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Harding

SPRING
2007

When the Bisons came back

Chance encounters

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2007, Spring

HARDING UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Character does count

By DAVID B. BURKS



WHILE CHARACTER EDUCATION may be debatable at many other institutions of learning, it is not here — it is part of our mission.

Throughout our history, we have emphasized the desire to help students learn how to live rather than merely make a living.

Our mission, as presented by our first president, J.N. Armstrong, in 1924, called for the integration of faith and learning into the entire life of the college. Instilling Christian

principles into the hearts of students was uppermost on his mind and represented the mission, character, heart and soul of Harding.

We operate from the conviction that neither scholarship nor intellectual development alone is sufficient for the best possible life. Only those who possess both character and intellect have made an impact for good in the world. Our ultimate purpose, therefore, is to lead each student to develop the mind and personality where influence, great or small, will add to the upward development of civilization. This means each student will come to love the ideals of truth, mercy and justice; to accept responsibility; and to cultivate self-control.

And as they graduate, we want them to pass it on.

Alumnus Dave Beyers (Page 20), who defines character education as “qualities of positive citizenship such as courage, honesty and respect,” is spreading the word in schools across the nation as he helps stop the advance of moral relativism.

So does University-owned and operated Camp Tahkodah (Page 16), where this summer campers will be taught character-building values of faith and friendship in an outdoor setting.

Our selection for the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll (Page 2) is driven by the character of our students, faculty and staff. True character leads to acts of Christian service.

Developing Christian character remains at the heart of our mission. May it ever be. **H**

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ON THE COVER

A half century ago intercollegiate athletics resumed, and Rhodes Field House became home to Bison basketball. Photo by Jeff Montgomery.

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

Communing with nature is just one of many reasons to spend time at Tahkodah. (Page 16)



FEATURES

10 A page out of history

In our cover story, we go back 50 years to 1957 when Bison athletics made its return to intercollegiate play.

14 Small world stories

Alumni share chance encounters in the United States and abroad through their Harding connection.

16 Tapestry of Tahkodah

Tahkodah isn't just summer camp anymore. Take our photo tour and see what all it has to offer students — and you — today.

20 Character education

1998 alumnus Dave Beyers uses Billy's Kow and Junkyard Johnson as tools in his master plan to build character in today's youth.

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Marsha Gifford poignantly shares her heart-felt reaction to her son Micah's death in Iraq.

Honorary doctorate goes to Ganus

DR. CLIFTON GANUS JR. HAS spent his life helping young people receive a Christian education. On April 27, his efforts were lauded during Oklahoma Christian University's spring graduation exercises, where he received an honorary doctor of laws degree.



Dr. Clifton Ganus Jr.

Said Oklahoma Christian President Mike O'Neal ('68), "We are very glad to be recognizing his many years of great service to Christian higher education in this way, as well as his work in the church and international missions."

Ganus, who entered the University as a student in 1939, returned in 1946 to teach history after earning his Ph.D at Tulane University. He

chaired the department and served as vice president before assuming the role of president from 1965 to 1987. Now chancellor, he continues to travel on behalf of the University. He is an elder at College Church of Christ and often speaks at Pan-American Lectures and other international conferences.

Foundation commits to challenge grant

THE WILLARD AND PAT Walker Charitable Foundation has pledged a \$250,000 challenge grant contingent upon the University's ability to match the amount in new gifts and pledges by Dec. 31. The foundation's grant and the new gifts and pledges will go toward the American Heritage Center expansion and renovation project, which was completed in August 2006.

In her letter to President David Burks, Debbie Walker, executive director of the foun-

ation, cited the large number of requests the foundation receives each year. "We consider your organization as one of those that is certainly worthy of our support, and we commend you for the work you have done thus far and will undoubtedly continue to do in the future," she said.

The challenge grant is the organization's fourth donation. Previously more than \$568,000 had been given to scholarship programs and toward construction of the Wilma Stephens Thornton Education Center.

The American Heritage Center project was a major capital component of the University's five-year Eagle's Wings Campaign to raise \$135 million for scholarships, capital projects and endowment. The campaign began in 2003, and more than \$60 million has been raised.

The Walker Foundation, located in Springdale, Ark., is well known for its support of health and higher education causes in Arkansas.

Culture of service

THE UNIVERSITY HAS BEEN named to the first-ever President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. The Corporation for National and Community Service made the announcement at the end of February.

"This distinction recognizes your students, faculty and staff for helping to build a culture of service and civic engagement in our nation," said David Eisner, chief executive officer for the corporation.

Only 492 schools out of more than 3,500 in the nation were recognized.

Said President David Burks, "A commitment to a servant-leadership lifestyle is part of our mission. From the beginning of this institution, our students, faculty and staff have sponsored, supported and encouraged countless service projects."

During the 2005-06 academic year, an estimated 2,385 students, faculty and staff contributed 40,619 hours of service. Projects included Hurricane Katrina relief assistance, Special Olympics, Habitat for Humanity, tutoring, mentoring disadvantaged youth and beautification efforts.

More than 300 students and faculty took their acts of service on the road during spring break March 12-16. From Honduras to Hawaii, Mississippi to Massachusetts, and Canada to North Carolina, service-minded young adults catered to others' needs.

Projects included ongoing post-Hurricane Katrina cleanup in New Orleans and Mississippi, building and repairing houses in rural Central America, orchestrating activities at Denver Children's Home, volunteering at local soup kitchens, and visiting retirement home residents.



Brett Keller

[HONOR]

First Truman Scholar

BRETT KELLER OF SEARCY CHANGED HIS FOCUS of study several times in the last three years, but his pursuit of the prestigious Truman Scholarship remained constant.

That persistence paid off in March when Keller, a junior, received word that he was selected as one of 65 Truman Scholars nationwide. Scholars were selected by 18 independent selection panels on the basis of leadership potential, intellectual capability, and likelihood of "making a difference."

Said Dr. Larry Long, vice president for academic affairs, "I am very proud of Brett both for the recognition he has received as a Truman Scholar and for the hard work that he invested in preparing the application. I don't know of any student who has worked harder than Brett did for the goal he set three years ago to be recognized by the Truman program. His talents and hard work have brought honor to himself and to the University."

The 65 scholars were selected from among 585 candidates nominated by 280 colleges and universities. Each selection panel interviewed finalists from a three- to four-state region and generally elected one scholar from each state and one at-large scholar from the region. Each panel typically included a university president, federal judge, distinguished public servant and past Truman Scholarship winner. Keller is the first Truman Scholar from the University and the only 2007 recipient from Arkansas.

A biochemistry and molecular biology and political science major, Keller is a NASA undergraduate research fellow, competes nationally with the Academic Team, and sings in the Chorus. He is the son of Dr. John and Sally Keller.

Moved by the injustice he witnessed in 2004 while helping with rural health clinics in Zambia and volunteering at an orphanage in Ghana and an AIDS hospice in South Africa, Keller initiated a seminar on global issues through the Honors College in 2005.

"I worked among orphans with various stages of HIV infection at Sparrow Ministries AIDS Village in Johannesburg," he explained. "Conditions for the millions of orphans in

South Africa were dire, but I knew little of their plight before I visited. Upon my return to the United States, I engaged in many a passionate conversation about AIDS in Africa. My peers were often shocked at what I described. I made a promise to myself when leaving South Africa: to share stories of what I saw in Johannesburg."

Keller, who now plans a career focused on international health policy, learned of the Truman Scholarship his freshman year at informational sessions the Honors College hosted on graduate scholarship opportunities.

"As my interests grew from health care in the developing world to a broader fascination with global health policy, I decided I would apply for the Truman Scholarship. Unlike some scholarships for graduate school, the Truman is specifically for students interested in public service, for potential 'change agents.'"

Dr. Pat Garner, adviser for students applying for nationally recognized fellowships, says that although University students have been past recipients of Fulbright and Jack Kent Cooke scholarships, the Truman award is the largest and most prestigious.

"Brett was an excellent fit for this award because of his proactive personality and his dedication to public service," Garner said. "Through his diverse interests and singular motivation to serve humanity and the Harding community, Brett has shown his ability to plan, organize and implement activities beneficial on both local and international levels."

Dr. Jeffrey T. Hopper, dean of the Honors College who worked closely with Keller as he developed the lecture series, agreed. "He has prepared years for this moment, first by developing his God-given talents and interests and then by taking advantage of every opportunity that the University has afforded him," he said. "In addition, he met every challenge with a keen awareness of how one life can impact many other lives for good."

Each scholarship provides \$30,000 for graduate study. Scholars also receive priority admission and supplemental financial aid at some premier graduate institutions, leadership training, career and graduate school counseling, and special internship opportunities within the federal government. **H**



“ A faithful judge does not have to be a faithless judge. ... You wouldn't want someone on the bench who has no opinion on anything ... The job of a judge is to do justice according to law. **”**

— Judge Janice Rogers Brown of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit speaking Feb. 27 on "Faith & Freedom: A Framework for Tolerance in the 21st Century" as part of the American Studies Institute Distinguished Lecture Series.

TOP PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY, BOTTOM PHOTO BY CRAIG RAINBOLT

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

Web site offers something for everyone

THE NEW UNIVERSITY WEB site launched Feb. 5. A re-designed home page and entry pages geared toward specific audiences — prospective students, alumni and parents — are among the features.

The goal of the redesign was to make the Web site more user friendly, particularly to audiences not on campus and unfamiliar with the University's organizational structure.

"It had been about three and a half years since we had done a redesign, so it was definitely time," said Shawn Spearman, Web design specialist, who served as the primary designer. "We really wanted to approach the site as our face to the world. That meant looking at the University from the outside in.

perience was also taken into account.

Said Keith Cronk, vice president for information systems & technology, "The project to develop a new Web site represents an enormous effort, and I think when you see the new design, you will be proud of Harding's 'other front door.'"

Adds Spearman, "We're not done. The information for each group will evolve based on the feedback we get. In 18 to 24 months we will likely be reworking it again. A Web site is never done."

Gray releases premarital program

AS DIVORCE CONTINUES TO divide families, engaged couples need sound advice and quality counseling more than ever. Enter Dr. Ed Gray, professor of counseling at the Graduate School of Religion in Memphis, Tenn., who has produced *Mentoring for Dating Couples: 12 Conversations for Building Strong Marriages*.

While the program is clearly designed for those preparing for marriage, it builds on Gray's grassroots Marriage Mentoring program, which has received national acclaim from military, secular and religious leaders for its comfortable approach to developing mentors between younger and older couples.

Mentoring for Dating Couples is co-authored by Susan Giboney of Pepperdine University and produced in conjunction with the University's Institute for Church & Family.

For more information about the program or beginning a Marriage Mentoring program in your community, contact Gray at egray@hugsr.edu.

Another big consideration was to try and improve the visitor's understanding of the University."

A Web site redesign committee representing various University perspectives met throughout the summer to offer suggestions. Feedback from focus groups with Honors Symposium student participants and questionnaire information from parents on campus during Summer Ex-



English 312: 'Writing Poetry'

INSTRUCTOR:
Sherry Organ, M.Ed.
Assistant Professor of English

FOCUS
Throughout the semester, students will be encouraged to draft as many new poems as possible and then revise those they truly care about; use a variety of poetic forms and subjects; experiment with their writing; understand core elements of the craft and the importance of revision; and explore the relevance of poetry in today's world.



Sherry Organ gives feedback to her poetry students.

OVERVIEW
This course includes the study of poetry in its various forms, works of contemporary poets and "master" poets, and extensive writing exercises for the student-poet. Students must be open to constructive criticism, able to both give and take it maturely. Participation and feedback are essential for success. Students will examine the purposes of writing poetry — not just for one's self — and its role as an art and communication form. In this class everyone teaches, and everyone learns.

METHODS AND EXPECTATIONS
Writing Poetry combines classroom lecture with creative exercises, workshops and presentations. The semester begins with several weeks of lecture, primarily to explore vocabulary of poetry as well as forms. Primary text for this portion: *The Portable Poetry Workshop* by Jack Myers. Exercises, as in any other art form, are used to spur creativity. Whether describing oranges or making paper airplanes, these activities encourage students to think beyond what they have defined as "poetry." Students first practice writing poems of specific forms before choosing their own. Much of the in-class time is devoted to critiquing workshops in which students offer constructive criticism of each other's work. Student evaluation is derived from the following: completion of a journal, in-class and workshop participation, a portfolio of started poems, chapbook of completed poems, and an oral presentation.

OUTCOMES
The teacher hopes that through this course, students will continue writing poetry, especially that of a religious nature; pursue publishing; learn how to work successfully in a writing community; produce a chapbook of their favorite completed poems; enhance their ability to talk about poetry and read it aloud; understand their strengths and weaknesses as a poet; and become more acquainted with poems of peers, contemporaries and "masters."

Straight-A students need not apply

BRIAN TRÉUSDÉLL ('84) wanted to do something special for students at his alma mater. But he was not looking to reward the usual suspects.

"I was primarily looking for the B-average students," he said. "Those who work very hard to get what they get."

Professors in the College of Business Administration helped him identify such students for the newly created COBA Spirit Award. Five students representing accounting, economics, management, marketing and professional sales received brand-new, fully loaded Dell laptop computers, compliments of Brian and his wife, Diane.

"Usually the kids who are number one in the class get all the glory," he said. "But there are other kids who are trying really hard. I wanted the faculty members to select students who were working hard and giving 100 percent."

Said laptop recipient Carson Ross, a senior accounting major from Searcy, "My GPA isn't, by any means, the highest among a lot of business students. Knowing that the award was based solely on

hard work and being noticed for that was a huge honor. It's a really good feeling to know that hard work does pay off."

TréusDell said the chosen students were shocked to receive the laptops. "They loved it; they were so surprised. They thought they were going to get a plaque and a slap on the back."

Said Mary Beth Mortland, a senior marketing major from Hardin, Ill., "The award took me completely by surprise. I think a lot of us are still in shock from the generosity."

Searcy resident Derek Glover, a junior economics major, concurred. "I was, initially, flattered by the award. None of us knew why we were there, so it was very humbling to know the faculty thought highly enough of us to nominate us for this honor."

"I was also taken by Brian TréusDell's generosity. This is a man who has obviously seen first-hand how special Harding is and wants to give back and help students who are working hard to try and finish strong in their studies."

TréusDell cited a quote by Calvin Coolidge that inspires him: "Nothing in this world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful people with talent. Ge-

nius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination are omnipotent. The slogan 'press on' has solved and always will solve the problems of the human race. No person was ever honored for what he received. Honor has been the reward for what he gave."

"I always considered myself an average guy who tried really hard," TréusDell explained.

The CEO of TréusDell Salon & Spa — three full-service day spas in San Antonio, Texas, he received the Outstanding Alumnus Award from the College of Business Administration in 2006. He also has served as CEO of Huebner Real Estate Co. since 2004, managing commercial properties. Upon graduating from Harding, he began working as CEO of Lasergraphics, a commercial printing and graphic design company that he sold in 2001. He has received the President's Award for Rotary International and has led two Rotary group-study exchanges to Europe.

A member of Preston Road Church of Christ in Dallas, he serves as a Bible class teacher and supports missions in Russia and Thailand.



Brian TréusDell (top right) watches as Dr. Phil Brown presents Carson Ross with a laptop.

ADVANCEMENT
Ron Cook has joined the staff as a regional director.

AMERICAN STUDIES INSTITUTE
Dr. Milo Hadwin has been named Chinese Student Life Administrator for the Sino-American Studies Institute.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES
Department of Communication
Jim Miller, instructor, won Best Research Award in the doctoral student division at the 29th annual Research Symposium Feb. 16 at University of Tennessee. Miller, who is on academic leave pursuing the Ph.D. at University of Tennessee, wrote "The Struggle for Control of Student Media: A Content Analysis of Student Press Law Center News Flashes."

Dr. Dan Tullos, professor and director of the communication sciences and disorders academic program, received the award for distinguished contributions from the Council of Academic Programs in Communications Sciences and Disorders in March.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
Drs. Clara Carroll and Jan Morgan, associate professor and professor respectively, made a presentation titled "Effective Co-teaching" at the American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education's annual meeting Feb. 24-27 in New York City.

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY
Dr. Forrest Smith has joined the team as associate dean for academic affairs. Dr. Jeffrey Mercer joins the college as assistant dean for experiential education, and Dr. Kenneth "Bill" Yates serves as chair of the department of pharmaceutical sciences. Carol Kell has been named director of admissions, and Susan Grace is director of student affairs.

COLLEGE OF SCIENCES
Department of Behavioral Sciences
Dr. Terry Smith, behavioral sciences chair and professor of social work, presented a session at the 57th Convention of the North American Association of Christians in Social Work in Dallas March 9-11 titled "Darkness Is My Closest Friend: Using the Psalms of Lament to Address Grief Issues."

Smith also presented a session at the 29th annual Conference for the Association for Death Education and Counseling in Indianapolis April 12-15 titled "Using Biblical Laments to Understand and Address Grief Issues." >>

Communication head contributes to TV trends

DR. MIKE JAMES, COMMUNICATION professor and chair, is not giving up his day job, but he might have a future in the television industry.

James was one of 30 faculty members nationally and internationally selected as a 2007 faculty fellow for the National Association of Television Program Executives annual conference, held Jan. 15-18.



The goal of the faculty fellowship program is to expose the educational community to current television issues and practices and to foster improved communication between educators and the industry.

Before arriving at the conference, faculty members submitted a concept for a TV show. James' proposal was one of two selected, granting him the opportunity to pitch it to two talent agents.

Titled "Home on the Range," his idea was a reality show that would pit teams against each other on such tasks as cattle driving, pig farming, corn harvesting and vineyard work — jobs most urban viewers take for granted when they sit down for dinner.

"They liked it," James said of the agents' response. "But they thought I needed a strong host with a recognizable name to bring attention to it. And, there are elements that have been done before."

Ed Wilson, president of FOX Television Network, spoke to faculty members, as did David Kenin of the Hallmark Channel. James also at-

tended sessions with such speakers as Chris Anderson, editor of *Wired Magazine*, and Tony DiSanto, head of programming for MTV.

"I got to be around people who are big movers and shakers," James said.

This was James' first time at the conference, and he hopes to involve University students as interns next year. He has already shared some of what he learned at the conference with his classes. "In my radio/TV programming class we were talking about the cost of programs to producers and media outlets," he said. "Ed Wilson of FOX had said the price of '24' this season was 10 times more than the previous season.

"That's the business of marketing a TV program. The advertiser pays more, which brings the price of goods up so that ultimately, the people pay. TV is not free. It may be a good bargain, but TV is not free."

Help collect data for church study

DR. FLAVIL YEAKLEY, PROFESSOR of Bible, is conducting a survey of campus ministry leaders and students for a research project that will provide updated information related to young people and churches of Christ.

The University, one of 12 Christian colleges and universities participating in the Christian Higher Education Foundation study, encourages congregations to participate when contacted.

The study will gather information regarding the number of young people who no longer attend a congregation of the Lord's church after they graduate from high school and leave home; the divorce rate among those growing up in these congregations; and how many now have any kind



Locks of Love

Hairstylist Tara Tarole ('06) and senior Bree Terry marvel at the hair Terry will donate to Locks of Love. University students donated more than 74 feet of hair March 1 when the Student Association hosted an event benefiting the nonprofit organization that provides hairpieces to children suffering from long-term medical hair loss.

of church leadership or service roles.

Four surveys comprise the study — one for the 19,000 students attending the 12 participating schools, one for graduates from these schools in the past 10 years, one for campus ministry leaders and Christian students attending state-supported schools, and one for more than 1,000 leaders of local congregations.

Congregations throughout the nation will receive forms for this study in early June.

No place like Harding for Homecoming

FOLLOW THE YELLOW BRICK road as it leads you to Harding for Homecoming Nov. 1-3. Not only will you reconnect with Dorothy and Toto in "The Wizard of Oz," but also

you will have a whirlwind reunion with friends from days gone by.

Events include the Golden & Platinum Circle Banquet Thursday evening and the Black & Gold Banquet Friday evening. On Saturday, support breast cancer research during Stroll for the Cure, attend class and club reunions, and tailgate before the football game versus Arkansas Tech University at First Security Stadium.

Tickets are available for the musical, which will be performed Friday and Saturday evenings, at www.hardingtickets.com or by calling (501) 279-4255.

A complete schedule will be available online closer to the date. For more information, contact the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations at (501) 279-4276 or visit www.harding.edu/homecoming.

Graduate student Tutor of the Year

WHEN RUSSELL CORLEY OF Richardson, Texas, began tutoring undergraduate students two years ago, he already had a lot on his plate. Though he was a senior preparing to graduate — as well as a starter for the soccer team who volunteered in the community, participated in mission trips, and had coached youth soccer camps — he agreed to tutor students struggling in core business classes.

Now a graduate assistant while enrolled in the MBA program, Corley's hard work was recognized nationally when he was named Tutor of the Year by the Association for the Tutoring Profession (ATP).

The annual award, announced Feb. 14, is given to the tutor who shows initiative and creativity in the learning center, serves as a role model for other tutors and students, and goes beyond the role of a student by serving the community and his academic field.

Anissa Harris, instructional resource coordinator for TRIO Student Support Services at the University, nominated Corley. Harris is impressed with Corley's "command of his subject area, perceptivity toward student needs, and ability to teach in multiple learning styles."

"He has an unusual willingness to flex for others," she said. "He always carved time in his schedule to accommo-

date the time frame and learning preferences of his clients."

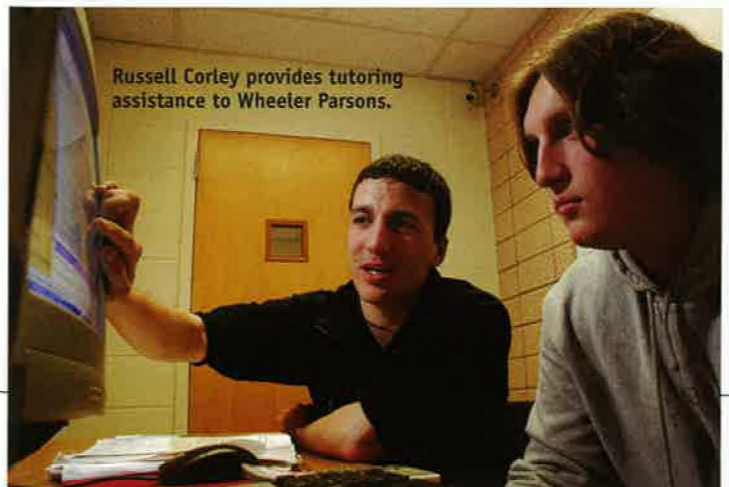
Corley helps undergraduate students in business courses such as accounting, managerial finance, and macro and microeconomics. He said he does not use a specific method, but tries to cater to individual needs.

"The biggest key to helping a student learn is to get to know them first," Corley said. "Everyone has a different personality and a different method of learning. It is just much easier to learn from someone you trust and are comfortable around. I try to shape the material the best I can to fit the needs of the student I am teaching."

Harris said Corley is willing to "work tirelessly toward the benefit of others as he selflessly pursues knowledge for himself and others.

"Struggling students come to him, and he helps them by explaining the material in a different frame, encouraging them to alter study habits, and showing them the path to true understanding," Harris said. "He has convinced many students not to drop a required course by redirecting their habits and behaviors."

Corley accepted his award at the annual ATP conference in Orlando, Fla., in April. His is the second consecutive award from the national association. In 2006, the University's TRIO Tutoring Center received ATP's Outstanding Tutoring Program Award.



Russell Corley provides tutoring assistance to Wheeler Parsons.

LEFT PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY, RIGHT PHOTO BY CHELSEA ROBERSON

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

- Sept. 30 Dan Williams, *El Dorado, Ark.*
- Oct. 1 Clyde Stimp, *Conway, Ark.*
Virgil Fry, *Houston*
- Oct. 2 Jerry Rushford, *Malibu, Calif.*
Don Vinzant, *Edmond, Okla.*
- Oct. 3 Mike Myers, *Littleton, Colo.*
Bruce McLarty, *Searcy, Ark.*
John Hodges, *Tyler, Texas*

Draw closer to God at Lectureship

DURING THE COURSE OF FOUR days, eight keynote speakers will encourage Christians under the theme "Near to the Heart of God: Reflections on the Psalms" at the 84th Annual Lectureship Sept. 30-Oct. 3. The series emphasizes drawing closer to God during times of betrayal, grief and hopelessness.

Featured events include the Preachers, Elders and Wives Dinner on Monday, where Edward Robinson of Abilene, Texas, will speak on "The Life and Work of Marshall Keeble." He will continue the series Tuesday with three classes on Keeble's life.

College Church of Christ will once again host Women's Day on Tuesday directed by Sherry Pollard. She also has planned a track for Christian women that runs Sunday through Wednesday and includes classes specifically for ministers' wives.

Other topics covered include biblical preaching from Psalms, counseling, Christian education, youth and family ministry, church growth, missions, and Chinese and Spanish Bible classes and lectures.

For more information, contact (501) 279-5123 or visit www.harding.edu/lectureship.

COLLEGE OF SCIENCES
Department of Computer Science
Frank McCown, instructor, presented a paper titled "Lazy Preservation: Reconstructing Web Sites by Crawling the Crawlers" at the Association for Computing Machinery International Workshop on Web Information and Data Management Nov. 10, 2006, in Arlington, Va. McCown is on academic leave pursuing the Ph.D. at Old Dominion University.

Department of Kinesiology
An article by Dr. **Ken Turley**, assistant professor, was published in the December 2006 issue of *International Journal of Sports Medicine*. Dr. **Marty Spears**, assistant vice president for academic affairs, was one of the co-authors for the article titled "Scaling Submaximal Exercise Cardiac Output and Stroke Volume: The HERITAGE Family Study."

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF RELIGION
Dr. **Mark Powell**, associate professor, has been named board chair for HopeWorks, a Memphis, Tenn., ministry serving the chronically unemployed.

HUMAN RESOURCES
David Ross has been named director of human resources. He formerly served as assistant director.

PUBLIC RELATIONS
The University won four awards at the annual Council for Advancement and Support of Education District IV Conference March 31-April 3 in the categories of print publications, television commercials, print advertisements and news writing.
David Crouch, director of public relations, has been elected treasurer for CASE District IV for 2007-08.

STUDENT IMPACT
Jaime Brown of West Plains, Mo., and **Matthew Perring** of Guthrie, Okla., have been selected co-directors of Student Impact. Brown is a senior English major, and Perring is a junior oral communication major. Student Impact is scheduled for Aug. 16-19.

STUDENT LIFE
Zach Neal, current director of campus life, will assume the position of assistant dean of students this summer.

Philadelphia calling

By SCOTT GOODE, sports information director

ON SUNDAY, NOV. 26, 2006, former University linebacker Torrance "Tank" Daniels ('06) became the first Bison football player to appear in a National Football League regular season game. On his very first play — the Philadelphia Eagles opening kickoff against future Super Bowl Champions Indianapolis Colts — Daniels made a tackle against returner Terrance Mathis.

He spent 11 weeks of the season on the practice squad. But when star quarterback Donovan McNabb went down with a season-ending knee injury, Daniels replaced him on the Eagles' roster.

In his first five games, Daniels played special teams only. During the final game of the season, he also played linebacker and defensive end, making five tackles against the Atlanta Falcons. He totaled nine special teams tackles in his six-game run and added three more in the Eagles' playoff game against the New York Giants.

HOW NERVOUS OR SCARED DO YOU GET PRIOR TO A GAME OR KICKOFF?

I get very, very nervous about 15 or 20 seconds before kickoff. I even start shaking a little bit. Then you feel like you are being shot out of a cannon, and those nervous feelings are gone.

HOW DID IT FEEL WHEN YOU WERE CALLED UP?

I was at the game against the [Jacksonville] Jaguars and saw Donovan get hurt. I was thinking "I wonder what quarterback we are going to pick up." One goes down, you bring another up. After our team meeting the next day, general manager [Tom Heckert] walked by. He calmly said, "Hey, we are going to bring you up, and I'll get back with you on all the details." I remember going to another meeting and thinking the whole time, "Did the GM just say that he was going to bring me up?" Later he said they wanted to bring me up to play special teams. His telling me that and signing my contract were surreal. I was prepared to stay on the practice squad. To get called up and play was a dream come true.

HOW HARD HAS THE ADJUSTMENT BEEN FOR YOUR FAMILY?

Challenging. We have benefited from being young and married. We are used to not having anything. God has blessed us so much with my opportunity to play football. But we've both adjusted. Courtney is from a small town in Nebraska of maybe 100 people. I'm from Clarendon [Ark.], which has 2,300 people. We both moved to Searcy, and it's a big town, but

nothing like the culture shock and speed of life on the East Coast. We went from being around working-class people to being around millionaires and people who you see on television.

HOW DIFFICULT IS IT TO STAY TRUE TO YOUR FAITH?

Temptations come to the forefront as an athlete. I've never really been around the type of people I've encountered here. Struggles come when players sell out and buy in to what the media say we are. I feel bad for guys who do not have something to hang their hat on. With my beliefs, I know where I stand, and with God being my Savior, I know better. But some guys get caught up going after girls and money and getting in a bunch of junk. My faith has been tested, but I have chosen not to buy into that. That is a lot

easier said than done, even coming from Harding. The media want juicy stuff. They don't want to hear about a small-town college guy who is married with two kids and being an awesome husband. They want to hear about someone who is cheating or having a drug problem.

WHAT HAS BEEN THE REACTION OF FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO YOUR SUCCESS?

For my family, and even me, the reactions have been shocking. What is funny is how my friends and family have watched football for years, and now they see me on the same field as all those players they have been watching, and they think, "Oh, they must not have been as good as I thought, because I know you." My friends and family also feel like they know so much more about the NFL because they know me, and I'm still learning myself.

HOW DID HARDING PREPARE YOU FOR LIFE IN THE NFL?

Harding prepared me to be a man. Men like Coach Tribble and Coach Huckeba are awesome men and coaches. As a young man who was there for five years, I looked at them and watched how they carried themselves. The men in the Bible department and other faculty members really live what Harding is all about. It taught me how to be a man of God.



Tank Daniels

LOGO COURTESY OF NFL, PHOTO BY WALTER CARABATI

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

When we came to Philadelphia, I was overwhelmed by some of the things I saw. I thought to myself, "Do people really do some of these things?" Harding is such an awesome place. I wish there was some way to show the other side without having to live like many here do.

HOW DID IT FEEL TO GO TO THE PLAYOFFS IN YOUR FIRST SEASON?

At every level, but especially in the NFL playoffs, physical play is amplified. We had played the New York Giants twice before in conference action. We knew everything about them, and they knew everything about us. I had gone against the same person just a couple of weeks before, but he seemed so much stronger and faster. In the playoffs, winner takes all. The night before the game I was in my hotel thinking I did not want to be the one player who lost the game for my team. I was watching the Seattle Seahawks play the Dallas Cowboys, and I felt bad for Tony Romo when he bobbled that snap. The next day I woke up thinking that I had to have my best game because I did not want to be that person. But after saying all of that, in the Giants game, I blocked a guy in the back on a play as Brian Westbrook ran a punt back for a touchdown. But it got called back because of my penalty. I thought, "Oh, no. I've lost the game." But our kicker made a field goal, and we won.

WHAT IS IT LIKE TO HAVE YOUR WILDEST DREAM COME TRUE?

Not too many days go by that I don't feel overly blessed. I am definitely not the best player in the NFL, and I don't deserve anything. I feel like God allowed me this opportunity, and I want to use it for his glory. Every morning I say, "Thank you, Lord, so much." Many of my friends and guys before me — some of them maybe even better than me — never had this opportunity. Our God is so good, and he saw fit to allow me to do this, and I am just overwhelmed with joy. I heard someone say that there are 1,800 jobs in the NFL, and I got one of them. In the whole world, I am one of those 1,800. **H**

[ROUNDUP]

Men's basketball makes tourney semifinals

THE MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM ADVANCED to the Gulf South Conference Tournament semifinals for its second time.

The Bisons compiled a 17-12 overall record and a 9-5 mark in the GSC West Division. The team qualified for the GSC Tournament as the third seed from the West and met Valdosta State University in the quarterfinals. Senior guard Reggie Bibb banked a three-pointer at the buzzer to give the Bisons a 73-72 victory and a trip to the semis. There the team fell 76-71 to Henderson State University.

Junior forward Matt Hall led the team in scoring and rebounding and earned his second GSC West Division Player of the Year honor. Hall averaged 22 points and 6.6 rebounds per game and connected on a GSC-record 199 free throws.

Coach Jeff Morgan earned his 250th career victory with an 86-74 win over Arkansas Tech University Feb. 15.

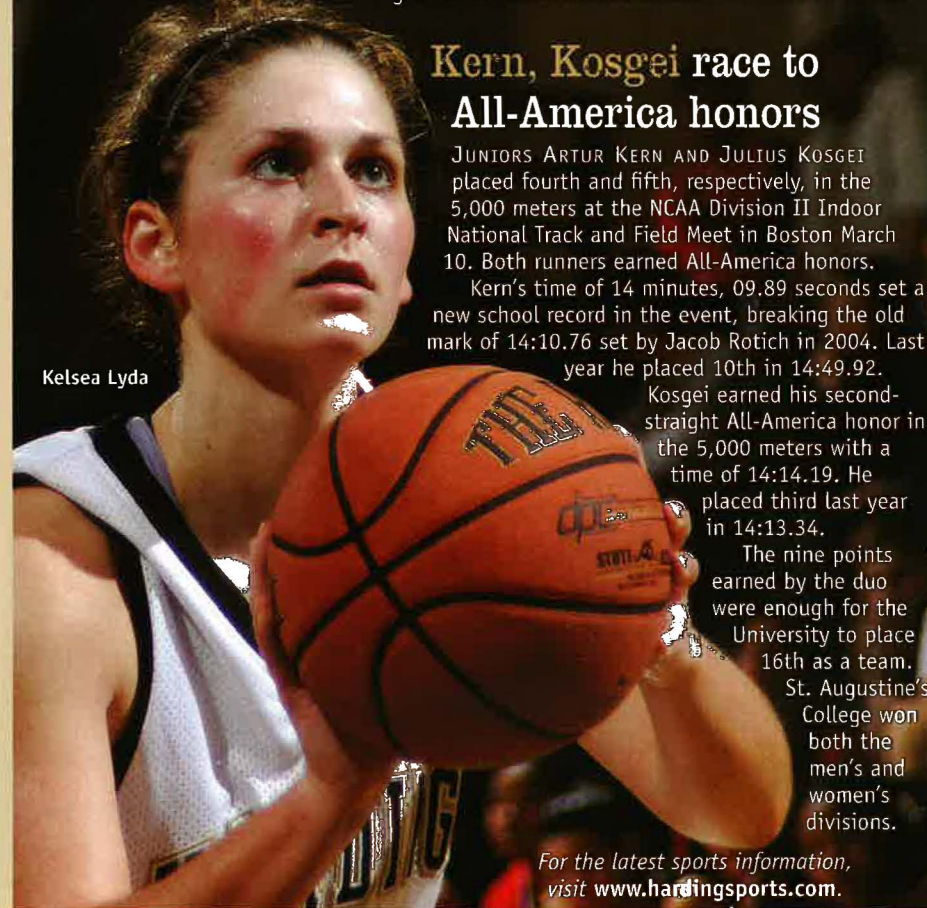
Lady Bisons take first trip to tourney

THE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM EARNED its first trip to the Gulf South Conference Tournament since joining the conference seven years ago. In his second season as head coach, Tim Kirby led his squad to a 19-10 finish, the most wins since the 1998-99 season.

The Lady Bisons posted an 8-6 record in the GSC West Division, earning the fourth seed. They opened the tournament with an 86-62 blowout of University of West Florida before falling 69-42 to Valdosta State University in the quarterfinals.

As a team, the Lady Bisons broke the school record with 216 three-pointers. Sophomore Catherine McMenamy earned First Team All-GSC honors, averaging 12.7 points and 4.8 rebounds per game. McMenamy scored 30 points in the team's victory over West Florida and earned GSC All-Tournament honors.

Freshman Kelsea Lyda averaged 11.6 points per game and made a team-high 53 three-pointers. Senior Jasmine McClindon scored 9.7 points per game and earned her second-straight Second Team All-GSC honor.



Kelsea Lyda

Kern, Kosgei race to All-America honors

JUNIORS ARTUR KERN AND JULIUS KOSGEI placed fourth and fifth, respectively, in the 5,000 meters at the NCAA Division II Indoor National Track and Field Meet in Boston March 10. Both runners earned All-America honors.

Kern's time of 14 minutes, 09.89 seconds set a new school record in the event, breaking the old mark of 14:10.76 set by Jacob Rotich in 2004. Last year he placed 10th in 14:49.92.

Kosgei earned his second-straight All-America honor in the 5,000 meters with a time of 14:14.19. He placed third last year in 14:13.34.

The nine points earned by the duo were enough for the University to place 16th as a team.

St. Augustine's College won both the men's and women's divisions.

For the latest sports information, visit www.hardingsports.com.

HI *A page out of* HISTORY

Bison athletics celebrates 50 years since its return to intercollegiate competition

By AMANDA PRUITT

Photos courtesy of
GERALD CASEY

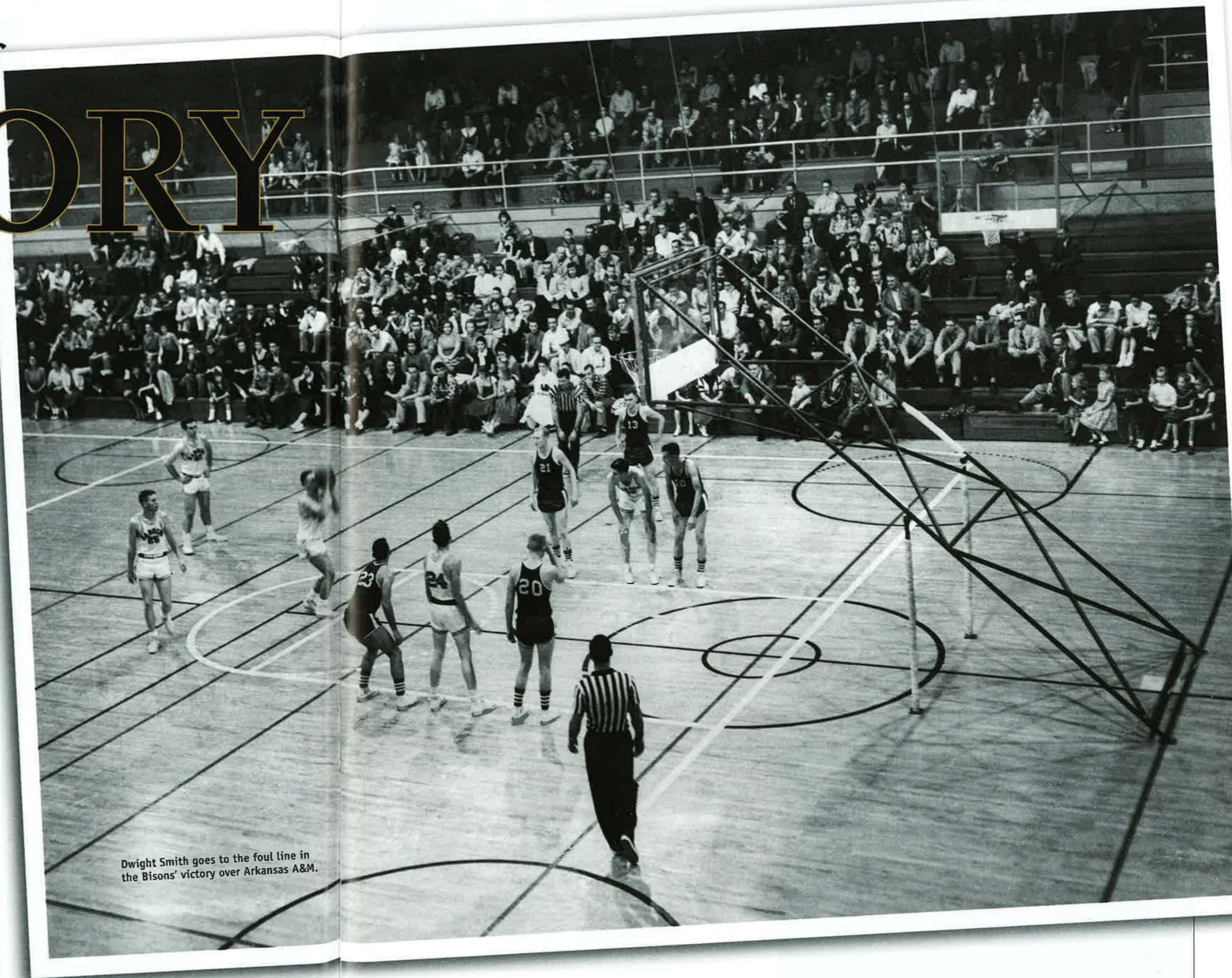
OPEN TRYOUTS, LONG HOURS of sprinting baselines, and shooting baskets were finally over. Opportunities to impress the coach and secure a place on the team had passed. Now came

the decision. ■ The players gathered around the bulletin board of Rhodes Field House that October afternoon as coach Hugh Groover ('50) tacked up the varsity roster for the 1957 basketball team. ■ Although 47 men tried out for the team, only 20 would represent Harding on the basketball court for the first time in almost two decades. Dwight Smith ('59), then a junior, was among the lucky athletes who spotted his name on the roster.

"I know there were some who were disappointed, naturally, like I would have been had I not made it," Smith said. "But it was like, 'Yes!' There's just no way to describe the emotion that you had inside."

Although the first game against Arkansas Baptist College was more than six weeks away, excitement was already building. Intercollegiate athletics would be restored after an 18-year absence.

The Bisons had returned to Harding. >>



Dwight Smith goes to the foul line in the Bisons' victory over Arkansas A&M.

Previously ...

THE CRACK OF THE SOFTBALL BAT and beat of the basketball during pickup games in the gym were typical sounds at the College. Searcy offered few attractions in the '50s, and only a handful of students owned cars, so entertainment was often confined to the growing campus of nearly 1,000. In many ways, sports helped fill the void.

Although varsity athletics were absent, sports served as a major social event since many students participated in intramurals. Not unusual was the sight of 400 fans attending a softball game on the field in front of Rhodes Field House.

The football program had disbanded following the 1931 season largely for financial reasons as a result of the Great Depression. Baseball, basketball and track continued through the spring of 1939. The College then focused its efforts on a strong intramural program.

M.E. "Pinky" Berryhill ('34), who had arrived at Harding in 1937 as its first faculty coach, encouraged the decision to move ahead with intramurals. Not only were intercollegiate athletics difficult to maintain financially, but also Berryhill wanted more of the school's then 300 students to be involved with athletics.

Intramurals grew in popularity until nearly 90 percent of men participated in the program. Still, students held an interest in intercollegiate sports. Dr. Clifton L. Ganus Jr. ('43), a freshman in the fall of 1939, noted that while he enjoyed playing intramural sports, he always wished for the opportunity to play on a varsity team.

Ganus was not alone. When Berryhill began to voice concern about the difficulty physical education majors were having finding jobs because they had never competed in intercollegiate sports, Ganus, now vice president, and Dr. Joseph Pryor ('37), physical science professor, joined him in efforts to reinstate varsity athletics. Both Ganus and Pryor were sportsmen and ac-

tively participated on faculty intramural teams.

"I really felt it would help Harding increase its student body a great deal," Ganus says. "Whether you like athletics or not, they're a part of our fabric of life in America, always have been.

"Secondly, athletics provided an atmosphere and entertainment that we didn't have otherwise. Being a Christian school, we said, 'No, no, no, no. You can't dance; you can't drink.' The rest of America loved athletics, and we didn't have them. Wouldn't that open another avenue for Harding's students to enjoy?"

While students largely favored the return of intercollegiate sports, Berryhill, Ganus and Pryor had to convince the person who mattered most — President George S. Benson.

"Dr. Benson ran the show in those days," Ganus says. "While he was president, there was no question that he was in charge, and everyone knew it. That's not a bad thing, and there were times when that was necessary ... but it made it a little more difficult to get him into something."

FINANCES TOPPED THE LIST OF CONCERNS for Benson and other faculty members. After all, such athletic programs as baseball and football were far more costly than intramural sports because of equipment and travel expenses. Ganus said some faculty feared the character of students that a sports program would attract and were strongly opposed to athletic scholarships. Intramurals, which had so much participation, might also suffer with the reintroduction of varsity sports.

Whatever concerns the faculty harbored, members passed the vote by a nearly three-to-one margin March 2, 1957, to reinstate intercollegiate sports without scholarships.

"We were all so happy about it," says Harold Norwood ('59), who played on the basketball team that fall. "I was in the gym every afternoon anyway. There were six baskets in the gym, and six games going on there all the time."

Berryhill, Ganus and Pryor, along with several students, formed the athletics committee that would supervise the program. Pryor acted as committee chairman and went on to become Harding's faculty representative in the Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference for 30 years.

As the sports seasons approached, interest grew. Smith says students and teachers supported the players and team.

"Dr. Benson would meet me coming out of chapel or around campus," Smith says. "He'd always ask, 'Smithy, are we gonna win tomorrow night?' I'd tell him, 'Dr. Benson, I don't know, but we'll try.' There was just that interest that everybody had."

Unlike football and baseball, the basketball program already possessed a suitable facility — Rhodes Field House, a surplus World War II airplane hangar Benson had purchased for \$124,000 in 1949.

The coach was also an easy find as Groover transitioned from Harding Academy to the College. Many varsity athletes were former intramural All-Stars or had played with each other on one of several Searcy AAU teams.

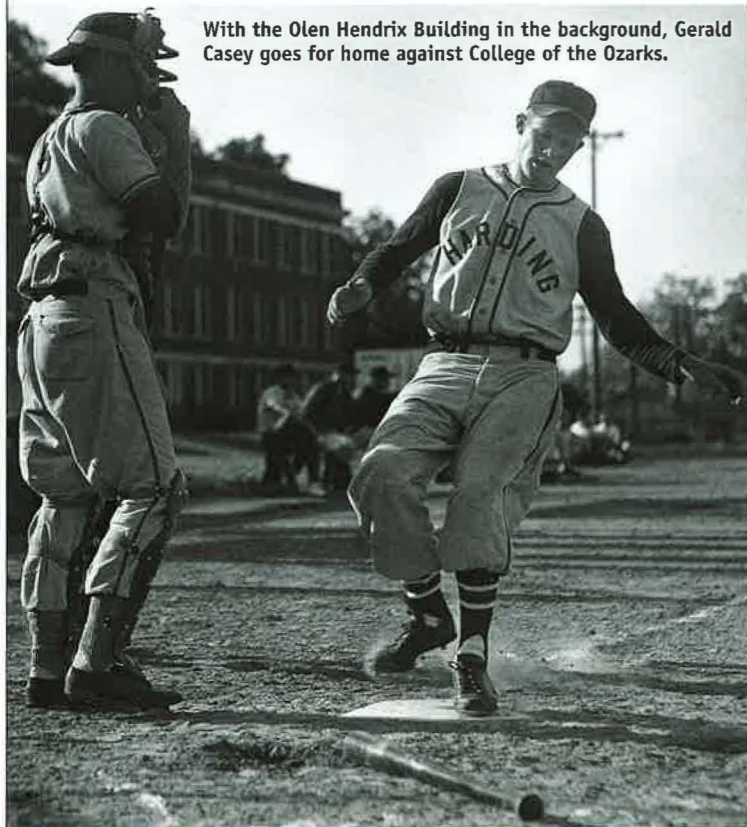
But not everything proceeded without a hitch. During the first season, the team lacked a bus for transportation, so Groover and Pryor used their own cars to drive players around Arkansas and Tennessee.

"We would almost fight to get in Dr. Joe's car," Smith says. "Not that we didn't like Coach, but Dr. Joe had such deep discussions. He would talk about anything, and we could ask him any question."

The Bisons, often outsized against schools offering scholar-



With the Olen Hendrix Building in the background, Gerald Casey goes for home against College of the Ozarks.



ships, finished the year 4-17. The first victory finally came in the eighth game of the season when the Bisons defeated Ouachita Baptist College 69-66 in overtime at Rhodes.

That spring Berryhill, who had coached the baseball team in its final years during the 1930s, resumed his position as head coach with Harry Olree ('53) serving as his assistant.

ALTHOUGH HARDING was in the midst of constructing Alumni Field, a facility that would accommodate baseball, football and track, the field was not finished by the time the season started. Thus the team played at the intramural field behind the library and in front of Rhodes, making for close outfield fences.

The team had scheduled 18 games, but due to many afternoon rains, played only nine, finishing 5-4.

"It was a real pickup type of a program," Olree said. "Since we didn't have any scholarships, we couldn't really do any recruiting."

The track program returned with a 20-member team competing on limited facilities. With the track under construction, runners practiced on a dirt track surrounding the intramural field in front of Rhodes. Groover coached the track team for several years be-

Phone how?

HARDING STILL FACED FINANCIAL difficulty when President George S. Benson convinced Dr. Harry Olree to return in 1960 as athletic director.

Olree agreed to the job and moved into his office in Rhodes Field House only to discover the facility lacked a telephone.

Schools and officials seeking the athletics department had to call the business office in the Administration Building. The office would send a messenger to Olree, who then walked to the Administration Building to answer the phone.

"I told him, 'We've got to have a phone,' and he told me, 'I'll take care of it, I'll take care of it,'" Olree says.

Benson responded by installing a pay phone in the gym lobby. "Still, it was better than having to walk all the way to the business office."

fore handing the program to John Prock and eventually to Ted Lloyd.

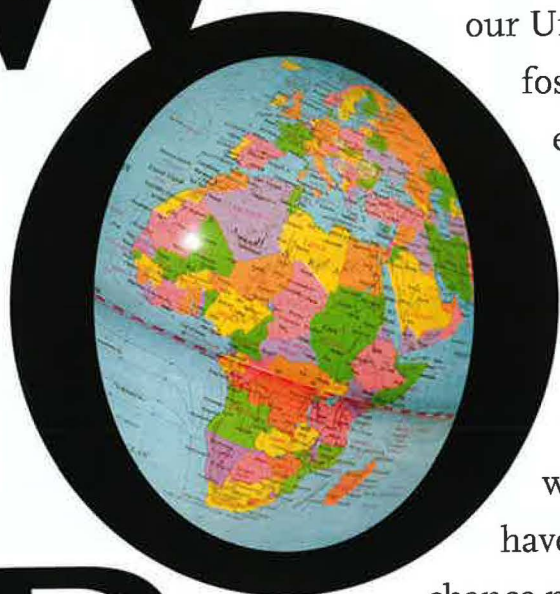
Harding also planned to add tennis in 1957-58 with Olree as head coach. The season never materialized, however, as Olree could not find schools to play except University of Arkansas.

Athletics grew in the following years. The College was accepted into the Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference in February 1959 after assuring the conference the school would add football, which happened in the fall of that year. The team played its first season in the AIC a year later.

"Who can guarantee the future of Harding?" Pryor wrote in a letter addressed to the faculty. "If we remain dedicated to our purposes; keep humble; ever realize our dependence upon God and his help, grace and mercy; and staff our college with men dedicated to these principles, the future can be bright. The same is true with an athletics program."

Even Berryhill might be surprised by today's intercollegiate program that boasts eight sports each for men and women. And the roar of the crowd in the revamped Rhodes would convince him Bison athletics have not only returned, they are here to stay. **B**

small WORLD REAL stories



ATTRACTING STUDENTS FROM almost every state and many countries around the world, our University definitely fosters a global emphasis, one that continues after graduation. So last spring we asked you, our readers, for your “small world” stories. Where have you had that chance meeting with another alumnus or person connected with the University? Your encounters show how small the world is after all.

Compiled by TOM BUTERBAUGH

Name recognition

On our summer vacation in Glacier National Park, we ate at the very small Two Dogs Flat Restaurant. At breakfast a lady approached our table saying she had noticed our son's Harding Bisons sweat-shirt. She asked if it referred to Harding in Searcy, Ark., and told us she was from Batesville, Ark. She was very familiar with the school and had attended events on campus. That evening, after some long hikes, we were eating a late dinner in the same restaurant in a nearly empty dining room. A couple came over to our table commenting on my daughter's T-shirt. The lady said, “You have to be from Harding because there can't be two TNTs and Zeta Rhos in the world.” Their daughter had recently graduated from Harding (which she loved) and was to join them on vacation soon from her new Orlando home. It pays to wear Harding attire — you never know what nice people you will meet.

— MariLynn McInteer Canterbury ('72)
Nashville, Tenn.

Bumps on a log

I graduated from Harding in 1982. In the early '90s, a co-worker and I were sitting on a log in Vancouver, Wash., waiting for the Concorde to land at the Portland, Ore., airport across the Columbia River. A conversation ensued with a couple sitting further down the log. Somewhere in the conversation, a mention was made about having lived in Arkansas. From that point, it was only a few short moments until I discovered they also were Harding alumni!

— Lois Bell Smith ('82)
Olympia, Wash.

Could it be magic?

In May of 1975, my husband-to-be rode home to Maryland with roommate Kenny Daniel and served as best man at his wedding. But the real adventure began when he set out to do what his parents had never let him do before ... hitchhike across the country back to Arkansas before our imminent wedding.

What had been anticipated as fun and excitement turned into slow going in more than 90-degree heat. After one long day and night, Ken found himself not much closer home, as rides were few and far between around Baltimore. That was until he pulled from his duffle bag a Harding T-shirt.

Ah, Harding ... the magic word emblazoned across the chest. That one big word made drivers see a nice, clean-cut college student from a Christian school, not a sweaty, poor drifter who would probably rob or hurt. Ken got back to Arkansas within the next two 24-hour periods as Christians recognized the magic



word and gave him rides in air-conditioned cars. One older couple whose son had been to school at Harding, a student from another Christian college in Tennessee, and a truck driver who just knew of the school all gave him rides and must have felt safe in doing so.

He never again tried hitchhiking, but if he ever found it necessary, he would have done so only if he had his magic T-shirt with the big “Harding” on the front.

— Cathy Cole Sewell ('74)
Willis, Texas

Bisons on a bus

Having been away from Harding for more than 20 years, I never thought about running into a Bison — in a bus — while traveling abroad.

In the fall of 2000, my friend and I went on a cruise. One stop included a day trip to the Cayman Islands. Upon our early morning arrival, we decided to take a kayak trip for the day. We went to the tour operator's office and waited in a short line, finally boarding a small van with six other people.

On the way to the inlet, we listened to the other members of the group talk among themselves. First we noticed the southern drawl, then heard the word “Arkansas,” and ultimately heard the word “Searcy.” I immediately knew they were either current or recent graduates of Harding. The three couples were married, some still taking classes and living in Searcy, while others were alumni. They had all gotten together to vacation in the islands and enjoy a day kayaking.

Unfortunately I do not recall their names, but what a fun day we had in the Cayman Islands!

— Pamela Flannery ('80)
St. Clair Shores, Mich.

Singing with the chorus

In the summer of 1984, I earned a trip to England for nine days with the insurance company for which I worked at the time. When we got to London, we had difficulty finding a church. After a \$26 taxi ride that seemed to be going in circles, we came to a small building on the city outskirts in time for the evening service. When the service was over, several went forward to partake of communion. Upon sitting down we could see the risers in the corner, and I leaned over to my wife and said, “Someone is here to sing.” Sure enough, in walked Dr. Davis and the Harding Chorus. He kept looking at me through several songs until his curiosity got the best of him, and he asked, “Sir, do I know you?” When I told him that I graduated in 1975, he said “Steve Watts?” I could not believe what he did next. He shook my hand and pulled me up and said, “Join us in the Alma Mater and the fight song.” Well, my wife and guests crawled under the pew. By the way, I did remember the words and did not butcher them too badly.

— Steve Watts ('75)
Jonesboro, Ga.



Just ducky

A few years ago, my family and I were in Memphis, Tenn. We decided to take our children to The Peabody Hotel to watch the ducks come off the elevator and swim in the fountain. The children had never seen that before, so we thought they would enjoy it.

As we were standing in the foyer at the hotel, I told my husband I saw a man who looked very familiar. I just could not think of where I had seen this man. After awhile, I just had to find out who he was, so I walked over to him and introduced myself as Barbara Jones Neely and told him he looked so familiar, but I just couldn't place him. I was totally embarrassed when he introduced himself as Dr. Clifton Ganus, former president of Harding.

Dr. and Mrs. Ganus were being honored that day at the Peabody because it was their 60th wedding anniversary. They had stayed at the Peabody on their honeymoon for the price of around \$7 a night. Dr. Ganus had saved his receipt from the honeymoon and presented it to the Peabody, and they allowed him to stay again for that same price.

I was honored when Dr. Ganus asked me to take pictures of them as they escorted the ducks off the elevator. **H**

— Barbara Jones Neely ('84)
Florence, Miss.

PHOTO BY TUDOU LIBRARY

PHOTOS BY JEFF MONTGOMERY



Tapestry of Tahkodah

By JENNIFER L. MARCUSSEN, photos by JEFF MONTGOMERY, HUT photos by PHILIP HOLSINGER

HIDDEN AWAY IN FLORAL, ARK., LIE HUNDREDS OF ACRES — known as Tahkodah — originally purchased by George S. Benson during his tenure as president. Every summer, hundreds of youths from across Arkansas and surrounding states head there to attend camp. The tree-covered site provides shade, and Salado Creek offers cool relief from the hot, humid June and July weather. Here children learn of God in his created environment.

By fall, the din has lessened, but only to an extent. College students trickle in to participate in club retreats and weekend campouts. Missions classes arrive to experience Harding University at Tahkodah, where they encounter conditions and situations facing developing nations.

With winter, stillness consumes the land, one enjoyed by the few who come to relax in the quiet of a mountain cabin. The only sounds are those of wind blowing through leafless trees and streams flowing with cold water. The earth

appears barren, but not for long.

As spring approaches, life emerges. New blooms display vivid colors, and warming temperatures promise good times ahead. Visitors once again populate the grounds for both educational and recreational purposes.

Elements of each season differ drastically — in temperature, landscape, volume and audience. Yet when brought together in the following pages, one clearly sees the richly woven tapestry that is Tahkodah. **H**



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Salado Creek's scenic beauty; canoeing at summer camp; Kenneth Wakwe and Michael White prepare the fields for planting at HUT; a winter day's view from The Pines cabin; Laura Reeder builds a shelter at HUT; Morris Ellis teaches at music camp before fall term begins.



BRINGING CHARACTER *back to the* FOREFRONT *of* EDUCATION

By JENNIFER L. MARCUSSEN



CHARACTER. ASK MOST SIX-YEAR-OLDS WHAT it means, and they'll define the noun as a person from a cartoon or movie. But character "the idea" is a much harder concept for young minds to grasp. So Dave Beyers ('98) makes it easy for them by teaching positive elements of character and citizenship through songs, stories, and the occasional bad cow joke. ■ It's all part of his master plan.

Growing up in Bedford, Ind., Beyers was inspired by Bill Cosby and "Picture Pages." Fascinated by Morgan Freeman on "Sesame Street," he dreamed of one day working for the show. But his greatest influences, he claims, were his teachers and the integrity and commitment they displayed. >>

ART BY JOEY BEYERS. PHOTO OPPOSITE PAGE BY JEFF MONTGOMERY



Dave Beyers teaches one of his songs to kindergarten and first-grade students at Searcy's Westside Elementary.

DAVE BEYERS

As a result, since high school he has wanted to produce quality entertainment that would teach children good character and citizenship.

The debate

Educators have long questioned the benefits and risks of teaching concepts such as "moral education," "values clarification" and "ethics." Because these terms have been deemed too relativistic or imposing, "character education" has become the new, friendlier term. While many teachers believe these ideas should be taught in classrooms, another school of thought says this should be left to parents.

Whatever the phrase, Beyers believes schools need to implement it — and now. He feels that society has become so advanced (not altogether a bad thing) that people insist on instant gratification (not necessarily a good thing). "This generation is so set on now," he says. "We don't work for things as we should."

The result: "People enter into parenthood without understanding the commitment," he says. They expect it to be convenient like everything else in life. When it's not, children suffer. These same children end up in our nation's classrooms not understanding the difference between right and wrong, responsibility, and respect for others. What school districts often view as a huge problem, Beyers approaches as an opportunity.

He defines character education as "promoting qualities of positive citizenship such as honesty, courage and respect" — concepts every child benefits from learning.

But first, he believes, educators must demonstrate character themselves. "Schoolteachers must present it like it is important," says Beyers. "It improves discipline and can be integrated into all subjects."

He knows this to be true because he has done it.

Preparation

Upon arriving at Harding, Beyers sought a degree in radio and television. However, he soon realized that he needed to be in the classroom first to really understand the needs of his audience. How else could he expect to change an environment without immersing himself in it? Thus, a major switch to education followed.

He spent his first two post-college years teaching sixth- and seventh-grade social studies in an inner-city middle school in Memphis, Tenn. Somewhat sheltered and unprepared, Beyers says the experience redefined his reality. Only nine parents came to his first parent-teacher conference. "In my first set of girls, six had already had babies," he says. "By the end of the year, seven more had babies. That's 13 out of 152 students."

Many of his students could not read; many didn't know all the letters of the alphabet or to shower daily and brush their teeth. "I had 11- and 12-year-olds into drugs, and their teeth were falling out," he says. He refused to give up on them. Instead he looked for creative ways to interest them in learning and personal hygiene. He also used his guitar to bring reading, math and science to life through song.

During a recent stop in Arkansas, he spoke to student teachers at the University and recounted his classroom experiences. "Those kids taught me so much more than I taught them," he said. "It's give and take. They watch you, want to be you, and need you more than you and they know."

"If you go into teaching, and it's easy, then you're doing it wrong."

The show

After two years he knew it was time to get the show on the road — literally. He

moved to Nashville, Tenn., and spent four years financially preparing to tackle his dream of being a full-time professional artist. For the last two and 1/2 years he has written songs for Christian and country artists and taken his educational program across the country.

He captures the attention of his young audiences through the use of several clever characters, most notably Billy's Kow and Junkyard Johnson, products of his imagination who come brilliantly to life in his performances. The 2007 tour is visiting more than 100 elementary schools, children's hospitals and special-needs schools in more than 60 cities, including Boston, Dallas, St. Paul, Minn., and Miami.

During the show, he uses a series of paintings he's completed to tell the story of Billy's Kow, a cow with remarkable abilities such as parachuting and juggling. Even with his special talents, he struggles to fit in at school. Beyers plays several songs he wrote to help Billy's Kow with his conduct and homework, such as "ABC's," "States of Matter," "Responsibility" and "Metric System." By the end of the performance, the children are grooving along with Dave and Billy's Kow, who often makes a personal visit.

"After the show, I take time to shake hands and greet the kids eye to eye," he says. "I feel it leaves more of an impression on the kids and gives them a chance to truly believe that they can do what they dream of doing one day."

One of the main ideas he tries to impress upon the children is that diversity is good. "We're all different, and that's a good thing," he tells a group of second-through fourth-graders at Searcy's Westside Elementary School during a February appearance.

He reiterates those ideas three days later at Arkansas Children's Hospital, where he has performed a scaled-down



Dave Beyers reads *Junkyard Johnson* during his visit to Arkansas Children's Hospital.

version of his show for a very small group of children. A bit more bashful and inhibited, the group softly sings along with the guitar, but every eye is glued on Beyers, and smiles light up their faces when he hands out CDs.

"It was very difficult at first," he explains, of his hospital visits, which often include entertaining critically ill patients unable to leave their rooms. "But I might be one of the only visitors some of these children have."

The curriculum

"Billy's Kow Show" is the stepping-stone Beyers hopes will help launch the second part of his vision: developing and implementing his original character education curriculum in schools across the country.

This year, his first children's book is being released: *Junkyard Johnson: A Tale of Childhood Cleanliness*. In the story, written in both English and Spanish, a young boy never brushes his teeth, much like many of Beyers' former students. But through education and encouragement, Junkyard realizes the importance of dental hygiene and learns to take pride in his appearance. Beyers plans to introduce more books and characters in the series during the coming months and years.

"J.J. is the character I am using to develop an entire elementary character education curriculum," he states. "We hope to unveil the curriculum in 2008 in several different school systems in Indiana and Tennessee. He is also the character I am pitching to several internationally recognized companies to be used as their spokesperson."



Student participation is the goal and measure of success during Dave Beyers' show at Westside Elementary in Searcy.

Meanwhile, he will continue his tour until September, when he will face one of his greatest challenges: He and Junkyard will head to Tokyo for six months as a part of INTERAC, Japan's leading private provider of English language teachers.

While there, Beyers will teach basic English at an elementary school during the morning and spend afternoons performing a simpler version of his show for schools, coffee houses and bookstores across the city. And like his current book, this one will also be in two languages: English and Japanese.

But he's not stopping there.

The vision

Part three — his ultimate goal — is to produce a TV show or even movie with his characters. According to Beyers, much of today's children's entertainment is sarcastic, rude and vulgar. So he has set out to provide positive — yet realistic — alternatives.

In fact, he's already written several episodes that address diversity, children dealing with hard situations, and students with special physical needs. "There's no kid out there who's perfect, and we want kids to see that," he says.

Many of his characters and stories are inspired by Bill Cosby's '70s and '80s hit cartoon "Fat Albert." He explains that the series proves there has always been quality programming for children. "Watch 'Fat Albert,'" he says. "It's very faith-based."

The motivation

At a glance, his life looks like one big, fun cross-country trip. In actuality, it's far from easy.

First he must fund his efforts. He supports himself by tutoring, laying carpet, construction, and landscaping during the summer months. Aside from performing and work, he then answers e-mails, markets his products, and designs brochures, posters and future show elements. "Every single day I create something," he says. "A painting, poem or song, so I can inject morals into the educational landscape."

Then there's sleeping in hotels, driving for hours, and spending lots of time alone. Beyers admits that can be tough. "It gets old, but it's all part of the gig." But he's quick to mention the perks. "I'm always about a phone call away from a place to stay," he says, reflecting on the way friends, alumni and fellow Christians welcome him into their homes.

In the end, the benefits win. Just ask him about Christina, one of his students back in Memphis. Chances are, you'll hear about her before you can ask.

During his performances, he'll often take time to pull out Christina's painting from among many larger ones he uses to illustrate his show. A small piece, it appears quite ordinary; after all, it is only a painting of the alphabet. Only when you learn that the artist was blind do you see it differently — and the same way Beyers does.

You see hope in situations often considered hopeless. And for that single reason — for every long trip, mowed lawn and hour spent alone — it's worth it. **H**

To bring Beyers to your school, hospital or organization, contact him at dave@billyskow.com.

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www.billyskow.com



By
Dave Beyers

ART BY DAVE BEYERS

LEFT PHOTO BY KELLEY COOPER, RIGHT PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

Send your alumni news to "Connections," Harding University Office of Alumni Relations, Box 10768, Searcy, AR 72149-0768; or e-mail alumninews@harding.edu. To subscribe to the weekly e-mail listserv *Alumni Digest*, send message, including your name and class year, to alumni-list@harding.edu. You may post messages to the *Digest* at the same address.

1960

Bonnie Johnson Lemon retired after working the past 10 years for a vice chancellor of the Dallas County Community College district and has relocated to be near two of her three children. (2216 S.W. Quail Run Drive, Claremore, OK 74044)

1968

Nancy Gibson Evans has been appointed chancery court clerk of Crockett County, Tenn. Her husband, **T. Vann** ('66), and their son, **Andrew** ('92), own and operate Evans Custom Homes and Evans Strawberries. (834 Walter Conley Road, Alamo, TN 38001)

Dianne Hollis Lundy was recently named to *Who's Who Among American Teachers* for the fourth time. She retired after 33 years of teaching family and consumer sciences, the last 27 at Pineville High School. She is writing a book based on memoirs of her teaching experiences. She and her husband, Richard, have one son. (412 Bragg St., Pineville, LA 71360)

1970

Drake Lee is a clinical pharmacist at Caremark, and his wife, **Bonnie Lewers** ('69), is a teacher for Keller Independent School District. (412 Charrington Court, Keller, TX 76248)

1971

Bob Evridge recently joined Kristopher & Co. as an affiliate real estate broker. (8200 Bennington Drive, Knoxville, TN 37909)

Mary Hazeldine was promoted to associate dean of the College of Business Administration at Georgia Southern University July 1, 2006. (101 Greenbriar Trail, Statesboro, GA 30458)

1975

Glen Henton and his wife, **Kathy Wakefield** ('77), have spent 15 years as missionaries in Buenos Aires. They have five children. (Monroe 4431, 1430 Capital Federal, Buenos Aires, Argentina)

1976

Richard Paine was named a Ruge Fellow Nov. 9, 2006, at North Central College in Naperville, Ill., where he is professor of speech communication/theatre and chair of speech communication. Under his direction, the college has accumulated more than 2,700 individual awards — including a national champion in 1988 and All-American in 2006 — and has placed among the top 20 schools in the country in the National Forensics Association

Championships nearly every year since 1988. He was awarded North Central's Clarence F. Dissinger Award for Outstanding Senior Faculty in both 1992 and 2004. He recently served as national chair for the National Forensics Association (NFA) Lincoln-Douglas Debate Committee and is a member of the NFA National Council. (25 North Eagle, Naperville, IL 60540)

1977

David Bearden and his wife, **Vicki**

Davenport ('83), are both working with McKnight Road Church of Christ. David is pulpit minister, and Vicki is administrator. (7823 Cassia Court, St. Louis, MO 63123)

David Farrar received his Ph.D. in statistics from Virginia Polytechnic Institute Dec. 15, 2006. (P.O. Box 277, Parrott, VA 24132)

1978

Debbie DeLaughter Autrey has been promoted to clerk of the court for the Sixth Court of Ap-

[WHERE ARE THEY NOW? ... TED LLOYD 1957]

Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame inductee

IN OCTOBER, TED LLOYD will celebrate his Golden Circle anniversary at Homecoming with fellow classmates. But unlike many alumni, he won't travel far to partake in the ceremonies. That's because his career as a basketball, football, track and cross country coach began, ended and continues in Searcy.

After graduation, Lloyd moved right into a coaching position at Harding Academy, transferring to University staff in the fall of 1964. For the next 30-plus years he headed the men's and women's track and then cross country teams — with great success.



Coach Guymon discusses race results with coach Lloyd.

During his tenure, he led the Bisons to the AIC men's cross country championship in his first two seasons and, after a leave of absence, returned to the University and went for 19 straight. He ended with championships in 1991 and 1993. He took the Lady Bisons to championships from 1986 to 1993.

Men's and women's track also saw many victories under his leadership, with the men champions in 1965-66, 1981-82 and 1993-94, and the women earning the title in 1989-91.

Lloyd also served as sports information director from 1990 until 1999.

His accolades are many: He was inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame in 1983, Harding Athletics Hall of Fame in 1989, and Arkansas Track and Field Hall of Fame in 1999.

His latest honor, induction into the Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame at North Little Rock's Alltel Arena Feb. 23, distinguishes him as the first University coach to earn the recognition.

According to the organization's Web site, the board of directors chose 10 individuals to honor this year, basing the selection on such criteria as "athletic accomplishment, character and leadership, national significance, conduct during years following active participation in athletics ... representation of women ...".

"I had very mixed emotions," Lloyd said of receiving the honor. "I was very pleased of course, but I know there were a lot of worthy people out there. I'm very grateful."

But Lloyd does not see his induction as something he has accomplished on his own. "Being inducted is really a tribute to all the great athletes I've had the privilege to coach."

Although formally retired since 1999, Lloyd continues to be active in University life. He and his wife taught through International Programs in Greece in 2002 and England in 2005. Currently, he is teaching a health and safety class for the kinesiology department.

And chances are you will find him at many meets standing alongside cross country and track coach Steve Guymon, offering advice and encouragement to athletes. "I'm really grateful to coach Guymon for including me, and he includes me so often," he says. "It's enjoyable to me to still be a part of things." **H**

— Jennifer L. Marcussen



Coach Lloyd in the '70s

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY; INSET PUBLIC RELATIONS FILE PHOTO

peals. She and her husband, Tony, have two children. (4902 Lionel Ave., Texarkana, TX 75503)

1982

Charles Savage received performance of his Four Fanfares for OUZ at Ohio University-Zanesville for the campus' 60th-anniversary celebration in September 2006. His Psalm 150 premiered on campus in November 2006. He was listed an outstanding professor in the 2006 Excellence in Education Awards through *Ohio* magazine. (110 Parkwood Ave., South Zanesville, OH 43701)

1983

John Bradshaw II is a CPA and company controller at Arizona Water Co. in Phoenix. His wife, **Brenda Coomes** ('81), is a homemaker. Their older son is a 2004 Harding graduate, and their younger son will be a freshman this fall. (6524 W. Crocus Drive, Glendale, AZ 85306)

Johnny Mann and his wife, **Resa King** ('81), are therapeutic residential child-care specialists at Florida United Methodist Children's Home in Enterprise. They have three children. (180 Magnolia Woods Court, 18C, Deltona, FL 32725)

1984

Charles Dupre and his wife, **Seeju Merritt** ('86), recently relocated to Pflugerville, Texas, where he is superintendent of schools, and she is a freelance artist and home decorator. They have two children. (20024 Farm Pond Lane, Pflugerville, TX 78660)

Tim Frakes completed 14 years as a video producer for the national office of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and started his own video production company, Tim Frakes Productions. (21 W. 315 Audubon Road, Lombard, IL 60148)

1990

Craig Cheatham has been named president and CEO at The Realty Alliance. He and his wife, **Carylee Parker** ('91), have two children. (10714 Black Elk Way, Colorado Springs, CO 80908)

1991

Lisa Ort Harris is releasing five new Christian fiction books with Barbour Publishing this summer and fall. She and her husband, **Scott** ('91), have three children.

(P.O. Box 506, Duiwelskloof, South Africa, 0835)

1993

David Jacobs has been named senior vice president of The Tombras Group, an independent advertising agency. His wife, **Mikki Hagood**, owns Waves Marketing, a web marketing and development firm. They have two children. (2049 Eliza Glynne Lane, Knoxville, TN 37931)

Amy Hawkins Jones is vocational education director at East Alton-Wood River High School where she is in charge of the co-op program and yearbook adviser. She and her husband, Duane, have two children. (545 Mallard Drive, East Alton, IL 62024)

Thomas Nesbitt Jr. has opened a State Farm insurance agency in Hermitage, Tenn. (1277 Blairfield Drive, Antioch, TN 37013)

1994

Mark Williams is practicing family medicine in Mountain Home, Ark. He and his wife, Amy, have a daughter. (61 Mallard Point Lane, Mountain Home, AR 72653)

1995

Stephen Boozer has been promoted to partner in the accounting and consulting firm Engstrom, Grayson, Green and Patterson, PLLC. He is a certified public accountant specializing in audits and reviews of governmental, nonprofit and for-profit entities. (4111 Lakeview Road, North Little Rock, AR 72116)

Angela Hudson Nix is Women's Health Education Center coordinator at Baxter Regional Medical Center in Mountain Home, Ark. She recently married Shane Nix. (6877 Marion County 6001, Flip-pin, AR 72634)

Christopher Phillips has been commissioned a captain in the U.S. Air Force after graduating with honors from officer training school. He is a clinical psychology resident as part of the final requirement to receive his Ph.D. He and his wife, Trellis, have two sons. (15 Red Oak Lane, Springboro, OH 45066)

1996

Roger Butner recently began a private practice through Baton Rouge Christian Counseling Center. He and his wife, **Chemaine Weaver** ('95), have a son. (7744 Wimbeldon Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70810)

Jennifer Lucero Woodall has been named to *Who's Who Among America's Teachers* for 2006. She is a second-grade teacher at St. Joseph Catholic School. (5135 54th St.W., Bradenton, FL 34210)

1997

Brad Dunn graduated from Southern Methodist University of Law and accepted a position in the pharmaceutical litigation department at Ferrer, Poirot & Wansbrough. (6006 Sandhurst, #2023, Dallas, TX 75206)

Renay Lee was promoted to regional supervisor for Columbia Intercept program at Youth Villages. (1921 Lynnwood Drive, Columbia, TN 38401)

1998

Brent Coffey is a computer and software engineering integrated project team leader/project manager for Eagan, McAllister Associates Inc. as a contractor to the U.S. Navy and Air Force. He and his wife, **Jana Thomas** ('96), recently built a house. (47314 Willow Wood Drive, Lexington Park, MD 20653)

Earnestine Jackson-Hackett has written a book, *Propelling*, that uses a mental technique to help readers move beyond distressing situations that they cannot handle independently. (P.O. Box 2648, Madison, MS 39130)

2000

Daniel Cherry is involvement minister for Jenks Avenue Church of Christ in Panama City, Fla. He and his wife, **Rachael Williams**, have two children. (1003 Berwick Circle, Lynn Haven, FL 32444)

Matt Clement is a software developer at Vanderbilt University. His wife, **Marie Anderson** ('01), is a homemaker. They have three children. (4725 Hunters Crossing Drive, Old Hickory, TN 37138)

Eric Davenport is minister of belonging at Northwest Church of Christ. His wife, **Wendy Green**, is a part-time labor and delivery nurse at St. Luke's Baptist Hospital. They have two sons. (9607 Mustang Mesa, San Antonio, TX 78254)

Brian Dudak is pursuing his doctoral degree in higher and adult education at University of Memphis. His wife, **Rachel Barrett** ('01), is a first-grade teacher at Faulk Elementary School. (7420 Martingale Crossing, #302, Cordova, TN 38016)

2003

Clint Howard became pulpit minister at Coffeyville Church of Christ after graduating from Sunset International Bible Institute in 2006. He is married to **Sara Minor** ('07). (2409 Morgan, Coffeyville, KS 67337)

2004

Chad Burchfield is a pilot with BankAir. His wife, **Heather Jones** ('02), is a homemaker. They have two sons. (15 Livingstone Drive, Searcy, AR 72143)

Adam Gang is recruitment manager at Kentucky Trailer. (4204 Graf Drive, Louisville, KY 40220)

Kevin Shelby is a counselor with Heartlight Ministries. His wife, **Melissa Edwards**, is a registered nurse at Good Shepherd Medical Center. (231 Oakridge Lane, Longview, TX 75605)

2005

Jonathan Johnson graduated from officer candidate school in Fort Benning, Ga., Aug. 24, 2006, and is a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. (13201 Sea Pines Lane, Mendocino, CA 95460)

Marriages

John D. Bradshaw III ('04) to **Jamie L. Beecher** ('03), Oct. 22, 2005. John is systems administrator for Baptist Health Schools of Nursing and Allied Health in Little Rock, Ark., and Jamie is a technical designer at Dillard's corporate office. (10 Mine Hill Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72118)

Neal Helf ('05) to **Cindy Elliott** ('05), Nov. 19, 2005. Neal is a personal banker at Wells Fargo, and Cindy is a teacher at Hurst Junior High School. (7050 Terra Chase Cove, #116, Fort Worth, TX 76137)

Kristin Addison ('03) to Brandon Brown, Dec. 17, 2005. Kristin defended her master's thesis in February 2006 and is a doctoral candidate in clinical psychology at University of Arkansas. (1875 E. Park Lake Drive, #4, Fayetteville, AR 72703)

Jay House ('02) to Carrie Grigg, May 20, 2006. Jay is in business development at Seminole Energy, and Carrie is a financial planner at Waddell & Reed. (3001 S. Oak Ave., Broken Arrow, OK 74012)

Bradley T. Hayes ('96) to Sarah Cavin, June 10, 2006. Bradley is a

PROFILE: HOWARD WRIGHT 1968

A life of service

ONLY IN RETROSPECT does Howard Wright realize his walk across the Administration Auditorium stage in 1968 was a historical moment. He and Elijah Anthony were the first two African-Americans to receive undergraduate degrees from the University.

"We didn't even know we were making history," Wright said. "We didn't come here to make history. No one from the media was present. No one from the University wrote anything about the event in any of the school's publications. But it was history, nonetheless."

Wright shared his experience in chapel during February's Black History Month. "On this campus in the '60s, there wasn't really a civil rights movement. There were no walkouts, no marches, no protests. It was more of a quiet storm than a movement. No one knew the storm was coming, and no one noticed when the quiet storm had passed by."

But his story was just beginning. Wright went on to receive the master of social work degree from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He preached 23 years for Huntington Church of Christ in Long Island, N.Y. In addition

to his ministerial duties, he served as executive director of Target Youth Centers, a Long Island program responsible for juvenile delinquency prevention, court diversion and drug prevention. He trained community volunteers and students in mediation and conflict resolution to assist young people in trouble with the court system. He also taught English and social studies and served as a social worker in the Long Island Public School System.

Since 1992 he has served as minister of Greenbriar Church of Christ in Atlanta. Under his leadership, the church initiated a Male Mentoring Program for boys in the congregation and neighborhood schools. With concerned male volunteers, these at-risk boys are finding role models and receiving guidance at a critical time in their lives.

Wright's subsequent devotion to his church and community was drawn from the isolation and marginalization he felt as a student on campus. So overwhelming were those feelings that he dropped out of school after his first semester.

"I became a statistical dropout," he said. "I became part of a group for whom

Jesus came to give relief — the dropouts, the left-outs, the pushed-outs. ... That was very compelling."

Further motivation came from a statement his English professor made before Wright left school: "I hope I don't see you shining shoes somewhere some day."

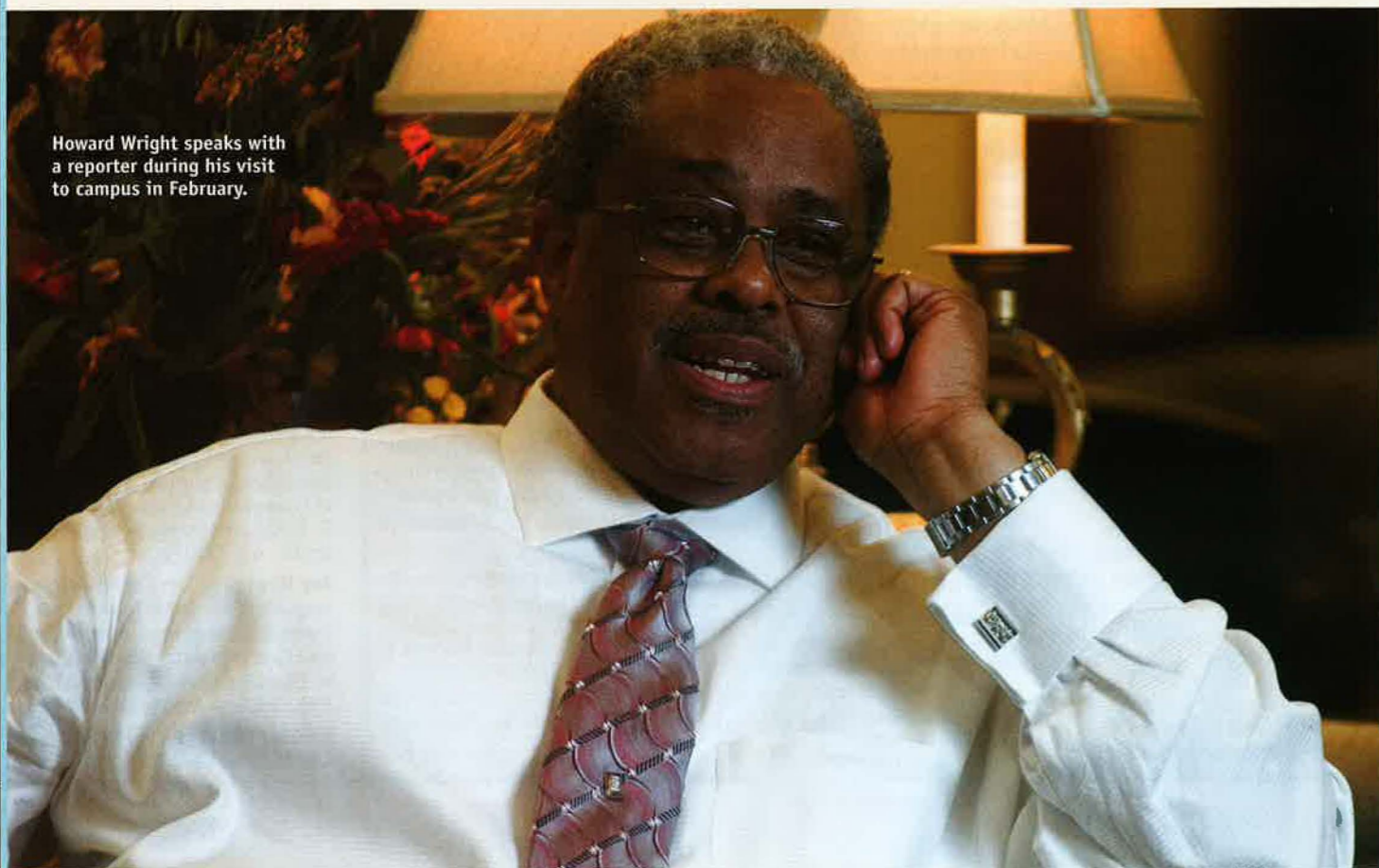
Explained Wright, "During virtually every conscious moment, there was this chorus ringing in my brain — 'shining shoes some day.'"

So he and his wife, Claudine, came back in time for him to enroll in classes the following summer.

Nearly 40 years later, he told the chapel audience, "I wanted to say these things, not to make you feel angry or to think that I was resentful or bitter. That was a pivotal point in my life, one that has made all the difference in the world. It has given me the ability to deal with issues and work through problems beyond my control."

And then, he issued his own challenge to the audience. "How do you help people? If your life is not about service, it's not about anything." **H**

— April M. Fatula



Howard Wright speaks with a reporter during his visit to campus in February.

self-employed attorney at law, and Sarah is a homemaker. (804 State St., Natchez, MS 39120)

Matthew Miller ('99) to **Carrie Breeding** ('01), July 8, 2006. Matthew is an attorney for Bureau of Legislative Research, and Carrie is an interior designer. (2610 Creekside Drive, Little Rock, AR 72211)

Melanie J. Resendes ('02) to **Joseph P. Horst**, July 15, 2006. Melanie is a sergeant in the Army stationed with the First Armored Division Band in Wiesbaden, Germany, and Joe works for Community Bank. (1AD Band, CMR 467, Box 776, APO, AE 09096)

Ryan Stork ('05) to **Katy Keetch** ('05), July 15, 2006. Ryan is a graduate student at University of Texas-Arlington in quantitative biology. (P.O. Box 190853, Arlington, TX 76019)

Barkley Terry ('05) to **Megan Winters** ('06), July 29, 2006. Barkley is manager at Richardson's Car Wash, and Megan is circulating nurse in the operating room at Mobile Infirmary. (4370 Tara Drive W., Mobile, AL 36619)

Candace Ware ('95) to **John Luzader**, Nov. 10, 2006. Candace is a homemaker, and John is employed with Affiliated Foods. (900 N. Pine St., #3, Little Rock, AR 72205)

Hunter Scott ('06) to **Carrie Witter** ('06), Feb. 21. (3660 S. Cox Road, #1507, Springfield, MO 65807)

Births

To **David** and **Tamara Reid** ('96) **O'Neal**, a son, Cooper Reid, April 21, 2005. They have another son, William. (122 Summit Valley Circle, Maumelle, AR 72113).

To **Matthew** and **Leann Grose** ('99) **Chance**, a daughter, Mia Nicole, July 29, 2005. (147 Cottonwood Drive, Franklin, TN 37069)

To **Jim** ('94) and **Kami Shores** ('96) **Horton**, a son, Elijah Paul, Aug. 3, 2005. They also have a daughter, Kadie. Jim is a pharmacist with Walgreens, and Kami is the nursery/preschool coordinator at Downtown Church of Christ. (6 Palmer Court, Searcy, AR 72143)

To **Randy** ('96) and **Heather Davis** ('00) **Rankin**, a son, Haden Allen, Aug. 19, 2005. (400 S. Division St., Morrilton, AR 72110)

To **Paul** and **Jodie Murray** ('88) **Burns**, a son, Jack Everett, Oct.

10, 2005. They have two other sons, Murray and Jeremy. (278 Greenhouse Road, Bentonville, AR 72712)

To **Steven** ('00) and **Amanda Pier-son** ('99) **Clancy**, a son, Austin Conner, Oct. 20, 2005. They have two other children, Christopher and Caitlyn. (2142 McDonald Road, Vincent, OH 45784)

To **Devan** ('00) and **Kaylee Shirey** ('99) **Loftis**, a son, Brinton Lee, Nov. 18, 2005. They are both employed at Brentwood Christian School. Devan is a history teacher and coach, and Kaylee is a part-time coach. (910 Polished Stone, Pflugerville, TX 78660)

To **Matt** ('97) and **Shea Lea Copeland** ('98) **Roberson**, a son, Russell Barrett, Nov. 28, 2005. They have two other children, Braeden and Brooklynn. Matt received his Ph.D. in historical musicology from Florida State University in May 2005. (4425 Blackwood Drive, Montgomery, AL 36109)

To **Bill** ('00) and **Rachel Belcher** ('01) **Moore**, a son, Eli Edward, Dec. 1, 2005. Bill teaches world history and coaches football at Arkansas Baptist High School, and Rachel is a homemaker and tutor. (4710 Sam Peck Road, #1003, Little Rock, AR 72223)

To **Damon** ('93) and **Tracy Halbert** ('94) **Littlejohn**, twin sons, Kaden and Rylan, Dec. 19, 2005. They have three other children, Trevor, Addison and Trey. Damon is senior vice president at Kroll Factual Data. (10170 E. 145th Ave., Brighton, CO 80602)

To **Shawn** ('97) and **Cindy Cheatham** ('97) **Cutts**, a son, Ethan Andrew, Jan. 11, 2006. They also have a daughter, Hannah. (84 Oak Shade Road, Tabernacle, NJ 08088)

To **Adam** ('97) and **Ashley Brady** ('98) **Chandler**, a daughter, Brady Lane, Jan. 22, 2006. Adam is a medical student at University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, and Ashley is a homemaker. (700 N. Pierce St., Little Rock, AR 72205)

To **Kyle** and **Andrea Conner** ('03) **Bartlett**, a daughter, Ellie Jo, Feb. 2, 2006. They have another daughter, Emma. Kyle is a laborer at Rogers Group, and Andrea is a homemaker. (471 Tripleton Pike, Bedford, IN 47421)

To **Ronnie** ('97) and **Laura Hale** ('98) **Ducharme**, a daughter, Kylie Faith, Feb. 8, 2006. They have two other children, Kenzie and Braden. Ronnie is a specialty

sales representative at Valeant Pharmaceuticals, and Laura is a homemaker. (3000 Palomino Place, Hermitage, TN 37076)

To **Todd** ('96) and **Marcie Fouts** ('96) **Miller**, a son, Owen, Feb. 10, 2006. They have three other sons, Easton, Isaac and Andrew. Todd is youth and family minister at Skyline Church of Christ, and Marcie is a homemaker. (43 Deerfield Cove, Jackson, TN 38305)

To **Ryan** ('03) and **Candace Ward** ('02) **Colón**, a son, Christopher David, Feb. 27, 2006. They also have a daughter, Kylee. Ryan is a graphic designer at Cross Timbers Church, and Candace is a homemaker. (13273 Fencerow Road, Keller, TX 76248)

To **Douglas** and **Shelly Griffith** ('99) **Carey**, a daughter, Ava Elise, March 28, 2006. Douglas is an architect at The Preston Partnership, and Shelly is customer lifecycle manager at Sprint Corp. (2402 Hembree Station Court, Marietta, GA 30062)

To **Jeremy** ('00) and **Rachel McFarland** ('00) **Luallen**, a son, Joshua Howard, April 12, 2006. They also have two daughters, Madison and Emma. Jeremy is youth minister at Sunset Church of Christ, and Rachel is a homemaker. (3516 S. Linden Ave., Springfield, MO 65804)

To **Greg** ('04) and **Lauren Tao** ('02) **Thoman**, a daughter, Rachel Marie, April 12, 2006. (1147 Seven Oaks Blvd., Smyrna, TN 37167)

To **Andrew** ('92) and **Kelly Evans**, a daughter, Joy Rebekah, April 28, 2006. They have two other daughters, Robyn and Kate. (222 Cooke Road, Alamo, TN 38001)

To **Tim** ('96) and **Jennifer Clary** ('98) **Coyle**, a son, Parker Stephen, May 6, 2006. They also have a daughter, Caroline. Tim is a project manager for Clary Development Corp., and Jennifer is a homemaker. (4200 Bear Tree Drive, Little Rock, AR 72223)

To **David** ('98) and **April Long** ('02) **Watson**, a son, Josiah Zearl, May 24, 2006. They also have a daughter, Mackenzie. David is a nuclear medicine technician at University of Tennessee Medical Center, and April is a pediatric pulmonary nurse at East Tennessee Children's Hospital. (6249 Rexburg Drive, Knoxville, TN 37921)

To **Rob** ('01) and **Molly Flanigan** ('00) **Carris**, a daughter, Zoe Faith, May 29, 2006. (250 Nogales St., Hoffman Estates, IL 60194)

To **Grey** and **Stephanie Bailey** ('92) **Burge**, a son, Benjamin Grey, June 1, 2006. They also have a daughter, Sydney. (4340 Hickory Shores Blvd., Gulf Breeze, FL 32563)

To **David** ('96) and **Rebecca Lisle** ('96) **Waller**, a son, Colton David, June 8, 2006. They also have a daughter, Hayle. (1516 Bassett Hound Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76052)

To **Ryan** ('99) and **Regina Randolph** ('99) **McCrea**, a daughter, Kerensa Lynn, June 11, 2006. Ryan is a psychotherapist with Spokane Mental Health, and Regina is an attorney with Morrison & Associates. (11923 E. 33rd Ave., Spokane Valley, WA 99206)

To **Bruce** ('92) and **Becky Richardson**, a daughter, Kelsey Leigh, June 15, 2006. They have two other children, Michael and Kayla. Bruce is city recorder for La Vergne, and Becky is a homemaker. (9021 MacBeth Drive, Smyrna, TN 37086)

To **Kyle** and **Mandy Winter** ('97) **Osborne**, a son, Ethan Scott, June 16, 2006, by adoption. He was born Aug. 29, 2004. Kyle is a teacher at Villa Grove High School, and Mandy is R.N. case manager at Decatur Memorial Hospital. (665 Country Court, Mount Zion, IL 62549)

To **Lynn** ('89) and **Michelle Morgan** ('92) **Cook**, a son, Aaron Michael, June 20, 2006. They have two other sons, Andrew and Austin. (3208 Moonlighting Place, Bryant, AR 72022)

To **Jim** and **Allison Ward** ('97) **Harris**, quadruplets, Jonathan Carl, Zachary Franklin, Reagan Leanne and Thomas Ervin, June 20, 2006. (5512 Fenway Lane, Knoxville, TN 37912)

To **Tommy** ('98) and **Michelle Coan** ('99) **Noel**, a daughter, Allie Anne, June 23, 2006. They have two other daughters, Claire and Emily. (1616 War Eagle Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72116)

To **Barry** ('96) and **Sheri Livingston** ('96) **Birmingham**, a daughter, Kathryn Brooke, June 26, 2006. They also have a son, Blake. Barry is administrator of Searcy Medical Center. (12 Livingstone Drive, Searcy, AR 72143)

To **Bill** ('90) and **Chris Ann Quigley** ('94) **Ceraso**, a son, Jacob William, June 29, 2006. They also have a daughter, Elizabeth. Bill is a partner optometrist at Bellmawr Eye Care, and Chris Ann is a homemaker. (102 Timber Blvd., Brooklawn, NJ 08030)

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

To **Jeremy** ('02) and **Laurie Snow** ('98) **Turner**, a son, Levi Daniel, June 29, 2006. Jeremy is a sales representative at Houston Metro Hardwoods, and Laurie is a homemaker. (115 Delaware, Montgomery, TX 77316)

To **Steven** and **Monica Hile** ('00) **Pettypool**, a son, Cannon Riley, June 30, 2006. They have two other sons, Jacob and Aidan. Steven is a graduate student at Union University, and Monica is a homemaker. (152 Augustus Cove, Humboldt, TN 38343)

To **Phill** ('01) and **Heather Driver** ('00) **Gisel**, a son, Jack William, July 1, 2006. They have another son, Alex. Phill is a firefighter for Lenexa, Kan., and Heather works from home. (21715 S. Race St., Spring Hill, KS 66083)

To **Thomas** ('95) and **Kimberlee Watne** ('96) **Tandy**, a son, Dominick James, July 3, 2006. They also have a daughter, Elizabeth. Thomas is a research and development chemist at Abengoa Bioenergy Corp. (807 E. Sixth St., York, NE 68467)

To **Jeff** and **Becky Hinton** ('98) **Shafer**, a daughter, Abby Nicole, July 12, 2006. They have two other children, Lily and Trevor. (125 S. Delaware Ave., York, NE 68467)

To **Taylor** ('03) and **Elizabeth Dickson** ('01) **Ross**, a daughter, Cana Lynn, July 14, 2006. They also have two sons, Dickson and Cheyne. Taylor is a stockbroker with Edward Jones, and Elizabeth is a homemaker. (234 Sidon Road, Rose Bud, AR 72137)

To **Patrick** ('98) and **Chelsey Dyer** ('00) **Brandimore**, a son, Zaden Miles, July 19, 2006. Patrick is a producer at interactive marketing company CMD, and Chelsey is a nursing practice and education coordinator at Doernbecher Children's Hospital. (5319 S.E. 69th Ave., Portland, OR 97206)

To **Alan** ('88) and **Rhonda Stinchfield** ('91) **Mashburn**, a son, John Alan "Jack," July 20, 2006, by adoption. He was born July 10, 2006. Alan is CFO and controller at Cox & Perkins Exploration, and Rhonda is a homemaker. (12123 W. Morgan Drive, Houston, TX 77065)

To **Jeff** ('97) and **Allison Martin**, a son, Carson Grey, July 25, 2006. Jeff is president at Martin Appliance Family Inc., and Allison is an ultrasound technician at Monument Imaging. (1393 Perth Road, Jacksonville, FL 32221)

To **Joe** ('91) and **Shawna Brigrance**, a daughter, Zoe Grace, July

ALMA MATTERS

Bisons for Christ embraces servant-leadership

By LIZ HOWELL, director of alumni relations

SERVICE TO OTHERS constitutes a major part of the University's mission. Bisons for Christ, a new community outreach designed to connect current students with local residents, is the latest such endeavor.

During the last decade, the Student Association organized a yearly Day of Outreach. Bisons for Christ has built upon this foundation, extending the event to once every fall and spring semester using the slogan, "You have talent. Use it well."

Careful consideration went into matching the talents of our students to needs within the community. Key students possessing strong leadership skills were invited to join the planning committee comprised of Nate Copeland, April Fatula, Todd Gentry and myself. Shortly thereafter, the committee held several focus groups composed of coaches, club and organization presidents, and professors and administrators before planning the event.

Results from these meetings revealed that students desire strong relationships with those outside of their age group, so many were paired with members of local churches, University faculty and staff, younger people, and prospective students for the service day April 18.

The opportunities were numerous. Home Bible study groups completed several projects. Spring break campaigners kept their groups together and worked throughout White County. While some volunteers sang at nursing homes,

others crafted items for prisoners and victims of domestic violence. The Early Bird Class at College Church and the College of Nursing worked with the elderly at the Lightle Center.

Local youth were targets of many efforts. The Pied Pipers entertained children participating in a tutoring program while education majors initiated Reading in the Park — Children's Story Hour in Spring and Berryhill parks. University athletes helped young hopefuls improve skills in soccer, softball, baseball and skateboarding at the Searcy Sports Complex, and future Bison football players enjoyed a mini training camp on the AstroTurf of First Security Stadium.

TNT and Zeta Rho social clubs painted a family's home, and other volunteers assisted in a countywide cleanup led by White County Judge Michael Lincoln.

As the workday ended, participants met in the Family Room at College Church of Christ to reflect and enjoy a cookout provided by Bison Boosters and several volunteers. A devotional and slide show capped off the day.

I couldn't help but think of Matthew 25:40, "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." Many efforts saw immediate success; others planted seeds to bloom later. Yet only God knows the magnitude of good that was accomplished in the name of Christ.

For more information, contact Todd Gentry, college ministry and outreach, at todd_gentry@yahoo.com. **H**

27, 2006, by adoption. She was born Sept. 29, 2005, in South Korea. They also have a son, Adam. (7947 Breezy Meadows Lane, Bartlett, TN 38135)

To **Brian** ('00) and **Kendra Buck** ('00) **Caffey**, a son, Maddox Owen, Aug. 4, 2006. They have another son, Bryson. Brian is a mortgage broker with Cendera Funding, and Kendra is a homemaker. (2501 Daisy Lane, Fort Worth, TX 76111)

To **Thom** ('88) and **Jennifer Swinea** ('93) **Jacquet**, a daughter, Maren Elizabeth, Aug. 9, 2006. They have two other children, Jack and Beckham. Thom is a Bible teacher and head varsity boys' soccer coach at Greater Atlanta Christian School, and Jen-

nifer is a homemaker. (111 Omega Drive, Lawrenceville, GA 30044)

To **Chad** and **Sheila Henry** ('96) **Vester**, a son, Carson Mario Alexander, Aug. 9, 2006, by adoption. He was born Sept. 8, 2005, in Guatemala. Chad is a firefighter/driver for the city of Colorado Springs, and Sheila is a homemaker. (6927 Prairie Wind Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80923)

To **Simon** and **Ruth Howe** ('04) **Hardy**, a daughter, Charlotte Ruth, Aug. 12, 2006. They also have a son, Thomas. (7 Russell St., Loughborough, LEICS, LE11 1BH, UK)

To **Luis** ('96) and **Melissa Estrada**, a daughter, Rebecca, Aug. 13, 2006. They have another daughter,

Victoria. (116 Newport Court, Harleysville, PA 19438)

To **Darren** and **Charis Walker** ('97) **Merryman**, a son, John Taylor, Aug. 13, 2006. (2904 Windy Crossing Lane, Dickinson, TX 77539)

To **J.D.** ('02) and **Megan Wiewora** ('02) **Eddins**, a daughter, Lexie Mae, Aug. 14, 2006. They have another daughter, Gabie. J.D. is an associate minister at Goodwood Church of Christ. (920 Ponderosa Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70819)

To **Kyle** ('01) and **Andrea Alderman** ('00) **Johnson**, a son, Brooks Michael, Aug. 14, 2006. Kyle is a project manager at Lifecare Hospitals, and Andrea is a homemaker. (3701 Temecula Creek Trail, McKinney, TX 75007)

To **Rafael** ('99) and **Karen Railey** ('97) **Ruiz**, a son, Luke Hunter, Aug. 14, 2006. They also have a daughter, Katherine. Rafael works for Brighton Home Builders, and Karen is a fourth-grade teacher in the Katy Independent School District. (25211 Sterling Cloud Lane, Katy, TX 77494)

To **Chris** and **Michele VanRheenen** ('95) **Westerholm**, a son, Braden Christopher, Aug. 16, 2006. They also have a daughter, Jenna, who is battling cancer. Chris is an engineer at Goodrich Aerospace, and Michele is a homemaker. (13511 14th Ave. N.W., Marysville, WA 98271)

To **Derek** ('99) and **Kim Poe** ('97) **Reaves**, a daughter, Brooklyn Allyson, Aug. 18, 2006. They also have a son, Barrett. (7501 Magenta Lane, Austin, TX 78739)

To **Jeremy** ('98) and **Denise Pierce** ('95) **Paul**, a son, Tanner James, Aug. 24, 2006. They have another son, Hunter. (11857 Wardler Lane, Keller, TX 76248)

To **Dan** ('93) and **Missy Crawford** ('95) **Holcomb**, a son, Aaron Trent, Sept. 1, 2006. They have another son, Caleb. (1317 Ethan Lane, Yukon, OK 73099)

To **Adam** ('01) and **Kimberly Rampy** ('02) **Hall**, a daughter, Adalie Grace, Sept. 5, 2006. Adam is in Louisiana State University's orthodontics specialty program, and Kimberly is a specialty sales representative for Biovail Pharmaceuticals. (344 Nursery Ave., Metairie, LA 70005)

To **Jeremy** ('96) and **Karen Monk** ('95) **Garner**, a daughter, Catherine "Cate" Hope, Sept. 13, 2006, by adoption. Jeremy is RN supervisor at White County Medical Center, and Karen is a labor and delivery nurse at St. Vincent Doctors Hospital and adjunct faculty in Harding's College of Nursing. (908 E. Market Ave., Searcy, AR 72143)

To **Rich** ('94) and **Heather Troutwine** ('96) **Little**, a daughter, Claire Aime, Sept. 14, 2006. They have three other children, Ann, Shelby and William. Rich is minister at Naperville Church of Christ, and Heather is a homemaker. (517 S. Washington St., Wheaton, IL 60187)

To **Stephen** ('03) and **Marina Shaw** ('03) **Shannon**, a son, Braden William, Sept. 15, 2006. (306 Reservoir Ave., Waynesboro, PA 17268)

To **Chris** and **Shana Steele** ('97) **Hazzard**, a son, Caleb David, Sept. 18, 2006. They also have a

daughter, Callie. (3225 McCart Ave., Fort Worth, TX 76110)

To **Brandon** and **Stefanie Culbertson** ('98) **Coleman**, a son, Kenneth Bryan, Sept. 20, 2006. Brandon is a mechanical engineer at Quality Thermistor, and Stephanie is a homemaker. (1732 N. Morello Ave., Meridian, ID 83646)

To **James** ('00) and **Jeni Shepherd** ('00) **Allen**, a daughter, Wendy Ann, Sept. 26, 2006. James is a mechanical engineer with Malicoat-Winslow Engineers. (370 School Road, White Bluff, TN 37187)

To **Travis** ('94) and **Meleah Parker** ('94) **McNeal**, a daughter, Kate Addison, Sept. 29, 2006. They also have a son, Parker. (3223 Troy Road, Lebanon, TN 37087)

To **Mark** ('92) and **Kim Ross Pruitt**, a son, Luke Alexander, Oct. 3, 2006. They have two other children, Maggie and Phoenix. Mark works as an admissions adviser for Harding, and Kim is a homemaker. (810 Merritt, Searcy, AR 72143)

To **Chris** and **Jennifer Schultheisz** ('96) **Fye**, a son, Luke Christopher, Oct. 10, 2006. They also have a daughter, Anna. (18189 Pine Lake Road, Beloit, OH 44609)

To **Layton** ('00) and **Summer Allison** ('99) **Dale**, a daughter, Emerson Anne, Oct. 12, 2006. They have two other daughters, Ansley and Macy. (2242 Stonehenge Lane, Lewisville, TX 75056)

To **William** and **Carolyn Harper** ('98) **Lyons**, a son, Jacob Dean, Oct. 13, 2006. (111 W. Fourth St., Newberg, OR 97132)

To **Joe** and **Laura Bledsoe** ('94) **DeLong**, a son, James "Jimmy" Robert, Oct. 20, 2006. They have four other children, McKenna, Michael, Grace and Laura Anne. (3270 Cumberland Court, Kissimmee, FL 34746)

To **Eddy** and **Lydia Walker** ('98) **Tang**, a son, Collin Walker, Oct. 24, 2006. (1723C Westview Terrace, Arlington, TX 76013)

To **Brett** ('90) and **Kara Dunaway** ('91) **Biggs**, a daughter, Ainsley Claire, Nov. 1, 2006. They have another daughter, Hadley. (44 Buckingham Drive, Rogers, AR 72758)

To **Jason** and **Jennifer Holt** ('00) **Bussell**, a daughter, Jillian Mai, Nov. 1, 2006. (104 Rivers Edge Court, Nashville, TN 37214)

To **Justin** ('99) and **Katie Cranford** ('99) **Lawson**, a daughter, Abby Katherine, Nov. 5, 2006. They



Liz Howell

PHOTO BY JEFF HUNTINGBERY

JUNE	
4-29	Summer I
4-July 27	Eight-week Summer Session
16-21	Uplift Session I
21-22	Summer Experience I
22-July 6	Honors Symposium I
23-28	Uplift Session II
29-July 13	Honors Symposium II
30-July 5	Uplift Session III
JULY	
2-27	Summer II
6-20	Honors Symposium III
12-13	Summer Experience II
13-27	Honors Symposium IV
28	Summer graduation
AUGUST	
16-19	Student Impact
20	Classes begin
SEPTEMBER	
30-Oct. 3	Lectureship
OCTOBER	
4-7	Bison Daze
5-6	Family Weekend
NOVEMBER	
1-3	Homecoming

For a complete list of events and contact information, go to www.harding.edu/calendar.

also have two sons, Isaiah and Grant. (404 Crain Drive, Searcy, AR 72143)

To **Terry** and **Rebecca Lawrence** ('97) **Spear**, a son, Isaac Lee, Nov. 6, 2006. (3121 Florida Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410)

To **Barry** and **Jennifer Lynn Meyer** ('92) **Boverie**, a daughter, Julia Elizabeth, Nov. 14, 2006. They have three other children, Lydia, Anna and Zane. Jennifer is a homemaker. (5639 Ivy Lane, Milford, OH 45150)

To **Steve** ('02) and **Lindsay Snow** ('02) **Cloer**, a son, Joshua Paul, Nov. 15, 2006. Steve is minister at Southside Church of Christ. (3109 Medina Ave., Fort Worth, TX 76133)

To **Daniel** and **Kristen Webster** ('02) **Demaree**, a daughter, Sage Noelle, Nov. 15, 2006. They have another daughter, Sonya. Daniel is a tax accountant at JPMorgan Chase, and Kristen is a homemaker. (8421 Randy Drive, North Richland Hills, TX 76180)

To **Wilson** ('00) and **Tanya Grasham** ('03) **Robertson**, a daughter, Mia Katherine, Nov. 18, 2006. (600 Barwood Park, #1422, Austin, TX 78753)

To **Michael** and **Briana Collins** ('03) **Nelson**, a daughter, Briley Claire, Dec. 14, 2006. Michael is a technician at Nissan, and Briana is a nurse at UMC Children's Hospital. (2501 River Oaks Blvd., #4C, Jackson, MS 39211)

To **Heath** and **Karole-Ann Bean** ('00) **Keniston**, a son, Samuel Scott, Dec. 15, 2006. They have two other sons, Daniel and Andrew. (10 Caverly St., Meredith, NH 03253)

To **Sean** and **Tressa Cole** ('95) **Ashberry**, a son, Robert Jackson, Dec. 17, 2006. (116 Merganzer Drive, Jacksonville, AR 72076)

To **Brett** ('02) and **Kristen Barron** ('02) **Graham**, a daughter, Katelyn Elizabeth, Dec. 19, 2006. (42520 Regal Wood Drive, Ashburn, VA 20148)

To **Patrick** and **Mandy Prosser** ('94) **Pewitt**, a son, Benjamin Prosser, Dec. 19, 2006. (4042 Oak Pointe Drive, Pleasant View, TN 37146)

To **Kendall** ('95) and **Tammy Johnson** ('98) **Doan**, a son, Evan Jerrett, Dec. 20, 2006. They have two other children, Emma and Ethan. (380 Woodsdale Drive, Monroe, OH 45050)

To **Jason** ('00) and **Melissa Morris** ('02) **Baker**, a daughter, Martha Rose, Dec. 21, 2006. (1419 11th

St. S.E., Cullman, AL 35055)

To **William** ('01) and **Cara Gardner** ('01) **Goddard**, a son, William "Liam" Edward, Dec. 24, 2006. William is an installation coordinator for Fleenor Security, and Cara is a homemaker. (1421 Parkridge Circle, Knoxville, TN 37924)

To **Terry** ('96) and **Alison Spindler** ('98) **Beasley**, a son, Isaac James, Dec. 25, 2006. (285 Dunagan Drive, Lawrenceville, GA 30045)

To **Jerry** ('97) and **Miki Morgan**, a son, Daniel Waynn, Jan. 5. They have two other children, Elizabeth and Michael. Jerry is an attorney. (8377 Lonkar Drive, St. Louis, MO 63123)

To Ken and **Jennie Baker** ('94) **Hall**, a son, Max Kenneth, Jan. 8. They also have three daughters, Jill, Grace and Ann. (8504 S.W. 68th Road, Gainesville, FL 35608)

To **Scott** ('02) and **Amy Martin** ('01) **Ware**, a daughter, Brooklyn Kay, Jan. 10. Scott is associate marketing manager for Tyson Inc., and Amy is a part-time clinical dietitian at St. Mary's Hospital. (505 Tumblewood St., Lowell, AR 72745)

To **Nick** ('01) and **Lauren Moze** ('01) **Boone**, a daughter, Rita Janece, Jan. 16. Nick is working on his dissertation and is an English instructor at Southern Union State Community College, and Lauren is an ESL instructor at Auburn University. (1697 Post Oak Court, Auburn, AL 36830)

To **Josh** ('98) and **Jean Massie** ('99) **Bostic**, a daughter, Lauren Elizabeth, Jan. 16. They also have a son, Will. (2306 Birchton Drive, Germantown, TN 38139)

To **David** ('05) and **Dawn Prince** ('97) **Spence**, a son, Matthew Jameson, Jan. 16. David is a high school chemistry and physics teacher, and Dawn is a special education teacher for preschool children. (16579 El Camino Real, Houston, TX 77062)

To Michael and **Romaura Rodriguez** ('02) **Benignus**, a son, Dylan Mikael, Jan. 18. (405 Columbia St., Houston, TX 77007)

To **Jay** ('00) and **April Travis** ('99) **Segadi**, a daughter, Emery Anna, Jan. 18. They also have a son, Elan. Jay is a project manager for Ram Corp., and April is employment specialist at Centerstone. (229 Dandridge Drive, Franklin, TN 37067)

To **Cody** ('97) and **Becky Black** ('97) **Campbell**, a son, Lucas Alan, Feb. 8. They have two other children, Ava and Nate. (711 Palmer

Place, Richardson, TX 75080)

To **Kent** ('97) and **Amy Wiley**, a son, William Brett, Feb. 15. (12140 N. Sixth St., Parker, CO 80134)

To **Jason** ('03) and **Jalaina Tyree** ('02) **Hammett**, a son, Sawyer Thane, Feb. 16. They also have a daughter, Evelyn. Jason is a manager for Lowes Inc., and Jalaina is a homemaker. (2745 Pembroke Terrace, Oklahoma City, OK 73116)

To **John** ('89) and **Elaina Shearer** ('93) **Marshall**, a son, John Elijah, Feb. 16. They also have three daughters, Camden, Sydney and Erin. John is a teacher at Bellevue Middle School, and Elaina is a homemaker. (5010 Ashley Drive, Nashville, TN 37211)

To Shawn and **Jessica Fain** ('98) **Allen**, a daughter, Addison Morgan, March 16. Shawn is a police officer with the city of Addison, and Jessica is a second-grade teacher with Garland Independent School District. (5010 Bayport Circle, Rowlett, TX 75088)

Passages

Clarence Horton ('44), 86, died Nov. 22, 2006. He was a retired pharmacist and served more than 40 years as deacon and elder for the church in Longview, Texas. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, **Frances Williamson** ('42); two daughters, **Glenda** ('71) and **Welma Waldrip** ('76); and three

grandsons. (113 Larkspur, Searcy, AR 72143)

Joe Lemmons ('49), 85, died Jan. 27 from cancer. From 1942 to 1946 he served as a Marine sergeant in World War II in the Pacific Islands and Washington D.C. He was a preacher for churches in Hamilton and Chillocothe, Mo; Rochester, N.Y.; New Egypt and Freehold, N.J.; and Idaho Springs and Parker, Colo. He was the moving force behind the establishment of churches in Chillicothe and Freehold. During his time in New Jersey, he also was a social worker for the state of New Jersey in the Youth and Family Services division for 15 years. He and his wife were both active with White County Medical Center Auxillary. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, **Lois Hemingway** ('47); three sons, Wayne, **J.** ('79) and Brian; two daughters, **Karen Mason** ('72) and Anita Lietzke; 12 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. (110 Jawanda Lane, Searcy, AR 72143)

Regina Bledsoe Getter ('76), 52, died Jan. 9. She was preceded in death by her husband, Richard, in 1994. She is survived by her parents, Garland and Peggy Bledsoe; a son, Ben; a daughter, Sarah Collins; a brother, **Robert** ('77); and two sisters, **Belinda Bledsoe** ('75) and Karen Denny.

Tonna Massey Cervantes ('78), 50, died April 7, 2006, from breast cancer. She graduated from Abi-

lene Christian University with a master's in gerontology in 1989. She also earned a certificate to teach the visually impaired from Texas Tech University. She was a quilter and author who wrote in the church newspaper to encourage women. She also managed the office of the family business, Hope Counseling Center. She is survived by her husband, Stephen; two daughters, Joy and Hope; and a brother, **James** ('76). (2838 Burning Hill, San Antonio, TX 78247)

James Holliman ('79), 55, died Oct. 25, 2006. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy and recipient of the National Defense Service Medal. He is survived by his wife, **Melinda Keele** ('81); his parents, William James and Mary Lou; and three brothers, **Tom** ('76), **David** ('80) and **G. Paul** ('80). (P.O. Box 815, Olive Branch, MS 38654)

James Scott ('92), 41, died Feb. 20 from cancer. He worked in the athletic department at Harding as an administrative assistant and was a graduate assistant for both the Wellness Program and intramurals. A member of the Army Reserves, he later joined the Arkansas National Guard and served in the air traffic control unit out of Little Rock. He served as head varsity baseball coach at Highland High School located near Riverside, Iowa, and coached the sophomore baseball

team at Comanche High School in Iowa before serving as coordinator of student activities at New Mexico Junior College. He then worked as assistant professor and head baseball coach at Crowley's Ridge College in Paragould, Ark., until his health no longer allowed. He loved all sports, but his first love — from the time he started playing in Georgia at the age of 7 — was baseball. Every year after his college season was over, he was active with the Cal Ripken League in Paragould. He is survived by his wife, **Angie HUGHAN** ('93); his parents, James and Connie Scott; a son, James; two daughters, Breanna and Amber; a brother, Douglas; and a sister, Julie Pfeiffer. (109 Highview Drive, Paragould, AR 72450)

Rhonda Frazier ('94), 34, died Dec. 8, 2006, from Alzheimer's. She worked in fashion merchandising. She is survived by her parents, Doug and Dawn Kimball Frazier; her grandmother, Azalea Kimball Hatfield; a son, Clay; a brother, Justin; and a sister, Janelle Strong.

Marilyn Young Fowler, 58, died Dec. 24, 2006, from leukemia. She was an innkeeper at Heritage Inn at Harding. A member of College Church of Christ for 24 years, she was instrumental in the organization of Covenant Fellowship Church in Searcy. She was a master seamstress who enjoyed travel and spending time with her grandchildren. She is survived by her husband, **Al** ('68); her mother, Mae Waller; a son, **Ryan** ('98); a daughter, **Alicia Wiedower** ('93); a brother, Steve Young; two sisters, Carol Shires and Jeanette Sears; and two grandchildren. (121 Tamara Lane, Searcy, AR 72143)

Verla Howard, 96, died Jan. 28 from pancreatic cancer. She was secretary for Memphis Christian School and continued when it became Harding Academy of Memphis. She then became the first secretary for the Christian Student Center at University of Memphis and later secretary for the regional headquarters of the Girl Scouts. She spent the last 11 years of her career as secretary for HopeWorks. She is survived by a son, **Jim** ('62); two daughters, **Grace Anne Gilflen** ('57) and **Helen West** ('72); seven grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.



lowshep Church in Searcy. She was a master seamstress who enjoyed travel and spending time with her grandchildren. She is survived by her husband, **Al** ('68); her mother, Mae Waller; a son, **Ryan** ('98); a daughter, **Alicia Wiedower** ('93); a brother, Steve Young; two sisters, Carol Shires and Jeanette Sears; and two grandchildren. (121 Tamara Lane, Searcy, AR 72143)

Verla Howard, 96, died Jan. 28 from pancreatic cancer. She was secretary for Memphis Christian School and continued when it became Harding Academy of Memphis. She then became the first secretary for the Christian Student Center at University of Memphis and later secretary for the regional headquarters of the Girl Scouts. She spent the last 11 years of her career as secretary for HopeWorks. She is survived by a son, **Jim** ('62); two daughters, **Grace Anne Gilflen** ('57) and **Helen West** ('72); seven grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.



Ted Hackney

FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

Inspire your family with a charitable report

By TED HACKNEY, director of the Center for Charitable Estate Planning

PUTTING ONE'S AFFAIRS IN ORDER usually includes an up-to-date will, directive to physicians, power of attorney, funeral instructions, and sometimes a loving letter or video addressed to immediate family members.

Another document to consider is a charitable report. This report need not be long, but it should include your philosophy of giving (your reasons for making charitable gifts), names of those organizations you have supported through regular giving, a list of any special gifts you can recall (capital campaign gifts and other major contributions), and planned gifts you have made (including bequests in your will, charitable gift annuities, charitable trusts, endowments or other gift arrangements). Include copies of any gift-related documents with your report. Be sure to highlight

any conditions that should be monitored by your family, such as endowment provisions. Finally, indicate why the organizations and gifts mentioned in your charitable report were important to you and what led you to make each gift.

Your charitable report brings together in one statement your giving philosophy and practices. It will be a treasured document and may be highly influential in motivating your children, grandchildren and even great-grandchildren to follow in your footsteps.

You may request our latest brochure on planned giving by contacting Ted Hackney, director, Center for Charitable Estate Planning, at (800) 477-4312 or thackney@harding.edu. **H**

TRIBUTE

JACK WOOD SEARS 1940

Faithful scientist

By JENNIFER L. MARCUSSEN

WHILE OFTEN OVERUSED, legacy can still be the best word to describe someone. Such is the case for Jack Wood Sears.

Says Chancellor Clifton L. Ganus Jr., both a peer and colleague of Sears, "He came by it honestly, and what a legacy he had."

Sears was born in Cordell, Okla., where his father, L.C., taught at Cordell Christian College. The family soon moved to Harper, Kansas, where L.C. served as dean and English professor at Harper College until 1924.

His mother, Pattie Hathaway, was the daughter of J.N. and Woodson Harding Armstrong, Harding's first president and speech teacher, respectively. His great-grandparents, James and Pattie Cobb Harding, helped start several Christian colleges.

When Sears was a first-grader, his family moved to Morrilton, Ark., where L.C. would act as dean and chair the English department at newly established Harding College. In 1934 at the age of 16, Sears helped the College locate to Searcy and began a lifetime of preaching.

He desired to follow his lineage in Christian education by dedicating his life to teaching young people.

Statements beside his junior and senior *Petit Jean* photos best sum up his educational philosophy. "Wisdom is better than rubies," reads his 1939 quote. He followed his senior year in 1940 with "the dome of thought — the palace of the soul."

After graduation, he obtained a master's in biology and Ph.D. in genetics at University of Texas. He returned to Harding in 1946 to teach Bible and biology, eventually serving as professor and chair of biological sciences. He retired in 1986, one year after being selected the University's Distinguished Alumnus.

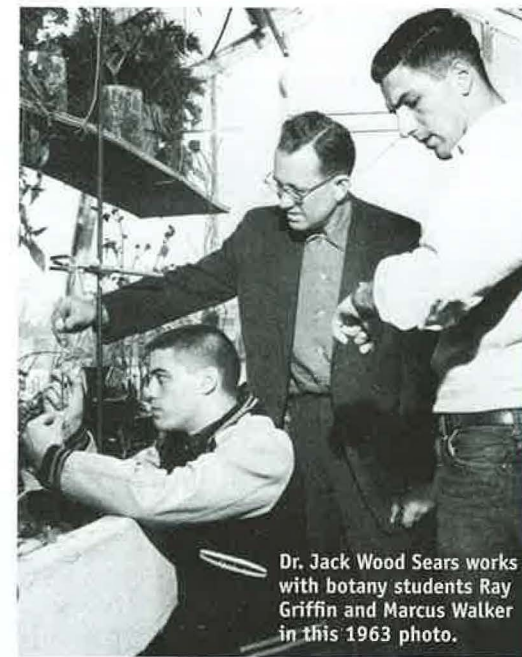
His professional memberships included American Chemical Society, Arkansas Academy of Science, New York Academy of Science, American Institute of Biological Science, and National Science Foundation. He wrote numerous articles and one book, *Conflict and Harmony in Science and the Bible*.

He was on the editorial board of Twentieth Century Christian; conducted a weekly radio program on KLRA in Little Rock during the '50s; was a charter member and past president

of Searcy Lions Club; and was appointed by Gov. Faubus to the Arkansas State Healing Arts Board.

He preached and later served as an elder at Downtown Church of Christ.

During his memorial service, Ganus compared Sears to the great men from whom he came. "Jack Wood reminds me of his father," he said. "He was learned, capable, yet humble and serving; somewhat reserved, but firm in his opinions and ready to speak what he believed."



Dr. Jack Wood Sears works with botany students Ray Griffin and Marcus Walker in this 1963 photo.

"He was always helpful to those in need, was a hard worker ... loved God and trusted him and was faithful to him. He loved the church, and he loved Harding."

He closed with 1 Corinthians 15:58: "Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."

Said Ganus, "Jack Wood has now experienced the promise that God made him." **H**

Sears, 88, died Feb. 5 from complications of pneumonia. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, **Mattie Sue Speck** ('69); one son, **James** ('69); two daughters, **Pattie** ('69) and **Martha Collins** ('83); six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

My soldier, my son

By MARSHA GIFFORD

IT WAS TIME TO SAY GOODBYE, AND I STRUGGLED TO MATCH HIS COURAGE.

In the wave of new recruits, he was easy to spot. A full head taller than most stood my handsome, muscular recruit — my soldier, my son. We hugged long and tight. I told him how proud I was of him, but my heart desperately whispered, “NO! Please don’t go, Micah. I don’t want you in harm’s way.”

Telecasts for weeks, even months, had shown unprovoked atrocities in Iraq regarding innocent civilians kidnapped and beheaded by Al Qaeda terrorists. Micah’s predestined response of justice and mercy compelled him unquestionably to stand for right and against wrong. He believed he would make a difference and enlisted in the U.S. Army to serve and protect the innocent.

Micah graduated from Harding in May 2002 and joined his dad, Dale, and me as we were transitioning from a lifetime in Los Angeles to Northern California. He was the third son of a preacher man and our youngest. He decided to come help us out and readily became our youth minister. We were elated! He always made a big impact wherever he went. He was a dynamic youth worker. We were so proud of him, proud of what he could do and what he would do, and maybe most proud that he had come to be with us.

Micah was one of the funniest, cleverest, cutest and most optimistic people you might ever meet. He lit up a room whenever he entered. Everyone loved being around him and knew they could never have a better friend. (Well, anyway, that’s my opinion, and I’m sticking to it!) He could be totally crazy one minute and in serious heart-to-heart counseling the next. He found humor in everything, or if it was missing, he concocted it. When you got past the laughs to the serious things, his spirituality was not only surprising but also refreshing and provocative. People loved talking to him because he was a great listener, had a good head for advising, and always found a way to be encouraging.

So this affable guy, two and a half years after joining the Army, flew in October 2006 from his base in Anchorage, Alaska, to Kuwait. He called home after three weeks to tell us his company was moving out, but he couldn’t disclose where. Sensing my

uneasiness or maybe just because my name begins with “Mom,” he sent a huge bouquet of flowers from Kuwait with a note telling how proud he was to be my son.

How precious was that? Not everyone gets to say I love you before they die and send their mother flowers — an amazing blessing.

Three weeks later, his then-dried bouquet was still on my desk when a uniformed chaplain and Army sergeant rang our doorbell at 8 p.m. We live in the woods. The sight of those men standing there in the night air took our breath, our heart. They gently told us how Micah was killed on patrol in Baghdad, Dec. 7, 2006, when an improvised roadside bomb detonated.

We buried Micah at Fort Rosecrans in San Diego a few days before Christmas. Memorials were held in Baghdad and at his base in Anchorage almost concurrently. In the weeks following we attended memorials in Redding, Calif., and on the Harding campus.

And now we’ve begun settling into the quiet times of “real life” in facing Micah’s death, as we knew they would come. It isn’t really that hard — except for that elephant sitting on me. I wish he would move. He’s really, really heavy. But then, even when I feel heavy laden — and I do — I have a Father to take it all to.

It is like when my little boys got injections. I remember their expressions: amazed at the pain but wide-eyed, filled with a curious terror, yet calm when they would catch my eye just beyond the doctor’s shoulder. That’s me now. Sad, but blessed, because just to the right of my pain, I’ve caught sight of my Father’s eyes saying it’s going to be all right.

That’s the courage I’d always needed to say goodbye to my soldier, my son. **H**

MICAH GIFFORD ('02), 27, is survived by his parents, Dale and Marsha, and two brothers, Matt and Ben. A defensive lineman and linebacker on the Bison football team from 1998-2002, his jersey (No. 97) was retired — the first time in Harding football history — at a memorial service in Heritage Auditorium Jan. 20. (2910 Volley Circle, Meadow Vista, CA 95722)

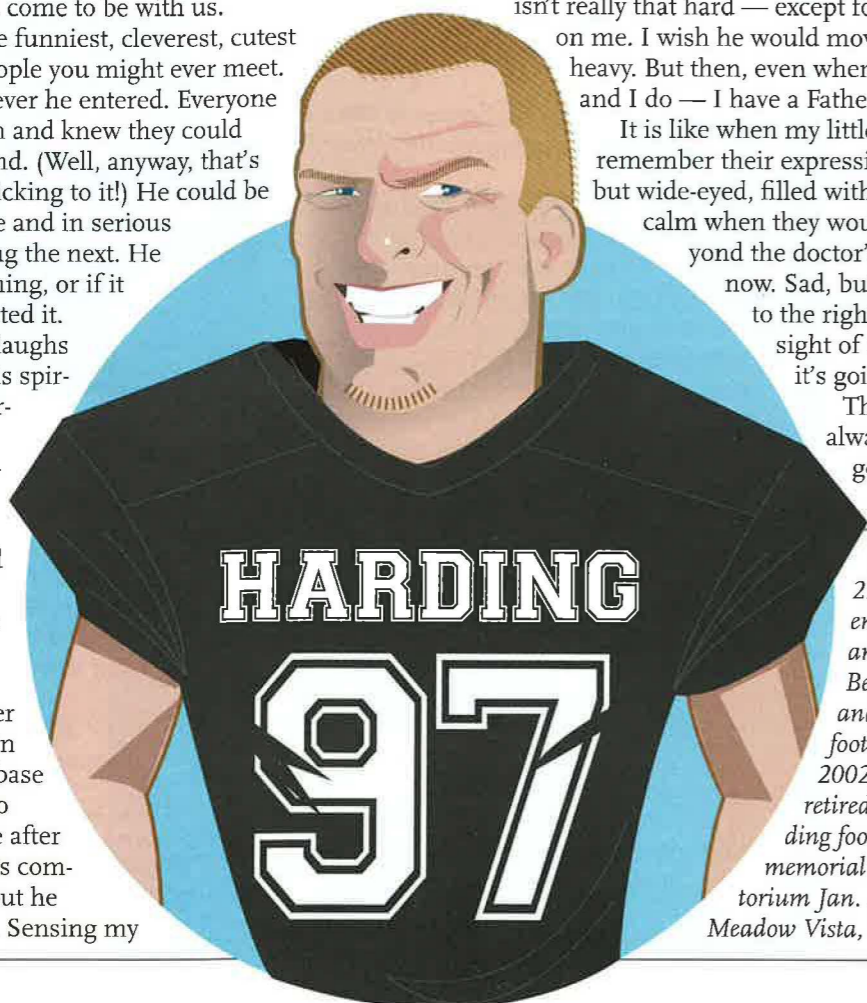


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Junior Katherine Milner helps graduate student Ginger Howell transition into an alien for Chi Sigma Alpha, Regina and Friends' "All's Well in Roswell" during Spring Sing 2007.

