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Harding



FALL
2010

The aroma of adventure

Rejuvenating Sears Hall

Touring the campus

V. 18
3
Fall
2010

HARDING UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Christian community

By DAVID B. BURKS, *president*



For 47 years, I have experienced the special blessings of this community.

I came to Searcy, sight unseen, from New Mexico with intentions of only staying one year. The Harding family soon changed that mindset.

I earned my way through Harding as *Petit Jean* photographer. Dr. Joe Pryor blessed me as he became much more than just my yearbook adviser.

My accounting professor, Dr. James Hedrick, was a father figure to me. After taking his classes for 33 hours, I knew what he was going to say before he said it.

During my tenure as president I have been blessed by godly men and women who serve on our board, such as James Cone who, in my early years as president, would tell me, "David, just do what's right; you'll be fine," and Paul Carter who made such a tremendous difference in this University.

People in the Harding community reach out and serve. I think of so many people who have been helped. Above that, they pray. And prayer changes things.

Our people working in commonality allow us to do great things, from our physical resources team renovating a dorm in just 90 days [Page 10], to exploring the western hemisphere tracing the route of coffee [Page 14], to tours of our beautiful campus encouraging prospective students to be a part of this place we call Harding [Page 20].

We used excerpts from Dr. Bruce McLarty's dissertation as the background material for our conference before the start of the fall semester. His last section entitled "Community" contains this paragraph that I believe says it well.

"Love is the central ethic of a community in which the reign of God is realized. Near the end of his earthly ministry, Jesus announced, 'A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.' In a Christian university setting, this is a reminder that loving relationships authenticate in the eyes of our students our claim to follow Jesus. Our words of faith mean so much more when our actions are demonstrations of our love."

Harding is truly a remarkable community. May it always be such a loving kinship that others will see God through us. **H**

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ON THE COVER

From humble beginnings as a simple cherry on a tree, coffee has shown time and time again its ability to change the world and alter history. This summer, a group of students took a journey halfway around the world to see and learn for themselves [Page 14]. Photo by Noah Darnell.

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY



Bricks sit ready to be laid during the complete renovation of Sears Hall this summer [Page 10].

FEATURES

10 Extreme makeover: dorm edition

The hours were long and the project mammoth, but in only three months Physical Resources succeeded in making Sears Hall brand new.

14 A stimulating sojourn

Photographer Noah Darnell travels with the Honors College on an overseas odyssey searching the profound effects of coffee on history in our cover story.

20 Around campus in 60 minutes

Did you ever wonder what gets said on a campus tour? Find out as Stacey Vaughn from Admissions takes prospective students and their families on a quick trip around the University.

DEPARTMENTS

2 | Around campus

Business building expanding and other University happenings.

8 | Athletics

Janet Cherebon-Bawcom makes track and field's Hall of Fame.

24 | Connections

24 Profile
Dona Pursley Cornutt, 1936

25 Alma matters

26 Alumni awards

28 Profile
Phillip Goad, 1977

30 Enhancing the mission

31 Events

32 | End note

Kendal Hemphill reflects on leaving his oldest son at Harding.

PHOTO BY ALAN PEARSON

Business honors Carter, expands facilities

The College of Business Administration has been named the Paul R. Carter College of Business Administration by the board of trustees in honor of Carter's iconic leadership in Arkansas business. The decision, made at the board's spring meeting, was effective immediately.

Carter was selected a member of the board in 1985. He served as chairman for four years and also filled roles as treasurer and on the executive committee. He continued on the board until his death in October 2009 following a long battle with cancer.

In addition to wearing a new name, the Mabee Building, which has housed business programs since 1982, began a major facilities

The architect's rendering depicts the new look of the Mabee Building.



upgrade in July. Renovations include new classrooms, a finance trading lab, expanded student common areas, break-out rooms for group projects, faculty offices, and a center for alumni networking.

Construction is being carried out in two phases with the first and largest phase scheduled for completion in May 2011. The second phase will begin that same month and conclude in August 2011.

New board member's roots grow deep

Searcy native Charles Ganus ('76) has been named to the board of trustees. The decision was made prior to the semi-annual board meeting in May, which Ganus attended.

Ganus is vice president of International Downstream for Murphy Oil Corp. and managing director of Murco Petroleum Ltd. He is the son of Chancellor Clifton L. Ganus Jr. and grandson of 1940-54 board Chairman Clifton L. Ganus Sr.

After graduating from the University, he earned an M.B.A. and Juris Doctorate degree from University of Alabama and is a graduate of Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program. He has served as chairman of the President's Development Council and is a member of the University Builder's Circle. Ganus and his wife, Patty Sapio ('79), have two children — Ashley ('07) and Kevin, a junior at the University.



ARCHITECT'S RENDERING COURTESY OF STEELMAN CONNELL NOSELEY; GANUS PHOTO SUBMITTED; WEAVER PHOTO BY NOAH DARNELL

Academic growth prompts administrative shuffle

End of semester changes prompted several administration modifications across campus. The College of Communication named a dean, and a department split yielded two chairs in the College of Sciences.

Dr. Rebecca O. Weaver took on the role of dean for the College of Communication July 1, making her the University's third-ever female dean. Weaver was a key player during the development of the speech-language pathology graduate program as well as the SLP program at the University's international campus in Zambia, Africa. Before being named dean — a position vacated by Dr. Mike James — she served as professor and chair of the communication sciences and disorders department housed within the college.

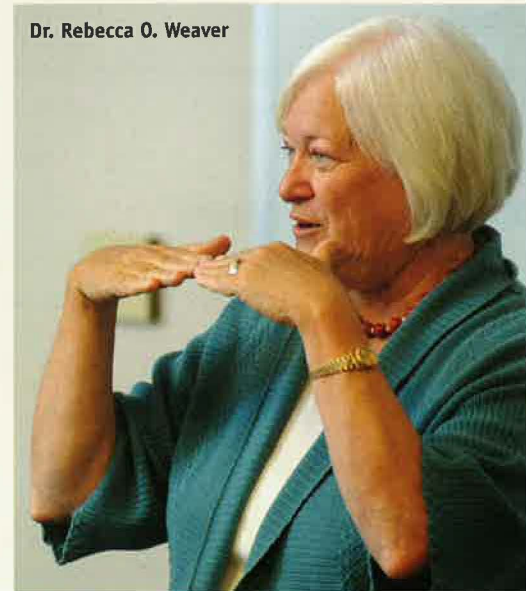
Along with a new dean, the college now houses three additional departments and one division. The newly formed department of theatre is chaired by Robin Miller, and Dr. Jack Shock chairs the newly formed department of mass communication. Dr. Dan Tullos serves as chair of the department of communication sciences and disorders, which was formed in conjunction with the development of the master's program. The oral communication division is directed by Dr. Pat Garner.

Across campus, the College of Sciences played its own version of musical chairs. Upon

the retirement of department of kinesiology Chairman Wilt Martin, the department was divided into separate departments — kinesiology and exercise and sports sciences.

Dr. Stephen Burks assumed leadership over the kinesiology department, having filled the role of assistant professor and wellness program coordinator. Dr. Ken Turley, an associate professor, is positioned as head of the exercise and sports sciences department.

Dr. Rebecca O. Weaver



Longtime Bible dean, wife recognized

In August, President David B. Burks announced that the Institute for Church and Family had been renamed the Carl and Frankie Mitchell Center for Leadership and Ministry.

The Mitchells were longtime missionaries in Italy before joining the University. Carl served as dean of the College of Bible and Religion and now holds the position of scholar in residence, while Frankie formerly served as director of human resources.

"The Mitchells are truly Harding treasures," said Burks. "Their strong commitment to world missions and their joyous optimism have made them highly influential advocates of many good causes. Chief among these has been Carl's dedicated promotion of the 'priesthood of all believers,' which led him to craft and promote the vocational ministry major in the College of Bible and Religion. Consequently, it is most appropriate that the office which has the primary responsibility for housing this major should now be called the Carl and Frankie Mitchell Center for Leadership and Ministry."

Andrew Baker continues as director of the center, which is housed under the Office of Church Relations led by Dr. Bruce McLarty, vice president for spiritual life. The Mitchell Center works with Uplift, *TC Magazine*, the Encouragement Foundation, and the leadership and ministry second major (formerly the vocational ministry second major).

The new Center for Spiritual Leadership, directed by Dr. Randy Willingham, will provide assistance to churches transitioning to new ministers or elders, church consultation services, and other services as needed.

Abundant Living, directed by Kay Gowen, will continue to serve Christian senior adults.



Remembering 9/11

Joey Myers ('01), husband of Armstrong Residence Life Coordinator Emily Myers ('01), and daughters Lucy and Josey help American Studies students place 2,977 flags outlining the perimeter of the front lawn in remembrance of those who died Sept. 11, 2001.

Name changes commemorate mentors

The board of trustees voted to honor two icons of leadership during its semiannual meeting in May.

Nursing students are now studying under the Carr College of Nursing, named in honor of Dr. James F. (Jimmy) Carr Jr., who served as assistant to the president for nearly 25 years. Carr, who remained active on campus even after his retirement in 1997, died at 95 in April 2009 after spending more than 50 years in higher education in Florida and Arkansas.

As president, Dr. Clifton L. Ganus Jr. gave Carr the task of spearheading the creation of the University's nursing program, which opened its doors in 1975.

The name change was effective immediately and pays homage to Carr for his years of service and dedication to the University.

The board also approved the renaming of the Center for Health Sciences after Dr. Henry ('48) and Grace Farrar ('48) for their pioneering work in health missions. The Farrars moved to Nigeria, West Africa, to begin Nigerian Christian Hospital and an outpatient clinic in 1964. Today the facility continues their work, serving 30,000 patients each year.

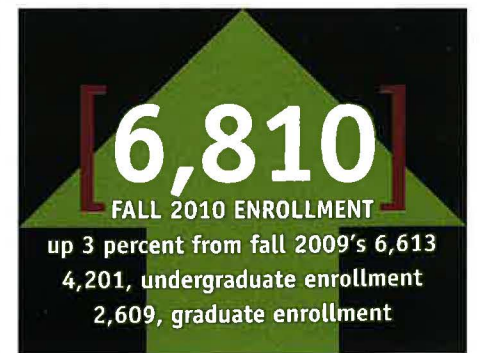
The Farrars also worked in medical missions in other parts of Africa and lived for a year in Shenyang, China, where Henry was visiting professor of surgery at China Medical University and Grace, a nurse, taught medical students preparing for graduate work in the U.S. Henry died in February after suffering a fall while working at Carthage (Tenn.) General Hospital.

Moving higher in the rankings

Harding was again ranked one of the best universities in the South in *U.S. News & World Report's* annual America's Best Colleges issue.

- ▶ 20th this year, up six spots from last year
- ▶ The only Arkansas institution included among the top 40 regional universities in the South
- ▶ No. 5 — up from No. 9 last year — on its "Great Schools, Great Prices" list
- ▶ Included in America's Best Colleges issue for 17 consecutive years

PHOTO BY NOAH DARNELL



[SPOTLIGHT]

The president's right hand

When **Claudette Bratcher** arrived on campus 23 years ago, she had no idea she would one day become secretary to the University's fourth president.

She had been working in former Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Neale Pryor's office for only a semester when College of Business Administration Dean Dr. David Burks approached her with a very special request — he wanted her to be his secretary when he stepped into the president's office later that year. Bratcher was excited but a little hesitant at first.

"I was thrilled ... I couldn't believe it. I never thought that would happen," says Bratcher. "Dr. Burks called me over and asked me to work for him. I told him I couldn't because it wouldn't be fair to Dr. Pryor since I had only worked for him one semester. But he said it was OK and that he

had already asked Dr. Pryor."

Bratcher, who has been working since she was 15, always wanted to work in a Christian environment and says she loves the atmosphere on campus. She spends her days right outside the president's office, tracking his schedule, arranging meetings, typing correspondence, and many other duties too numerous to name.

Through the years there have been many changes, including a total renovation of the American Heritage Center, which houses the president's office, and the launch of a new tool that has forever changed the way we communicate — e-mail. Gone are the days of carbon copies, typewriters and correction fluid. Bratcher says the ease of e-mail has been a fantastic addition to the everyday flow of work and saves lots of time and energy.



"In the beginning, we sent every letter on letterhead. Now, most correspondence is done by e-mail. It makes it a lot easier. Any time you write the board, that's 25 to 30 letters, and [Burks] writes the board about once a month. You save paper, and it's a very good thing to do because you're not spending as much money on office supplies."

Bratcher also schedules weddings in Cone Chapel and says she loves meeting

happy brides- and grooms-to-be. She recounts her most memorable introductions, however, to be when she met President George W. Bush and former United Kingdom Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who have both been speakers in the American Studies Institute Distinguished Lecture Series.

"They were both very down-to-earth, kind, genuine people. You don't think about their being normal people, but they really are."

Bratcher and her husband, Stan, have been married 51 years. Retired after 42 years of preaching, he drops her off at work every morning and picks her up in the evening. They have three children and nine grandchildren, two of whom are students at the University.

Bratcher plans to retire with Burks, but she'll still have plenty to keep herself busy when that day comes. With her children and grandchildren spread out over two other states and one foreign country, she'll have an abundance of ball games and world travels to fill up her daybook. ■

— Heather Williams

National rankings recognize service learning

Harding has been classified as one of the best master's universities in the nation in *Washington Monthly* magazine's 2010 college guide.

Schools are rated based on their contribution to the public good in three broad categories including social mobility (recruiting and graduating low-income students), research (producing cutting-edge scholarship and doctorates) and service (encouraging students to give something back to their country).

Harding was ranked 39th in the nation and was the only Arkansas university included in the top 50.

"Harding University is annually recognized by organizations such as *U.S. News & World Report* and Princeton Review as one of the best colleges in the South," said Dr. Jim Carr, Harding executive vice president. "To be recognized by *Washington Monthly* as one of the best in the entire nation based on factors such as our commitment to service learning is truly an honor."

The magazine ranked master's and baccalaureate institutions for the first time this year, avoiding regional categories in order to give readers a true comparison of colleges nationwide. All three main categories — social mobility, research and service — were weighed equally in measuring each school.

The number of students participating in community service and institutional support for community service were two new criteria introduced to this year's rankings.

The information used was based on data reported to the Corporation for National and Community Service by colleges and universities in their applications for the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, which has recognized the University the past four years.



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Associated Women for Harding

Associated Women for Harding met for the group's annual National Council meeting and Worthy Woman luncheon on campus April 30. The group presented a check for nearly \$85,000 to President **David B. Burks** for need-based scholarships. Chancellor **Clifton L. Ganus Jr.** and senior business major **Bradley Wolhuter** of Empaneni, South Africa, a scholarship recipient, spoke at the event.

Recipients of the Worthy Woman Award were **Shirley Boyd** and **Harriet Raley** of Searcy and **Carolyn Hook** of Bentonville, Ark. **Judy McDowell** of Rogers, Ark., was named Member of the Year.

College of Arts and Humanities Department of Art and Design

Sarah Wilhoit, assistant professor, successfully defended her dissertation titled "Evaluation of and Behavior Toward the Visual Retail Environment: Function of Consumers' Visual Aesthetic Sensitivity" and received a doctorate in

retail and consumer sciences from University of Tennessee in August.

College of Bible and Religion

Bruce McLarty, assistant professor and vice president for spiritual life, defended his dissertation titled "Helping First-Year Teachers at Harding Embrace the Spiritual Values of the University" and received a Doctor of Ministry degree from Ashland (Ohio) Theological Seminary in April.

College of Business Administration

Dr. **Phil Brown**, associate professor and chair of the accounting department, and **Bob Churchman**, assistant professor, were selected as finalists for the Grant Thornton/American Accounting Association Innovation in Junior- and Senior-Level Teaching Award for 2010-2011. Both delivered presentations at the AAA Annual Meeting in San Francisco July 31-Aug. 4.

Dr. **Jake Stewart**, assistant professor, presented "The Project Management Office

Impact on Information Technology Project Success" at the Project Management Institute Global Congress in October in Washington, D.C.

College of Communication Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

Dr. **Daniel Tullos**, professor and chair, presented "Facilitating Global Outreach and Cultural Competency," based on the University's Speech-Language Pathology Program in Zambia at the International Association of Logopedics and Phoniatrics 2010 International World Congress in Athens, Greece, in August.

College of Education

Michael Wood, assistant professor, defended his dissertation in April to receive a Doctor of Education degree from Arkansas State University in Jonesboro. His dissertation was titled "Factors Students Use in Choosing to Attend Church of Christ Institutions of Higher Education When Students Have No Affiliation With the Church of Christ."

College of Nursing

Dr. **Cathleen Shultz**, dean, was honored as a distinguished alumna by East Liverpool High School Alumni Association in East Liverpool, Ohio, July 3. Also, as president of the National League for Nursing, she moderated the Invitational Conference on Master's Education April 19 in New York. In addition, Shultz and Dr. **Cheryl Lee**, associate professor, worked with a national group of nurse educators in the spring to develop a set of guidelines for teaching geropsychiatric care.

Nursing students and faculty were featured in a book released in June by the National League for Nursing Foundation for Nursing Education. The book, titled "Giving Through Teaching: How Nurse Educators Are Changing the World," was inspired by President Bill Clinton's 2007 book "Giving: How Each of Us Can Change the World." Shultz helped edit the book and authored a chapter about the University's nursing program, and assistant professors **Janice Bingham** and **Karen Kelley** are featured as

nurse educators.

The Nursing Student Association's newsletter, **The Pulse**, was named the 2010 Most Outstanding Newsletter in the nation at the National Student Nurses' Association convention in Orlando, Fla., April 7-11.

Jeanie Burt, assistant professor, was chosen to participate on the 2010-11 National League for Nursing Certified Nurse Educator Test Development Committee. The group met in Chicago July 23.

College of Pharmacy

Dr. **Jeff Mercer**, assistant professor and assistant dean for experiential education, was selected in July as one of 30 faculty fellows for the 2010-11 Academic Leadership Fellows Program by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.

College of Sciences Department of Computer Science

Dr. **Steve Baber**, professor and director of academic computing, was inducted into the Arkansas Academy of

PHOTO BY NOAH DARNELL

Computing in April.

Dr. **Frank McCown**, assistant professor, received \$108,340 as part of a three-year, \$2.7 million grant from the National Science Foundation. The grant is for a project called "Web Archive Cooperative" and is divided between the University and faculty at Stanford and Old Dominion Universities.

Department of Family and Consumer Sciences

Dr. **Denise Fisher**, assistant professor, was recognized for her service during 2009-10 as president of the Arkansas Association of Family and Consumer Sciences at the organization's conference in February. At the same conference, Instructor **Beky Moore** was elected to serve as president for the 2010-11 year. **Rebecca Teague**, assistant professor, was named Certification Coordinator for Arkansas by the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. Dr. **Beth Wilson**, professor and chair of the department, received the Leaders Award, and Assistant Professor **Crystal**

Whittington received the Young Achievers Award. The Harding Family and Consumer Sciences Student Association received recognition for meeting the standards of excellence set forth by AAFCS.

Whittington defended her dissertation titled "Parental Perceptions of Touch Between Parents and Infants in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Arkansas Children's Hospital" and earned a doctorate from Iowa State University in May.

Distinguished Service Awards

Robert Allen, Harding Academy foreign language teacher; **Debbie Baird**, Honors College and International Programs administrator; **Ronnie Huckleba**, head football coach and associate professor of kinesiology; and **Cecelia McLeod**, administrative assistant to the dean of Cannon-Clary College of Education, received Distinguished Service Awards during the annual faculty and staff dinner April 16.

All four staff members were presented with a check and

framed certificate commemorating the award.

Graduate School of Religion

Dr. **Willie Nettle** of Vicksburg, Miss., was named Alumnus of the Year at the annual Advancement Council luncheon April 1 in Memphis, Tenn., for his leadership in building a dynamic, unified Christian community. He preaches at the Bypass Church of Christ, a congregation he planted in November 1987 after completing a Master of Divinity degree at the school. Nettle also holds a Doctor of Ministry degree from the University.

Office of Advancement

Brian Harrington joined the University as central regional director June 9.

Office of the Registrar

Patti Jo White, information assistant to the registrar, received a Doctor of Education degree in higher education in December 2009 from University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Her dissertation was titled "The Decision to Stay: A

Multiple-Case Study Exploring College Choice and Persistence Factors of Second-Year Students at Religiously-Affiliated Institutions Associated With the Churches of Christ."

Physician Assistant Program

Karen Bartosh of Searcy was elected to serve as South Central Regional chair for the Student Academy of the American Academy of Physician Assistants at the national AAPA meeting in May. She represents eight states.

Emery Leah Camp, a student from Shreveport, La., was awarded the 2010 Physician Assistant Foundation scholarship in May. The award is given based on academic achievement and commitment to community service and quality health care. Camp was one of just 77 students who received the scholarship.

Student Publications

The Bison was named the third-best college newspaper in the state at the Arkansas College Media Association conference in Fayetteville April 9. The 2009 **Petit Jean**

finished second in the state in general excellence at the same conference. Yearbook Head Photographer **Noah Darnell** ('10) of Guntersville, Ala., was named Photographer of the Year.

Teacher Achievement Awards

Dr. **Reet Cronk**, associate professor of business and chair of the management information systems department; **Johanna Kelly**, assistant professor of nursing; Dr. **Kevin Klein**, associate professor and chair of the history and social science department; Dr. **Donny Lee**, professor and associate dean of the Cannon-Clary College of Education; **Becky McLain**, assistant professor of communication sciences and disorders; **Scott Ragsdale**, assistant professor of computer science; Dr. **Keith Schramm**, associate professor of chemistry; and Dr. **Phil Thompson**, associate professor of Bible, received Teacher Achievement Awards at the annual faculty and staff dinner April 16.

Each was presented with a check and framed certificate.

Point of View

Assistant Professor of Communication **Steve Shaner** discusses why he traveled more than 11,000 miles to better understand students in his classroom.

Where did your interest in Chinese culture begin?

About five years ago, Naperville Church of Christ [in the Chicago area] that I attended started teaching a program called Friends Speak. It's where you teach English to people in the community who don't know English using the Bible as your text.

I started teaching Chinese students there almost inadvertently because I had volunteered to tutor a Chinese student when I was in graduate school. When I started working at Harding, they needed someone to teach a speech class just for Chinese students. I stepped up to the challenge and loved it.

I got more interested in mission work in China and began talking with [Missionary in Residence] Ed Mosby and his wife who are in charge of the China Now program. I had known about the program for years, but I was never able to actually be a part because I had a full-time job. But now that I am at Harding, I have summers off. China Now has a four-week teaching program that started after Harding got out, so I left May 12 and flew to Hengyang, Hunan, China, where I taught at the University of South China.

Meeting the parents ...

The most unusual thing I did while in China was visit my Harding Chinese students who were home for the summer. I met their parents and had dinner with them. In fact, I even spent the night at one of my student's homes in their guest room. That was just an amaz-

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arly?)



ing experience for my students' families and for me. The teachers in China do not engage with their students except in a very strict manner inside the classroom only. The parents were so surprised that I'd actually come from America, visit with their students, have dinner with them, and stay in their homes. They couldn't believe a college professor would actually do that.

What did you take away from your trip the most?

What I took away was the absolutely amazing opportunity that God gave me to connect with Chinese students. These students are not Christians when they come to Harding.

Some of them are converted while they're here. I think out of about 100 we had this year, four to six [were baptized]. Of the three students I went to see this year, one of them had become a Christian — probably more on the efforts of some of the others than myself. But I just really feel like it's a ministry opportunity that God has opened because of my relationship with them.

Here and in China, I would inquire as often as I could about the students' spiritual faith or what they believe about God. I found out almost every one of their grandparents were Buddhists, almost every one of their parents were atheists, and almost all of them were seeking to find out what the truth is for themselves. The exciting news is that their

parents are letting them search.

China has 1.3 billion people. Half of that total are under the age of 24. That means half the country will be or is currently looking for God. When I realized what was in front of me, the most amazing thing was the opportunity and the door that had been opened.

Was there ever a moment of culture shock?

It wasn't so much culture shock as much as I looked around and found out I was in the minority, which I'd never been in before. Our China Now team of four Harding students were in Hengyang, which is in Hunan, and it is not on the standard tourism track of Chinese visitors, so we were very much an anomaly in China. We were bigger than they were, we had beards, we had blonde hair — the kinds of things they don't have in China. People would walk down the street and stop just to stare at us. They'd pull out their cell phones to take a picture of us. When we saw them do it, we'd always wave them over. We figured if they were going to take our picture, we wanted them to let us put our arms around them and get a good photo together.

Applying new experiences ...

I teach the English as a second language speech class — COMO 101 — and have all Chinese students this fall. I'm able to say I've been to China, eaten their food, slept in their beds, and walked on their streets. While certainly China is bigger than what I was able to experience, I think it's going to give me a better connection, particularly with those students. ■

Prior to coming to the University in 2008, Shaner ('77) worked in almost every area of mass communication, including radio, television, newspaper and print. To read the full account of his summer in China, visit our website at www.harding.edu/mag.

PHOTO BY NOAH DARNELL

Physical therapy slated for fall 2011

A new doctoral program will begin on campus next fall, generating an opportunity for students to pursue a career field that is expected to grow by 30 percent between 2008 and 2018, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The three-year physical therapy program will offer a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree, and its inaugural class will include 30 students. The same number of students will be added each year, making the program fully staffed and fully functional with a total of

90 students in 2013.

"The physical therapy program will join our other fields of study in health sciences," said President David B. Burks. "With the physician assistant and pharmacy programs already firmly in place, physical therapy is the perfect next step."

Dr. Mike McGalliard began his tenure as program director in August. He is a licensed physical therapist and former faculty member in the School of Allied Health Sciences at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in Amarillo, Texas.

A taste of Tuscany in Searcy

The University's international programs are celebrating a major milestone this fall, marking 30 years since the first study abroad program began in Florence, Italy, in 1980. To commemorate the occasion, the campus community will come together to raise money and celebrate all of the international campuses, with HUF as the flagship program.

The weekend celebration has been dubbed "Harding University brings Tuscany to Searcy" and will kick off Dec. 3 with a HUF-themed chapel featuring special guest Simone Gheri, mayor of Scandicci. HUF Director Robbie Shackelford will showcase artwork at a special show Dec. 4 to raise money for the Havens at Namwianga, Zambia.

The festivities will culminate with a 30th anniversary banquet in Cone Chapel Dec. 4 at 7 p.m. Tickets for the banquet are \$50 per person, and guests will enjoy an Italian buffet, silent auction, and special Florentine entertainment by opera singer Letizia Dei and harpist Andrea Piazza. All proceeds will go toward the University's international programs.

Chancellor Clifton L. Ganus and Dr. Don Shackelford, who were instrumental in the start of international programs at the University, will be recognized for their vision and dedication. Robbie Shackelford and his wife, Mona, an instructor and personnel supervisor at HUF, have worked for the program since 1990 and will be recognized for their service at the banquet as well.

To purchase tickets and for donation information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 1-800-477-4312, ext. 1.



This 16th-century villa is home to the University's program in Florence, Italy.

PHOTO BY NICK MICHAEL

Total pounds collected >> 58,940
Cumulative pounds of recycled material per person >> 9.89 lbs.
Overall cumulative recycling rate of participation >> 25.19%
Bins on campus >> 909

University national recycling competitor

The University was one of slightly more than 600 colleges nationwide to participate in Recyclemania, a 10-week competition designed to increase campus recycling. The University implemented a campus-wide program in 2008, collecting 154,000 pounds of material in its first year, and decided to join in Recyclemania for the 2009-10 year. The competition weighed all recycled material collected by the University and compared it to the amount of trash produced by the school.

Service tradition continues

During the 2008-09 academic year, nearly 6,500 students, faculty and staff contributed more than 89,000 hours of service to numerous projects. Such efforts caught the attention of the Corporation for National and Community Service, which, in April, named the University to the 2009 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for the fourth consecutive year.

"Our mission at Harding includes the integration of faith, learning and living. From that mission stems the commitment to teach students the value and impact of servant leadership, laying the foundation for a lifetime of service," said President David B. Burks.

The prestigious honor was bestowed upon slightly more than 700 colleges and universities nationwide this year and recognizes the exemplary contributions of students, faculty and staff in meeting critical community and national needs. The University was one of only five schools honored in Arkansas.

Professional center begins on Memphis campus

The Mid-South Professional Center opened its doors in August, providing another avenue for professionals and students in the education sector to pursue graduate study.

Students can choose from programs leading to master's degrees in reading or advanced teaching and learning as well as a Master of Arts in Teaching degree. The advanced teaching and learning subject area contains coursework leading to national board certification.

Dr. Ileene Huffard is director of the center, located on the Harding University Graduate School of Religion campus in Memphis, Tenn. For more information, call 901-432-7726 or e-mail ihuffard@harding.edu.

Run, Janet, run

By JENNIFER HANNIGAN

With approximately 100 races under her running shoes and more than 80 titles, Janet Cherobon-Bawcom ('05) has a lengthy list of accomplishments to her name. On May 26, she added Division II track and field Hall of Famer to that list.

When it came time for Cherobon-Bawcom to consider her collegiate options, she was encouraged by members of her village in Kapsabet, Kenya, to attend the University on a running scholarship like they had. There was only one obstacle — she wasn't a runner.

"Starting at almost 20 years old, I had to learn everything about the sport," she says. "I had to work at it. My first year, I was just like any other runner. I was barely holding on to run nine to 10 minutes per mile. I am really thankful for my coaches because they made me believe that I could do it, and, with their program, they brought me from the runner I was to who I am today."

When Cherobon-Bawcom received the news that she and five other runners were being inducted into the U.S. Track and Field and Cross-Country Coaches Association's National Track and Field Hall of Fame, she was ecstatic. "I had never run before and knowing that I've been selected as one of the best, I could not believe it. I was really excited about it."

The induction was held at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, N.C. Honorees are chosen based on their collegiate performance and must have been out of school five years. Cherobon-Bawcom has the additional honor of being chosen upon her first nomination.

"The induction was actually held in conjunction with the national championship meet, so I got to be honored in front of the entire field of athletes competing there," she says. "It was a real honor to be inducted with a group of people with words like

'Olympics' and 'world championships' on their resumes."

During her time at the University, she was an eight-time All-American runner and three-time Division II national champion — high points in her career



along with the Indy 500 half marathon. "It is one of the biggest half marathons, and the first time I won was in 2007," she says. "Getting out of college and just running a 10K and thinking I would double that and run that as fast as in college was just not something I thought I could do. But I did it." This year, she became the first four-time winner for the Indy 500, also breaking the course record.

Other highlights for Cherobon-Bawcom included being named Gulf South Conference Runner of the Decade July 8. This honor was based on a vote of the conference's sports information directors and cross-country coaches.

On Feb. 6 she added another honor to her name as she broke the course record for the Pensacola (Fla.) Double Bridge Run, defeating the defending champion and two-time Olympian Amy Rudolph. "I felt really good about it. I didn't even look at my watch at all, and, being my first 15K, I did not really know what a good time was. I knew I was running a good pace, but I didn't know how good it was until I saw my final time, and I was like, 'Wow! I cannot believe that I did that.'"

Each year, Cherobon-Bawcom competes in 20-25 races, running 80-100 miles a week in order to train. Recently graduating from nursing school at Georgia Highlands College in Rome, Ga., finding time to balance classes, clinicals, her husband and training proved difficult, but she made time for them all.

"There are a lot of those days where I don't want to get up and do it," she sighs. "I'm a real competitor. I know if I get up and train, once I win that race, it's going to feel great. That's my motivation every single day." **H**

Janet Cherobon-Bawcom on her way to winning the 2008 Raleigh, N.C., half-marathon.

Baseball continues winning ways

The baseball team closed out the 2010 season 25-24 overall and 9-11 in Gulf South Conference West Division play.

The Bisons' top offensive performer was junior first baseman Jason Nappi who led the team with a .413 average, eight home runs and 59 RBIs. A pair of freshmen joined Nappi on the All-GSC First Team. Catcher Erin McCarver hit .346 with four home runs and 35 RBIs, and relief pitcher Tyler Billen compiled a 4-1 record and a 2.53 ERA. Redshirt freshman outfielder Anthony Guglielmi earned Second Team All-GSC honors after hitting .350 and leading the GSC with a school-record 19 doubles.

Berryhill Awards go to Grant, Ruiz

Katy Grant, a member of the women's track and cross-country teams from Mustang, Okla., was the female 2010 M.E. Berryhill Award winner.



Katy Grant

Men's tennis player Marco Ruiz from Sao Paulo, Brazil, was the male recipient of the honor given to a senior male and female athlete who possess the characteristics of athletic excellence, academic achievement, social maturity and spiritual example.



Marco Ruiz

As a cross-country runner, Grant earned First Team All-Gulf South Conference four times and was the individual champion at the 2009 race. She also earned three All-Region honors. In her track career, she twice qualified for the NCAA National Meet in the 3000-meter steeplechase and holds three school track records. Academically, Grant is a two-time *ESPN the Magazine* Academic All-American honoree and also earned Academic All-GSC honors three times and U.S. Track & Field and Cross-Country Association All-American honors.

Ruiz is a four-year letter winner for the Bison tennis squad and earned All-GSC honors all four years, becoming only the 15th tennis player in conference history to do so. During his career, Ruiz compiled a 37-14 singles record and a 36-26 doubles mark.

Two added to football staff

Head football coach Ronnie Huckeba has hired two new assistant coaches. Luke Cullins joined the staff as wide receivers coach, and Scott Symons is defensive backs coach and recruiting coordinator.

Cullins, a native of Morrilton, Ark., comes to the University from Riverview High School in Searcy where he served as the assistant head coach and offensive coordinator since 2006. Symons, who hails from Mission Viejo, Calif., has been a graduate assistant at the University the last two seasons.

Daniel Kirwa

Golf teams set records

The men's golf team earned its highest placement ever in the Gulf South Conference Championship and shot its lowest score placing eighth with a 909 at the Hot Springs Country Club.

Blake Chase and Brandon Cauldwell became the first two Bison golfers to earn All-Gulf South Conference honors being named Second Team All-GSC. Chase, a freshman, had the team's best scoring aver-

age this season at 76.3 strokes per round. Cauldwell, also a freshman, was the team's top finisher at the GSC Championship, placing 12th.

The women's golf team had its best season ever in 2009-10 and reaped the rewards as Whitney Ohlhausen, So-Yun Kim, and coach Nicky Boyd all received honors from the GSC. Harding placed third at the GSC Championship, the team's best-ever finish.

Ohlhausen, who set the school record with an 80.3 stroke average, was named GSC Freshman of the Year and First-Team All-GSC. Kim, a freshman, was named Second-Team All-GSC, and Boyd was named GSC Co-Coach of the Year.

Tennis teams reach tournament

The men's tennis team earned its ninth trip to the NCAA II National Tournament, receiving the 10th seed from the South Region. The Bisons fell 5-0 to No. 7 seed University of West Florida in Miami and finished the season 14-8. The brother duo of Marco and Henrique Ruiz was named All-Gulf South Conference.

The women's tennis team set a school record with 23 wins and had three members honored with All-GSC accolades. Sophomore Ling Chan and senior Lola Pardo were First-Team honorees, and senior Katherine Golik was named Second-Team. The Lady Bisons completed the season with only seven losses and reached their third GSC Tournament semifinals berth. In her final match as a Lady Bison, Pardo became only the 17th Harding women's tennis player to compile 50 career singles wins.

Kirwa takes two All-American titles

Junior Daniel Kirwa's career outdoor All-American total now stands at six as he added two more awards at the NCAA Division II Outdoor Track and Field Championship. He placed second in the 10,000 meters with a time of 30 minutes, 13.69 seconds.

He also placed fourth, and sophomore Philip Biwott ran for eighth in the 5,000 meters. Kirwa's time was 14:12.89, and Biwott collected his first outdoor All-American honor finishing in 14:24.85.

New conference forming

The chief executive officers of nine universities in Arkansas and Oklahoma announced in July that they intend to apply to the National Collegiate Athletic Association for permission to create a new NCAA Division II conference.

The members of the proposed new conference would be University of Arkansas at Monticello, Arkansas Tech University, East Central University, Harding University, Henderson State University, Ouachita Baptist University, Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Southern Arkansas University and Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

"The intent of the conference is to group together similar institutions in terms of budgets and goals," said the presidents, chancellors and directors of athletics from the nine institutions in a joint statement. "Furthermore, the conference is intended to be made up of universities that field an intercollegiate football program. Our most important goals in this new endeavor are to limit time away from class and limit our travel costs."

The nine member institutions plan to submit a conference strategic plan, constitution and bylaws to the NCAA by Dec. 1.



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

extreme MAKEOVER DORM EDITION

By HEATHER WILLIAMS

From the beeping of a bulldozer in reverse to the glue-like scent of freshly lacquered paint to the crunch of sawdust beneath work boots, the summer atmosphere at Sears Hall was one of rebirth.

Built in 1975, the largest dorm on campus had never been renovated — until now. The project, dubbed “Extreme Makeover: Dorm Edition 2010,” kicked off at a formal ceremony May 11. Since then, nearly 120 crewmen specializing in more than two dozen trades have left their mark — from electricians and plumbers to painters to two different kinds of roofers and more. With just three months from start to finish, the \$4.5 million project is the largest renovation on campus in such a short period of time. >>



Damon Pearrow works on constructing the support columns outside the main entrance to Sears Hall.



BY THE NUMBERS
 Built in 1975
 Houses 300 women
 54,000 square feet
 \$4.5 million cost to renovate
 3 months to complete

It took a total team effort to renovate Sears Hall during the course of the summer.



SEARS HALL

Looking much better than it did just a few short months before, Sears Hall residents are enjoying their improved home.

Driving down East Center Street, the building catches the eye with its new gabled roofline. Landscape artists have worked their magic with foliage and greenery lining the outer perimeter, and a new drive-up awning welcomes students and visitors on the building's east end. But the changes on the outside are only the beginning.

Warm beige walls and slate gray ceramic tile adorn the entry halls, and friends can lounge on plush, comfortable couches as they wait for Sears' tenants in the large sitting area. Gentlemen need not take their dates out to a restaurant when they can come over to the first-floor multipurpose room and show off their cooking skills in the newly renovated kitchen. A full-size refrigerator, stove, dishwasher and sink are right at their fingertips.

Suite-style living remains with two people per bedroom and four women sharing an adjoining, completely renovated bathroom. Upgraded with new easy-to-clean fiberglass showers and a dual vanity, girls also enjoy the new counter space, which did not exist before. There's plenty of room for beauty products and flat irons, and new cabinetry on each end of the bathroom provides extra storage.

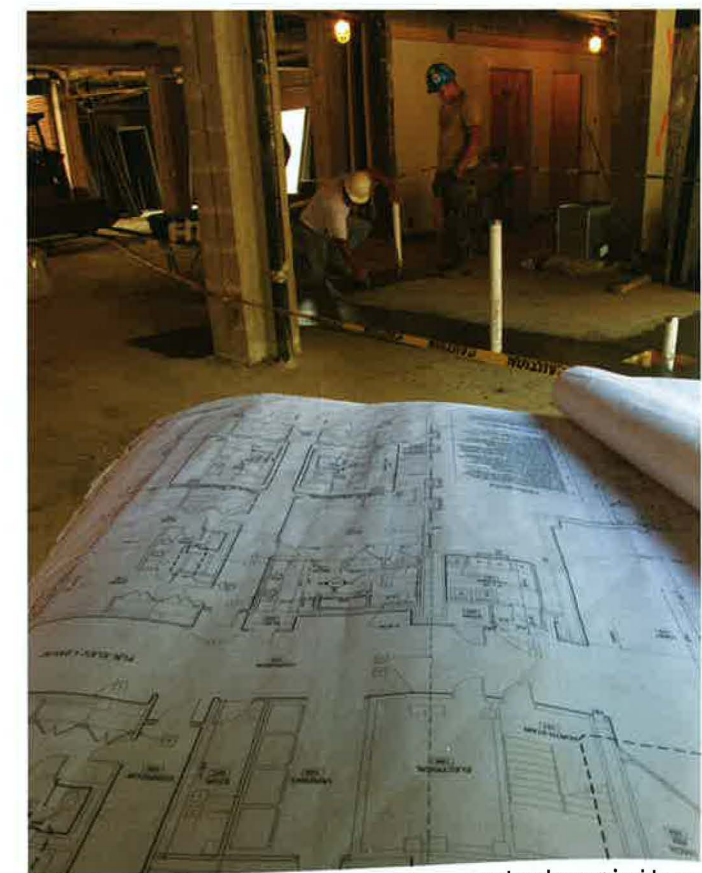
Beds, dressers and desks can all be arranged according to preference, and redesigned closets with swing-out doors make room for each girl's wardrobe. New tiled carpet in each of the rooms creates a more convenient and cost-effective method for replacing sections as needed.

Residents no longer have to brave rain, snow or heat to wash their clothes. Each floor now has a laundry room with multiple washers and dryers.

Students who have special needs will find themselves right at home. Unique to the building is the addition of 17 allergen-free rooms — which do not have carpet — on the first floor of the east wing. A new cooling and fresh air system optimizes breathing quality and also pulls dust and allergens from the atmosphere. Two extra-large rooms are also available, complete with wheelchair-accessible showers and fold-down seats. Another welcome addition is a brand new elevator.

In only three months time, it was a remarkable change, one even Ty Pennington might be amazed by. **H**

The original flat roof on Sears Hall is no more as it is replaced by a pitched roof with several gables.



Almost completely gutted, Sears Hall receives a total makeover inside as well as out.

Ethiopia's Simien Mountains, a place that seems untouched since the dawn of creation, serves as a dramatic backdrop for the coffee group's morning hike May 14 after spending the night at 10,000 feet above sea level.

Introduction by TOM BUTERBAUGH, photography and captions by NOAH DARNELL

“**S**tay tuned. I’m in Ethiopia; there is much to see...” is the closing line of photographer Noah Darnell’s May 10 post on his blog, “The Fledgling Photographer,” as he joins seven students, professors Pat Garner and Jeff Hopper, and two others on a three-week adventure exploring the world of coffee.

And there was much to see and experience during the study abroad program designed exclusively for students in the Honors College, as they explored regions in Ethiopia, Oman, Istanbul and European capital cities where the sale and consumption of coffee has impacted the world forever.

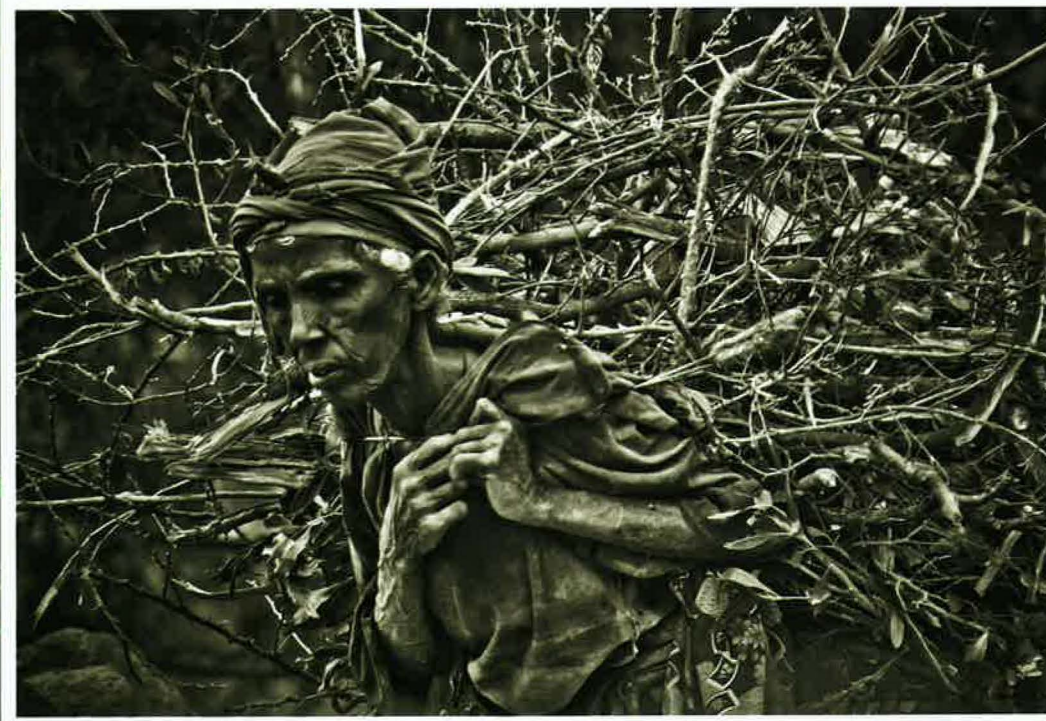
“I simply want to present these images as a record of the places I’ve been and the people I see in the situations in which they exist,” Darnell posts. “And whatever happens, it’s gonna be good...” Exactly how good can be seen through this sampling of his images. There’s much more at www.haonavy.com.

Tea will be the topic as the tour heads to India, Japan, London and Boston next summer. “Stay tuned.” >>

A STIMULATING SOJOURN

COVER STORY

Junior Emily Dollens plays with a few of the children in Axum, Ethiopia.



After a fresh rain in the Sidamo region of Ethiopia May 19, a family's cooking fire permeates the thatch roof of a hut.

An elderly woman carries a load of sticks to be used for firewood in Lalibela, Ethiopia.



Axumite locals carry baskets full of Ethiopian injera bread as traditional gifts on the way to a wedding.



Oxen used to plow a patch of land is still a common sight in Ethiopia.



A child proprietor of this basket shop in Axum, Ethiopia, waits for customers.



Market goes sample the variety of dates, grapes and raisins for sale in a Muscat, Oman, market.



While a mother begs at the windows of slow moving vehicles in Addis Ababa's downtown traffic, her child reaches for nothing more than a stranger's touch.

The Church of St. George — one of the imposing rock-hewn churches in Lalibela, Ethiopia — dwarfs a worshiper as he approaches the oversized steps seemingly made for a giant.

FOLLOW ADMISSIONS' STACEY VAUGHN AS SHE PROVIDES PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES WITH A TASTE OF **HARDING** LIFE.

AROUND CAMPUS IN 60 MINUTES

By JENNIFER HANNIGAN, *photography by* JEFF MONTGOMERY

Fresh off the road and fueled by a quick breakfast pit stop, four high school juniors, their parents and siblings crowd into the Admissions front office, viewbooks in hand. While most teenagers are spending this warm July morning sleeping in or lounging poolside, this group is trekking around the South visiting schools. Harding is stop number two on their college summer tour, yet

the nerves are still new. Could this be where their college years will be spent?

Assistant Director of Admissions Stacey Vaughn oversees prospective high school juniors from many of the 50 states and abroad. Having lived in Searcy most of her life attending Harding Academy and the University, she is able to offer firsthand insights into what students will experience, hopefully quelling any jitters they might have.

"Let's head down this way," Vaughn calls to the group. "What we're going to do is make a big loop. The area outside is called the front lawn, that's where we're basically going to end up. I'll try to keep you indoors as much as possible."

The shuffling of cameras around dads' necks, moms' purses and crinkling information packets sound as the group moves down the Heritage's hallway surrounded by photographic montages showcasing decades of growth and student life, leading into the lobby.

"This is the Heritage Center," Vaughn notes as she accompanies them down the corridor. "Not really a building students are going to use a whole lot. For them it's basically their pass from the student center, right through there, to the cafeteria," which is exactly what the cluster does.

"You're going to have to use your imagination because it won't be this empty during the school year," Vaughn says as her introduction echoes in the unusually empty Charles White Cafeteria. The little crowd, which has been winding behind, forms a loose semicircle around her.

Vaughn takes a moment to point out the various meal stations — the comfort line where you can get an Aramark version of a home-cooked meal, the international section, and the

pasta, stir fry, deli, allergen-free and pizza areas.

"One thing that is different here than at most schools is that everything remains open on the weekends, like the cafeteria, because y'all don't go home every weekend. You're still here so everything is fully functional on campus. You can go to the cafeteria; you can go to the student center — whatever you want to do."

Taking one last look around the dining hall, the troop moves toward the door from which they entered the dining hall and venture outside into the summer's heat. "If we can stay in the shade, we're going to be all right. I will try not to expose you to direct sunlight very often," she jokes.

Once the tiny crowd has gathered in front of the American Studies Building, they join together in a resounding chorus of "Squirrel!" as one of campus' best-fed wildlife scurries across the sidewalk. "You see our squirrels running all over. We have the fattest squirrels in North America. It's because the students feed them. They don't care that you're here. You're not in their way. They just keep on going."

Still giddy from the first of many squirrel sightings, the group's attention is drawn to the grassy expanse in the middle of campus. "This area is the front lawn. Of all the pictures of Harding you'll see, this is the most popular backdrop. This is the part that our alumni really don't want us ever to change. It's basically always looked like this with a few minor differences. We do want our alumni to come back and be able to recognize where they went to school."

Vaughn explains that, while summer vacation has left the lawn empty for now, during the school year it is the bustling center for outdoor activity. "When students are here, you're >>



At the front of the pack, Brandon Dial asks Stacey Vaughn about their next destination on campus, Benson Auditorium.

going to see them playing ultimate Frisbee and lacrosse.”

Unexpected novelties also pop up on campus from time to time. “A couple of weeks before school was out I walked out here, and they had big moon bounces and inflatable games — you know, things you loved when you were eight but secretly love when you’re 18. They brought those in during finals week for a sort of stress relief.”

As they continue down the sun-speckled sidewalk, Vaughn calls their attention to their right where the girls’ dorms are located, highlighting Cathcart and Sears, which house freshmen. She also points out Kendall and Pattie Cobb, which is the oldest building on campus.

“This is the Bell Tower,” Vaughn directs as the group turns to the structure adjacent to Pattie Cobb. “This is a Harding landmark. It’s something that you’ll see quite a bit. There are two sayings that go with it that you need to know. Are you ready?” The group nods in agreement. “The first one is that if you stand under the bell tower and you kiss the boy who you are with, that means you’re going to marry him. However, if you walk under the bell tower by yourself, it means you’re never going to get married.”

Everyone in the group erupts with laughter, except for one younger brother turning slightly pink around the ears.

“He did that last night!” remarks his dad.

It seems the young man has sealed his fate.

Continuing their unintentional game of follow the leader, everyone now stands in the slight shadow cast by the Administration Auditorium. One dad checks his watch to ensure the accuracy of the sundial. Another snaps a few more pictures — one of the fountain, one of the building that still says Harding

College, another of the group as a whole.

“The Administration Building is another landmark of campus. There is an auditorium in there. Since this auditorium is a little smaller, we’ll have plays in this one.” The auditorium also has played host to concerts by David Cook and Owl City.

Once Vaughn points out the Ganus Student Center — “which is proof that you should never write anything in stone because that is no longer the student center” — and the Ezell Building, they continue on their way, seeking momentary relief from the heat inside the air-conditioned Brackett Library.

Despite the fact that only a handful of people are currently scattered among the library’s computer stations and study tables, Vaughn speaks in a hushed tone, drawing attention to Java City coffee shop on their right. “It’s very quiet in here today. In theory it’s always quiet in here. When they added the coffee bar, it kind of raised the noise level just a little bit.” Thirteen pairs of eyes survey the first floor of the library, bouncing from circulation desk to computers to the rows of shelves along the back.

“On the first floor you have all of your research pieces,” she points out. “On the second floor, we have more than 500,000 volumes of books, which is fantastic for a private school. If there is something that you need, though, and you can’t find it here or on the Internet, we do have a system set up with all of the universities in Arkansas where we switch materials, so you go to the front desk and request it. Our library is online, so you can go anywhere in the world and access it.”

And what better place to implement the online library than from one of Harding’s international campuses? “We have

campuses in Italy, Greece, Australia, London, Chile, France and Zambia,” Vaughn states. One of the students has expressed an interest in traveling to HULA, the University’s campus in Latin America. “Chile is cool because you get to experience all of the climates, so you may be in a rainforest one week but then you’re on an iceberg the next. I’m not quite outdoorsy enough for that campus. I think the international programs are one of the best things that Harding offers its students, because we’re not sending you to another university overseas; we’re sending you to Harding. It’s just somewhere other than Searcy.”

Once questions regarding the international campuses are answered — tuition, travel and courses — they exit the library and begin to walk toward the men’s side of campus.

“Have you noticed all of the swings?” asks Vaughn, pointing out several in front of the library. “Do you know the saying for them? ‘Three swings and a ring.’ If you sit in the swing three times with the same guy or girl, it means you’re going to marry them.” The group laughs. “Here’s my advice,” Vaughn says. “Just make sure the person you’re on the swing with is the same one you’re under the Bell Tower with. Otherwise, you can get yourself into big trouble.”

With that word of warning, the troops move on. Finding themselves in front of several men’s dorms, Vaughn points out that Harding does not have co-ed dorms. “I don’t think that is a surprise to you. We have lobbies in all of the dorms, and guys and girls can visit each others’ lobbies from noon to curfew, but you cannot visit each others’ rooms. They do have a dorm open house once for men and women every month though.”

As the students file away these tidbits, the Reynolds Center, home of the music department and College of Communication, is pointed out as well as the new Farrar Center for Health Sciences, which contains the master’s in physician assistant program and the College of Pharmacy. They continue on to the Rhodes Field House.

“This is where the Bisons play basketball and volleyball. Originally it was a World War II hangar. Basically what happened was that the war ended before the government could ship it to France so they had a program for small schools like Harding where they could buy these buildings at cost. We bought one, and we turned it into a gym,” Vaughn explains as they walk through the building, turning the corner to reveal the hardwood basketball court.

“This is one of the most fun places you will ever come for a basketball game,” Vaughn says. “You hear the echo just with my talking? Imagine what it sounds like when you get thousands of people in here.” She paints a picture for her group, describing the high-energy atmosphere during basketball games. “You can tell how cool it is because the bleachers pull out right onto the court so you’re right on top of the game the entire time.”

As they exit the field house, she points out Ganus Athletic Center across the street, which provides an indoor track, swimming pool, racquetball and basketball courts, and a wellness center — all free for students to use. As they continue, they cross the empty parking lot in front of Mabee Business Building and climb the stairs in front of Benson Auditorium. These stairs will become a key part of their Harding experience, scrambling up them every day to attend chapel.

Footsteps click over the cool tile lobby as they enter the auditorium. Everyone clusters around the seats in the back — a welcome rest for weary feet. Currently in the middle of a renovation, the seats are being recovered and additional seats are being installed in the balcony. “By doing the renovation,

everyone will fit in here together again,” Vaughn says. “We’ve had to have two chapel services because we weren’t able to fit everybody in during the fall. We just don’t like splitting chapel.”

While the early mornings that come along with daily chapel might not be so appealing, “it will be one of the first things you miss because they’re just aren’t many times in your life when you’re going to get to start every day by praising God with your friends.” Vaughn maps out an average chapel service, complete with announcements, singing and a devotional. She also notes that, in addition to chapel, the Benson hosts the Homecoming musical, Spring Sing, concerts and movies. “They’ll do movies in here on the weekends for two bucks,” she says.

When no questions are brought up regarding chapel, the tour continues, crossing the C.L. Kay Plaza in front of the Benson to enter the Jim Bill McInteer Bible and World Missions Center. In the rotunda, the younger siblings scatter off to stake their claim of various mosaic tile countries on the floor. One dad ventures off, up the stairs, to get a bird’s eye view of the floor. Their eyes are drawn collectively upward to the flags swaying above their heads. “The flags represent all of the countries that were represented when we built the building,” Vaughn offers. “Now we have students from across the nation and more than 50 countries. It’s a very eclectic group of students.”

The first class these students will take in the McInteer is New Testament Survey, followed by Old Testament Survey. “The reason we’ve swapped the order is because we have students who come here and have not had a lot of exposure to the Bible, and, if for some reason they decide not to stay, we want to make sure they hear the New Testament before they go.”

One of the notable features of the Bible building and its neighbors — the Pryor-England Center for Science and Engineering and the student center — is that they are all linked to one another. “We will be inside from this point forward,” remarks Vaughn; her visitors welcome the air conditioning as they turn down the hall connected to the student center.

On the left, Harding logos of every shape, size and color line the windows into the bookstore. “Anything we can stick the word Harding on is in there,” says Vaughn. “T-shirts, pencils, folders, Bison temporary tattoos, breath mints ... just to name a few. All of the textbooks you’ll need are located on the second floor.”

The hallway opens into the heart of the student center. A few steps down lead them to Chick-fil-A, a deli and grill, and soda fountains. “We are the number one seller of chicken biscuits for anyone who Chick-fil-A sells to,” laughs Vaughn. “We don’t know what that says about us other than the fact we like our chicken biscuits.”

She takes them up a few stairs and by the convenience store — “they have everything from Tide to Ben and Jerry’s” — and the campus post office — “where you’ll pick up the care packages from your parents.” The students’ faces brighten when they see the familiar purple and yellow logo of Taco Bell positioned in the midst of the student center’s cyber café.

Refreshments are purchased, care of the University, at the convenience store. With water and Coke bottles in hand, the tour completes the circle around campus and is back in the Heritage lobby.

Returning to the place where they began, the group nestles into armchairs arranged in a circle to process all of the information they’ve just accumulated — each chatting with the one beside them. And while questions regarding housing, studies abroad and scholarship money may still linger in the air, one even larger question may have already been answered: Will Harding be my alma mater? **H**

Conversation flows freely on campus tours, and this one is no exception. Stacey Vaughn chats with the group as they venture around the quadrangle.





1966

Gale "Vickie" Mitchell Medley completed her Ed.D. in higher and adult education at University of Memphis this spring. She has maintained a dual career for the past 30 years teaching at night for Southwest Tennessee Community College and Webster University while employed as an education specialist/management analyst for the U.S. Navy in Memphis, Tenn. Her husband, **Don** ('67), retired after 35 years as an elementary and secondary education teacher, coach, athletic director and principal. (7190 Braden Road, Arlington, TN 38002)

1974

Don Belcher was awarded the R. Vernon Boyd Diversity Award by Rochester College. He and his wife, **Pam Jones** ('76), have four children, **Rachel Moore** ('01), **Donald** ('04), **James** ('08) and **Rebekah**, a freshman. (5306 Merrybell Lane, Grove City, OH 43123)

1977

Ben Brannon is a part-time 911 operator for Cobb County 911 Center in Marietta, Ga. He also works part time for the Chattahoochee River 911 Authority dispatching for the cities of Sandy Springs and Johns Creek, Ga. He and his wife, **Barbara**, have two sons. (P.O. Box 373, Roswell, GA 30077)

Steven Saunders has been preaching for more than 40 years in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas and currently Missouri, where he preaches for Macon Church of Christ and has a small farm. He helped his father, who owned Ross' One-Hour Photo, while preaching in Shreveport, La., and later owned the business for 10 years. As owner, he gained the honor of *Who's Who in American Businessmen*. While preaching in Mustang, Okla., he worked with Lifetouch Church Directories as a photographer and was awarded first place for a portrait called "Sibling Love." He is married to **Barbara Stuart**. (4677 Highway 151, Clarence, MO 63437; robsaunders@aol.com)

1979

Mitch Walton is superintendent of schools at Sloan-Hendrix



Keeping the books

Dona Pursley Cornutt ('36) has been doing accounting work since she was 6 years old. Her family has owned multiple businesses throughout her life, and she grew up working alongside her dad in his grocery store. Thus, it's no surprise that she became the first female student to graduate from Harding with an accounting degree.

Born in the North Texas town of Miami in 1916, Cornutt graduated from high school at age 16 and set out for Harding College in Morilton, Ark., in fall 1932.

In the end, it was her mother who sent her to Arkansas. "My mother visited Harding, and she visited Abilene Christian University. The girls wore their dresses longer at Harding," says Cornutt.

As a student, she was right in the middle of one of the most exciting moments in Harding history when the campus moved to Searcy in 1934. She worked for the president's wife, Mrs. J.N. Armstrong, throughout college and even helped with the move.

College life was active for Cornutt. An honor student, she was twice voted best all around and was a member of Ju Go Ju social club, worked as a reporter for The Bison student newspaper and served as editor-in-chief of the *Petit Jean* yearbook during her senior year. She loved those four years and even donated her yearbooks to the University's History House in 2009.

"Have you ever been in a house where, when you walked in, you felt like you were at home?" she asks. "Well, this is what Harding did for me — I was very much at home."

After graduation, Cornutt moved back to Texas. She and her husband had three children before he was killed in a gas well accident in 1959. Having always been in business, she continued her career as she worked to support her family. She spent seven years running the Pampa High School office and later became coordinator of distributive education, a program that gives students business experience and improves their skills while helping local businesses.

Today, at 94, Cornutt still lives in Pampa and remains active in her community. She lives right around the corner from her church — Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ — which she helped build. She's been named Woman of the Year twice — once in 1960 by a local sorority and again in 2000 by the Pampa Chamber of Commerce. She was recognized as Artist of the Year by Pampa Fine Arts in 2007.

Cornutt says she feels fortunate to have lived a long and healthy life and has no plans to slow down anytime soon. She still works as a bookkeeper for the family business, Pursley Gas Co., and continues to dream about the future.

"I wanted to get my CPA — that was my desire, and then when I married and had children, I just didn't have time to study to do it ... but maybe I will one of these days." **H**

— Heather Williams

School District in Imboden, Ark. In his 27 years with the district, he has served as a social studies teacher, federal programs coordinator, and 16 years as high school principal.

He is an elder for Pyburn Street Church of Christ in Pochontas, Ark. His wife, **Terri Futrell** ('80) is library media specialist for Pochontas Junior High School. They have two children,

Matthew ('07) and **Paige**, a Harding student. (3895 Highway 90 W., Pochontas, AR 72455)

1981

Jill Lester married David Dillon Nov. 20, 2009. She is a retired elementary school teacher, and David is an educational consultant.



(348 Freedom Drive, Franklin, TN 37067)

1982

Julie Dawn Randolph graduated with a Master of Science in nurse anesthesia from Texas Wesleyan University in December 2009. She is a CRNA with Texas Tech University Health Science Center in Lubbock. (1201 Wesleyan St., # 554, Fort Worth, TX 76105)

1991

Dustyn ('01) and **Mary Ann Wilson Matthews** announce the birth of a son, Jackson Andrew, Aug. 31, 2009. Dustyn works for Jim Norton Ford, and Mary Ann works for Broken Arrow Public Schools. (21405 E. 111th St., Broken Arrow, OK 74014)

Wade ('93) and **Julie Owen Osburn** announce the adoption of a daughter, Esther Selam, June 15. She was born Sept. 3, 2009, in Ethiopia. They have four other children, Ellis Ann, Ivy, Owen and Oliver. Wade is a reference/theological librarian for Freed-Hardeman University, and Julie is a homemaker who also homeschools. (314 E. Third St., Henderson, TN 38340)

1995

Todd and **Tiffany Call** announce the birth of a son, Sawyer Dean, June 4. They also have three daughters, Savannah, Brooklyn and Aspen. Todd is a family therapist at Spring Ridge Academy, and Tiffany is a homemaker. (2225 W. Clearview Trail, Phoenix, AZ 85086)

Donald and **Ashley Dugger** announce the birth of a daughter, Grace Abigail, Jan. 20. They also have a son, Max. (1314 Jewell Drive, Columbia, TN 38401; dldugger@yahoo.com)

Ginger Gee was named in July as an associate of Corgan, an architectural and interior design

firm. Since joining the firm in 2008, she has dedicated herself to the aviation team, working on projects for Atlanta International Airport, Sacramento Central Terminal B, Love Field Terminal Modernization Program, and Abu Dhabi International Terminal One Refurbishment. She is a registered interior designer with the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners and is a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design-accredited professional. She received her Master of Architecture from the University of Texas at Arlington. She is involved in her community helping with Corgan's donation drive that benefits Goodwill Industries of Dallas Inc. and participating in "We Care," a holiday event benefitting the Dallas Boys and Girls Club. She also volunteers with the International Interior Design Association's annual gala and auction benefiting Make-A-Wish Foundation. (10830 Hayfield Drive, Dallas, TX 75238)



Liz Howell

1996

Stacy and **Ellen Huffard Ferrell** announce the birth of a son, Nathan Andrew, Nov. 30, 2009. They have three other sons, Samuel, Luke and Jake. Stacy is an HVAC instructor at Tennessee Technology Center, and Ellen is a part-time nurse practitioner. (217 Northside Drive, Madison, TN 37115)

Jes and **Mindy Schackmann Shearer** announce the birth of a daughter, Katelyn Ashley, March 9. They have two other daughters, Amy and Emily. Jes works at Level 3 Telecommunications in Tulsa, Okla., and Mindy is a homemaker. (3904 W. 107th Court S., Sapulpa, OK 74066)

1997

Chad ('02) and **Jennifer Walker Floyd** announce the birth of a daughter, Hannah Beth, Dec. 21, 2009. They have another daughter, Emma Claire. Chad is assistant head football coach and offensive coordinator at Mayflower High School, and Jennifer is a CPA and senior manager with Deloitte & Touche LLP in Little Rock, Ark. (14 Sunbelt Court, Mayflower,

GEE PHOTO SUBMITTED. HOWELL PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

CORNUTT AND LESTER PHOTOS SUBMITTED

[ALMA MATTERS]

'It's great to be at Harding' returns

By LIZ HOWELL, director of alumni relations

"Dr. Jimmy Carr loved Harding. His energy and enthusiasm for the University were evident to all who met him. As assistant to the president from 1973 to 1997, Carr had one hope: that present students and future generations would come to love Harding as he did. He was able to see his dream fulfilled before his death in 2009, as thou-

sands have uttered the phrase he coined more than 30 years ago to describe their own college experience. Today, those six simple words 'It's great to be at Harding' have come to symbolize the Harding story, one that is now 87 years in the making." — Harding view book, Page 4.

Through the marketing campaign of Admissions with the renewal of a phrase that many alumni remember and cherish, the next generation of the Harding family is learning more about our history. From humble beginnings, the small group of dedicated men and women who founded Harding College might be amazed at the more than 51,000 alumni who are strengthening the University and sharing their Harding story worldwide.

As the bright yellow buttons returned to campus, alumni were asked, "As a student, why did you decide that it was great to be at Harding?" Things like lifelong friends, caring teachers and staff who provided spiritual and career guidance, club outings, football games, late night talks in the dorm, singing, chapel, praying with friends,

playing on the front lawn, the feeling of family, Spring Sing, and being challenged in their own faith were among the many reasons given.

Claudia Bates ('77) **Boswell** said, "Harding always felt like such a safe haven for me ... that time between my parents' home and my own independence that helped me mature enough for the challenges that would face me as an adult. I will always be grateful to Harding for nurturing me."

Karen Solley ('88) **Sullivan** commented, "When I saw this button again, it gave me goose bumps! I remember getting one from two Harding summer camp counselors before my senior year in high school. I eventually came to Harding, found a wonderful husband, graduated, and now our daughter is a freshman this fall. It was great to be at Harding when these buttons were first around, and it is still a great place to be. We hope and pray her experience will be as great as ours was."

Most of us still agree with these words in the new view book for prospective students:

- ▶ It's great to deepen your faith in a Christian environment where service is a lifestyle.
- ▶ It's great to gain a global perspective that helps extend the impact you can make on the world.
- ▶ It's great to earn an exceptional education at an exceptional value.

We invite you to return to campus, bring a prospective student with you, and tell your story of why it's great to be at Harding. **H**

AR 72106)

Tim and **Denae Webber Gleason** announce the birth of a daughter, Ella Reese, June 17. They have another daughter, Ava Grace. Tim is a senior data analyst at Infocrossing in Tempe, Ariz., and Denae is a counselor for students at risk of not completing high school. (345 N. Scott Drive, Chandler, AZ 85225)

Candice Ortals-Wiser was promoted to associate professor of political science at Pepperdine University. Her husband, **James Wiser** ('00), is assistant director of Statewide California Electronic Library Consortium (29450 Trailway Lane, Agoura Hills, CA 91301)

1998

Robert ('97) and **Kari Stephen-**

son Austin announce the birth of a daughter, Alyeska Elisabeth, May 31. They have two other children, Connor and Abigail. Robert graduated from the U.S. Army Graduate Program in Anesthesia Nursing/Northeastern University with a master's in nurse anesthesia. Robert is a captain in the Air Force and a staff nurse anesthetist at David Grant Medical Center on Travis Air Force Base, and Kari is a homemaker. (627 Norton St., Travis AFB, CA 94535)

Jimmy ('96) and **Mary Alice Reed Brooks** announce the birth of a daughter, Katherine-Marie Colette, Aug. 20, 2009. They have two other children, Mark and Annalee. (114 Indian Trail, Searcy, AR 72143)

Steven ('96) and **Kari Wiley Curo** announce the birth of a daughter, Kennedy Rose, March

9. They have another daughter, Kinsey Lyn. Steven is a minister at Castle Rock Church of Christ, and Kari is a homemaker. (43058 London Drive, Parker, CO 80138)

Jonathan and **Rebecca Hug Dandy** announce the birth of a son, David Ronald, April 10. They have three other children, Samuel, Genesis and Abraham. (18201 E. 11th Terrace Court N., Independence, MO 64056)

Brad Eatherly married Alicia Harvey May 1. (1234 Battlefield Drive, Nashville, TN 37215)

Matthew ('99) and **Jessica Norris Fincher** announce the birth of a son, Jude Matthew, June 4. They have three other sons, Luke, Nathan and Micah. Matthew is a teacher and was named social studies department chair at Greater Atlanta





Recognizing EXCELLENCE

Proving themselves by going above and beyond within their field of study, 11 alumni will be honored at this year's Black and Gold Banquet Nov. 5 during Homecoming. While they have awards and honors to their names, they also have the respect of others and a reputation that sets them apart, actively serving God, family and community.

► DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

In his relentless work to bring justice to a number of civil rights-era murders, **Jerry "Boo" Mitchell** ('82) has made quite a name for himself. An investigative reporter for The Clarion-Ledger in Jackson, Miss., he has uncovered evidence regarding murders during the civil rights movement and, so far, has helped put four Ku Klux Klansmen behind bars. While his work has prompted complaints, letters to the editor, and cancelled subscriptions in his home state of Mississippi, he has also received pressure from Klansmen and others, with the FBI currently investigating a series of death threats against him.

His work has garnered numerous awards within his field. Most recently he was honored with the prestigious MacArthur fellowship and will receive \$500,000 during the next five years so that he may continue to pursue these cases. He is also writing a memoir on his experiences.

Overall, he has won more than 30 national awards, including the George Polk Award twice. Mitchell was named a Pulitzer Prize finalist and is the youngest recipient ever of Columbia University's John Chancellor Award for Excellence in Journalism, among others.

His wife, **Karen O'Donaghy** ('83) Mitchell, is a retired teacher, having taught six years as a learning disabilities teacher and 12 years as a private tutor. Currently working part time in retail, the bulk of her day is spent helping her husband in his work.

They have two children, Katherine and Sam, and attend Skyway Hills Church of Christ in Pearl, Miss.



► OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNI

Both working in nonprofit medical fields, Drs. **Luke** ('96) and **Caroline Clements** ('96) Smith are reaching out to two in-need groups.

Luke serves as executive director and lead psychiatrist at El Futuro Inc., a nonprofit mental health organization for the Spanish-speaking population. The clinics attract patients from 15 counties around central North Carolina, with sites in Durham, Carrboro and Silver City. In 2009, he received the George C. Ham Distinguished Alumnus Award from University of North Carolina Department of Psychiatry. Luke was also awarded the Heroes in the Fight Award from the North Carolina Mental Health Association in 2006 and the North Carolina Latino Diamante Award for Health and Science in 2007.

Caroline works as a pediatrician with Piedmont Health Services, a government-funded, nonprofit organization providing medical services to an indigent population. She currently heads up a collaborative effort with University of North Carolina to reduce obesity in pediatric patients. She is also involved in a quality improvement project to increase immunization rates at their clinic site.

The couple has two daughters, Lilliana and Hannah, and attends Cole Mill Road Church of Christ in Durham, N.C.



► OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

College of Arts & Humanities

On any given morning, **Amy Blankenship** ('88) Sewell can be found in a television studio long before the sun comes up. As the founder of New York City-based Shop With Style and a nationally recognized lifestyle expert, she creates and prepares three- to six-minute lifestyle segments that air on morning newscasts and lifestyle shows. Sewell features the products and services of her clients, such as Bed Bath & Beyond, Lands' End and Godiva Chocolatier, while providing information that her viewers can use.



Since starting her television career in 1997, she has done more than 1,200 live interviews on national and local shows from coast to coast. Sewell launched Shop With Style in 2005 after nearly two decades of high-profile work with the national media.

Sewell and her husband, Scott, attend Manhattan Church of Christ.

College of Bible & Religion

As professor of homiletics and director of the Doctor of Ministry Program at Harding University Graduate School of Religion in Memphis, Tenn., Dr. **David Bland** ('75) instructs his students on the principles of preaching. For the past decade, he has co-edited and helped

compile essays on preaching and sermons into 10 volumes for the Preaching Character series, with the 11th and final volume being released this year. This series compilation began 13 years ago to focus the fundamental responsibility of preaching, that of proclaiming the message of Scripture to the relevant issues of the day.



In addition to his work at the Graduate School, Bland is also part-time pulpit preacher at White Station Church of Christ in Memphis where he and his wife, Nancy, attend. Prior to arriving in Tennessee, he served as professor at Columbia Christian College and pulpit preacher for Eastside Church of Christ, both in Portland, Ore.

The couple has three sons, Nathan, Justin, and BJ, who are alumni of the University, and two grandchildren.

College of Business Administration

Currently serving as chief financial officer of Sam's Club, **Brett Biggs** ('90) is responsible for all financial activities and strategy for the company. Prior to that, Biggs served in various capacities within Wal-Mart Corp., including senior vice president, global finance and senior vice president, international strategy, and mergers and acquisitions.



On the international side, he led the strategy and execution for Wal-Mart's entry into Japan and India as well as acquisitions and partnerships in China, the United Kingdom, Brazil and Central America.

Before joining Wal-Mart in 2000, Biggs held various mergers and acquisitions and

corporate finance positions with Leggett & Platt, Phillips Petroleum Co. and Price Waterhouse.

Biggs also serves as chairman of the board for the nonprofit organization MANA, which stands for Mother Administered Nutritive Aid. The goal of this organization is to eradicate world malnutrition, specializing in the production and delivery of a peanut-based, ready-to-use therapeutic food to malnourished children all over the world.

Additionally, he is a deacon at Southside Church of Christ in Rogers, Ark. He and his wife, Kara, have two children, Hadley and Ainsley.

College of Communication

As international editor for the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, **Yavonda Fletcher** ('99) Chase brings news from around the world into the homes of thousands of Arkansans every day. Her main responsibilities include selecting international and national stories for the paper. Prior to working as international editor, Chase was national editor and copy editor, joining the newspaper in 2000. She also blogs for LittleRockMamas.com, a Central Arkansas forum for mothers.



In 2008, she was able to travel to Turkey with the International Reporting Project's Gatekeeper trip. Operating out of The Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University, the program emphasizes the "nonprofit journalism" movement, striving to reduce the gap in mainstream international news coverage.

She and her husband, Matthew, have been married five years and have one daughter, Alaina. They attend Windsong Church of Christ.

College of Education

Having filled several roles within education, **Janice Oneida** ('88) Stewart has been dedicated to enriching the lives of her students. Currently the elementary principal for White County (Ark.) Central School, Stewart has also served as elementary principal for the Bradford (Ark.) school district.



Prior to becoming principal, she was a bookkeeper and third-grade teacher for White County Central, as well as sixth-grade teacher for Kensett (Ark.) School District. She was honored at White County Central by being named employee of the year and Future Farmers of America volunteer of the year, and also winning a literacy award.

Outside the classroom, Stewart is actively involved in the Three Rivers Reading Association, Great Bear Writing Association, the National Writing Project, and White County Creative Writers. She also gives her time to Backpack Buddies, which partners her congregation, Steprock Church of Christ, with the White County Central School District.

She and her husband, Jackie, have two sons: John and Jamey, who is deceased.

College of Nursing

Serving as a missionary alongside her late husband, Henry, from 1964-1996, **Grace Johnson** ('48) Farrar has traveled around the globe to help those sick and hurting. The couple began their medical missions in Aba, Nigeria,



where they helped establish Nigerian Christian Hospital. After the Biafran War caused them to leave, they returned in 1971 to help reactivate the hospital.

There, Farrar assisted in village outpatient clinics and taught primary health care workers. Later medical tours included visits to Tanzania, China and Cameroon. Her medical experience within the states includes working on the newborn nursery staff and night supervisor.

Now retired, Farrar speaks at numerous lectureships and has been published in several magazines telling the story of her traveling missionary family.

Farrar is a member of College Hills Church of Christ in Lebanon, Tenn., and has six children — Paul, David, Lee, Martha Highfield, Hank and Samantha Hayner — and six grandchildren.

College of Sciences

Born in Eilaboun, Israel, Dr. **Swaid Swaid** ('73) moved to the United States when he was 15 years old. After graduating from the University, he immediately entered medical school at University of Alabama at Birmingham, moving on to an internship in general surgery at University



of California in San Diego prior to returning to UAB's School of Medicine to complete a neurosurgery residency where he was chief neurosurgical resident. He is board-certified in neurosurgery.

He has received many honors, has published extensively and is a frequent speaker at various seminars. Swaid is a member of the American Medical Association, the Alabama Neurosurgical Association, the Southern Medical Association, the Jefferson County Medical Society and is a Fellow in the American College of Surgeons, among others.

He and his wife, Christy, have five children — Courtney, Amanda, Taylor, Christian and Cason — and are members of Homewood Church of Christ in Birmingham, Ala. **H**



Christian School. (1229 Renee Drive, Lilburn, GA 30047)

Bryce and **Jennifer Coan Kennedy** announce the birth of a daughter, Alayne Michelle, June 21, 2009. They also have two sons, Eagan and Nyle. Bryce is a personal health coach for Take Shape for Life, and Jennifer is a dietitian for Providence St. Vincent Medical Center. (804 Manzanita Way, Vancouver, WA 98661)

Jason and **Amy Webring Lytle** announce the birth of a daughter, Emersyn Marlee, Dec. 2, 2009. They also have a son, Beckett. (3939 Grayling Lane, Round Rock, TX 78681)

Jim Mark and **Haley Nichols** announce the birth of a daughter, Presley Morgan, March 15. Jim is a coach at Texas Tech University, and Haley is a homemaker. (10607 York Ave., Lubbock, TX 79424)

1999

David and **Angela Reeves Adams** announce the birth of a son, Grant Alexander, Feb. 25. They also have a son, Nathan. David teaches at Harding University, and Angela is a teacher at Harding Academy. (310 Live Oak Drive, Searcy, AR 72143)

Ben and **Laura Wilson Byars** announce the birth of a daughter, Katherine Ann, March 14. Ben is a civil engineer for AMEC, and Laura is a first-grade teacher for Metro Nashville Schools. (7225 Autumn Crossing Way, Brentwood, TN 37027)

Ken and **Megan Barnett Geon** announce the birth of a daughter, Caroline Joy, June 3. They also have a son, Keegan. (7256 Hopewell Court, Dublin, OH 43017)

Jamael ('01) and **Deon Kaspe-reit Harris** were promoted to regional vice presidents with Primerica Financial Services Inc. in April. (116 W. Rio Grande St., Garland, TX 75041)

Adrian and **Kelly Gibson Rollett** announce the birth of a son, David Sidney, April 18. (2801 Denton Tap Road, #923, Lewisville, TX 75067)

Sean ('02) and **Susan Reiss Wicks** announce the birth of a son, Phineas Francis, June 7. (47 Warner St., Brisbane, QLD 4160, Australia)

2000

Jacob ('01) and **Heather Seniker**

Baker announce the birth of a daughter, Addi Laine, April 17. They have another daughter, Mia. Jacob is the youth and family minister at Decatur Church of Christ, and Heather works at home as a part-time Web designer/marketer for NRSworld.com. (592 CR 3198,

Decatur, TX 76234)

Russ and **Melissa Caudle Baxley** announce the birth of a daughter, Marlee Ann, May 3. They also have a son, Jaggar. Russ is a market service representative for Cameron Valve in Little Rock, Ark., and Melissa is the administrator for Fox Ridge Assisted

Captain Planet

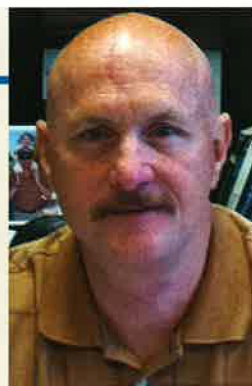
Dr. Phillip Goad ('77) and his partners own and operate the Center for Toxicology and Environmental Health (CTEH) headquartered in Little Rock, Ark., and are called upon whenever a chemical release poses an environmental threat. On April 25th — five days after the Deepwater Horizon rig caught fire — CTEH mobilized to the Gulf region to begin surveying the environmental damage that had been done.

Stretching from Galveston, Texas, to the Florida panhandle, the almost-1,100 team members of CTEH have a long list of tasks. "We are doing the community air monitoring along the Gulf, and we are doing industrial hygiene air monitoring for the individuals who are involved in cleaning up the oil that impacts the beach or the near shore," Goad says. In addition to air sampling, the group tests water and beach sediment along the shore and provides reports to the "unified command spearheaded by the Coast Guard." CTEH also provides safety observations for all onshore and near-shore recovery efforts.

Goad serves as principle toxicologist for CTEH. "The testing that we're doing and the testing that Environmental Protection Agency and others are doing is looking for particular chemicals that may be part of the oil that spilled or, in regard to the water sampling, the dispersants that are used. When we're doing air testing, we're also looking for the kinds of chemicals that could be generated when the oil is burned on top of the water."

Although the incident itself is tragic, good news can be gleaned from the gathered data. "The fact that the oil is escaping a mile below the surface and then also many miles out from the shore is helpful. The water has already removed a number of the chemicals that would normally get into the air for people to breathe by the time the oil makes it up to the surface of the water," Goad states. "Once it reaches the surface, it undergoes a process of weathering that involves action of the sun, the water, the waves, the biological microorganisms begin to act on that oil. Within 24 to 48 hours most of the other components that pose the greatest concern for public health have been removed."

Since the well was contained in July, Goad's team is in the process of scaling back their Gulf efforts. However, while the oil may no longer be leaking, there is still work to be done. "We will likely have people involved in this for months, if not years, to come. As long as there's oil that has impacted any location and people out there retrieving it, there will be safety personnel involved. I suspect that until the last bit of oil is removed, there will be continued community and environmental monitoring, all of which we're involved in. So we expect to be out there for the long term." ■



—Jennifer Hannigan

Living in Bryant, Ark. (2314 W. Lakeview, Benton, AR 72015)

Wes and **Desiree Treat Byrd** announce the birth of a daughter, Shelby Ryan, March 23. They have two other daughters, Emily and Mackenzie. (Box 10860, Searcy, AR 72143)

Derek ('99) and **Michelle Gibson Garrett** announce the birth of a daughter, Naomi Sarah, March 9. They have three other children, Hannah, Benjamin and Eve. Derek is New England sales manager for Meeker Equipment, and Michelle works part time as a critical care unit registered nurse for St. Peter's Hospital. (15 Gloucester Court, Clifton Park, NY 12065)

Landon and **Jill Horton** announce the birth of a daughter, Lucy Mae, May 12. Landon is an actuary at Towers Watson in Dallas, and Jill is a homemaker. (400 Tucson Court, Plano, TX 75023)

Brian ('01) and **Katie Meeks Whitt** announce the birth of a son, Patrick Brian, July 20. They have two other children, Lily and Jamison. Brian is vice president of operations for DWM Inc. Facilities Maintenance, and Katie is national sales director for the same company. (2445 Nottingham Mall, Niskayuna, NY 12039)

Alan and **Ladye Rachel Wilson Howell** announce the birth of a daughter, Katherine Joy, Jan. 19. They have two other daughters, Abigail and Ellen. Alan had an article published titled "Through the Kaleidoscope: Animism, Contextualization and the Atonement" in the July-September 2009 International Journal of Frontier Missiology. They are missionaries in northern Mozambique. (C.P. 140 Pemba, Mozambique)

Jason and **Jody Knight King** announce the adoption of a daughter, Jetta Grace, March 8. She was born Oct. 18, 2007, in Uganda, Africa. They have another daughter, Josalyn Stella. Jason is a product support specialist at Garmin, and Jody is a homemaker. (1101 Purdom St., Olathe, KS 66061)

2001

Alan and **Melissa Williamson Bender** announce the birth of a daughter, Ava LeeAnn, Sept. 19, 2009. Alan is an accounting manager for Wal-Mart Stores Inc. in

Bentonville, Ark., and Melissa is a homemaker. (194 Hailey Drive, Centerton, AR 72719)

David and **Stefanie Seiders Gardner** announce the birth of a son, Reed Matthew, Sept. 21, 2009. David is a software architect for Syncada, and Stefanie works part time for Micah Parkhurst DDS. (215 Alan Cove, Collierville, TN 38017)

Eric and **Rebecca Johns** announce the birth of a son, Camdyn Mitchell, Oct. 16, 2009. They also have twin daughters, Abigail and Ansley. Eric owns a Farmers Insurance Agency, and Rebecca is a CPA for Hospital Corporation of America. (205 Sugarberry Court, Nashville, TN 37211)

Fawnda Elliott Messmer was promoted to middle school assistant division head at Currey Ingram Academy in Brentwood, Tenn. (7040 Nickalus Way, Spring Hill, TN 37174)

Michael and **Hannah Rhodes Rogers** announce the birth of a daughter, Carigan Elizabeth, Jan. 22. They have two other children, Wesley and Anna Kate. Michael is a professor in citrus research for University of Florida, and Hannah is a part-time independent subcontractor for a public relations firm. (5714 Buck Run Drive, Lakeland, FL 33811)

Juan and **Erika Salcido Trejo** announce the birth of a son, Joaquin Antonio, May 8. (8964 Chatsworth Drive, Houston, TX 77024)

Matthew and **Rachel Hamilton Wilson** announce the birth of a daughter, Charlotte Elise, Jan. 20. They have two other children, Madeleine and Harrison. Matthew is a math teacher at Ramay Junior High and working on a doctorate in curriculum at University of Arkansas, and Rachel is a homemaker. (11486 Clubhouse Parkway, Farmington, AR 72730)

2002

Eric and **Mandy Killian Baxter** announce the birth of a son, William Henry, June 13, 2009. Mandy has completed service in the U.S. Army and now works for Lockheed Martin. (5895-A Gannett Ave., Ewa Beach, HI 96706)

Jeremy ('03) and **Ashlee Johnson Beauchamp** announce the birth of a daughter, Avery,

Feb. 8. Jeremy is senior high faculty at Greater Atlanta Christian School, and Ashlee is a homemaker. (2470 Jakin Way, Suwanee, GA 30024)

Daniel ('98) and **Carissa Johnson Burdette** announce the birth of a daughter, Amaryn Elyse, April 23. Dan is choral director at Harding Academy of Memphis, Tenn., and Carissa is an assistant vice president and commercial credit analyst at Regions Bank. (809 Bayou Vista Drive, Marion, AR 72364)

Daniel and **Sarah Nicks Dubois** announce the adoption of a son, Benjamin Tamirat, June 8. He was born Aug. 28, 2009, in Ethiopia. They also have a daughter, Madeline Grace. Daniel is director of photography at Vanderbilt University, and Sarah is a part-time bookkeeper. (5610 Zapata Drive, Pegram, TN 37143)

Jacob ('03) and **Christy Samuels Duke** announce the birth of a son, Wyatt Rosston, Feb. 19. Jacob is partner at Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons of Northeast Texas in Texarkana, and Christy is a homemaker. (3003 Jonathan St., Texarkana, TX 75503).

Jeremy ('04) and **Jenni Woodward Knox** announce the birth of a daughter, Abby Maya, Sept. 11, 2009. They have another daughter, Summer. Jeremy is a category analyst at Wrigley Jr. Gum Co., and Jenni is a homemaker. (2342 Blue Ridge Ave., Brentwood, CA 94513)

2003

Lisa Metzger received a doctoral fellowship funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences from University of Tennessee College of Communication and Information. (1406-D Agawela Ave., Knoxville, TN 37919)

Philip and **Traci Wheeler Minter** announce the birth of a daughter, Emilia Elizabeth, Sept. 26, 2009. Philip works in sales for Dell, and Traci teaches ninth-grade English and reading. (1400 Lascassas Pike, #F32, Murfreesboro, TN 37130)

Casey and **Mary Beth Stanford Picker** announce the adoption of a daughter, Evelyn Amenech, Aug. 6. She was born Oct. 9, 2008, in Ethiopia. They also have two sons, Caleb and Josiah. (3514 Stonewall Drive,

Benton, AR 72015)

Micah ('02) and **Rebecca Kelly San Juan** announce the birth of a daughter, Lydia Eve, May 3. (708 Sweet Gum Drive, Lewisville, TX 75067; vamp5498@yahoo.com)

Trey Thompson received a master's in educational management with principal certification from University of Houston Clear Lake in May. He and his wife, **Christi Davis** ('97), have three daughters, Emma, Elyssa and Evann. (8710 Huntersfield Lane, La Porte, TX 77571)

2004

Heath ('03) and **Lane Coles Brown** announce the birth of a son, Judson Wayne, Nov. 19, 2009. They have another son, Sterling. Heath is an electrical designer for Harrison French & Associates, and Lane is a homemaker. (805 Michael St., Centerton, AR 72719)

Ali and **Monik Owens Goll-payegan** announce the birth of a son, Elias Benjamin-Ali, July 1. Ali works for Target, and Monik is a consultant registered dietitian. (101 McCorquodale Court, Cary, NC 27513; monik.owens@gmail.com)

Daniel ('05) and **Tricia Geer Mullins** announce the birth of a daughter, Esther Lily, March 4. Daniel works for FedEx, and Tricia works in the Development Office at Harding Academy of Memphis, Tenn. (9818 Pigeon Roost Park Circle, Olive Branch, MS 38654)

Caleb ('03) and **Jessica Palmer Pagel** announce the birth of a daughter, Morgan Elaine, April 14. They have another daughter, Riley. Caleb is a senior Web programmer analyst at LCEC, and Jessica is a second-grade teacher with Lee County School District. (12190 Eagle Pointe Circle, Fort Myers, FL 33913)

2005

Aaron ('06) and **Lauren Candy Kirkpatrick** announce the birth of a daughter, Ashlyn Praise, Feb. 6. They also have a son, Kai. Aaron is youth minister at Chenal Valley Church of Christ in Little Rock, Ark., and Lauren is the author of *Diamonds: A Girl's Best Friend*. (3021 Red Hawk Cove, Alexander, AR 72002)

Jessica Sloan ('05) married Rob Hefley Oct. 3, 2009. Jessica is

assistant director of admissions at Harding University, and Rob is owner of Paradigm Well Consultants Corp. (35 Robbye Lane, Searcy, AR 72143)

Ryan ('09) and **Elisha Eacret Stahler** announce the birth of a son, Eli Jude, May 13. They also have a daughter, Chloe. (2 Meadow Lane, Pontiac, IL 61764)

2006

Shawn ('07) and **Katie Barker Frazier** completed their master's in music and both teach music at Middle Tennessee Christian School. They attend North Boulevard Church of Christ. (303 Gaitherhill Drive, Murfreesboro, TN 37130)

Jonathan Guin is senior associate with Ernst & Young in the Transaction Tax division in Boston. He graduated from University of Alabama Law School in 2008 and from University of Miami with an L.L.M. in taxation in May. His wife, **Erin Springer** ('07) is an intensive care nurse. (20 Summer St., #603, Malden, MA 02148)

Justin Powell graduated from University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Medicine May 15 and is doing his residency in psychiatry there. His wife, **Claire Costolo** ('07), is a middle school teacher for eSTEM Public Charter School in Little Rock, Ark. (9 Stonebrook Court, Little Rock, AR 72211)

Jonathan and **Lori Bontrager Towell** announce the birth of a daughter, Lydia Joy, April 6. They have another daughter, Abigail. Jonathan is a project manager for Smooth Fusion, and Lori is a homemaker and freelance editor. (5517 10th St., Lubbock, TX 79416)

2007

Matt ('08) and **Mary Brown Cregger** announce the birth of a son, Luke Jackson, Aug. 10. (925 Fontanna Ave., West Columbia, SC 29169)

Allen Mauldin received a Juris Doctor from Wake Forest University Law School in May, and his wife, **Gina Smith**, is in the physician assistant program at Duke University. (5710 Arrington Park Drive, #1236, Morrisville, NC 27560)

2008

Eric ('07) and **Cindy Howe**

Isom announce the birth of a daughter, Emma Claire, May 17. Eric is an athletic trainer at St. George's independent school in Collierville, Tenn., and Cindy owns a photography business. (1077 Red Fern Circle E., Cordova, TN 38018)

Send us your news

We love hearing from you. Please keep us updated with what's happening in your life: a wedding, birth, job change, promotion, award, retirement, etc. Send your news items to:

"Connections"
Harding University
Office of Alumni Relations
Box 10768
Searcy, AR 72149-0768
or alumninews@harding.edu

Please note that because of publishing deadlines, your information may be delayed an issue.

Passages

Bernice Cagle Johnson ('36), 99, died Aug. 5. She taught at

Alabama Christian College, now Faulkner University, and was the last surviving member of those who founded the college. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Leonard Johnson** ('35); and a son, David. She is survived by two sons, John and Richard; two daughters, **Janice Randolph** ('61) and Marilyn Terry; a sister, **Mildred Holt** ('39); 12 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and one great-great grandson.

Theda Hulett Smith ('41), 89, died April 12 from Alzheimer's disease. She was a teacher in Newport (Ark.) Public Schools for 30 years and was a member of Holden Avenue Church of Christ where she taught Sunday school. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ransom. She is survived by three sons, **Steve** ('63), **Ronny** ('65) and **Joe David** ('78); a daughter, **Mary Baker** ('70); a half-sister, **Marcella Sims** ('46); seven grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Frances Williamson Horton ('42), 89, died July 20. She taught Bible classes for more than 50 years. She was a retired bookkeeper for McIntosh Rexall

Drug Co. of Longview, Texas. She was preceded in death by her husband of 61 years, **Cliff** ('44). She is survived by two daughters, **Glenda** ('71) and **Welma Waldrip** ('76); three grandsons; and one great-granddaughter.

Gerald Eugene Vineyard ('47), 83, died March 1. He is survived by four sons, David, Michael, James and Kevin; a daughter, Veronica Bowersock, eight grandchildren; and three great-grandsons.

Betty Lou Chesshir Buchanan Pack ('49), 84, died March 25. She was a librarian for Athens City Schools and a member of Westview Church of Christ. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Cliff Buchanan. She is survived by her husband, James; two sons, Sam and Tim Buchanan; a stepson, Steven; a stepdaughter, Karen Hudson; a sister, Ruth Bearden; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. (202 Briarwood Road, Athens, AL 35613)

Coleman Crocker ('57), 75, died July 3. He held a doctorate in education from University of

Memphis. He was director of public relations and Bible professor at Freed-Hardeman University for 14 years and taught in the Tennessee prison system for 20 years. He was a gospel preacher, serving churches in Kentucky and Tennessee. He was minister of the Rives Church until his health failed in March. He also was involved in missionary work. He is survived by his wife, Geraldine Pipkin; three daughters, Ruth Insell, Beth Crocker and Lorie McCaskill; a sister, Wilma Ray; 10 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Bobby Gerald Bullard ('62), 70, died May 7 in an automobile accident. He gained love for music as a member of The Tulsa Boy Singers. He earned a master's in music education from Texas Tech University. After early teaching assignments in Seagraves and Snyder in West Texas, he taught vocal music at Blinn College for many years, eventually assuming the role of chairman of the fine arts department. Finding retirement unfulfilling, he returned to teaching as choir director in Bay City. He is survived by his wife, Sandra; a son, Britt; a daughter, Ashlea Harvey; and a granddaughter. (5350 Highway 36 N., Caldwell, TX 77836)

Robert Wester Holloway ('67), 65, died March 24. He earned a Ph.D. in chemistry from University of Arkansas. He served in the U.S. Air Force and achieved the rank of captain. Through his company, Nevada Technical Associates, he trained thousands of people to work safely with radiation. His contributions to science included discovering supporting evidence for the Cretaceous-Tertiary extinction event and an important failure to reproduce the Fleischmann-Pons cold fusion experiment. He is survived by his wife, Marina Borovik; a stepson, Eugene Borovik; two sons, David and Jason Holloway; their mother, Mary Ella Hamel Holloway; and two sisters, Jo Ann Hall and Christine Florence. (3745 Miguel's Lane, Las Vegas, NV 89120)

Roy Fuller ('69), 79, died March 20. He spent 20 years in the Navy and served in Alaska, England, France, Germany, and on numerous carriers. He retired in 1967 as Master Chief Petty

[EVENTS]

NOVEMBER

4-7 Homecoming/Bison Daze II

5-6 President's Council meeting

20-27 Thanksgiving recess

DECEMBER

18 Fall graduation

19-Jan. 17 Winter recess

JANUARY

18 Classes begin

FEBRUARY

8 Lyceum: Layali El Andalus

17 ASI speaker Tommy Tuberville

MARCH

12-20 Spring recess

24 Lyceum: Petar Jankovic

APRIL

7 ASI speaker Steve Forbes

21-23 Spring Sing and Bison Daze III

MAY

14 Spring graduation

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

Officer and entered Harding. He subsequently earned his master's degree from Arkansas State University and his 30 plus from Louisiana Tech with work toward his doctorate at Northwestern State University at Natchitoches, La. He served 25 years with Caddo Parish Schools in Shreveport, La., where he was a teacher, high school counselor and administrator. He is survived by his wife, **Nelda Whalen** ('69). (8365 Dance Drive, Shreveport, LA 71129)

Bobbie Sharp Coleman ('71), 60, died July 4. She completed a master's degree in education at the University in 1980. She taught English and journalism 30 years

at Searcy High School and also chaired the department. Her additional responsibilities included managing ACTAAP literacy testing, mentoring new teachers, serving as senior class sponsor, advising the Future Teachers of America club, and yearbook advisor. She also organized the school's Race for the Cure team. Before coming to Searcy, she taught at Wynne (Ark.) Junior High and Griffithville (Ark.) Junior High and High School, where additional duties included directing plays, coaching basketball and serving as librarian. She was the first active teacher to be inducted into Searcy Education Foundation's Hall of Honor in 2006. She received the 2007 Arkansas Governor's School Award for influential educators, 2004 Arkansas Journalism Teacher of the Year Award, The Daily Citizen Pillar of the Community Award, and had multiple inclusions in *Who's Who Among American Teachers*. The College of Arts and Humanities honored her as their outstanding alumna in 2007. Her professional memberships included the National Education Association, National Council of Teachers of English, Arkansas Scholastic Press Association, Journalism Education Association, and Delta Kappa Gamma (honorary teacher society). She was a member of Downtown Church of Christ. She is survived by her husband, Tom; a son, **Luke** ('06) and a daughter,



She taught English and journalism 30 years

Leah ('08). (115 Jordan Lane, Searcy, AR 72143)
Michael Ray Payne ('71), 61, died July 20. He was the owner of Payne's Tax and Financial Services in Herrin, Ill., and formerly worked for J.V. Walker and Sons and the Bank of Herrin. He was an elder at Herrin Church of Christ and longtime supporter of Herrin athletics. He completed graduate work at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. He is survived by his wife of 39 years, **Deborah Hindman** ('71); a son, Jeremy; a daughter, **Brandyn** ('97); and three brothers, Tom, Jack and **Dale** ('73). (828 Hilldale Ave., Herrin, IL 62948)

Ricky Lynn Johnson ('72), 59, died March 20 while jogging in California. He loved to run his entire life. After graduating, he taught English and coached track and cross country at Cabot High School. He moved to California where he worked with the church of Christ in Inglewood and at Pepperdine University. He then moved back to Cabot at the request of the superintendent and continued teaching and coaching. After completing his master's degree at University of Arkansas, he became a counselor at Cabot Junior High. He led singing and worked with children's worship and the youth group at his church. In 1990, he answered the call to full-time ministry and moved to Houston to be youth minister at Sharpstown Church of Christ, which later became Sugar Grove Church of Christ. In 1995, he transitioned from youth ministry to worship ministry serving in Houston until moving back to California. Since 2004 he served as minister to Eastside Church of Christ in Antioch and as chaplain for Antioch Police Department. He is survived by his wife, **Virginia Bean** ('73); a son, Jeremy; a daughter, Jennifer Johnson-Leung; his mother, Ruby Fern; a brother, **Kent** ('77); and four grandchildren. (2301 Silver Creek Circle, Antioch, CA 94509)

Denise Kinney Stout ('84), 47, died Aug. 3 from ovarian cancer. She earned an M.Ed. from Harding in 1994. Her career was spent in adolescent psychology, teaching nursing and medical research. She spent the last four years as a clinical study manager at Medi-

cis in Scottsdale, Ariz. She was a member of Tempe Church of Christ where she taught Sunday School and participated in mission trips to Mexico. She is survived by her husband, **Kelly** ('84); a son, Jacob; her mother, Gladys Kinney; two brothers, Larry and Gary Kinney; and two sisters, Sandy Barnett and Mary Wigen. (319 E. Gail Drive, Gilbert, AZ 85296)

Brent Douglas House ('89), 43, died June 17. He was an employee with Nationwide Insurance for 20 years and was a member of the church of Christ. He is survived by his father, **Glen** ('66); his mother, **Barbara** ('64); and a sister, **Stacy Graves** ('91). (12 Silver Oak, Searcy, AR 72143)

David Curtis, ('00), 31, was killed June 29 while on active duty with Tampa Police Department where he had worked more than three years. He was once named Officer of the Month and served as an honor guard at the National Law Enforcement Memorial Service in April. He previously worked as Hillsborough County detention deputy. He is survived by his wife, Kelly; and four sons, Austin, Sean, Tyler and Hunter. (1180 Snow Road, Semmes, AL 36575)

Kenneth Sando Robertson ('97), 35, died Aug. 31. He graduated from Texas A&M University

in 1998 with a degree in mechanical engineering. Upon graduation, he was commissioned into the U.S.

Marine Corp where he served as a helicopter pilot, eventually flying for VMR-1 as a search and rescue pilot. After 10 years of military service, he began flying for Air-EVAC Life Team out of Vilonia, Ark. He was a member of Downtown Church of Christ. He is survived by his wife, **Angie Green** ('00); two sons, Kale and Archie; a daughter, Abby; his parents, **Marvin** ('69) and **Hiroko Sando** ('68) **Robertson**; a brother, **Wilson** ('00); two sisters, **Andrea Baker** ('94) and **Jill Robertson** ('08). (2212 Caleb Drive, Searcy, AR 72143)

Due to space restrictions, only alumni, faculty, staff and student deaths are reported.

[ENHANCING THE MISSION]

Test your wills knowledge

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

The following true or false quiz will help you measure how much you know — or don't know — about having a will. To see how you did, check the answers below.



Ted Hackney

True False

- 1. Most states will honor a handwritten will as long as it is signed by an attorney.
- 2. A married couple only needs to have one will.
- 3. If a person dies without a will, the state automatically takes one-half of the estate for probate fees.
- 4. It is illegal to open and read a deceased person's will until after the funeral.
- 5. A codicil is the stamped impression that makes a will valid.

All of the answers are false.

- 1. While some states may recognize a handwritten will, no state requires that a will must be signed by an attorney.
- 2. Each partner in the marriage should have his or her own will.
- 3. While it is true that the state, in the absence of a valid will, dictates the disposition of the estate, it does not automatically receive half the amount. However, if you die with no will, there may be a large increase in probate costs.
- 4. A will can be opened and read any time after death, or earlier, with appropriate permission.
- 5. A codicil is an addendum added later to a previously prepared will.

To learn more about wills and other estate planning matters, request your free wills guide by calling our toll-free number at 800-477-4213, option 3, or e-mail us at endowment@harding.edu. **H**

He ain't heavy; he's in college

By KENDAL HEMPHILL, reprinted from the Aug. 26, 2009, Mason County News

We had been in a Wal-Mart store for a while, and Courtland was tired of walking. He was about 5 years old and still had to be carried sometimes, so I picked him up and hauled him around the store, trying to encourage my wife to leave a few items on the shelves for someone else.

It didn't take long for me to get tired of that, and I started looking for a place to sit down for a while. I told Courtland I needed to rest, and he asked why. I said, "I'm tired of carrying you around. You're killing me."

We were passing the pharmacy section, and I saw one of those blood pressure monitors mounted on a chair, so I sat down there and, to make things legitimate, I stuck my arm in the sleeve and hit the start button.

Courtland asked what it was, and I told him it would check my heart and see how healthy I was. When the machine was done it beeped, and I looked at the result, which was pretty much normal. Courtland looked up at me, very serious, and said, "Am I . . . killing you?"

Sometimes, during the past 18 years, I have said and done things that would indicate that my three boys were a lot of trouble and a drain on my money, time and general well-being. I've joked about changing diapers, cleaning up messes, and having to replace broken appliances. I've complained about all the trouble it is to raise children. And if I could, I would make Courtland go back and be 1 year old again and go through the whole process one more time.

Erma Bombeck said once that raising kids was an endless task. You wipe noses, pick up toys, mop up spills, and clean cereal off the ceiling. You haul them around to school, scout meetings, sports practices, school functions and birthday parties. You have to find clothes they will wear and food they will eat. You host slumber parties that don't involve slumber and put up with crayons melted into the seats of your car and Silly Putty hidden in your shoes. When they start driving, you sit up late at night worrying about them. And if you're lucky, for all that trouble, you might get a hug and a thank you once or twice.

All in all, not a bad trade.

Courtland starts college this week in Arkansas. His brothers haven't seemed to notice, yet, that he's gone. His mother and I haven't managed to accept, yet, that he's gone. Every time we

start to go somewhere as a family we look for him. We're used to counting to three, and now we only have to count to two.

I started going through some old pictures on my computer, from past trips with the boys. I sent Courtland a few of them, I guess to try to make him homesick or something. One showed him standing by the road on top of Engineer Pass in Colorado. One was of him and his brothers leaning on a sign at Black Gap Wildlife Management Area in South Texas. Another was of me and all three boys right before we got in our boats to float Santa Elena Canyon on the Rio Grande. One showed Courtland with Bridalveil Falls behind him in Yosemite National Park.

When we planned those trips, and others, it was always hard to work out the details. Arranging time away from home, juggling obligations, and coming up with money were always difficult. Now I wonder why we didn't go more places, do more things, spend more time together. Now those hunting, fishing and camping trips are the most important memories I have, and I wish I had more.

We went with Courtland to get him settled in his dorm at Harding University in Searcy, Ark., last Thursday. Most of the day was spent buying books, arranging financial aid, and getting Courtland's school ID issued. Plus we had to go to Wal-Mart for some incidentals he had forgotten.

While in Wal-Mart, I passed through the pharmacy section and saw one of those blood pressure monitors

mounted on a chair and thought about the little boy who wanted to be carried but was worried that he might be killing me. He was a few rows over, buying shaving cream and razors. He probably wouldn't let me carry him now, anyway.

They say you can't go back, and I'm sure that's a good thing. But if anyone out there has a 5-year-old boy, and you're walking around Wal-Mart tired of packing him around, look for me. I'll carry him for a while ... **H**

Kendal Hemphill has published a book of outdoor humor columns called *The Buck Never Got Here*.



ILLUSTRATION BY HANNAH ALEXANDER (2011)

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PHOTO BY ALAN PEARSON



Unveiled at ceremonies by A Cappella Chorus alumni July 31, the memorial tribute to Kenneth "Uncle Bud" Davis Jr. sits near the Administration Building by the lily pool named in his honor. Chair of the music department from 1982-87, he directed the chorus for 35 years and also founded the Belles and Beaux show group.

Uncle Bud

Just a Closer Walk with Thee