

Winter 1-1-2008

## Harding Magazine Winter 2008 (vol. 16, no. 1)

Harding University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.harding.edu/humagazines>

---

### Recommended Citation

Harding University. (2008). Harding Magazine Winter 2008 (vol. 16, no. 1). Retrieved from <https://scholarworks.harding.edu/humagazines/23>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Archives and Special Collections at Scholar Works at Harding. It has been accepted for inclusion in Harding Magazines by an authorized administrator of Scholar Works at Harding. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@harding.edu](mailto:scholarworks@harding.edu).



# Harding

WINTER  
2008

## Into the heart of Zambia



Galloway gates restored

Follow the yellow brick road

Customs of yesteryear

v. 16

#1

WINTER  
2008

HARDING UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

# On to Africa

By DAVID B. BURKS



OUR HERITAGE IS RICH IN MISSIONS. From the beginning, leaders of this institution have always been advocates of spreading God's truth and love around the globe.

I am reminded of our second president, Dr. George S. Benson, who returned from mission work in China in 1936 to lead the school because he believed through Christian education, he could help prepare many missionaries to serve around the world.

Following the end of his presidency in 1965, he was tirelessly committed to the building of institutions of Christian education in the Republic of Zambia, Africa, and became chair of the board of trustees for Zambian Christian Schools.

Many of you who attended Harding in the 1970s may remember Benson telling of his Zambia trips in chapel, including colorful stories about a man named Bicycle. Can you imagine the stories Benson would tell and how pleased he would be that we now have our seventh international campus in Zambia?

The program's first semester was held this past fall at the Namwianga Mission in Kalomo, which operates an elementary school, a junior high school, a high school, a teachers college, a medical clinic, an orphanage, a home for "street kids," and a working farm that feeds the students. Though not without technology challenges, the inaugural semester proved a great success.

The curriculum emphasizes health care missions but offers practical benefits to all — including an international worldview and cross-cultural education. Our students responded to the program beautifully, and you may share some of their varied experiences as told in their own words beginning on Page 16.

The semester in Zambia only reinforces our commitment to missions. I am excited about the continued growth of International Programs and the ability to enlarge our students' global vision. **H**

*David B. Burks*

Tom Buterbaugh, '78  
EDITOR/DESIGNER

Jennifer L. Marcussen, '01  
COPY EDITOR/WRITER

April M. Fatula, '99  
WRITER

Jeff Montgomery, '91  
PHOTOGRAPHER

#### CONTRIBUTORS

David B. Burks, '65  
President

David Crouch, '70  
Director of Public Relations

Scott Goode, '97  
Sports Information Director

Ted Hackney, '79  
Director of the Center for Charitable Estate Planning

Liz Howell, '78  
Director of Alumni Relations

Kristin Kelley  
Student Writer

Camille Reeves  
Assistant to the Director of Alumni Relations

Harding is published in January, May and October by the Public Relations Office for alumni, faculty, staff, parents and friends of the University. Editorial offices are located on the second floor of the John Mabee American Heritage Center at 915 E. Market Ave., Searcy, Ark.; (501) 279-4316; fax: (501) 279-4154.

Postmaster: Send address changes to Harding University, Box 12234, Searcy, AR 72149-2234.

E-mail: [harding-mag@harding.edu](mailto:harding-mag@harding.edu)  
Web site: [www.harding.edu](http://www.harding.edu)

© 2008 Harding University

#### ON THE COVER

Krista Russell interacts with a child at Eric's House during the inaugural semester of Harding in Zambia. The home, run by Roy ('67) and Kathi Merritt, provides children with a Christian environment until they can hopefully be reunited with their families. Photo by Farron Martin.

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

W. Stephen Smith ('72) and Stephen Mark Brown ('87) pool their voices during "Florentine Festival of the Arts" at Wildwood Park for the Performing Arts in Little Rock, Ark., Dec. 8. Proceeds benefited International Programs (Page 3).



## FEATURES

### II Galloway gates return home

While the iron gates of Galloway College were out of sight for years, they were never out of mind. Learn the who, what, when, where and why of their return.

### I4 270 days in the making

This year's Homecoming musical reached new heights — literally. Go behind the scenes to find out what it took to make "The Wizard of Oz" a soaring success.

### I6 Commitment to service takes root in Zambia

In our cover story, the initial semester in Zambia changes hearts and opens eyes of participating students.

### 22 Campus customs come & gone

From Hilarity to May Fete, take a look at five traditions that exist today only in archives.

## DEPARTMENTS

### 2 Around campus

The Ulrey Center for the Performing Arts is dedicated and other happenings at the University.

### 8 Athletics

Eight coaches comment on a hot topic in locker rooms nationwide — recruiting.

### 26 Connections

26 Profile  
Joseph Shepard, 1983

27 Alma matters

28 Profile  
Jamie Lockwood Sides, 2001

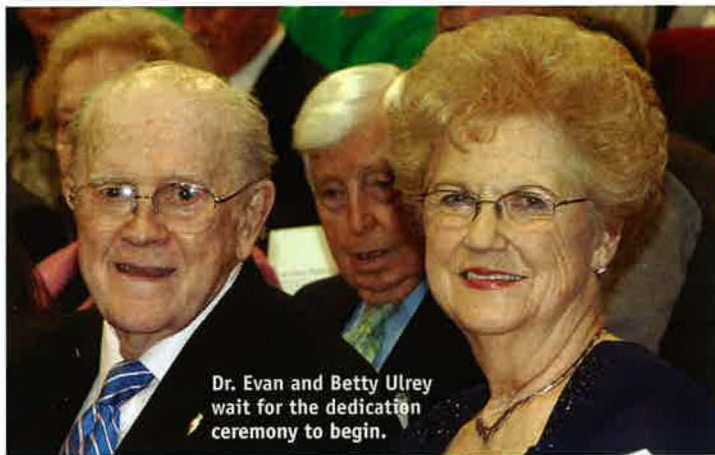
29 Focus on the future

30 Events

31 Tribute  
Billy Ray Cox, 1958

### End note

Find out why Dr. Michael Claxton refuses to own a cell phone.



Dr. Evan and Betty Ulrey wait for the dedication ceremony to begin.

## Theatre finds home in Ulrey Center

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE home, and the theatre program now has a space to call just that.

Ulrey Performing Arts Center, named for Dr. Evan Ulrey, retired chair of the Communication Department, was dedicated Nov. 1. The \$1.1 million project is a renovation of Whitaker Furniture Manufacturing Plant, which the University acquired in 2006.

Ulrey retired in 1992. From the first production of "The Importance of Being Earnest" in 1925 until last fall's musical, "The Wizard of Oz," 935 productions of varying complexity have been performed at the University.

The theatre program was first housed on the Searcy campus in Godden Hall. The Administration Building, where Little Theatre often played to audiences, replaced that venue when it was built. Later, the popular Searcy Summer Dinner Theatre program — instigated by Ulrey — was held in Hammon Student Center.

The new 15,200-square-foot Ulrey Performing Arts Center offers more spacious and permanent accommodations. The center contains the theatre program, Little Theatre and Searcy Summer Dinner Theatre and provides facilities for offices, ticket sales, costume storage and set production.

He was named Arkansas Speech Teacher of the Year in 1986 and directed the Arkansas Consortium for the Humanities — comprising seven participating colleges — which received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

He was a sponsor of Pi Kappa Delta honorary forensics society and intercollegiate debate competition at the University. He also served as executive secretary-treasurer of Arkansas Speech Association, editor of Speech in Arkansas, and Southern representative to the legislative committee for Speech Association of America.

Dr. Daniel Atchley, who recently joined the college from the Academy, will oversee the research for undergraduate students in the sciences that explores novel methodologies for field medical diagnostics.

"We are pleased that this program is designed to incorporate student research opportunities for both Harding undergraduates and Academy cadets," said Dr. Kenneth Yates, chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences. "One of our primary research objectives is to focus on solutions for real-world problems, and this project meets those criteria."

Computer engineering program, part of the Department of Engineering and Physics, has 50 students. The department also offers majors in electrical engineering, mechanical engineering and physics. The electrical and mechanical engineering programs are in their fourth year, with their accreditation process to begin in the near future.

## Pharmacy partners with Air Force Academy

IN SEPTEMBER THE COLLEGE of Pharmacy announced a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement with the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., which marks the college's first inter-institutional agreement.

"We are pleased to see this part of our mission of fostering innovation through research beginning to be fulfilled," said Dr. Julie Hixson-Wallace, dean of the College of Pharmacy. "As a new college, we are excited to see measurable progress in such a short amount of time. I hope this is just the beginning of an ongoing, mutually beneficial relationship with the Air Force Academy."

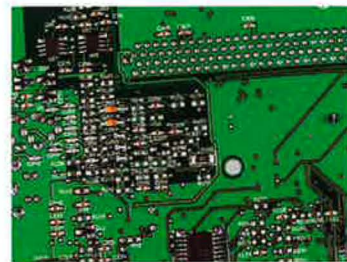
Dr. Daniel Atchley, who recently joined the college from the Academy, will oversee the research for undergraduate students in the sciences that explores novel methodologies for field medical diagnostics.

"We are pleased that this program is designed to incorporate student research opportunities for both Harding undergraduates and Academy cadets," said Dr. Kenneth Yates, chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences. "One of our primary research objectives is to focus on solutions for real-world problems, and this project meets those criteria."

## Computer engineering accredited

AFTER EIGHT YEARS OF DILIGENCE from faculty, the computer engineering program has been accredited by ABET, the engineering accreditation commission.

ABET Inc., the recognized accreditor for college and university programs in applied science, computing, engineering and technology, is a federation of 28 professional and technical societies representing these fields. Among the most respected accrediting organizations in the United States, ABET has provided leadership and quality assurance in higher education for more than 70 years. ABET currently accredits 2,700 programs nationwide.



"The recognition is the result of a great deal of hard work by Dr. Zane Gastineau, department chair; Dean Travis Thompson of the College of Sciences; and a host of faculty and staff," said Dr. Larry Long, vice president for academic affairs. "I am very pleased, especially for our students, who will benefit as graduates of an accredited program as they continue their education or move into the profession."

Gastineau also credits computer engineering faculty members Ken Olree and Jon White and the computer science faculty. "We all worked very hard in achieving the accreditation," he said.

The computer engineering program, part of the Department of Engineering and Physics, has 50 students. The department also offers majors in electrical engineering, mechanical engineering and physics. The electrical and mechanical engineering programs are in their fourth year, with their accreditation process to begin in the near future.

## BENEFIT

## Florentine Festival celebrates art, music

"FLORENTINE FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS," THE inaugural gala benefiting International Programs, was held Dec. 8 at Wildwood Park for the Performing Arts in Little Rock, Ark. About 220 people attended, raising \$30,000.

The reception honored Robbie Shackelford, director of Harding University in Florence, Italy, (HUF) since 1990. His original, oil-on-canvas paintings and limited-edition prints were available for auction and purchase.

Recent coding laws in Tuscany have necessitated many changes to the internal structure of the 16th-century villa "Il Palazzaccio" (homely place), fondly referred to by HUF students as simply "the Villa." All proceeds from the donated artwork and ticket sales will benefit the renovation effort as well as establish scholarships for International Programs.

Born in Naples, Shackelford has been a Rosso Tiziano art associate since 1992. A frequent exhibitor in Florence, he has participated in such shows as "Eco D'arte Moderna," "Fiorino D'oro," and "IMMAGINA - Mostra Mercato di Arte Contemporanea." Much of his highly sought-after work features the Tuscan landscape and Villa.

Musical performances included profession-

als who have appeared on stages from Broadway to Nashville and in opera houses around the world, as well as the University Jazz Band directed by J. Warren Casey ('76). Performers were singer/songwriter Kaci Bolls ('94), opera singer Stephen Mark Brown ('87), University senior Joel Cox, singer Mark Evans ('83), cabaret singer India Medders Galyean ('90), musical theatre graduate student Abby C. Smith ('03), and Juilliard voice instructor W. Stephen Smith ('72).

The University also maintains international campuses in Australia, Chile, England, France/Switzerland, Greece and Zambia. More than 30 percent of recent graduating classes have spent a semester abroad at one of Harding's international sites.

"Each of the places is like a jewel that sparkles off the face of the globe," says Jeffrey T. Hopper, dean of International Programs. "Participation invariably makes for a life-changing experience. It is a special opportunity to see another face that God put on people. Semester after semester our students return seemingly having matured by years. They return with more poise, self-assurance and confidence, and with the knowledge that they can make their way in the world."

Sherry Reed ('83) and Rob ('83) Nossaman review Robbie Shackelford's paintings before deciding to bid.



LEFT PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY, RIGHT PHOTO BY LIQUID LIBRARY

## Musical revue a fine-tuned affair

ALTHOUGH PARTICIPANTS IN the 35th annual Spring Sing will play to the theme "Unfinished," their performances will show polish and refinement. After more than six months of organization and rehearsals, seven club acts, an ensemble of 20, the University Jazz Band, and four talented hosts and hostesses will take to the Benson Auditorium stage March 20-22.

"This date is earlier than it has ever been before and earlier than it will ever be for another century," said Director Steven Frye. "It will be a daunting task to mount the production in time. Spring Sing starts on the very first day of spring this year. But then again, isn't most of life about being unfinished? ... In truth, every day is just another rehearsal. Our greatest reward is not in the shiny facade, but in the process of discovering how hard work, cooperation and hope help us to become what we believe."

"Spring Sing 2008 celebrates the process of discovering who you are — unfinished."

Guiding the production will be rookies Logan McLain, an undeclared sophomore from Searcy, and Haley Jane Witt, a sophomore nursing major from Chattanooga, Tenn. Second-year host David Walton, a junior music education major from Nashville, Tenn., and fourth-year hostess Jillian Shackelford, a senior family and consumer sciences major from Bolivar, Tenn., round out the quartet.

Show times are noon and 7 p.m. Thursday, March 20; 7 p.m. Friday, March 21; and 2 and 7 p.m. Saturday, March 22. Tickets are \$10, \$12 and \$15 and may be purchased at [www.hardingtickets.com](http://www.hardingtickets.com).

## Nursing revamps gerontology curriculum

JAN. 1 SIGNALLED NOT ONLY the beginning of a new year, but also the beginning of a new era in the nation's medical field. The first baby boomers start claiming Social Security benefits this year, and everyone from politicians to marketing agencies is clamoring to prepare for the largest generation of retirees in American history.

Doctors and nurses will likely face the most changes.

"Since one in four Americans are elders, the health care system needs well-prepared providers to handle this demographic shift," says Dr. Cathleen Shultz, dean of the College of Nursing.

Nursing schools across the nation are reformatting their curriculums to include more gerontology content. The University's College of Nursing is a leader in this movement.

Shultz partnered with Assistant Professor of Nursing Elizabeth Lee to receive a \$1,800 grant from The John A. Hartford Foundation Institute for Geriatric Nursing and the American Association for Colleges of Nursing. The grant enables them to review gerontology content and develop curriculum to match national needs of the elderly.

Shultz and Lee participated in a faculty development institute in Atlanta Oct. 3-5 to help them lead their colleagues in enhancing gerontological content.

The Hartford Foundation Web site reveals that adults age 65 or older account for 48 percent of hospital days, 69 percent of home-care visits, and 83 percent of nursing facility residents.

According to the foundation, fewer than 1 percent of practicing nurses are certified

in geriatrics. As the number of elderly patients increases, nurses must be prepared.

Lee says the College of Nursing is already revising gerontology content. This year 28 students are participating in ombudsman training as part of a gerontological care course. To become certified in Arkansas' nationally recognized long-term care ombudsman program, students spend eight hours in classroom training and 12 hours in assisted-living and residential-care facilities. Students ensure that quality care is provided and educate residents and their families about their rights.

Although ombudsmen do not offer medical services, Lee says they practice communication and observation skills.

"It's more than just an opportunity to gain nursing experience," Lee adds. "It's an opportunity to serve the community."

Senior nursing student Reginald Randle of Lake Charles, La., another member of the curriculum committee, says the nursing program equips students like him to meet more than just the phys-

ical needs of elderly patients.

"Approaching older individuals is more of a complex process than other hospitalized clients," Randle says. "Our curriculum is designed to teach holistic nursing. This means that the care we as nurses give should encompass physiological, psychological, psychosocial and spiritual aspects of our clients. In caring for older individuals, the process of holistic nursing is the same, but it comes at a different pace."

Lee notes that Americans are not only demanding better health care, they are also living longer and suffering more diseases. She says this — coupled with the fact that the number of people 65 years and older will double during the next 30 years — creates an urgent need to teach graduates critical care geared specifically toward elderly patients.

Shultz and Lee will continue to enhance the curriculum throughout the year and will participate in short- and long-term evaluations of the project as they prepare nursing majors for future gerontological responsibilities.

## McNair Scholars Program secures funding

THE RONALD E. MCNAIR Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program has been funded by the U.S. Department of Education for five additional years. According to the award letter, the grant was extended five years instead of the usual four because the "application scored within the top 10 percent of all the applications."

Out of 318 eligible applications, only 181 were funded. The University, one of only three schools in Arkansas to offer the program, has been funded at \$231,000 for the first year of this five-year grant cycle and will serve 26 students per year.

Students who have successfully completed at least one year of college and who are either low-income and first-generation college students or from minority groups are eligible.

The program aims to provide academically enriching experiences to enhance students' abilities and prepare them for eventual doctoral study. McNair Scholars receive a stipend of up to \$2,800 for 10 weeks of summer research under the guidance of faculty mentors who represent the disciplines in which the students hope to pursue graduate work.

Since its inception in 2003, the program has served 38 University students. Of the 19 who have graduated, 13 are pursuing graduate degrees, which compares well with national statistics.

"Nationally, approximately 25-30 percent of undergraduates enroll in graduate school at any time following college graduation," says Dr. Linda Thompson, director of the McNair Program.

## Jesus Project gives back

FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS, schoolchildren in the coastal village of El Icacal, El Salvador, have become very excited as August draws closer. They are not starting a new school year; they've been in class since January and will not finish until October. And no major holiday is nearing.

Instead, they are anticipating the arrival of a group of Harding students who are coming to spend a week fostering relationships and encouraging them in their studies — a week that will include spiritual, creative, educational, leadership-building and teamwork activities.

The group, named the Jesus Project, began in 1997 when several Walton Scholars on campus wanted to start an outreach that would impact a community in Latin America. They were inspired by the late Sam Walton's admonition to "give something back." A family connection introduced them to the El Icacal School, and the project was born.

Today, the once-a-year endeavor has grown to include yearlong efforts. The summer campaign continues, but University alumni run a Christmas project and other activities throughout the year.

In 2004 the Jesus Project began Proyecto Icacal, which aims to see every child in El Icacal graduate from high school. Activities and donations center around motivating the children to attend school and include providing school supplies, uniforms, medical attention, field trips, computers and development programs. The organization currently helps 300 students at three schools, even monitoring students' attendance and grades weekly.

To pay for the trips, as well as supplies, University stu-

dents hold numerous fundraisers during the fall and spring semesters — including waiting tables at Pizza Pro, CAB movie night, selling calendars, and even hosting a Latin dinner at church. They also meet biweekly to organize and plan for August.

"The purpose of the meetings is to develop leaders," said group president Diego Alvarado, a junior international business and marketing major from Guatemala City, Guatemala. Each gathering focuses on one aspect of the Jesus Project's core culture and includes leadership training. Planning is key, with students choosing a theme in the fall, assessing the area in the winter, and developing a detailed schedule by spring.

"We've learned from experience," said Alvarado. "You must be prepared."

Ultimately, he added, Jesus Project aims to assist not only schoolchildren, but also El Icacal as a whole, and has embraced the concept of community tourism. "It is not a big tourism area, but it has so much potential," he said. "We want to provide tools for the community to stand by itself."

And they are working toward that end, one fund-raiser, one meeting, and most importantly, one child at a time.

## Speaker series adds two

TWO SPEAKERS HAVE BEEN added to the American Studies Institute Distinguished Lecture Series lineup. Veteran civil rights attorney Fred Gray will speak March 13, and Czech Republic President Vaclav Klaus is tentatively scheduled for April 24.

Now a senior partner at the law firm of Gray, Langford, Sapp, McGowan, Gray & Nathanson, Gray began his career as a sole practitioner. Less than a year out of law

school, at age 24, he represented Rosa Parks, who refused to give up her seat to a white man on a city bus. Gray was also Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s first lawyer.

He represented plaintiffs in the class-action lawsuit in the Tuskegee Syphilis Study, a clinical study conducted between 1932 and 1972 in Tuskegee, Ala., in which 399 poor — and mostly illiterate — African-American sharecroppers were denied treatment for syphilis. This study became notorious because it was conducted without due care to its subjects and led to major changes to protect patients in clinical studies.

Gray's appearance is co-sponsored by the College of Nursing, L.C. Sears Collegiate Seminar Series, and White County Medical Center.

Klaus studied at the Prague School of Economics, with economics becoming his lifelong specialist field. He entered politics in 1989 as federal minister of finance. In 1991 he was appointed deputy prime minister of the Czech-Slovak Federation.

In 1990 he became chairman of the then-strongest political entity in the country — Civic Forum. After its demise in 1991, he co-founded the Civic Democratic Party and was its chairman until 2002. He won parliamentary elections in 1992 and became prime minister of the Czech Republic. In this position he took part in the peaceful division of Czechoslovakia and the foundation of an independent Czech Republic. In 1996 he successfully defended his position as prime minister in elections to the Chamber of Deputies, but resigned after breakup of the government coalition in 1997. The next year, he became chairman of the Chamber of Deputies for a four-year term. He was elected president in 2003.

## ACADEMIC QUIZ TEAM

The University's Academic Quiz Team traveled to two Oklahoma tournaments last semester, bringing back first-place trophies both times.

The team competed Sept. 29 at the Route-66 Invitational at University of Oklahoma in Norman and Oct. 27 at the Norwegian Blue Juniorbird Invitational at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater. The team hosted a College Bowl tournament in December.

This spring teams will participate in regional competitions in hope of qualifying for the National Academic Quiz Tournament for the fourth consecutive year.

## COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

### Department of English

Nick Boone, instructor, received the Ph.D. in October from Auburn University. His dissertation was titled "Truth and Method on Black Mountain: The Hermeneutic Stances of Charles Olson, Robert Creeley and Robert Duncan."

Five faculty members made presentations at the Arkansas Philological Association 2007 Conference in Little Rock Oct. 12-13.

Boone spoke on "Uncle Tom's Cabin and Go Down, Moses: A Comparative Study"; Dr. Kathy Dillion, assistant professor, on "Friends in Egypt: The Sitcom as Text in Cross-Cultural Dialogue"; Dr. Terry Engel, assistant professor, on "Tracing the Role of Fathers in the Films of Wes Anderson"; Dr. Dennis Organ, professor and dean of the college, on "Masterful Master Georgie"; and Lauren Smelser, instructor, on "Encountering the Sublime: A Conversation with T.S. Eliot and C.S. Lewis." Engel and Organ also served as chairs for panel discussion.

### Department of Music

Michael Chance, assistant professor, received the doctor of musical arts degree in music in December from University of Memphis. His dissertation was titled "The Original Band Music of Robert Ward: A Historical Analysis and Performance Guide."

Dr. Arthur Shearin, professor and chair, recently completed a 10-year tenure of service as the National Association of Teachers of Singing Southern Region auditions chair. He also fulfilled a three-year term of office as national board member and Region 9 chair for the National Association of Schools of Music, the accrediting agency for music in higher education. >>



PHOTO BY LIQUID LIBRARY



Social work majors like Kristen Sober have many opportunities to work with children in White County.

### Social work project the real thing

HE'S ONLY A SENIOR, BUT Mark Voyles of Searcy is serving as CEO of White County Children's Safety Center, overseeing operations, research and development, legal team, and evaluation.

The position is fictitious, but he takes it very seriously, attending meetings and presenting information to the board of directors. Voyles is part of Social Work 412: Community Practice, a University course that has taken on the real task of assisting the center as it seeks support in White County.

A children's safety center provides child-friendly forensic interviews of reported victims, offers crisis intervention counseling or referrals for children and their families, and tracks cases to make sure not one falls through the cracks. Facilitating interagency cooperation is an essential component in meeting the center's ultimate goals.

Kathy Helpenstill, course instructor, says a "real" project such as the center — as opposed to a concocted scenario — gives the students much more motivation.

"They are doing things for actual children and families, so there is more concentration, enthusiasm, research

and concern," she says. "It becomes a priority. Another benefit is the actual dealing with the board and getting live feedback from bankers, attorneys, nurses, law enforcement, etc., not just the teacher. They recognize how hard it can be in the real world of red tape and budgets."

Voyles' experience supports that assessment. "When I got the position, the first few weeks were kind of stressful," he says. "One week, one of my committees had to develop a full-scale working budget and had limited time and resources. We crammed for several hours one night."

The proposed center in Searcy will be the 10th of its kind in Arkansas.

Currently in the organizational stages, an implementation and start-up team has been working to garner community support, obtain a facility, develop a protocol, and formalize the center's status as a tax-exempt corporation.

According to the center's mission statement, its ultimate goals are "to reduce the level of trauma the system may impose on children and to help increase prosecutions of legitimate cases so perpetrators can no longer offend other children."

### Public Relations point of view

*A Hand to Guide Me* by Denzel Washington with Daniel Paisner

Reviewed by David Crouch, director of public relations Des Moines, Iowa: Meredith Books, 2006, 272 pages

Denzel Washington and 73 other notable personalities share short essays on the people who have shaped their lives. Each story reveals the positive influence a single person had in the life of an impressionable youth at a critical moment of his or her life. Each account shares that gentle nudge from a mentor that guided the essayist to a life of achievement.

Washington is the national spokesperson for the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, and the proceeds from his debut book will benefit the national organization. A number of the essays reflect the influence of mentors and volunteers at the Boys and Girls Clubs. As might be expected, the book describes the influence of loving, but firm, parents, demanding coaches and compassionate teachers. Though the stories may have similar themes, each is told with the passion of looking back on personal life experiences.

Two of the more poignant stories were written by Walter Anderson, editor in chief of *Parade* magazine, and John Wooden, legendary retired college basketball coach.

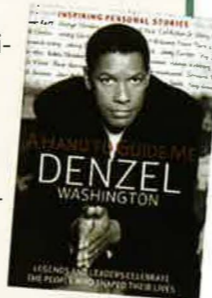
Anderson remembers the mother of one of his best friends living nearby in the Bronx. Her occupation was teacher, but her trademark was encouragement. It was her four-word admonition — "You can do this." — that resounded loudly in his ears. Anderson was thrown out of parochial school at an early age and later dropped out of high school to join the Marines. When he decided to get his GED, those four words motivated him to achieve that goal and even press on to higher levels of education and the position he holds today.

For Wooden, his guiding hand came from his father, who each evening read poetry and scripture to his three sons. Wooden still carries in his wallet a verse his father gave him when he graduated from grade school.

*Four things a man must learn to do/If he would make his life more true*

*To think without confusion, clearly/To love his fellow man, sincerely/To act from honest motives, purely/To trust in God and heaven, securely.*

Wooden sprinkled other verses throughout his essay, but he gave a true reflection of his father's influence in summarizing his own life. "It is really something to have touched so many young lives and to live to see those lives grow and flourish to where they have, in turn, touched so many more."



**“Is it me or are Harding University students universally bright and engaging and well-informed? My experience with Harding journalism students indicates that they are all that and more.”**

— Frank Fellone, deputy editor of the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, in his column titled "Art and Craft" Dec. 6.

### Spanish teacher applies lessons from NEH grant

LINDA MORAN'S "HOW I spent my summer" stories lasted all semester, and she still has more.

The assistant professor of Spanish spent four weeks in seminars and field excursions in Oaxaca, Mexico, and returned with countless applications for her Latin American literature and culture classes.

Moran was one of 24 applicants accepted for "Oaxaca: Crossroads of a Continent," a National Endowment for the Humanities summer institute for college and university teachers sponsored by the Community College Humanities Association.

According to the application, "The seminars and field study are designed to enable faculty participants to explore the exciting and rapidly accumulating new collaborative and interdisciplinary scholarship on Mixtec and Zapotec history and culture, in the contexts both of archaeological site study and contemporary indigenous communities in the state of Oaxaca."

Ten professional archaeologists, anthropologists and museum curators traveled with the group, gaining access to places tourists never see.

"The immersion in culture, traveling in and out of places ... I'm still processing it," Moran said. "They were teaching us how to read codices — ancient pictographs — and we were experiencing the places depicted. We were in museums where they were processing artifacts."

She explained that archaeologists are trying to preserve a site where tens of thousands of people are still living. Although the Oaxacan people have a very vigorous life and

economy, they are still tilling with plows and oxen, so the ground has not been churned by modern technology.

"I was finding all sorts of artifacts just walking in the fields," she said. "I remember holding jade beads in my hands but realizing these are not ours for the taking."

Moran collected slides instead, many of which she has used when she discusses pre-Columbian civilization and literature in classes.

"When I think about the combined experience ... there is no way I could have gone to do research by myself for a few weeks and extracted all this," she said. "The exposure was amazing. In almost every class I can make reference to something."

### Roosevelt Institute to aid community

THE ROOSEVELT INSTITUTE, a nonprofit, nonpartisan national network of campus-based student think tanks, arrived on campus last fall with plans to positively impact the community and country. Group members — students interested in public policy who are looking for ways to improve the

University, Searcy, White County and Arkansas — conduct research on pressing political issues and then deliver sound, progressive proposals to policymakers and advocacy groups at all levels of government.

Brett Keller, a senior political science and chemistry

major from Searcy, learned about the organization on a trip to New York last summer and decided to start a University chapter with some friends. He believes the Institute is an excellent platform for involving politically minded students in the policy process and developing leadership skills.

"The Roosevelt Institute is great because so many campus organizations ask for students' time ... or for their money, but few ask for their ideas," says Keller. "Involving students of politics and other fields in those activities is an excellent addition to our educational experience."

Goals for 2007-08 include ensuring that the University chapter has a sustainable structure; making a definitive, noticeable impact on campus; hosting a public debate or speaking event; and developing policy briefs to submit for publication.

Community development is one of this year's themes. Senior Steven Denney of St. Peters, Mo., said the group is currently researching White County energy development and effective means of city-wide communication in Searcy.

After recognizing a call for a campus recycling program, the institute began researching available resources and implementation methods used by other university recycling programs. Said Denney, "We have already done significant research on a recycling program for Harding and

have presented our case and credentials to the administration. It is safe to say that Harding is as excited about a recycling program as we are."



### COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Accounting faculty members Dr. Phil Brown and Bobby Churchman are the 2007 selections for the Bea Sanders/AICPA Innovation in Teaching Award, established in 2006 to recognize and disseminate successful practices in introductory accounting courses.

Brown and Churchman were selected from candidates presenting their work at the American Accounting Association annual meeting in Chicago last August.

Brown and Churchman's presentation, "Attracting the Best and Brightest to Accounting: Establishing an Honors Accounting Principles Class," describes the professors' experience in developing an honors accounting course, which they implemented in spring 2006.

### COLLEGE OF NURSING

Dr. Cathleen Shultz, dean, is serving as president-elect of the National League for Nursing through 2009. Her term as president will be 2009-2011.

### COLLEGE OF SCIENCES

*Department of Engineering and Physics*

A study co-authored by Dr. Ken Olree, associate professor of engineering, titled "Assessing the Numerical Accuracy of the Impedance Method" was published in the September 2007 issue of *Bioelectromagnetics*.

*Department of Family and Consumer Sciences*

Denise Fisher, instructor, received the Ph.D. in November from Iowa State University. Her dissertation was titled "Changing Ourselves: Narrative Experiences of Women Taking the Lead in Family and Consumer Sciences." In December she was awarded the Certified Family Life Educator credential by the National Council on Family Relations.

### INSTITUTE FOR CHURCH & FAMILY

Tim Westbrook, associate director, attended the Central States Blackboard Users' Group in Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 7. His presentation, titled "Reaching Beyond With Cross-listing," demonstrated the online version of World Christian, a missions course that introduces students to missions principles, cross-cultural communication, anthropology and missions history.

### RESEARCH AND ASSESSMENT

Jana Willis has been named director of testing. She will continue in her role as office manager.

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

## Challenges of recruiting

Compiled by SCOTT GOODE, sports information director

ASK ALMOST ANY COLLEGE COACH WHAT it is about the job that causes him or her to lose the most sleep, and you might be surprised by the answer. While game strategy, player conduct, playing time and media criticism may cause worry, the most difficult, time-consuming aspect of coaching college athletes is recruiting.

Recruiting has evolved into a national phenomenon. Most large newspapers employ a staff member whose sole responsibility is to track which schools the region's top student-athletes are considering. Sports news networks dedicate complete shows to following the nation's top recruits in their college decision-making. Fans swarm Internet chat rooms and message boards to find out the latest scoop on potential newcomers to their favorite programs.

Likewise, the success of the University's athletics programs heavily depends on recruiting. Here eight of our head coaches share goals and challenges of the recruiting process in their own words.

### GENERAL RECRUITING PHILOSOPHY

To recruit the best possible person and player I can find — in that order.

— DAVID ELLIOTT ('69),  
men's and women's tennis

To find an athlete who will fit in with the team — one who will contribute to the

chemistry of our team and represent Harding with class and character.

— STEVE GUYMON,  
men's and women's cross country and track

First and foremost, to go out and find players who will grow spiritually, academically and athletically at Harding. The next goal is to find student-athletes who are going to make us better.

— GREG HARRIS ('96),  
men's and women's soccer

Our philosophy is to recruit young men who will help us fulfill our mission to honor God with our football program and who are athletic and competitive enough to help us win the Gulf South Conference.

— RONNIE HUCKEBA ('78), football

We target women who will fit Harding, our team and our community first. We will then see what our specific needs are for the following year or beyond. We try to recruit the best players from Arkansas, but it doesn't matter where someone is from if she is the right student-athlete.

— TIM KIRBY, women's basketball

I want to recruit quality student-athletes who will be positive influences on our campus. I believe that if our players handle social and academic issues properly, they will be better players on the field. I

try to never recruit talent over character. Character with a little less talent will win in the end over talented kids with questionable character. As for specific sports skills, we place a huge emphasis on pitching. Without good pitching, you cannot win in the GSC. I also recruit a lot of shortstops because they are usually very talented athletes who can play multiple positions at the college level.

— PAT MCGAHA ('91), baseball

We have to work extremely hard at recruiting. It is a 12-month deal. Our philosophy is to get the best players possible who will have a chance to be successful in our atmosphere — spiritually, socially, academically and athletically.

— JEFF MORGAN, men's basketball

### IMPORTANCE OF RECRUITING TO A PROGRAM'S OVERALL SUCCESS

Our program is what it is because of the athletes. Who we recruit makes up the program and its future, and likely our future successes and failures.

— KEITH GIBONEY, volleyball

We have been fortunate to have a history of success at the University in cross country and track. To keep this tradition going, I must recruit the caliber of athletes who will continue this. They don't always line up at your doorstep. — GUYMON >>



McGaha



Huckleba



Morgan



Kirby

PHOTOS BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

### ROUNDUP

#### Bison harriers paced by Cheruiyot

JUNIOR JAMES CHERUIYOT PLACED 19TH at the NCAA II National Cross Country Meet in Joplin, Mo., to earn his second All-America honor. While the Bisons placed fourth at the South Region Meet — just missing a chance to compete as a team at nationals — Cheruiyot finished second and earned his spot. The team took second at the GSC Meet, snapping a streak of seven-straight championships, with Cheruiyot winning the individual title.

#### Women runners 17th at nationals

AFTER WINNING THE GSC CHAMPIONSHIP for the third-straight year and placing second at regionals, the Lady Bisons placed 17th nationally at the NCAA II Cross Country Meet. Junior Janee Jones won both conference and regional individual championships and placed 16th at nationals, earning her third cross country All-America honor. Head coach Steve Guymon was named GSC and Regional Coach of the Year.

#### Football attains winning campaign

THE FOOTBALL SQUAD POSTED its fourth-straight winning season in 2007, finishing with a 6-4 record. The team won five of its last six games, including a thrilling 62-55 Homecoming victory over Arkansas Tech University. Junior quarterback David Knighton shattered numerous school records, completing 297 passes for 3,197 yards and 32 touchdowns. He was named Gulf South Conference Offensive Player of the Year and was one of nine finalists for the Harlon Hill Award, which goes to the best NCAA II player in the nation. The Bisons finished third nationally in passing offense.

#### Huckleba new head football coach

RONNIE HUCKEBA WAS NAMED head football coach Oct. 15. The former offensive coordinator had served as interim head coach for four games following the resignation of Randy Tribble Sept. 11.

"I've known coach Huckleba for a long time, and it is encouraging and satisfying to see the way he has taken over the program. He has given it the direction and leadership we need at this time," said Athletic Director Greg Harnden.

Huckleba announced the hiring of Tim Perry ('80) Dec. 10 as an offensive assistant. He was previously the head coach at Central Arkansas Christian in North Little Rock.

#### Sports Hall to induct Prock



John Prock

FORMER HEAD FOOTBALL COACH John Prock is among 12 individuals being inducted into the Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame in February. Prock coached from 1964 to 1987 and compiled a school-record 114 career victories. His 1972 and 1976 teams both won Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference championships. The 1972 squad finished the season ranked No. 6 nationally in the NAIA.

#### Men's soccer makes tourney

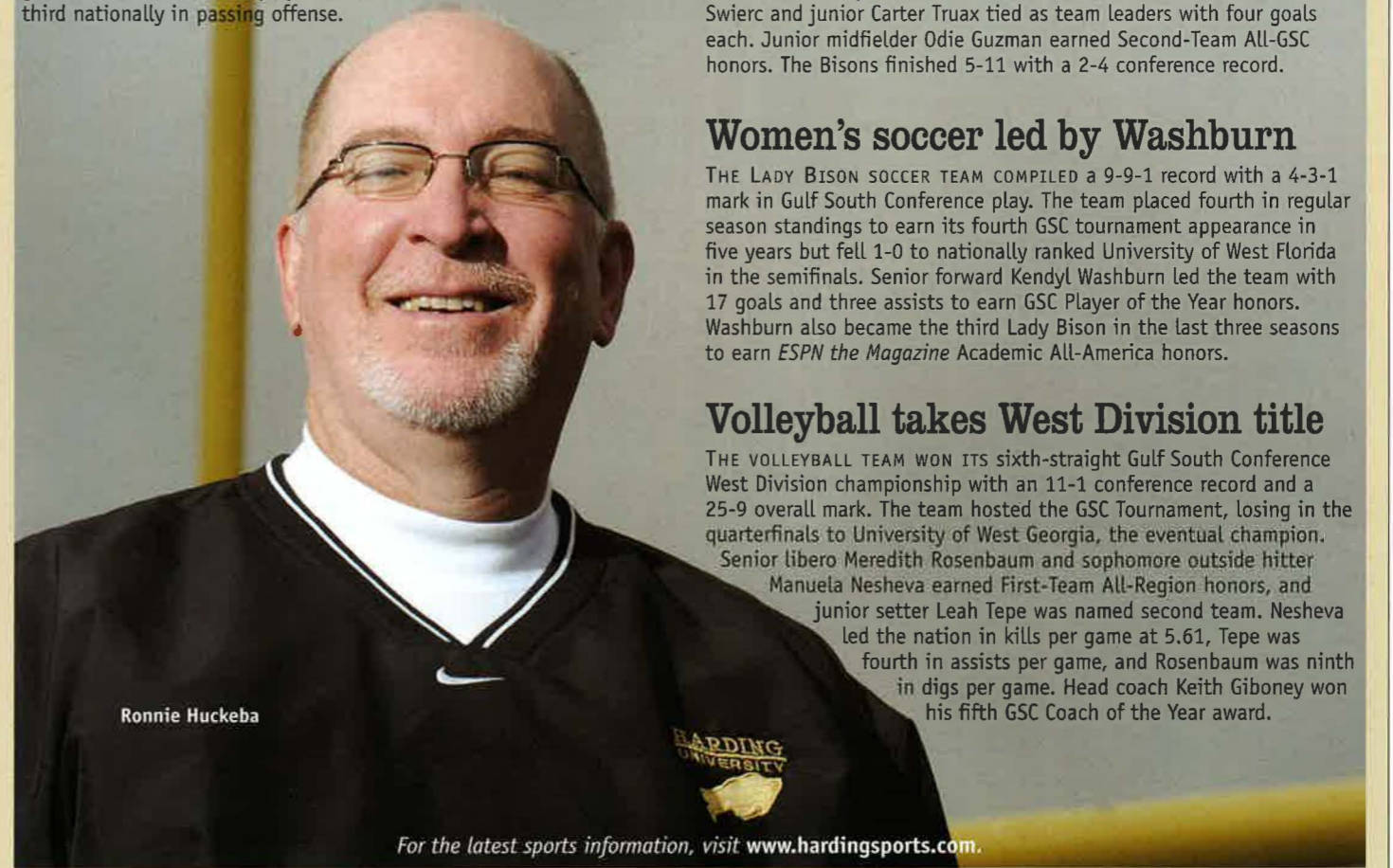
THE MEN'S SOCCER TEAM ADVANCED to its first-ever Gulf South Conference Tournament, earning the fourth seed but losing 1-0 to nationally ranked University of West Florida in the semifinals. Freshman Eric Swierc and junior Carter Truax tied as team leaders with four goals each. Junior midfielder Odie Guzman earned Second-Team All-GSC honors. The Bisons finished 5-11 with a 2-4 conference record.

#### Women's soccer led by Washburn

THE LADY BISON SOCCER TEAM COMPILED a 9-9-1 record with a 4-3-1 mark in Gulf South Conference play. The team placed fourth in regular season standings to earn its fourth GSC tournament appearance in five years but fell 1-0 to nationally ranked University of West Florida in the semifinals. Senior forward Kendyl Washburn led the team with 17 goals and three assists to earn GSC Player of the Year honors. Washburn also became the third Lady Bison in the last three seasons to earn *ESPN the Magazine* Academic All-America honors.

#### Volleyball takes West Division title

THE VOLLEYBALL TEAM WON ITS sixth-straight Gulf South Conference West Division championship with an 11-1 conference record and a 25-9 overall mark. The team hosted the GSC Tournament, losing in the quarterfinals to University of West Georgia, the eventual champion. Senior libero Meredith Rosenbaum and sophomore outside hitter Manuela Nesheva earned First-Team All-Region honors, and junior setter Leah Tepe was named second team. Nesheva led the nation in kills per game at 5.61, Tepe was fourth in assists per game, and Rosenbaum was ninth in digs per game. Head coach Keith Giboney won his fifth GSC Coach of the Year award.



Ronnie Huckleba

For the latest sports information, visit [www.hardingsports.com](http://www.hardingsports.com).

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY, PROCK PHOTO FROM PUBLIC RELATIONS ARCHIVES

Recruiting is a big part of the program's success. I would say it is about half. It is important to bring in the right people who are going to be positive influences on and off the field. — HARRIS

Recruiting is the lifeblood of your program. You must be able to identify quality talent, and then you must be able to sell the positives of your program and university. We are lucky at Harding to have a great product to offer our student-athletes from the spiritual, academic and athletic side of things. It makes recruiting much easier. — MCGAHA

#### WHAT ATTRACTS STUDENT-ATHLETES TO HARDING

The safe environment and protection provided by our University is very appealing. Church is a key ingredient, as well as strong academics and great facilities. — ELLIOTT

Harding stands for the good things in life, and most of the athletes we get want to be part of the Christian atmosphere. They also see teachers who care about students and an athletic department that is one unit — helping each other succeed. — GUYMON

The people! There are many beautiful campuses and all kinds of great academic programs, but the relationships that we have here among students, faculty and staff make Harding distinct. — HARRIS

If we are seeking out the right kind of young men for our football program, everything about Harding will make it attractive: the spiritual emphasis on campus, diverse academic offerings, family atmosphere, outstanding facili-

ties, and caring faculty and staff.

— HUCKEBA

The great Christian and family atmosphere, strong academic programs, and our crowds and support we get from all over campus. Kids like to go where game days are special. — MORGAN

**DIFFICULTIES FACED WHEN RECRUITING**  
Some quality athletes who would do well in Division 2 will choose a larger Division 1 school. — GUYMON

At times we have to weed out people who would be great athletes at this level but do not particularly fit into the Harding environment. I believe that we as coaches have to be a bit picky in who we recruit and decide to bring in. — HARRIS

People often have inaccurate ideas about what Harding is like because of what someone has told them. This keeps some from even visiting. But we think that if we can get them to campus, we have a good chance of keeping them. — KIRBY

With baseball, scholarships are limited, and you need a lot of players to fill a roster. Most of our scholarship offers are only a small percentage of a student-athlete's total cost of education. This can be a big hurdle to overcome with some recruits. Additionally, some of the behavior rules, Bible class, and chapel can be issues for some recruits who do not come from a church background. As a coach, you realize what a positive influence Harding could have on a recruit such as this, so you try hard to help them see this as a positive opportunity rather than a set of rules. — MCGAHA

Many people use our Christian priorities against us in recruiting. They try to make chapel, Bible class, curfews and our code of conduct negatives. We always see them as positives and tell students up front how things are. If we can get them to come see campus for themselves, they will often see the positive as well. Our pool is also smaller than most programs because of this, and we have to research our kids very well. — MORGAN

#### IDENTIFYING TALENT

I watch a particular athlete, not the team or outcome. I watch for general athleticism, fundamental skills, and many intangible traits such as interaction with teammates, response to coaching, poise and coming off mistakes. It all matters. I also try to evaluate them regarding current skill level and possible future level of play. — GIBONEY

We are lucky that Harding has such a strong network of alumni. We receive a lot of leads from alumni regarding potential student-athletes. We also go out and watch a lot of junior college and high school games, showcases, and tournaments. — MCGAHA

I spend a lot of time on the road watching people play. Our camps and the relationships we have developed with high school coaches and junior college coaches help us identify who can be successful. — MORGAN

*Students interested in playing intercollegiate athletics at Harding must become eligible through the NCAA Eligibility Center. For more information, go to <https://web1.ncaa.org/eligibilitycenter/common/>. You may also visit [www.hardingsports.com](http://www.hardingsports.com) and click on the "NCAA Compliance" link.*



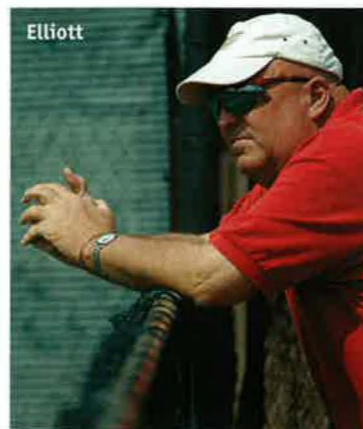
Giboney



Guymon



Harris



Elliott

PHOTOS BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

# Galloway gates return home

**T**HE FRONT LAWN ARCHES — one of the first landmarks recalled by alumni who have studied on the Searcy campus. ■ Yet before Harding moved to its current residence in 1934 and the stone columns and arches earned a place in University lore, a simple and beautiful set of iron gates welcomed students to what was then Galloway Woman's College. >>

By JENNIFER L. MARCUSSEN

photos by  
JEFF MONTGOMERY







Willie Mae Walker Collison as she appeared in the 1931 *Gallowegian*.

The gates were erected on the Park Avenue side of campus when the college was built in the late 1880s. However, in 1927 Galloway constructed a new entrance on Center Street composed of two sets of stone columns framing the front lawn. Stone columns were a very popular trend among colleges during this era, and the iron gates lost their prominence.

When Harding College moved to Searcy in 1934 after Galloway consolidated with Hendrix College in Conway, Ark., the columns remained. SubT-16 men's social club added the "College" arch in 1941, and the administration added the "University" arch when Harding achieved that status in 1979. The gates were forgotten.

For several decades, Galloway alumni and Searcy historians have wondered where the gates went. Were they destroyed? Sold? Given away?

The truth: They never left White County.

### Before Harding ...

Sept. 11, 1889, marked opening day for Galloway Woman's College. The school, named after Methodist bishop Charles Betts Galloway, dedicated itself to giving young women a quality higher education. That same year Searcy, a town of about 2,000, celebrated its 50th year as county seat and welcomed the new students with open arms.

Although Galloway struggled financially — losing the original Godden Hall in a fire early on —

the school flourished, due to loyal faculty and students and high academic and social standards. In 1906 a young woman could attend the college for \$200 per year. It claimed to be the largest school for females in the South, and most of the well-known families in Arkansas sent their daughters there.

Like most American citizens and organizations, Galloway would not make it through the Great Depression unscathed. The campus would close in 1933, only to reopen less than a year later under new ownership and religious affiliation with J.N. Armstrong and company at the helm.

### The gatekeeper

During Galloway's prosperous years, a future alumna was born June 13, 1909, on Walker Plantation in Gum Springs, Ark. Willie Mae Walker Collison was the daughter of John S. Walker, caretaker of the 777.77-acre farm, which produced corn, cotton, hay, strawberries, sugar cane, potatoes and sweet potatoes. Her grandfather, Billy Walker Jr., built the house in which she was born and raised.

A spirited young woman from an early age, Collison embraced education. Because roads between Gum Springs and Searcy were filled with potholes and flooded easily, she had to room in town to attend Searcy High School. She then enrolled at Galloway College, where she lived in



Godden Hall and majored in home economics.

She excelled academically and socially at the college. But she could not escape notice from the Galloway Self Government Association, whose strict rules were difficult for even the most conscientious student to follow 100 percent of the time. In two months, Collison was "called down" three times for various transgressions such as "failure to lower the shades," "going by the drugstore on the way to church," and "failing to sign a return."

After graduation in 1931, she attended Arkansas Teacher's College and then University of Arkansas. There she met her husband, William H. Collison Sr., and the two married in 1933. They raised two children, Bill Jr. and Fran Mullin. William ran the family hardware/farm supplies store, J. Collison Co. Inc., which was established in 1896. Willie Mae taught school for many years in Cotton Plant, Ark.

Throughout her life, Collison cultivated a passion for preserving the past. Her acquisition of the gates is case in point. During Dr. George S. Benson's presidency, she noticed the gates in disrepair and asked Benson about them. In response, he gave her the gates, which she repaired and painted ... and stored in her garage.

She held on to those and other mementos from her college days and community, further testimony to her love of history. In fact, she was one of 34 founding members of the White County Historical Society, chartered in 1961.

### The return home

Searcy resident and Arts Council member Eloise Muncy met Collison through the Historical Society. "I like the spunk that she had," says Muncy. "She was blessed with a sharp mind until her death. She took such pride in her heritage, and she was an excellent storyteller."

In 2003 Muncy interviewed Collison for Cultural Heritage Month. Muncy also gave tours of historical sites in White County, including the Walker Plantation, which was added to the Na-

tional Register of Historic Places in 1992. She remembers a slight, but bright, 93-year-old who eagerly showed visitors the bedroom in which she was born. Thanks to current owners Craig and Leah Lackie, the home is in pristine condition, with its original architectural structure intact.

Collison died July 3, 2006. Shortly thereafter, Fran visited Harding armed with boxes of her mother's memorabilia, much of it from her Galloway years during the late '20s and early '30s.

Letters, yearbooks, photos, transcripts, banners, books and more tell the story of young women trying to find a place in the world during an era that started with such promise and ended with a nation in despair. One may read of romance revelations or laundering techniques, congratulatory letters or simple notes to family and friends.

Also among these mementos lay the gates.

Despite the fact that Collison's alma mater joined Hendrix College, she still saw Searcy as Galloway's home and therefore donated her keepsakes to Harding. She was determined to see the gates returned to their rightful place.

Honored by Collison's gifts, the University has restored the gates as closely as possible to their original condition. Until this point, the only Galloway structures still standing were Pattie Cobb Hall and Olen Hendrix Building.

Now home, the gates have been erected in the Harding History House garden on the north side of campus, a reminder of the first inhabitants of this campus, the high standard of education they invoked, and one woman's desire to treasure and preserve the past for future generations. **H**

*AUTHOR'S NOTE: Beginning in May 2007, in conjunction with White County Historical Society's Cultural Heritage Month, much of Collison's memorabilia has been on display at Searcy Arts Council's Black House. A special thanks goes to Eloise Muncy, who generously shared her knowledge and memories.*

A garden will be planted this spring around the restored Galloway gates, which welcome visitors to the History House located at the corner of North Lott Tucker Drive and Market Street.



## Did you know?

### Galloway grad serves in WWII

Searcy resident Margarete Neel left teaching to serve as a nurse in India during WWII. While there, she was chosen the International Red Cross Poster Girl, and her form graced 1.4 million posters around the globe. In the well-known photo, Neel is seen standing atop a high hill, presenting a world of endless possibilities to the wounded soldier seated in front of her.



### Small town makes big impact

In 1950, *Forbes* magazine recognized Searcy for "remarkable growth."

### Look out NCAA!

Searcy's only college football bowl game was played Jan. 1, 1936. The Strawberry Bowl pitted the Brinkley Independents against the Searcy All Stars. Despite the All Stars' best efforts, Brinkley won.

### Shop 'til you drop

JC Penney has been in town for 79 years — the original store opened in 1929.

### Motto lives on

Before Harding adopted the motto "educating for eternity" during the 50th anniversary in 1974, Bishop Galloway, the women's college namesake, made this statement during commencement of its 1889 school year: "Teachers and colleges are educators for eternity."

### Not always open 24 hours

Most folks think Walgreen's has been in town for only two years. And while the new store opened in November 2005, the very first Walgreen's Drug Store in Searcy opened in June 1934 on the corner of Arch and Spruce streets. (Facts gathered from Ray Muncy's book *Searcy: A Small Town Grows Up With America*, 1976.)

# 270 DAYS in the making

Heart, courage and  
brains bring the  
Emerald City  
to life

By KRISTIN KELLEY

photos by JEFF MONTGOMERY

Haley Jane Witt

“**T**HE WIZARD OF OZ” took Benson crowds by storm — or twister rather — during Homecoming weekend Nov. 2-3. But preparing the production was not as easy as clicking a pair of sparkly red heels together.

Producer Cindee Stockstill began preparations last February when she, director Robin Miller, technical directors Britt Lynn and Adam Sullivan, vocal coach Laura Eads, and costumer McKay Murray selected the show.

“We wanted to choose something energetic and family-friendly, something with good values and upbeat humor,” says Stockstill.

Plans took flight from there, resulting in a professional musical full of special effects, enchanting sets and of course, raw, classic talent.

Practices started at the beginning of the fall semester and intensified in time commitment until the production premiered. “The week before the show we rehearsed every spare minute we had as we added lighting, orchestra, mikes and costumes,” Stockstill says.

Characters defied gravity, flying across stage with special effects from ZFX Flying Effects, an international company that has worked with a range of productions from Broadway to school-based. The actors were hoisted above the stage by a harness and pulley system and glided in and out of scenes, landing on platforms built in either wing.

Professional theatre technician Jonathan Jolly from ZFX stayed on throughout the entire production and trained a crew of six students to work the pulley system. A minimum of three stagehands had to man the apparatus at all times, synchronizing their timing to a tee.

“Coordinating the flying sequences truly was choreography,” says Lynn. “It took two people to lift an actor up and one more to move them left to right, counting out the intricate timing.”

Miss Gulch/Wicked Witch of the West, played by sophomore Haley Jane Witt of Ooltewah, Tenn., pedaled her bicycle through the air in the wake of a Kansas twister and zoomed overhead on her broomstick, cackling all the way. A



Mel Lenon



Travis Wisely



Paige Edmison and Alex Ritchie

twister blew across the stage, sending Dorothy’s house spinning and tilting in every direction, guided by two crew members who rocked the seesaw-like mechanism while hidden inside.

Glinda the Witch of the North, portrayed by senior Jillian Shackelford of Bolivar, Tenn., floated above the stage by way of her bubble, a circular metal frame suspended from the catwalk. Nikko, the flying monkey leader played by senior Andy Frye of Searcy, flipped through the air as he descended into the Wicked Witch’s castle. In the end, sophomore Paige Edmison of Edmond, Okla., as Dorothy clicked her heels back home, floating skyward off to Kansas.

Cast members and production crew alike built sets and organized costumes and makeup to prepare Benson Auditorium for the wonderful “Wizard of Oz.”

Murray oversaw the creation and ordering of costumes for more than 60 cast members, some of whom had up to five changes. Careful planning and organization were essential to keep up with more than 350 costumes — some with three or four pieces each.

She and her staff had to address challenges such as mid-show costume changes for cast members on stilts and making full-grown actors appear like “munchkins” on stage.

“Working backstage is almost like a dance,” Murray says. “Everyone has to move on cue to make it work.”

Junior Elizabeth Harrell of Brentwood, Tenn., understood the essential nature of backstage timing. Harrell had five character roles — a munchkin, apple tree, snowflake, Ozian waitress and rock — and had to change costumes six times.

Some of her changes, especially to the apple tree, required assistance from others. Harrell said it took two people to carry the costume, and she had to dress backstage because she would not fit in

the dressing room.

“It was a serious costume,” she said. “I think it had roots in it and everything. I may be stretching the truth a bit, but it really did have branches and apples on it.”

Makeup application also required backstage coordination. Under the direction of senior Kaeli Hines of Springdale, Ark., Witt became the bright green Wicked Witch; sophomore Anthony Lytle of Cambridge, Neb., turned into Scarecrow; senior Travis Wisely of O’Fallon, Ill., changed into the gleaming Tin Man; and sophomore Alex Ritchie of Searcy became the Cowardly Lion.

Hines taught most of the actors to apply their own makeup but was always on hand with her four assistants to help in a time crunch. Witt actually had two stunt doubles for Miss Gulch and the Wicked Witch of the West in the initial flying scene because her makeup transformation took Hines more than 20 minutes backstage.

For the final scene, Lytle, Wisely and Ritchie had less than two minutes to change out of their elaborate character makeup and appear before the audience as normal farmhands.

“Definitely the hardest part of my job was getting those boys out of their makeup,” Hines said. “We did our best to throw on some foundation before they had to run back onstage.”

Stage scenery with elaborate sets and fantastic props transported Homecoming crowds to Dorothy’s world. Whitney Wash, a sophomore interior design major from Anderson, Ind., put her creative skills to work as props mistress.

She was in charge of finding, buying or creating all the props needed for the show and making sure all were in the right place at the right time. She made the lollipop guild’s oversized suckers and hunted down large nail files for Cowardly Lion’s makeover.

In addition to her props position, Wash was one of five dog handlers during rehearsals. Stockstill’s own miniature schnauzers, Tassie Kai and Tori, served as Toto and understudy, respectively.

Certified canine obedience instructor David White, a behavior counselor in Student Support Services, trained both dogs to obey commands as Toto. White began preproduction training in mid-July, gradually introducing the dogs to such unfamiliar sights and sounds as flying monkeys and screeching witches that would appear in the production.

“I worked them through as many situations as I could,” White says. “By the time the cast started working with them, they were accustomed to different interactions.”

White also taught five crew members how to handle the dogs.

Senior Anna Dixon of Tallahassee, Fla., a four-time musical crew member, was among White’s apprentices. She learned to signal Tassie Kai to run on or off stage and how to hold her when Toto was not in a scene. Handling protocol was essential to maintain a sense of order for the dogs at rehearsals and during shows.

“I had to talk in a level, gentle voice and gesture to Tassie from the other side of the stage,” Dixon said. “I couldn’t allow any cast members to interact with her unless she was onstage as Toto.”

Many may have considered Toto the star of the show; after all, “he” was a scene stealer. But without actors, set

builders, makeup artists and prop masters, the yellow brick road could not have been followed to fruition.

Audiences’ standing ovations proved the production a crowd pleaser, but the eclectic crew’s hard work from auditions until the last curtain call ultimately made the show a soaring success. **H**

ILLUSTRATION BY NATHANAEEL FATUUA



Commitment  
to service  
takes root in

# ZAMBIA

Compiled by APRIL M. FATULA

**L**AST FALL, THE UNIVERSITY LAUNCHED ITS SEVENTH overseas program, this time at the Namwianga Mission in Kalomo, Zambia. ■ Dr. Jeffrey T. Hopper, dean of International Programs, and Dr. Monte Cox, director of the Center for World Missions, presented the new “HIZ” program to the student body in chapel Oct. 2, 2006. Hopper later said, “Student response to the announcement of this program has been overwhelming, more convincing than for any other new program we have begun.”

The program’s emphasis is health care missions, and goals include increasing the number of students who choose to serve as long-term medical, nursing or allied health care missionaries; teaching community health to students; and teaching and administering preventative health care to local patients and families.

Twenty-four students were accepted into the program, directed by Dr. Vann Rackley, associate professor of marriage and family therapy, and Janice Bingham, associate professor of nursing.

“HIZ is a microcosm of all that is best about Harding,” says Hopper. “The students and those working with them organize their days around intensive learning, helping the sick and the poor, and showing the love of Jesus to others.”

We decided to let students tell the story of this life-changing semester in their own words, as excerpted from blog entries and newsletters. >>

PHOTO BY VANN RACKLEY. INSET PHOTO BY SARAH HACKNEY



Jonathan Striclyn of Terre Haute, Ind., presents a sermon in a village church in Zambia.

## Tomorrow!

Kristin Cozzens, *sophomore nursing major from Bartlett, Tenn.*  
AUG. 30, 2007

**T**omorrow at this time I'm going to be in an airplane headed for Zambia. Sometimes three months sounds like nothing, but other times, it might as well be the whole year. Not only will I miss my family and friends, but also my culture! I can sacrifice comfort and luxury for a measly three months.

In the afternoons, I'll be spending my time in a school, orphanage or clinic, and I'm so excited about each! I'm sure I'll find myself rocking babies more than anything, but since I am a nursing major, it would probably look good to work in the clinic as well.

The past 10 days we've been preparing our hearts and minds for the task ahead. It's also been good to listen to people who have been there so they can give us a heads up on cultural differences. Honestly, I'm a bit nervous. They do many things so differently, and I don't want to offend people. Obviously by my skin color they'll know I'm not from around there, but I'm going to try to "blend in" the best I can.

Please keep all of us in your prayers as we're about to embark on the unknown. It's a little scary, but I'm pretty sure that excitement is overriding that! It's comforting to know that the Lord has already gone before us. He's in control — we're only the messengers.

## The beginning

Sarah Hackney, *junior communication disorders major from Jonesboro, Ark.*

SEPT. 5, 2007

**S**o my group is settled in and things are well with us. God is truly blessing all of us. I can personally feel the growth and stretching taking place in my own life.

My house is nice. I live with seven other girls and the Rackley family. The girls in my room are great. We are on two sets of bunk beds with mosquito nets covering them.

Our chef is awesome. His name is Leonard, and he can kill a snake with his bare hands. His food is amazing. Don't feel sorry for us, because we have definitely had pancakes, biscuits and gravy, fried chicken, mashed potatoes, corn, homemade bread, the whole nine yards. I told Leonard that I did not want to be fat when I went home, and he told me that it would be good for me to get fat because then I would be more beautiful. In Africa they find beauty in fat women and men. That means that you have plenty to eat and that you are blessed. What a different mindset from America.

This week we have been split up into groups to rotate through each of the four areas where we will be working: the Haven — an orphanage for infants to 2-year-olds — Eric's House — 2- to 20-year-old kids — the school, and the clinic.

Yesterday, I went to Eric's House. I have fallen in love with a little boy who is almost 2 named Moshi. He is pre-

PHOTO BY JILLIAN STRICLYN



Clay Williams of Louisville, Ky., greets children in a rural Zambian village after they performed a tribal dance. The visit was a stop on the group's nine-day tour of Northern Zambia at the beginning of the semester.

cious. He is just learning how to walk, and he loves to hold my hand and walk all over the place. Sometimes he gets really brave and tries to walk on his own. I keep wondering why God blessed me so much and these precious kids at Eric's House and the Haven don't even have parents. It's been a very harsh reality for me to see.

Kristin Cozzens

SEPT. 20, 2007

**O**ur first week was very long and busy but also memorable. We took a tour of the mission on Monday, and I got to visit the orphanage for the first time. I won't ever forget that day. ... Most of the girls left in tears.

The first baby I held was Glory, and she clung to me with all her strength. When we had to put them back in their cribs, 24 2-year-olds were crying, as were we. It was so hard seeing these sweet, innocent kids living in such filth and poverty. The workers there do the best they can, but there are so many children and so few helpers.

The Haven looked pretty similar. It holds infants, and I just about went crazy with excitement! I love babies, and about half looked like newborns even though several were a few months old. Many of the babies have syphilis and the potential for HIV/AIDS since most of them were orphaned due to AIDS. It's so strange being here. ... There is such sorrow everywhere you look, yet the people have such joy in spite of it! Death here is a way of life. Of course they mourn, but they seem to cope much better and find peace

PHOTO BY MATTHEW LEROY

in their circumstances.

Friday night was my first true "African experience." We all piled into the back of trucks and drove 40 minutes into a village to worship with a tribe. There were potholes everywhere, and I have a pretty nasty bruise on my back, but it was worth it to watch the stars. They're AMAZING here! Obviously, few people have electricity, so they shine so brightly and truly illuminate the earth!

Anyway, the first thing we did was sing. Of course we don't speak Chitonga, so we listened. But I think I got more out of their singing than if I were to have sung in English. I have no idea what they were saying, but their voices harmonized beautifully and filled that tiny room. It was incredible. ... I can't describe it any other way! I had one of those "moments" when I was sitting there listening to their voices blending, and I cried.

What was even more beautiful than their voices was the fact that even though they sang in a different language, lived on a different continent, and were part of a different culture, they were singing to the same God I sing to on Sunday mornings in our air-conditioned auditorium.

Until last night, it had never really soaked in. Even though I'm 8,540 miles away from home, I'm home here, too, with my brothers and sisters in Christ. The Lord was with me in America, and he's still with me in Africa. I know I'm stating the obvious here, but it's never felt more REAL!

Something else amazing that I experienced for the first time on Thursday night was the miracle of birth! »

That's so cliché, but it truly is a miracle! Thursday evening Brian [Lancaster], Kerri [Coffey], Julia [Amend] and I were picked up by one of the nurses and rushed to the clinic to watch a lady have her first baby. African women are STRONG! We watched her push for 45 minutes, and she never ONCE yelled out or did anything other than breathe heavily. I couldn't believe it! Of course they don't have drugs there for the pain, but she handled it amazingly well and gave birth to a healthy baby boy — 7.5 pounds! I was the first one to hold him after the nurse. ... I was in shock. It's so crazy to think that one minute he was inside of her and the next in my arms! I'm so ready now to graduate and work in the maternity ward. I could watch babies being born all day!

I went on an HIV/AIDS outreach, and that was eye-opening. Another student, Clay [Williams], and I drove with a nurse about two hours on ROUGH roads to a village to check the patients' statuses and give out medications. Most of them were young women and middle-aged men. However, a dad came in with his 5-year-old daughter, and that just about broke my heart. It's rare to see the father take this kind of role, so that was touching, but seeing a little girl with such an awful disease was almost too much for me to take. I tried to stay professional, but some tears escaped. She looked terrified, and when physician assistant Louisa Duke ('02) took her CD4 count, she started to whimper and was soon crying hysterically. Her dad pulled her into his lap and comforted her the best he could.

It's just not fair. Most of the patients we saw got AIDS from having sex with multiple people and being unfaithful to their spouses — she was innocent and pure. It really breaks your heart. You hear about AIDS in Africa, but coming face to face with it makes it real. It's strange meeting and talking with people you KNOW are going to die soon. I mean, we're all going to die someday, but I'd like to think I have several more decades, but not the people I saw. It's still hard to grasp.

Sky Vanderburg, *junior premedicine/political science major from Moberly, Mo.*

OCT. 31, 2007

**T**ime and time again I have sought to modify my perspective on life so that I could continue to have confidence in it; however, my experiences in Africa have prompted too many unanswerable questions. As a result, I am left with nothing but the faith that God is love and that he has my best interests in mind.

I am spending some of my free time in the orphanages here, and I have become enamored with one orphan in particular. Lola is very quiet, yet she is not shy. I constantly take it as a personal challenge to make her smile, laugh, or recognize me from my past visits because she is often so distant when I hold her. One day she stared into my eyes, and I stared back, trying to know exactly what she was feeling, when a powerful thought crossed my mind. I immediately was reminded of Matthew 25 when Jesus teaches that he exists in the suffering and abandoned people of this

world. In Lola's deep eyes I saw Christ — I saw the true reason for this summer in West Africa, this fall in Zambia, and a lifetime of service.

My responsibilities and experiences at the rural health clinic here are the testing grounds for my thoughts, for Zambia, like Togo, is a place of great need. Here the problem of HIV/AIDS is staggering — 20 percent of Zambians have contracted the virus, many of them young children and parents. Factors such as poverty and peer pressure have primed all of Southern Africa for a full assault by HIV/AIDS. I see the casualties of this war every day — orphaned children, scared mothers, infected adolescents — everyone here is infected or affected. Such a devastating state of affairs has caught my attention to say the least. Although this problem has become a concern that has filled my thoughts and prayers, I have matured, for I feel confident in accomplishing something small but concrete, even in the face of a discouragingly massive problem.

It is a humbling event when you feel you have come to new insights through intense struggles only to find that they were in the Word all along. For me, this was upon reading Romans 12: 1-2, "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God — this is true worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and prove what God's will is — his good, pleasing and perfect will." Only now do I truly believe that all I desire for this world is within reach, for I have been transformed by the renewing of my mind.

By its beautiful people and through its purifying ruggedness, Africa has claimed a piece of my heart while returning to God the whole.

## The hardest goodbye

Krista Russell, *junior early childhood education major from Lindale, Texas*

Nov. 11, 2007

**W**hat a hard day. I was unaware this morning when I woke up that I would spend my last day in Zambia attending the funeral for one of the babies we have fallen in love with at Haven II. She was almost 2 years old, and her little body just couldn't make it. Everything in man's power was done to make her live, but sometimes man's measures are futile. She died yesterday weighing 5 pounds.

The funeral was held in her village. Her mother had died in childbirth, but her father is still living. We arrived after 2 ½ hours on a dusty trail to women wailing and crying. What a sorrowful sound! I hurt just thinking about it. The crazy thing is, Tiana lived in the orphanage her whole life, and these people didn't even really know her. But the loss of life is mourned, not just the loss of a relationship.

Sadness and relief intermingled. It is so unfair that things like this happen, and I cannot begin to understand it. But Tiana is in a much better place. She no longer has to live with the cruelties and injustices of this fallen world.



Surrounded by their students, Krista Russell of Lindale, Texas, and Sarah Hackney of Jonesboro, Ark., walk back to their house after a day of teaching at Namwianga Basic School.

## Last Africa update!

Julia Amend, *junior nursing major from Aurora, Colo.*

DEC. 8, 2007

**O**ur two-week tour after leaving Namwianga was an incredible experience. After saying goodbye to the Marianne School [in Kapsabet, Kenya], we made the last drive of our trip back to Nairobi. The next day we got our first taste of culture shock — several hours to shop at a real western mall! It was surprising to see how clean everything was and how easy it was to get the things we wanted. Along with the mall, we had our last experience in an African market where we bartered for souvenirs. I have learned a lot in Africa, but I'm afraid I have not learned the secret of good bartering. In some ways it's fun, but I still prefer stores with price tags!

Though checking baggage and getting through customs was a hassle, we managed to get to Little Rock without any major incidents. Now we've been getting readjusted to life

in the U.S.: shopping at Wal-Mart, driving cars, drinking from water fountains, and taking showers with actual pressure. More than anything, it has been wonderful to see my friends again. It has been a blessing to spend a whole week here at Harding, which has given me time to answer the inevitable question, "How was Africa?"

So will I go back someday? Am I now convinced that Africa is where God is calling me as a missionary? I had hoped this trip might answer some of those questions for me, but the truth is I still don't know. I love the people I met in Zambia, Kenya and Tanzania, and my heart is drawn to the African continent, but it is also drawn to other people and places. This trip has been an incredibly valuable experience. I have learned so much about the love of God, the perseverance of people, and how easy it is to take for granted what we have. But I suppose more than anything, I've learned about how much I have left to learn! The world is so vast, and there are so many opportunities to love the people in it. **H**

PHOTO COURTESY OF SARAH HACKNEY

# Campus customs come & gone

By JENNIFER L. MARCUSSEN

photos courtesy of PUBLIC RELATIONS ARCHIVES

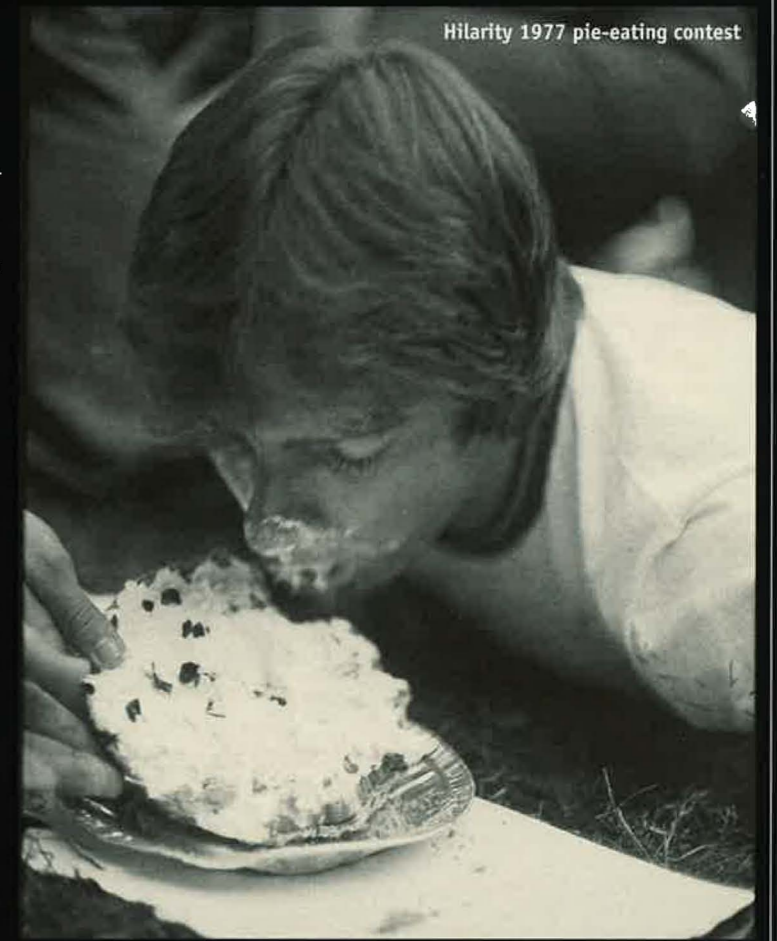
**O**N FIRST THOUGHT, THE WORD “tradition” may bring the following to mind for younger alumni: muffin chapel, Rhodes Rowdies, dunks in the lily pond, or the Seminole Stomp. Ask an older graduate, and you may get a slew of different answers, including Winter Festival, vespers, or the annual Thanksgiving Day barbecue. ■ The University’s rich history is embedded in tradition, although many of these rituals and events no longer take place. But for those who participated in them, the memories remain vivid. Enjoy our tribute to five traditions that have come and gone and inspired new ones.

## Hilarity

“Tired of standing in line? Of obediently filling in endless forms? Of sitting in a room full of half-unpacked boxes? Do you want to do something different? Do you feel like a pressure cooker about to blow the lid? Well then, let off that steam. And let yourself go in a little hilarity — an uproarious, wacky, hilarious series of games and events to brighten even the most glazed eye, quicken the weariest feet, and turn Harding’s front lawn into a three-ring circus of running, jumping, and hopelessly hysterical Hardingites celebrating the end of registration week and the beginning of a new year.”

This quote from the Aug. 27, 1971, edition of the *Bison* introduced the first Student Association-sponsored event that pitted freshmen against upperclassmen in the ultimate icebreaker. Each fall, shortly after classes began, students competed in a variety of events, including three-legged races, water balloon throws, wheelbarrow races and pie-eating contests — the latter, oddly enough, open only to men.

As technology advanced, Hilarity subsided, ending in the early '80s. Today’s students still enjoy music on the front lawn and the annual watermelon party sponsored by the SA. But with registration moved entirely online, gone is the stress that ensued from standing in line for hours, laboriously moving from table to table to ensure that all forms were filled out, payments made and schedules correct. And when you can throw a sheep at someone on Facebook, why bother with water balloons?



## Petit Jean Queen

The name of the yearbook hails from a small mountain in a state park by the same name near the University’s first home in Morrilton, Ark.

According to legend, the area’s moniker is in honor of a young French girl who disguised herself as a cabin boy in order to follow her beloved to America in the 1700s. Sometime after arriving in Arkansas, the small sailor — who had been nicknamed “Petit Jean” by the crew — contracted a fever and died, requesting to be buried on the Ozark mountain. Thus the first class of Harding College adopted the name for its annual, choosing one known for beauty (the mountain) and courage (the young girl).

Beginning in 1933, the first Queen of the *Petit Jean*, Flossie Harwell ('34) Cope, was crowned. In contrast, a man was chosen Most Athletic. Once social clubs started selecting beaus and queens, the *Petit Jean* Queen became known as the “queen of queens.” Each year, the student body would honor a selected queen from one of the men’s social clubs to reign over all the others.

The last, Beth Heffington ('94), was crowned in spring of 1992. The following year, the *Petit Jean* staff began giving a Spirit Award, which according to the 1993 annual, was “given to the social club with the service project that best exemplified the qualities that fulfilled Harding University’s goals of Christian service.” >>



1973 *Petit Jean* Queen Diane McKinney Guild

## Two-party cafeteria system

One of only two original buildings on the Searcy campus, Pattie Cobb (1919) of yesterday filled two functions: dining hall and dorm. Its cafeteria became the first gathering spot for three hot meals each day after Harding's move from Morrilton in 1934. And when the American Heritage Center's Charles White Cafeteria began serving students in 1965, Pattie Cobb remained open.

This allowed students to choose a meal plan from either, some opting for the one-meal selection and lower prices of Pattie Cobb, others electing more choices and higher prices in the Heritage. Opinions varied widely on the pros and cons of each.

The most commonly heard complaint was that the weekly meal ticket for Heritage did not have enough money on it to feed a typical college man. It was not uncommon for women with small appetites and a balance to leave their ticket on the table for a hungry guy who had run out of money.

In fact, the problem became so serious that after a student editorial by Jerry "Boo" Mitchell ('82) in 1979, a male faculty member decided to try eating for a week on a meal ticket. Librarian and assistant professor Joe McReynolds used Mitchell's ticket to eat from Sept. 18-25.

"I first decided to do it because I thought it would be a fun thing to do," he told the *Bison* after the experiment. "But it turned out to be serious. ... To be perfectly honest, I didn't believe students before when they said they didn't have enough money to eat on. I sort of discounted it. But now I know what they say is true."

As possible solutions, he suggested adding money to meal tickets or allowing students a number of differently priced meal tickets from which to choose.

Pattie Cobb Cafeteria closed Jan. 31, 1988. Concurrently, Charles White Cafeteria added 14,000 square feet of space to accommodate 1,100 students and became the sole dining hall on campus, as it remains today.



Pattie Cobb Cafeteria 1977

## Thanksgiving Lectureship

Almost anyone who has attended the University is familiar with the photo: A crowd is gathered around a large bonfire. In the middle of the group stand J.N. Armstrong and Dr. George Benson, Harding's first and second presidents, respectively. Armstrong is bent toward the flames, his hand poised as if he has just released something. Barely visible, a piece of paper is being quickly consumed by the fire. Benson is smiling broadly, a sense of satisfaction on his young face.

The scene commemorates the burning of the mortgage on Thanksgiving Day 1939. The large crowd in the background comprises visitors and students attending Lectureship, which since 1924 had been held during Thanksgiving week. It was also the College's custom to serve barbecue that day for everyone, as students did not receive a holiday break.

This format continued until fall of 1973. By then, students were receiving a long weekend for Thanksgiving, and many were not present for Lectureship. That year Lectureship was moved earlier in the semester, and students were given a day off from classes so that they could attend and fully participate.

Today, with a weeklong break for students and faculty in November, no one is around for lunch Thanksgiving Day. Instead, the cafeteria serves the traditional fare, complete with turkey, dressing and pumpkin pie, the Wednesday preceding break.



Lectureship 1959



May Fete 1964

## May Fete

The origin of the May Pole dates back to the third century B.C., when it began as a pagan fertility ritual celebrated in the spring. Many historians believe it was introduced by Germanic countries and spread by German tribe invasions following the fall of the Roman Empire. But how did it end up a popular event in Searcy, Ark., for more than seven decades?

No one knows for sure, but communities and colleges across the United States and Western Europe have celebrated May Fete for years, including the complex ribbon-winding ceremony around the May Pole. According to the 1986 *Petit Jean*, the festival was a celebration of springtime, "a time when the students express gratitude and praise to God for the splendor of his creations and the rebirth of nature."

May Fete — or May Day — celebrations began at Harding in the early 1930s. However, the first official Queen of the May, Corinne Bell ('40) Smith, was not crowned until 1939, when Ju Go Ju took over organization of the event.

Founded in 1925, the women's social club sponsored the annual festival until 1990. Each women's club would select a representative to participate in the May Pole dance; the student body would then select a queen from among the representatives. Jenna Shipman ('90) Bunner was the final queen selected in 1990. The event was then cancelled because of concerns over pagan symbolism associated with the festival.

But spring on campus is still celebrated; just visit any afternoon to watch a variety of front lawn activities, including soccer, Frisbee, and even a lack of action — naps. **H**

## For the truly nostalgic ...

➤ Remember mandatory physical assessment/wellness tests? While today's students are still required to take kinesiology classes, students of yesteryear first took a fitness test to determine their overall wellness. If you passed the test, you were exempt from conditioning activities. If not, you were automatically enrolled.

➤ Cell phones have improved the ease with which students and parents can communicate, essentially eliminating the need for long distance. But until they became must-have items, students used the dreaded PAC number to access long distance. And for many years, they had to share telephones in residence hall lobbies, where long lines were common, and everyone knew who was asking whom on a date.

➤ Searcy is known for its parades — including the Holiday of Lights Parade and White County Fair Parade. But the University used to join in the fun, too, with the annual Homecoming Parade. Each year, social clubs would design and make floats for the procession, allowing everyone to see the queen candidates and increasing the energy for the weekend's events.

➤ Harding's first athletic national championship was for bowling in 1970. The team also earned the honor in 1971 and 1972. Maybe it was because the student center housed a private bowling alley. Campus Lanes saw its share of strikes, spares, gutter balls and first dates until the building was renovated in 1999.



1977

Send your alumni news to "Connections," Harding University Office of Alumni Relations, Box 10768, Searcy, AR 72149-0768; or e-mail [alumninews@harding.edu](mailto: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](mailto:alumni-list@harding.edu). You may post messages to the *Digest* at the same address.

## 1966

**Tomie Courtney Anderson** was named Missouri State Teachers Association South Central Region 2006-07 Elementary Teacher of the Year. She retired in May 2007 after more than 26 years in education, 23 of those teaching kindergarten.

## 1969

**Richard David Ramsey** received the Southeastern Louisiana University College of Business Dean's Award for Excellence in Teaching in August 2007 for an unprecedented fifth time. In 2006 he was recognized with the University President's Award for Excellence in Faculty Service. His teaching and research specialty is business applications of English literature. He preaches and directs singing in churches of Christ. Retired as a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve, he serves on Tangipahoa Parish Board of Election Supervisors and on editorial boards of five scholarly journals. He and his wife, Birgitta, have two children. (11 White Drive, Hammond, LA 70401)

## 1970

**Melvin Byrd** has served 30 years as full-time minister with Port Orchard Church of Christ. He has three children. (P.O. Box 299, Port Orchard, WA 98366)

## 1979

**Charlie Carroll** has been named Harding University 2006-07 Co-operating Teacher for Secondary Education. He teaches earth science at Searcy's Ahlf Junior High School and has been an educator for 25 years. His wife, **Clara Morrow**, is an associate professor of education at Harding. They have two daughters. (109 Black Oak Place, Searcy, AR 72143)

## 1985

**Ed Madden** was selected for *Best*

*New Poets 2007*, a collection of 50 poems by 50 emerging poets. "Sacrifice," his short poem in the voice of Isaac, was also selected as one of the anthology's top three open competition winners. He is an associate professor at the University of South Carolina.

He also received the SC Poetry Book Prize in 2007 for *Signals*, a book of poetry that will be published in 2008. (1111 Fairview Drive, Columbia SC 29205)

## 1988

**Greg Lindstrom** has been pro-

moted to manager of information technology at Novasys Health in Little Rock, Ark., after spending three years as senior programmer. He is also principal tuba in the Little Rock Wind Symphony and plays tuba in the Quapaw Brass Quintet. He will appear on "Glutton for Punishment" on Food Network this spring. His wife, **Janet Moore** ('91), owns Elegant Stitches, an embroidery business. They have two daughters. (5 Chester Cove, Conway, AR 72034)

## 1989

**Kim Whitmire Barnett** is home schooling her three children. Her husband, James, is employed by Electronic Data Systems. They are active in Christian Home Educators of Northeast Arkansas home-schooling group and members of Southwest Church of Christ. (1001 C.R. 673, Jonesboro, AR 72401)

## 1992

**Allen Busby** has been promoted to senior manager of leadership development and internal communications at Pinnacle Airlines Inc. He is a member of the American Society of Training and Development, chairman of the alumni association for West Memphis Christian School, Salvation Army volunteer, Pinnacle Airline Emergency Go Team administration manager, member of Bravo Memphis and the Greater Memphis Arts Council, and an active member of the Memphis theater community. He has received two Ostrander Award nominations. (1700 Central Ave., Memphis, TN 38104)

## 1993

**Paul Finley**, Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp. project engineer, has been awarded NASA's Exceptional Public Service Medal for his work on the Spitzer Space Telescope. He has been tracking telemetry and predicting mission lifetime since the launch of Spitzer in 2003. He and his wife, **Michelle Jett**, have two children. (983 Wolf Creek Drive, Longmont, CO 80501)

**Trevor Black** has been promoted to vice president with National City Bank in Byesville, Ohio. He

### PROFILE: JOSEPH SHEPARD 1983

#### Small business advocate

FROM THE TIME HE BEGAN a paper route as an 11-year-old, Joseph Shepard knew he wanted to pursue a career in business. "Of all the career choices I could have pursued, such as engineering, health care or science, business made the most sense for the skills I was born with," he says.

As an undergraduate student, he pursued business administration, following that degree with a master of business administration degree from Southern Methodist University. He chose correctly, and for 20 years found success in investment banking and private equity investing, most recently in Dallas.

But last year he received a call from the White House Office of Presidential Personnel asking him to consider leading the U.S. Small Business Administration's Office of Investment, which includes the Small Business Investment Company program. Formed in 1958, the SBIC has invested approximately \$51.9 billion of long-term debt and private equity into more than 104,000 qualifying small businesses.

Says Shepard, "I jumped at the opportunity to manage a program that has helped so many of our best-known corporate icons get their start. ... Names like Intel, America Online, Outback Steakhouse, Apple Computer, Ben & Jerry's, Staples, Nike and Federal Express.

"Small businesses are such a large contributor to the nation's economy, generating approximately 50 percent of private, non-farm GDP, employing 50 percent of America's private, non-farm workforce, and creating 60-80 percent of all new jobs in the U.S."

Now located in Washington, D.C., Shepard, who manages a staff of 78, strives diligently to meet multiple objectives. "My goals are aligned with those of the president's strategy to improve the management and performance of the federal government and priorities of the SBA administrator," he says. "I also have a responsibility to fulfill the mission of the SBIC program."

He takes these responsibilities to heart. "Being appointed to public service is a great honor and privilege that is entrusted to only a few by a president and the American people," he says. "Such public service demands to be carried out with the highest standards of ethical behavior, moral responsibility and integrity. We have a responsibility to both the U.S. government and its citizens to place our loyalty to the constitution, laws and ethical principles above any personal or private gain."

Or, in simpler terms, "I strive to do the best job I can every day. I also try to show the people around me, through my actions, that I care about them." **H** — *Jennifer L. Marcussen*



Joseph Shepard

LEFT PHOTO COURTESY OF TOMIE ANDERSON, MIDDLE PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSEPH SHEPARD, RIGHT PHOTO COURTESY OF BALL AEROSPACE & TECHNOLOGIES CORP.

and his wife, **Jennifer Neuhart** ('95), have four children. (58328 Richport Drive, Senecaville, OH 43780)

## 1996

**Laura Martin Butts** is a special education teacher with Dryden Central Schools. Her husband, **Rex** ('02), is minister at Ithaca Church of Christ. They have two children. (1206 N. Cayuga St., Ithaca, NY 14850)

## 2000

**Bill Moore** has been named head football coach at Fort Bend Baptist Academy, where he also teaches history. His wife, **Rachel Belcher** ('01), is a homemaker. They have a son. (16939 Tranquil Drive, Sugar Land, TX 77478)

## 2002

**Amanda Slayton** is office manager for University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences' Arkansas Foster Care Project. (1912 Green Mountain Drive, #166, Little Rock, AR 72211)

## 2005

**Jeremy L. Bolts** has joined Karr Investment Group as a commercial real estate broker in Nashville, Tenn. He also founded and manages Bolts Media Inc., which owns and invests in a variety of Web-based applications and businesses. His wife, Holly, works as a nurse in the neonatal intensive care unit at Centennial Medical Center. (819 Derby Trace, Nashville, TN 37211)

## 2006

**Timothy Baugh** is employed by the Colorado Rockies baseball team and worked the 2007 National League Playoffs and World Series. He also freelances for Fox Sports Net: Rocky Mountain and Altitude Sports & Entertainment. (2555 S. Race St., Denver, CO 80210)

## Marriages

**Paul Cartwright** ('04) to **April Miller** ('04), Oct. 21, 2006. Paul is youth minister at Woodward Park Church of Christ in Fresno, Calif. (2470 E. Herndon, # 202, Clovis, CA 93611)

**Andy Dunham** ('99) to **Jennifer Fonville** ('05), March 10, 2007. Andy is an associate attorney with Jim L. Culpepper & Associates, P.C., in Houston, and Jen-

### ALMA MATTERS

## History House celebrates heritage

By **LIZ HOWELL**, director of alumni relations

MORE THAN A YEAR AGO, we received a call from Fran Collison Mullen, whose mother, Willie Mae Walker Collison of Bald Knob, Ark., had recently died. Collison, a graduate of Galloway Woman's College — which occupied this campus until the early 1930s — had been a collector of memorabilia throughout her life. Mullen wanted to know if we were interested in her mother's mementos, including the old, iron Galloway gates. We were, of course.

Mullen and her brother, Billy Collison of Bald Knob, wanted their mother's collection shared throughout the community. Some items have been on display at Searcy Arts Council's historical home, the Black House, since last summer. However, items pertaining to Galloway were given to the University for our archives.

Last March, President David B. Burks began developing plans for a house to display University history, and we felt the Galloway gates should anchor the area. Thus a prayer garden is being created surrounding the refurbished gates at the house located at 205 N. Lott Tucker Drive, just north of Pryor-England Science Center. (See related story, Page 11.)

The Harding History House opened during Homecoming festivities, thanks to help from alumni, faculty and staff. But without members of Associated Women for Harding, led by Louise Nicholas Ganus ('42) and Marie Clay Yingling ('42), paving the way in preserving our history, the task would not have been feasible.

Hannah Dixon ('02) of Washington, D.C., who holds a master's degree in interior design from The George Washington University and previously served as intern at the Smithsonian, came to campus and made recommendations for layout and design of the project. Other committee members, including Danny DeRamus ('81), Ann Cowan Dixon ('68), Phil Dixon ('67), David Kelly, Joe Miller ('78), Eloise Muncy and Kim Barefoot Robertson ('79), spent numerous hours getting the house ready. The Physical Resources Department and Aramark's ServiceMaster went above and beyond to meet our deadline.

The front room of the house welcomes guests and encourages them to travel chronologically from Harding's beginning to the present. Another large room pays honor to the

presidents and Christian servants affiliated with the University. Two smaller rooms are dedicated to the history of AWH and social clubs and campus life through the decades.

While working on the project, we were often overwhelmed by stories of the sacrifices made by men and women who developed Harding College. They would be proud to see the fruits of their labor today, evidenced in words shared by Bruce McLarty, dean of the College of Bible and Religion, from L.C. Sear's *For Freedom* during last fall's convocation: "In the late 1930s, retired President J.N. Armstrong wrote to a West Coast Harding alumni meeting the following:



"Mrs. Armstrong and I will soon be out of the picture, but we are counting on you to carry on this unparalleled effort in Christian service. You will find many problems along the way, but your greatest difficulty will be keeping our schools and colleges Christian. This effort will be forever drawing on all your resources. Mrs. Armstrong and I will be praying here, and even in heaven, that your faith fail not and that your strength hold out."

McLarty concluded with this thought, "Many things have changed and much has remained the same — from Bible classes, daily chapel, and our expectations of excellence from our students. The founding men and women of Harding provided a formula for a successful Christian university that we continue to follow today."

Witness this successful formula by visiting the Harding History House the next time you are on campus. **H**

*The History House, staffed by volunteers, is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1-4 p.m. During special event weekends, hours will be extended. To volunteer or donate items for the house, contact [lhowell@harding.edu](mailto:lhowell@harding.edu). To archive club scrapbooks and memorabilia, contact [adixon@harding.edu](mailto:adixon@harding.edu).*





(1425 Welti Road S.E., Cullman, AL 35055)

To Brandon and **Kelly Averitt** ('96) **Hoyt**, a daughter, Emma Shawn, Oct. 3, 2007. They have another daughter, Katherine. (1619 Pineberry St., Lakeland, FL 33803)

To **Jason** ('00) and **Alison Bryan** ('01) **Kuepker**, a daughter, Ainsley Eve, Oct. 9, 2007. They have three other children, Brendan, Emma and Noah. Jason is a financial analyst with ConocoPhillips, and Alison is a homemaker. (1208 Meadow Drive, Bartlesville, OK 74006)

To Juan Carlos and **Karla Molina** ('02) **Vargas**, a daughter, Brisa Marcela, Nov. 19, 2007. (9975 Wadsworth Parkway, K-2424, Westminster, CO 80021)

## Passages

**Bill O'Neal** ('50), 82, died Oct. 24, 2007. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II in the Pacific. In addition to his secular work, he preached for many small congregations of the church of Christ in Oklahoma and Texas. Survivors include his wife, Jean; three sons, Ben, Bill and **Larry** ('78); five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. (1220 N. Collegiate Drive, Paris, TX 75460)

**Lee Maxine Richesin Barger** ('54), 79, died June 29, 2007. She taught school in Louisiana and Virginia and served as a leader in Scouts, 4-H and PTA for many years. After her children were grown, she resumed teaching as a substitute for more than 20 years in Marionville (Mo.) Public Schools. For more than 25 years, she wrote a weekly column titled "From My Corner on the Hill,"

published in the Marionville Free Press and Crane Chronicle. She served as a member of the Marionville Applefest Committee for several years and was honored in 2000 as "Miss Golden Delicious." She was an elder's and preacher's wife at congregations in Kansas and Missouri. She was a member of Aurora Church of Christ at the time of her death. She is survived by three sons, Jackie, Andy and Dave; two daughters, Kit Wright and Kathy Wheat; a brother, **Lester Richesin** ('53); a sister, **Ann Reed** ('57); 10 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

**John "Mike" White** ('60), 68, died Aug. 31, 2007. He was a distinguished teaching professor and the Robert A. Welch Chair in Materials Chemistry at The University of Texas at Austin, which he joined in 1966 after completing his Ph.D. at University of Illinois. He pioneered photochemistry research, and his interests spanned a wide range of topics related to surface and materials chemistry. His major contributions to science were techniques using surface physics to investigate chemical problems. He published more than 650 scholarly articles and served a term as chairperson of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. He was recipient of the first Distinguished Alumni Award given by the National Alpha Chi organization in 1987. From 1991 to 2002, he served as director of one of the earliest National Science Foundation-funded science and technology centers, the Center for Synthesis, Growth and Analysis of Electronic Materials. He led a team of 12 faculty, five postdoctoral fellows and 25 graduate students from four of The Uni-

versity of Texas at Austin departments. In 2004 he began a joint research appointment with Pacific Northwest National Laboratories that led to the establishment of the Department of Energy's Institute for Interfacial Catalysis. In February 2005, he was named the institute's first director, a post he held until his death. He is survived by his wife, **Gwen** ('62); his mother, Mary; two sons, Mark and **Paul** ('02); and a daughter, RaeAnne Landrum. (2651 Sandpiper Loop, Richland, WA 99354)

**Curtis H. Sykes** ('65), 76, died Sept. 9, 2007. He was Harding's first black graduate. He joined the U.S. Army Reserve and after war broke out in Korea, was called up for active duty in 1950. He was honorably discharged in 1953. In 1955 he began teaching in Woodruff County and was promoted to elementary school principal, a job he held until 1964. From 1965 until his retirement in 1985, he worked in the Little Rock School District, serving as an elementary school teacher and then principal of Booker T. Washington Elementary from 1969 to 1978. He moved to Woodruff Elementary as the school's first black principal before ending his education career as an assistant principal at Gibbs Elementary. He was a charter member of the North Little Rock History Commission in 1975 and North Little Rock Historic District Commission in 1993, serving on both commissions until his death. His collection of photographs and Scipio A. Jones High School yearbooks are a valuable part of the city's archives. He won a Salute to Greatness Community Service Award in 1998 from the Martin Luther King Jr. Commission. He participated on the first Arkansas Black History Advisory Committee (now the Black History Commission of Arkansas) created by legislation in 1991 and was chairman from 1993 until his death. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, **Delois** ('01); four daughters, Roslyn, Adrienne Thrasher, Belinda Burney and Curlethia Swanigan; a brother, Earl; a sister, Catherine Baker; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. (704 E. 15th St., North Little Rock, AR 72114)

**Dale Edward Sellers** ('71), 59, died Sept. 8, 2007, from cancer. He was a preacher and missionary who served the Lord both stateside and in the Philippines for more than 35 years. He is sur-

## Don't miss a single issue

HAVE YOU EVER NOTICED THE WORDS "Forwarding Service Requested" beside the mailing address on your magazine? They are there to ensure you receive the latest issue, even in the bustle of moving. Unfortunately, if you don't let us know of your move within one year, we pay \$3.66 to receive the magazine back with your address change. Help us keep you on schedule and be good stewards by keeping your address current. Please check your label on this magazine, and if it is not correct, e-mail your old and new addresses to [creeves2@harding.edu](mailto:creeves2@harding.edu) or call (800) 477-4312, ext.1.



## EVENTS

### FEBRUARY

12  
ASI speaker David Barton  
26  
Wind Ensemble with guest John Mueller, euphonium

### MARCH

1-9  
Spring recess  
13  
ASI speaker Fred Gray  
20-22  
Spring Sing/Youth Forum  
21-22  
President's Council meeting  
21-24  
"Little Shop of Horrors"

### APRIL

3  
Teresa Walters, pianist  
10  
Miller Williams, poetry reading

### MAY

10  
Spring graduation  
12-23  
Intersession  
12-July 25  
Extended Summer Session

### JUNE

2-27  
Summer I  
2-July 25  
Eight-week Summer Session  
8-24  
Honors Abroad  
14-19  
Uplift Session I  
19-20  
Summer Experience I  
20-July 4  
Honors Symposium I  
21-26  
Uplift Session II

For a complete list of events and contact information, visit [www.harding.edu/calendar](http://www.harding.edu/calendar).

vived by his wife, Priscilla; two sons, Mathew and Sean; two daughters, Holly Flickinger and Hope Stringham; two brothers, David and Barry; two sisters, Karen Wilson and Linda Sayle; and a granddaughter. (410 Walnut Drive, Ste. Genevieve, MO 63670)

**Janet Lynne Jones** ('76), 53, died Sept. 26, 2007, from cancer. She taught music at McRae Elementary School in Searcy for five years. Other jobs included a paper route for more than 12 years, working at Camp Tahkodah, and cooking during several sessions of music camp held there. She accompanied Harding Homecoming musical rehearsals beginning as a student; Spring Sing hosts, hostesses and ensemble rehearsals; and various choral and solo concerts and auditions. She appeared on the stage at Center on the Square and Searcy Summer Dinner Theatre. Her favorite job was teaching children the love of playing the piano. She taught children's Bible classes and kept the nursery at College Church of Christ and was later a member of the Downtown congregation. A leader in the La Leche League, she was a breast cancer survivor for nearly 17 years. She is survived by her husband, **Craig** ('77); her parents, Marvin and **Jean Aly** ('53); a son, **Rees** ('04); a daughter, **Elaine** ('07); and a sister, Brenda Aly. (6 Ute St., Searcy, AR 72143)

**Brenda Kaye Hill Tyler** ('88), 41, died July 25, 2007, from cancer. She was a former employee of the oncology ward at Children's Hospital in Detroit. She also worked as a civil servant at Irwin ACH in Fort Riley, Kan., and Ireland ACH in Fort Knox, Ky. She was a board member of Christian Heritage Community Schools and active in the children's ministry at her church. She is survived by her husband, Barry; her mother, Kaye Hill; a son, Brandon; and a daughter, Shiana. (115 Baywood Ave., Vine Grove, KY 40175)

**Nathan Blackbird** ('02), 28, died Sept. 9, 2007. Nathan worked at Tenkiller Adventure Program as a resident juvenile specialist. He is survived by his wife, Nicole; his father, Bruce; his mother, Mary Batt; two children, Matison and Hannas; paternal grandparents, Dave and Lena Blackbird; maternal grandmother, Jennie Cameron; and a sister, Melinda Blackbird-Morena. (1499 Brandy Lynn Lane, #3, Tahlequah, OK 74464)

## TRIBUTE

BILLY RAY COX 1958

### A passion for life

By DAVID CROUCH

FORMER UNIVERSITY TEACHER and administrator Billy Ray Cox served 15 years in various roles, including professor of business, vice president, and director of the American Studies Program. He often was noted for the passion he had for living and working.

He stressed that passion in his classes, even reminding the class of 1970 in his baccalaureate address "to make every day count."

Cox came to Harding in 1964 after beginning his career as a CPA in Dallas and attending Southern Methodist University, where he received his M.B.A. degree. He also attended Harvard Business School. During his tenure in the classroom, Cox was the faculty adviser to student business teams that won three national championships at the International Intercollegiate Marketing Competition at Michigan State University. Cox's teams became the first to win three times and retire the championship trophy.

As director of the American Studies Program, he brought nationally and internationally known speakers to campus. He was a tireless spokesperson for the free enterprise system, and his 1976 bicentennial speech, "Rebirth of a Nation," garnered the highest award presented by the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, Pa.

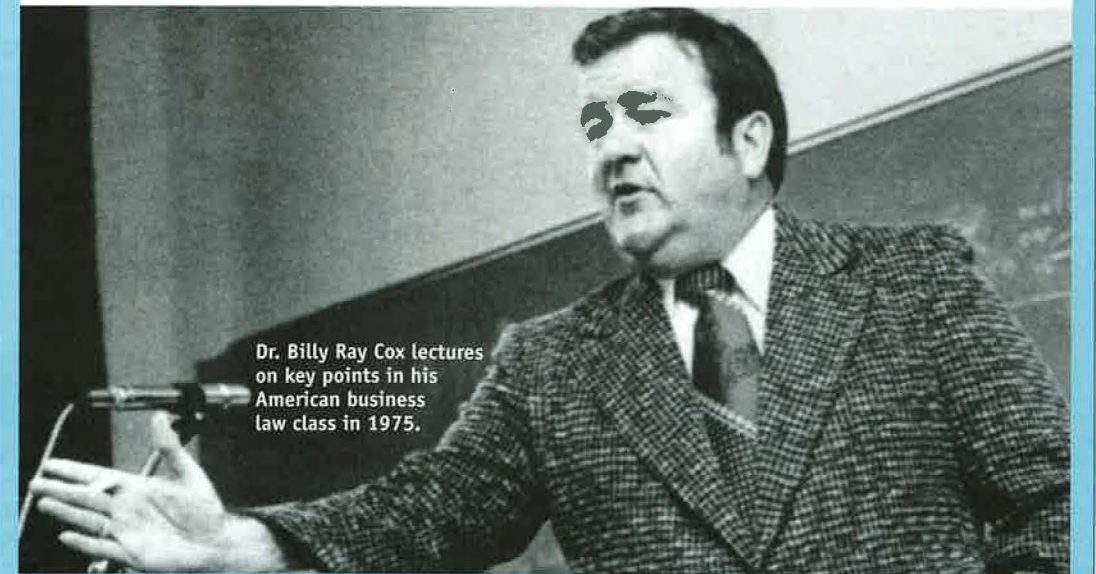
The senior class dedicated the 1973 *Petit Jean* to Cox with the following comment, "Your zeal and leadership in organizing the American

Studies Program has increased our knowledge and made us realize it is a small world after all. In your dedication you never forgot the little things, and you taught us to love and laugh at our perplexed world. Your chapel talks will be long remembered with fondness."

In 1979 Cox returned to Dallas and private business, becoming chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Dal-Tile International. While at the helm of the company, he provided leadership that led to the sale and public offering of the company in the early '90s and to what he called his "retirement."

As passionate as he had been about his work at Harding in the '60s and '70s, Cox was equally passionate about his areas of interest in retirement. He was actively involved in Christian Care Centers, Saturn Road Church of Christ, Christian mission efforts around the globe, and Dallas Christian School. He also served on the University's American Studies Institute National Advisory Board. He chaired fund-raising campaigns and provided management expertise and leadership for each of the organizations. He was particularly supportive and interested in Nairobi, Kenya, mission efforts. **H**

*Cox ('58), 71, died Sept. 24, 2007. He is survived by his wife, Patricia ('60); two sons, David ('80) and Dale ('85); a daughter, Kimberly Grogan; and nine grandchildren. (28 Victoria Drive, Rowlett, TX 75088)*



Dr. Billy Ray Cox lectures on key points in his American business law class in 1975.

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY  
PHOTO COURTESY OF 1976 PETIT JEAN

# Cell phone — not

By MICHAEL CLAXTON

## SEVERAL YEARS AGO, I WAS ON MY WAY TO A RETREAT IN NORTH CARO-

lina in the early evening. I must have hit something sharp as I sped along Interstate 40, and within seconds I was on the side of the road with a flat. As I started walking to the next exit, I didn't get 50 feet before a truck pulled over, and two country fellows in the stump removal business asked if I needed a ride. They took me to a phone and even recommended a roadside serviceman. These friendly characters were a little salty in their language — I can't repeat what they said about my pitiful spare tire — but I appreciated the help. They gave me a card and said to call if I ever had to get rid of any stumps.

Soon I found myself at a backwoods tire shop that was still open. I had no credit card, and after the roadside service fee, \$5 cash to my name. "Wait a second," the shop owner said, as he disappeared behind the building. A few minutes later, he rolled something dusty next to my car. After fishing a pile of leaves out of the rim, he sold me the tire and even put it on for free. So about two hours after my accident, I was back on the highway and made it to the retreat just fine. And I did it all without a cell phone.

Whenever I tell that story, people enjoy lecturing me about how unsafe it is not to have cell service. But I keep thinking how boring that story would have been if I had just sat in my car and dialed for help. In today's paranoid world, I placed some old-fashioned faith in the kindness of strangers and came out of it with a colorful anecdote. And that story is at the heart of why I don't have a cell phone.

This quirk drives everyone I know crazy. They're OK with the fact that I don't have a laptop or an iPod or TiVo, but for some reason, this particular type of technophobia goes too far. Friends harangue me as if I'm still driving a horse and buggy. Colleagues mumble something about having a "Luddite" in their midst. And my mother is convinced that I will someday be stranded in the desert with no good old boys to help, no way to call for assistance, and no change of socks.

I fully understand the benefits of cell phones, and I use other forms of technology every day. I microwave, I e-mail, and I once even faxed something. But I draw the line at owning a cell phone.

Call me old-fashioned. Call me anachronistic. Call me stubborn, even. But call me on a land line if you want an answer.

I don't have a cell phone mostly because I want the freedom not to be accessible everywhere, every minute, for every reason. Some of my friends are slaves to their phones; they have no privacy, no downtime, no silence. They feel that such things as driving and shopping are productive activities only if they can talk at the same time. But multitasking hasn't made them more efficient; it just makes them more anxious. Cell phones have become equivalent to the TV remote: They make us nervous wherever we are and terrified of what we might be missing. I don't want this to happen to me.

Granted, some people have no choice but to carry phones at all times — doctors, for example. Fortunately, my expertise is not needed in many emergencies. Generally, most commu- crises can wait until Monday. In fact, for every genuine emergency in which a cell phone comes to the rescue, the device creates a dozen pseudo-emergencies that would not exist without it. Because of the ease of calling or texting, we have redefined the concept of "urgent." Teens call each other to say, "I just got out of class." One young woman told me about the time she thought she recognized someone she knew at the mall, but instead of walking up to the person to check, she called her instead.

More disturbing to me is that cell phones have a way of making nice people obnoxious. Why must the dignity of every funeral be interrupted by a ring tone blaring "Darth Vader's Theme"? Why must students bolt out of class without so much as a "Pardon me" if their phone starts to vibrate? And, to quote the exasperated mother on the comic strip "Zits," "Why do random text messages always trump face-to-face conversation?"

To my distress, I recently learned that there are 1.2 billion cell phones currently in use worldwide. That means if all the cell phones in the world were laid end to end, it would be easier to run over them all with a truck. So, no, I don't own a cell phone. But in case you're wondering, I did get a credit card. **H**

*Dr. Michael Claxton received the Ph.D. from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is an assistant professor of English.*

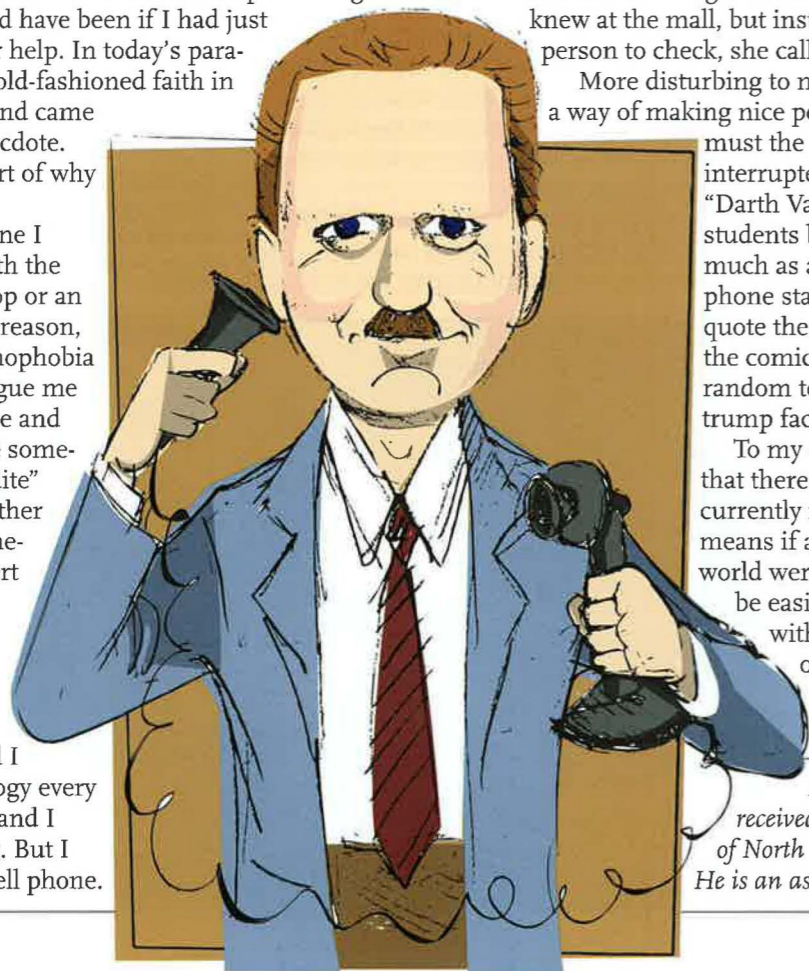


ILLUSTRATION BY HANNAH ALEXANDER '03



Stephanie Hinton

Brothers C.L. "Charlie," David and Leland Waters believed in the importance of Christian education. As a result, since 1932, 38 members of the Waters family have graduated from the University. But many could not have attended Harding without the encouragement and help of Mamie Waters, Leland's wife.

Her children, wishing to honor their mother, established a scholarship in her name. This fund provides assistance to deserving high school graduates who wish to attend college in a Christian environment.

## Bringing generations together

Every year, hard-working students struggle to continue their Harding experience. Lack of financial resources stands as a barrier to their goal of obtaining a quality Christian education. The President's Endowed Scholarship helps bring those dreams to fruition.

You can be a part of this life-changing process when you establish a President's Endowed Scholarship — with a one-time gift of \$25,000 or \$5,000 over five years. Every year after your scholarship has reached \$25,000 in gifts, a percentage of your gift will be given to a qualified student with whom you have been specifically matched. If you wish, you can be blessed by forming a relationship with the students you are helping.

The results of your generosity will speak for themselves.

*"The help you are giving me is going to make a huge impact. ... I am taking full financial responsibility for my tuition and have found out that it's not as easy as it sounds. I am the 10th child of 11 siblings and the eighth one to attend Harding." — Stephanie Hinton, Shanksville, Pa.*

Don't miss out on this opportunity to enrich a young person's life. To learn how you or a group can start a President's Endowed Scholarship or contribute to one already established, call the Center for Charitable Estate Planning at (800) 477-4312 or e-mail [thackney@harding.edu](mailto:thackney@harding.edu).



Mamie Waters



Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit #1123  
Little Rock, AR

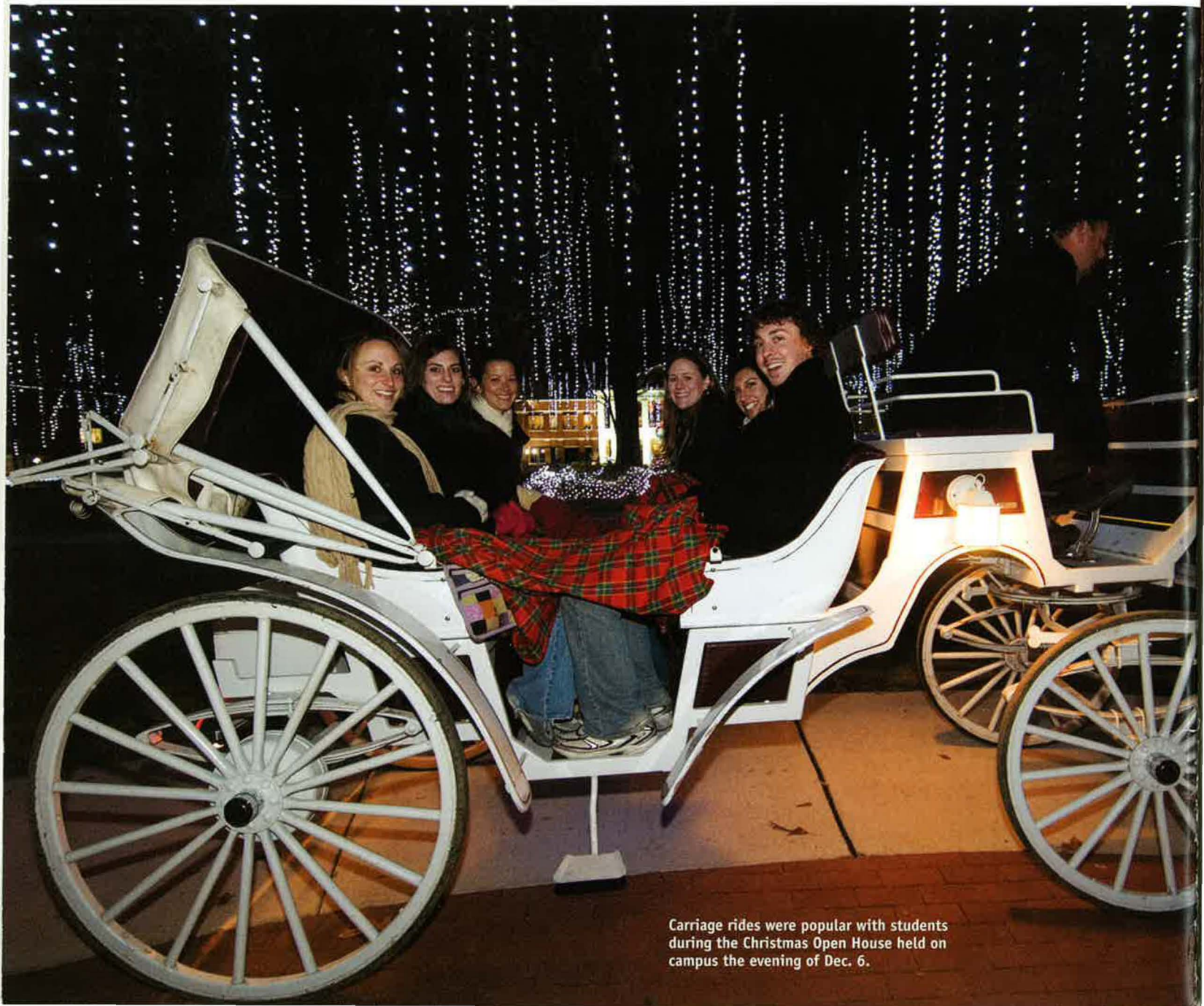
915 E. Market Ave.  
Box 12234  
Searcy, AR 72149-5615

*Forwarding Service Requested*

FH00013753  
Brackett Library-Serials  
Brackett Library  
Box 12267

# [Final Frame]

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY



Carriage rides were popular with students during the Christmas Open House held on campus the evening of Dec. 6.