anticipation of seeing rare birds, I chatted with Cody, the farmer manning the combine, who shared some details with me concerning the rice harvest and farming in general: his work schedule that can consist of nearly whole days in the field; the cottonmouths with which he occasionally contends; the actual process of releasing the rice from the combine into tractor hoppers; new workers and more. In turn, I was able to keep him company and express my passion for birds, identifying a cattle egret flying to our left as the rotating combine reel funneled rice into the combine along with Queen Anne's pocket melons, fruits resembling tiny pumpkins.

It really was a win-win situation, as Cody warmly allowed me to ride a combine to see birds, while my pres-

ence and conversation broke up the monotony of what could have been a long day of harvesting for him.

Eco-tourism, or ecological tourism, generally fosters a win-win situation for the economy and environment. Striving to lure tourists to natural areas, ecotourism also attracts visitors to an area's unique culture and heritage. An essential facet of ecotourism involves care for the earth, as eco-tourists often engage in volunteer efforts and learn about practical "green" options newly available. Very appropriately, conservation, energy efficiency and recycling are esteemed in this genre of tourism.

The demand for eco-tourism is certainly rising in line with an escalating national concern for the environment.

Between 1996 and 2001, Americans have increased their spending on outdoor activities while on U.S. domestic trips by 30 percent in real terms, according to The International Ecotourism Society. The number of recreational visits to national parks has also increased in the past two decades. And according to a 2002 U.S. Department of Commerce study, 13 percent of U.S. outbound travelers are considered eco-tourists. Thus, the market is ripe for eco-tourism's increase as an earth-friendly vacation option.

For some countries, like Madagascar, Kenya and Costa Rica, eco-tourism serves as a major means of national income, as these countries showcase their lush, resplendent rainforests and jungles. In America, eco-tourism is quite varied; it can func-

tion as an educational opportunity to learn about wolves in their Montana habitat, to explore Michigan's island ecosystems along Lake Superior or to understand the endangered status of the Florida panther in the Everglades.

But one need not embark on an exotic adventure to develop a taste for eco-tourism; even college students can plan trips locally and have good, "green" fun. Students could spend a day in the Little Rock area, hiking up Pinnacle Mountain and visiting the River Market, which boasts the Boulevard Bread Company that serves its breads, sandwiches and coffees in biodegradable tableware. Or perhaps visiting Crowley's Ridge Nature Center near Jonesboro, Ark. coupled with a picnic lunch in reusable containers might resonate with some. Taking advantage of the Honors College bike and kayak checkout system, honors students could kayak the nearby Little Red River via access at Riverside Park or explore the Searcy bike trail.

Clearly, eco-friendly options abound for exploring the Natural State, and what better way to spend an upcoming — hopefully homework-free — fall break than to soak up the glorious autumn colors with beloved friends, all the while supporting the environment that has long supported us?

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Tract Evangelism Counterproductive

Imagine this situation. Suppose you are a Muslim, strolling down the sidewalk. The day is sunny and beautiful. You can't imagine things being better. Then, suddenly, a Caucasian man in an impeccably — pressed cotton shirt springs out from behind a bush. Immediately, he begins assailing your religion. He tells you how wrong you are for being a Muslim. He waves a few drawings of particularly ugly-looking terrorists and a photograph of the Sept. 11 attacks in your face, citing some verses from Deuteronomy to back up his claims. Then he whips out a yellow notepad with a short list written on it. Upon it is a step-by-step guide to changing your religion. He hands you the notepad, spits on the ground and vanishes. Would you be changing your religion?

It sounds sensational, but I've seen this argument touted numerous times, and always by the same man: Jack Chick. During your life, you may have found a tiny, rectangular pamphlet lying in a public area somewhere. On the cover you would have seen a cartoon image, probably of something provocative, like the grim



LUKE JONES

Guest Space

"What about loving our neighbors as ourselves? What about giving to the poor? What about living in the light?"

reaper. When you opened the booklet, you would have found about 15 pages of comics, followed by a quick guide on how to become a Christian. What you found was a Jack Chick Bible Tract, or just a Chick Tract.

As a young Christian, I would occasionally find these and redistribute them, thinking I had done some lost soul a favor. Sadly, I fear I only achieved the opposite. But why am I campaigning against something as seemingly innocuous as little Bible comics? I'll tell you. We live in an age where Christians are becoming

less and less popular. People like Sam Harris and Fred Phelps make us out to be Neanderthals. I come down on Chick Tracts because they further pigeon-hole us into the corner designated for violent, self-righteous, arrogant crusaders against civilization. And if anything that the Chick Tracts have to say about Christians is correct, we belong in that corner!

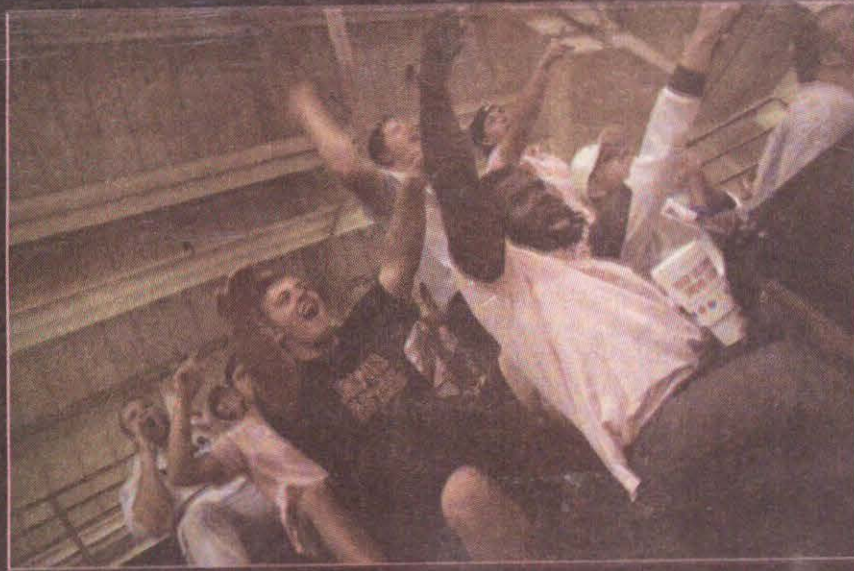
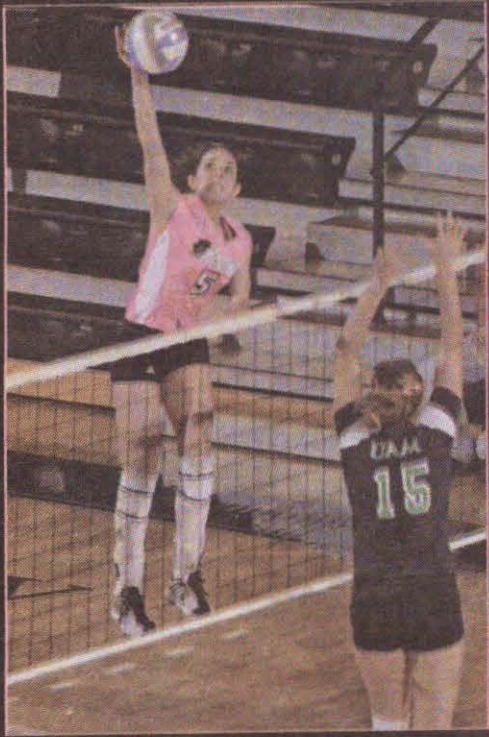
There is one chief problem with the tracts, which is their handling of Christianity. In Jack Chick's hands, the Bible is less like God's word and more like a howitzer, used to fire at sinners and saved alike. The tracts always end with the same thing: the unsaved being saved, or being damned, with no other option. Folks with serious questions are portrayed as bellowing morons and are quickly silenced by smiling Christians with weak and simplistic arguments. In the end, the only thing that matters to Jack Chick is getting the soul saved, and nothing else. In fact, his website (where all the tracts are viewed) describes those who use his tracts as "soul winners." What about loving our neighbors as ourselves? What about giving to the poor?

What about living in the light? No. None of that matters. Just follow the checklist, and God will add you to his file cabinet.

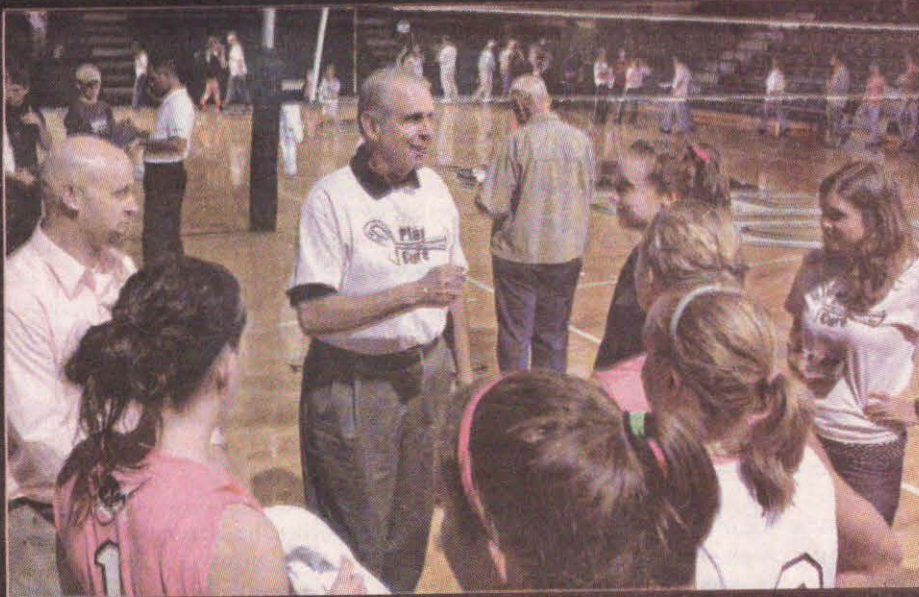
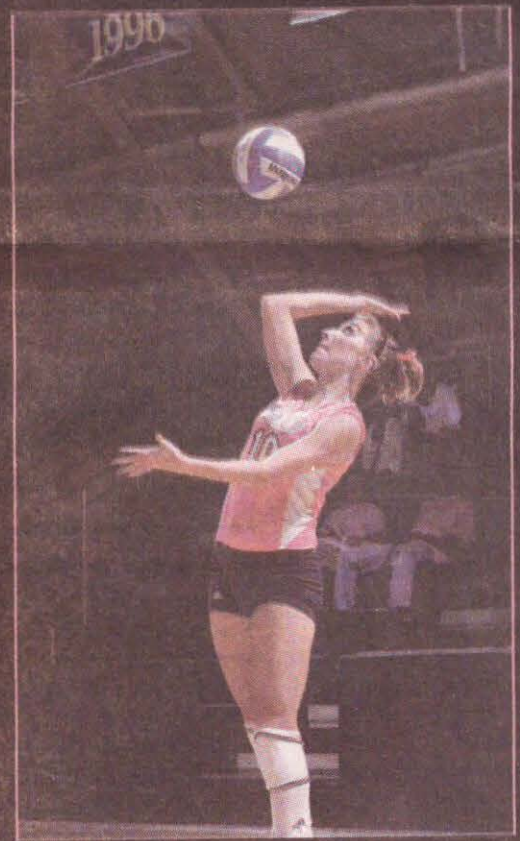
But let's think about the Christian who is filed in this cabinet. What would he or she be like? Undoubtedly, this Christian would be motivated primarily by fear of damnation and would immediately attempt to convert his or her friends and family with the same kind of aggressive argumentation presented in the tract. And what kind of God would he or she serve? One who dangles His followers constantly over the lake of fire, threatening to relax his grip at the slightest twitch of doubt? Is this the message we are trying to communicate? So next time you see members of a tent revival passing out little black pamphlets, know what you're dealing with. If you want, you can send them to me. I've been meaning to try out my new paper shredder.

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thinking pink



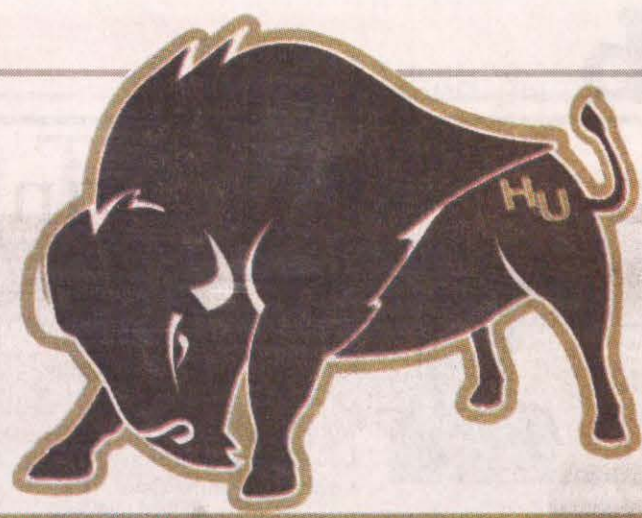
The Lady Bisons volleyball team hosted a "Play for the Cure" game Wednesday, Oct. 8, to support the fight against breast cancer. The team wore pink jerseys and fans were encouraged to also wear pink. Funds raised through donations, halftime games and T-shirt sales at the game went to support the family of John and Lori Newby, as Lori is struggling with breast cancer. T-shirts can be purchased through this week in the student center.



SECTION B

BISON

the



October 10, 2008

Conference plot thickening

North Alabama, Delta State and Valdosta State accompanied by UAM at top of standings

North Alabama 6-0 (4-0)



North Alabama has yet to disappoint in their ascent to the No. 2 spot in the national poll. The Lions have played stifling defense, allowing just 71 points in their first six games. The offense has been equally impressive, racking up 272 points for an average of more than 45 points per game. They will look to move to 7-0 this week against North Greenville in non-conference action.

Delta State 4-1 (3-0)



The Statesmen are riding high after upsetting Valdosta State last week in two overtimes to knock the Blazers out of the No. 1 spot in the nation. The win boosted Delta State up to No. 7 in the nation. After a loss in week 1, the Statesmen have rattled off four consecutive wins to wiggle into second place in the GSC. They will host West Alabama this weekend.

UA-Monticello 4-2 (2-1)



The Boll Weevils are rolling offensively behind quarterback Scott Buisson. They notched a 44-22 victory over Ouachita Baptist, and they have put up 224 points in their six games, which is second only to North Alabama in the conference. UAM is the top rushing team in the conference, pounding out more than 240 yards per game on the ground.

Valdosta State 4-1 (2-1)



After a disappointing loss to a tough Delta State squad, the defending national champions will look to rebound on the road against Henderson State. The Blazers have only allowed 59 points through five games, which is tops in the GSC in total points allowed. They also have the top run defense in the conference, allowing just 99 yards per game.

Arkansas Tech 3-2 (2-1)



Strange things are happening in Russellville. The Wonderboys have managed a winning record while being outscored, 123-156, on the season. ATU ranks near the bottom or the middle of the conference in just about every statistic, yet they manage to win games. They will have a chance to get their third conference win at SAU this weekend.

West Alabama 3-3 (1-2)



West Alabama came up with their third win of the season last year against Concordia-Selma in non-conference play. They won't have such an easy time this week against Delta State. The No. 7 Statesmen will pose a more-than-formidable threat to a West Alabama offense that has sputtered all season to the tune of 55 points in conference play.

Harding 2-4 (1-2)



Harding will have a solid chance to even their league record at 2-2 this week when they host Ouachita Baptist. Though they have a potent passing game, the Bisons are the only team in the conference to have allowed more than 200 points this season. Their 256 points allowed gives them an average of 42.6 points allowed per game.

Ouachita Baptist 2-3 (1-3)



The Tigers took a beating last week at the hands of Arkansas-Monticello and their vaunted running attack. If OBU wants to pick up their second conference win this week, they'll have to buckle down on defense against Harding's air-raid offense that ranks second in the conference with 368 passing yards per game, and first in the league in total passing yards.

Southern Arkansas 0-5 (0-3)



Southern Arkansas fought hard last week against Harding, but came up short after Zac Ross returned a kick for 86 yards and a score to secure the Bisons' first conference win. The Mule Riders have the third-best rush offense in the conference, but they average just 3.9 yards per carry for the season. When their option attack isn't clicking, they don't stand much of a chance.

West Georgia 0-5 (0-3)



The Wolves have put up some pretty abysmal numbers this season thus far. They've been outscored 143-27 in their three conference games, and they've yielded 192 points overall while scoring just 49 points in five games. The Wolves allow more than 40 points per game while scoring less than 10 per contest. Their defense will likely get shredded by UAM this week.

Henderson State 3-3 (2-2)



Henderson State was picked by most people and publications to finish around fourth in the conference, so they've been a bit of a disappointment in that aspect. They have been pretty mediocre thus far, and their statistics back that up. The Reddies are middle-of-the-road in most categories. They'll have a tough test this weekend against Valdosta State.



Photo by CRAIG RAINBOLT | The Bison

Illustration by LEAH FAUST | The Bison

Fall brings playoff baseball, postseason awards

BRANDON HIGGINS

The Payoff Pitch



Ah, yes. October is now in full force, and that brings about the crisp air of fall, playoff baseball and postseason awards. I'd like to convey some thoughts about the playoffs and make some predictions about postseason awards.

First of all, in a series of shocking events, the Chicago Cubs have been eliminated from the playoffs; and by shocking, I mean completely normal. How many consecutive playoff losses is that for the Cubs now? Oh, yeah. I remember. Nine.

This year, the Cubs can't blame any Walkman-wearing fans down the left-field line, either. They didn't choke; instead, they had some sort of violent reaction that seemingly surfaces anytime there is a baseball game at Wrigley Field in October.

After seeing this year as the proverbial "next year" they are perpetually waiting for, Cubs fans witnessed their team being beaten like Mike Portnoy's drum set. Their potent offense was stifled, their solid pitching was pummeled and they looked like amateurs trying to field ground balls.

Oh, well. There's always next year.

Though the Cubs were very unimpressive, the Dodgers were absolutely stellar in every phase of the game. Their offense came alive, which was what they needed all

season long. They have a great pitching staff and a fantastic bullpen with all the right pieces. I wouldn't want to play the Bums right now.

The Boston Red Sox were also impressive, blistering the 100-win Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim for a 3-1 series victory to pit them against the Tampa Bay Rays.

You have no idea how happy I am for the Rays and their fans. After being the joke of Major League Baseball since their acceptance into the league, the Rays have rattled off a 97-win season and an easy series victory over the Chicago White Sox.

I think I'd like to see a World Series match-up between the Rays and the Dodgers. I want to see the Rays in there simply because they are having a dream season and I don't want to see

it end. I want the Dodgers to make it because nobody paid any attention to them all year long or gave them a chance to beat the Cubs. Sure, they didn't have a great record in the regular season, but neither did the Cardinals in 2006 when they brought the World Series championship to St. Louis.

As for postseason awards, here are my predictions for a few of the major awards that will be given out.

National League MVP: Albert Pujols — I'm sorry, but nobody deserves it more than him. And don't even use the whole "his team didn't make the playoffs, so he shouldn't get the MVP award" garbage. The Phillies didn't make the playoffs two years ago when Ryan Howard won the MVP, and his statistics were inferior to Pujols' that year anyway.

Pujols hit .357 with 37 home runs, 116 RBIs and 100 runs scored this year with a torn ligament in his elbow. He's the best player in baseball, and without him the Cardinals wouldn't have stood a chance at all this season.

National League Cy Young: Tim Lincecum — Sorry, Brandon Webb.

Your 22 wins are impressive, but not more impressive than Lincecum's 18-5 record with a horrible team. He boasted a 2.62 ERA in 227 innings while striking out 265 batters. If he would've been on a playoff contender, he would have easily posted more than 20 wins. He was the most dominant pitcher in the league. Period.

American League MVP: Dustin Pedroia — This guy is the trendy pick for the AL MVP because he was a cata-

lyst for a great Red Sox squad. It's hard to find a player with his production at a premium, up-the-middle position. I would love for Josh Hamilton to win it, but the voters probably won't pay attention to him since his team had a sub-.500 record. That's a shame.

American League Cy Young: Cliff Lee — This is a no-brainer. He went 22-3 with a 2.54 ERA for a mediocre Cleveland Indians team. I can honestly say that there is no way that anyone besides him will win this award. He'll likely receive the award unanimously — and he deserves it.

BRANDON HIGGINS serves as the sports editor for the 2008-2009 Bison. He may be contacted at bhiggins@harding.edu

Ladies are a dying breed

AMANDA PRUITT

The OT



The Lady is facing extinction.

As each year passes it seems like an increasing number of schools are following the trend of dropping the word "Lady" from women's sports mascots. It's happening in high schools. It's happening in colleges.

And it's even happening within the confines of Arkansas.

What a progressive world we live in these days that we can drop a single word from a mascot to achieve gender equality. Women are now so liberated since somebody decided the "Lady Wildcats" should simply be the "Wildcats." Now men's and women's collegiate athletic programs are instantly and without question equal. That's how it works, right?

Like many nationwide trends, this one began in the North and has since filtered its way slowly into the southern states. In a move that makes some good sense, schools began taking "Lady" off mascot names. The change satisfies those who feel marginalized by the Lady, and the athletic program is more unified under a single mascot. Besides, few schools aside from the Lady Vols of Tennessee consistently

use a separate logo for women's sports.

The University of Arkansas made the progressive move this summer to remove the Lady from Lady Razorbacks — or Lady 'Backs as the university insisted on calling them. This move was largely because athletic director Jeff Long merged the athletic departments and decided to consolidate the teams under one brand. The main problem with the change is that all the women's venues on campus are named Lady 'Back Something Or Other. Needless to say, all of these places must change names.

A month or so later, Arkansas State followed suit. After the NCAA forced the school to finally abandon the Indian mascot, Arkansas State selected the Red Wolves as the replacement and are using the name for the first time this fall. School officials apparently figured that Lady Red Wolves was a little too much of a mouthful, so now every team is the Red Wolves as a matter of convenience.

For many other schools in Arkansas, changing the mascot name is not as simple as deleting the Lady. Since the dawn of women's sports at Arkansas-Monticello in the 1970s, the men have stayed the Boll Weevils while the women opted for the Cotton Blossoms. When Arkansas Tech started women's sports, officials thankfully chose not to be the Lady Wonder Boys, deciding to be the totally unrelated Golden Suns instead.

In the 1980s, the state was blessed with teams calling themselves the Harding Bisonettes, the Ouachita Baptist Tigerettes and the Southern Arkansas Riderettes, names that belong on a chorus line more so than on a basketball team.

Change is probably going to come to all these schools eventually. Though equality is not made by just changing a name, people would like to wish that to be the case. There will be some heel-dragging along the way because of tradition, the very soul of college sports.

After all, it was the Lady Bisons that won countless conference cross country titles in the Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference and now in the Gulf South Conference. It was the Lady Bisons that have been nothing short of dominant in volleyball. The Lady Bisons of Harding have boasted athletes who have achieved national acclaim.

If the society of unpleasant correctness continues as it is, the Lady will not stand anywhere. Eventually the GSC schools will face this reality. Tradition, however, is not defined by the word "Lady" or by "Bisonettes"; it is created and maintained by the athletes who have had success, no matter the name.

AMANDA PRUITT serves as the illustrator for the 2008-2009 Bison. She may be contacted at akpruitt@harding.edu

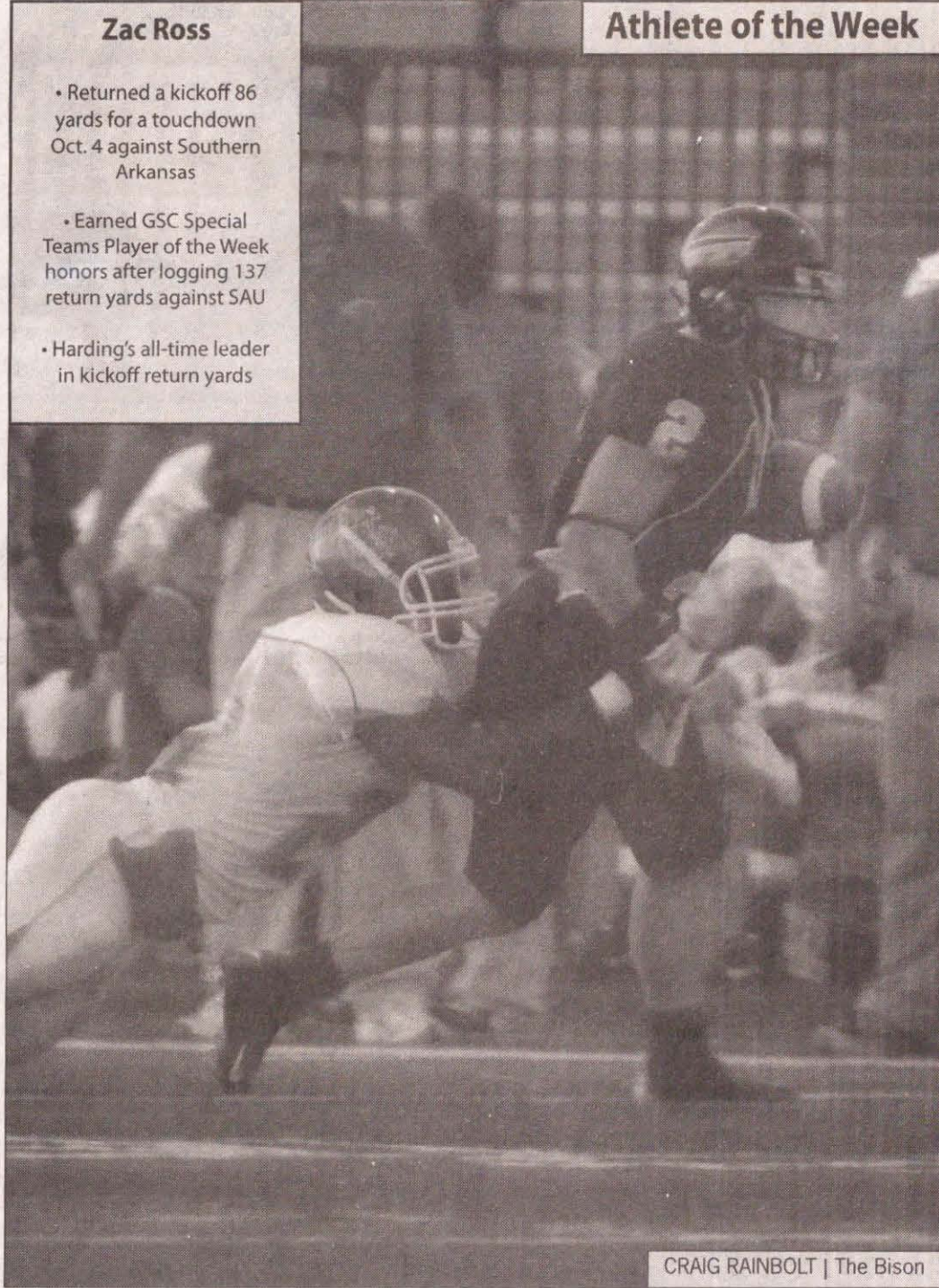
Zac Ross

- Returned a kickoff 86 yards for a touchdown Oct. 4 against Southern Arkansas

- Earned GSC Special Teams Player of the Week honors after logging 137 return yards against SAU

- Harding's all-time leader in kickoff return yards

Athlete of the Week



CRAIG RAINBOLT | The Bison

Lady Bisons to lean on youth and coaching

By CHRIS O'DELL student reporter

The Harding University women's tennis team will be full of youth for the 2008-09 season.

The Lady Bisons have only one senior this season to go along with eight sophomores and two freshmen. However, despite the inexperience, head tennis coach David Elliott said the Lady Bisons still look to compete in the Gulf South Conference this year.

"We've got a solid team in a very tough conference," Elliott said.

The GSC is widely known as one of the best conferences in Division II for tennis, and this season it is no different. The GSC is capable of boasting multiple

top-20 nationally ranked teams this season.

"In our conference you have to be better than good to go very far," Elliott said.

One of the more dangerous teams for the Lady Bisons this season could be the Delta State Lady Statesmen.

"Delta State has an extremely strong team," Elliott said. "They could have the best team they've ever had, and they were real good last year."

Adrienne Bryant is one of eight sophomores on the team this season. She said that a young team isn't always a bad one.

"I think the youth of the team is a good thing," Bryant said. "I really feel that our team connection is what makes our team so great."

One major difference from

last season's team is Karina Gomes' position.

Last season Gomes led the Lady Bisons to their fourth consecutive national tournament. However, this season Gomes will be flanking Elliott as the graduate assistant.

"She has great coaching techniques, connects well with all of us and, most importantly, knows her tennis," Bryant said. "She has been a great leader along with Coach Elliott."

The women's team is unbeaten through its first two matches this season. The Lady Bisons defeated Division I Arkansas-Pine Bluff 7-0 and then took down Hendrix 6-3 to move to 2-0 on the season.

The Lady Bisons will begin conference play and their road to nationals in the spring.

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Bison tennis poised for successful season

By CHRIS O'DELL student reporter

The Bison tennis team is looking to build off last year's success to have a strong season this year.

The Bisons set several Harding school records last season after beginning the season 90-0 in singles matches and 45-0 in doubles matches. The team also built a 15-match win streak before eventually losing to Abilene Christian University in conference play. Head tennis coach David Elliott said this year's team should be even better.

"Our guys have a chance to be maybe the best we've ever been," Elliott said.

The Bisons return seniors Marco Ruiz and Brett Hoch as well as juniors Olzhas Taniyev and Jared Walters.

A big addition to the team could be Marco Ruiz's younger brother, Henrique Ruiz.

Elliott said the freshman from Sao Paulo, Brazil could be something special.

"He has a chance to be outstanding," Elliott said. "We haven't played a lot so far this semester, but we've seen some really good men's teams."

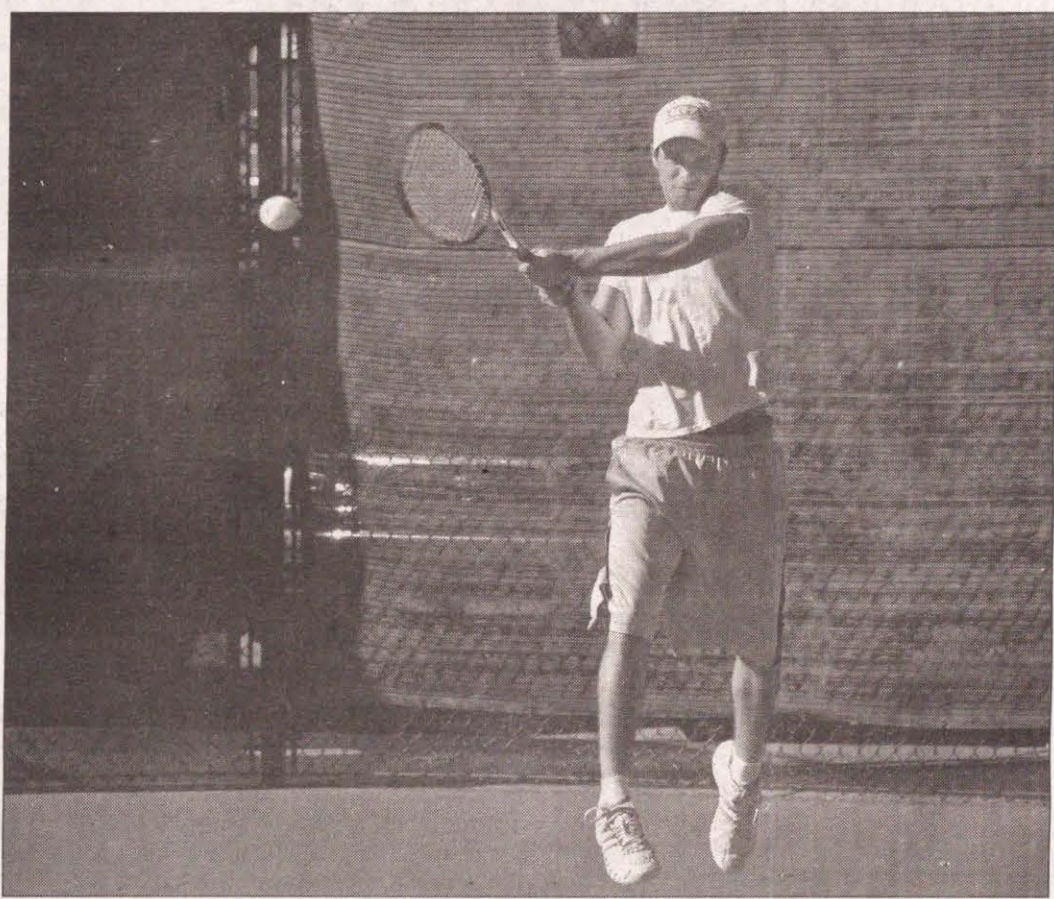
So far the Bisons are 2-0 this season with wins over Hendrix and Arkansas-Pine Bluff. During the Hendrix match, Henrique Ruiz won his singles match 6-1, 6-0, and teamed with his brother

Marco to win 8-2 in his doubles match. Then, against UAPB, Henrique won his singles match 6-0, 6-3, and won his doubles match 8-3.

Although the Bisons don't begin conference play until the spring semester, Elliott said his team should be able to compete with anyone in the conference.

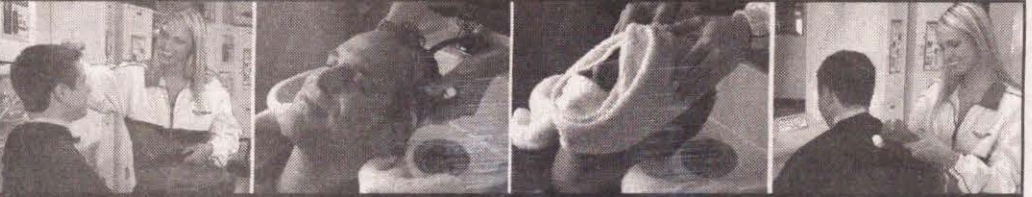
"Our conference is extremely strong," Elliott said. "But we should be able to compete with anyone in the conference if we play."

Harding will host Arkansas-Fort Smith Oct. 23 for the final match of the semester. The Bisons will look to finish off the fall semester with an undefeated mark.



NOAH DARNELL | Petit Jean

Sophomore Chris Beach launches a backhand during an Oct. 8 practice. Beach has won two doubles matches and two singles matches to help Harding to a solid start.



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The Students Have Become The Masters

Graduates give back to school as teachers

By ASHTON REELY
student reporter

Twentieth century English writer G.K. Chesterton once said, "Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another." At Harding, some graduates have made the choice to stay on campus and pass along what they have learned to fellow students, trading in their caps and gowns for briefcases and lesson plans.

While working on her master's degree, Alyssa Hepburn has signed on to teach a section of Accelerated Elementary Spanish I and serve as the Foreign Languages and International Studies secretary. Hepburn said after receiving her bachelor's degree in Spanish, she was excited to become a part of the department that had done so much for her.

"I teach a great group of students and work with brilliant faculty members," Hepburn said. "We are enjoying the success that stems from our recent accreditation from [the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages], which places us in the top 2 percent of foreign language programs in the country. I feel very honored to be a part of our department."

Hepburn said she loves

Harding and has enjoyed her time as a student. Graduating a year early, this fall marks only her fourth year on campus. She said she hopes to one day make the stay more permanent.

"I am working on my master's, and my goal is to pursue my doctoral degree in Second Language Acquisition as soon as possible so that I may teach at Harding as a professor in the near future," Hepburn said.

It isn't every day a college student gets offered a job the night before graduation. Michael Wright, however, received an opportunity that seemed like a natural fit prior to walking across the stage. Graduating with a degree in English and minors in communication and Bible, Wright has dove right in to his new position as an adjunct English faculty member. He also teaches an Honor's College class called "Communication and Critical Thinking."

While some might view a job at your alma mater immediately after graduation as "not moving on," Wright said he realized one doesn't have to go somewhere exotic to impact people.

"Overall, teaching has been a natural fit for me, and I still can't believe that I'm getting paid to be Ananias to these students,"

Wright said. "I spend every day trying to find ways to help 60 students take the scales off of their eyes."

Wright said he can best summarize his life philosophy at this point with a Bill Murray quote from "Groundhog Day": "What if there is no tomorrow? There wasn't one today." He said that he has finally gotten to the point where he doesn't concern himself with what tomorrow will bring.

"I still don't know what I want to be when I grow up, but I don't have to. I live such a full life right now, and uncertainty about the future no longer bothers me," Wright said. "Maybe I'll teach, maybe I'll be a rock star. Whatever I do, I want to focus on becoming more thoughtful, more whole and more selfless. Whatever I do with my hands will, hopefully, just naturally flow out of my heart."

Also an adjunct in the English department, Erin Lowery is teaching a World Literature class and two basic English classes. Lowery said Harding to get some teaching experience before eventually moving to Chicago with her husband, where she will try to get a teaching job or pursue her Ph.D. Lowery said she is grateful that Dr. John Williams,

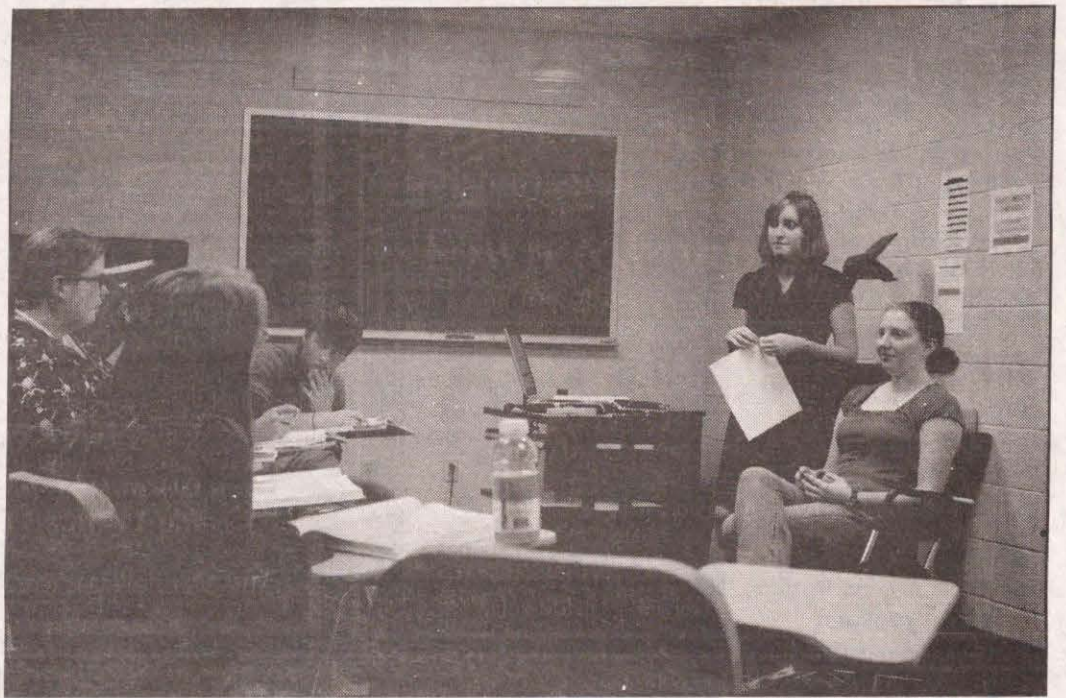


photo by TAYLOR DURHAM | The Bison

Alyssa Hepburn teaches a section of Accelerated Elementary Spanish I. Hepburn graduated from Harding last fall and is currently working on her master's degree.

head of the English department, has set up a mentoring program that pairs adjuncts with faculty members.

"This has given me someone to go to when I have questions," Lowery said. "If someone is looking to get some experience in a great environment with great students and great faculty, Harding is the place to do it."

Alyssa Hepburn said she also encourages soon-to-be-graduates

to form close relationships with their professors so they can learn from their examples and garner their advice.

"Professors are a wealth of information and support as you graduate," Hepburn said. "I have experienced firsthand the extent to which our professors are invested in our success and well-being."

Wright said he encourages students to be proactive and ask

about a job if they are interested. While staying at Harding is the answer for some individuals, Wright said it is definitely not the only "next step." Ultimately, Wright said, the importance is living in the present.

"I'm convinced that if we focus on figuring out what it means to be a human being in the present (the only moment we actually live), any future direction will just come naturally."

McAlister's opens

by ERIC HOLLINGSWORTH
assistant copy editor

Construction started in March on the building that would become the location for the new McAlister's Deli which celebrated its Grand Opening Oct. 6.

According to General Manager Joe Moore, opening day went extremely well.

"We did wonderful," Moore said. "It exceeded my expectations—and I had high expectations."

Those lucky enough to be one of the individuals to walk into McAlister's last weekend may have received a free meal. During the week of training, the staff had several sessions during which staff members practiced serving each other, leading up to the weekend before opening during which they hosted friends, family and VIPs in a real-life training session dealing with real people rather than staff.

They didn't get all the people they needed, so they let people in off the street to meet their requirements for pseudo-customers. Moore said the training crew put the staff in the top five staffs trained.

McAlister's by name is a deli, but Moore said it is a bit more than the typical deli. They have sandwiches, spuds and salads.

"We like to consider ourselves a cross between a quick service and a casual restaurant," Moore said. "You order at the counter, but once you sit down, you should not have to get back up for any reason [such as] refills."

McAlister's biggest sellers are the McAlister's Club, the Reuben sandwich and the Spud Max.

"I would suggest the club and a glass of sweet tea," Moore said.

Located in the new River Chase shopping center just across from Wal-Mart on Race Street, its location places McAlister's in a prime location for business. Although a bit further from

Harding than they would have wanted, Moore said that the owners were satisfied with the location close to the highway, right in front of three new hotels currently being built.

As far as goals for the restaurant, Moore said the restaurant's number one concern is building its catering sales. As there doesn't currently seem to be a problem bringing customers in, the four managers are free to make sure that service remains at the same level it is now. Managing ticket times is one way that they try to keep service at a maximum. The time customers order till the time they receive food is, in desirable circumstances, kept to below eight minutes.

One of the staff's long-term goals is becoming an integral part of the community. Pictures of Searcy and Harding adorn the walls inside McAlister's.

Moore said he is not worried about competition. In fact, he welcomes it. He said it brings more people to the area.

"We're here as a team, not to take away, and I don't think we'll do that," Moore said. "The more the merrier, in my opinion."

McAlister's hired about 85 people from the community, including 20 to 25 Harding students. They are still hiring, although not as intensively. Moore said they are looking for the right people now, whereas before they were just hiring anyone. They are currently going through a weeding-out process and getting better workers in to replace others.

Moore said he knows what it takes to run a restaurant from his seven years of experience as the owner of Searcy's Dairy Queen.

"[It takes] a lot of drive. A lot of motivation," Moore said. "You've got to make sure it's what you want to do before you step foot into it, cause it's going to be rough. But hey, it's worth it."

'Iron Chef' competition to be held in caf

by MICHAEL BROOKER
student reporter

The Charles White Dining Hall will host its own "Iron Chef" competition Oct. 16. The cafeteria has invited three guest chefs to compete in a fashion similar to the popular Food Network television program. The chefs' work will be sampled by a panel of judges, and a winner will be decided the same night.

"Aramark has 'monotony breakers,' things we do every week to keep things different," George Strachan, Operation Manager for the caf, said. "There was a 'guest chef' idea, and we took it and sort of customized it."

The caf has invited Dr. David Burks, Mel Sansom and Andrew Baker to be the competing chefs. They will cook Italian, Mexican and Caribbean cuisine, respectively. Zach Neal, Assistant Dean of Students, was invited to be the event's host.

"They will all have their own

station and assistant and all the ingredients are provided," Strachan said. They will be set up in the cafeteria, and the assistant is there in case they aren't familiar with a piece of equipment. The chefs will have about an hour to cook five plates, one for each judge.

The cooking will begin at 5 p.m. and the judging will occur at 6. The five judges, all students, will select a winner based on taste and appearance. The winner will receive a "Best Chef Trophy," and Aramark is considering featuring the winning recipe in the caf during days that follow.

Student Association President Michael Crouch will be one of the judges.

"I was having a meeting with George about other food matters with the Food Committee," Crouch said, "and we were exchanging different ideas to do this year when he brought up 'Iron Chef.'"

Crouch said the committee really liked the idea and decided

to pursue it.

"George himself has done a wonderful job developing the idea," Crouch said. "I'm looking forward to participating, and I think it will be a good night."

The event, which may be viewed by any caf patron, will also be covered by TV 16.

Though the event is based on the "Iron Chef" television show, the Harding version will differ slightly.

The television show has two chefs competing head-to-head making a meal from a "secret ingredient" revealed before the cooking begins. The chefs have an hour in which to create their meal. The meals are then presented to three professional food critics who award points based on taste, presentation and uniqueness of the recipe.

Strachan said they originally thought about allowing the chefs to bring their own recipes, but later decided it would be best to provide the cooks with the recipe and all the ingredients.

"Since [our guest chefs] don't work in the kitchen, we thought it may be a good idea to let them know in advance what to do," Strachan said. "Maybe next year we'll change it up a little."

Strachan said Aramark is hoping things will go well for the event and is considering what to do if it is made into an annual event.

"We'll see how it goes this time," Strachan said. "Maybe we'll ask whoever wins to come back to face off against new chefs."

The event has already been rescheduled due to scheduling conflicts, but organizers are hoping the day before Fall Break will set the tone for the long weekend. Strachan said it is meant to be something fun leading into the holiday. Regardless, there will be a lot going on in the caf on Oct. 16.

"Short of chicken nuggets, it's pretty much the best thing that could happen in the caf," Crouch said.

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Readers enter "Twilight" zone

By **KARLIE RAMBERGER**
student reporter

With a movie premiere and Facebook being taken over by the "Twilight" phenomenon, Edward Cullen and Bella Swan have become household names. Stephanie Meyer's debut novel, "Twilight," became a worldwide best-seller as soon as it hit the stands.

The saga quickly became the best thing to happen to bookstores since "Harry Potter," and consistently leaves the reader wanting to know more. It comes as no surprise to those of us who have read the books that nearly four years and three additional books later, the saga has become one of the most talked-about and obsessed-over series of its time.

"Twilight," though officially labeled a young adult novel, easily attracts a wide range of ages and interests.

Bella, the narrator of the story, leaves her life in Phoenix, Ariz., to live with her police chief dad in the dismal, rainy town of Forks, Wash. Nothing appears to be drastically out of the ordinary until she walks into biology class and meets her new lab partner, Edward Cullen.

At first, he seems to despise her, glaring at her with evil eyes. Little does she know, the beautiful boy sitting next to her is her brother.

He is instantly drawn to her scent and soon realizes, thanks

to his brilliant and hilarious clairvoyant "sister" Alice, that he is completely in love with this ordinary girl.

This seemingly cliché love

geous Cullen family is actually a coven of vampires. However, this revelation doesn't deter Bella from returning romantic feelings to Edward, no matter

to go wrong.

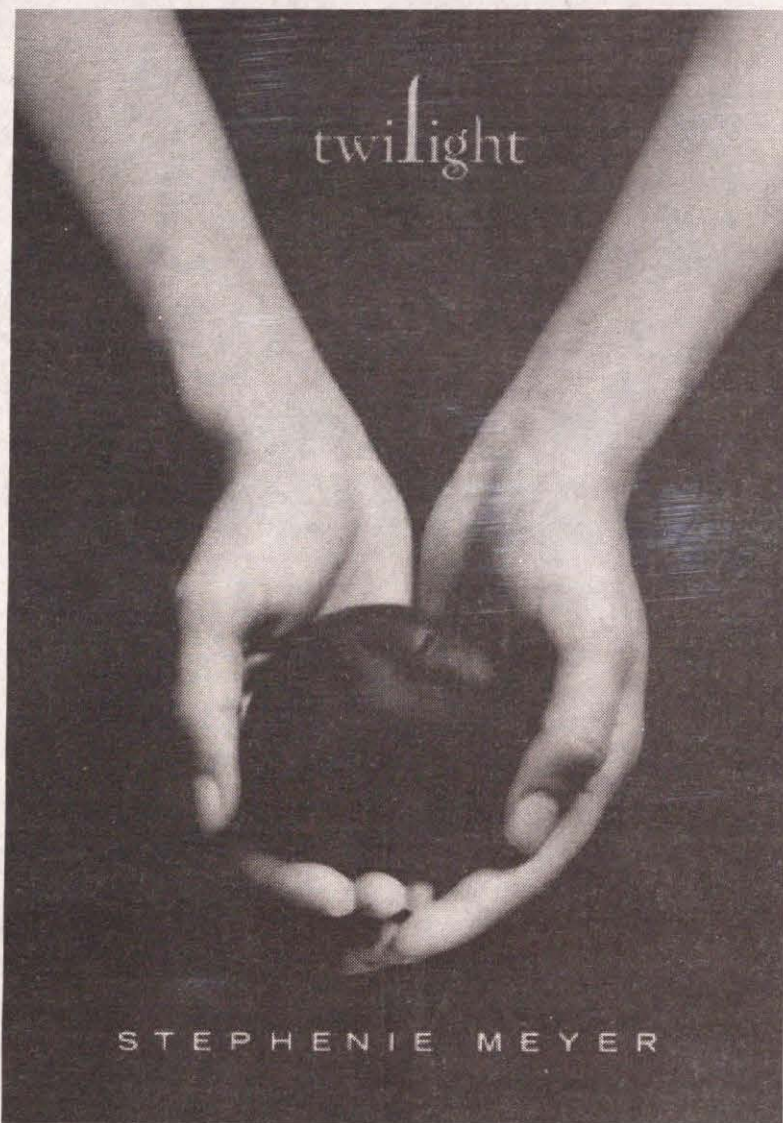
Of course, there can't be an epic love story without potential tragedy.

For one, vampire/human relationships aren't the most practical. Edward refuses to decide Bella's fate by changing her into a vampire, but the longer she stays human the more they both start to realize how different they really are. Bella is merely a "fragile human," and a "danger magnet" at that, constantly finding her way into trouble.

This theory proves to be quite accurate when a nomadic vampire named James discovers his blood lust for Bella. James is consumed by his need for Bella and will do anything to have her. The entire Cullen family must come together to protect her, while the situation becomes an intense battle to stay alive.

"Twilight" does not only have a hopeless romance, hungry vampires, brutal fight scenes and sarcastic commentary, but it also has the ability to capture the reader's mind and make it impossible to put the book down.

I, for one, only read "Twilight" as a way to show there was nothing to obsess about. I couldn't imagine a story about teenage vampires being anything less than cheesy, but within pages I was engulfed, and by the time I made it to the final chapter, I was already reaching for the second book.



STEPHANIE MEYER

story abruptly changes pace when Bella discovers her new hometown's biggest hidden secret. The inhumanly gor-

what the dangers. The two fall madly in love, never giving up hope for their relationship even when all things seem destined

Sudoku

	3		9			7		
9							5	
	6	8	5			3		
8							7	
	4	1			6	5	8	
								2
3			1					
		2	7				6	4
	8	7			2			

Musical satisfies

By **MICHAEL BROOKER**
student reporter

When I turn on the news, just about all I get is bad news. Most of it is about our economy, but there are a lot of other awful things happening out there today too (like Clay Aiken being a dad). Whenever I begin to get down in the dumps, I have to try to find a way out of them. Some may say laughter is the best medicine, but I prefer to just go and learn about people who simply have it worse than me. It's in times like these that all of us need to go see "Les Misérables." You'll feel a whole lot better about your place in the world afterward.

A lot of Harding students have gotten to enjoy this musical recently. Both the French and English departments took groups to see the show in Little Rock at the Arkansas Repertory Theatre. I was one of those people who took the time to see the show.

The musical, based on Victor Hugo's novel of the same name, is one of the most popular shows of all time. After seeing this production, it's easy to see why so many people like it: the music is excellent, the story is interesting and it tells of one man's quest for redemption.

The story mainly follows Jean Valjean in France after he is released from a chain gang in 1815. After being shown kindness by a church bishop, Valjean moves on from his past life of crime and into a life as a constructive individual in society. In doing so, he breaks his parole. The musical centers on Valjean's quest to make things right. Though he is obviously a better man, he is still haunted by his past crimes. To make things more interesting, the story takes place during the student revolution that briefly flared up in France. And, as the title suggests, the show is mostly about people who are miserable in the conditions they find themselves. As a result, the characters take action to remedy those problems (some succeed, most don't).

There's a lot going on in this show, but it's not that difficult to follow if you don't fall asleep. There are a lot of other characters with their own story lines that complement Valjean's, and those stories are just as captivating as the main one. The love triangle between Cosette, Marius and Eponine comes to mind immediately.

As for the production I saw in Little Rock, it was really good. In what limited space The Rep

has, they put it to good use. Better yet, the entire show had its own style seen in staging and in the set. Of course, as with any good production, it's only more enjoyable if there are a few things to pick apart.

The Rep had a turntable that was barely used (it's a revolving portion of the stage). When they did use it, it was to amazing affect, but there were a lot of missed opportunities. And once they got around to using it, it was as if the actors were scared of the movement: everyone had to hunker down and grab on to something. In other words, they didn't use it unless everyone was secure and standing still. It still looked great, but it was a little silly watching actors portraying angry Frenchman pausing to grab a chair so they wouldn't fall over.

A high point was the quality of the singing. Probably the best was Javert (Christopher Carl), the man who hunts Valjean to make him pay for his past crimes. I must also compliment the whole cast on a good blending of voices. More importantly, I could actually understand what the words were. It's very important to understand the words in a plot-heavy show that's all singing. Then again, there were times where things didn't come out loud and clear. For example, in "Bring Him Home," it sounded more like "bring him haaaaa" (and who knows what that means).

The orchestration was also great, which is amazing considering the entire band was in a completely separate room watching the show on closed-circuit television. I was surprised they didn't have more trouble than they did with cues. There were only a few times when the singers got away from the music (most noticeable in "Do You Hear the People Sing?").

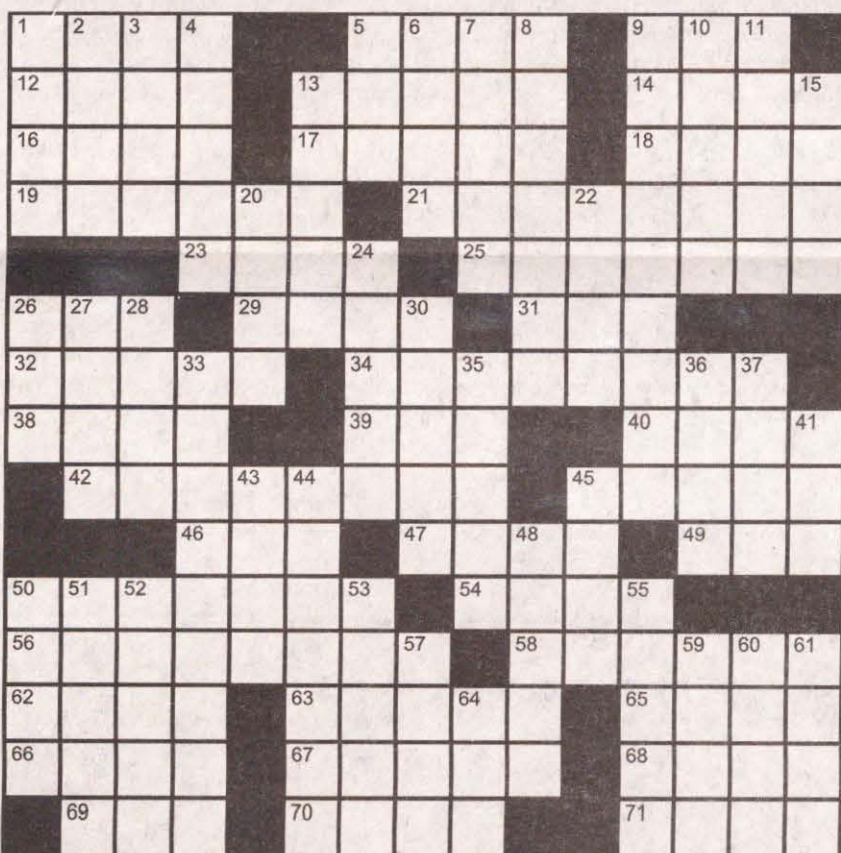
There were a few other small things that also struck me as a little odd. The most laughable was the eager flag waving that took place in "One Day More." What should have been a somber, thoughtful wave was instead a cheerleader's routine after six cups of coffee.

Above all, it was a wonderful show. I mean, I guess I can say that about a musical that is solely focused on people whose lives are awful. I suppose it is more fun to sing about than to live through. There were a lot of subtle things about the show that really made it a unique production (I loved the lighting scheme in "Red and Black"). I would recommend this show to anyone with a three-hour attention span, but the Rep's run of "Les Misérables" ends this Sunday.

The Bison Crossword

Across

- 1 Indonesian island
- 5 Salad
- 9 Caress
- 12 Household appliance
- 13 Canada neighbor
- 14 Adam's grandson
- 16 Seaweed
- 17 Calcedony
- 18 Adjutant
- 19 Earlier
- 21 Editor
- 23 Whirlpool
- 25 Malady
- 26 Her
- 29 Couturier Christian
- 31 Pinch
- 32 Artery
- 34 Extra large
- 38 Box seat
- 39 Pride
- 40 Toll
- 42 Linguist
- 45 Edible fruit
- 46 Hearing organ
- 47 Genuine
- 49 Singleton
- 50 Straight
- 54 Horsecart
- 56 Entry feature
- 58 Conformed
- 62 Comic Carvey
- 63 Scare
- 65 Mystique
- 66 Prune
- 67 Andrea _____
- 68 Vulgarian
- 69 Educational institution (Abbr.)



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- 70 Mars (Prefix)
- 71 Hardy heroine

Down

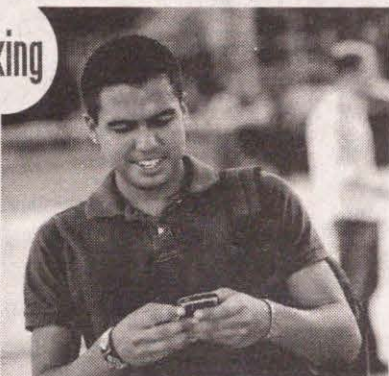
- 1 Prejudice
- 2 Singer Guthrie
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- 4 Fatuous
- 5 Droop
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- 7 Staked
- 8 Garden chore
- 9 Ceremonial smoker
- 10 Novelist Loos

- 11 Commotions
- 13 _____ Gras
- 15 Dried-up
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- 22 Used car sign words
- 24 Hick
- 26 Paycheck (Abbr.)
- 27 Basketball aim
- 28 Therefore
- 30 Hardship
- 33 Cable
- 35 Esteemed
- 36 Zilch
- 37 Deserve
- 41 Caustic
- 43 New Englander
- 44 W.I. island
- 45 Tattle
- 48 Fragrance
- 50 Appends
- 51 Mortgages, for example
- 52 Ancient Greek
- 53 Heartache
- 55 Brewer's need
- 57 Desolate
- 59 Noel
- 60 God of love
- 61 Swabs
- 64 Brazilian port

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New Metallica CD glorifies guitar, stays true to past

By JOEL BLAKE
student reporter

It's been 25 years since the release of Metallica's first album and throughout those years they have gained a reputation as one of the greatest metal bands of all time. On Sept. 10, Metallica released their newest album, "Death Magnetic," in hopes of proving to the world that their music is still relevant today. Upon its release, "Death Magnetic" reached No. 1 on the Billboard 200, making Metallica the first group to achieve five No. 1 albums, surpassing groups such as the Beatles and U2, who have both only reached the top four times.

Metallica's last album, entitled "St. Anger," released in 2003, did reach No. 1 on the charts, yet at the same time received mixed reviews. The band took a completely different approach on the album and created a sound foreign to the one which

Metallica fans had grown to love over the band's long career.

The release of "Death Magnetic" has been long anticipated as the marking of either the end or the renewal of Metallica. And I must say they did not disappoint with what may be one of the best albums of the year. This album could easily be confused with an album from their younger years. Producer Rick Rubin took the band back to their roots and helped them create an album they were comfortable with. This is also the first album the newest member, bassist Robert Trujillo, has been involved with.

The album's first single, "The Day That Never Comes," reached No. 1 on the Billboard Mainstream Rock Tracks chart. The song represents the entire album well with a catchy chorus

and a heart-pumping guitar solo despite the fact that the name of the song sounds like it should be the title of a James Bond movie.

Musically, this album keeps the head bobbing

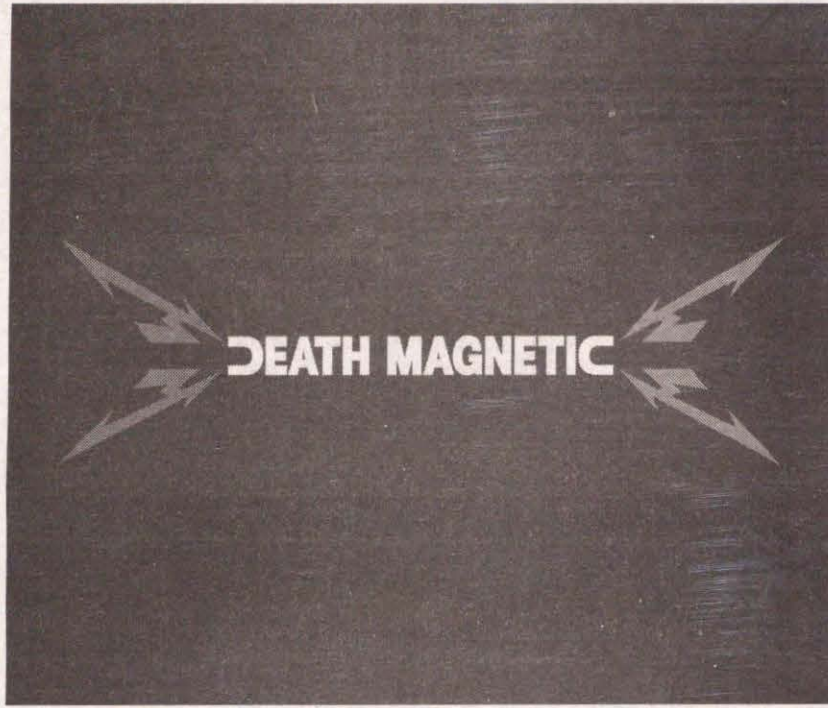
from beginning to end. Metallica has always been known for Kirk Hammett's blistering four-minute guitar solos with lead singer James Hetfield holding down the rhythm with speed that

would put Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt to shame. With the average track length reaching almost seven and a half minutes, you know the guitars have to bring back the intricacies that Metallica is known for.

Vocally, Hetfield has definitely seen better days. But that's not necessarily a bad thing, considering that his better days granted him seven Grammy Awards and eight multi-platinum albums. He is 45 years old, and his vocal cords have been through a lot of strain, both from thousands of live performances and from reaping the sinful benefits of being a rock star. He does, however, sound better on this album than he did on "St. Anger," this in part is because the melodies on this album flow very well with his voice.

Lyrical... well let's just say that we're not going to be hearing Dr. Burks quote any lyrics off "Death Magnetic" as an inspirational message during chapel. There is somewhat of a dark theme to the lyrics but since most of them won't make much sense to the average Harding student, I feel that is not something that should steer you away. It's hard to relate to the struggles of a 45-year-old man who has seen and done things that the Harding handbook most definitely would not allow.

On the whole, I really enjoy this album. It gets me pumped when I'm cruising down Race Street on my way to Sonic during happy hour to get a large vanilla Coke, easy ice. Even more importantly, it proves that Metallica still has it in them. I give this album 8.5 out of 10 because it contains 73 minutes of pure metal music we all wish we could play on Guitar Hero.



Students reveal ways they stay alert amid busyness

By SHANNON CORRETT
student reporter

Between essays, exams, quizzes and various other studious activities, it's not a big surprise that sometimes students who roll themselves out of bed at 7 in the morning to make it to an 8 o'clock class may need something more than a natural wake-up to get them started with their day. Whether it's the 2,000 milligrams of taurine in energy drinks or "magic" exercise methods that guarantee a quick pick-me-up in mere minutes, students are constantly finding ways to jump-start their engines to help them fight their way through the grueling school day and into late-night study sessions.

Caffeine and other such supplements are some of the

better-known tactics, and students don't seem to mind harnessing their effects for short-term boosts, keeping them in their classroom seats with their eyes wide open. On campus alone there are two Java City locations, one in the student center and one in the library. The Harding University Mini Mart (HUMM) also sells energy-boosting substances such as 10 varieties of energy drinks, eight varieties of enhanced waters and 13 different kinds of soda.

"My estimation would be that we sell hundreds of cups of coffee a day, especially after chapel." Sheryl Burnham, barista at Java City, said. "My best guess as to why these students drink so much coffee is just because they just need the energy boost."

Freshman Daniel Smith agreed with Burnham and said caffeine helps him get started in the morning.

"Usually I get a shower to kind of jump-start my morning, after which I have my morning dose of coffee," Smith said. "[The coffee] just really helps me get things going in the morning. I'm usually good to go for the rest of the day after my routine."

Tammy Foster, the HUMM's store clerk, said students definitely drink a lot of energizing beverages, based on what she sees while working.

"In [the HUMM] alone, we probably sell about 200 items a day, including the energy drinks, the waters, and soda," Foster said. "I see some students come in here in the morning, buy an en-

ergy drink, come back in the afternoon to buy another, and then again later. I just think it depends on how full their classes are and how much they have to do. It helps them get through the day without falling asleep in class."

However, the world is more advanced and health-consciousness than it's ever been. While surfing the Internet, you can find tips and facts everywhere about how to stay healthy, alert and awake throughout the day without ever having to ingest any energy supplements, more like natural pick-me-ups than ones you have to pay for.

"I sleep a lot," freshman Amanda Warzecha said. "I actually try not to drink a lot of caffeine, because I just think that pumping caffeine into yourself is a lot less healthy than just trying to get

your homework done early at night and get to bed."

Many students can be found at the Ganus Athletic Center in the morning trying to get a healthy start before they have to hurry off to class, while other people find time to run or ride bicycles to get that early-morning adrenaline rush.

"I ride my bike for about 15 minutes before class each day before my 8 a.m. class," sophomore Erica Strat said. "It tends to wake me up better, and the effects last longer. I don't drink caffeine because it just seems that a natural wake-up makes me feel better during the day. You don't have that short hyper period and then a crash later."

It seems that with so many methods, products and tactics, students are find-

"I see some students come in here [the HUMM] in the morning, buy an energy drink, come back in the afternoon to buy another, and then again later."

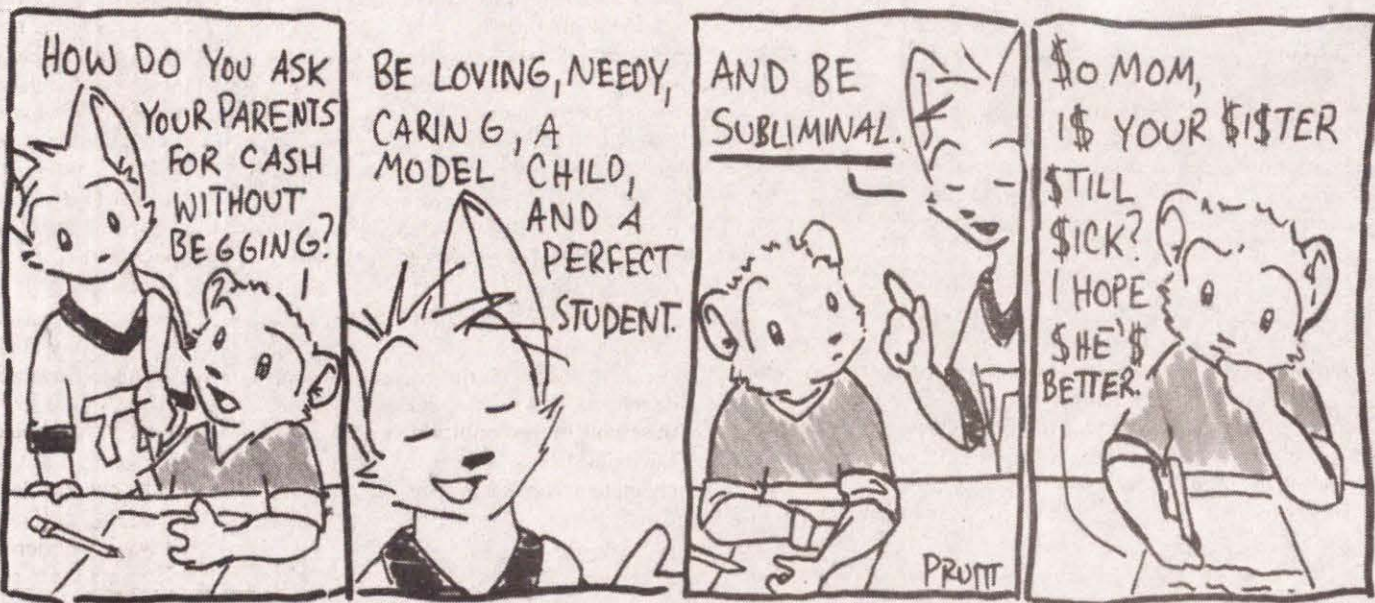
Tammy Foster
HUMM store clerk

ing their own way to keep themselves awake.

"Some people like to use one way to stay awake, and other people use another," Warzecha said. "No two people work the same, so I guess that it just depends on what works better for that certain person. It really doesn't matter how they do it, it just matters what the results are."

Harding Squirrels

By AMANDA PRUITT



Below: Answers To Last Issue's Crossword And Sudoku Puzzles

END	CDT	LACE	
ALOE	SARA	APODS	
BOOBY	TRAP	GOUDA	
UPS	ORATES	NYC	
TEE	WITS	ARES	
	ALF	OMELET	
ACHE	EVER	PILES	
DOOR	INC	CORE	
SIMON	SEAR	IRMA	
	NEBULA	EST	
	METE	PLAT	MAR
WHO	AROUSE	ALI	
EAVES	EMPOWERED		
DRIER	VEIN	TIRE	
DELI	SSN	CAT	

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9	8	4	5	1	3	2	6	7
5	7	3	9	2	6	8	4	1
7	2	6	3	8	1	4	9	5
3	9	5	4	6	7	1	8	2
1	4	8	2	9	5	7	3	6
4	5	2	6	7	9	3	1	8
8	3	9	1	5	2	6	7	4
6	1	7	8	3	4	5	2	9

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Crushing odds, finding fulfillment

by CARA GUGLIELMON
copy editor

Dr. Kwame Yeboah has had a lot of "onlys" in his life. He is the only surviving brother of his mother's seven sons, the only student from his village in Ghana who passed the high school entrance exam, the only one of his surviving siblings who became an American citizen and the only member of his hometown who has earned a Ph.D.

Yeboah, who in 2007 became an assistant professor of pharmaceutical sciences in Harding University's College of Pharmacy, is unique for another reason.

"I am the only Ghanaian [professor] at Harding," he said.

But his story is not only one of firsts or unique achievements. It goes back to the small farming village of Akim Odin in Ghana's Eastern Region where Yeboah was just another one of the many farming children.

Yeboah was one of 12 children, only five of whom survived. He left home at age 13 to attend boarding school, what in Ghana is the equivalent of public school since high schools are only in big cities.

Leaving home and his community alone at such an early age set a precedent for the pattern of his later years.

Yeboah soon began to absorb the culture of the big city and, upon completion of high school, was consequently flocked by girls who wanted to marry him. They were drawn to his modern apparel, education and, of course, musical taste.

"I was singing pop songs," he reminisced, laughing as he recounted his sudden popularity with the opposite sex.

But one girl was special: Tina. She had been his girlfriend through high school and when he had finished college, he wanted to marry her — he said he loved her and decided it was about time. But Tina's father gave the couple some difficulty, since he didn't want his daughter marrying the kind of person Yeboah was then.

"[I was] somebody who was spewing all this offensive language everyday," Yeboah said.

Eventually, Yeboah won and married his girl.

Before his marriage, he earned a bachelor's of science degree in biological sciences from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Kumasi, Ghana. His course hadn't always been set on science, although he had developed an interest through his child-

hood in becoming a doctor.

"My primary cause was to find out whatever caused the death of my brothers and ... to make sure it doesn't happen anymore," Yeboah said.

Only doctors, not scientists, were known in Ghana as the helpers of the sick, so Yeboah set his sights on becoming a doctor.

In pursuit of this goal, he had been rising from being the rural everyman to being a "somebody" — but apparently not "somebody" enough for college officials to take notice of him.

With only three colleges in Ghana, gaining acceptance to one was difficult, even more so for people without connections to high officials. Although Yeboah had the equivalent of a 4.0 GPA, after his first attempt at application, others with lower grades were accepted while he was not.

"[It was] because I didn't know anybody who knew somebody who was doing admissions," he said.

Yeboah struggled more than once to gain entrance to college in a system that seemed to care more about who you knew than what you knew.

After spending a year at home, he reapplied to the college and encountered problems similar to those in his previous application attempts. He had to talk with college officials 11 times before the college finally gave him admission.

"I cried before the head of the [Biology] department before I got admission," he said.

Finally admitted to the university in 1977 in Kumasi, Ghana, Yeboah pursued his degree in the sciences.

He wasn't content to stay "normal" or be just another farming boy from a small town. During his undergraduate years, Yeboah became the president of the hall of residence and the chairman of the Political Education Committee of the National Union of Ghana Students. The committee worked with the government on programs and expressed students' views to that government.

Eventually, Yeboah earned not only his bachelor's of science degree in biological sciences, but also his master's of philosophy in the field of zoology from the University of Ghana. His first job out of his undergraduate program was with the government's Student Task Force, an organization that led student groups to help their country through projects such as carrying cocoa to

ports for export and building houses. Ghana, Yeboah said, led the world in production of cocoa beans, and Ghana's economy relied heavily upon the industry. But, "the country was in such a mess" that cocoa beans were ready for export but "locked up in the hinterland (highland rural areas)" with no one to transport the beans to ports. Thus, carrying cocoa beans with the students was as important a project as any to support Ghana's economy.

During the remainder of his time in Ghana, Yeboah worked with Ghana's Ministry of Health (analogous to the U.S. Department of Health) as a public officer in charge of disease control activities such as immunizations and collecting data on diseases.

From there he moved on



to work as a research scientist, conducting research on a waterborne parasitic disease that affects people who work in water and children and communities that rely on streams. During that time, he traveled to Denmark to receive training about the disease and how it is spread in Ghana.

During his work with these organizations, Yeboah often had to travel and work far away from his wife and three children. Though he said the absence from his family was difficult, his financial need and desire to help his country drove him on.

"If I didn't go, we would not eat," he said. "I saw people suffer with disease, but because they were in the rural areas and they couldn't do anything, I remembered what my life [was] ... and I had a bond with them."

His father had also motivated him to do such work, reminding him that "if your people are in some difficulty and you can do something about it but you don't do it, by your inactivity you are against your people."

And so Yeboah's passion, founded in his experience with death and the wisdom of his father, drove him on to fight disease in his country and throughout Africa.

Among his other activities, Yeboah became a radio talk show host from 1986 - 1992 for a program that promoted using African culture (as opposed to depending on the contributions and advances of other cultures, which were incidentally dif-

icult to maintain in Africa) to create sustainable development. The theory behind the program, Yeboah said, was to "not completely abandon our [African] culture [and to] use our culture to see our needs and use our culture to fill those needs."

With his focus converging on African culture, including traditional African religion, Yeboah began to view anything foreign as anti-Africa.

"By the nature of the program ... I became anti-Christian, anti-Muslim ... anything from my point of view that was anti-African," he said.

His negative view of Christianity was not entirely because of his anti-foreign focus.

"Some of the missionaries did not behave well, because they came ... and saw many of

the traditional African practices, considered those practices pagan and tried to force Western behavior and beliefs on the African people," Yeboah said.

As the program grew, it broadcast every Tuesday to all of West Africa. Yeboah was finally becoming a

"somebody," but things weren't working out so well. When he saw things he disapproved of in churches, such as the practice of selling holy water under the guise that it would give the buyer a job, he spoke against these practices on the radio show. Women who considered themselves "born-again Christian women" would take offense at his words, and if they recognized him on the street, would attack him, hitting him and tearing his clothes.

He started attending a church of Christ, the "one group ... never annoyed with" him that also worked on his student task force.

Though he had grown up in a Christian family, had been baptized at a Pentecostal church as a child and had married a Christian woman, he said he fell from that faith and it was not until this point in his life that he reinstated his Christian faith and committed to practice it.

The move to America came in 1996, originally as only a visit to the U.S. to work on a program that would integrate herbal and traditional medicines in Ghana. But, he said, he saw opportunities here and decided to stay, despite the long separation from his wife and children that would ensue.

"It was a loss, but when I came here, I had opportunities to earn a lot more money to be able to take care of [my family]," he said. "When I was there [in Ghana] I didn't have enough resources to develop them. There

"My passion is to give back to the community by whatever way I can."

Dr. Kwame Yeboah
Harding professor

were some advantages to it. If I had been there in Ghana, they might not have had the opportunity to go to college."

He also said he didn't want his family to feel neglected because of his busy schedule: he worked full time with the Red Cross screening blood donations, later as a research scientist at the Harold King Laboratory of the Division of Infectious Diseases of School of Medicine of Emory University and finally — before joining the Harding faculty — as a research scientist at Altea Therapeutics, a transdermal drug delivery company. He also earned his master's of public health degree at Mercer University's school of medicine and his Ph.D in Pharmaceutical Sciences from the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences at the same university.

His wife finally joined him in America in 2004, and his two oldest children, Kwesi and Esi, joined him at the beginning of this semester as Harding University students.

Yeboah said he came to Harding University because of its emphasis on missions and how that coincides with his desire to help prevent and treat diseases of the rural people from his home.

He is currently working on research and development of multiple projects, including a collaboration with Mercer University on an anti-cancer treatment that would target only cancer cells and insulin patches which would replace constant shots for those with diabetes and is continuing his research, with the help of Harding students, into the development of a skin patch to treat mycobacterium ulcerans infections (a disease, caused by the same things as leprosy, which eats away at skin and muscle).

Yeboah also is working on a scholarship program that will improve education in Ghana and "support needy students who have opportunity to pursue further studies outside the community," he said. Also among his projects is a water supply one, development of a clinic for the community and the youth have already built a library because of his encouragement.

"By the grace of God, with very little resources and help but a lot of hard work, I have been able to rise from [a] rural farming community in Ghana to achieve high education status," he said. "My passion is to give back to society by whatever way I can."

