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# HARDING

WINTER 2002



MAKING A  
WORLD OF  
*difference*



Dr. David B. Burks,  
President

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### Technological advances provide a new environment for learning

**N**EW TECHNOLOGY HAS ALWAYS HERALDED CHANGE in the way we do things. In lots of ways, this is even more true in education. Leaders in higher education are no longer fearful of the hype that once surrounded changes resulting from technological innovations; rather, they are embracing the opportunities and evaluating the potentials to determine where they will work within our own culture. We at Harding are asking: "What is the role of technology in Christian education?" ■ The first consideration, of course, is our students. We are addressing the different learning styles with which students arrive on campus. At the recent

Educause conference it was noted that students now arrive at a university with a "multimedia mind." That is recognized as different from past generations of students, and our resources and teaching styles have to be adapted to take this into consideration. Today students use technology as a tool as easily as past students used a pen and paper.

We have a program in place to upgrade our classrooms so as to take advantage of multimedia presentations — from the common PowerPoint presentation to streaming video links via the Internet. Our computer labs are equipped with the latest hardware and software so students can use the technological tools as a normal part of their learning experience. Similarly, all students in the dorms can access Harding's network facilities, giving them further opportunities to enhance their learning.

Plans are being developed to provide Web-enhanced classes. These are designed to assist both the student and the teacher by providing additional channels of communication and access to learning materials. Research shows that with careful use of Web-enhanced classes, there is higher class attendance, and students are more successful with their grades. Also, students can engage in class networks through the use of newsgroups, discussion rooms and classroom chat rooms. In addition, Web-enhanced classrooms allow teachers to provide more reliable information sources to their students.

To assist with this, Harding has installed a new Web-based library system, which not only gives students access to the library catalog, but also opens up many online, academic, full-text databases for student use. Included in the system is a "library" of e-books, which students can "checkout" and use for their academic and recreational pursuits.



Keith Cronk

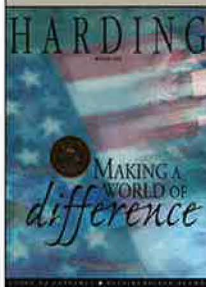
Another important consideration in technological advance is ease of access. As part of a major project to upgrade information systems, the University will implement a single sign-on portal, which will allow the entire Harding family to access the information relevant to them through one sign-on. This will be available on the Searcy campus as well as off campus, including our international campuses in Italy, Greece, Australia, England and Chile.

Effective use of technology presents one of the greatest challenges to higher education today. At Harding, we see this as an opportunity to be grasped to further our mission of integrating faith, learning and living. ■

— Keith Cronk

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Keith Cronk, vice president for information technology, is Dr. Burks' guest writer for this edition.*

Today students use technology as a tool as easily as past students used a pen and paper.



#### On the cover.

Harding's influence extends across the globe. Turn to page 13 to learn where and how some of our alumni, faculty and students are making a difference.



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### Making a world of difference • 13

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Newsletters

Austin demonstrates colored pencil medium

Beverly Austin, assistant professor of art, presented a workshop on "Colored Pencil Layering Techniques" at the Arkansas Art Educators conference Nov. 1-2 in Little Rock.

Biederman crowned Homecoming queen

Kerri Biederman, a junior public relations major from Plymouth, N.H., was voted 2001 Homecoming queen. She is an intern in the public relations office, a member of the Radio-Television News Directors Association and Zeta Rho social club, and a staff writer for The Bison. Biederman was crowned Nov. 3 during halftime of the Bisons' game against the University of West Alabama.

College of Education receives partnership grant with Cabot School District

Dr. Donny Lee, associate professor of education, and Dr. Jan Morgan, associate professor of special education, recently received a grant from the Arkansas Dean's Symposium, a part of the Arkansas Department of Special Education. They worked collaboratively with Cabot School District's teachers to strengthen their co-teaching initiative. Lee and Morgan presented a two-day workshop, "Effective Co-Teaching: Two Heads Are Better Than One," in which teachers from the district engaged in collaborative practices, inclusion strategies and role-playing.

Conley speaks at women's retreat in Venezuela

Ava Conley, professor of Spanish, conducted a two-day women's retreat in Valera, Venezuela, in October. The weekend was based on the book of Esther, with presentations titled "In Times Like These" and "If I Perish, I Perish."

NCATE continues Education accreditation

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) announced in November that the University is one of 60 schools nationwide to receive initial or continuing accreditation by the organization. The announcement was made by Arthur E. Wise, president of NCATE.

NCATE continued accreditation for the teacher education program at both the undergraduate and graduate levels for five years. The College of Education has been NCATE accredited since 1961.

Schools are required to meet six rigorous standards established by NCATE. In making his announcement, Wise cited the University for meeting all the standards without any weaknesses. Administrators and faculty spent two years preparing a self-study for the NCATE evaluation team, which visited the campus during the spring semester.

NCATE adopted new performance-based standards for evaluation in 2000. The College of Education volunteered to be one of the first schools evaluated under the new standards.

The standards evaluate a teaching candidate's knowledge and skills; the university's assessment and evaluation processes; field and clinical experiences provided for students; diversity within the teacher education program; the faculty's qualifications, performance and development; and the resources the university allocates to teacher education.

"We are elated that NCATE's board of examiners found no weaknesses in our program," said Dr. Tony Finley, dean of the College of Education. "I believe the report by the board of examiners can be attributed to Harding's commitment to teacher education. That commitment spans more than just the College of Education. It includes the faculties and staff of both the College of Sciences and the College of Arts and Humanities. A large number of people had a significant role in this accreditation process."



Traveling down Route 66, Joey Kincheloe, Cindy Collins, Jennifer Driggers and Mat Faulkner lead the audience as 2002 Spring Sing hosts and hostesses.

Spring Sing takes Route 66

WITH THE THEME "Route 66, Journeys Across America," Spring Sing 2002, to be held March 28-30, will highlight the history of the automobile, Route 66, the changes and challenges our nation has faced, the diversity of America and what unites us.

Hosts and hostesses are Cindy Collins, a senior from Mount Juliet, Tenn.; Jennifer Driggers, a sophomore from North Richland Hills, Texas; Mat Faulkner, a senior from Brandon, Fla.; and Joey Kincheloe, a sophomore from Chesapeake, Va. Joining the University jazz

band and Spring Sing ensemble, they will lead audiences through a techno-version of Route 66, including a tribute to the traveling USO shows of World War II, a medley of '50s and '60s music, a fun look at women taking charge of their lives and cars, a celebration of urban strength, and a dedication to the victims and heroes of Sept. 11.

Eight social club acts will demonstrate their talents by performing musical parodies involving baseball players, firemen, cavemen, wizards, nerds, musketeers, fast food employees and Rosie

the riveter.

Says eight-year director Dr. Steven Frye, "The real difference between Spring Sing at Harding and other musical revue shows is that Spring Sing is not designed to raise money, but to showcase the tremendous talent and heart of the Harding family. There is no other show like it in the world."

Tickets are \$7 for Spring Sing's Thursday show and \$10 for Friday and Saturday shows. The play, "The Picture of Dorian Gray, A Morality Tale," will also be presented on Friday and Saturday, and tickets are \$4. Tickets may be ordered using the card insert in this magazine.

Carters honored by Walton Foundation grant

THE WALTON FAMILY FOUNDATION of Bentonville, Ark., announced in October a \$700,000 grant to the University for the capital fund of the Diamond Campaign. The Foundation made the grant in honor and appreciation of the ongoing support provided to the University by Paul and June Carter of Bentonville. The Carters also recently made a gift to the capital fund.

An associate of Wal-Mart since 1977 and a member of the board since 1984, Paul Carter currently serves the University as chairman of the board of trustees and is also president of Wal-Mart Realty Co.

"Paul and June Carter have made significant contributions to the growth and development of

Harding University and to Wal-Mart as well," said Rob Walton, chairman of the board of Wal-Mart Stores Inc., and a member of the Walton Family Foundation board. "We are proud to have the opportunity to honor these outstanding citizens of Northwest Arkansas."

The gifts from the Carters and the Walton Family Foundation will help fund capital projects on campus, including the recent renovation of the Hammon Student Center.

In addition to this gift, the Walton Family Foundation has been funding the Walton Scholarship Program to provide full scholarships to students from Central America and Mexico. There are 60 such students currently enrolled at the University.

Cone, board member, supporter of Christian education, dies

JAMES H. CONE ('48), a member of the board of trustees, died Nov. 24 in Little Rock, Ark. He was 74.

Cone began his association with the University in 1944 when he enrolled as a freshman. A charter member of the President's Development Council in 1965, he was appointed to the board in November 1972. He served as chairman from 1984 to 1994 and remained a board member until his death.

Under his leadership the University expanded its physical presence,



James H. Cone

its student body and its involvement in Christian works all over the world, including the establishment of campuses in Europe. He also served on the executive committee of the national advisory board of the American Studies Institute.

In recognition of his many contributions, he was named Distinguished Alumnus for the University in 1982 and Outstanding Alumnus for the College of Business Administration in 1986. In 2000 Cone Hall, an apartment-style housing complex for men, was dedicated to James and his wife, Bonnie.

In 1956 Cone established James H. Cone Inc., now one of the largest general contractors in Arkansas. Under his leadership, the company built banks and churches and structures at universities around the state, including Harding.

Over a period extending 28 years, Cone was appointed by governors Dale Bumpers, David Pryor and Bill Clinton to multiple terms on the War Memorial Stadium Commission, the Arkansas State Bank Board, and the Governor's Ethics Commission.

Besides his commitment to Christian education at the university level, Cone was also a strong supporter of Central Arkansas Christian Schools in Little Rock.

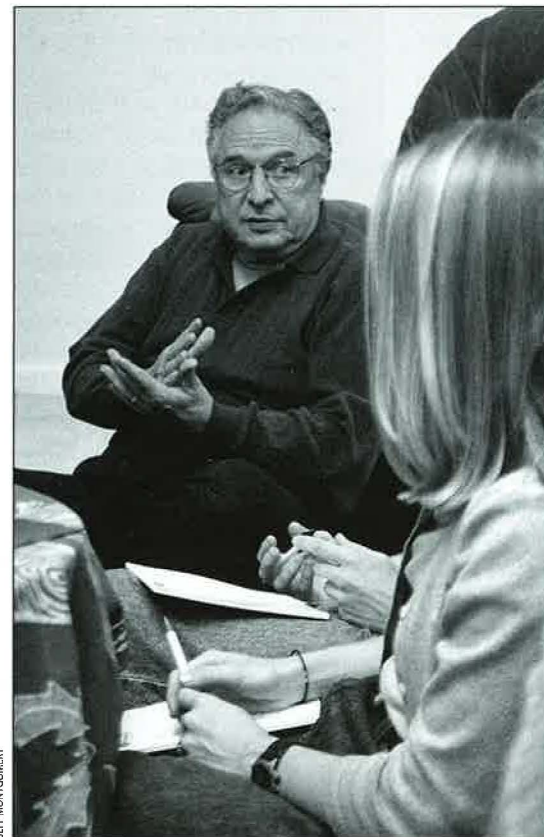
He served 10 years on their board of directors, including a term as chairman.

A member of the Pleasant Valley Church of Christ, Cone served 30 years as an elder.

Crowson to facilitate vocational domestic missions

AS THE UNIVERSITY'S FIRST domestic missionary in residence, Marvin Crowson ('62), is charged with the task of helping students form and solidify teams for the purpose of planting and growing churches on U.S. soil.

In a joint effort with the vocational ministry program and the Center for World Missions, Crowson hopes to recruit and equip 10 percent of the graduating class — 80 to 100 students each year — to be financially self-supporting vocational missionaries in the continent-



Leading a Bible study in his home, Marvin Crowson helps to strengthen domestic missions by influencing students to serve in this country.

tal United States.

The domestic mission teams will be responsible for planting new churches or taking proactive leadership roles in existing congregations where the church is weak in the fastest growing, multicultural U.S. population centers. An active list of

Cone is survived by his wife, the former Bonnie Williams; two daughters, Annette Herrington ('75) and Maria Henry ('88); and a son, Jimmy Cone ('77), all of Little Rock.

at least six specific target cities will be maintained, representing at least four different geographical sectors of the country, strategically placed for the greatest long-range national and international impact.

Crowson, a former missionary to Jamaica, says, "Recent terrorist acts, along with national and world uncertainty, help provide an environment in which people are more open to the hope and good news of Christ. It's the right time to increase our evangelism and church planting in the United States.

"It's critical that we start doing more church planting because our church growth in the states has plateaued in the last decade, while the population has increased, mostly in large cities in the East and Southwest coasts. These megacities may seem like 'foreign countries' to many of us, and we will need to prepare and study for these fields as we would for Africa, China or Russia."

Currently there are 10 teams summing close to 100 students planning to support themselves as they

plant churches. The teams are targeting major cities such as Denver, Seattle, Los Angeles, Chicago and others in the Northeast. Crowson meets with the teams on a regular basis to work on compatibility and help members form a common vision and strategy.



Newsletters

Doran moderates dialogue on abused children

Dr. Faye Doran, professor of art, led a round table discussion titled "Counseling Children Who Have Been Sexually Abused" in September at the state conference of the Arkansas Association of Marriage and Family Therapists. She also participated in the organization's board meeting as webmaster.

Engel presents at literature conference, named program chair

Dr. Terry Engel, assistant professor of English, presented a paper, "Three Authors Refining Our View of the Southern Landscape: Larry Brown, Robert Olen Butler and Mary Karr," at the Arkansas Philological Association conference in Hot Springs, Oct. 19. Dr. Dennis Organ, professor of English and department chair, also attended and was appointed to the editorial board of the organization's journal, *Philological Review*. The University has agreed to host the 2002 conference, with Engel serving as program chair.

Financial aid administrators lead state conference

Jay Simpson, financial aid counselor, chaired the first conference of the Arkansas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators. Dr. Jonathan Roberts, director of financial aid, presented a training session at the conference: "Web-Based Policies and Procedures and Other Internet Initiatives."

Keller gives tips on teaching art history at national conference

Dr. John Keller, professor of art and department chair, presented "Living With Art: From Oshkosh, Nebraska, to Bald Knob, Arkansas," at the National Art Education Association Conference in New York in March. He promoted the use of local architecture to aid in teaching art history.



### Newsmakers

#### Hunt, English majors present Christian perspective

Dr. Larry Hunt, assistant professor of English, presented a paper titled "Time of the Prophetic Voice: Bonaventure's Figural Interpretation of the Life of Saint Francis" at the Southwest Conference on Christianity and Literature in Waco, Texas, Sept. 29.

Two senior undergraduates were also on the program. Dawn McCann of Iowa City, Iowa, presented "Ayn Rand's *Anthem*: Discovering the Communism of a Utopian Society." Erica Lee of Aurora, Colo., presented "Searching for Faith: *Questions and Answers in Annie Dillard's Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* and *Holy the Firm*."

#### J.C. Penney awards Newsom intern scholarship

Julie Newsom, a senior marketing major from Searcy, was selected as a 2001 J.C. Penney Co. Inc. regional summer management intern scholarship winner. Newsom spent last summer as an intern at the company's office in Metairie, La.

#### Smith completes doctoral work

Terry Smith, associate professor and director of the social work program, graduated with an educational doctorate from the University of Memphis in December, with an emphasis in instruction and curriculum leadership.

Smith also presented at the 49th annual Conference of the Christian Child and Family Services Association in Orlando, Fla., in October. He participated on a panel that addressed the topic of "Preparing for the Future in the Social Services Profession."

### Students orchestrate new women's ministry

DIVINE PROPERTY has taken off as the newest women's group on campus this school year. Under the leadership of 12 student-core members and faculty adviser Dr. Sherry Pollard, the women's ministry grew to more than 300 members in its first three months.

Divine Property seeks to challenge women to grow spiritually, be evangelistic and worship God with passion. Five focus groups exist within the ministry, including evangelism, campus ministry, eating disorders, rape and sexual abuse, and teenage girls of Searcy. Pollard says the girls have a collective strength with "lots of energy and enthusiasm and the rare belief that we can make a difference as women."

Taking 1 Chronicles 4:10 as their theme, student leaders Amber Green and Jamie Erickson have scheduled several events throughout the year to provide training for women to lead spiritually in the setting of other women. The girls also meet weekly for devotionals and prayer breakfasts.

### Physical science sharing diffractometer

STUDENTS IN THE DEPARTMENT of physical science have a new X-ray crystal diffractometer to use in their studies and research projects, thanks to a National Science Foundation grant.

The instrument, which cost more than \$225,000 and is used to help determine the three-dimensional structure of molecules such as proteins and DNA, is not located on campus; rather, it is housed at Southeast Missouri State University. It is operated over the World Wide Web with a computer provided by Harding and will be shared with 10 other area universities.

Three undergraduate researchers, Lauren Gilbert, Adam Jacoby, and Sheila Kukta are using it to study copper compounds under the direction of Dr. Ed Wilson and in collaboration with Southeast Missouri State University.



Studying hybrid rockets at NASA's Stennis Space Center are Dr. James Mackey, Dr. Ed Wilson, Bill Ganus, Adam Jacoby, Ryan Williams and Sheila Kukta.

### NASA funding rocket exhaust research

DR. ED WILSON, professor of chemistry and director of undergraduate physical science research, began a three- to five-year study in November of hybrid rocket exhaust plumes in collaboration with faculty at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and Hendrix College in Conway, Ark.

The goal of the project is to develop sensor systems to characterize the exhaust plumes of hybrid rockets. The project will be extended to the study of all kinds of emissions from various engines, such as aircraft and commercial vehicles.

Says Wilson, "We want to find out the effects of firing hybrid rocket motors on the environment, and we want to help improve the efficiency of the motors."

The total award by NASA for the project over a three-year period is \$750,000, with \$107,000

coming directly to the University. "This grant will give me the opportunity to award many research scholarships to students," Wilson says. "It gives our students an opportunity to learn science by being directly involved in cutting-edge research. We will have funds to travel to the national meetings, and our students will be able to present their findings. Also, the department of physical science will benefit from the instruments and equipment that will be purchased."

In August, Wilson and Dr. James Mackey, professor of physical science, took students Bill Ganus, Sheila Kukta, Adam Jacoby and Ryan Williams to visit Dr. Bill St. Cyr, director of rocket testing at NASA/Stennis Space Center in Mississippi, to learn more about the theory and testing of rocket motors. They toured the space shuttle engine test

facilities and the laboratories where the effects of rocket firings on the environment are measured.

Also that month, Wilson and two of his research students, Lauren Gilbert and Nicholas Evans, were invited to attend an atmospheric chemistry symposium in California honoring Dr. James Pitts, one of the founding fathers of the subject. While there they met with Dr. Sherwood Rowland, Nobel Laureate who co-discovered the effect chlorofluorocarbons have on the ozone hole over Antarctica. They also visited scientists at Jet Propulsion Laboratory and NASA Ames Research Center.

Wilson is the campus representative of the Arkansas Space Grant Consortium. Over the last 11 years, 128 grants totaling \$326,255 have been awarded to faculty and students or to K-12 programs in the community.

### Graduate School forum to reflect year's theme

THE 2002 MINISTRY FORUM, to be held on the Memphis campus, will focus on the Graduate School of Religion's yearlong theme, "Evangelistic Preaching." It will be held in the W.B. West Classroom Building

on April 4, 2002. Guest speakers addressing various aspects of the theme will be Chris Altkoff of Memphis, Tenn.; Keith Parker of Nashville, Tenn.; and James Thompson of Abilene, Texas.

### Who's Who honors 60 campus leaders

THE 2002 EDITION of *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges* includes the names of 60 students who have been selected as national outstanding campus leaders.

A campus committee nominated the students on the basis of academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential for continued success. After a faculty vote, the following students were accepted by the editors of the annual directory.

Students included are Angela Adams, Michael Arnold, Jason Ashlock, Amy Baeder, Justin Baeder, Mark Bailey, Nathan Bills, Laura Bontrager, Cortney Bradley, Brian Brophy, Karis Bruner, Kimberly Campbell, Kelly Carter, Catherine Christopher, Steve Cloer, Rebekah Cody and Jesse Cox.

Also selected are Louisa Duke, Mary Edmundson, Kathryn Elliott,

Liza Freeman, Joseph Grady, Rhonda Gregory, Rachael Harless, Kristy Holsombake, Jared Holton, Leigh Howard, Hope Huckeba, Allison Justus, Theodore Kelley, Charles Kiser, Andrea Kloske, Jamie Kulild, Erica Lee, Kara Lipsmeyer, Nicole McAlexander, Jessica Moore and Marcus Moore.

Completing the list are Matthew Neely, Julie Newsom, Sarah Nicks, Thomas Nix, Robert O'Lynn, Jeremy Picker, Elizabeth Ross, Tricia Sterling, Andrea Stevens, Edward Stillwell, Lynn Teague, Jennifer Thompson, Amanda Thornton, Laura Tollett, Scott Ware, April Watson, Emily Webster, Carl Williamson, Adam Woodruff, Daniel Woodruff, Cheryl Wright and Jennifer Wright.

### Students continue Rudolph to Romania tradition

THE STUDENT BODY SENT an estimated 600 boxes filled with Christmas gifts to Romania on Oct. 2 through the Rudolph to Romania project.

The packages — gift-wrapped shoeboxes — were given to children in Romanian villages and orphanages by Healing Hands, a charity based in Nashville, Tenn. Dale ('56) and Imogene McAnulty, missionaries in Bucharest, distributed them.

Rudolph to Romania coordinator Nathan Bills said that more than 600 boxes were donated by students, many of whom paired up with friends to fill the packages with items including candy, small toys, clothing and school supplies. Bills, a senior from Normandy, Tenn., estimates that more than 1,000 students participated.

The University has sent Christmas packages to underdeveloped nations since 1998. Bills said the Rudolph to Romania project is a good way for students to help children in a nation they may never visit.

"I think God can use these boxes to reach people in Romania," he said. "It's great that we can be a part of this project."



**WINTER by the numbers**

- 1**  
Times the University has closed due to weather in the past 15 years
- 140,000**  
Average dollar amount of the University's electric bill in January
- 17**  
Record number of inches of snow in Searcy
- 1,400**  
Cups of hot chocolate served per week in the cafeteria
- 41.4**  
Average temperature during the winter months in White County
- 1,966**  
Average attendance at a Bison basketball game



### Newsmakers

#### Weaver president-elect for state organization

Dr. Beckie Weaver, professor of communication and speech and hearing coordinator, was chosen president-elect for the Arkansas Speech-Language-Hearing Association. She also edits the communication sciences and disorders newsletter for the National Academy of Professional Programs.

#### Wilson speaks on eating disorders

Dr. Beth Wilson, professor and chair of family and consumer sciences, presented a workshop at the fourth annual Northcentral Arkansas Fall Child Care Conference at the University of Arkansas Community College in Batesville, titled "Preventing Eating Disorders in Young Children."

#### Woodroof gives several workshops

Debbie Woodroof, an adjunct in the communication department, presented a conceptual accuracy workshop called "Sign What You Mean ... Mean What You Sign" at the Arkansas Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf in Little Rock in June. She was also reappointed chair of the program committee for the organization.

In September she presented three workshops, "Legal Interpreting," "Sign What You Mean ... Mean What You Sign," and "Interpreter Ethics," at the Louisiana State Conference of Interpreters for the Deaf in Alexandria.

#### Yeakley helps put final touches on church statistical research

Dr. Flavil Yeakley, professor of Bible, attended the annual meeting of the Association of Statisticians of American Religious Bodies in October. The Association did the final production work on a research volume to be called "Religious Congregations in the United States, 2000."

### Honors Symposium offers study abroad

IN A PILOT PROGRAM called Scholars Abroad, the Honors Symposium will take students to the Greece campus this June for an eye-opening two weeks of international study and travel.

The program, open to 30 students entering or completing their senior year of high school, will be led by Dr. Monte Cox, who taught at the Greece campus in the fall of 2000. Participants in Scholars Abroad will earn three hours of college credit through the College of Bible and Religion.

Students will study Koine Greek, the language of the New Testament; archaeology; ancient Mediterranean history and culture; and New Testament history and culture, especially as it relates to the apostle Paul and his travels. They will take trips to famous biblical and archaeological sites including Mars Hill and the Acropolis in Athens; ancient Corinth; Ephesus and Pergamum in Turkey; and the Greek island, Samos.

"It's an amazing thing to overlook the AcroCorinthus on a Sunday morning and take communion together while reading 1 Corinthians 11. To sit on Mars Hill in the shadow of ruined temples and imagine the courage of the apostle Paul as he addressed the philosophers of the city is just inspiring. The cities put some pictures with our faith that won't fade," says Cox, who has led tours to Greece, Turkey, Italy and East Africa.

The number one goal of the program is to encourage more students to major in Bible or a related field by giving them a taste of what Bible majors study, but the program is open to all qualified students. As with all international programs, Dr. Jeff Hopper, dean of international studies, will monitor the safety of the students, keeping in routine touch with the embassies and consulates.

Departure is set for June 3, with return on June 18, and total cost for the program, including all meals, is \$2,795. For more information, contact Cox, (501) 279-4186; or e-mail mcox@harding.edu.

## Men's cross country fifth in nation; women finish 17th

FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE year, both the men's and women's cross country teams raced all the way to the NCAA Division II national championship meet.

At the meet, held in Slippery Rock, Pa., the Bisons turned in the top performance in school history and the best by a Gulf South Conference school since 1979, finishing in a fifth-place tie. The Lady Bisons placed 17th for the second straight year.

The men's team placed three on the list of All-Americans. Senior Linus Chepkwony finished the 10K race sixth overall in a time of 32:08. Sophomore Jacob Rotich raced to a 15th-place finish and senior Japheth Langat placed 40th.

Sophomore Janet Kogo was the Lady Bison's best finisher in the women's 6K race, placing 56th.

Both teams qualified for the national meet by winning the Gulf South Conference meet in Memphis, Tenn., followed by victories at the NCAA Division II South Region meet in Kennesaw, Ga., the next week.

The teams took both con-

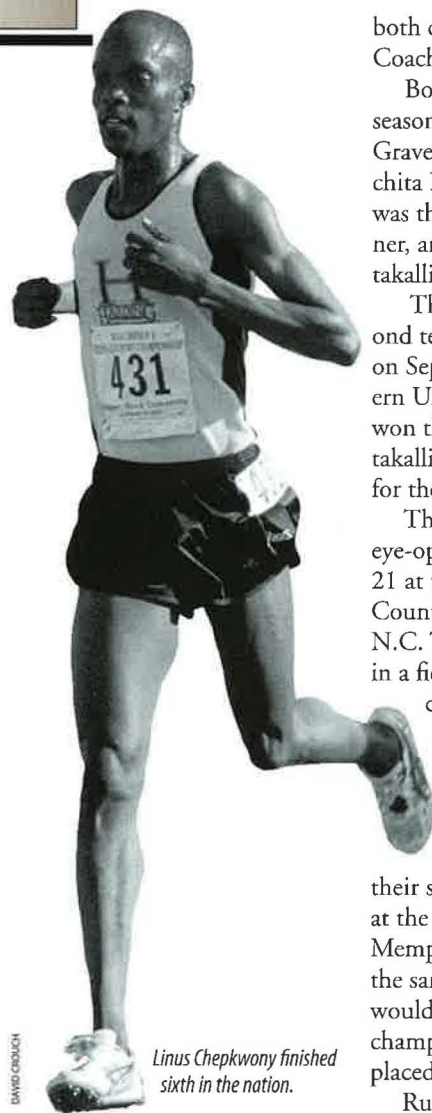


PHOTO COURTESY

Linus Chepkwony finished sixth in the nation.

ference championships for the second straight year. It was also the second consecutive South Region victory for the men. Head coach Bryan Phillips won

both conference and region Coach of the Year honors.

Both teams opened their seasons with wins at the Bob Gravette Invitational at Ouachita Baptist University. Rotich was the individual men's winner, and junior Hanna Ritakallio won the women's race.

The Bisons won their second team title in as many races on Sept. 15 at Missouri Southern University. Rotich again won the men's race, and Ritakallio placed fourth overall for the Lady Bisons.

The men turned in another eye-opening performance Sept. 21 at the Great American Cross Country Festival in Charlotte, N.C. The Bisons finished fifth in a field of 29 teams that included numerous NCAA Division I teams. The Bisons ran just behind Tennessee and came in ahead of Georgia.

The women won their second race of the season at the Rhodes Invitational in Memphis, Tenn., running on the same course where they would later win the GSC championship. Ritakallio placed second in the race.

Running against mostly Division I opponents, the Bisons placed seventh at the Cowboy Jamboree at Oklahoma State University and ninth in the Chile Pepper Invitational at the University of Arkansas.

Head coach Bryan Phillips won

## Volleyball boasts fourth straight 20-win season

WITH NO SENIORS and only one junior, the young Lady Bison volleyball team played like seasoned veterans, finishing the season 24-13 overall and earning their second consecutive trip to the Gulf South Conference (GSC) Tournament.

The 24 wins marked the fourth consecutive year the Lady Bisons have won more than 20 matches.

Early in the season, head coach Keith Giboney's Lady Bisons won 14 consecutive matches, only two short of the school record. Seven of the matches were 3-0 blankings, while three of the matches were pushed to deciding fifth games.

In their most historic win of the season, the Lady Bisons snapped Arkansas Tech University's 27-match conference winning streak, 3-2, in a marathon match that lasted nearly three hours.

The girls finished 9-3 overall in conference, earning the third seed from the West Division at the GSC Tournament. The Lady Bisons fell 3-1 to 25th-ranked University of Montevallo in the tournament's first round.

The Lady Bisons' strength was their defense. The team set a school record and led the GSC with 2,866 total digs, an average of 20.62 per game.

Top among the Lady Bisons was sophomore Shaila Farley with a conference-leading 585 digs, earning her Second Team All-GSC honors. Farley and classmate Veronica Piech became the first GSC duo with more than 500 digs each since 1996.

Also honored by the conference was junior Leslie Hollingsworth, a first-team honoree, who led the Lady Bisons and ranked seventh in the GSC with 490 kills.

Kate Kennedy ranked second on the team in kills and

led the team in hitting percentage and blocks to earn GSC West Division Freshman of the Year honors, as well as selection for Second Team All-GSC accolades.

## Football team battles five of the nation's best

FACING A GAUNTLET of opponents that included five nationally-ranked teams, the Bison football team battled to a 4-6 overall record and 4-5 mark in the Gulf South Conference.

Highlighting the season was the team's first win over a ranked opponent since joining the NCAA in 1997, beating 12th-ranked University of West Georgia 43-31.

Offensively, the team was led by a trio of underclassmen. Sophomore quarterback Freddie Langston completed 150 passes, the third most in a season in Bison history, for 1,657 yards and 11 touchdowns.

Langston's favorite receiver was sophomore Santiago Collins, who caught a school-record 71 passes for 768 yards and five touchdowns.

Junior tailback Robert Lolohea led the team in rushing with 685 yards and five touchdowns. His best game of the year came against the University of West Alabama when he ran for 209 yards, the sixth-highest total in school history, during the Bison 44-10 Homecoming victory.

Defensively, sophomore Tim Polk led the Bisons with 98 total tackles. He recorded a school-record 17 stops against the University of Central Arkansas.

The Bisons had the top pass rush in the conference, totaling 35 sacks. They had two or more sacks in nine of their 10 games and were led by juniors Floyd Black and Tim Love with 7.5 sacks each. Junior cornerback Rashaad Cooper tied the school record by breaking up 14 passes.

## Hall of Fame inducts seven

SIX ATHLETES and former athletic administrator and coach Ted Altman were inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame in a ceremony held Oct. 27.

The other inductees include Darryl Bassett, track; Kenny Collins, basketball; Susan Malone-Humphry, volleyball; Mike Plummer, baseball and football; Alicia Rojas, tennis; and Jeff Smith, football and tennis.

Altman, who was inducted posthumously for meritorious service, served 34 years in athletics and



Ted Altman

student affairs. He spent the 1996-97 school year as the director of athletics and the previous six years as assistant director of athletics under Harry Olree. A former coach, Altman left athletics to serve 17 years as the vice president for student affairs. During his coaching career, he directed five sports, including baseball, softball and track as head coach and football and basketball as assistant coach.

Bassett was an explosive sprinter whose senior season separated him from the rest of the pack. In



Darryl Bassett

1978, he earned NAIA All-American honors as a member of the Bisons' third-place mile-relay team that competed at the NAIA national indoor meet in Kansas City, Mo. That season, Bassett had a hand in four new Bison track records. Individually, he broke the 100- and 200-meter dash records with times of 10.68 and 21.42, respectively. As part of the 400-meter relay and mile-relay teams, Bassett helped smash two more records.

Collins epitomized a true student-athlete. For his exploits on the basketball court, he was twice named NAIA All-District 17 and All-Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference (AIC) and was a third-team NAIA



Kenny Collins

All-American as a senior. His work as a student allowed him to become the only Harding athlete to earn first-team GTE/CoSIDA Academic All-American honors twice. Collins ranks fourth in career scoring for the Bisons with 1,663 career points. As a senior he averaged 19.5 points per game, scoring 587 points, the seventh highest single-season total by a Bison.

Malone-Humphry has the distinction of being the first volleyball player to receive an athletic scholarship, choosing Harding over Ole Miss and Memphis State. Though individual statistics were not kept while she played, Humphry's impact was felt immediately. Prior to her arrival in 1987, the Lady

Bisons had not had a winning season in their first four years. In her freshman



Susan Malone-Humphry

year, Harding went 26-15. Humphry then redshirted in 1988, and the Lady Bisons dropped to 22-22. In the next three seasons, the Lady Bisons compiled a 119-28 record, including the school's only two 40-win seasons, and Humphry earned All-AIC honors three times.

Plummer was a two-sport athlete. As a pitcher, he was named first team All-AIC three times from 1965-67. Also in 1967, Plummer was named AIC Outstanding Student-Athlete. On the diamond that year, he sparked on the mound, throwing back-to-back no-hitters, an accomplishment no other pitcher in the history of the AIC can match. Plummer also



Mike Plummer

spent four years on the gridiron playing fullback and defensive back. His best season came in 1964, when he set a school record with seven interceptions, a total that is currently tied for fourth on the single-season chart.

Rojas is the first women's tennis player inducted into the Hall of Fame, lettering all four sea-

sons. Rojas was three-time All-AIC and was an NAIA All-American in 1995 after earning All-American Honorable Mention accolades the two previous seasons. She compiled a 72-32 ca-



Alicia Rojas

reer singles record, ranking second in career wins and first with 26 victories in tournament matches. Rojas went 55-22 in doubles play, teaming with Jessica Ruiz for 49 of those victories, making them the winningest doubles team in Lady Bison history.

Smith was a four-year letter winner in both football and tennis. As quarterback, he threw for 2,500 career yards, good for eighth on the career-passing list. In 1976, Smith earned All-AIC honors



Jeff Smith

leading the Bisons to an AIC championship and a berth in the Shrine Bowl. In that season, he completed 129 of 256 passes for 1,711 yards, a school record at the time. As a tennis player, Smith made quite an impression as a freshman in 1973, winning a team-best 13 matches. As a junior, he won the AIC #3 singles championship, and as a senior in 1976, he led the Bisons to an AIC championship.



## Bison basketball team aiming for tournament action

HEAD COACH JEFF MORGAN'S Bison basketball team finished last season 13-11 and 8-8 in the Gulf South Conference (GSC), missing out on the tournament by two games.

With six lettermen returning, including three starters, Morgan and the black and gold expect not only a winning season, but a trip to the GSC tournament in Tupelo, Miss., as well.

The undersized Bisons are using an up-tempo offense that produced an 83.4 points-per-game average last season, tops in the GSC and 26th in NCAA Division II. Leading the offensive attack is 2001 First Team All-GSC selection Aaron Farley, the first Bison sophomore to earn all-conference honors since Butch Gardner in 1975.

Returning players in the Bison backcourt include Farley and sophomores Darren McCrillis and Chase Melder. Six newcomers joined the Bison guard corps, including juniors Chris Campbell, Jason Malek and Carl Vault and three walk-ons, sophomore Josh Kirby and freshmen Michael Ashcraft and Marlon Henderson.

Four returnees and a junior college addition comprise the frontcourt. The team's lone senior is forward Datron Wilson, joined by juniors Jay Brogdon and Michael Jackson, sopho-



During the Bisons' season-opening 108-78 victory over Jarvis College, senior Datron Wilson shoots for two of his 20 points for the evening.

more Chad Ware and junior transfer Regimantas Butvydas, a native of Lithuania and the team's first European basketball player.

The Gulf South is as tough as ever with every team trying to knock off Henderson State University, last season's tournament champion.

## Healthy women's basketball squad returns seven

DURING LAST SEASON'S pre-conference schedule, the Lady Bison basketball team appeared to be cruising. They were well on their way to a 6-1 start with a large lead over Lane College at home, when freshman point guard Anne Fowlkes suffered a career-ending knee injury. Three games later, with just seconds left in a game against Rollins College in Florida, junior guard Mindy Napier also went down for the season with a knee injury.

However, head coach Brad Francis' Lady Bisons showed great determination in overcoming the injuries and accomplished one of the best defensive seasons in school history.

With Napier and Fowlkes out of the lineup, the Lady Bisons struggled to score, averaging 60.4 points per game. This season should see that number jump significantly with a healthy squad and some new additions that make the Lady Bisons a serious offensive threat.

Napier, who led the team with a 12-point average before the injury, is joined in the backcourt by junior transfer Julie Wright, a strong playmaker at point guard. Kendra Bell showed scoring potential last season and holds down the small forward spot. Junior Heather Lawrence, last season's leading rebounder, starts at power forward with classmate Susan Berry anchoring the lane at center.

Other returnees include three sophomores – guard Lauren Hickmon and forwards Michia French and Elizabeth Woodroof.

Newcomers include freshmen posts Saretha Jackson and Jamie Simpkins, redshirt freshman guard Jennifer Andrews, and freshman guards Kendra Beard and Valerie Singleton.

## Men's soccer achieves six wins in its second season of play

MEN'S SOCCER USED an early-season, four-game winning streak as the foundation for a 6-11 overall record in just their second year of play. The win total was one better than the inaugural season of 2000.

Leading the offensive charge for the Bisons was junior forward Jeff Ireland. The Searcy native became the University's single-season goal and point

leader with 15 goals and 31 points. During a four-game stretch to open the season, Ireland scored 11 goals and became the first player in Gulf South Conference (GSC) history to record hat tricks (3-goal games) in three consecutive games. Ireland was named Second Team All-GSC.

First-year coach Greg Harris had 14 different players score

goals. Following Jeff Ireland was brother Jon Ireland with four, Luke Boren with three, and Brian Day and Matthew Rainbolt had two each. Boren led the team with five assists, and Mitch Jones added four helpers.

Michael Allen was the team's top goalkeeper, making 78 saves while starting 11 of the 17 games.

# Going to extremes

*Whether running with passion,  
soaring through the sky or  
slicing through the water,  
these students have intriguing tales  
of lives filled with adventure.*

by CASEY NEESE

## Together in stride

**H**ANNA RITAKALLIO DID NOT have plans to return to the United States anytime soon. But an hour after arriving home to Finland in the summer of 2000 after a year at Tulane University in New Orleans, she was contacted about coming to Harding to run for the cross country and track teams. Two weeks later, assistant coach Olli Haavikko made her an offer she was unable to refuse.

"I needed a coach, and Olli agreed to coach me. He said the running conditions were good here," says Ritakallio, a junior health care management major. "Also, my credits from Tulane would transfer a lot easier to Harding than to a university in Finland."

A native of Finland and a professional athlete, Haavikko carries on a conversation with the same energy and enthusiasm he would bring to any athletic competition. Ritakallio, who had not even heard of Harding before, admits she was wary about returning to America, but says Haavikko made a good case for the University.

"My first reaction was, 'Here is a person who's full of energy,'" she says. "I trusted the things he had to say; he gave me a good feeling about this place."

The University also appealed to Ritakallio because it pro-

vided a place where she could excel in athletics, academics and her spiritual life.

"Before I came to Harding, I was having a hard time combining running, studies and my Christian life," she says. "I felt like God wanted me to be here."

As the only Finland natives on campus, the two had much in common. Their immediate friendship blossomed, and on Aug. 15, 2001, they married in Finland. Because the couple had to return to the United States days after their wedding, Ritakallio kept her maiden name to avoid passport complications; she plans to change it this summer.

Haavikko, a junior business management major, is certain he and Ritakallio competed in some of the same races in Finland; however, they did not meet face to face until Ritakallio arrived in August of 2000. Haavikko says the cross country program brought him and Ritakallio together, but insists he recruited her based solely on her athletic record.

Ritakallio's record speaks for itself. Before attending Tulane, she represented the Finnish national team in the 800-meter and 1,500-meter runs. Last year her track season performance left her ranked fourth in the NCAA Division II in both the 800- and 1,500-meter events.

Haavikko came to Searcy from Finland eight months before Ritakallio, in the spring of 2000. He had learned about Harding in Finland while attending the "Let's Start Talking"



Ollie Haavikko and Hanna Ritakallio

program, a course that teaches English using the Bible. Former University professor Arnold Pylkas, a missionary to Finland and one of the program's teachers, met him in the fall of 1999 and suggested Haavikko come to Harding to complete his degree and help coach the cross country and track teams.

"I'm just trying to help the team as much as I can," Haavikko says. "God has provided me with a talent, and it is my responsibility to use it."

This talent enabled Haavikko to spend six years as both a full-time triathlete in Finland, competing in swimming, running and bicycling; and a duathlete, competing in bicycling and running. He represented the Finnish junior national and men's national teams. At one point in his career, he was ranked the number one duathlete in the country and 69th in the world. When he was 20, Haavikko qualified for the Sydney 2000 program, which selected prospects for the summer Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia.

For now, Haavikko says he is enjoying his stint as assistant coach. Upon graduation, he and Ritakallio plan to stay somewhere in the United States and continue their involvement with running and helping others. Haavikko will pursue a master's degree, and Ritakallio would like to work with disabled individuals.

Haavikko and Ritakallio agree that having each other means that there is someone there who understands where the other is coming from.

"It is nice because we understand each other's backgrounds," Haavikko says. "I don't have to say, 'In Finland it looks like this...'"

Another benefit of their marriage — perhaps more important than a shared background, says Haavikko — is knowing what path his life will follow.

"For once, something is clear — for years my future has been foggy," he says. "I appreciate the stability [of marriage] and knowing what will happen." ❏

## Into thin air

SINCE I HAVE BEEN AT HARDING, some of my greatest adventures have started at 6 on a Saturday morning. It was not out of the ordinary, then, that on a foggy April weekend I was on the road before dawn, en route to Conway, Ark., with Nick Evans and Mike Patton. In my drowsy state I could not believe I was about to go skydiving.

For Mike, the thought of jumping out of an airplane, falling 12,000 feet, and returning to campus before our friends were even out of bed was not at all unusual. A former specialist with the U.S. Army 101st Airborne Infantry division, he had more

than 50 skydives or "jumps" under his belt before he came to the University in the spring of 1998.

Patton started skydiving on a whim while stationed at Fort Campbell, Ky., where he and his roommate saw a flyer advertising a free learn-to-skydive program for military personnel. After completing a rigorous series of night courses, which taught the basics of skydiving and repacking parachutes, he was ready to go. There is a fond look in his eyes when he reminisces about his first time in the wild blue yonder.

"When I was free-falling that first time, I thought it was the coolest thing in the world," he says. "I couldn't understand why everybody doesn't want to do this."

Patton, now a senior criminal justice major, was hooked. When he entered Harding, he immediately arranged to make skydiving his new hobby. The only thing that stood in his way was a lack of funds.

"I was at a cross roads — I had just bought a motorcycle, but I needed money to start jumping again," he says. "I decided to sell the bike and buy a parachute."

So for only \$1,200, Patton had all the gear he needed to become an avid skydiver. His mother, former assistant professor of nursing Charlotte Bradsher, was not a fan of his motorcycle. She was in for a real surprise when Mike told her his good news.

"When Mom found out I was selling the bike, she was so happy," Patton says. "Then I told her what I was buying with the money; she wished I had kept the bike instead."

Today, Patton jumps nearly every other weekend as long as the weather is warm, which usually means March through November. Since he owns his own equipment and is qualified to jump without an instructor, he pays the airplane owners only \$1 per thousand feet of altitude, or about \$13 each flight.

Skydiving is not for everyone, but enough of our friends had gone with Mike that the pressure was on for me to try it too. I'll never forget that Friday in April when, during lunch in the cafeteria, he popped the question.

"I'm going skydiving tomorrow morning. Are you guys in?" Since we had talked about going for months, Nick and I had

80-foot cliff at Searcy's Riverside Park. It seemed most of my Harding adventures happened as a direct result of Mike talking me into something.

My safety was only a minor concern as I made the decision to go. The seriousness of what I was about to do did not sink in until the door of our Cessna 182 flew open and Nick and his instructor silently rolled out into 12,000 feet of thin air.

Patton believes the safety measures taken by professional skydivers greatly reduce the chances of serious injury and quips that "you'd be more likely to get hurt driving to the airstrip than during the jump."

Though I doubted Mike's theory, I was convinced that skydiving could be a safe sport when I met the staff of Arkansas AeroSports. The pilots and flight instructors there carried themselves in a confident, professional manner that could calm even the most frantic first-timer.

"We're going to have so much fun," one of them said to me. "I'm so excited for you."

In the hanger we reviewed the procedure we would use for tandem jumping — a type of skydiving configuration where both the instructor and student are harnessed together at the hip and shoulders. We were also equipped with a secondary "reserve" parachute that would deploy if we experienced problems.

Once the airplane engines roared to life, the atmosphere in the hanger reached a fever pitch. I watched as Mike and the flight instructors darted about, excitedly putting on jumpsuits and double checking gear. They gleefully shared inside jokes and moments of fond recollection.

"Hey Mike, remember the time you got blown off course and you had to land in the middle of that herd of cows?" one skydiver shouted. "That was too funny."

I found myself in the middle of a group of enthusiasts who were about to do something they loved. It amazed me that these seasoned veterans were acting as if skydiving was a completely new experience. I understood their zeal, but I was too nervous to join in their excitement.

But once my instructor pushed us out of the airplane and tucked us into an aerial somersault, all my nervousness vanished. The experience (more a floating on air feeling than a falling sensation) was both breathtaking and exhilarating. I then understood why Mike loved jumping so much. I could now appreciate the comment he made in an e-mail one summer when weeks of dreary weather kept him from the sport he loved.

"When I'm not up there I don't feel right. I just sit around the house and act sort of depressed. I love to fly."

Weeks later, the topic of skydiving came up in conversation and I asked Mike if, after more than 100 jumps, he ever grew tired of doing the same thing every Saturday.

"Of course not," he said. "The boundaries of human flight are endless — it never gets old." ❏



Mike Patton

no choice but to say yes. Mike had officially talked me into jumping out of an airplane.

I thought back to the Thanksgiving break when he and I braved cold wind and a freezing river during a backpacking trip in the Arkansas Ozarks and the first time I went rappelling off of an





## Aiming for the Olympics

**S**OPHOMORE STEVE WORTHY DOES NOT remember when he first learned to swim — water sports have been a part of his life since he was born. ■ “I can’t remember a summer when I didn’t swim,” Worthy says. “I like anything that has to do with water.”

A love of the water is also a family tradition. Worthy and his family live on an island near San Francisco. His father, Steve, is employed in the merchant marine industry; and his older sisters, Heather ('01) and senior Allison, have both worked as lifeguards.

Worthy began swimming competitively at age 5, and at 11, he started training and competing with a local swimming club, the Terrapin Swim Team. Throughout high school, Worthy competed in swim meets and even played water polo for one year, but he had his sights set on something much bigger — the Olympics.

“There is no greater goal for a competitive swimmer,” he says. “If I were to go, I would be speechless.”

Training and competing with the Terrapins is taking Worthy closer to that goal. The team, which he describes as a “national powerhouse,” won the national championship in 1997 and in the summer of 2000 sent Worthy and 11 other team members to the Olympic trials.

Once at the trials, Worthy saw just how “intense” an Olympic-level swim meet can be. He says that though he was in the midst of some fierce competition, it was an enjoyable experience to cheer for friends and other swimmers.

“It’s the most intense meet I’ve been to. The swimmers there are very serious, and the crowd really gets into it,” he says. “But there is also a camaraderie because everyone there has the common goal of doing their best and going to the Olympics.”

Worthy, who as of this summer was ranked 20th in the nation in the 200-meter butterfly, admits that competing in front of more than 6,000 spectators was a nerve-wracking experience, but says the Olympic trials strengthened his resolve

to prepare for the next trials, scheduled for July 2004 at Long Beach, Calif.

“It was an awesome experience, but being at that meet made me realize how much harder I have to work,” he says.

Worthy, who transferred to the University this fall, is taking a break from competitive swimming. He plans to resume training at home with the Terrapins as soon as next year. Like a full-time job, his training will require that he be at the pool six hours a day, six days a week. A typical day includes weight training and practice for his swimming events: the 200-meter butterfly and the 400-meter individual medley (a combination of the butterfly, back, breast and freestyle strokes).

Just because Worthy is taking a break from training does not mean he has stopped swimming. He helps coach the Searcy Sharks, a youth swimming club. A kinesiology major, he would like to work as a swimming coach and physical education teacher after completing college.

A love of the water is not the only thing that runs in Worthy’s family — there is a tradition of athletic excellence as well. Worthy’s father is an avid cyclist who has made a number of cross-country cycling trips, most recently this summer’s journey from Minneapolis to New Orleans. Worthy’s cousin is a triathlete who is currently ranked 43rd in the world. But more important than an athletic tradition is the encouragement his family provides.

“My father is adamant about training,” he says. “My mother is a sort of support group, too.”

Having that support is helpful to Worthy as he looks toward more than two years of training.

Once at the Olympics, Worthy says, any U.S. swimmer has a good chance of earning a medal in his or her event. But regardless of where an athlete places, he says simply having the chance to represent your country would be an unforgettable experience.

“Of course a gold medal would be the icing on the cake, but medals don’t necessarily matter,” Worthy says. “Just going to the Olympics would make all the hard work worthwhile.” ■

# MAKING A WORLD OF *difference*

**T**HE LAND OF THE FREE, the home of the brave, one nation under God — dusty truths that have regained their shimmer since the horror of September 11. Alumni, students and faculty directly and indirectly involved in the aftermath give us a glimpse of how all things can work for good, for God is still in control and working through his people.

# DOUBLE VISION: IRBY SEES THE *best* AND *worst* OF THE WORLD



Darren Irby, Ted Koppel and Leslie VanSant gather after an ABC "Nightline" special on bioterrorism in September. Irby and VanSant coordinated the live segment from Red Cross headquarters in Washington, D.C.

**Y**OU MIGHT SAY that Darren Irby ('93) is stressed. With his pager constantly at his side along with his cell phone, Irby, the director of disaster communication for the American Red Cross, hasn't had much sleep lately. But then, neither have the 5,000 families he's working with in New York City and Washington D.C., nor the 30,000 Red Cross volunteers stationed there.

## ■ He'd like to be spending time with his bride of five months

right now, but that isn't an option because he's the American Red Cross national spokesperson for domestic and international disasters, and there's a story to tell. CNN, the "Today Show," the "Oprah Winfrey Show" and "Good Morning America" all want to talk to him, and each is interested in a different angle.

"When the *Wall Street Journal* calls, and right behind them is the "Today Show" — when what you say can affect the thoughts and actions of the American public — there's a big responsibility with that," says Irby.

But that's not his only responsibility. Irby also manages the internal communication of more than 1,000 Red Cross chapters across the nation and oversees work done at the Family Assistance and Respite Centers at Ground Zero.

"Our first priority is to make sure those individuals personally affected know how to receive Red Cross assistance," he says.

"We're the first to respond, and we stay with the families for as long as it takes. The

Red Cross' most important purpose is to comfort."

## No stranger to disasters

Irby has experienced the comfort of the Red Cross firsthand. When he was in second grade, his home in Mountain View, Ark., flooded. He spoke to a Red Cross case-worker at the disaster relief center, and they replaced his Cub Scout uniform. Years later, in the summer between his junior and senior years of college, he interned for the Little Rock, Ark., Red Cross chapter. Upon graduation he served as their director of communication for three years. During that time Irby worked several high profile disasters, including the tragic Oklahoma City bombing.

"I was 24 years old at Oklahoma," he says. "It was the best thing that could've happened for me professionally, but the worst personally because I don't know that I had the maturity to deal with what I saw, heard, smelled — it helped define how far I could go. I found out I'm a lot stronger than I ever



thought I was."

He found the strength to take the mandatory hourly briefings, the strength to face the rubble, and — digging a little deeper — the strength to face the families.

"I remember standing in a food line getting a piece of pie, talking to the man behind me, when I read his name badge. It said, 'John Smith,' and underneath it said, 'Melissa's dad.' That was the first time I put a name with a face of someone in the building.

"When you see the emotions of the families — that's the hardest part," says Irby.

It took a mere 10 days in Oklahoma to alter his priority base. Materialism fell away. New CD's didn't matter as much anymore, and people everywhere talked incessantly of seemingly unimportant things as he faced the "reality of normalcy" back at work in Little Rock.

## The spectrum of emotion

A little bit of "typical" would be welcome in Irby's D.C. and New York world right now. Though he is no stranger to disaster, the work is emotionally draining. And he's putting names with faces all over again.

Incomplete families cautiously slip into

the Family Assistance Center, bringing the missing member's toothbrush or hairbrush. A volunteer bags it, and they cry. A Red Cross worker meets them on their way out; they write a message to their loved one to leave on the wall of bears.

"It's a mechanism to heal, or hold on to hope, or to let go — seeing that brought the reality home to me," says Irby.

But the reality isn't necessarily the catalyst for emotion. Admits Irby, "The more disasters I've seen and responded to, the more I've built up my defenses. It's a fine line. You don't want to be too involved, or you break down and aren't effective. But you are a worker for humanitarian aid and have to be involved. We all know our own triggers and thresholds."

It was a message from his wife that eventually dissolved his defenses.

"I've had to keep it together and stay focused, but an e-mail from my wife with a personal message and some Bible verses — it was the first time I've actually broken down. It's hard to make sense of the tragedy."

## A silver lining

As an American and director of communication for Red Cross, Irby wades through the complexity of Sept. 11 on several levels.

"I work in D.C. The Pentagon is less than two miles from the office. There are the emotions you would have as a normal American mixed with the emotion that this is my job, and I'm trying to do my best just like I would at any job. Then there's the emotion that this is my job in the worst crisis. It's sort of overwhelming."

But there are still defining moments. Sitting in a cab with his head masked in his hands, he listened to the religious radio station to which the driver was tuned.

"The preacher said, 'You may be suffering, but remember God is hurting, too.' I took a lot of comfort in knowing that my emotions were the same as God's. It was exactly what I needed at that moment," says Irby.

His faith helps him deal with things he encounters on a daily basis; it also helps him see the positive.

"I know the work we do is so important. The Red Cross is the second most recognizable brand across the world, second only to the Olympic symbol. People are trusting us to do high capacity work. The work we're doing at Ground Zero is amazing, and the work at the Family Center is just beautiful.

"I see it as mission work. We're to translate the care and concern of the American people. I see the best and worst of the world in this work."

Letters and cards from children with money they've raised selling lemonade for the Red Cross are testimony of the best of our world, which is also revealed in the stories relief workers tell of the rallying support of the nation.

"People hold up signs at roadblocks that read, 'You're our hero,' and 'God Bless America,'" says Irby. "When all the emotions are bottled up and they are clapping and waving — seeing that support system saying, 'Thank you for what you're doing' — it's a powerful statement."

Those are the moments that form a silver lining around disaster. ■



Darren Irby and Red Cross disaster relief volunteer Anita Foster load supplies into a Red Cross emergency response vehicle following Tropical Storm Allison in Houston.

# REVERSING ROLES: WHEN THE *teacher* BECOMES THE *student*

**M**Y CLASSROOM RITUAL has been the same for 17 years. As each class period begins, I open the roll book and take attendance. I find that saying each person's name every day helps me learn names much faster. I also like it when my students answer "here." That word has a special meaning for all teachers, no matter how many times we hear it, because we know "here" really means "teach me." Darren Irby ('93) answered the roll in my class

many times while he was a student. Eight years later, when this student-turned-director of disaster communication for the American Red Cross called to ask me to come to Ground Zero to help with public affairs, I knew I was in for the experience of a lifetime. But I had no idea how much I would learn from watching Darren at work with the national media in the smoky ruins of the World Trade Center. I couldn't know that the student was about to become the teacher. In short, it was my turn to say "here."

My job as a public affairs technician at Ground Zero in early October started with a daily 7:15 a.m. staff meeting where about 20 public affairs specialists discussed the Red Cross media niche for the day, anticipating problems and proposing, or "pitching," stories that might be of interest to local and national media. While I was in New York, I watched the news cycle shift away from Ground Zero, to the first air strikes in Afghanistan, to the early anthrax stories. However, my focus for the next eight days would be Ground Zero.

## Meeting with the media

Because most of the financial district of

lower Manhattan was still behind barricades, the media had no direct access to Ground Zero or any of the workers involved in the rescue and cleanup efforts. Media requests for information were channeled through Red Cross public affairs. I worked to meet media requests for facts or for sources to interview for stories. One minute found me helping a writer from *Redbook* magazine in her quest to interview a female rescue worker who had left children and a husband at home to come work in New York, while the next minute found me providing statistics to WNYC on the number of pairs of boots the Red Cross had given away to workers whose own boots were melting off their feet as they worked in the fiery rubble.

As the news interest shifted away from Ground Zero to stories about anthrax, my job changed, too. I was assigned to look for feature stories about rescue workers and volunteers who might interest local "back home" media. I talked to volunteers who had flown in from across the world to work in the respite centers at Ground Zero. These Red Cross facilities, my "office" for eight days, provided food and supplies for the res-



A reporter questions Darren Irby, and Dr. Jack Shock listens as his former student directs public affairs at Ground Zero for the American Red Cross.

Principles of Public Relations class via speakerphone. I loved being able to share with my students what I was seeing and doing. The 1,200 miles that separated us evaporated as technology transported me back to my classroom for 45 minutes. Their questions and eagerness to learn were a real blessing and made me remember why I love being a teacher. I was also very grateful for the assurance of their prayers for my safety and well-being.

Weeks later, I look back on my work at Ground Zero and feel a wide range of emotions. Those eight days were terrible and wonderful all at the same time. I learned as much in those eight days as I learned in years of graduate school. And one of the most important lessons was unexpected. I learned how a teacher becomes the student.

In the middle of all the hubbub, I got to stand back and watch a man I remember as a 19-year-old now very capably directing the national media operations at the center of the biggest news story in the world. I watched Darren handle calls from pushy reporters, treating them firmly but fairly. I watched Darren ferret out the best stories, instinctively zeroing in on a compassionate story that needed to be told. I watched Darren talk to a Red Cross volunteer who was too shaken from his experiences at Ground Zero to fly back home on an airplane, comforting him and helping him work through his conflicted emotions. I watched, and I learned.

Now I'm back at Harding calling roll every day. The classroom is a comfortable place for me; it's where I belong. But I'm already looking forward to that day when another former student will call. And when that happens, I hope I'll be able to say "here." ■

cue workers. A glance at my reporter's notebook shows that in one 24-hour period the Red Cross served 24,000 meals to workers at the two respite centers at Ground Zero and as of that date, had given away 16,000 pairs of boots.

## University setting

One of the respite centers had been the student union for a branch of St. John's University. I felt strangely at home working in a university facility, but I also felt uneasy seeing an academic building surrounded by the National Guard. I shuddered when I saw the Red Cross banners and American flags covering signs directing students to the registrar's office. Classrooms were turned into makeshift dormitories that slept as many as 250 rescue workers each night. Red Cross volunteers made up each cot with fresh linens and a pillow topped with a

"Dear Hero" letter from a child, a piece of candy and a teddy bear. All of these visual reminders pounded home a message — the St. John's students had been there one day, and we were there the next. And just outside the door was a mass grave containing 5,000 bodies.

The best stories came from the firemen. Everything I had read about their courage and humility was true. Some had not been home since the attacks three weeks earlier. It was such a privilege to be talking to the very men who were running up into the burning World Trade Center while everyone else was running down the stairs to the safety of the streets.

## Teaching with technology

One afternoon I managed to find an electrical closet where I could escape the chaos and use my cell phone to teach my

by APRIL MOUSER

photography by JEFF MONTGOMERY

# DARDEN PREPARES TO HELP MAINTAIN

# world peace

**L**IKE MOST AMERICANS, 20-year-old Jason Darden will always remember where he was and what he was doing when he heard a plane had crashed into the World Trade Center. ■ On that morning, he was in his dorm room preparing for chapel. But while the majority of citizens have followed the recommendation of the president to proceed with life as usual, Darden's daily routine — once dictated by class schedules and football team practice

— has changed completely and will remain altered for at least the next six months.

Spc. Darden, a member of the Arkansas National Guard's 2nd Battalion, 153rd Infantry, 39th Brigade, was called to active duty in October. He went with his battalion to Fort Carson, Colo., for training and is scheduled to leave for Egypt's Sinai Peninsula this month to help enforce a 1979 peace agreement between Israel and Egypt.

Says Darden of the recent whirlwind of events, "I turned the TV on and saw the plane crash into the second Twin Tower, and from that point on my life has been changing."

## A family affair

Darden enlisted in the Army National Guard when he was only 17 and a junior in high school. The oldest of six children and the son of an Army ranger, it was basically a given that the military would be part of his life. "At first I didn't want to have anything to do with it," he says. "My dad forced me to get some recruiting information."

"But when I joined, the Army was second nature. I'm an Army brat; my dad's an air-

borne ranger, so I'm a soldier at heart."

His father's experience has been a comfort to Darden. "My dad says, 'When they shoot, duck.' He's been calling me every day, telling me everything I need to do. I just listen to my dad."

Though military service abroad is nothing new in the Darden household — his father's commitments have taken him to Desert Storm and Bosnia — it hasn't been as easy on his mother. "My mom's crying and worrying," he says, attempting to downplay the implications of his assignment.

His Harding family shed some tears as well. On the one-month anniversary of the attacks, Darden, an electronic media major, told the chapel audience, "I'm a junior here at Harding, and I'm also a soldier in the U.S. National Guard."

It's a dichotomy not lost on the student body. "When this happened, people I've

never met before came up to me crying," he says. "Prayer groups have been formed. It's been a blessing. I know I'll be all right, because so many people are praying for me."

Students also organized a send-off the morning of his departure to Colorado. "I wish I could go to each person who has been thinking and praying about me and give them a hug and tell them not to worry too much," he says.

## An offer too good to refuse

Before Sept. 11, Darden himself had never really worried about — or even spent much time contemplating — being called to active duty. He enlisted because the promise of money for college, job stability and an early retirement (he's eligible at age 38), combined with the fact that it was peacetime, resulted in an offer he could not refuse. "At the time, I figured there was

about a five percent chance of me actually having to go to war."

While at Harding, he only had to serve the first weekend of the month, from 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday. A member of the Bison football team, during the season he could make up the time missed at his convenience in the course of the following week. "It has never been a big part of my life," he says of the Army.

Even in the weeks that followed the attack, the idea of leaving the state, let alone the country, was far from his thoughts. "I'm in the National Guard, I didn't think I'd get called in; I thought Arkansas would be last to get called up. I thought we might be out at the [Little Rock] airport."

But Darden knows he has a duty to fulfill. Because he is a student and in the ROTC, he could have avoided this assignment. "I could have easily gotten out of it,"

he says. "But I feel like I'd be cheating my buddies here. I'm ready to get down there."

## The end of innocence

Such anticipation reveals a certain amount of naiveté common to this generation of college students who have never before had a cause around which to rally. Sept. 11 has become a defining moment for them, similar to what World War II and Vietnam mean to their grandparents and parents.

As Darden recalls the day, "My best friend Josh Davidson came and knocked on the door. I was brushing my teeth, getting ready for chapel. He said, 'You're about to go to war.' I didn't believe this would ever happen in the United States or affect me."

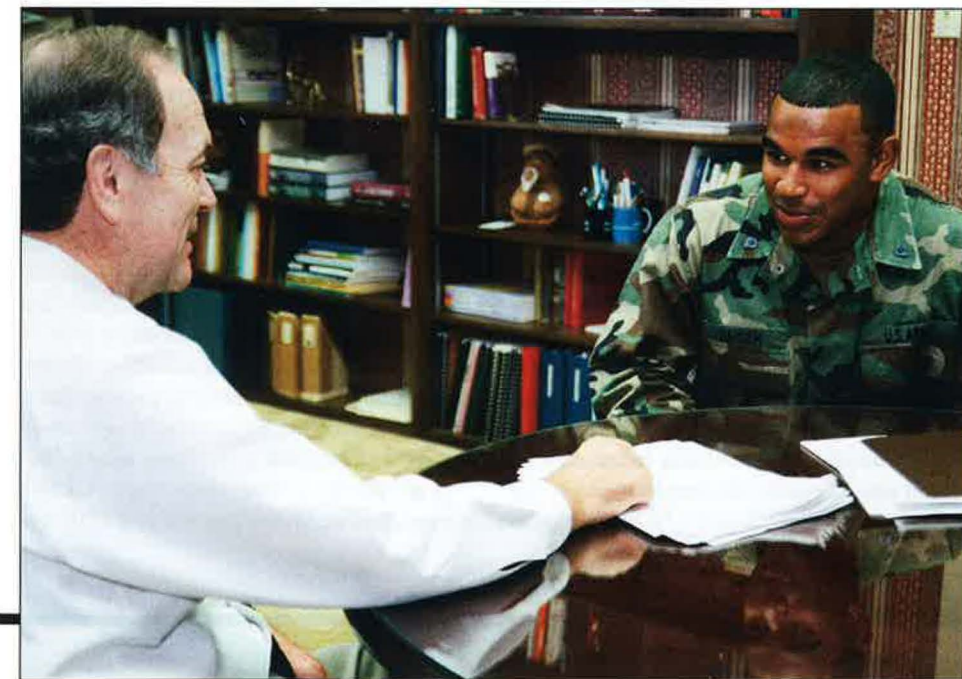
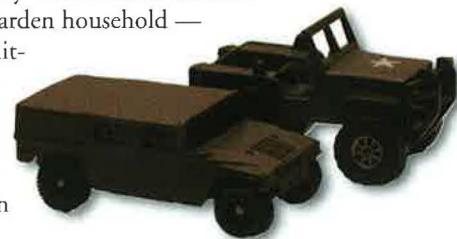
But the reality of his assignment as a result of the attacks has put things into perspective: "My time at Harding is what I've taken for granted most," he says. "I thought, 'I can relax, take my time as a student.' Now I realize school is just a part of life. For a minute it was everything."

Darden told his friends that he would be back for the fall semester. Now he's relying on prayers and his faith in God to deliver him through the upcoming months.

He was allowed three bags for his nine-month assignment: one for his Army gear, one for his civilian clothing, and one for personal items. The third bag contains his Bible and some paper and pens. "That's so I can write people and my Mom," he says. "Those are the only things I need." ■



Jason Darden



Dr. Dean Priest, vice president for academic affairs, helps Jason Darden get his academic matters in order before he departs for military deployment.

# HIS DREAM TAKES *flight*

**A**IRPLANES HAVE FILTERED into American Airlines pilot Max Hendrix's life from the time he was a young boy growing up on a farm in Antoine, Ark. He remembers the fighter jets from the nearby Air Force training base that swooped down and almost knocked him off his tractor, as well as the crop dusters whose spray resembled a large dragnet pulling through the fields. ■ He also remembers his first trip to

the sky. He was 8 years old when a cousin took him for an unforgettable 20-minute ride in his training plane on a Sunday afternoon.

"It was wonderful," says Hendrix, whose enthusiasm for aviation had budded.

## An indirect route

While Hendrix had dreams of someday owning a crop duster for the family farm, his father insisted he earn a college degree. He came to Harding in the fall of 1978, from a graduating class of 13, with no major and only a slight interest in business. It was an interest that dissolved completely at the Searcy Municipal Airport when Hendrix, then a sophomore, showed up for beginner flight lessons and met Dr. Ganus' pilot, David Ridings, and Dr. Benson's pilot, Wayman Pierson.

"Wayman was the guy who really influenced me to do more than crop dusting," says Hendrix. "I didn't have any idea that I could ever rise to being an airline pilot, but Wayman said, 'Well sure you can. Those guys are not rocket scientists or anything;

they just have experience and training.'

"Once I was exposed to that possibility and knew I could do more than crop dusting, it became something that I really wanted to do."

That's why, much to Ridings' and Pierson's dismay, Hendrix transferred to Henderson State University his junior year, where he could not only attend flight school, but also earn college credit for it. Hendrix needed those credits because school was not really his thing. In fact, after two years — three courses short of a degree — he left Henderson, married and started working.

But, feeling that he had disappointed his parents by not finishing college, Hendrix returned to Henderson to complete the algebra, trigonometry and physics courses he had strategically avoided. When he graduated, seven years after beginning his studies, his father-in-law gave him a trophy.

"It was a memorable moment," he says.



Piloting for American Airlines is a long way from Max Hendrix's original dream of flying a crop duster.

## Building a career

Graduation was a substantial achievement for Hendrix, but it was by no means the culmination of his success. After qualifying for a pilot's license, which requires 40 hours of flight time; completing a check ride with an FAA instructor; and taking a comprehensive test, he flew for small commuters several years, gaining experience before applying at American Airlines. At American, he has worked his way up from a first officer on small planes, to a first officer on the massive international-destination planes, to a captain of the McDonnell Douglas MD80s. He eagerly anticipates the day when he will return to the international division as a captain.

Seniority is the name of the game at American, where, as with all airlines, company loyalty determines privileges — namely the pilots' vacations, schedules and piece of equipment. Each month Hendrix bids for his work schedule with the other pilots of his rank, and once a year, he bids for his two-week vacation — not exactly the romanticized version of a pilot's life.

And while 80 hours of flight time per month, countless hours spent in cities and hotel rooms a long way from home, and missed birthdays and holidays don't add up to the most ideal job, piloting does have its perks. For one, retirement is mandatory at age 60. There are also the free flights —

pending availability; and, of course, there's the luxury of knowing the reasons for delays — a benefit Hendrix reluctantly gives up when he boards as a passenger.

"It's weird to be just another passenger, not a cog in this wheel making anything happen. As a passenger, you have no understanding of what's going on, and there is no way to find out," says Hendrix.

He prefers to be in the cockpit, manning the controls. In fact, Hendrix says medical problems are the only reason he would discontinue his career as a pilot.

"You can only be a pilot if you are in good health," he says. "You have to pass the medical exam every six months."

## New York frame of mind

Not even the recent New York disasters have deterred Hendrix's commitment as a captain, although they have altered his perception of aviation.

"I have to realize now that people may just want an airplane as a weapon. They may not even have demands; they may just kill the cockpit crew."

It's a fact that all Americans face, especially when they travel. Hendrix has noticed that a different mood pervades airports now. There's an element of fear, an underlying apprehension and distrust. His passengers are more prone to look him in the eye as they board, and while disembarking, they

more routinely express their appreciation.

"More people are shaking my hand and saying, 'Thanks for getting us here.' They realize and I realize that we are all a family up there at 37,000 feet," he says.

Though Hendrix was resting at home in Arlington, Texas, on Sept. 11, his route does include New York. "My first officer and I were at New York's LaGuardia Airport on Sept. 2, and we went up to the air traffic control tower to talk to the air traffic controllers about what makes their job easier and what makes our job easier. It was a gorgeous Sunday afternoon in Manhattan.

"It's hard to believe that only a few days later those buildings are down. That beautiful Sunday afternoon picture in my mind is the way I want to remember New York City."

## Road travel

Hendrix has always been drawn to the scenic; which is why, when he isn't flying across the country, he is usually traversing it on his motorcycle. A member of the Honda Sport-Touring Association, he finds the freedom and adrenaline of touring magnetic.

"I enjoy seeing the country," he says. "I like changing course in the middle of a ride; I've been all over California, Montana, Wyoming, Idaho and the East Coast. You don't see the country when you fly over it."

For Hendrix, motorcycling is a means to adventure, offering the flexibility of uncharted courses. And while uncharted courses are a liberty missing from his professional life, this self-described country boy sustains his enthusiasm for aviation, for he has always known the truth of American's slogan: "There's something special in the air." ■

# THREE NEW DIPLOMATS BEGIN CAREERS OF *service*

**I**N THE WAKE OF THE EVENTS of Sept. 11, foreign affairs have gained unprecedented attention. But three alumni valued the importance of diplomacy and international relations long before the attacks on America. ■ Mark Cross ('98), Dana Deree ('93) and Leah Pease ('97) are concluding training and making the final preparations for a process that began in 1999. This spring they will move to their assigned countries — Venezuela for Cross and Pease, and England for Deree — to begin their first two-year term serving as foreign service officers.

"Our foreign service colleagues have marveled at the fact that a small school in Arkansas has three representatives in our class," Deree says. "Each year more than 20,000 people apply, but only about 250 are hired."

### Renaissance men and women

Pease says diplomats, whom she defines in general as anyone providing government representation abroad, "have to really be 'Renaissance men and women,' able to function effectively and get the job done in a wide variety of situations and often under extreme circumstances."

According to the Department of State's Web site, the organization's "highest priority is to protect American citizens resident or traveling abroad. Consular officers take the lead responsibility for fulfilling this responsibility. Vital members of the embassy foreign policy team, consular officers encounter more citizens of a country on a daily basis than anyone else in the embassy or mission."

A consular officer's job is two-fold: One,

they interview foreign nationals seeking immigrant and non-immigrant visas; and two, they work with American Citizen Services (ACS), assisting U.S. citizens traveling or living in the country where they serve. Deree explains, "ACS includes relatively minor things like getting new passports for people when theirs are stolen, all the way up to more important tasks such as evacuating Americans during a civil war or working to ensure the rights of Americans who have been accused of crimes abroad."

This has special meaning for Cross, who once came "within a few feet" of needing direct assistance of a consular officer in Matamoros, Mexico.

"Luckily, I was on the Brownsville, Texas, side of the border, and now, I am going to be the consular officer instead."



New foreign service officers Mark Cross, Dana Deree and Leah Pease will soon begin careers as diplomats in England and Venezuela. Secretary of State Colin Powell gave the keynote address at their swearing in ceremony.

### Solid foundations

All three have demonstrable interest and experience in the international scene. Says Deree, "I have been interested in foreign affairs since I took Mark Elrod's international relations class in 1988." Deree was later a public relations specialist in the Naval Reserve, which took him to Bahrain. He is also a Desert Storm combat veteran of the Marine Corps. For the last six years he has been teaching in the Arkansas public schools.

Pease was an exchange student in high school to Costa Rica; went on two University-sponsored campaigns to Venezuela; spent a semester at the campus in Florence, Italy; and served as a State Department intern at the U.S. embassy in San Salvador, El Salvador. She also taught high school Spanish for two years at Westbury Christian School in Houston.

Cross participated in one of the same campaigns to Venezuela as Pease. After graduating from Harding, he concentrated on international and immigration law at the University of Houston and later studied in Florence through Georgetown University Law Center.

### Direct purpose

Another commonality among the three is their resolve. Deree, for example, was not immediately accepted when he applied for the position. But he didn't give up. "I'm not embarrassed to say that it took me three tries over eight years," he says.

The events surrounding Sept. 11 did not dissuade them either. Says Cross, "Our first day was Sept. 10. I think our entire class rethought our job." However, every one of the 98 class members returned on the 12th

after being evacuated the previous day. "Yes, it makes us more concerned about security, but it also gives our job more significance," he says. "We now have a directed purpose wherever we are going."

Cross and Pease are both going to Caracas, Venezuela, their first and fourth choices, respectively. Deree was assigned a post in London, his top choice — this time.

"A policy called 'equity' means that those of us going to places like London, Rome and Paris will likely get much less pleasant places in two years," he says.

The State Department calls them "hardship" posts and says it is an "absolute requirement" that applicants be willing and able to live and work anywhere in the world, including places where medical facilities may be limited and diseases such as AIDS may be at epidemic proportions, governments may be unstable or corrupt, and climates may be harsh.

Of course, as Deree points out, it's all relative. "Some people think any place without a Wal-Mart is a 'hardship.'"

Candidates are asked to consider all such possibilities before even taking the first step — registering for the written exam. "I am not too concerned about physical danger and/or health hazards," Cross says. "I am probably safer in Caracas than in Washington, D.C. There are new concerns regarding terrorism and the greater threat it has become to the United States, but there is a threat driving down the street in Searcy. I might as well be doing something that I love."

Pease agrees, saying, "Honestly, I'm not too worried. I do realize that as a U.S. diplomat, I will be somewhat of a target. How-

ever, you cannot live your life in fear. If anything, all the recent occurrences should teach us not only about the brevity of life, but that even in the United States unexpected things can happen."

### Family values

While Cross and Pease have only themselves to be concerned about, Deree has a wife, Stephanie, and 2-year-old son, Truman. But he has only positive expectations for the experience. He says of Stephanie, "She is excited about traveling the world and looks forward to not having to work so she can spend more time with our son." Of Truman, he says, "I look forward to him seeing the world as he grows up. The Foreign Service will pay for him to go to school in the countries where we are serving."

Cross says he would not opt for a different career simply because a wife and children entered the picture. "For me, it would be more difficult to be stuck in a single place my entire life with a family than to travel my entire life with one. Statistics show that diplomats who have families are much stronger and have a lower divorce rate than the average American — much lower than lawyers, who have the highest divorce rate of any profession."

Family is important to all three, who agree that is what they'll miss the most. For now, however, the excitement that awaits them as they begin new careers is at the forefront of all of their minds. As Pease sums it up, "We're being paid to serve and represent our country all over the world, to learn new languages and cultures, and to see the beauty that this world has to offer." ■



by JAMIE LOCKWOOD

# THE RISING TIDE OF NEWS

**G**INGER BLACKSTONE ('91) LOVES the energy of the news business and the challenges it offers — two factors that fasten her to a job with unpredictable and long hours as producer for CNN Headline News. ■ On a typical day, Blackstone arrives at work by 3:30 a.m. to either line produce the 9, 10 and 11 a.m. half hours, check on crew availability, work with national and international desks in the CNN-USA main newsroom, or coordinate live shots for Headline's 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. newscasts. "Producing is a very

busy, comprehensive job," she says.

And if her schedule wasn't crazy enough before the events of and following Sept. 11, it is now.

Having worked the previous weekend, Blackstone was at home on Sept. 11 when a friend from CNN called to tell her to turn on her television. "I was glued to every word for hours. I looked up and it was 3:30 in the afternoon," says Blackstone. "I was amazed I had not been called into work, but Headline News had decided to simulcast CNN's programming. I think that was a smart decision because Headline News' forte is telling the news in short form. This was no time for short-form stories."

Though she had not been called in immediately, Blackstone was assigned to a news relief team and put on 24-hour call. Work went from frantic to even more frantic. "Before Sept. 11, we were scraping around for content to fill our newscasts. Now there is so much material we don't know what to kill out of our shows," she says. "Americans are feeling threatened, and they want to know what steps our government is taking to make things right again." Blackstone believes it would be irresponsible not to report on these developments.

So she and other CNN employees are working diligently to meet the added media demands stemming from the war on terrorism. "We've all put in a lot of extra time; the days are long. The management pressure is strong. A lot of tempers have flared, and we've all eaten way too much pizza and donuts. That's what CNN

feeds us when we're in crisis mode," says Blackstone.

Ratings are through the roof, though — proof that their hard work is paying off and a small piece of validation for the soaring stress levels. And while "intense" offers a fair description of Blackstone's schedule right now, the events of Sept. 11 have also affected her on a more personal level. "The magnitude of Sept. 11 didn't quite sink in — until Oct. 11, when all the one-month memorials were held for the victims. The despair on the faces of the families hit me hard.

"I found myself feeling quite alone, and it made me want to re-evaluate my priorities. It is at these times I find regular exercise and a personal relationship with God so invaluable."

Despite the stresses of her fast-paced career, Blackstone enjoys her work. She knows the best news stories are the ones "that touch us in some way, add a new perspective to an issue, or put us in the shoes of those directly affected by a situation," and she works to program for her audience. "I like to think that what I'm doing makes a difference — that there's value in informing people about the happenings of the world," she says. "The most important thing I do as a producer is inform, educate and whet people's curiosity about the world they live in." ■



Submit your alumni news to "Connections," Harding University Office of Alumni Relations, Box 10768, Searcy, AR 72149-0001; or by e-mail to alumni-news@harding.edu. To subscribe to the weekly e-mail listserv Alumni Digest, send message to subscribe, including your name and class year, to alumni-list@harding.edu. You may post messages to the Digest at the same address.

'42 **Platinum Circle Reunion at Homecoming 2002**

'52 **Golden Circle Reunion at Homecoming 2002**

'57 **Reunion at Homecoming 2002**

'62 **Reunion at Homecoming 2002**  
Pat Street Shurley has been elected as the first woman in the western hemisphere to sit on the board of directors of Lions Clubs International. She will speak to Lions clubs across North America and Canada. She has two children. (900 Brett Drive, Edmond, OK 73013)

'64 **Leighton Waters** is assistant regional administrator for U.S. General Services Administration. He was awarded the Presidential Rank Award, Meritorious Executive, 2001. He and his wife, Cynthia, have three children, all Harding graduates. (2413 Ingle-side, Grand Prairie, TX 75050)

'66 **Bryan Hale** has been accepted as a professional member of the National Speakers Association. He was selected as presenter at nearly 180 events in 40 states, Puerto Rico and Canada during the last year. (2402 Via Bonita, Carrollton, TX 75006)

'67 **Reunion at Homecoming 2002**

'68 **Terry Pace** retired from the Social Security Administration after 27 years of service. He now travels with the Sojourners. (9508 E. Lake Road, Otisville, MI 48463)

'69 **Brenda Berryman** is manager for Watch Station International (2170 S. Berkey Southern Road, Lot 118, Swanton, OH 43558)

**Terry Morgan Johnson** is a seventh- and eighth-grade English teacher and elementary librarian for Biggers-Reyno School District where she was named Elementary Teacher of the Year. (103 CR1412, Corn-ing, AR 72422)

**Donald Sinquefield** is a realtor with Century 21. He and his wife, Patty, married Jan. 7, 2000. (15008 Jack Crabtree Road, Bentonville, AR 72712)

'72 **Reunion at Homecoming 2002**  
**Mitch Grubb** teaches middle school social studies and is technology director at Arlington Christian School in Fairburn, Ga. His wife, the former **Martha Myers** ('78),

teaches secondary math there. They have three children. (6069 Dorsett Shoals Road, Douglasville, GA 30135)

'73 **Kay Patton Felker** teaches kindergarten for Dallas Schools. She also is a math consultant for Everyday Learning Corp. and does training workshops for teachers. She and her husband, **Tony**, have two children. (2705 Biloxi Lane, Mesquite, TX 75150)

**Libby Reel** is news director for WKTS. (1210 N. Kentucky St., Kingston, TN 37663)

'74 **Debby Dillard Hewitt** completed the educational doctorate in higher education from Texas A & M University. She is a professor of math at McLennan Community College in Waco. She and her husband, **John**, have two sons. (908 Dogwood, Waco, TX 76706)

'75 **Ann Hopwood Thompson** is a nuclear medicine technologist with Cardiology Associates of Corpus Christi, Texas. She and her husband, **Gary**, have two children. (306 Terlingua Drive, Portland, TX 78374)

'76 **Curtis Parker** is the direc-

tor of administrative services for Guardsmark Inc. He and his wife, the former **Carol Campbell**, have two children. (5470 Pipers Gap, Memphis, TN 38134)

**Larry Wilson** is director of human resources at the University of Texas in Dallas. His wife, the former **Evelyn Garton**, teaches kindergarten at Aldridge Elementary in Plano. They have two children. (2413 Piedra Drive, Plano, TX 75023)

'77 **Reunion at Homecoming 2002**

'78 **Tim Swain** is a licensed, clinical social worker and coordinator of day treatment for Wabash Valley Hospital outpatient services in Crawfordsville, Ind. (6809 West, 700 South, Colfax, IN 46035)

**David Thomason** is a program manager for Boeing's Commercial Space Station Group. He has also been elected to the board of directors for Destination ImagiNation, a creative problem-solving program for kindergarten through university level. David and his wife, **Marlene**, have three children. (147 Raleigh Way, Huntsville, AL 35811)

'79 **Lila Richards Mauldin** is an early childhood teacher for Stark County Educational Services Center. She and her husband, **Jim**, have two sons. (1889 Federal Ave., Alliance, OH 44601)

**Stewart Ogilvie** is a production manager for California Closet Co. He and his wife, **Catherine**, have two sons. (822 Chandler Drive, Lawrenceville, GA 30044)

'80 **Richard Dull** is an assistant professor of accounting at Clemson University. He and his wife, **Susan**, adopted two daughters from Romania. (13 Woodbridge Court, Anderson, SC 29621)

**Mark Kirk** is a senior vice president and partner for Linsalata Capital Partners, a Cleveland-based private equity firm. He and his wife, the former **Robin Bales**, have three children. (6330 Lost Woods Lane, Hudson, OH 44236)

'81 **Susan Moore Garoutte**,

## ALUMNI PROFILE

### Alesa Thompson Garner ('78)

#### Former breast cancer patient helps others fight for their lives

**L**ITTLE ROCK, ARK., native Alesa Thompson Garner has learned three things from her recent battle with breast cancer: don't be afraid, because perfect love casts out fear; be willing to take risks; and enjoy every sunrise and sunset. It is these lessons she shares with the women who walk into her office every day at St. Vincent Hospital's New Outlook program.

Garner is the only paid staff member at New Outlook, a five-year-old program designed by cancer survivors to offer women with cancer a full range of supportive, non-medical services to strengthen the whole woman. When women come to New Outlook, they receive a makeup consultation, wig,

hat, mastectomy bra and prosthesis, and perhaps most importantly, the opportunity to talk with someone who understands. Garner believes her own experience with cancer helps her relationship with patients. "It makes a difference for someone who's



having a really hard time in how they open up — not to say a non-cancer volunteer isn't effective," says Garner. In fact, New Outlook is carried on by hundreds of non-cancer volunteers who do everything from visit patients to sew hats. "There is

not an act of service too small when you are helping someone with cancer," she says.

Everything from notes to freezable meals are positive ways to help, but according to Garner, attending a support group with a friend who has cancer has long-term benefits. "Scientifically and besides chemotherapy, the best thing someone with cancer or a history of cancer can do is get involved in a support group. It's where you find out you're normal."

That's why, in addition to her office work with New Outlook, Garner travels to towns across Arkansas to start weekly support groups for cancer patients and survivors. She also gives breast cancer awareness seminars in high schools, hosts "lunch and

learns" that provide information on new cancer research, works closely with the annual Komen Race, and attempts to secure funding for post-diagnostic program development. "There is no typical day here," she says. "We help about 150 women a month, and some days I may see 12, and some days I may not see anyone. I just have to go with the flow."

And while she is working more hours for less pay since taking the position with New Outlook, Garner says it's the best thing she's ever done. "Tears to smiles — that's the rewarding part of what I do. That and getting to be the face of hope. It's like the MasterCard commercial," says Garner. "Time spent here — invaluable." ■

— Jamie Lockwood



human resource specialist for CSSA, received her master's in human resource development from Webster University and passed the professional in human resource certification exam. She and her husband, Dennis, have two children. (26 Gum St., Cabot, AR 72023.)

**Kelly Kemp** has joined the Export-Import Bank of the United States after 20 years with Halliburton Co. His wife, the former **Lee Ann Jones**, owns and operates Kellee's Custom Window Coverings. They have two children. (21431 Park Willow Drive, Katy, TX 77450)

**Clark Roush** was promoted to professor of music and serves as chair of the music department at York College, where he conducts the college choir. He also serves as a guest adjudicator, conductor and clinician. He and his wife, the former **Sue Morris**, have two sons. (525 Ohio Ave., York, NE 68467)

**'82 Reunion at Homecoming 2002** **Charles Savage** performed several of his compositions at the Algonquin meeting held at the Ohio University in Zanesville, where he serves as adjunct instructor of music. His composition, "Larghetto," was published in the annual *Algonquin* magazine. He also was guest lecturer at a colloquium in Zanesville on "Creativity and the Composer." (110 Parkwood Ave., S. Zanesville, OH 43701)

**'83 Terri Martin Himelrick** is a registered nurse working as case manager for Crossroads Hospice of Tennessee. She and her husband, **Eric** ('84), have two children. (7086 Oak Acres Lane, Bartlett, TN 38135)

**'84 Kim Hart Allen** is a visiting lecturer at the University of North Carolina, where she teaches for the math department. Her husband, **Steve** ('83), is owner of H2O Plumbing. They have two children. (1700 Union Road, Matthews, NC 28104)

**Barry Fisk** is a regional sale manager for PeopleSoft. He and his wife, **Jill**, have three children. (767 S. Middleton Ave., Palatine, IL 60067)

**'85 LeAnn Pendergrass Hernandez** is a secretary in the finance office at Harding. She has two daughters. (2209 Highway 16, Searcy, AR 72143)

**Mark Weeks** is senior vice president and controller for Caremark RX. He and his wife, the former **Stacy Sizemore** ('86), have three children. (1113 Jessica Lane, Libertyville, IL 60048)

**'86 Glenn Lance** is a dentist. He and his wife, the former **Cyn-**

**thia Garner** ('83), have three children. (155 Pump Spring, Nashville, AR 71852)

**'87 Reunion at Homecoming 2002** **David Kent** is a partner with Clearview Management Consultants. He and his wife, **Susie**, have two children. (1433 Glasgow Lane, Keller, TX 76248)

**'88 Kevin White** is a special agent for the FBI. He and his wife, **Chana**, have three daughters. (613 N. Aster Place, Broken Arrow, OK 74012)

**'89 Carl Weller** was promoted to manager in the Blue Cross Blue Shield of South Carolina government programs division. He and his wife, the former **Carron Keith** ('85), have a son. (127 Willow Oak Drive, Columbia, SC 29223)

**Randy Woodall** is a special agent for the FBI. His wife, the former **Nancy Cope**, is a business education teacher for Carterville High School. They have three children. (103 S. Greenbriar Road, Carterville, IL 62918)

**'91 Jennifer Sharp** is human resources director for Asbury Automotive Arkansas. (1801 Champlin Drive, #912, Little Rock, AR 72223)

**'92 Reunion at Homecoming 2002** **Lorrie Chafin** completed a master of arts in community counseling from Southeast Missouri State University and is a counselor for the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation for the state of Missouri. (P.O. Box 4105, Poplar Bluff, MO 63902)

**Marsha Vaughn** completed her doctorate in marriage and family therapy at Texas Tech University. She is assistant professor of psychology at Judson College. (1151 N. State St., #3, Elgin, IL 60123)

**'93 Carrie Blodgett** is a special education teacher with the Evergreen School District. (2007 Daniels St., Vancouver, WA 98660)

**Rich Reaves** is associate minister for Gulf Coast Church of Christ in Fort Myers, Fla. He and his wife, the former **Leigh Brooks**, have a daughter. (5248 Chiquita Blvd. S., Cape Coral, FL 33914)

**'94 Tania Elzy Davis** is a residence life coordinator at Harding. She and her husband, **Kevin**, have adopted two daughters. (Harding University, Box 10780, Searcy, AR 72149-0001)

**Renee Alley French** is a cheerleading and dance instructor and choreographer at Cheers Cheerleading Gym. She is also the cheerleading adviser at Lipscomb

University. Her husband, **Paul** ('93), works for Benefit Consultants Inc. (920 Harpeth Bend Drive, Nashville, TN 37221)

**Pearl Parsons** has completed her master's in education and is assistant director of admissions for Cascade College. (2119 S.E. 122nd, #201, Portland, OR 97233)

**Rich Ross** is senior editor for *Winercomm*, editing shows for ESPN and national TV commercials. (7821 S. Memorial Drive, #6206, Tulsa, OK 74133)

**Brad Willis** is a salesman for Glass Financial Group. He and his wife, **Melissa**, have two daughters. (5542 Knox Place N.W., Norcross, GA 30092)

**'96 Jeremy Downie** is a network engineer for Cable & Wireless in Vienna, Va. His wife, the

former **Lisa Grove** ('97), teaches physical education at Williamsport High School and is a personal trainer and fitness instructor. (9918 Stephanie Lane, Hagerstown, MD 21740)

**Clint Singer** is a landscape designer/nurseryman at The Good Earth. He and his wife, **Shannon**, have a son (2910 E. Moore St., #127, Searcy, AR 72143)

**Stuart Spencer** is a judicial law clerk for Pulaski County Circuit Court. (2100 Rebsamen Park Road, #114, Little Rock, AR 72202)

**'97 Reunion at Homecoming 2002** **Jamey Brumley** is an engineer for Haliburton. He and his wife, the former **Angelee Whitlow** ('96), have a child. (955 Mercury Circle, Littleton, CO 80124)

**Donna Sanford Eidsmoe** lives on

an air base in Tokyo and teaches English as a second language. Her husband is **David**. (PSC 78 Box 217, APO, AP 96326)

**Jeffrey Hammond** is an attorney with Baker, Donelson, Bearman & Caldwell, concentrating in the area of health law. He received both his master's of theological studies and his J.D. from Emory University in 2001. He and his wife, **Susan**, have a daughter. (1209 Arbor Crest Blvd., Antioch, TN 37013)

**Ken Mayer Jr.** has been promoted to credit analyst for Mercedes Benz Credit Corp. His wife, the former **Keri McLeod** ('96), is a contract interior designer. (4733 Parkview Drive, Apt. J, Lake Oswego, OR 97035)



### Coxes named 2001 Distinguished Alumni

**T**HOUGH IT HAS BEEN MORE than 20 years since **Bill and Pat Overman Cox** were a part of the immediate Harding family in Searcy, the impact the couple had will continue to be felt for many generations to come.

The Coxes, who worked at the University from 1963-1979, were recognized for their lifetimes of service at



Pat and Dr. Bill Cox

the 2001 Black and Gold Banquet at Homecoming, where they were named Distinguished Alumni.

The two attended the University from 1954-1958, when **Bill** graduated with a bachelor's in accounting.

At the University **Bill** served as a business professor, executive director of the American Studies Institute, and executive vice president. He was part of the development team that oversaw the addition of Benson Auditorium, the Ganus Athletic Center, the Hammon Student Center, married student housing and several dormitories.

In 1975, his speech, "The Rebirth of the Nation," was voted the outstanding public address by the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge and was given as the official bicentennial address on numerous occasions.

During the same time, **Pat** was undertaking the equally important task of staying home to raise their three children, two of whom later graduated from the University. She was also one of two sponsors who took a University group to Frankfurt, Germany, for a summer mission trip — the first group from any Christian college to travel with students internationally. Today, literally thousands of students from Harding and other schools have followed her lead, spreading God's love around the world.

**Bill and Pat** both continue to emphasize mission work. They are currently involved in the completion of the Kenyan Christian Institute of Technology and Industry in Nairobi.

The Coxes have lived in the Dallas area since 1979 when **Bill** accepted a position at Dal-Tile International. He later became chairman of the board and CEO at Dal-Tile and still serves as a consultant to the corporation.

Today the Coxes are members of the Saturn Road Church of Christ, where **Bill** serves as an elder and both teach Bible classes on a regular basis. In addition to their three children, the couple has eight grandchildren. [H]

**DR. COX** WROTE these words 25 years ago concerning Christian education at Harding. They appeared in the the 1977 *Petit Jean*.

*An oasis of decency in a desert of sin — a body of calm in a troubled sea — represent part of that which Harding means to me. The opportunity to live at one's best level of service — to contribute meaningfully to the lives of others — to hold youthful joy and ideals through working with those who are young — represent a part of what Harding means to me. To have the opportunity to serve in a community where the kingdom is continually advanced — where power is used for the right — where most of those whom you know are equals through the blood of Christ — is a part of that which Harding means to me. To see life's rough gems polished into Christ-like beauty — to see those who are lost find the Master Teacher as I did on the Harding campus is all representative of that which Harding means to me. Believing that from the quiet moment of test tube observation to the high note*

*of the chorus — from the solitude of chapel to the zest of the teams — that the Master Teacher is involved in the community we call Harding makes it very special to me. The Master Teacher abides in our midst, and, through His influence, we have the world's best hope of building a community in which might is used for right, discrimination is abolished, decency prevails, honesty abides and love overcometh. Here hope still prevails that a community may be built where man treats his brother as he would like to be treated, and there is still a belief that there is a kingdom where the least shall be heard and considered side by side with the greatest. To me, there is no other place just like Harding!* [H]

**WE ASKED** **Dr. Cox** to tell us what Christian education means to him today. This is his reply.

*Church-related schools are almost always founded to be different from public schools and to make a difference in the lives of students. History records many in-*

*stances in which those schools have made great progress academically and financially, but have lost the "difference" for which they were founded.*

*We first observed the Harding "difference" almost 50 years ago as students. The "difference" was powerful and contributed mightily to the Christian foundations and moral direction of our lives and those of our children. Our three children have experienced 49 cumulative years of Christian education, and all three met their Christian mates on a Christian school campus.*

*Harding's first president, J.N. Armstrong, spoke to this "difference" while discussing the Christian conscience. He said, "The real and lasting advancement of every community, nation and people lies in the Christian consciences of its people. So, in our work, our chief aim is to send every boy and girl home at night with a tenderer conscience, a greater respect for right and duty. To teach a boy how to live 100 years and to be an intellectual giant without this conscience culture is to curse the world and him."*

*From its earliest days, Harding was "different" by design.*

*The Harding boards, administrations and faculties have guarded and perpetuated the Harding "difference." Few administrators of days past could have dreamed that Harding would have the physical facilities or academic reputation it now enjoys — but they have prayed that it would main-*



*tain its Christian "difference" and truly educate for eternity.*

*Through all these years, the Master Teacher has been a part of the community of faith and hope that we call Harding — that causes the Harding experience to be different, and a blessing to its students, eternally!*

*May Harding remain true to its designed difference. May Harding herald hope to the young, the lost and the hurting, forever!* [H]

**Gibbons** ('98), is a homemaker. (10419 Shadow Ridge Lane, #104, Louisville, KY 40241)

**Kyle Laws** is a physical education teacher for Wynne Schools. (308 Mona Lane, Wynne, AR 72396)

**Glenda Peace** is a student at the Technical School for Applied Sciences in the MBA program for international industrial management. (Heilbronner Str. 40, D-73728 Esslingen, Germany)

**Ryan Puckett** is a science teacher and coach at Fouke Middle School. (P.O. Box 23, Fouke, AR 71837)

**Rob Stroud** is a tax consultant for Atkinson-Henning & Associates. His wife, the former **Susan Stiger**, is a contract assistant for Abuck Inc. (1220 Cumberland Creek Place, Marietta, GA 30008)

**'00 Rachel Griggs** is a speech

language pathologist at Westmoreland Elementary School. (906 Windsor Green, Goodlettsville, TN 37072)

**Jeremy Schopper** is a youth and family minister for the Eastwood Church of Christ. His wife is the former **Molly McPherson**. (5 Eastwood Drive, Hutchinson, KS 67502)

**'01 Mike Stoneman** is a foreclosure specialist for Countrywide Home Loans in Plano, Texas. His wife, the former **Katie Kwast**, is working on her master's degree in communication disorders on a full scholarship at the University of Texas at Dallas and is a part-time applied behavior analysis therapist. (4750 Haverwood Lane, #1104, Dallas, TX 75287)

**Brian Whitt** is a quality assurance director for DWM. His wife, the former **Katie Meeks**, is national sales manager for DWM. (1589 Union St., Second Floor, Schenectady, NY 12309)

**Amy Williamson** is a staff accountant with Ernst & Young. (1912 Green Mountain Drive, #520V, Little Rock, AR 72212)

### Marriages

**Tamara Reid** ('96) to **David O'Neal**, July 17, 2000. (78 Garden Oaks, Maumelle, AR 72113)

**Anna Jones** ('98) to **Don Caulley**, Oct. 6, 2000. (P.O. Box 21205, Tuscaloosa, AL 35402)

**Freedom Goguen** ('98) to **Gabriel Martinez**, Dec. 9, 2000. (2954 Candela Court, Apopka, FL 32703)

**Amy Roberson** ('00) to **Toby Morrow**, Jan. 6, 2001. (8960 Meadow Park Circle, Eagle River, AK 99577)

**Adam Gonnerman** ('99) to **Christiane Ferreira Santos**, Feb. 7, 2001. (Rua do Garcon, 236, Bairro Santo Inacio, Uberlandia, MG 38412-294, Brazil)

**Jami Dwight** ('95) to **Brad Gustafson**, March 2, 2001. (3352 Buckeye Lane, Fairfax, VA 22033)

**Jeffrey Baker** ('97) to **Jennifer Duck**, March 10, 2001. (1728 St. Mary St., Jackson, MS 39202)

**Michelle Rozmarynowycz** ('92) to **Daniel Wiggins**, March 17, 2001. Michelle is a co-manager at Wal-Mart. (1060 N. 15th St. E., Mountain Home, ID 83647)

**Paul Gower** ('01) to **Alison Schell Haines** ('99), March 17, 2001. (6915 Bluebird Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205)





## Outstanding alumni awards go to seven at Homecoming festivities

**T**HE UNIVERSITY presented awards to seven Outstanding Alumni at the annual Black and Gold Banquet Nov. 2.

### Outstanding Young Alumnus

A 1987 graduate with a bachelor's in public administration, Matt Bell is only the second recipient of the award begun in 2000.



Matt Bell

In 1987 Bell joined with his brothers, Lee and David, who had begun a moving business while still in high school. In 1988, he took a yearlong break to pursue post graduate studies at Pepperdine Law School in Malibu, Calif. He returned to work in the family business, and today the company, A-Plus Movers and Mini-Storage, is one of the leading moving and mini-storage businesses in the Florida Panhandle.

Bell said, "I was honored, surprised and proud to win this award. Harding changed my life and changed the lives of many members of my family. It means a lot to be recognized by my alma mater and the people who represent Harding. I appreciate what Harding has done for my family and me, and I want to continue

the mission of Harding by helping others and being a Christian servant."

### College of Sciences

Dr. Jim City is a 1961 graduate with a bachelor of science degree in biology who has maintained a private family practice in Searcy since 1975. He obtained his medical degree at the University of Tennessee-Memphis in 1965. He spent several years in service to the U.S. Army, eventually retiring as a lieu-



Dr. Jim City

tenant colonel. Since 1972 he has participated in annual short-term medical missions in Panama. His service to the University includes 15 years as an adjunct in the College of Nursing and more than 25 years as a team physician, a role in which he continues to serve. City sits on the board of directors for the International Health Care Foundation and the Sunshine School in Searcy.

### College of Arts and Humanities

Dr. Michael Westerfield, a 1974 English graduate, is provost of Rochester College in Michigan. He received a master of arts degree in English from Pittsburg

State University in 1977 and the Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska-



Dr. Michael Westerfield

Lincoln in 1984. As provost since 1995, he oversees the deans, coordinates all academic programs, serves as liaison with the Higher Learning Commission and the Michigan Department of Education, and develops online instruction. His duties extend to the classroom as a professor of English. Prior to joining the Rochester administration, Westerfield served in a number of capacities at York College: administrative vice president, vice president for student services, professor of English, and assistant to the academic vice president. Westerfield is in the middle of his term as chair of the National Conference of Academic Deans.

### College of Education

Suanne Smith Walker is a recently retired kindergarten



Suanne Walker

teacher now instructing as an adjunct at both

Harding and Arkansas State University. A 1963 graduate with a bachelor of science in vocational home economics, Walker went on to obtain a master of science in child development and family relationships from the University of Illinois in 1965. She has since completed graduate hours in education, elementary and kindergarten certification, as well as Pathwise training through the College of Education. The bulk of her career was spent at Riverview-Judsonia Elementary, where she taught from 1976 to this past May. Walker's professional activities include membership in the Southern Early Childhood Association, Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families, and the National Education Association.

### College of Nursing

Georgia Pruett Hobby graduated in 1938 with a bachelor of arts in home economics, but has been involved in the nursing



Georgia Hobby

profession since 1967 and with the College of Nursing since 1989. She and her husband, Alvin, served on the African mission field from 1938 to 1962. Upon their return to the United States, Hobby entered

the University of Arkansas School of Nursing, graduating with a bachelor of science in nursing degree in 1967. From there she went to the University of Colorado to obtain her master of science in nursing degree in 1968. She and Alvin then returned to Africa, where she used these skills at an outpatient clinic and in village work in Zambia until retiring to the United States in 1982. Alvin died in 1997.

### College of Bible and Religion

Bill Pratt is a 1974 graduate whose preaching experience dates back to his days at the University, when he preached for several small congregations around the state. Since 1998 he has preached for the Hamilton Church of Christ in Hamilton, Ala. Pratt has also served as minister of



Bill Pratt

the Wooddale Church of Christ and the Berclair Church of Christ, both in Memphis, Tenn.; the Doniphan Church of Christ in Doniphan, Mo.; and the Munford Church of Christ in Munford, Tenn. His current role with the Hamilton church involves producing daily television and radio spots and a

weekly television program. He serves as a crisis counselor in the schools, as a chaplain at the local hospital, and as an adjunct Bible instructor at Faulkner University.

### College of Business Administration

Rodney Waller graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in accounting in 1971. He is now senior vice presi-



Rodney Waller

dent with Range Resources Corp. in Fort Worth, Texas, for which he handles capital restructuring, investor relations and administration. Before his current position he worked in the oil and gas industry at Arthur Andersen in Dallas-Fort Worth. He later helped form Snyder Oil Corporation in Fort Worth, serving in various capacities in finance, administration, investor relations, mergers and acquisitions, and real estate. Waller handled all investor relations for the billion-dollar merger of Santa Fe and Snyder, as well as subsequent investor relations for the new corporation in Houston. [H]



Renee Benson ('93) to Eric Livingood, March 24, 2001. (180 John Olds Drive, #110, Manchester, CT 06040)

Mary Maxwell ('88) to David Bensen, April 13, 2001. (151 S. Melborn St., Dearborn, MI 48124)

Amy Sherwin ('90) to James Songer Jr., April 13, 2001. (13800 Parkcenter Lane, #301, Tustin, CA 92782)

Doug Helm ('01) to Erin Evans ('01), May 20, 2001. (3702 Audley, #10207, Houston, TX 77098)

Julie Clements ('93) to Michael Johnson, June 8, 2001. (2329 Highway 81 S., Covington, GA 30016)

Rena McCarty ('95) to Wheeler Howard, June 16, 2001. (1 Ruben Drive, Oxford, MS 38655)

Angela Sanders ('99) to Kyle Allender, June 23, 2001. (2012 Overlook Court, Indianapolis, IN 46229)

Dena King ('97) to James Cox Jr., June 30, 2001. (811 S. Fourth St., Marshall, IL 62441)

Jim Alderdice ('88) to Tracey Johnson ('93), July 1, 2001. Jim is president of IKON Artists, his own artist management company, and Tracey is volunteer and communication manager for the American Red Cross. (109 Brentwood Square, Nashville, TN 37211)

Jason McGlawn ('00) to Penny Brandimore, July 7, 2001. (300 Central Ave., #4, Searcy, AR 72143)

Leoncio Dominguez ('97) to Amy Dozier ('00), July 14, 2001. Leoncio is the Hispanic minister at the Chestnut Drive Church of Christ. (517 Chase Common Drive, Norcross, GA 30071)

Amy Stinnett ('96) to Eric Craft, July 17, 2001. (505 Nellie St., Jackson, MO 63755)

Gregory Bales ('99) to Kathleen Lyons, July 20, 2001. (415 1/2 Church St., Iowa City, IA 52245)

Michael Christie ('98) to Amy Peeler, July 28, 2001. (275 Vista Ridge Mall Drive, #6622, Lewisville, TX 75067)

Reynda Pratt ('98) to Kevin Allen, July 28, 2001. (20 Hilland St., Fort Smith, AR 72901)

Olivia Burtch ('98) to Gianfranco Cucco, August 2001. Olivia is a substitute teacher and a graduate student at Oakland University. (215 S. Helen, Rochester, MI 48307)

Carmelita Bandy ('92) to Alexander Weddle, Aug. 4, 2001. Carmelita is a behavior specialist for Williamson County Schools. (2129

Acklen, #12, Nashville, TN 37212)

Jacob Baker ('01) to Heather Seniker ('00), Aug. 11, 2001. (2909 E. Moore, Building 3, #6, Searcy, AR 72143)

Krista Anderson ('01) to Mark Dean, Aug. 18, 2001. (116 Mollie Court, Barling, AR 72923)

Vicki Barnes ('93) to Ron Simmons, Aug. 25, 2001. Vicki was the 2000 Administrative Employee of the Year at Harrington Industrial Plastics Co. (5056 Blanchard Place, Riverside, CA 92504)

Matthew Vergne ('99) to Paula Waggoner, Sept. 1, 2001. (4786 Trousdale Drive, Nashville, TN 37220)

Rebecca Gardner ('99) to James Prochniak, Sept. 8, 2001. (10921 115th Court N.E., #C305, Kirkland, WA 98033)

Tiffany King ('97) to P.J. Longstreth, Sept. 15, 2001. (2440 Northview Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46220)

Amy Roeh ('97) to Jeff Wood, Sept. 15, 2001. (3400 Craig Drive, #915, McKinney, TX 75070)

Cleta Colson ('84) to Brian Mitchell, Sept. 28, 2001. Cleta is a senior sales director with Mary Kay. (2503 Lakewood Drive, Valdosta, GA 31602)

## Births

To Doug and Laura Dale ('92) Larimore, a son, Benjamin Jacob, May 9, 2000, by adoption. Laura is a program coordinator, early childhood special education, with First Step. (141 Green Mountain Court, Hot Springs, AR 71901)

To Chuck ('93) and Kristy Owen ('93) Roe, a daughter, Macy Corinne, Sept. 13, 2000. (6925 Briardale Road, North Richland Hills, TX 76180)

To Paul ('89) and Lisa Mills ('91) Rickett, a son, Caleb Hunter, Sept. 30, 2000. (2715 Bruce St., Conway, AR 72032)

To David and Melissa Pickens ('92) Ashmore, a son, Andrew David, Oct. 12, 2000. (4207 Honeysuckle Drive, McKinney, TX 75070)

To Rich and Tami Keplar ('92) Perrine, a daughter, Avery, Oct. 19, 2000. (3772 Mead Drive, Powell, OH 43065)

To Mark ('81) and Kristin Winget ('83) Stinnett, a daughter, Emily Jayne, Oct. 22, 2000. Mark is director of information technology for the Independence School District. (19016 E. 34th St., Independence, MO 64057)

To Christopher and April Horton ('94) Jones, a son, Garrison Nathaniel, Oct. 27, 2000. (5768

Silver Creek Drive, # 9, Memphis, TN 38134)

To Todd ('92) and Holly Hook, a son, Hunter Walton, Nov. 3, 2000. (2609 S.E. Sixth St., Bentonville, AR 72712)

To Jeremy and Connie Galloway ('91) Miller, a son, Andrew Robert, Nov. 3, 2000. Connie is director of Wee Shine Preschool. (47 Private Drive 3, Chesapeake, OH 45619)

To Russ ('87) and Colleen Jackson ('89) Caughron, a son, Chandler, Nov. 13, 2000. (6334 Gardener Cove, Bartlett, TN 38135)

To Rick ('87) and Karen Hoover ('90) Ralston, a daughter, Rebekah Jane, Nov. 23, 2000. Rick is a medical librarian for Indiana University, and Karen is a homemaker. (1035 Monterey Road, Greenwood, IN 46143)

To Michael ('99) and Heather Miller ('99) Fraley, a daughter, Madison Mae, Feb. 5, 2001. (4416 E. Woodridge Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85032)

To Rance ('97) and Heather Mayberry ('97) Gregg, a son, Lathan William, Feb. 20, 2001. (36 Pine-dale Circle, Mablevale, AR 72103)

To Sam and Rebecca Morris ('94) Ingle, a daughter, Lauren, March 2, 2001. (33 Indian Trail, Searcy, AR 72143)

## ALMA MATTERS

## How can I help Harding ... from here?

by BLAIR BRYAN, alumni association president

**B**ECAUSE HARDING ALUMNI LIVE throughout the United States and around the world, Searcy, Ark., can seem a great distance away from our home. We share a love for this great institution, but we may not be aware of the many ways that we can help Harding from our own hometowns. Helping can take many forms, and even the slightest effort on your part can make a difference for students, faculty, alumni, staff and visitors. Here are just a few ways you can assist our alma mater:

- ◆ Contact the Admissions Office, and offer to write letters or call prospective students who live in your hometown. A call from an alumnus can mean so much to a high school student thinking about attending Harding.
- ◆ Encourage the junior high and high school students at your church to visit the campus. Their visit could be a life-changing event for them.
- ◆ Contact the Alumni Office and offer to coordinate a party or reception in your hometown. This is a great opportunity for alumni of all ages to share stories and build friendships. We recently hosted a reception at our home in Charlotte, N.C.; it was great fun and a Harding success.

- ◆ Seek out the current Harding students from your area, encourage them to experience all that the University offers, and let them know the impact that Harding has had on your life. Times at Harding build lifetime memories ... share them!
- ◆ Share stories with your own children about your experiences at Harding. Encourage your children to someday share in the joy of your alma mater.
- ◆ Give financially to Harding each year. Your gifts mean much to the University's ability to qualify for other grants and gifts. Gifts, no matter how small or large, make a difference.
- ◆ Each day pray for Harding's leadership, teachers and students. Your prayers are the most critical gift that you can give to your alma mater.

Each of us yearns to make a difference in this world.

Through your association with Harding University, you have the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of thousands of people associated with this great institution. Whether you live in Searcy, Seattle or Singapore, Harding needs you. [H]

ALUMNI PROFILE

Mindy Baker Breitweiser ('00)

Merchandising major helps fabric become fashion

**M**INDY BREITWEISER knows what you'll be finding on the clearance racks in your favorite department store this time next year. A fashion and interiors merchandising major, Breitweiser works on a production team for the Lizwear division of Liz Claiborne in New York City, dealing with casual and weekend wear. The team recently finished up the fall 2002 line and began working on holiday 2002. As she explains it, "We basically do everything between the design and retail stages." Her job may be best visualized as a flow chart describing "how fabric becomes a garment." She says, "I think it is fascinating when a pattern is chosen and comes to us from the mill as an actual fabric that you can feel and imagine as a garment." Breitweiser tracks the pat-

terns and fabric until they become clothes and are in the warehouse, ready to be distributed.

A big part of her job is keeping up with shipments, patterns and fabrics from overseas offices and factories, which she says is the most stressful part. "I have to try to communicate with factories in countries like Hong Kong, Korea



and Taiwan, where people don't speak English. It's hard to communicate through e-mail."

Another difficulty she has encountered is more technical in nature. When styles are canceled, Breitweiser has to work with

outlet merchandisers to use the excess fabric. "Trying to reuse the fabric when it's not in style is difficult," she says.

Breitweiser has learned as much living in a big city as she has in her first job in haute couture. She moved to New York City in August 2000, right after her husband, Mitchell ('00), graduated. "Mitchell and I moved here because we thought we would have a better chance in getting the careers we wanted," she says. "We also wanted the experience of a big city.

"We were least prepared for the difficulty we had in finding a place to live," she says. "Real estate is very different here. It's more expensive, more competitive and requires a lot more background checks." It took 1 1/2 weeks to find the apartment they live in now in Cliffside

Park, N.J., about 15 miles outside the city.

Breitweiser didn't immediately land a job in the fashion world, either. She spent the first six months working as a receptionist in a large bank. "The first couple of months were extremely tough," she says. "We made a lot of sacrifices and still do. We aren't able to spend as much money on entertainment as we would like to. Window shopping and walking around the city and Central Park have become our pastimes."

But she feels the move and the job with Liz Claiborne have been worth it, and as a result she has learned one of the most valuable life lessons of all: "We have never been without things we need," she says. "We've had to learn to live without things we want." IH

— April Mouser

July 6, 2001. (15537 S.W. 35th Terrace, Miami, FL 33185)

To **Brian ('94) and Laura Kinningham ('86) Mitchell**, a son, David William, July 9, 2001. (12001 New Sweden Church Road, Manor, TX 78653)

To **Don ('95) and Robin Austin ('95) Wilcox**, a daughter, Auburn Nicole, July 12, 2001. (6010 Greene 707 Road, Paragould, AR 72450)

To **Don and Suzanne Forney ('94) Barbiea**, a son, Trevor Scott Claxton, July 23, 2001. (11 Aldesan Court, St. Peters, MO 63376)

To **Cliff ('83) and Rebecca Leavell ('87) Holladay**, a son, Caleb Lee, July 28, 2001. (2103 Stillwater Court, Eldersburg, MD 21784)

To **Bill ('96) and Lisa Teague ('97) Ford**, a son, Micah Seth, July 29, 2001. (108 Apache Drive, Searcy, AR 72143)

To **Stephen ('92) and Tara Hall ('94) Bunner**, a daughter, Madison Ruth, July 31, 2001. (2839 Castlereia Drive, Murfreesboro, TN 37128)

To **Alan ('94) and Lori Morris ('95) Underwood**, a son, Jonathan Morris, July 31, 2001. Alan is the minister for the Hernando Church of Christ, and Lori is a homemaker. (345 Timber Way S., Hernando, MS 38632)

To **Jeremy ('00) and Rachel McFarland ('00) Luallen**, a daughter, Madison Elizabeth, Aug. 9, 2001. (#34 Raeburn Heights, Glenthroes, Fife, Scotland KY61BW)

To **Andrew ('98) and Amy May ('98) Baker**, a daughter, Julianne Lee, Aug. 13, 2001. (91 Lelia Lane, Searcy, AR 72143)

To **Kirk ('86) and Melissa Mullins ('90) Davidson**, a son, Ty Michael, Aug. 14, 2001. (8311 Alamo Road, Brentwood, TN 37027)

To **Rick ('81) and Carla Thompson ('86) Beckham**, a son, Marcus Jason, Aug. 22, 2001. (118 Clark Drive, Mount Juliet, TN 37122)

To **Eric ('00) and Wendy Green ('00) Davenport**, a son, Brinson Gregory, Aug. 24, 2001. Eric is the youth and family minister at Causeway Church of Christ in Mandeville, La., and Wendy is a homemaker. (54 Hollycrest Lane, Covington, LA 70433)

To **Mike ('90) and Amber Tankersley**, a son, James Jr., Aug. 30, 2001. (46 Rhea Mills Circle, Prosper, TX 75078)

To **Jeff ('98) and Stacey Moore ('96) Ward**, a daughter, Aniston Claire, Aug. 31, 2001. (70394 I

Street, Covington, LA 70433)

To **Ben ('97) and Heather James ('97) Diles**, a daughter, Hannah Lindsay, Sept. 1, 2001. (202 Pleasant Drive, Columbia, TN 38461)

To **Kirk ('93) and Kim High ('94) Hollis**, a daughter, Lindsay Nicole, Sept. 5, 2001. (3000 Larchmont Ave., Ponca City, OK 74604)

To **Wade ('93) and Julie Owen ('91) Osburn**, a daughter, Ivy Laine, Sept. 16, 2001. (4404 Garnett St., Austin, TX 78745)

To **Brent ('94) and Tiffany Mal-lory**, a son, Jordan Tanner, Sept. 19, 2001. (12094 Cloverwood, #201, Boise, ID 83713)

To **Bryan and Anna Conley ('92) Mayo**, a son, James Robert, Sept. 19, 2001. (3312 Elam Court, Plano, TX 75093)

To **Chris and Angela Stricklin ('92) Buhrmester**, a daughter, Brynna Caitlyn, Sept. 26, 2001. (P.O. Box 20731, Hot Springs, AR 71903)

To **Vince ('97) and Leonor Hernandez**, a daughter, Isabella, Sept. 28, 2001. She joins Enrique who was born May 11, 2000. Vince is the diagnostic division manager for the largest clinical laboratory and

pharmaceutical suppliers in Nicaragua and is also a private consultant for Esso Standard Oil and Parmalat. (Monsenor Lezcano #406, Managua, Nicaragua)

To **Jay ('94) and Carrie Butler ('94) Hawkins**, a daughter, Avery Ruth, Sept. 28, 2001. Jay is the minister for Caldwell Church of Christ, and Carrie is a homemaker. (3212 Ray Ave., Caldwell, ID 83605)

To **Matthew ('97) and Karrie Bradshaw ('95) Blue**, twin daughters, Meredith McCullough and Averie Elizabeth, Oct. 8, 2001. (2370 Hummingbird Lane, Fayetteville, AR 72703)

To **Layton ('00) and Summer Allison ('99) Dale**, a daughter, Ansley Elise, Nov. 5, 2001. (777 Fairway Drive, #513, Coppel, TX 75019)

Deaths

**Doris Ruby Taylor ('38)**, 83, died Dec. 30, 2000, from pneumonia. She was a retired teacher. She is survived by three daughters, Billie Burkman, Brenda Gerard and Ellen Prewitt ('68).

**William Johns ('54)**, 71, died June 30, 2001. He is survived by his

wife, the former **Martha Sue Allen ('54)**, and three daughters. (10430 Highway 412 W., Paragould, AR 72450)

**Louis Edward Werner ('51)**, 76, died in an accident July 25, 2001. He is survived by a daughter, Kim Simmering.

**Rogers L. Bartley ('39)**, 85, died Aug. 4, 2001. He was a board member for Christian Family Services and an elder at the Campus Church of Christ. He is survived by his wife, the former **Marjorie Lynch ('41)**; two sons, **Rogers Jr. and James David**; and six grandchildren. (625 N.W. 170th St., Newberry, FL 32669)

**Phillip D. Carroll ('73)**, 51, died Sept. 14, 2001. He is survived by a son, Paul.

**Ama Lou Murphree Johnson ('38)**, 84, died Oct. 5, 2001. She was a retired teacher. She is survived by a son, John; a daughter, Susan Groves; two grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

**Etta Jarmon Chandler ('30)**, 93, died Oct. 9, 2001. She was a retired postmistress. She is survived by three children.

**William Wells ('51)**, 77, died Oct. 14, 2001. He was a retired engi-

neer. He is survived by his wife, Patsy; and two sons, **Randall and Richard**.

**Barbara Bonds Moss ('76)**, 47, died Oct. 26, 2001. She was an elementary teacher. She is survived by her husband, Tom, and son, **Matthew**. (107 Redwood Drive, Dickson, TN 37055)

**Lois Vaughan Vines ('47)**, 76, died Oct. 28, 2001. She served as a secretary in the education department for 14 years. She is survived by her husband, **Bernie ('51)**; two sisters, **Fern Thornorton ('40) and Vern Daughtry ('55)**; two sons, **John ('81) and Mike ('86)**; a daughter, **Molly Cheatham**; five grandchildren and two great grandchildren. (1904 W. Arch, Searcy, AR 72143)

**Cheryl Helms ('92)**, 30, died from complications from a congenital heart defect Nov. 26, 2001. She was a dietician with Arkansas Children's Hospital and also worked with the Rice Lewis Clinic, both in Little Rock, Ark. Cheryl also volunteered at the Make-A-Wish Foundation. She is survived by her parents, **Don ('59) and Margaret Hicks ('63) Helms**; a sister, **Donna ('86)**; and a brother, **Bill ('87)**. (919 S. Inglewood, Russellville, AR 72801)

EVENTS

JANUARY

22 **Gen. Wesley Clark**, American Studies Institute Distinguished Lecturer; 7:30 p.m., Benson Auditorium; (501) 279-4497

FEBRUARY

7 **W.B. West Lectures**, Graduate School of Religion; (901) 761-1353  
25-27 **Student Lectureship**, "In but not of: An alternative world view"

MARCH

4-9 **Short courses**, Graduate School of Religion; (901) 761-1353  
8-9 **Fifteen-in-One Seminar**, Institute for Church & Family; (501) 279-4660; www.harding.edu/icf  
10-16 **Spring recess**  
28-30 **Spring Sing and Youth Forum**, Office of Admissions Services; (800) 477-4407  
29-30 **President's Council meeting**, Advancement Office; (501) 279-4312

APRIL

4 **Ministry Forum**, Graduate School of Religion; (901) 761-1353  
11 **Barbara Bush**, American Studies Institute Distinguished Lecturer, 7:30 p.m., Benson Auditorium; (501) 279-4497

12-13 **The Men of God Conference**; (501) 279-4323  
**WINGS Conference**; (501) 279-4347

MAY

6-10 **Final examinations**  
9-10 **Board of Trustees meeting**  
11 **Spring commencement exercises**, Ganus Athletic Center, 10 a.m.  
13 **Intersession begins**, main campus; (501) 279-4403  
16-18 **Arkansas State Special Olympics**  
18 **44th commencement**, Graduate School of Religion

JUNE

3 **Summer I begins**, main campus; (501) 279-4407  
9-14 **National Leadership Forum**, American Studies Institute; (501) 279-4497  
15-20 **Uplift I**, Institute for Church & Family; (501) 279-4660; www.harding.edu/icf  
22-27 **Uplift II**, Institute for Church & Family; (501) 279-4660; www.harding.edu/icf

JULY

1 **Summer II begins**, main campus; (501) 279-4407

To **Greg and Nancy Wilkins ('92) Dockery**, a daughter, Landry Lynn, March 27, 2001. (7809 S. 24th, Street, Fort Smith, AR 72908)

To **Brian ('97) and Stacey Tucker ('95) Lewis**, a son, David Charles, March 28, 2001. Brian is the youth minister at Westside Church of Christ, and Stacey is an adjunct in Harding's College of Business Administration. (105 N. Pecan, Searcy, AR 72143)

To **Kevin and Michele Roder ('89) Griffith**, a daughter, Abby Grace, April 5, 2001. (1000 Cherry Road, #305, Memphis, TN 38117)

To **Scott and Jennifer Meek ('93) Waller**, a son, Matthew Braedon, April 10, 2001. (908 Cedar Falls Court, Lilburn, GA 30047)

To **Scott and Lynnette Gipson ('93) Houchell**, a daughter, Morgan Elena, April 12, 2001. (2417 Amber Hill Lane, Euless, TX 76039)

To **John ('89) and Elaina Shearer ('93) Marshall**, a daughter, Sydney

Elisabeth, April 22, 2001. (5010 Ashley Drive, Nashville, TN 37211)

To **John ('89) and Robin Pruitt ('89) Klein**, a daughter, Alisa Gayle, April 24, 2001. (8904 S. Goosander Way, Littleton, CO 80126)

To **Matt ('98) and Lainee Lowe ('98) Cosby**, a daughter, Lori Ann, May 11, 2001. (6832 Sweet St., Keithville, LA 71047)

To **Michael ('94) and Stefanie Smith ('96) Block**, a daughter, Sarah Jean, May 18, 2001. (2358 Westbrook, Toledo, OH 43613)

To **Graylon and Chrystal Nickels ('96) Miller**, a daughter, Sydney Lynn, May 23, 2001. (325 Ash St., Conway, AR 72034)

To **David and Angie Blackburn ('92) Hunt**, a son, Austin Everett, June 4, 2001. (7125 Sample Drive, The Colony, TX 75056)

To **Rony and Sarah Wilson ('94) Jones**, a son, Peyton Wilson, June 4, 2001. (P.O. Box 886, McCrory, AR 72101)

To **Jason ('95) and Carrie Pearl**, a son, Aidan Charles, June 10, 2001. (2902 Doris Court, Phoenixville, PA 19460)

To **Tony ('94) and Roxanne Watts ('91) Langley**, a son, Thaddaeus Walton, June 12, 2001. (14703 Hamstead Park Drive, Houston, TX 77084)

To **David ('92) and Carmen Newcomb ('93) Bell**, a daughter, Wallace Lane, June 13, 2001. (4432 N. Racine, # 2-S, Chicago, IL 60640)

To **Edward ('79) and Margaret Anne Willett**, a daughter, Alice Laura Mae, June 13, 2001. Edward is a freelance writer and professional actor and singer. (303-2333 Scarth St., Regina, Sask. S4P 2J8, Canada)

To **Pat ('99) and Deborah Root ('99) Bills**, a son, Joshua Hunter, June 28, 2001. (736 Via Miramonte, Mesquite, TX 75150)

To **Jose and Sandra Espinosa ('93) Martinez**, a son, Dylan Anthony,



## First Distinguished Alumnus winner devoted his life to making music

**N**OT EVERYONE IS FORTUNATE ENOUGH to make a lifetime career out of an interest stemming from youth. ■ L.O. Sanderson ('28), one of the church's most prolific and best-known composers, began writing songs at the early age of 15. Perhaps best known in University circles as composer of music for the Alma Mater, Sanderson was also the first recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1960. ■ Sanderson began preaching in 1923, serving churches in Springfield, Mo.; Columbia, Tenn.; Tulsa, Okla.; Little Rock, Ark.; and Amarillo, Texas. He taught at David Lipscomb, Harding, and its forerunner, Harper College.

When he died in 1992, he was survived by his wife, Vesta, of Pea Ridge, Ark., and his son, Leon ('54) of Memphis, Tenn.

His first wife, Rena Raye Woodring, and their daughter, Lloydene, preceded him in death in 1984.

One of his best-known hymns, used throughout the world and translated into other languages, is "Be With Me, Lord." The song and Sanderson's comments about the composition were included in a 1970 tribute album produced by the A Cappella Chorus, under the direction of Dr. Kenneth Davis Jr.

"It was past midnight on a Monday evening in 1934. I was working on Christian Hymns No. 1. This melody kept coming into mind. I stopped work and wrote it down, lest I forget. But then the harmony crowded my thoughts; it caused me to lack concentration. So I turned and completed the composition, finishing about 3 a.m. on Tuesday. About 10 days later I received a

he had retired. He awoke with a theme on his heart. Finally, past midnight, he got up, went to his desk and wrote the poem. He was sending it to me to see what I thought of it. It was an exact fit for my music, written at about the same time, though a thousand miles separated us."

Other titles Sanderson composed include "Take the World, But Give Me Jesus," "Bring Christ Your Broken Life," and "O For A Faith." ■ — April Mouser

call from T.O. Chisholm. He said on Monday night (the same one mentioned above)



L.O. Sanderson

**Alma Mater**  
"Dedicated to those who love Harding College"  
Mrs. Florence M. Cathcart      Lloyd O. Sanderson

*Spiritoso*

1. Near the foot-hills of the Oz - arks, Midst of hill and plain;  
2. Chris - tian stand - ard is her mot - to; Chris - tian life is stressed;  
3. Hard - ing o - pens wide her por - tals, Thus in - vit - ing all

*rit.*

Stands our glo - rious Al - ma Ma - ter; Hard - ing is her name.  
And in ev - 'ry branch of learn - ing, Each one does his best.  
Who would tread the path to knowl - edge; Heed then to her call.

**REFRAIN. Vigoroso**

Sing the cho - rus! shout it loud - ly! Ech - o - ing thro' the vale.

Hail to thee, be - lov - ed Hard - ing! Al - ma Ma - ter, Hail!

# GIFT ANNUITIES

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Dora Tate

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Harding University issues charitable gift annuities only in states in which it meets all requirements. This is for information only and is not an offer or solicitation for a charitable gift annuity.

Here are some examples of single-life gift annuity rates. Two-life rates are slightly lower due to added life expectancy.

Age	Rate	Effective Rate
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60	6.4	9.14
65	6.7	9.94
70	7.2	11.11
75	7.9	12.71
80	8.9	14.93
85	10.4	18.25
90+	12	22.03

(Effective rate depends on the donor's tax bracket and the percentage of tax-free payments they receive.)

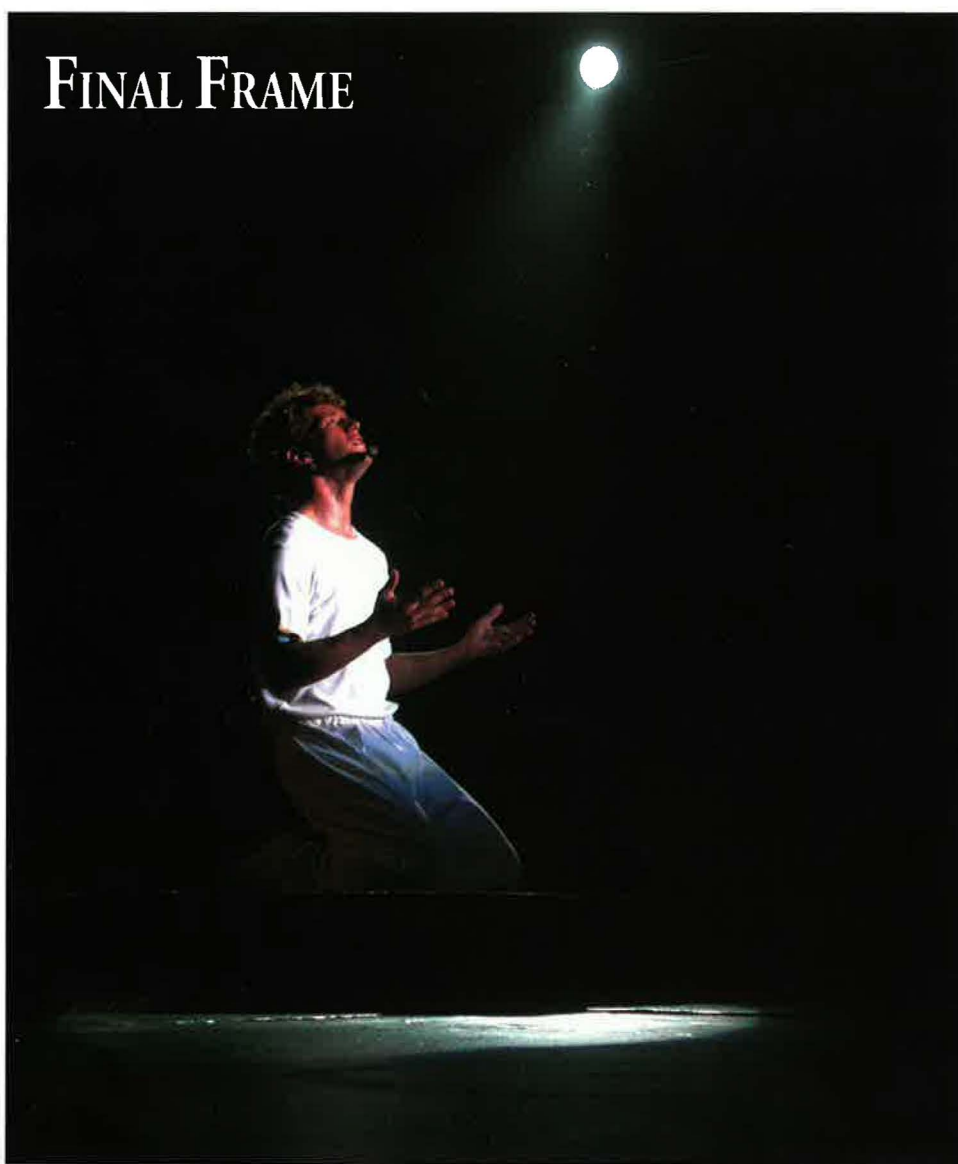


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JEFF MONTGOMERY

*Senior Jared Holton stars as Joseph in the fall Homecoming musical, "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." An encore presentation was put on for the Christian college presidents' meeting one week later.*