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The Bison, April 8, 2011

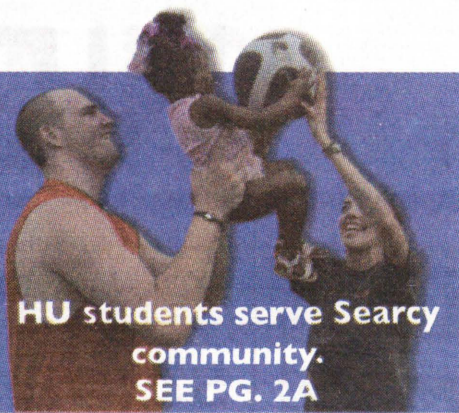
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HU students serve Searcy community. SEE PG. 2A

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FIRST THAW ROCKS FOR HEIFER



photo by CALEB RUMMEL | The Bison

The Avett Brothers sing and play their hearts out to a packed crowd in the Rhodes Field House at First Thaw on April 2. Exactly 2,260 tickets were sold to the weekend event.

by LAUREN BUCHER
features editor

Music, art, film, charity and student talent all converged Saturday, April 2, to create First Thaw Festival.

The two-day festival featured musicians such as Cheyenne Medders, Langhorn Slim and headlining band The Avett Brothers. But the festival was more than a drawn out concert; it was also a humanitarian effort.

A total of \$2,400 is planned to be donated to Heifer International; 2,260 people attended.

"We wanted to do something that was local but that made a big impact: a global impact," Corey McEntyre, director of Campus Life, said. "It's more than cows; it's how to live a sustainable lifestyle. They [Heifer] embody a lot of different aspects that we wanted to give to."

Seed planting, turning cream into butter and a hand-washing station that would be found in a village to promote sanitation were all activities at "Heifer Headquarters" — a tent set up outside of the Rhodes Field House — to illustrate ways that Heifer works.

"We are here to raise awareness through simple, hands-on activities about the different programs Heifer is involved in," Valerie Kimbrough, volunteer organizer for Heifer, said. "We are honored to be partnered with Harding for this festival."

A team of 20 Heifer staff and volunteers worked the tent, showing students hands-on educational activities, conducting a raffle for a camera bag, distributing pamphlets and answering questions about Heifer's work.

At Heifer's request, all of the products used during the festival were either sustainable or plastic, so they could be recycled.

"While my thoughts on humanitarian aid are still developing, Heifer appears to be a creative alternative to unsustainable handouts and monetary donations that often perpetuate financial dependence in developing countries," junior Logan Mahan said. "I was pleasantly surprised to discover that Heifer is actually doing a lot of work to end poverty nationally. I previously

We wanted to do something that was local but made a big impact: a global impact.

-Corey McEntyre
director of Campus Life

thought they almost exclusively worked abroad."

Students Alan Elrod, Erin Powell, Amy Littleton and Amanda Herren — all members of the Campus Activities Board — worked with the rest of CAB to organize the event.

"This [First Thaw] is significant because students did it. This wasn't a professional multimedia company, advertising company," McEntyre said. "This was students getting creative with what they see around them, which was just incredible to me."

Along with the Heifer tent, vendors staffed a collection of booths outside the Rhodes, with CAB members selling band merchandise and art majors selling mugs, paintings, photographs and other crafts. \$221.40 was raised for Heifer specifically through booth sales. Heifer representatives also collected \$381.01.

Approximately 1,500 student tickets were sold, according to Littleton, who said the turnout was due in part to extensive planning.

In the fall, CAB conducted a poll that asked students what band they would like to see. The Avett Brothers won, and McEntyre began working to have them come.

However, plans for a large music festival had already been underway. Elrod and McEntyre had the idea for a large music festival about two years ago during a brainstorming session, according to McEntyre.

McEntyre said he believed hosting First Thaw in the Rhodes added to the overall feel and excitement of the festival.

"They [the audience] got to be active and engaged with the artists, which is something that doesn't always get to happen," McEntyre said. "You have a show in a place like the Rhodes Field House, and it elevates it to a whole new level."

Student body elects McMullen

by SARAH KYLE
editor in chief
by KYLIE AKINS
news editor

The student body officially elected junior Bruce McMullen as the 2011-2012 Student Association president yesterday.

McMullen ran against junior Stephen McBride, winning with 53.3 percent of votes; 982 students voted in the SA presidential election.

Joining McMullen in office next year will be vice president Amanda Herren, secretary Claire Walker and treasurer Amy Littleton.

"When I saw that I had won the position, I was filled with emotion and my stomach started turning, and a deep breath was needed," McMullen said. "I soon followed with a humble and appreciative moment, giving thanks to God and those who are a huge encouragement and blessing in my life. I'm excited to serve the Harding student body this next year."

McMullen said he had thought about running for the presidency earlier in the year but thought his status as an international student might make him ineligible to hold office. McMullen is from Cape Town, South Africa, on the west coast.

After being approached by several students about running, he interviewed current SA President Steven Ramsey and some faculty members and discovered that he was eligible.

McMullen said he has been active in student groups since high school, continuing into his time at Harding; he is currently the president of men's social club Sub T-16.

"I don't like the term social butterfly, but I really am a



McMullen

people person," McMullen said.

McMullen ran on the platform of becoming the "middle man" between the student body and elected officials and faculty.

"All I want to do is please people and be an approachable guy, and I think that's what the SA needs: a good connection between the student body and the leaders of it who can make changes and bring unity to campus," McMullen said. "It's not actually about my ideas; it's about me just being the middle man to get everyone else's ideas on campus put in place."

However, McMullen does have some ideas of his own, including a more cooperative effort of brainstorming with the previous SA officers to bring more activities to the student body.

McMullen said he also hopes to promote unity between different clubs, as well as between clubs and non-club students, with a project he has termed "Monthly Memories."

"It would be a monthly project together, whether it's going on a float trip together or doing a big service project between clubs, and also with students who aren't in clubs," McMullen said. "I'm all about just getting everyone involved and feeling like they're getting the best experience they can while they're here."

Stride to Prevent Suicide raises hope

by AERIAL WHITING
asst. copy editor

At the 10th annual Stride to Prevent Suicide, about 450 participants helped raise awareness — and approximately \$20,000 — for suicide prevention.

The Stride to Prevent Suicide took place at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 2, in Spring Park, where people from the community engaged in either a 5K or 1-mile run/walk to raise funds for a nonprofit, the Dr. Robert E. Elliott Foundation, which offers free programs such as monthly Survivors of Suicide meetings and seminars on understanding depression. The foundation was started in 2002 in honor of Elliott, who committed suicide in 2001.

Laurie Swain, board president of the foundation, said in her introduction Saturday that although depression is the most treatable psychiatric illness, a person dies by suicide every 15 minutes.



photo by JON YODER | The Bison

Runners begin the race at the Stride to Prevent Suicide race Saturday, April 2. More than 450 participants ran or walked in the event.

"[These people are] someone's parent, someone's child, someone's spouse, someone's friend," Swain said. "And so the work of the foundation here is to raise awareness of the disease of depression, to prevent suicide, to save lives and restore hope."

Swain said she has served on the board for six years because

she believes it is important to educate the public about depression and preventing suicide. She added that 80 to 90 percent of people who receive treatment for depression recover but that when depression remains untreated, it can cause a person to lose contact with reality.

Several Harding students,

like junior David King, said they attended the Stride to Prevent Suicide because they viewed it as a form of Christian ministry. This was King's first time to run in this event, and he said he thought it was an excellent way for people to unite and to draw attention to the problem of depression.

-SEE STRIDE PG. 2A

'Bazaar' to promote local artistry

by MONIQUE JACQUES
student writer

The Harding Bazaar, product of senior Calea Bakke's honors capstone project, will be tomorrow, April 9, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., on the field in front of the Reynolds Center for Music and Communication.

In the event of bad weather, the Bazaar will be held in the Ganus Athletic Center.

Twenty-four vendors will meet beneath two large tents to display and sell fine arts and artisan crafts priced from \$3 to \$300. Bakke said all vendors are Harding affiliated and include not only a few senior art majors and three professors from the art department, but also a number of faculty members

and students who simply have a knack for creating.

"Harding is more than academics and clubs, but also has a great depth of crafty and artistic talent," said senior art major Paige Walton, who will display and sell works from her senior art show. "The Bazaar will showcase some of Harding's hidden talent, and hopefully it will encourage others to pursue theirs as well."

Bakke said that as a whole, she wanted a cultural and community-focused event.

"We didn't want to call it a fair or an art show, because it is so much more than that, it envelops such a wide gamut of things," Bakke said. "Bazaar just connects in mind the old-world Istanbul marketplace with modern-day art."

The vendors will exhibit everything

from oil paintings to antique teapot lamps, handmade jewelry to decorative home decor. With the wide range of characters at Harding, Bakke said she hopes there will be something for everyone.

"I love doing shows because it gives me time to talk to each customer and see their faces light up when they find something," Claire Lifsey, student vendor of handmade jewelry and bridal pieces, said. "I hope to contribute an opportunity for people to buy unique, affordable accessories made by a peer."

The Bazaar will embrace not only visual arts, but also music from Burksy's champion band The Emancipastries and Burksy's nominee band The Abigail's, as well as a number of other student musicians.

-SEE BAZAAR PG. 2A

Cultivating community



by CALEB RUMMEL | The Bison

Freshman Tyler Gentry and junior Kevin Richey clear a spot for a garden dedicated to the late Lori Newby at McRae Elementary, the school where she taught before her battle with cancer. More than 2,300 students did similar work with Bisons for Christ Wednesday, April 6.

BAZAAR: Crafts for sale

CONTINUED FROM PG. 1A

Harding does not currently have any visual-arts-focused events outside of the art building, so Bakke said she wanted to find a way to bring the community together to celebrate and support local artists. The facilitators will not receive any proceeds. Rather, all money will go to the artists or the charities of their choice.

"I would love for the Bazaar to be an annual event because there are so many students who have creative talents, and this is a great way to showcase them as well as make a profit," Walton said. Bakke, with the Honors

College, has advertised not only on campus, but in many local venues, including the Daily Citizen. Students, faculty and staff, and the outer community are invited to come to the Bazaar as well.

"I hope that this kind of event opens up a wider perspective to our university students — that a full, rich life includes exposure to and participation in the arts," art professor and vendor Daniel Adams said. "Participation is so much more than creating the work. The arts are never complete unless they have the opportunity to be viewed, watched, read, listened to and incorporated into the lives of the audience."

STRIDE: Run raises \$20K

CONTINUED FROM PG. 1A

"I'm really glad I came. Before I came, I couldn't quite imagine how this event would raise awareness or help the problem," King said. "It makes more sense after coming because we ran through town; people in the community can become a part of it, just anybody and see it going on even if they didn't know about it before. I think it's a great way to have a community learn to see each other and group together."

Harding Students for Life, a pro-life student organization that formed earlier this semester, joined the Stride to Prevent Suicide with about 13 members. Vice president and junior Ashley Shelton, who also participated last year, said the mission of the Elliott Foundation coincides with the group's mission to promote the

value of life.

"The foundation is trying to save lives through this awareness, and I think that Students for Life are trying to raise awareness about all pro-life issues, so it interconnects perfect," Shelton said.

Some of the attendees have friends or relatives who battled depression or have lost their lives to suicide. Participating for her first time in the Stride to Prevent Suicide, sophomore Erin Grant, president of Harding Students for Life, said she knows people who have struggled with depression.

"I think that just about everybody knows somebody in that situation, whether they realize that their friend is going through [depression] or not, and as Christians, we should support life in general because every person is worth it," Grant said.

Retired special agent prepares students for international threats

by KYLIE AKINS
news editor

Retired special agent Bruce Tully is experienced in international danger, having survived bullet wounds, a helicopter crash and a car accident. With more than 30 years of diplomatic security service, he has protected international leaders, including Nelson Mandela, Richard Nixon, George W. Bush, Colin Powell, Henry Kissinger and Prince Charles.

Now working as an international security consultant/trainer and expert in counterterrorism, personal security and anti-crime operations, Tully was invited to Harding to speak Thursday, March 31, for the first time to a group of Harding students and faculty preparing to travel to Harding's overseas campuses during the 2011-2012 school year.

"I have attended overseas security advisory council sessions for several years, but I just realized that Mr. Tully could do a better job with this than I could ever do," Dean of International Studies Dr. Jeff Hopper said. "It made sense to me for him to come here."

Tully offered tips to future travelers

who may be unprepared for the dangers of traveling in a foreign country, pulling from his personal experiences with international crime and analyzing well-known case studies of abductions, carjacking and violence.

"You are Americans, and that's a terrific thing to be," Tully said in his presentation. "But because you are Americans and when you go abroad you represent America — please remember this — there are people out there who don't even know you who want to kill you."

Tully said he met with Harding's security leaders, including Public Safety officers and Hopper, and advised on several safety issues, such as the itineraries of the international programs. He weighed in on several key decisions, such as the Harding University in Greece program allowing students to visit Egypt in the future and the Harding University in Australasia program forgoing its plans of visiting Japan due to the current nuclear instability.

Freshman Claire Allensworth, fall 2011 Harding University in Florence participant, said she would benefit from Tully's advice in domestic and international situations.

"For me, the best thing was when he talked about situational awareness, because just being observant of what's going on around you is such a key to being safe, even here in Searcy," Allensworth said. "There's always that chance. We may feel safe, but we're not always safe. I'm definitely going to use this when I go overseas."

Stressing responsibility for one's personal security, Tully addressed the need to "know before you go" and being aware of the health, criminal and environmental risks that await a traveler in a foreign country. He repeated his personal mantra throughout the presentation, stressing the strength of the human will to live with his words "Never give in."

His lecture was recorded and will be shown to future international program students until Tully visits again in the indefinite future.

"We have a responsibility," Tully said. "You're going to be the future; we want to make sure you are safe and sound to do that. You entrust us when we send you somewhere. We're going to make sure we give you the best possible protection. Really, it's an honor and obligation for us to do that."

Obama encourages interfaith cooperation for US colleges

by AERIAL WHITING
asst. copy editor

The White House announced in March that it is launching the "President's Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge," an initiative to encourage students from varying religious backgrounds to engage in community service projects together for the 2011-2012 school year.

According to The New York Times, President Barack Obama will send a letter to college campuses across the nation, inviting them to participate in the interfaith service challenge; Harding University has not yet been contacted.

In a video announcement, Obama said the initiative is supposed to contribute to the "common good" while bringing people of different faiths together.

"I know that an act of service can unite people of all faiths, or even no faith, around a common purpose of helping those in need," Obama said. "In doing so we can not only better our communities; we can build bridges of understanding between ourselves and our neighbors."

Colleges that decide to take part in the campus challenge will develop their own plans for yearlong interfaith community service projects, such as building houses for Habitat for Humanity or working to protect the environment. Schools that

"Obviously, serving together with other people is something Jesus did, ... but we don't want to communicate that it doesn't really matter what you believe ... and all we all care about is service. That would be false."

-Dr. Monte Cox

dean of the College of Bible and Religion

wish to participate are to state their intent by April 22 and submit their service plans by June 1, and in summer 2012, the White House will honor the projects that best accomplish the goals of the challenge as outlined at www.whitehouse.gov/interfaithservice.

Dean of the College of Bible and Religion Monte Cox said although he believes it is important for Christians to serve and to interact with people of other faiths, he does not want to send the message that all religions are alike.

"There is a push in pluralistic America to ignore the differences in faith communities, water them down, and set all that aside and go serve together," Cox said. "Obviously, serving together with other people is something Jesus did; he came to earth and served, and certainly not everyone who was the recipient of his service was on the same page with him. But we don't want to communicate that it doesn't really matter what you

believe, everybody's basically the same and all we all care about is service. That would be false."

Harding may not participate in the president's interfaith service challenge, but many of its students volunteer around the Searcy community. More than 2,300 Harding students undertook 160 or more service projects Wednesday, April 6, for Bisons for Christ.

Bisons for Christ is itself an opportunity for people of various faith backgrounds to serve together, said Todd Gentry, college outreach minister at College Church of Christ.

"One of the ideas behind Bisons for Christ was even while most of the students have a Church of Christ background, not all of them do, so we try to find one thing ... where anybody can participate if they want to, and so we have students here that even will have other backgrounds, other faiths, that also participate in that," Gentry said.

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At the Bison, it is our goal to serve the Harding University student body with integrity, truth and open ears. However, we believe that meeting that goal is a two-way street between our staff and the public it serves.

We pledge to keep our eyes and ears open to what our community has to say and hope that, in return, that community will be an interactive audience, sharing its stories with us. We also pledge to do the basics: report accurate and relevant information, check our facts, and share them in a professional, integrable manner.

If you have any story ideas, questions, comments or concerns for the Bison staff, please e-mail Sarah Kyle, the editor in chief, at skyle@harding.edu.

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theWatercooler

“We can put an end to a centuries-old dispute and also understand Leonardo’s relations to his models.” SILVANO VINCETI,

an art historian, in light of the investigation of Lisa Gherardini, the woman who sat for Leonardo da Vinci’s Mona Lisa, who will be exhumed later in April

“For me, personally, I would like to leave the bodies of my children, my two children, on the seabed.”

ROBERT SOULAS, leader of a support group for the families of the 228 people who died in an Air France crash in 2009, on the discovery on Monday of the wreckage with bodies still aboard on the floor of the Atlantic Ocean

“Today starts a new Haiti!!!! It’s one love for Haiti!!”

WYCLEF JEAN, via Twitter, after early results showed that singer Michel “Sweet Micky” Martelly won Haiti’s presidential election with nearly 68 percent of the vote



ann harrington

Guest Space

I Don’t Get It

Perhaps I should introduce myself. I’m the oft-disheveled English adjunct who walks around campus with an oversized laptop bag and a lifetime supply of cucumber-scented hand sanitizer. Just in case.

You might have seen me being followed through the student center by three crazy kiddos carrying Buzz Lightyear action figures and playing *Angry Birds* on an iPhone they likely pilfered from a nearby, unsuspecting college student. And maybe it is due to the fact that I spend most of my day maintaining and conversing with said children (all of whom are under the age of 7), or maybe it is because I grew up on a farm in Nebraska where there is very little to do besides monitor the corn-to-fencepost height ratio, but I spend a lot of time in thought. Deep thought. About things that probably don’t matter to anyone who doesn’t have access to the serpentine recesses of my mind. And probably not even then. Brace yourselves; what follows is a list of several things I just don’t understand:

Why Los Angeles doesn’t have a football team.

Why Jack Bauer continues to get out of bed in the morning.

Why the world just can’t accept the fact that Brad and Jennifer are NOT getting back together.

The purpose of those little tags at the end of Twitter updates.

#thingsijustdontunderstand, #cluelesscompteacher, #howcheckedoutami

Why NyQuil tastes so bad. Seriously, we can send a man to the moon but we can’t figure out a way to make NyQuil taste better?

Who gets to decide when plaid makes a comeback. I want that job.

Why it’s socially acceptable to eat pancakes and sausage any time of day, but people look at you like you’re from another planet if you order a bacon cheeseburger for breakfast (not that that’s ever happened to me ...).

Why doing something “chalantly” is not the opposite of doing something “nonchalantly.”

Inflation, eternity and the electoral college (not necessarily in that order).

Why we sing an adorable lullaby about a baby falling from a tree, cradle and all. That’s just creepy.

What the baby was doing in the tree to begin with.

Why the person in front of me at Midnight Oil always seems to be ordering a coffee drink with 17 adjectives.

How I can eat an entire tube of Pillsbury cinnamon rolls before I even know what hit me.

How food that comes in a tube can be so delicious in the first place.

Why that creepy dude is staring over your shoulder as you’re reading this article. #madeyoulook

When Nutella supposedly became health food.

Why the English language doesn’t have a gender-neutral, singular, possessive pronoun that can be used in relation to a person so we aren’t tempted to mistakenly use “their” or be relegated to the awkward “his/her.” #deathbypronoun, #whymustenglishteacherstalklikethat, #pleasemakeitstop

Why we instruct kids to “cover your mouth with your hand when you sneeze” when we know their germ-ridden hands are just going to touch everything around them that would’ve gotten sneezed on if they hadn’t covered their mouths.

How my three kids have managed to stay alive since I’ve been neglecting them for the past hour, writing this article.

How you’re going to manage to get anything done today now that I have successfully fueled your obsession to get your hands on your very own tube of Pillsbury cinnamon rolls to eat while you ponder your own set of things you just don’t understand. #youknowyouwantto

ANN HARRINGTON is a guest contributor for the Bison. She may be contacted at aharrington@harding.edu

Child’s Play



caleb rummel

Staff Space

To begin, I am 22 years old. Whatever a particular young woman with whom I spend a lot of time may say, I am not 8 years old. That said, I really like toys. You may say, “Of course, the photographer likes gear and calls them toys.” That’s not what I’m talking about. I mean, as Woody so clearly defined it, child’s playthings.

Some of my favorites include my Nerf gun, yo-yo, Rubik’s Cube, Silly Putty and Hot Wheels. These things have held a special place in my heart for a long time. It is not my intention to hold on to a past that is gone but to keep a spirit of simple joy. I don’t need an iPhone to keep me entertained when a ball-in-a-cup will occupy me for half an hour.

Entertainment is a great, but not the best, purpose for hanging on to these old pastimes. I find them incredibly relaxing. A lot of these involve some sort of repetitive motion that’s soothing. To mash a ball of Silly Putty in your hands or brainlessly spin a Rubik’s Cube is therapeutic. Even if you don’t think that would be the case with toys, I’m sure you have something you do that’s calming: biking, running, fishing, going to the batting cages. Toys allow for another form

There have been too many times that I’ve run around the Bison office, yelling “Expelliarmus!” at my co-workers to make their pens fly across the room or “Petrificus Totalus” to make them fall out of their chairs. As I said, epic.

One way I am very childlike with my toys is I think they allow me to be epic, if only for a moment and if only in my mind. This summer, I went to Disney World and got for myself and

my best friend double-ended lightsabers. We have had the most intense duels in the dorm. I also got a wand on that same journey to Orlando, the Elder Wand, no less. There have been too many times that I’ve run around the Bison office, yelling “Expelliarmus!” at my co-workers to make their pens fly across the room or “Petrificus Totalus” to make them fall out of their chairs. As I said, epic.

I say all of this not to just tell you about how I relax or to say what I do is better than what you do. I say this to encourage you to be not afraid of keeping around some of the things from your childhood if they serve a good purpose. If you still put together Legos and K’Nex or pretend you are the Flash as you sprint the 100-meter, let the childlike spirit come in to you and free you of your adult worries. Eight-year-old Caleb may still be in 1996, and that’s where he needs to stay, but he didn’t have any worries, so his visits are welcome.

CALEB RUMMEL serves as the photographer for the 2010-2011 Bison. He may be contacted at crummel@harding.edu

The Harbin Tales



cameron braun

Guest Space

They say the second floor of Harbin is where Health and Safety was founded. Rumor has it that 20 years ago, back when Allen was a state correctional facility and Betty White was still an unidentified dinosaur, two second floor roommates had what was the first official “Manfest” (Latin origin; Festival of Men). When the smoke cleared (indoor bonfires) and the dust settled (there’s no explanation; it was just settling), safety regulations didn’t seem like such a bad idea anymore. Today, it’s not much different. For those of you who are unaware of what exactly makes up second floor Harbin, here are a few identifying factors:

No. 1 - It can easily be mistaken for a slum. Guys are just slouched against the wall with rotten bananas and half-eaten cans of spam lying beside them. I’ve seen it. It’s not cool.

No. 2 - Temper tantrums are routinely thrown. Because of the elevated amount of working out (some of these guys fight full-grown grizzly bears just to stay in shape), there are at least one or two temper tantrums per day. Ex.: “Is that my Danimals yogurt?”

“So what if it is?”

“I will kill you.” Or,

“Football is the best sport.”

“What about soccer?”

“I will kill you.”

No. 3 - The smell. When you walk into the restroom, or the “chamber of willpower,” you start

You often witness well-educated students chanting out verses from the Book of Judges and growing out their hair – all in hopes that one day, they too can put a beat-down on a thousand Philistines with the jawbone of a donkey.

to question why your tuition didn’t include a military-grade gas mask.

No. 4 - Samson is often referred to as one of the greatest men to ever live. You often witness well-educated students chanting out verses from the Book of Judges and growing out their hair – all in hopes that one day, they too can put a beat-down on a thousand Philistines with the jawbone of a donkey.

No. 5 - The rooms are nicknamed “Caves.” Upon entering, you swear you’ve seen a similar living style before ... and then your mind goes back to various scenes of “Sasquatch Mountain.”

No. 6 - Football is comparable to everything. Obama is often deemed as “the best quarterback since Nixon.” There’s also an occasional shout of “touchdown” from the bathroom. “Hail Mary” also seems to be an extremely popular phrase.

Ex.: “Do you think I’ll ever make any friends?”

“That’s a real Hail Mary man.”

No. 7 - No one adheres to proper eating habits. The three-meals-a-day routine is not partaken of. Eating fruits and vegetables is also widely scorned as being meant for “sissies” and for those who “aren’t man enough to handle a stroke.”

Ex.: “Dude. Check out that orange lying over there.”

“Let’s punch it.”

Despite all of this, the second floor of Harbin remains an extremely popular tourist attraction. Weddings, bar mitzvahs, walrus fighting rings and so forth are all common happenings. As a person who has personally experienced the second floor living style, I encourage you to stop by. We hope to see you there someday.

CAMERON BRAUN is a guest contributor for the Bison. He may be contacted at cbraun@harding.edu

jess ardrey



Stuff
Harding
Kids Like

Fantasy

You know, I like to think of it more as being “culturally savvy,” really.

Everyone should know what a Jawa is, or the origin of the One Ring. It's only natural to find this stuff outstandingly fascinating, right? Especially if you expect to pick up on various social cues and jokes in normal, everyday conversations, right?

At Harding, yes.

This is particularly true when it comes to chapel and Bible classes. I would count the “Lord of the Rings” and C.S. Lewis references I've heard in the past four years, but I'm a writer. I'm not good enough at numbers to count that high.

Countless times I've had the religious parallels drawn out for me, even though they're usually fairly weak comparisons because of Tolkien's clear lines of good and evil, but that's a different column entirely.

Now, before we go any further, please believe that I am not above this generalization. Over Christmas break, SPIKE TV was showing a “Star Wars” marathon, which I was watching after a heavy dose of NyQuil for that classic ‘tis-the-season infirmity.

Halfway through “The Empire Strikes Back,” and deep into my haze, I launched into this lecture about how revolutionary the movie was for its time and how the series fits every major archetype there is.

My poor mother paused mid-towel folding, gave me a blank stare and said, “Jessica. You're a dork. In Christian love, of course.”

Well, good ol' Mom was right. And chances are, if you're reading this, you're a dork, too.

I remember when people first started sword fighting on the front lawn and wearing Renaissance clothing. They got some strange looks, and folks tacked on names like “the cape people” and “the capers.”

But here's the thing: No matter how much you deny it, somewhere deep in the dark depths of your Harding-ized soul, you want to sword fight on the front lawn. You want to look as cool as Viggo Mortensen when he's charging the Black Gate of Mordor. And, yes, you want to wear chainmail.

You don't have to, though. The fact that you want to, however, is the important part.

But it's OK if you don't want to be Mr. Tumnus. Actually, that's extremely uncomfortable. I don't really want to think about that at all.

As many of you know, I've already addressed Harding's affinity for a certain lightning-bolt-shaped-scarred boy, so I won't go much further into this one, but seriously. Harding kids like Harry Potter.

Being a senior, my mind is constantly occupied with thoughts of the post-grad life. And, naturally, I haven't the foggiest idea of what to do or where to go. So, naturally, my backup plan is to move to Florida and convince the execs at the Wizarding World of Harry Potter to create a position at their park for Rita Skeeter and the Daily Prophet, which, naturally, will go to me. Journalist. Duh.

I'm going to have to go ahead and give some of the credit for our sci-fi obsession to our era. We grew up with epic moments like the velociraptors in the kitchen and the Truffle Shuffle.

Kids these days have to worry about the distressing images of a once-pro wrestler dressed as the tooth fairy. The tooth fairy, for crying out loud. Get your act together, Dwayne Johnson. Do you see those arms? That means you are never, under any circumstances, allowed to wear a tutu. Just because your name is Dwayne doesn't mean you get to be a princess.

But on our way back to the Harding train, I've composed a little fanciful something of my own to sum up our experience on this wonderful campus:

One swing in semester fall.

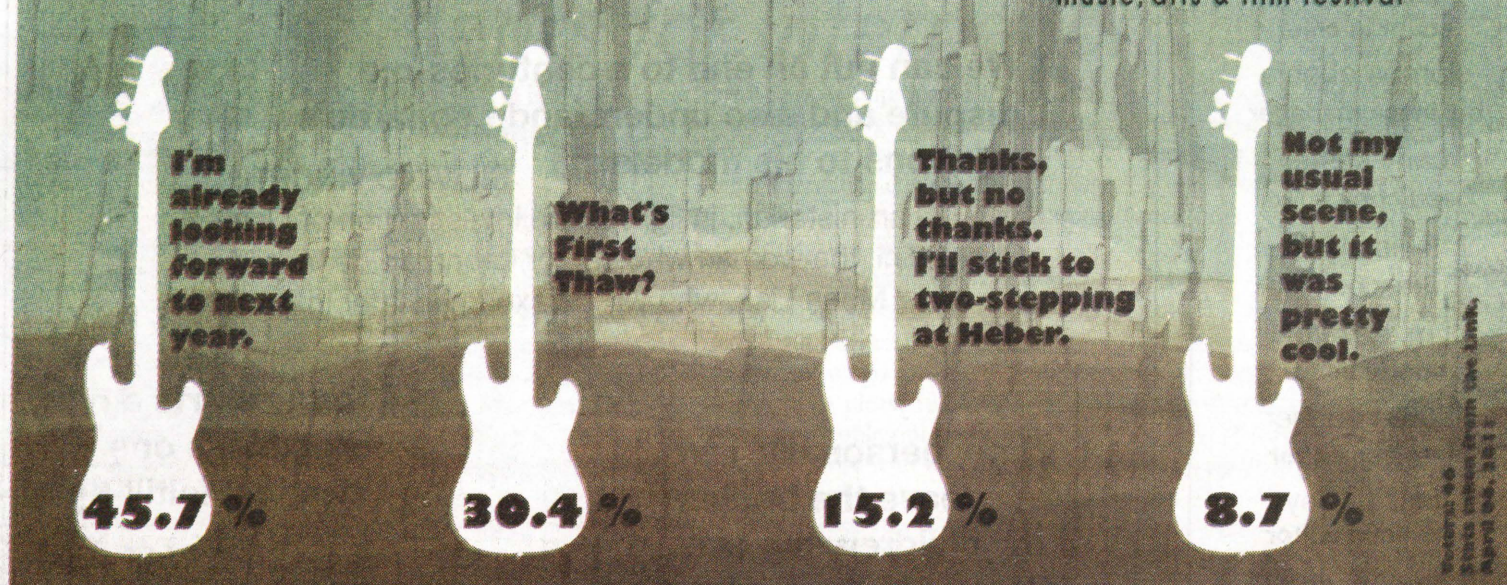
One or two more, plus a hymn.

One ring to fulfill them all and make Jess Ardrey barf all over her computer screen.

JESS ARDREY serves as the opinions editor for the 2010-2011 Bison. She may be contacted at jardrey@harding.edu

What did you think about first thaw?

music, arts & film festival



I had tons of fun at First Thaw. I loved the music and the fact that I could support a great cause at the same time.

[senior] **kacey persaille**

How to Cast a Shadow on the Sunshine State

During my first year at Harding, I grew accustomed to feeling somewhat exotic. “Where are you from?” people would ask.

As soon as the word “Florida” escaped my lips, people would fly into fits of ecstasy induced by sunshine-and-beach images even if they had no idea where my city, Jacksonville, is.

While I don't delight in this reaction, I really can't blame a person for becoming goggle eyed at mention of my home. I have to admit: Florida is awesome. Everywhere I go there is a range of palm trees from tall and elegant to short and chubby, wide sun-bleached boulevards, sandy boardwalks, shimmering rivers refracting diamonds of sunlight, restaurants where the seafood is fresh-caught and old scraggly trees covered in Spanish moss. An orange tree grows in my backyard, a magnolia tree in the front. Living in Florida is like being on vacation every day of the year.

I never expected my boyfriend to supplant me in terms of exotic hometown, but when I started dating Garrett, that's what happened. People at church would ask our



adria giles

Guest
Space

names and where we were from, and at “Florida” they would start to smile and nod happily – until Garrett casually mentioned where he was from, starting with asking:

“You know where Hawaii is, right? And you know where Fiji is?”

A person using Hawaii and Fiji as reference points for his burgh obliges the rest of us to be at least reasonably awestruck. The people we were talking to would drop their jaws and raise their eyebrows and completely forget about my sunny peninsula in favor of a tropical island.

Garrett is from American Samoa, a United States territory located in the middle of the Pacific Ocean on the equator. For the first two years we dated, I heard stories regularly about the island. When it was winter in Arkansas and 20 degrees, Garrett would look up the temperature of my hometown

An orange tree grows in my backyard, a magnolia tree in the front. Living in Florida is like being on vacation every day of the year.

in Florida. It's usually about 50 degrees in the winter, which sounds nice in comparison to Arkansas, until Garrett continued to look up his hometown of Pago Pago, where it is 85 degrees year-round. When we went to Jacksonville for spring break he would say, “This beach is nicer than Malibu and Waikiki, but not as nice as mine back home. My beach in Samoa is better than all because of its bent-over palm trees, mountains on the other side of the cove, little hermit crabs that try to nibble your toes, rope swings that land you in the waves, and occasional dolphins and whales.”

Jacksonville beach has occasional stingrays, jellyfish and sharks. Recently, I was able to visit

American Samoa with him and experience the tropical island motif for a month. The island is a vibrant green and explodes with vegetation in vivid colors, surging down steep abrupt mountains and halting at coasts where the short dark beaches meet an ocean so blue it almost looks artificial. Men and women alike wear sarongs called sulus, and no woman ever forgets to place a flower in her hair. In Garrett's family's yard grow pineapple, coconut and a local tuber called taro that tastes like a potato with leaves like spinach, and people from church gave us fresh avocado and mangos. I returned from Christmas break with a tan, lower stress levels and a sulu-based wardrobe.

Eventually, we found a sort of happy balance by accepting that we both grew up in paradise. To me, paradise implies “Atlantic,” but where Garrett is from the term refers to “Pacific.” Differences in dialect, nothing more.

ADRIA GILES is a guest contributor for the Bison. She may be contacted at agiles@harding.edu

Diary of a Wimpy Lawn Mower



michael claxton

Guest
Space

Oh what a difference six months can make. With my own lawn mower, weed-eater, leaf-blower and plastic funnel, I am now one sleeveless shirt and utility trailer away from starting a yard service. But getting there wasn't easy. You have no idea what I have been through.

Price. Or Little Tikes.

Anyway, this mower came in a box – of course – so I called the WGH for help. While he was headed my way, I went to refill my plastic gas can. But when I put the full can in the trunk of my Toyota, I did not secure it. “I live less than a mile away,” I said. “What could happen?” It was the most masculine thing I had said so far that day.

Have you ever tried to get the smell of leaked gasoline out of a trunk? I searched the house and found a tiny bottle of carpet cleaner I bought when I spilled some ink in North Carolina in 1995. When the WGH arrived

and saw me using a 15-year-old spritzer on my trunk liner, he just shook his head.

Within a half-hour my lawn mower was assembled, gassed, oiled, primed and ready to go. The last time he was in town, the WGH had fixed an old weed-eater that came with my house. I hadn't used it yet, as I was waiting for someone to show me how. He carefully walked me through the steps: plug it in, squeeze the trigger. Now I really needed that Beech Nut chaw. So I faked a burp and started mowing.

A few days after I cut the grass, I noticed an odd smell in my carport. Assuming it was my Eau de Texaco car cologne, I ignored it for the next three weeks. Men get accustomed to odd smells easily.

This past Saturday I started to cut the grass again and finally isolated the odor. That's when I discovered what happens to wet grass after three weeks in the underbelly of a lawn mower. It turns into weapons-grade plutonium. So on top of everything else, I am now on the Department of Homeland Security's No-Fly List. Along with anyone who may have posed as me in the last two weeks. Sorry, Ardrey.

In my defense, I had been warned to hose off the mower blade after every use. And in my defense, I did not listen. I am currently in the market for a better defense.

It's amazing how things come full circle. To scrape off the caked-on gunk, I had to get out the pinking shears again. But now the grass is cut, the edges are trimmed, the trunk is aired out, and I am one step closer to Yard of the Month. Or perhaps Most Improved. Given my unmanly yard competence, I'll settle for Miss Congeniality.

MICHAEL CLAXTON is a guest contributor for the Bison. He may be contacted at mclaxto1@harding.edu



j.m. adkison



While
Warming the
Bench

Give the Skaters Respect

I am going to confess something I've never really told anyone before: I have a whole lot of respect for skateboarders. "But why skateboarders?" you might inquire.

"Well, it is quite simple," I would reply. "Could you stand at the top of a 20-foot half-pipe only to step off the edge to guide a wooden board with wheels beneath your feet in hopes that you are able to get a firm footing on the board before you find yourself freefalling to certain agony? And could you stay on the board while it ascends the other slightly curved wall of the half-pipe, to launch off the opposite end and maneuver through the empty air as you spin the board between your feet? Would you have the courage to skate and jump over a whole staircase, grind along a metal bar or build up enough momentum to accomplish an ollie?"

And that right there is why I have so much respect for skateboarders, even for those minimally skilled enough to skateboard down the brick sidewalks on the front lawn. In order to skateboard, you have to combine agility, coordination, balance, momentum, clarity, patience and high amounts of self-confidence, and that's just to keep the board moving easily along the sidewalk.

And that is why I think skateboarding should definitely be an event in the summer Olympics.

For the 2016 Summer Olympics, which will be hosted by the city of Rio de Janeiro, skateboarding and bicycle motocross freestyle are pushing to be part of the well-publicized events. The International Olympic Committee has put a limit of 28 games for the Summer Olympics, and that means there are two open spots for two sports to take.

The United Cyclists Internationale, the world-governing organization for cycling, tried lobbying for BMX freestyle and skateboarding to be included in London's 2012 games back in 2007, but failed since skateboarding had no "recognized national entities or World Championships," according to Sandrine Tonge, a spokesperson for the International Olympic Committee.

But Tonge said the IOC is interested in skateboarding because it would draw in younger viewers and keep the Olympics relevant for younger generations.

As I said before, I have a whole lot of respect for skateboarders, even when they nearly run me over from behind as I am just innocently walking to class, because they can do things I would never be able to do.

And I think their skill, dedication, confidence and sheer insanity should be enough to get them into the Olympics.

J.M. ADKISON
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Harding defeats UAM Boll Weevils 7-1

by SARAH KYLE
editor in chief

The Harding University Bison baseball team defeated University of Arkansas-Monticello 7-1 Sunday afternoon at Jerry Moore Field, overcoming a split doubleheader Saturday and winning the series.

After Sunday's game, Harding (28-6, 7-2) is tied for second place with Arkansas Tech University in the Gulf South Conference West Division, trailing a game behind Delta State University in the lead.

After Saturday's doubleheader, with Harding winning the first game 10-7 and Arkansas-Monticello (10-17, 1-8) taking the second 8-2, the Bisons came back strong in Sunday's game with a four-run streak in the eighth inning.

The streak broke a three-inning dry spell for the Bisons, bringing the score to 7-1 and solidifying Harding's lead.

Senior Charles Bradley, Bison lead hitter for the game, said the team came



photo by JON YODER | The Bison
Logan Holthaus throws a pitch in Saturday's game against the Boll Weevils.

into the inning focused and ready to hit big.

"We kind of have this little switch that we turn on," Bradley said. "We don't know when it's going to turn on, but when it's turned on, we are a very good team. ... Turning that little switch on there was big for us."

Bradley finished the game

with three RBIs, driving in Harding's first two runs with a single in the second inning.

Sophomore pitcher Logan Holthaus returned to the mound for eight innings during Sunday's game after being injured by a line drive to the shoulder during a game against Christian Brothers University on March 20.

Holthaus is 4-0 for the season.

"Logan's been outstanding for us," said head coach Patrick McGaha. "We really missed him last week at [Ouachita Baptist University], and it was great to have him back on the mound. ... He just kept throwing it all day and did a great job."

Holthaus' return was joined

by the return of Arkansas-Monticello designated hitter Wayne Hawkins, who made his first debut since a collision with a South Florida first baseman broke his jaw. Hawkins was named regional and national hitter of the week by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association earlier this season.

Both teams faced strong winds all nine innings, but McGaha said the Bisons overcame the elements to clinch the series, hitting low and hard to avoid the wind.

"It's so difficult with the wind and how it was today," McGaha said. "I felt like we gave some at-bats away early, but as the game progressed we started getting some solid hits. We did that quite a bit yesterday in game two, so we felt a little snake-bit, but we ended up making some plays and forcing some mistakes on their defense when we had to."

The Bisons beat Lyon College in Batesville 15-1 on Tuesday, April 5, heading into a three-game GSC series with Southern Arkansas on Saturday at Jerry Moore Field.

NFL.com blog features senior Kurt Adams

by AMY MARÉ
guest writer

Former Harding wide receiver Kurt Adams was featured in a blog on NFL.com after his performance at the Arkansas State Pro Day on March 18. The blog belonged to Gil Brandt, vice president of player personnel for the Dallas Cowboys from 1960-89.

"[Adams] looked very good," Brandt said. "He was not a guy who was listed any place but his performance should get him a free-agent contract."

"I was very excited for him," Ronnie Huckleba, head football coach for Harding, said. "It means he's doing well in his training and performance for the scouts for him to get a statement like that from someone so

well respected. I think he's got a great shot."

"I didn't think much of being on the blog until I found out who Gil Brandt was and how selective he was with his blog," Adams said. "Then I was pretty excited."

Adams specifically wanted to get into the pro day at Arkansas State because it had the most scouts who could see him. He was pleased with his performance but wished all the scouts could have recorded his fastest 40-yard time of 4.43. Adams ran the 40-yard dash a third time because a few scouts wanted to see him run from a better starting stance, but the head scout did not record his time. Along with his third 40 time of 4.43, Adams had a 33.6-inch vertical jump, 9-5 broad jump, 4.52 short, 7.02 3-cone drill, and did 13 reps (of 225 pounds) on the

bench press.

"As cliché as it sounds, I've always thought about playing in the NFL since I was little," Adams said. "Ever since I realized the Lord gave me the talents to do that, I've pursued it and made it one of my ultimate goals."

Adams drives to Little Rock every afternoon to train at a facility called D1 Sports Training. He's been working there with former NFL player Anthony Lucas for the past three months.

"An NFL team would be crazy not to pick Kurt up," Marshall Hughes, former Harding linebacker said. "Kurt has an awesome work ethic. When you see him practice, you can tell he loves the game. That's huge; you have to love the game. He would bring nothing but positive vibes into anyone's locker room."

"Kurt has worked ex-



photo courtesy of Harding Sports Information
Kurt Adams makes a play during the fall season.

tremely hard to put himself in a good position," Clay Beason, assistant football coach for Harding said. "His work ethic, coupled with his God-given ability, gives him a chance at the 'next level.'"

Adams said Beason has really helped him get where he is today with his speed, strength, flexibility,

and knowledge about good nutrition and the little things that make a difference for his body.

Adams said he is looking forward to whatever the future may hold.

"I'm excited to see what the Lord has in store for me," Adams said. "Whether it's football or something else."

UConn takes championship

by RYAN ORR
guest writer

This year, the NCAA men's basketball tournament lived up to its name, March Madness. ESPN's bracket challenge revealed only two people in the world correctly chose the Final Four teams.

Starting with 68 teams playing in four different regions, the tournament turned out to be unpredictable.

"I don't know why I love it each year, I always get mad my picks never win," senior Peter Bell said.

The most intriguing story from this tournament was the success of the VCU Rams, defeating Georgetown University, Purdue University, Florida State University and the University of Kansas.

Making it to the Final Four as an 11th seeded team has only happened twice before with Louisiana State University in 1986 and George Mason University in 2006.

"VCU beat my team [Purdue], so of course I want them to lose," Bell

said. Out of 68 teams, two were left standing for the championship: Butler Bulldogs versus the University of Connecticut.

Featuring talented player Kemba Walker and winning the Maui invitational to start the year, UConn was ready to go.

Butler was looking to prove itself and make up for its loss last year in the championship game against Duke.

The championship game got off to a slow start for both teams, since their combined score was the smallest score ever made in the final game, with Butler at 22 and UConn at 19.

Down three points coming out of half, UConn's star Walker took over. Scoring a team high of 16 points, he led his team to the win. He had some help from Butler though; they ended the game shooting a record low 18.8 percent from the field, good for the lowest shooting percentage in the history of the men's title game.

Major Leagues start early

by JESSICA HECKMANN
guest writer

To many sports fans, the beginning of spring symbolizes one thing: baseball. This year, Major League Baseball started the season four days earlier than usual.

MLB started Thursday, March 31, and according to MLB Senior Vice President Katy Feeney, each team had the choice of playing Thursday or Friday.

The early start means that the regular season will finish Sept. 28, with postseason play beginning three days later.

The World Series will start Oct. 19, with game seven being scheduled for Oct. 27. Those dates are a week earlier than the past two years, but most MLB managers are not complaining.

"I'm thrilled to death," Detroit Tigers manager Jim Leyland said in USA Today. "It makes a lot of sense. It's rough playing in November with the weather being so cold."

The New York Yankees beat the Detroit Tigers 6-3 for the first official win of the day, with Yankees closer Mariano Rivera getting his

We have a lot to prove this season. And I know we've got the bats, bullpen and field ready to get it done.

-Ashley Alexander,
Texas Rangers fan

560th save, making him 41 saves away from matching all-time saves leader Trevor Hoffman.

The San Francisco Giants, reigning World Series Champions, lost to the rival Los Angeles Dodgers 2-1. Dodgers pitcher Clayton Kershaw out-duelled the Giants' Tim Lincecum, with each pitcher going seven innings. The Atlanta Braves beat the Washington Nationals 4-2, and the St. Louis Cardinals played the San Diego Padres and lost in the first extra-inning game of the year. The final score was 5-3 in 11 innings.

Friday, all other teams began their seasons. Last year, the Texas Rangers beat the Boston Red Sox 9-5, with a great start from Rangers pitcher C.J. Wilson. Harding sophomore and Rangers fan Ashley Alexander went to Arlington for Opening

Day and said she is looking forward to a season in which the Rangers prove themselves.

"Opening Day this year was fantastic," Alexander said. "I'm mostly looking forward to watching our pitching improve and become a force to be reckoned with without Cliff Lee. C.J. Wilson and Colby Lewis will hold it down, along with our younger guys who have been brought in and are getting their feet wet. We have a lot to prove this season. And I know we've got the bats, bullpen and field ready to get it done."

Predictions were proven wrong as the Tampa Bay Rays lost to the Baltimore Orioles 4-1. The Chicago Cubs lost to the Pittsburgh Pirates 6-3, and the Philadelphia Phillies beat the Houston Astros 5-4.

With more than 160 games to go, there is no telling which team will end up on top.

Bisons spring into outdoor track

The women's track team begins outdoor season by breaking records

by KATIE SWANN
student writer

The Harding women's track team kicked off their first outdoor track meet of the season on Saturday, March 26, in Memphis, Tenn., at Rhodes College. The team placed in the top five of 13 events, won first in five events, and broke Harding's records for hammer throw and pole vault.

Sophomore Rhiannon Roper broke the record for hammer throw at 96.05 feet. Sophomore Amanda Raley had broken the same record just before Roper that day at 85.11 feet.

"It's very important to not psych yourself out, so I try to not think of much before I throw," Roper said. "I hope I continue to improve. I'd love to break 100 feet in hammer, and I'm really trying for the discus record this season."

Sophomore Tiffany Chambers broke her own record for pole vault at 11 feet 1.75 inches.

Freshman Kristen Celsor and senior Dia Gibson tied in the high jump event at 4 feet 11.25 inches. Celsor broke the tie, earning first place with fewer misses.

Coach Steve Guymon praised this year's team as being the best overall team he has had in his time here. Guymon said this year's team is much more well rounded. He also expressed optimism for the upcoming NCAA South Region Championship in April.

The team's current goal is to place above the University of Alabama in Huntsville, a feat the team has not been able to achieve in several years.

"I think we'll give Alabama-Huntsville a shot," Guymon said of the championship.

The team members said they recognize their chemistry and use it to

help each other improve their skills. Celsor enjoys mentoring from fellow high jumper Gibson.

"Dia is really fun to be around and really helpful," Celsor said.

Sophomore distance runner Molly Elliott said she enjoys the track practices and the time and effort their coach puts into their training.

"It's fun to come to practice," Elliott said. "Coach takes care of us, and the trainers are really good."

Sophomore distance runner Ryane Ledington said the team members get along really well.

"We have great unity," said Ledington. "There's no drama at all."

The team members said they plan on improving their techniques and breaking more records as they begin the outdoor season and prepare for the NCAA Championship beginning Friday, May 27.

And they're off



photo courtesy of MEG HILL
Sophomore Deshelle Isaac-Boyce races in the intramural track meet Tuesday, April 2.

Archers take up bows, arrows in intramural competition

by CARLY KESTER
copy editor

Seventeen Harding students participated in the archery competition to show off their shooting skills. Out of all the contenders, freshman Seb Sanders proved he was the most qualified to win the archery sports skill title.

The archery competition is a yearly event and is part of the intramural sports skills activities, one-day events in which any Harding student may enter a specific competition to test his or her skills in an area.

Competitors have 24 arrows and must hit targets from 20 yards away. The score depends on the color of the target the players hit, with the maximum score being 216. Sanders scored 156 points.

Director of men's intramurals Jim Gowen said archery is one of the most popular intramural competitions.

"Anybody who wants to come over here and compete, comes over and competes," Gowen said.

In order to make the competition fair, archers must use the bows, arrows and targets provided by the intramural program. The bows used for the competition

do not have sights or arrow rests, so competitors must rely on their own judgment and intuition.

"We try to make [the competition] as even as possible," Gowen said. "We've had some guys come over with compound bows with sights, and all the things the avid archer would have. Of course, that wouldn't be fair for the guy who comes over and wants to shoot one day just to see how it is."

Sanders said not being able to use his own equipment was difficult to get used to.

"I just had to go by instinct and sight," Sanders said. "It was different than what I'm used to."

It took me a minute to get that sight down, but once I got it, it was pretty easy after that."

Sanders said his dad taught him how to shoot a bow at a young age, and he has practiced hunting with a bow ever since. In fact, Sanders said the archery competition at Harding was the first one he's ever been in.

"I was surprised [I won]," Sanders said. "I wasn't even going to do it, and then one of my friends asked me to go and I was like, 'Okay, I'll go,' and I went and started shooting, and it turned out that I got a pretty good score."

Harding used to offer an ar-

chery class that counted toward activity credit, but the class was discontinued, according to Gowen.

"We are the only archery competition on campus of any kind, and it's just that one day," Gowen said.

Sanders said he was not sure whether he would compete again, but if he did, he would try to hold onto his title as champion.

The archery competition is usually held at the end of March or the beginning of April, and no registration is required. For more information on intramural sports, visit <http://www.harding.edu/intramurals>.

Same script, different year

Frank Bolling



Guest
Space

What if the shot had gone in? As Gordon Hayward heroically heaved up a shot from half court, millions of college basketball fans all across America held their breath as if they were about to witness greatness.

The script could not have been more perfect. An unheralded team from the Horizon League clawed and fought its way through basketball royalty such as Syracuse University and Michigan State University and stood toe to toe with the Duke University Blue Devils for 40 minutes. The shot sailed toward the hoop and narrowly missed the mark, which left many across the nation wondering, what if the shot had gone in?

As the 2010-2011 college basketball season approached, many wondered how this Butler University team would fare after their miraculous Cinderella run. They began the season ranked in the top 25, but Butler did not measure up to the expectations.

The team underperformed in its conference games, with a record of 13-5. But in early February, as the tournament began to crest on the horizon, something ignited within this Bulldog team. Since Feb. 5, a Butler team that looked like it might struggle to even reach the field of 68, has not lost. They claimed the Horizon League championship, crushing a Milwaukee team that had bested them twice already that season. And once again the Bulldogs have maneuvered their way through the tournament field and found themselves in the title game against a talented team with a Hall of Fame coach.

Same script, different year. The Butler Bulldogs once again

As the 2010-2011 college basketball season approached, many wondered how this Butler University team would fare after their miraculous Cinderella run.

had the chance to prove that they can play with the top programs in the college basketball world. Brad Stevens, the head coach of the Bulldogs, is only 34 and is in his fourth season at Butler. Jim Calhoun, 68, is the head coach of Connecticut and has won two championships to Stevens' zero. Forty minutes separated these teams from being immortalized within the ranks of college basketball history forever, and for the Butler Bulldogs, the only question that rang in their ears was: Will we make the shot this year?

The first half could not have gone better for the Bulldogs. They forced the Huskies into an ugly half-court game, which favored the scrappy Butler team, and went into halftime ahead 22-19. However, the second half was dominated by UConn. They out-rebounded, out-hustled and out-played Butler. The Bulldogs shot only 18.8 percent from the field, which is the lowest shooting percentage in NCAA Championship game history.

Once again Butler was left to watch another team walk off the floor with the national title. The Bulldogs would love to have the title, but even though they have left empty-handed the past two seasons, no one can discount the impressive back-to-back championship game appearances. The Bulldogs have proven themselves as one of the best basketball programs over the past few seasons and can start now to write a different script next year.

CHAMPION'S CORNER: Tiffany Chambers



photo courtesy of BARB CHAMBERS

The Harding track team's pole vaulter, sophomore Tiffany Chambers, has already set two school records, setting the first one her freshman year with 10 feet 6 inches and breaking that record this year with 11 feet 1.75 inches. She has been doing the pole vault for only three years.

by J.M. ADKISON
sports editor

It was her senior year of high school, graduation was fast approaching and Tiffany Chambers was still in need of a P.E. credit to finish off her high school career. After 11 years of competing in gymnastics, Chambers wanted to try something new. So, in the spring of 2009, she joined the track and field team. Once on the team, she discovered something that fit her liking: pole vaulting.

She never thought the decision would help her get into Harding University, let alone make her a record-breaker once she got there.

"The P.E. coach in seventh grade was always like, 'Chambers, you are going to be a vaulter,' and I was always like, 'No, that's crazy,'" Chambers said.

At the end of 12th grade, Chambers was approached by Harding's track coach, Steve Guymon, and offered a spot on the track team. Chambers said she was ecstatic to be able to be a part of a college sports team.

"The [track] team is just great;

we get along and we can just get together and hang out and Coach Guymon and Coach [Bryan] Phillips are awesome," Chambers said.

Chambers, now a sophomore, is the only pole vaulter on the track team and has been pole vaulting for only three years, and yet she has already broken school records. Last year, she set a record of 10 feet 6 inches. On Saturday, March 26, she broke that record with a height of 11 feet 1.75 inches. And even with her record-breaking success, Chambers said she still sees herself as a work in progress.

"The thing about pole vaulting is that it is a process; you have to have good run to have a good plant, you have to have a good plant in order to get into the air, you have to get into the air to get up and over the top of the pole; it is a continuous work in progress," Chambers said. "And last year I worked hard on getting my run and my approach down, and now I am working on my technique, getting the plant and getting myself upside down."

Before Chambers began pole vaulting, she had been a gymnast

for 11 years. She said that the skills she learned from gymnastics have helped her pole vault, but they have also hindered her.

"They say the hardest part about pole vaulting is running as fast as you can at a stationary object, but that is not really that hard for me," Chambers said. "I mean, when I did gymnastics, I ran toward a spring board. As a gymnast, I usually land on my feet, which is not good. My senior year of high school I knocked the cross bar off and landed on it and nearly broke my ankle."

While Chambers is still figuring out the mechanics of pole vaulting, she said she has also taken some life lessons away from this difficult pursuit.

"The Bible teaches you have to trust God and trust what he gives you," Chambers said. "Like, I have a pole I vault with—it is the apparatus that I use—and God gives us things in life, and we may be like, 'this is a pole, you really want me to run toward a stationary box and fly up into the air?' But he gives us those things and we are supposed to trust them and know this is for our good."

Casting database catalogs actors

by J.M. ADKINSON
sports editor

In preparation for next spring's script production course, Harding graduate Grant Dillion is creating the Harding Actors Bank to catalog a digital database for current Harding students interested in acting for the script production students' film projects.

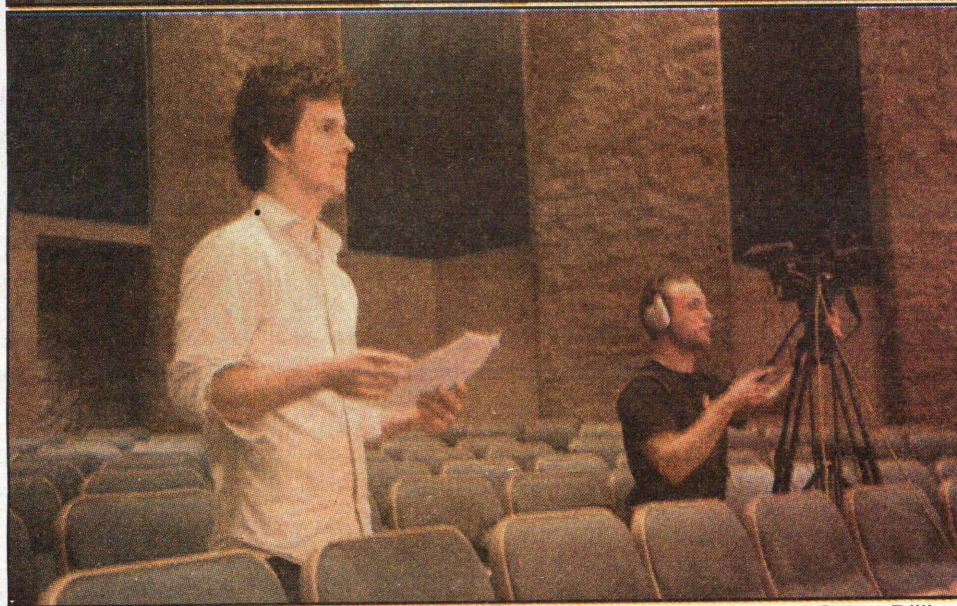
On Saturday, March 26, Dillion, who will be teaching the script production course, hosted an all-day audition in the Reynolds Recital Hall for students wanting to be a part of the database.

"We advertised the event as welcoming 'anyone who can act, or at least thinks they can act,'" Dillion said. "We knew that type of approach would bring in an eclectic mix of professionals, novices and completely clueless amateurs; and that mix is exactly what we wanted. We never want the productions to be limited by the database, so as long as a student has the desire to act in front of a camera, we are happy to have them in the database."

Sophomore Allison Musslewhite, a theater major, was one of the students who auditioned for the database. She said it was a requirement for each person auditioning to read a dramatic and comedic monologue. The students also had to fill out paperwork and get a head shot picture taken.

"It was pretty professional," Musslewhite said. "But still very chill. The audition only took about 10 minutes. Film is a different animal altogether [from theater], so it would be good experience to have when I go out into the real world, but also I am not going into film. If it happens, it happens, and if it doesn't happen, also cool."

Dillion said the idea of the casting database came to him as a way for the students in the script production class to cast actors quickly and not have to worry about mak-



photos courtesy of Grant Dillion

Above: Senior Alan Pearson takes a picture of an actor for the database. All of the actors have headshots on the database.

Below: Junior Collin Yeary, casting director, instructs actors, while senior Logan Skidmore records the auditions on film, which can be accessed on the database.

ing casting calls for every production project. Before beginning work on their filming projects, they will be able to go through the database and select which actors they think will best fit the production.

"I know personally from working as an advertising director that many times you need to know what kind of actors you have access to before you even begin to write a commercial or video spot," Dillion said. "This database will allow the students to search through and see the

available talent at Harding before they even begin to draft their productions."

The all-day audition event brought in a good mix of students with varying degrees of acting skills, according to Dillion, which is exactly what he wanted.

"Around 25 students auditioned for the database," Dillion said. "Theater majors made up around 70 percent of the actors, while the other 30 percent was a random mix of students who were passionate about acting and simply thought the idea

sounded like fun."

Dillion said that while an all-day audition event is unlikely to occur again this year, he would be willing to audition more students.

"If someone wants to join the database, all they have to do is contact us on Facebook by joining the Harding Actors Database group and let us know they would like to join," Dillion said. "We will then set up a time to photograph and videotape their performance and add them to the database on an individual basis."

GRO harmonizes on upeat tracks

by STACY HALL
student writer

Green River Ordinance is a country-esque, pop-rock/indie band based out of Fort Worth, Texas. They have been together since 2003 and have toured with bands such as the Goo Goo Dolls, Switchfoot and Train. Their most recent full-length album is "Out of My Hands," which was released in February 2009. GRO has had two Top 40 radio singles, songs on more than 20 television shows, including "So You Think You Can Dance" and "The Hills," along with two music videos on MTV and VH1.

"Out of My Hands" has a pleasing

blend of up-tempo songs, along with acoustic and sentimental moments. GRO sounds like a mixture of My Favorite Highway and Matt Nathanson, with a hint of Augustana. Like many bands, most of their songs are about falling in love, fighting for love and failing at love. Their lyrics are personal and heartfelt, accompanied by harmonious vocals. Lead singer Josh Jenkins' warm voice is bliss to listen to.

"Endlessly" depicts a man's endless love for a girl and how she is his rock and rolling thunder and how he will always wait for her. On the contrary, "On Your Own" is a piano-filled piece portraying the hardships of a breakup and moving forward on your own and "Sleep It Off"

is a melodious song about a couple in a fight, hoping to sleep off their feelings and work out their problems in the morning.

This CD has fun, touching tracks that are pleasing to the ears and easy to sing along to. GRO is a band that everyone can enjoy; they are the perfect combination of pop, rock, country and indie. Their toe-tapping music is perfectly accomplished, without the feeling of overproduction for forced feelings like a lot of bands these days that just want to become famous. It is apparent that GRO loves what they do, which is making fantastic music.

"Out of My Hands" is available for a free download online via GRO's Facebook page or band website.

Media converge again: watch movies on Facebook

by GABRIELLE
PRUITT
student writer

Just in case anyone thought there were not enough ways to watch a movie, Warner Bros. decided to give people yet another option. Facebook and Warner Bros. have joined forces beginning March of this year to offer streaming movies that can be rented on the social network by using Facebook Credits.

For a cost of 30 Facebook Credits, or \$3, Facebook users can rent movies straight from the fan page as an application that Warner Bros. created exclusively for Facebook, according to an article on PCWorld.com.

The first movie available was "The Dark Knight" as a test, and Warner Bros. announced more will be offered in the next few months for "rental and purchase."

An article on the Internet Movie Database website explained the process; an individual can go to a movie's page on Facebook, rent it for 30 Facebook Credits (found within online games used for buying discounted items within the games) and have 48 hours to complete the purchase and watch the movie.

Thomas Gewecke, president of Warner Bros. Digital Distribution, recognized that millions spend excessive amounts of time on this popular social medium outlet.

"Making our films available through Facebook is a natural extension of our digital distribution efforts," Gewecke said in a press release. "It gives consumers a simple, convenient way to access and enjoy our films through the world's largest social network."

Vice President of Information Systems and Technology/CIO Keith Cronk

The already addicting and successful social [medium] Facebook is just going to make money out of this partnership. I think the innovative nature of these two companies is what makes a difference in an already competitive environment.

-Chris Ngu
senior IT major

said he has noticed the trend of entertainment of all forms being provided "online, on-demand with instant access." This service allows people to pay for what they want and watch it when they want to watch it. He said he personally likes the idea and enjoys the use of Netflix currently.

Tech representative Chris Ngu said he thought, from a business perspective, it was a smart decision by both companies.

"The already addicting and successful social [medium] Facebook is just going to

make money out of this partnership," Ngu said. "I think the innovative nature of these two companies is what makes a difference in an already competitive environment."

Cronk and Ngu both admitted that this new application, should it become popular at Harding, would require "a lot of bandwidth" to operate smoothly, but that would be the case regardless of the provider: Hulu, Netflix or Facebook. If anything, the volume of traffic will affect download rates for everyone but should not be a serious

Lea Lee's 'Big Mama's Dinner' creates a stir

by GABRIELLE
PRUITT
student writer

Just off of Pleasure Avenue is a new restaurant that certainly will give you a pleasurable experience. Lea Lee's is a family-owned and operated restaurant that has created buzz among local residents after only three weeks of being open.

While still in the research and development stage of business, the Tobias family has been working hard to make a successful living. W.J. Tobias, commonly known as "Junior," described his sister Talitha Tobias as the one with the dream of owning and cooking in her own restaurant. Now he and his brother Nathan Simon are making that happen with this quaint establishment right here in White County. In fact, Talitha is part of the story behind the name of the restaurant.

Talitha's middle name is "Lea," and Junior's 17-month-old niece is nicknamed "Lea" as well. Nathan's middle name, "Lee," is the inspiration for the second half of the restaurant's name. Junior said they will have a large sign created to put next to his beloved niece on it soon.

Despite the understandable rivalry that can exist between siblings in any family, the Tobiases get along well when it comes to running a business and working together day in and day out. Talitha is the main cook, and it is she who has the unique recipes from family traditions for their all-you-can-eat buffet.

"Just American cooking" was the description Junior enthusiastically gave when asked to categorize the type of food that is served.

This is an appropriate way to put it when inspecting the selection: fried catfish, fried chicken, green beans seasoned to perfection with a hint of bacon grease and new potatoes, boiled okra, sweet potatoes, coleslaw and rice. Those are most of the typical items found on buffet weekdays and Saturdays.

As of Friday, March 25, the Tobiases have started adding pork chops and other options such as meat loaf, based on customer preferences. A basket of mouth-watering corn bread is also served at each table with the meal. Then there is Sunday; with a title like

Service is exceptional, with a pleasant and welcoming atmosphere of hard-working, kind individuals who understand the importance of good "American cooking."

"Big Mama's Dinner," it is sure to please the taste buds. This menu switch brings a Thanksgiving theme to the tables with turkey, ham and dressing.

The Tobiases said they are open to suggestions and listening to preferences from the customers because they realize it is the public whom they are aiming to please. Junior also talked about plans to eventually expand on the back of the restaurant and build a deck for people to sit outside and enjoy a home-cooked style meal from 11:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. any day of the week.

Originally the Tobiases tried serving a breakfast menu as well. With only the family members cooking, cleaning and serving tables, they realized they should focus on lunch and dinner while also providing the option of take-out.

The lunch and dinner buffet costs an affordable \$6.99, with drinks and desserts priced at 49 cents.

The dessert selection changes to offer variety; options include red velvet cake and banana pudding. For Big Mama's Dinner on Sundays, the price is a justifiable \$8.99.

Perhaps the best feeling one gets from this restaurant is not the contentment of a full and happy stomach from such delicious food, but the feeling of home and comfortable interaction with the family of the Tobiases themselves.

Service is exceptional, with a pleasant and welcoming atmosphere of hard-working, kind individuals who understand the importance of good "American cooking." I highly recommend that anyone go to Lea Lee's, and I encourage all to go regularly and keep this wonderful establishment in business.

the best," Cronk said.

Ngu and Cronk expressed different opinions on the exponential growth of social media.

"Well, I am a geek, and I love technology," Ngu said. "I'm ready to pay premium on new gadget[s] and try out new technological inventions."

However, when it comes to social media, Ngu said he feels the whole concept of social media is an invasion of privacy and is becoming intrusive on people's personal lives.

Cronk said no conclusive results about social media are available yet since the technology is so new; things are "just starting."

"I just do not think we know yet all the impacts it will have on society as a whole, our personal relationships and so forth," Cronk said. "I think we need to have a cautious or considered approach to our use."

problem.

"We are constantly increasing the available bandwidth within all the constraints we have," Cronk said. "Our first priority, though, is to ensure there is enough bandwidth for our academic pursuits."

For Ngu, who said he has never been a fan of Facebook Credits, it is "a matter of convenience."

Cronk discussed the way some businesses, like Facebook, try to offer too many features.

"Often too much business diversity has proven to be not

YOURS TRULY

Dear Cozy Corridor Couples,

Please keep your hallway PDA to a minimum. Some of us are trying to work up here. That means you, foot-rub couple.

Yours truly,
Bison Blues

Want to submit your own "Yours Truly"? Use the format above to submit your own complaint, commentary or joke about something that happens in your life! Send submissions to skyle@harding.edu.

BISON DOODLES



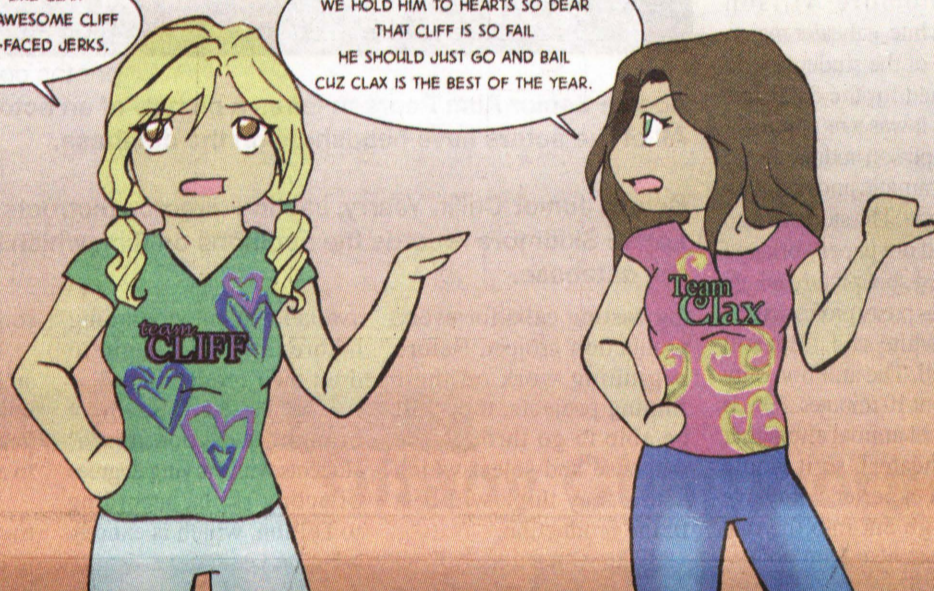
Life Inside the Bubble

"Cliff and Clax"

SHAYNA MCGILL

PEOPLE WHO LIKE CLAX INSTEAD OF THE AWESOME CLIFF THEY ARE LAME-FACED JERKS.

THE CLAX IS THE RADDEST GUY HERE WE HOLD HIM TO HEARTS SO DEAR THAT CLIFF IS SO FAIL HE SHOULD JUST GO AND BAIL CUZ CLAX IS THE BEST OF THE YEAR.



SUDOKU

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CONTEST: Win a free Sudoku book by being the first person to bring the completed puzzle to the Bison office TODAY (Friday)

DEAR DARKROOM

Dear DarkRoom,

This weather has been crazier than my homework schedule. How do I impress the ladies if I look like a wet dog?

Sincerely,

Need a Towel

Dear Towel,

There are many solutions to your problem, none of which include a towel. One sure sign to a good time is rain boots. Girls discovered the phenomenon of rain boots several years ago and you should too. Be brave and choose something meaningful such as boots with a unicorn pattern. Ladies love a brave man.

Another way to woo women in the rain is to invest in an umbrella, but not just any umbrella. Get a family-size umbrella. This way you can stay dry while meeting girls. Hide around the corner of girls dorms and when you see a lovely young lady unprepared for the angry skies, jump out and surprise her with the gift of a dry walk to her class. If you do not have prior engagements, wait outside her classroom and surprise her with a second dry walk back to her dorm. Also, it should be noted, when offering your umbrella services to more than one girl, be sure to begin your introduction with "ladies. ..." This is a subtle yet important step.

Yet another solution is the raincoat. Again, a novel concept, but rumor has it that raincoats stop rain and, consequently, keep you dry. Consider buying a raincoat of the color yellow. It's apparently the rage to look like a taxi.

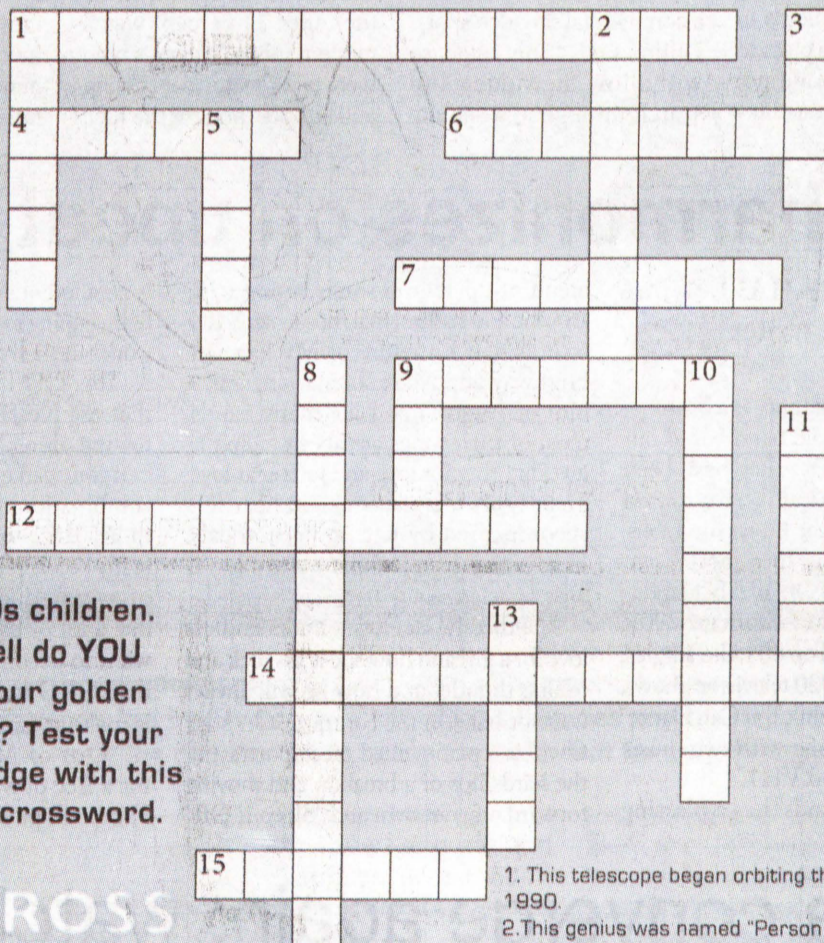
If these solutions aren't appealing to you, consider this: Looking wet is cool. Have you not seen "The Notebook"?

Sincerely,

DarkRoom

Submit your own question to "Dear DarkRoom" at skyle@harding.edu. Warning: Most responses will be humorous and sarcastic. For real advice, seek your local counselor or best friend. All responses are from the Bison photography staff and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editors.

HU CROSSWORD



OK, '90s children. How well do YOU know your golden decade? Test your knowledge with this week's crossword.

- ACROSS
- This sitcom was famous for Tim the Tool Man Taylor.
 - The director of the Nightmare Before Christmas
 - This musical hit, set in Africa, hit Broadway in the '90s. They were some pretty cool cats ... and hyenas.
 - Name this movie: Michael Jordan, Bugs Bunny and a whole lot of basketball against aliens.
 - Name this movie: "I'll never let go, Jack."
 - These suede clogs were all the rage (and stink) in the '90s.
 - These bean-stuffed animals became collectibles. With names like "Hissy the Snake," they'll be worth millions one day. Right?
 - Miramax changed the title of "Scary Movie" to _____ in 1996.
- DOWN
- This telescope began orbiting the earth in 1990.
 - This genius was named "Person of the Century" by Time Magazine.
 - These cardboard circles made for better sport than Pokemon Cards. Flip 'em and win.
 - This celeb infuriated the cattle industry when she swore against beef on her TV show.
 - This U.S. governor (and former celeb) vetoed National Prayer Day and created "Rolling Stones Day."
 - This digital-video-recording service became popular in the '90s.
 - This Colorado high school suffered a horrific school shooting, causing many high schools across the nation to revise their safety protocols.
 - Name this movie: _____ World.
 - This wiggly treat celebrated its 100th birthday in the '90s.

OUR NEXT ISSUE IS APRIL 22, OUR SPRING SING SPECIAL EDITION.

Send your story ideas and requests to skyle@harding.edu.