

Fall 10-1-2011

Harding Magazine Fall 2011 (vol. 19, no. 3)

Harding University

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

Recommended Citation

Harding University. (2011). Harding Magazine Fall 2011 (vol. 19, no. 3). Retrieved from <https://scholarworks.harding.edu/humagazines/34>

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



Harding

FALL
2011

Why I love to teach

v. 19

#3

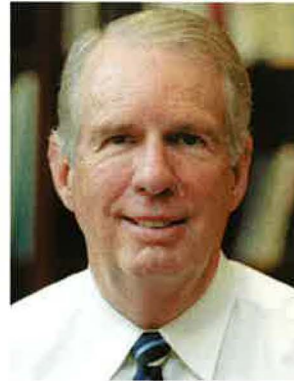
Fall 2011

Reminders of home

HARDING UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

The love of teaching

By DAVID B. BURKS, *president*



Henry Brooks Adams said, "A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops."

I seldom get to teach these days because of my administrative schedule and being out of town, but I love to teach. In my opinion, teaching is the very best job on the Harding campus, and it is the most important job on the Harding campus. It really is the heart of the University.

While these statements may seem cliché, I really believe they are true. In the classroom, teachers get to know the students, hear from them in terms of their

thought processes, and have a chance to influence them in terms of the subjects being discussed. It is definitely a two-way street, and it is a marvelous opportunity to share one's faith through one's academic discipline. When we talk about integrating faith, living and learning, the very best way occurs in the classroom as teachers are able to share their faith in a real way with students as it relates to the discipline they have chosen and will likely spend much of their life in after they leave Harding.

I especially love interaction with students — both in and out of class. I am always energized by being around them, and that is one of the special blessings that comes from getting to know students on a deeper level which almost naturally happens if you spend two to three days a week with them.

I have no doubt that at Harding we have some of the very best teachers in this country. I think this will be confirmed as you hear from nine who share their perspectives on why they love their profession beginning on Page 10.

Dr. Dennis Organ is one of our award-winning teachers who retired this spring after 45 years in the classroom [Page 32]. As his colleague John Williams says, "Organ did the work because he loved both his academic discipline and his University."

Right before this magazine was due on press, one of our truly great teachers went to his reward. Dr. Neale Pryor died Sept. 25. A tribute to this great Bible teacher and administrator will appear in the next issue.

Caring teachers who are well trained in their specialties and who are effectively able to integrate their faith with their discipline are crucial if Harding is to continue its influence in this century. The benefits are eternal. **H**

David B. Burks

Harding

EDITOR/DESIGNER

Tom Buterbaugh, '78

COPY EDITOR/WRITER

Jennifer Hannigan, '08

WRITER

Heather Williams

COPY EDITOR

Hannah Beall, '11

PHOTOGRAPHER

Jeff Montgomery, '91

CONTRIBUTORS

David B. Burks, '65
President

David Crouch, '70
Director of Public Relations

Noah Darnell, '10
Freelance Photographer

Scott Goode, '97
Sports Information Director

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

Liz Howell, '78
Assistant to the President for Alumni and Parent Relations

Camille M. Reeves
Assistant to the Director of Alumni Relations

John Williams
Department Chair and Professor of English

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

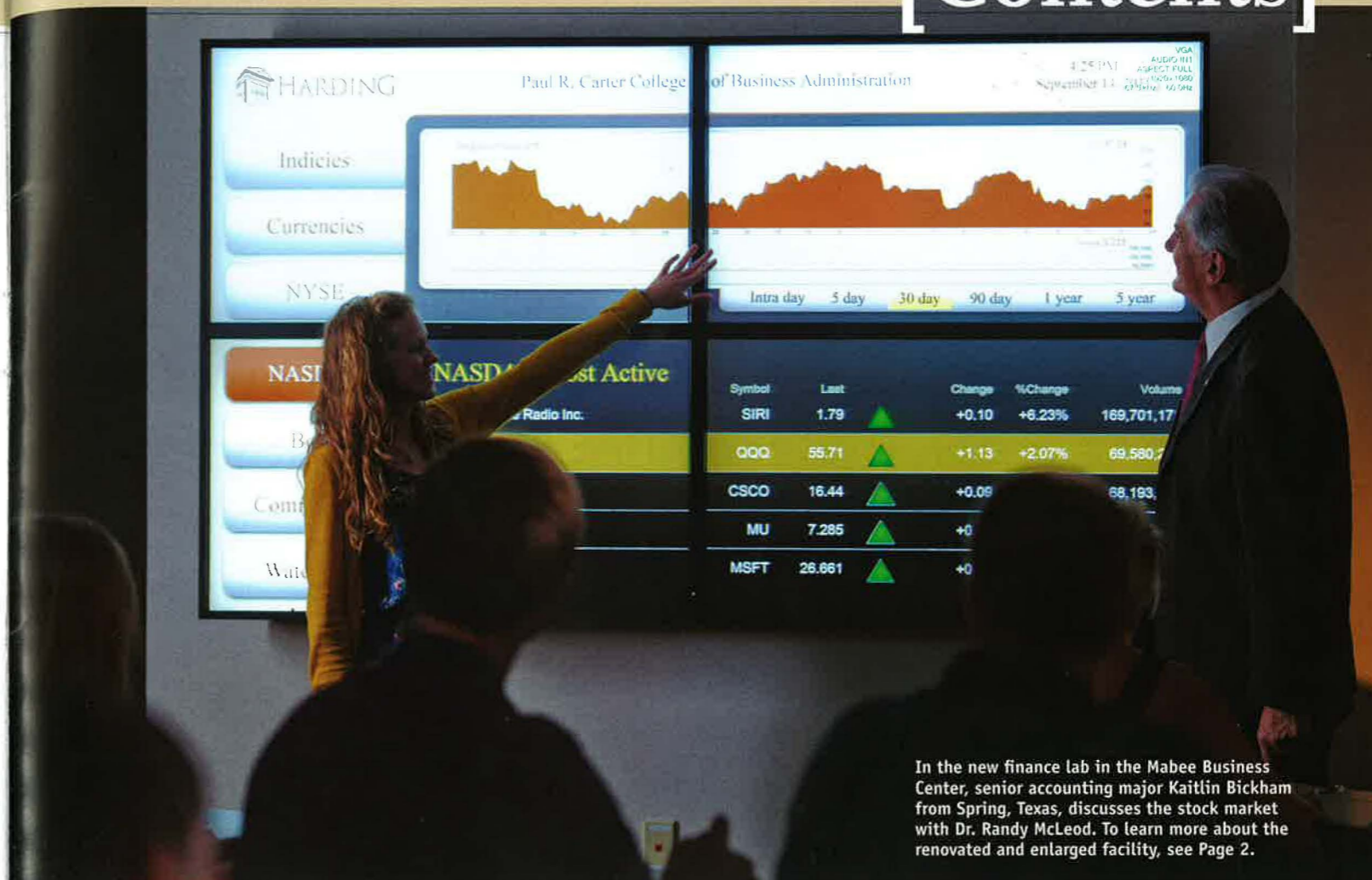
Postmaster: Send address changes to Harding University, Box 12234, Searcy, AR 72149-2234.

Blog: hunet.harding.edu/wordpress/magazine/
Email: hardingmag@harding.edu
Website: www.harding.edu

© 2011 Harding University

ON THE COVER

Winner of one of eight teaching awards for 2011, Dr. Cheri Smith's enthusiasm shines in the classroom. (Photo by Jeff Montgomery)



In the new finance lab in the Mabee Business Center, senior accounting major Kaitlin Bickham from Spring, Texas, discusses the stock market with Dr. Randy McLeod. To learn more about the renovated and enlarged facility, see Page 2.

FEATURES

10 Why I love to teach

In our cover story, nine professors reveal why teaching is not just a job for them — it's a calling they absolutely love.

16 Pieces of home

The problem: homesickness. The solution: remembrances of home. Heather Williams met with five freshmen late in the spring semester and tells what connects them with home.

20 Where were you?

It's a day never to be forgotten. No wonder so many of our readers were willing to share their memories from Sept. 11, 2001.

DEPARTMENTS

2 | Around Campus

Three renovated and enlarged facilities greeted students this fall.

8 | Athletics

Summer international program is geared specifically for athletes.

24 | Connections

24 Profile
John, 1960, and Peggy Hinds Davis, 1962

25 Alma matters

26 Alumni awards

29 Profile
Jeremy Wilson, 2009

30 Events

31 Enhancing the mission

32 | End Note

Chronicling the Dr. Dennis Organ era in the University's profession of the humanities.

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY



Enlarged, renovated facilities welcome students

When students arrived on campus this fall, they were greeted by more than just a new academic year. Three areas on campus underwent makeovers — two of which were open for business just in time for the beginning of the semester.

A \$4 million addition and renovation was completed on the Mabee Business Building in August. Construction began in July 2010, adding new classrooms, a finance trading lab, expanded student common areas, break-out rooms for group projects, faculty offices, and a center for alumni networking. The entire structure of the building's front entrance

was also redesigned.

Ladies living in Stephens Residence Hall are enjoying a completely renovated home away from home this year. The \$4 million renovation began at the close of the spring semester and also was completed in August. Upgrades include a more efficient heating and cooling system, new décor in the lobby areas, updated color schemes, and new plumbing throughout the building. The exterior of the second-largest residence hall on campus includes a pitched roof mirroring the architectural design of surrounding dorms.

The Bison football program is enjoy-

ing a new locker room, weight room and meeting area as a result of a \$1.6 million, 21,000-square-foot addition to Ganus Athletic Center, which began in February 2011 and was completed in October. The Jim City Football and Athletic Training Complex is on the east side of the building and also includes offices, classrooms, and enlarged facilities for the University's athletic training program.

The Jim City Football and Athletic Training Complex will be formally dedicated at ceremonies on campus during Homecoming weekend. The Mabee addition will be dedicated Nov. 10.

CEO, county judge added to board of trustees

Bruce Binkley ('80) of Broken Arrow, Okla., and Honorable Joe Wild of Vero Beach, Fla., were named to the board of trustees in the spring. They attended their first meeting May 13.

Binkley is president and chief executive officer of T.D. Williamson Inc. He is a CPA and also holds a Master's in Taxation degree and M.B.A. in international business from University of Tulsa. He joined T.D. Williamson in 1987 as tax manager and has held several positions within the company. He was appointed CEO in September 2008.

Binkley serves as president of the Indian Nations Council of Boy Scouts of America and is a board member of the Tulsa Area Chamber of Commerce and the Tulsa Area United Way. He is a founding member of the Broken Arrow Economic Development Commission and a past board member of Hope Harbor Children's Home. He and his wife, Kim White

('80), have four children, all of whom have attended Harding. Binkley is an elder at Broken Arrow Church of Christ.

Wild is the county judge for Indian River County. He holds a bachelor's degree from Catawba College and a J.D. from Florida State University College of Law. He previously served as assistant state attorney in both the felony and county court divisions and also as special assistant state attorney and special prosecutor.

Wild is chairman of Character Counts! Coalition of Indian River County and is on the board of directors for Christian Home and Bible School in Mount Dora, Fla. In addition, he is an assistant coach of varsity softball for Master's Academy and served as a sports official for the Florida High School Athletic Association from 1979 to 2007. He and his wife, Glenda, have five children. Wild is an elder at Vero Beach Church of Christ.



PHOTOS BY JEFF MONTGOMERY, CITY RENDERING BY SCW ARCHITECTS

College of Business earns reaccreditation

The Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs reaffirmed the accreditation of the Paul R. Carter College of Business Administration in the spring. The announcement came April 19 from the ACBSP Board of Commissioners following the standard self-study report and a site visit to the campus. The College has been accredited by ACBSP since 1992, and the current reaffirmation will continue for another 10-year period.

"This accreditation signifies the high quality education provided by the Carter College of Business Administration," says Dean Bryan Burks.

The accreditation process begins with an understanding of the mission of the University and then examines crucial components such as leadership, strategic planning, student learning, faculty credentials and scholarship, and student support.

According to Burks, "the business accreditation from ACBSP is an ideal fit for our program. We are blessed to have faculty members who are dedicated to providing a top-quality business education from a Christian perspective. Our entire team pours their lives into preparing our students for the future."

The accreditation covers the Bachelor of Business Administration, the Bachelor of Arts, and the Master of Business Administration degrees. The College of Business Administration serves more than 1,000 students in these three degree programs.

Founded in 1988, ACBSP is a leading specialized accreditation association for business education supporting, celebrating and rewarding teaching excellence.

American Studies lectures include Rice

The American Studies Institute Lecture Series boasts a hero, nationally renowned authors and a former secretary of state.

On Oct. 6, Chief Richard "Pitch" Picciotto kicked off the series. He is the highest-ranking firefighter to survive the World Trade Center collapse that occurred as a result of terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. He was the last fireman to escape the devastation and was in a stairwell of the North Tower when it collapsed. Picciotto is the author of *Last Man Down*, a New York Times bestseller, and a 28-year veteran of the New York Fire Department.

Paul Sperry will present on Nov. 10. A veteran newsman, former Washington bureau chief for Investor's Business Daily, and senior editorialist and columnist for the national newspaper's Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial pages, Sperry is also the bestselling author

of four books, including *Infiltration: How Muslim Spies and Subversives Have Penetrated Washington*, which is being used by top law enforcement agencies across the country as well as the U.S. Department of Defense and the CIA. His work has been featured in numerous print publications, and he has appeared on CNN, Fox News Channel, NBC Nightly News and others.

Dr. Victor Hanson will pick up the series in the new year on Feb. 2, 2012. A nationally syndicated columnist, Hanson writes a weekly column for *National Review Online* and serves on the editorial board of *Military History Quarterly* and *City Journal*. He is the author of hundreds of articles,

book reviews, scholarly papers and newspaper editorials on subjects including ancient Greek, agrarian and military history, foreign affairs, domestic politics, and contemporary culture. Hanson has written for the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Los Angeles Times and others, and has appeared on Fox News, CNN, National Public Radio and C-Span's "Book TV" and "In-Depth."

The final speaker will be former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice on April 19, 2012. Dr. Rice is professor of political economy in the Graduate School of Business, Thomas and Barbara Stephenson Senior Fellow on Public Policy at the Hoover Institution, and professor of political science at Stanford University, where she served as provost from 1993 to 1999. She became the 66th secretary of state of the United States in January 2005 after serving as the president's

national security advisor for four years. She is the author of *Extraordinary, Ordinary People: A Memoir of Family*, which shares how her upbringing in segregated Birmingham, Ala. — along with her strong, caring family and parents — helped shape the course of her life. Rice has served on boards of directors for a variety of entities including Chevron, Charles Schwab and Transamerica corporations, and Boys and Girls Club of America.

All presentations, with the exception of Rice, are open seating with no ticket required. Tickets for Rice will be available online beginning March 12, 2012.

Picciotto



Hanson



Sperry



Rice

Business establishes alumni center

The Paul R. Carter College of Business Administration announced in April the formation of an alumni networking center housed within the Mabee Business Building.

"The idea was to make connections and utilize our network among alumni from all over the world to assist us in the College of Business Administration," said Dr. Bryan Burks, dean of the college. "We

want to connect to our alumni in an attempt to help them, help us and help our students."

The center is a combination of several services on campus such as the career center, alumni relations, advancement and even the president's office and will work closely with all of those offices in an attempt to enhance the work they are already doing for students.

Director of the center is Nate Copeland, who is also assistant to President David B. Burks. He will serve in the alumni networking center on

a part-time basis for the 2011-12 academic year, although the goal is for the position to become full time at some point. Copeland will spend the mornings continuing his role in the president's office and then work in the alumni center in the afternoons.

The center opened officially with the start of the fall semester and is located in Room 220 on the second floor of the new addition to the Mabee Business Building. For more information, call 501-279-5555 or email anc@harding.edu.

Self-portrait

During Student Impact, the “getting-to-know-you” games run rampant, helping new students break through the shyness barrier and meet their peers. **New faculty members** aren’t subjected to the same rituals but require an introduction just the same. Meet four of the new faces that will be seen around campus this year.



JUSTIN BLAND

Role at Harding: Instructor in the department of exercise and sports sciences
Previous employer and position held: Teaching assistant in the department of kinesiology at Michigan State University
What are you most looking forward to about working at Harding? After four years at a large public institution, I am thrilled to be coming to a smaller, much more intimate setting that has such a tremendous focus on the spiritual development of its students.
In my spare time, I ... run and play ultimate Frisbee. Also, my wife and I do as much as we can outdoors: Mountain biking, camping, kayaking and climbing are some of our favorite activities.
What is your favorite Bible verse? Psalm 139



KRISTI BOND

Role at Harding: Instructor of Spanish in the department of foreign language and international studies
Previous employer and position held: I have alternated between graduate school at the University of Kansas or home with my children for the last seven years, but I have also worked part time for World Bible School as the coordinator of their Spanish Internet division.
Where is the best place to which you’ve traveled or where would you like to visit most? Costa Rica tops the list of places I have traveled, but my two Harding mission trips to Venezuela are a close second.
What is the last movie you’ve seen? The last movie I watched at home was “Voyage of the Dawn Treader” from the Chronicles of Narnia series and at the theater was “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, part two,” of course!
What is your favorite Bible verse? John 17:3, “Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.”



JON SINGLETON

Role at Harding: Assistant professor of English
Previous employer and position held: Assistant professor of English at Le Moyne College (Syracuse, N.Y.)
What are you currently reading? *The Divine Conspiracy* by Dallas Willard — a warm-hearted but challenging book about being Jesus’ disciples. I love it.
What are your first day of school jitters? I do get nervous on the first day I start teaching a new class. Beyond the inevitable stage fright, there’s the gravity of the moment: God has brought me and these 20 or so students together for a mere 15 weeks, perhaps to redirect the courses of our lives. Which discussion will prove the crucial one? Which student? Which day? It’s hard to be that tuned in, that hopeful and open in front of all those scary new faces. I need coffee and then a lot of quiet time before I face a new class.
Who is your favorite Biblical character? I’ve recently found a new appreciation for the prophet Samuel.



INNA SWANN

Role at Harding: Assistant professor in the Physical Therapy Program.
Previous employer and position held: Wesley Medical Center, Hattiesburg, Miss., as physical therapist
What are your first day of school jitters? I am just excited about seeing the students.
What book are you reading right now? Francine Rivers’ *A Voice in the Wind*
Who is your favorite Bible character? Queen Esther

PHOTOS BY JEFF MONTGOMERY



[SPOTLIGHT]
Sister act

Every weekday afternoon around 4:30, the welcome sound of a trash can’s squeaky wheels are heard near the Office of Public Relations on the second floor of the American Heritage Building. It’s almost time to go home, and a few moments later, the soft voices of Mona Brinkley and Norma Redman fill the halls as they make their rounds emptying trash, dusting and vacuuming the building’s offices with friendly smiles that can light up anyone’s hectic day.

Both work at the University through Aramark Facility Services, and they share an extra special bond — they are sisters. Redman’s face has been seen on campus for more than 20 years. A housewife for several years, she started out working in Pattie Cobb Hall when her daughter decided to attend the University.

“I went to work here so my daughter could get a discount. She finished her college in the mid-90s, but I’m still working,” she laughs.

Brinkley spent 22 years working for ITT, an automotive parts manufacturer but started working at Harding six years ago, not long after she retired.

“I just thought I wanted to work some more, so I called Norma and asked her to help me get on over here, and she did. So we went to work together, and I’ve worked with her ever since.”

The sisters grew up on a 200-acre farm in Pangburn, Ark., just outside of Searcy.

They are two of eight siblings — five girls and three boys. They say they enjoy working together because they are like-minded and keep their duties coordinated well. When asked if it is easier to work with a sibling than anyone else, Redman responds with a smile, and both ladies laugh.

“Yes, it is,” she says. “Because we’re neither one lazy, and we both like things clean.”

The two agree that there have been many memorable moments over the years, but one of the highlights happened in spring 2010. As they were making their rounds through the Heritage Building, they saw President George W. Bush, who was on campus to speak as part of the ASI Distinguished Lecture Series.

“We saw Mr. Bush at a distance, and we were very excited about that,” says Brinkley. “We were down in the lobby, and he came out of the elevator. I think that was the most exciting person [we’ve seen]. I really wanted to see him in person.”

Redman and Brinkley clean several offices throughout the building, including those of President David B. Burks and Executive Vice President Jim Carr. They say



Norma Redman and Mona Brinkley

they enjoy visiting with employees in each office daily, but the students are the true highlight of working at Harding. Redman says she often reminisces about visiting with the girls who lived in Pattie Cobb so many years ago, but the student bond still remains today.

“Some of the students will come up to us, and they want to know if they can hug our neck,” says Brinkley. “I don’t know if they’re homesick, but they’ll come up and ask. They just want to talk to us, and that’s pretty special.” ■ — Heather Williams

Communication students lend talents to adoption organization

Several students spent the spring semester working with *Searcy Living* magazine to make an impact on the world of adoption and foster care.

The students, part of a radio production class in the department of mass communication, wrote and produced a series of public service announcements for a new local nonprofit organization, the Imagine and Believe Foundation.

The foundation, established by *Searcy Living* publisher Christine Walker, provides resources for adop-

tive and foster families in White County. Walker spoke to the class, taught by Dr. Dutch Hoggatt, early in the year about the organization and the possibility of working together. The plan was for KVHU, Harding’s student-produced radio station, to create and air several PSAs in exchange for ad space in *Searcy Living* magazine, which also sponsors Imagine and Believe. But it became so much more.

“Even though the PSA project began as an advertising trade-out opportunity, it evolved

into a service opportunity,” said Hoggatt. “After Christine spoke to our class and shared her experiences with adoptive and foster families, the students became very excited.”

The students wrote and produced a series of eight PSAs, which also are available to other area radio stations that might wish to use them. The emotional creations feature several children of University faculty as narrators and provide a glimpse into the ways adoption impacts the lives of children who have no family.

The radio production class regularly produces a variety of programs, promos for campus events such as Spring Sing and Homecoming, and other content for KVHU. This was the first time students produced content for an off-campus client. Listeners in central Arkansas can tune in to 95.3 FM to hear the PSAs.

In August the Arkansas Broadcasters Association awarded KVHU the 2011 Community Service Award for Medium Market Radio Stations in Arkansas for its work on the PSAs.

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY



Training transatlantic

By SCOTT GOODE, sports information director

Many of the 23 Harding student athletes on the first Bison Athletes in Training (BAT) trip to Florence, Italy, thought such an overseas trip might never be a reality for them.

"Student athletes are limited on when they can attend an overseas program," said BAT program director and football strength and conditioning coach Clay Beason. "They are limited to summers. The two Harding summer programs are in Florence and Greece. They are both outstanding programs, but they are 12 weeks long and not conducive to working out."

Junior quarterback Kelvin Martin was one of those that knew this was not an opportunity to pass up.

"I had been looking for an international program," Martin said. "Coach Beason told me that there might be a program designed specifically for athletes. I knew that there probably would not be another chance for me to go to another country, and I needed to experience that."

The group, which included Beason's wife, Loren, and their 8-year-old daughter, Ann-Clayton, left on May 30 and stayed at the Avanti Bible School in Scandicci, Italy, about 20 miles from Florence until June 28. Most of the group stayed for a few extra days of free travel before returning to the United States. Many students took six hours of college classes during the trip with the majority taking a humanities course and a kinesiology course.

The two-pronged focus of BAT was to give student athletes an overseas experience and allow them to complete their preseason workout programs.

"Required workouts are a big part of sports programs, at both a weight room and at athletic fields," Beason said. "Athletes could workout according to their

summer manual and not be behind and still get the international experience."

"The players want to be in shape, and their coaches want them to be in shape. That was not compromised at all."

Junior Lauren Scharf, a member of the women's soccer team, found that traveling Europe with fellow athletes made workouts easier.

"It was easy to get our workouts in because everyone was an athlete," Scharf said. "Everyone wanted to workout, and everyone wanted to go to the weight room. We wanted to travel a lot and see everything we could but every time we were at the Avanti house, we would workout or go to the field and run."

Martin said that after making one small adjustment, the BAT workouts were just what he needed to get ready for the 2011 season.

"The first day we got to the weight room, we put the weights on and everything was in kilos," Martin said with a laugh. "After a while, we figured out how to make the conversion. I gained 15 pounds on my bench press. Everything was laid out for us. Coach Beason had everything set up."

Several football players made the trip, allowing Martin and his teammates to go through workouts together.

"I had some receivers and slot backs to work with," Martin said. "That might have worked out better for me because I had some of my teammates with me for the summer. It came together perfectly."

The group made several trips through-

On the practice field in Italy, 16 of the athletes stop for a photo.

out Italy and also made a visit to Germany where they attended a class taught by former Harding men's basketball player J.R. Duke ('98) at The Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz. Duke, a professor in the university's American Studies department, was teaching a class called "BBQ and the Blues: The Food and Music of the American South" that allowed Harding students to team with German students in discussions about life in the South.

Beason said that on their travels throughout Europe they focused their studies on the Medici family who lived in Florence during the Renaissance. One of the Medicis was Pope Leo X, who was in place when Martin Luther made his trip to Rome and saw all the excesses of the Catholic Church.

"Luther then wrote his 95 Theses in Germany, so we tied that into our trip to Germany," said Beason. "We saw the Gutenberg press that published the 95 Theses and sent it out to the world."

One of the memorable moments on the trip for Beason was when the group worshipped with the church in Rome.

"I was asked to lead a prayer," Beason said. "In my prayer, I said, 'Please bless the church in Rome,' and I got chills because those were the sentiments of Paul. It's neat to know that no matter where we are, we are praising the same God."

"It can be a life-changing experience, not just a fun time. It is a goal to make it fun, but that is not the only goal and that's not our priority. The goal is to grow spiritually, socially, globally, physically and academically."

Beason said that plans are for Bison Athletes in Training to make a trip to Italy every other year. The next trip is planned for summer 2013. **H**

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

ROUNDUP

Baseball season out of the park

The 2011 baseball season was the best in the program's history.

The hardballers set a school wins record with a 42-14 mark, won their first Gulf South Conference West Division title, and took their first conference championship since 1984. Following the regular season, the team received its first at-large bid into the NCAA II Baseball Tournament. The Bisons won their first game at the national tournament and finished the season ranked 24th nationally.

The team's top hitter was senior third baseman Jason Nappi, who earned All-Region honors and became just the second Bison baseball player to earn Academic All-American honors. Nappi led the team with a .384 batting average, nine home runs and 54 RBI. Following the season, he was drafted in the 48th round of the Major League Baseball Draft by the Los Angeles Angels.

Logan Holthaus, Trent Kinnear and Chase Presley earned First Team All-GSC honors, while Paul Anzalone, Brodie Brumley, Nappi and Lucas Waddell made Second Team.

Head coach Patrick McGaha was named GSC West Division Coach of the Year by the conference's coaches and was named Arkansas College Coach of the Year by Natural State Baseball.

Blake, Orgain take Berryhill Awards

Stephen Blake and Janet Orgain were honored as the 2011 M.E. Berryhill Award winners. The Berryhill Award is given to a senior male and female athlete who possesses the characteristics of athletic excellence, academic achievement, social maturity and spiritual example.

Blake earned First Team All-Gulf South Conference and First Team National Association of Basketball Coaches All-South Region honors as a senior shooting guard. He led the Bisons in scoring with 16.0 points per game and led the GSC in both free throw percentage (86.4) and three-point field goal percentage (.545).

Blake graduated in May with a degree in exercise science and twice earned Academic All-GSC honors.

In Orgain's career on the courts, she won almost 80 percent of the matches she played. Her .760 singles winning percentage ranks seventh-best all-time among Lady Bison tennis players.

In 2010, she earned *ESPN the Magazine* Academic All-District honors and was on the Gulf South Conference Academic Honor Roll.

Orgain participated in mission trips to Swaziland, Zimbabwe and South Africa. She graduated summa cum laude in May with a degree in public relations with a minor in missions.

Men's golf fifth, women third

Men's golf placed fifth in the season-ending Gulf South Conference Championship at Hot Springs (Ark.) Country Club in April. It was the highest finish for the Bisons at the GSC Championship.

Sophomore Blake Chase had the third-best season by a Bison men's golfer and earned Second Team All-GSC honors. Chase led the Bisons with a 75.08 stroke average.

The women's golf team tied its best finish at the GSC Championship. Top finisher was sophomore So-Yun Kim, who finished fifth for the second straight season and earned All-Tournament honors. Kim shot 159.

Sophomore Whitney Ohlhausen earned First Team All-GSC honors for the second straight season. Kim became a two-time Second Team honoree, and sophomore Becca Godman was also Second Team All-GSC, her first All-Conference honor.

Bishop men's soccer coach

Men's soccer has a new coach as Jeremy Bishop was hired this spring. Dr. Greg Harris remains in his role as women's coach.

Bishop, a native of Little Rock, Ark., and a 1997 alumnus, arrived after serving his second stint at University of Central Arkansas in Conway, where he has been the assistant women's soccer coach since 2009.

From 2002-08, Bishop was the head men's and the assistant women's coach at Lyon College in Batesville, Ark. He started the men's program at Lyon and assisted with the start of the women's.



Tennis continues winning ways

The men's tennis team completed the 2010-11 season with a 16-4 overall record. The .800 winning percentage was the best by a Bison tennis team since the 1994-95 team went 23-5 (.821).

Harding placed third in the Gulf South Conference West Division and fell to University of West Florida in the GSC Tournament.

Freshman Alex Ford, sophomore Helio Hashimoto, senior Ivan Michelli and junior Henrique Ruiz were all named to the All-GSC team. Ford was also named GSC Freshman of the Year.

The women's tennis squad finished 19-7 overall and placed second in the Gulf South Conference West Division with a 6-1 conference record.

Harding defeated University of West Alabama in the quarterfinals of the GSC Tournament before falling to West Florida in the semifinals.

Harding freshman Benyapa Phumtip and sophomore Chelsea Hunt were named First Team All-GSC, and sophomore Ling Chan was named Second Team. Phumtip was the GSC West Division Freshman of the Year.

Kirwa two-time track All-American

The 2011 men's outdoor track and field season was again highlighted by the performances of senior Daniel Kirwa, who earned two more All-American honors, running his career outdoor track total to eight.

Kirwa placed third in the 5,000 meters at nationals and eighth in the 1,500 meters at the NCAA Outdoor National Meet.

Junior Wojciech Kopec also qualified for nationals and placed 15th in the 3,000-meter steeplechase. The 4x400 relay team, ranked third nationally entering the national meet, finished 10th after anchor Eddie Russ had to pull out.

Kirwa was named the United States Track and Field and Cross Country South Region Track Athlete of the Year, head coach Steve Guymon was men's and women's South Region Coach of the Year, and volunteer assistant Bryan Phillips was men's South Region Assistant Coach of the Year.

The nine members of the team earning All-South Region were senior Blake Arnold (4x400 relay), junior Philip Biwott (5,000 meters), sophomore Kory Howard (4x400 relay), junior Ryan Johnson (1,500 meters), senior Daniel Kirwa (800 meters, 1,500 meters, 5,000 meters), junior Wojciech Kopec (10,000 meters, 3,000-meter steeplechase), junior Eddie Russ (4x400 relay), junior Milton Stewart (4x400 relay), and sophomore Josh Winslager (pole vault).

The Lady Bisons ranked fourth in the final NCAA II South Region Rankings and had six members who earned honors. Receiving All-South Region honors were junior Portia Bell (200 meters), freshman Kristen Celsor (high jump), sophomore Tiffany Chambers (pole vault), senior Dia Gibson (high jump), senior Rysper Sirma (10,000 meters), and sophomore Stephanie Zibulsky (javelin).

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

Why I love to TEACH

Compiled by JENNIFER HANNIGAN

Photography by JEFF MONTGOMERY

It's easy to look at the life of a college professor and wonder, "Why?" With their desks piled high with ungraded essays, bookshelves sagging with past editions of textbooks, and weary eyes only kept open by yet another mug of coffee, why do they continue to do what they do?

For these professors, the answer can be easily pinpointed in a moment, in a feeling, and in a calling. **This is why they love to teach.**



HIS MINISTRY

As I reflect over the past 30 Augusts in which I have prepared to enter the classroom as the teacher, I am once again reminded that I am extremely blessed in life — through Jesus, through the support of my loving family and through my work. The underlying motivations for why I love to teach come from wholeheartedly believing this is my ministry, the example from past mentors, the encouragement of former students, and the desire to make a difference. I work to help students identify their unique God-given gifts, then challenge them to develop new knowledge, skills and abilities to better equip them for professional careers in service to others.

I particularly like the guidance of Colossians 3:23: "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men." My takeaway is this: Those who profess Jesus as Lord ought to be the hardest workers. Ken Neller once issued the challenge to think what might happen if we tithed our time as well as our money. Upon hearing that idea and because teaching is my ministry, I purposefully attempt to spend 17 additional hours per week in activities and service that enhance student development and learning.

Several individuals have significantly influenced my life as a teacher. Among them are Paul Gardner, who first suggested I consider an opportunity to teach; Charles and Imogene Aebi, whose passion, preparation and Christian example helped shape this once wet-behind-the-ears novice; Jimmy Allen, from whom I came to understand that a student's respect and love for a godly teacher in an academically rigorous course are not mutually exclusive; and Marvin Robertson, a good friend and trusted colleague whose wisdom and counsel I sought out many times in the past 30 years.

Like all of us, I am in a constant state of becoming. Existing relationships deepen; new relationships emerge. Intersecting with students, alumni, campus recruiters and colleagues has richly blessed my life. And I can hardly wait to see where the Spirit leads tomorrow!

► DR. PHIL BROWN
professor of accounting



SEEING WHAT THEY SEE

This past summer I had lunch with one of my English professors near the campus of Oglethorpe University in Atlanta. As a student there in the early 90s, I was amazed (if not a little intimidated) by Dr. Brightman's dazzling Socratic methods in class. He seldom lectured; instead he asked nonstop questions, pushing and prodding and never allowing anyone to sit idle as a spectator. He drew every student into the discussion and discouraged pat answers. "Help me see what you see," was his mantra, which provided both a compliment and a challenge. He genuinely valued our opinions but insisted on knowing the logic behind them. Since I didn't always have a reason in mind for my reading of a certain line from Wordsworth or a scene in *David Copperfield*, I had to discover the assumptions that lay behind my thinking. Frankly, for a 19-year-old used to being told what great literature meant, these dialogues could be stressful. I cringe now at some of the verbal knots I tied myself into, but I also remember that in those courses, I truly learned how to read and how to think.

As we sat together 20 years later as peers, Dr. Brightman explained his approach very simply. "I have an intense curiosity, and that drives everything I do in the classroom," he said. I am truly grateful to this mentor — and to others like him — for caring about what I had to say and for including me in a grand conversation about ideas. And while my own teaching style is very different from his aggressive Q&A, I still want my students to know that their thoughts matter. There is a vast world of beauty and meaning in the written word, and I believe it can enrich students' lives if they will deeply engage with great writers and if they will develop their own voices in return. Like Dr. Brightman, I indeed want them to "help me see what they see."

▶ DR. MICHAEL CLAXTON
associate professor of English



WHAT'S NOT TO LOVE?

Any appraisal of my love for teaching must include my subject matter, the students I teach, and the context in which I teach them. My courses are in Bible, ministry and theology. The students I teach for the most part are in the developmental phase of late adolescence/young adulthood, a phase characterized by radical spiritual transformation. My teaching context is a Christian university where attempts to form students as apprentices of Jesus are valued and explicit. I love teaching these subjects to these students in this context because I am convinced that we are not truly alive in the "abundant life" sense of John 10:10 unless we are growing, and we are not growing unless we are learning. To learn is to grow, and to grow is to live.

My attempts at teaching are guided by three images: parent, tour guide and coach. I function as parent whenever I sense that what students desire (or need even when they do not desire it) is an alternative perspective to an issue or question, a perspective honed by years and experience many of them have not yet had time or opportunity to acquire. I am a tour guide to the biblical text and to my discipline (practical theology). In that role I offer information to help students appreciate the richness and the complexities of the text or topic we are considering. I am a coach whenever I design and offer experiences that help the student to acquire skills such as interpreting and applying Scripture or crafting questions to lead small group Bible studies.

On my best days (which do not occur as frequently as I would prefer) as parent, tour guide and coach, I am assisting students to discover and to take their next steps as disciples of Jesus, to understand more fully the blessedness of being children of their heavenly father, and to acquire the capacities to interpret human experience through the lens of Christian faith and to discern their contribution to God's ongoing mission in the world, regardless of their location and vocation. In the process, I meet some really amazing people some of whom invite me into their lives as a mentor and friend. Who wouldn't love that?

▶ DR. ROSS COCHRAN
professor of Bible



INSPIRING A DIFFERENCE

Although I was born into a family of teachers, I had no plans to teach. My love for mathematics began when I was 14 years old in Mrs. Ritchie's algebra class at Harding Academy, and it grew stronger with each additional course. I hoped to become a research mathematician, but family interrupted my plans. Four children later, I jokingly said I had used my math only to multiply.

God had more in mind for me. Dr. Dean Priest, mathematics chair, opened my eyes to college teaching. "Could you teach just one class this semester?" One class became two and then three. I was hooked! I learned that I could make a difference.

I could make a difference for the students who had almost no idea what to do with an "x" but were determined to master the math necessary for their degrees. I could make a difference for the D student who pulled his desk right next to mine and said he did not want to let anything go past him without understanding it. I could make a difference for my business students who were terrified of calculus. And I could make a difference for strong, confident students who loved math and sought deeper understanding.

I could also see the blessings that would come from the great opportunity to learn and grow, not only from graduate education, but with every new class taught, every new textbook and every new group of students. My desire to continue teaching was confirmed in my heart and mind by Eric Liddell's line from the movie, "Chariots of Fire": "When I run I feel his pleasure." I believe God has blessed me with the ability and desire to teach mathematics, and I believe I please him by using his gifts.

Having taught at Harding for almost 30 years, teaching does not feel like a job. It feels like what I am meant to do. It is comfortable and natural, like walking or talking. It lifts my spirits to enter a calculus classroom to share my knowledge and love of mathematics with students seeking to find their way in the world. I thank God for leading me to this profession where I can make a difference.

▶ DR. DEBBIE DUKE
professor of mathematics



AN UNLIKELY PURSUIT

I love teaching today but only discovered my love in retrospect. I grew up in Italy as a missionary child, and my idea of a teacher derived from my experience with Italian teachers. They are considered *il nemico* — the enemy. Their strict disciplinarian methods are highly effective in classroom management, but they are as removed from my natural inclinations as the earth is from the moon. For this reason, I never imagined that I would ever want to be a teacher.

When I arrived as an undergraduate at Harding, I planned to acquaint myself with the American school system by studying the two subjects that were most familiar to me — music and French — and, before I knew it, by graduation I had completed both majors in education. Obviously, I needed a job in one of these subjects, and I capitulated — fervently vowing to remain true to myself. I was an educator, not a disciplinarian.

Beyond French, Italian and music, I truly love literature, history, theater and even opera, areas which are closely connected to the French and Italian cultures. In addition, I love to travel, and consequently, I also enjoy the food of those countries. Today, I finally realize that God uniquely equipped me to share these passions with those who would never think of exploring these enchanting countries, languages and cultures for themselves.

I always thought I would return to Europe and be a vocational missionary. Indeed, I now realize that this did happen when Pepperdine University sent my husband and me to direct their abroad program in Florence for five years. Through Pepperdine and Harding, I have taught four different times in Paris, France, and through those stays I was able to keep contact with the French church members. I feel a great love for them as well as the Italian church members, of course.

Finally, had I not been the French/Italian teacher, many of these wonderful experiences would never have happened to me. God directed my steps. In retrospect, I can see that now. I praise him and thank him from the bottom of my heart. To my surprise, I must confess then that I do love teaching!

▶ DR. JOLI LOVE
associate professor of foreign language



TEACHING FROM THE HEART

I love to teach; it's my passion. Even when employed in other ways, I always found myself gravitating toward the instructional end of any job. I've taught at all levels — high school, college, graduate school and med-tech school — and enjoyed them all.

I love my course work. There's no better place to be reminded of God's power than with the human body, so I love to talk about it. Although I actually enjoy lecturing, I know most of that time is wasted unless you make the class an experience that is relevant and practical. Since I'm also a registered medical technologist, I draw on that experience to try to make anatomy and physiology come alive for future medical professionals.

At the heart of it, though, teaching is so much more than book learning and exams. The relationships I develop with the students are what really make teaching even more enjoyable. I enjoy meeting with them outside of class and having them in our home for Bible study, developing very close relationships that will last a lifetime. It's also a pleasure to help a student or group of students understand some concept in my office or in a study session. Often that's where the real teaching is done, and the light goes on for the first time. There's no greater satisfaction than seeing struggling students leave my office with new hope and greater motivation because they see success can be just as easy for them as for their peers if they just learn how to approach it differently and try new things to help them learn.

Anatomy is a huge mass of material to master, and I love guiding students to the realization that desire, motivation and solid effort are the key elements to success in achieving their goals.

» DON SANDERS
assistant professor of biology

THE RIGHT CHOICE

I remember my first year of teaching. I was teaching special education in a rural school in Arkansas, and in my very first class was a boy named Calvin. He was the quintessential country boy — flannel shirts, high-water jeans, hair that looked like it had never been combed, and tennis shoes that were perpetually untied. For some reason, Calvin and I bonded. He was in the sixth grade but could only read on a first-grade level. I believed in him. He loved me, and I loved him.

When it came time for the first open house, I couldn't wait to meet Calvin's mom. He was making great progress, and I was sure she would want to hear all about it. I mentioned her name in the teacher's lounge and heard a barrage of comments such as, "You want to meet Calvin's mom? She has never come to a conference since kindergarten. You will never see her." Disappointed, I returned to my classroom.

Open house came and went, and I met not all, but many, of the parents of my students. Unfortunately, as had been predicted, there had been no sign of Calvin's mom. I packed up my things and got out my keys, ready to leave for home. As I was turning out the lights, I heard a faint knock at my door. Uncertain, I went to the door and opened it. Standing there was a woman. Worn and tired, she looked beaten down by life. In barely a whisper, she said, "I'm Calvin's mom, and if I don't meet you, he will not let me back in our house tonight." I quickly let her in, turned the lights back on, and we talked about Calvin. She shared her fears for him. We both shared our hopes and dreams for his future.

That night, I knew that my choice to be a teacher was the right one. God had led me to a profession where I could engage in the lives of people who truly needed my love and care.

I never looked back.

» DR. CHERI SMITH
assistant professor of education

A NATURAL FIT

Throughout my life I found myself in the position of teaching both informally and in formal settings. Teaching is central to my role as a registered nurse. Almost everything I do as a nurse involves teaching. I help patients and their families understand their medications, diet, disease processes or health maintenance while caring for their bodies and spirits.

Teaching in the Carr College of Nursing is a natural fit for me, combining my passions for nursing and teaching. Every day I learn in the challenge of guiding students as they become Christian nurses. It delights me to watch them blossom into nurses during their clinical experiences.

I teach students in their last semester before graduation. We provide care for patients in the critical care units at John L. McClellan Memorial Veterans Hospital. It is an honor and privilege to care for these brave men and women who have selflessly served our country. The students display a compassionate respect for these veterans, many of whom served in conflicts before they were born. They demonstrate Christ's love in caring for the spirit as they offer prayer and words of encouragement to suffering people as well as competent nursing care.

These clinical moments are often when everything they have studied for the past four years finally comes together. Caring for a patient with complicated medical problems, knowledge gained from textbooks comes to life. I often hear them say, "Oh, I understand now!" It is rewarding to see them act as patient advocates as they identify important patient needs and assertively find solutions. I feel honored, inspired and privileged to teach and learn alongside the outstanding students in our nursing program.

» PATTY SMITH, RN
assistant professor of nursing

MAKING AN IMPACT

Daniel Webster once said, "If all my possessions were taken from me with one exception, I would choose to keep the power of communication, for by it I would soon regain all the rest." The primary reason I love to teach relates to this statement. The classes I teach here at Harding are designed to instruct students to become speech-language pathologists and audiologists, professions dedicated to retaining and/or restoring communication. Each of my students will then move on to have a significant impact on a countless number of individuals. This is very rewarding to me but there are other reasons.

Why do I love to teach? This is a question I ask myself from time to time, but it is not an easy question to answer. There are days that I am ready to pack it all in and head back to a clinical practice. Those are the days that students ask if they really need to do all the assignments listed on the syllabus or if they need to come to class next week because "it is Spring Sing, and I need some sleep." There are the late-night calls from students that have not taken the time necessary to complete a homework assignment and are asking for additional time. All teachers receive similar calls.

The bottom line, however, is the knowledge that I am helping students succeed. I am teaching them skills in a profession that will serve them well as they begin a lifetime of providing clinical services to patients in need. I take this task very seriously and attempt to provide the avenue for students to obtain the knowledge needed for successful practice. My reward comes when I receive calls and emails thanking me for something that I did for them that helped them on their way. The "I now see why you made us ..." and the "I was the only one in my graduate class that knew..." make it all worthwhile and very, very rewarding. ■

» DR. DANIEL C. TULLOS
professor of communication

STEPPING OUT
ON THEIR OWN,
FRESHMEN BRING
TO CAMPUS

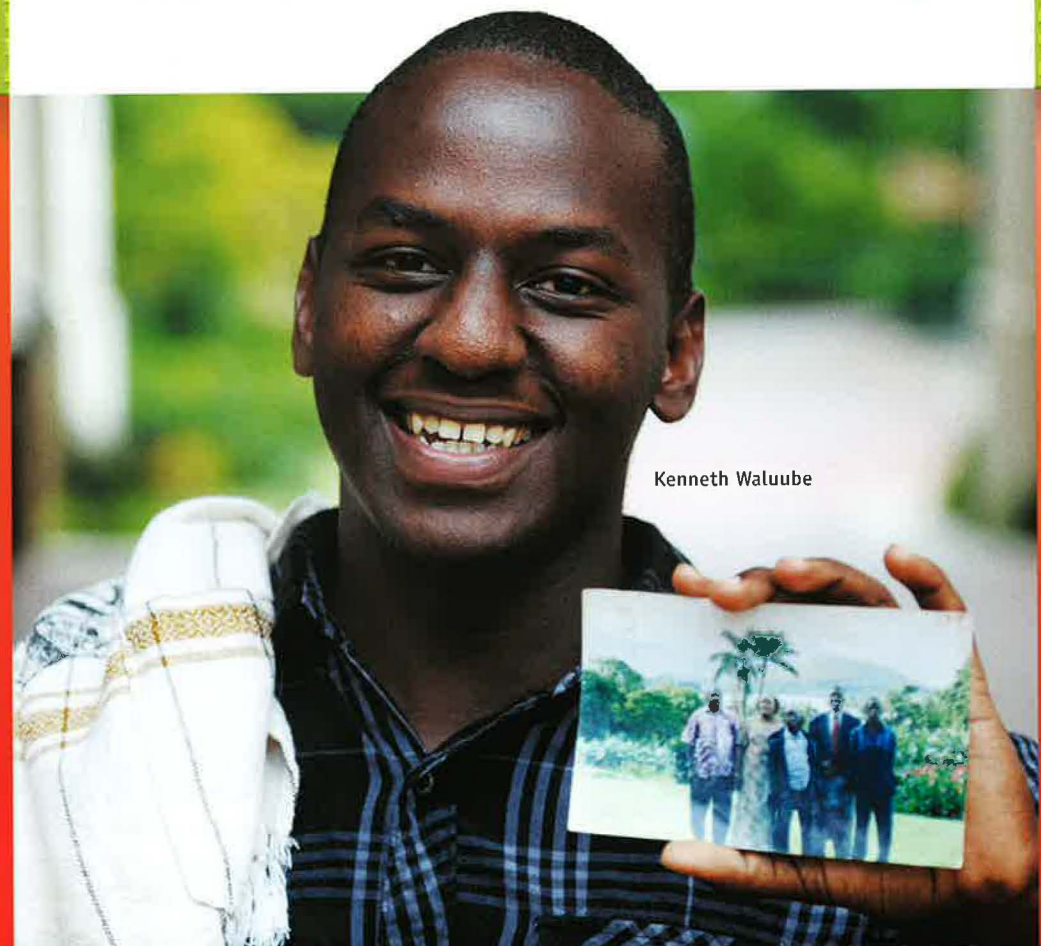
pieces of HOME

For college students nationwide, a campus community is often their home away from home. And the situation is no different for students at the University, which is primarily a residential college. For many, the freshman year is the most challenging, and it doesn't always take long for homesickness to set in. In the spring, I visited with several students who just finished their first year. From Bibles to jewelry to electronics, they shared the special items that helped them beat the homesick blues.

When Kenneth Waluube arrived at Harding as a freshman in fall 2010, he was already used to being away from home. Growing up in Jinja, Uganda, he had attended boarding school since the age of 7 and was separated from his family for extended periods of time on a regular basis.

The accounting and finance major said his first year at the University was fun for the most part and activities like Spring Sing and the Homecoming musical really captured his interest. Although he didn't feel homesick most of the time, he said he definitely misses Uganda during the winter months here in the U.S. He didn't bring any specific items with him to remember his family and Uganda, but he found that over the course of the year, he had several things in his room that served that very purpose.

"When I was coming, I didn't intend to bring anything to remind me of home, but I happened to have some of that stuff when I got here — like pictures of myself with my sisters and my mom," said Waluube. "After some time, my mom sent me some traditional garments — like what we wear for our traditional ceremonies — and whenever I look at that, I somehow remember home." »



Kenneth Waluube



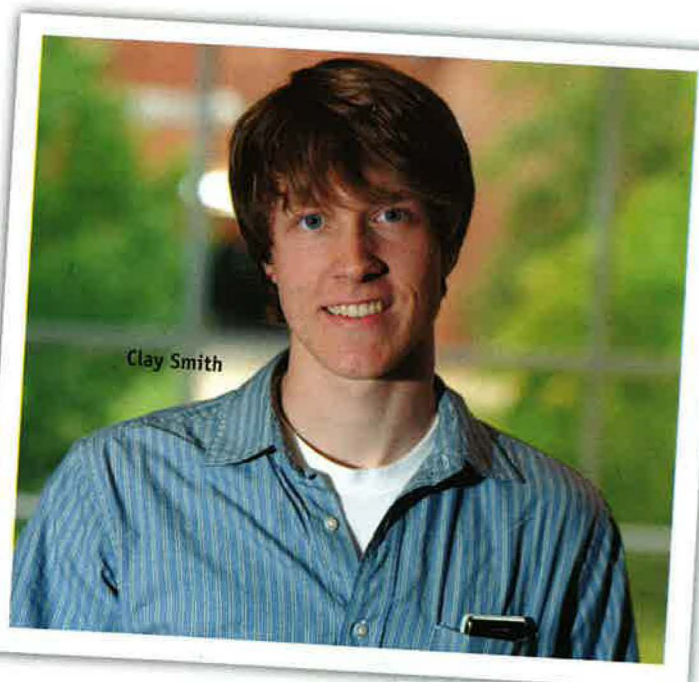
Jordan Creamer

Sophomore exercise science major Jordan Creamer of Memphis, Tenn., said she enjoyed her freshman year at Harding because of the atmosphere and talented Christian peers that surrounded her.

"I've met so many people here that have changed my life and made me a better person," said Creamer. "Social clubs also are a great bonding experience."

She admitted that she does feel homesick at times, but being able to drive just two hours to visit her family makes the journey easier. And she does have a constant reminder of home tied around her finger.

"My favorite possession that reminds me of home is the ring my parents gave me for my high school graduation," she said. "My mom picked out my favorite stone — aquamarine — and surprised me with it at dinner a few nights after graduation. Many times when I've been sad or having a rough time, I'll look down at that ring and remember that I have a family that will love me no matter what happens. That is something I hope I will never take for granted."



Clay Smith



Nnaemeka Eze

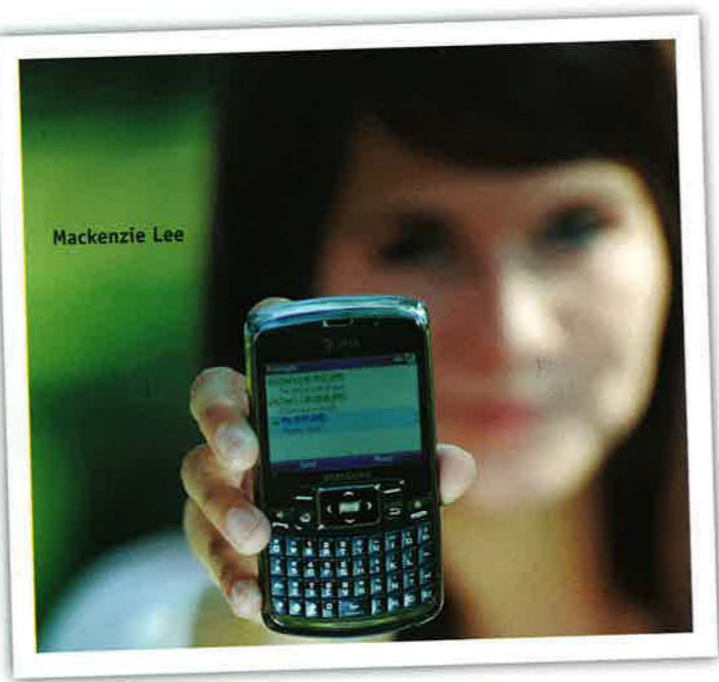
Nnaemeka Eze arrived on campus last fall from Aba, Abia State, Nigeria. The biochemistry major said he dealt with homesickness from the very day he got on a plane bound for the U.S.

"My freshman year has been the most difficult and challenging year of my life," said Eze. "I've had wonderful people at Harding — especially faculty members — who've helped me get this far successfully."

Eze came well prepared to deal with the homesickness he anticipated, bringing several mementos from Nigeria.

"I guess there are three things. The first is my Bible. Every time I read it, God has a way of reminding me that, though not all members of my family are here, he, my heavenly father, still remains with me. The second is my laptop, which I've used to speak with my family on Skype. Last, but not least, are my family pictures and songs from my country. They've always helped me taste a bit of home."

Eze did not return home during the summer although he said he would have loved to. He will continue to cherish these three items in the current academic year, he said, "because without



Mackenzie Lee

them, I would have found myself on the earliest flight back home by now."

While reflecting on his freshman year, Nashville, Tenn., native and Bible and religion major Clay Smith said the University surpassed all of his expectations, and he was disappointed when the year came to a close.

"Never have I regretted my decision to come to Harding, and, honestly, I was sad when my first year was over," he said. "I can't actually say that I have been homesick. At points I missed my family, but I also have a family here that I would hate to leave. To be honest, I feel as though when I leave Harding for the summer, I will feel homesick."

He didn't bring any special items with him to combat homesickness, but one thing that helped was something that fits in the palm of his hand — a cell phone.

"I do make sure to call home every few days, and I tend to visit home every month or so."

Smith isn't the only student who has made his cell phone a lifeline to home. Springfield, Mo., native and public relations and

Spanish double major Mackenzie Lee said she enjoyed almost every second of her first year at the University. But she did admit her first semester was tough being away from home.

"I would say my cell phone has helped me to overcome homesickness. My parents are always a quick phone call away, which makes things nice."

Lee, who spent the summer in Nashville doing a children's ministry internship, said that after living at the University for a year, she feels ready to go explore more of the world.

"I know now that I don't have to be at home to be happy as my family will always be a short phone call away if I need reassurance," she said. "There are too many great things to experience to never venture outside of Springfield."

No matter how far or near a student's homeland is and whether or not they ever feel homesick, you can be sure to find various treasures from their past spread throughout their dorm rooms. We turned to Facebook and Twitter to see what mementos alumni and other students brought with them on their Harding journey and share them with you below. **H**

COMFORTS FROM HOME

"I had an old sweatshirt from junior high that I practically lived in for five years until I outgrew it. It was a huge comfort item, and I was really bummed about not being able to wear it anymore. When I graduated high school, my mom turned it into a pillow that I brought with me. In my many ups and downs of freshman year, I snuggled up with my pillow and was comforted just as well as I had been when I had worn it."

Jenna Leigh Sampson, junior

"My Chicago Bears teddy bear and pictures of my family." Carrie Schlueter Elwell ('88)

"Lots of pictures of family and friends for the walls of my dorm room."

Heather Bittle McDonald ('98)

"Chips and salsa! I guess I thought they didn't have any in Arkansas ... I'm from Texas!" Tara Hancock Duvall ('97)

"A picture of the Memphis 'M' bridge." Lee McCain ('83)

"All I know is that when I went to Harding, I packed everything I owned into one small Dodge Omni. Now I can't even get one room's worth of stuff into that small of a space." Lynnette Shields ('88)

"I brought my New York Islanders jersey and wore it proudly." Chad Roberts ('03)

"I'm from Texas, and my dad, Steve Lake ('86), gave me a huge Texas state flag to put up in my Sears dorm room. It went from the ceiling all the way down to my

bed and covered the entire L-shaped wall around my bed to my desk! It was massive! Everyone that came in our room thought it was such a fun idea! It always reminded me of home and my family."

Taylor Lake Kee ('09)

"Dorm toilet paper leaves a lot to be desired, so each semester I would bring back a plastic storage tub full of toilet paper. That was one way I made myself feel at home."

Scott Hannigan ('08)

"I brought everything I owned."

Leslie McDowell ('94)

"In 1967, I was not a freshman, but I brought two quilts that my mother and grandmother made for me when I graduated from high school. I still have those two quilts."

Judy Giddens Howard ('70)

"My mother threw away my worn-out track shoes, but I dug them out of our trash and hid them away so I could bring them to Harding. They had no tread left and a hole in each toe!"

Mary Beth Snodgrass Greenway ('06)

"A quilt made by my granny and collage picture frames of my family and friends."

Rachelle Pratt ('92)

"Three of my six 'Lord of the Rings' posters ... that was back in 2004 though."

Jennyfer Deister Austin ('09)

"I still went home for dinner every night — my parents lived one block from campus."

Sonya Petway Burchett ('81)

"I brought the baby blanket my great-grandmother made for my birth. My mom always threatened (lovingly) to find a way to incorporate that blanket into my wedding dress ... it was the ultimate reminder of love and home for me."

Lisa Ashley Sawada ('96)

"Well, does my Dallas Cowboy Charlie Waters poster count since I was from Texas? Ha! But seriously, I brought a bulletin board with my high school pendant and ribbons as well as pics of my friends back home."

Janice Milford Enlow ('84)

"I brought frames and albums of pictures of high school friends and family. It was the first time I'd been away from home longer than four days! Watching my family drive away was hard, but it was the best decision I ever made!"

Amanda Myers ('00)

"I brought a teddy bear on which all of my high school friends had written memories."

Jennifer Harris Hannigan ('08)

"Well, I took my twin brother with me as a constant reminder of home and family! Ironically, my dad took his twin brother with him to Harding as well!"

Jason Baker ('01)

"Sand in a jar and shells...although the sand smelled like rotten fish after a semester!"

Kelly Holaday Brackett ('89)

"I brought a picture of my sisters and me that's always been on my bedside table! They're both back home, and I miss them the most!"

Amanda Priddy, sophomore

Where were you?

Remembering the day that changed everything

Compiled by JENNIFER HANNIGAN, photography by JEFF MONTGOMERY

Smoke rising into the sky. Buildings that once stood as part of an unmistakable skyline now crumbling to the ground. Everyday people turned into ash-covered heroes as the world changed in an instant. ★ As a nation, the events that transpired 10 years ago have become an indelible part of our history. Confusion and fear gave way to pride, strength and the resolve to rebuild. When the Harding community was asked to recall their whereabouts from a decade ago, there was a great outpouring of memories, whether a current student who was just in elementary school or a seasoned professor. These are just a few of those stories.

Flight 93 Victim

Thomas E. Burnett Jr.

Giving a visual representation of the tragedy of Sept. 11, 2001, backs of seats in the Benson contain the names of the nearly 3,000 victims.

I was actually at home taking a nap when this happened. [My wife] Mona woke me up to tell me about it, and I immediately turned on the news. It was so surreal and so sad. Only a year before the Association of American Colleges and University Programs had elected me as secretary treasurer. This position made me somewhat of a spokesman for the 40-plus university programs that have an international branch in Florence like HUF. I was immediately bombarded that afternoon with newspaper journalists calling asking for interviews. The Scandicci community organized a meeting and a moment of silence for victims and for the United States and the world. The U.S. Consulate, with some of the commercial entities, called to start talking about how we could help and what precautions we needed to take. The HUF students were to leave for Florence the next day, so we started organizing what to do with them with Dr. [Jeffrey] Hopper. It was a day full of emotions, unbelievable television views and many prayers.

★ ROBBIE SHACKELFORD ('82)
director of Harding University in Florence

I was on my way to teach class when I heard the news of the 9/11 attacks. A television was posted in the Reynolds music hallway downstairs, and we stood watching as the second plane flew into the second Twin Tower. We were also watching live when the first tower came crashing down. I could not help but worry about our students who would undoubtedly be called into service to respond to this "act of war." I also could not help but draw comparisons to two other historic events that caught people by surprise and changed our world: the bombing of Pearl Harbor as announced by President Roosevelt over the radio and the assassination of President Kennedy carried live over radio and TV.

★ DR. CYNTHIA CARRELL
assistant professor of music

My husband and I were driving on the Houston Beltway when we heard the news flash on the car radio. I was on my way to a real estate meeting in downtown Houston, but when I arrived at the building, I was told it was being closed due to the Twin Tower crashes. Shocked and horrified at what we were hearing on the radio, yet not fully realizing the magnitude of the nightmarish tragedy, we sat in our car and prayed for the families involved in the Twin Towers catastrophe.

My cell phone rang, and I will never forget the voice or the words from the other end of the line. It was our son.

I was a senior at Harding. I had just finished a midterm and had gone into the student center for a cup of coffee. I saw that everyone was gathered around the TV, so I went to see what was going on.

I saw the first tower burning and the scrolling headlines that an airplane had crashed into it. My next class was with Robin Miller, and he chose not to lecture but instead said that some things take precedence over one day of class. So instead we talked about what was happening (the buildings were still burning at this point), we talked about what we thought might happen and, as is only possible at a place like Harding, we prayed together as a class.

★ JEFFERY SPRULL ('02)

"Hi Mom. Just want you to know I've landed and am OK. Did you hear about the planes crashing into the Twin Towers?"

Being a pilot for Continental Airlines, he was en route from Houston to Newark, N.J., that morning but thankfully was rerouted to land at another airport immediately and instructed not to proceed to Newark.

As my husband drove down the beltway not far from Bush International, he drew my attention to the eerie quietness of the skies above. No sounds or sights of planes in their normal, everyday take off and landing patterns overhead. The calm and stillness of the sky was like the reassurance of our sovereign God speaking in a still small voice, "I know."

★ KAYE MORGAN
American Heritage Conference Center director

Sept. 11, 2001, was the scariest day of my life. I thought I'd lost my father in a senseless attack on our country. I was very blessed that day. My dad decided to stay home and tile the kitchen floor. We have more pictures of that kitchen than any other kitchen we'd ever had. My father is in the Air Force and worked at the Pentagon along with the parents of about 20 percent of my high school.

The stories of that day that really got me were the ones of weird coincidence. My dad's entire department was scheduled for a meeting in that wing, but he canceled it to stay home. Because of that, his entire department was spared. My friend's dad had decided to go fishing. Another friend's mom had a cold and called in sick. Only 189 people died in the attack on the Pentagon. While that may seem like a lot, approximately 23,000 people worked there. That means less than 1 percent of the people working there actually died. The plane hit the west side of the building, the only side to have been remodeled with Kevlar plating in the walls. This was the only wing that could have stopped that plane from going completely through. God's presence was so evident.

Through all the heartache and sadness and loss, God was there, protecting.

★ MEGAN JACKSON
human resources assistant

On Sept. 11th, my community practice class was on its way down to Little Rock to visit social workers in various agencies. We heard the news before we left but did not know what it meant. As we went through our day we'd try to catch glimpses on televisions that we passed. It was not until we got back that we were able to find out the magnitude. I remember sitting in the dorm room glued to the television and being worried about what was coming next and about my mother who worked in the tallest building in Indianapolis because we didn't know where was going to be hit next.

★ SARAH NEWMAN WADE ('02)

My wife, Karen, and I were in Changsha, China, in Hunan Province when we learned of the events of 9/11. We were in our apartment on the campus of Central South University. It was morning in the U.S. but late at night in China.

We didn't often watch television because the programming was in Chinese. However, that night I turned on the TV and did a little channel surfing. Suddenly, my attention was drawn to what looked like a plane crashing into the World Trade Center in New York City. My first reaction was to think this couldn't be real. But then there were replays. What I was hearing was Chinese commentary over a feed from the Asian version of CNN. Faintly in the background I could hear some of the English commentary with the word "terrorist." I called Karen in, and we spent a couple of hours until after midnight trying to figure out what was happening. We also were able to pick up some information from the BBC and Voice of America on my little shortwave radio.

Just before noon the next day, we took a taxi to the Grand Sun City Hotel and found a place where they had a TV. »

We asked them if we could watch CNN, and they immediately turned the channel to CNN, turned up the volume, and turned the angle of the TV toward a table where we were sitting. We ordered pizza and Coke and spent a couple of hours watching the continuous CNN coverage in English.

★ DR. MILO HADWIN ('61)
Chinese student life administrator

I was in coach Charlie Carroll's ('79) science class at Ahlf Junior High in Searcy when he came through the door in a hurry and flipped the television on. When he didn't pop in singing the Temptations "My Girl," we all knew something was going on. Concerned glances were exchanged while he flipped through the channels, and we all fell silent when he found the news. We watched with wide eyes as the second airplane crashed into the World Trade Center. We cried together as we saw people jumping from the windows. Walking through the hallways the rest of the day, you could hear a pin drop. We skipped tests. We didn't have classes. We just watched and prayed.

★ CASSIE JONES
administrative assistant to the executive vice president

Shortly before 9 a.m. on Sept. 11, I was getting ready to go to Tuesday morning ladies Bible class when the phone rang. It was my daughter, Becky Tilton ('92), calling from Midland, Texas. When I answered, she immediately said, "Mom, I know you don't have your TV on, so turn it on!" I soon understood why as I tuned in just in time to see the second plane crash into the Twin Towers. Along with the rest of the country, I was horrified at the events that unfolded before our eyes during the course of the day. I could not go to sleep that night until I had talked with each of our four children, all hundreds of miles away at that time. None was near New York City, but my mother's heart needed to hear their voices and know they were OK.

★ STELLA KREH
account manager

I was in sixth grade. We had just arrived at school and were proceeding just like any other day. My teacher got a call from her son who was a senior at my school. The senior class takes an annual trip to Washington D.C. and New York City, and he called his mom to tell her that he was OK but was on his way straight back home to Tennessee with the rest of the class. The seniors had driven past the Pentagon just a short while before

the airplane had crashed into it and were on their way to New York. They quickly turned the bus around when they received the news of the tragedy in New York.

We watched the news for the rest of the morning — our class just sitting in silence at the disbelief. I remember seeing signs on the way home on every restaurant and building saying "God bless America." I was glad to see America banding together against the terrorists and praying for those that were affected. It was an experience that I will never forget and a story I will tell my children one day.

★ MELISSA JENNINGS
senior

I was in the fourth grade. I knew nothing about the attacks until the night when I went home, and my sister rushed in and turned on the TV. I will never forget what I saw. Looking back, I can see how the moment changed my perspective on so many things. There I was, a child, watching a horrific sight and trying to comprehend what was going on. The scene I remember most vividly was a scene of a small girl crying because she couldn't find her parents. I remember crying and asking my mom why God would let this happen. She told me that God had a purpose, and he would make sure everything was OK. The next few weeks at school I remembered a fireman's boot being passed around for donations. I donated all of the money in my piggy bank. There are some things that you will never forget. Sept. 11th is one of those things.

★ SHANNON GOCHENOUR
sophomore

I was a pharmacist working in a retail pharmacy. I called another pharmacy in town, and the pharmacist asked me if I had heard about the plane crash in New York City. I had not since we did not have TV or radio access. It was frustrating because we could not get any information or see any of the pictures. Nobody really knew what was going on. People started coming in to the pharmacy urgently requesting medicine so we could not close the pharmacy.

I was serving as district manager of the Searcy Social Security Administration District Office. We were in a staff meeting when we received the report. We began to monitor the news for information. Because we were a federal installation, we went on a heightened state of alert and soon were ordered to close for the day. All of us felt shock and disbelief at what had occurred on American soil.

★ DAN NEWSOM ('74)

When I went to lunch I couldn't get back to the pharmacy because people were lined up waiting to get gas from the station in front of the pharmacy. I was pregnant with my second child, and it was scary to think about bringing a child into a world with violent terrorist threats. There was no air traffic for several days, and it was very strange to walk outside and not see or hear any airplanes. It was a time of uncertainty although it brought closeness and renewed patriotism to all Americans.

★ DR. RAYANNE STORY
assistant professor of pharmacy practice

Our family had moved to Boston. The morning of 9/11, I drove the car into Boston to attend classes in my doctoral program at Boston University. My wife, Donna, called me to tell me that something terrible had happened in the country and that I should come home as soon as I could. When I got out of class, Boston was like a ghost town. The streets were empty, as most of the downtown area had evacuated for fear that other attacks on skyscrapers in large cities might be imminent. We who were in Boston were particularly sensitive to the situation since two of the three planes that were used as weapons that day left from Logan Airport in Boston. Like many others, we sat in front of the TV and watched the replays and live reports of what had happened.

★ DR. SHAWN DAGGETT ('82)
director for the Center for World Missions

Jeremy Kemp ('01) and I had left early that morning for the Graduate School in Memphis to perform computer maintenance. When the news broke on the radio, we were skeptical at first. Then we stopped for coffee to learn of the horror happening at that moment. When we got to the Graduate School, everyone was in front of television sets watching events unfold. The feeling was one of helplessness and uncertainty. When we broke for lunch, we went to a fast food establishment, and everyone in there was coming together like our family had been violated. The spirit of unity among strangers was overwhelming, and it seemed our petty differences really didn't matter any longer.

Like most Americans, we went through all of the stages of grief in a short period, but ended up with a spirit of hope. It was a terrible, yet amazing, day.

★ DALE WARREN
lead technician for client support

It was my senior year at Harding. I lived two blocks off-campus with my best friend Daisha Stockstill Sheets ('02). Shortly after 8 a.m., our phone rang; Mom's voice trembled as she told me that two airplanes had flown into the World Trade Center. Newscasters were calling it a terrorist attack. I hung up the phone and rushed to tell Daisha. Being too cheap to pay for cable, we kept the radio turned up as we finished our morning routine. Before leaving the apartment we heard reports something had happened in Washington, D.C., too.

Daisha and I walked in stiff silence to campus. What was there to say? The unthinkable had happened. America was under attack.

The Benson was quieter than normal upon entry, but it was clear many students had no idea of the terror transpiring in New York and D.C. Dr. Burks stepped to the microphone as the ringing bell ceased. He told of the planes hitting the Twin Towers and the Pentagon. A heartbeat skipped. Absolute silence. One pin dropping would have crashed like thunder.

At that time we did not know the first tower had fallen or that the second tower was not far behind. We did not know the passengers of Flight 93 would bravely take matters into their own hands. We did know America was under siege, and there was only one place to turn: God. We bowed our heads in prayer for our country.

★ HANNAH DIXON WOOD ('02)
circulation librarian

I was getting ready to leave Searcy with a group of students for HUF. We were scheduled to leave Sept. 12. I was doing some last minute things on the computer, my wife, Jan, was packing, and she called to me, "Duane, come look at this. A plane has hit the twin towers in New York." I paid no attention. I was busy and a little irritated at the interruption. I figured it was a little single engine plane off course. She called again, and I went into the living room to see what the excitement was about. Needless to say, we did not get away to Florence on time. About two weeks later, with a schedule that was considerably altered, we did get away. In spite of it all, we had a great semester. ■

★ DR. DUANE WARDEN ('65)
professor emeritus



Honoring internationally

International political science honor society Pi Sigma Alpha made a special contribution to the American Studies Institute's annual Sept. 11 flag display this year. The group began collecting and raising money in the spring semester to purchase 381 flags to symbolize the victims of that tragic day from foreign countries.

"We believe it will call attention to the fact that the 9/11 attacks were targeted primarily at the United States, but it was an attack against the world," says Dr. Mark Elrod, Pi Sigma Alpha sponsor and professor of political science.

The flags they collected honor the 381 victims from 55 different foreign countries. Some of the flags were donated by their respective country embassies and others were donated by individuals and area organizations.



Remembrance hits home

In the days leading up to the 10th anniversary of Sept. 11, students, faculty, staff, and members of the Searcy community rallied together to remember the fallen, give to those in need, and encourage one another. These are just a few of the ways they served.

- ★ Flags were placed around the Administration Auditorium fountain.
- ★ A special remembrance chapel was held Friday, Sept. 9.
- ★ The city of Searcy dedicated a 9/11 memorial to firefighters and first responders who died in the collapse of the Twin Towers.
- ★ The name of every person that died in the attacks was placed on a seat in the Benson Auditorium, and attendees represented and honored each victim at the reflection program held Sept. 11.
- ★ Money was donated to Mana and United Way
- ★ Random acts of kindness were shared with people in many states and Greece.

Overall, 16,819 volunteers were involved in the various acts of service carried out during the weekend.



1969

Dan Price retired from coaching and teaching at Kingwood High School and has released his third novel, *What the Altar Boy Heard*. He had his first signing at Barnes and Noble in Humble, Texas, June 18, where his fourth novel, *How a Cockroach Saved a Deadman*, was announced. (14122 Wood Stork Court, Houston, TX 77044)

Granville Sewell is assistant chairman of the mathematics department at University of Texas, El Paso. He spoke at a conference at Cornell University based on his book *In the Beginning and Other Essays on Intelligent Design*. (3807 Waymore Drive, El Paso, TX 79902)

1971

Bob Evridge is a real estate broker for Hop Bailey Co. in Knoxville, Tenn., after retiring from a career in education. His wife, Jan, is a vice president with Federal Home Bank. They have two daughters. (8200 Bennington Drive, Knoxville, TN 37909)

Kay Peppers Shelby retired after 39 years of teaching. She was named Teacher of the Year twice at Highland Elementary School in West Monroe, La. She and her husband, David, have two children. (1127 Wall Williams Road, West Monroe, LA 71290)

1973

Dan and Katherine Mitchell Cooper were honored by the



Christian Chronicle with the Christian Service Award at Pepperdine University Bible Lectures in May. They have served churches of Christ in New Jersey since 1973. For 27 years, Dan has preached for Pitman Church of Christ. They have three children. (603 N. Broadway, Pitman, NJ 080871; DCooper@coChrist.org)

1976

Wanda Gooden is director of student support services at Arkansas State University-Heber Springs. She and her husband, **Rodney** ('81), have three children. (11 Cloverdale Blvd., Searcy, AR 72143)

1978

Daryl Bassett has been appointed president of Solar Acquisition Corp. He sat on the Arkansas Public Service Commission from 2003-2009. During his

tenure with the Commission, he also was a member of the National Association of Regulators Utilities Commissioners. He has worked in collaborating state and federal efforts as a

World travelers

As a boy, **John Davis** ('60) dreamed of adventures. "I had always wanted to go to Alaska," he says. "After **Peggy [Hinds]** ('62) and I got married during my last year of college, we were planning on moving there." It was during that time that the Davises saw an ad for the Peace Corp. They applied and were accepted, making John the first Harding student and Peggy the first Indiana State University student to become members.

After going through training at Georgetown University, the group was invited to the White House by President Kennedy. "That was a neat trip. [Kennedy] spoke to the group, and we were able to tour the White House without the ropes guarding the doors," says John.

While in Gondar, Ethiopia, the couple taught in the local school. "There were 300 Peace Corp volunteers in Ethiopia that year, and we were able to double the high school enrollment," says Peggy.

During their training, they were prepared to live in similar conditions to the Ethiopians they were living among. "Our house was 24 feet square. It was basically stone but it was cemented with a mud and manure mixture, whitewashed on the inside. It had running water and an outside toilet," says John.

Their pay was equal, too. "Our salary was \$120 a month and was based on the salary that Ethiopian teachers would make," Peggy says. "The lifestyle was supposed to be comparative to those we were with." Adds John, "You don't want to come in and be above them."

One unique aspect to the school was the group of girls to whom Peggy taught home economics. "Of the 800 students we had, about 30 of them were girls," says Peggy. "It was unusual for girls to be in school. They were all enthusiastic to learn, were motivated to be able to make money, and have a job prepared for them. I also taught them typing to have as a job skill."

After leaving Ethiopia, the Davises returned home to Indiana, later moving to Alaska to teach for 18 years. "Our Ethiopia experience and training made us very keenly aware of individual dignity, of the importance of respect to every human, and the need for every person to demonstrate their competence, worth and value," says Peggy. "These attributes helped us out in Alaska because although they were almost exactly half a world apart, all of those same needs were so vital for us to acknowledge. It helped to bridge cultural gaps."

John spent a year at the South Pole as a scientist and mechanic working on telescopes, making him the oldest man to winter over at the South Pole. "Peggy stayed home that time. She said she'd followed me long enough by that point," says John. "We still travel a lot. I've been in 35 countries. And that sounds good until I hear that Dr. [Cliff] Ganus has passed 100. I've been to every continent except for South America," says John, which leaves them with plenty more stamps to collect in their passports. **H**

— Jennifer Hannigan



member of the Federal Communications Commission Federal Task Force on Accounting, as chairman of the FCC Task Force on Diversity in Telecommunications, and as vice president of the Southeastern America Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners. (3911 Batesville Pike, Sherwood, AR 72120)

Teresa Burns Murphy's novel, *The Secret to Flying*, was published this summer. She and her husband, Dan, have a daughter. (11427 Abner Ave., Fairfax, VA 22030; teresa@teresaburnsmurphy.com)

1981

Julie Swan Gibb is vice president of academic services at Carl Sandburg College. Prior to accepting this position, she was a professor of speech and English for 24 years and served as associate dean of humanities/performing arts for five years. (2294 Catherine St., Galesburg, IL 61401)

1982

Sheila Cox Sullivan was named Federal Employee of the Year in science and medicine for the state of Arkansas. She is the associate nurse executive/research at Central

Arkansas Veterans Health Care System in Little Rock. She is a member of the Arkansas Nurses' association and Sigma Theta Tau International. She serves on a VHA national committee promoting evidence-based practice, the Steering Committee of the National Nursing Practice Network, and with the American Nurses Association research cooperative development group. She has traveled to Gonaives, Haiti, five times to provide nursing care and is on the board of Ghana, West Africa Missions. Her husband, Barry, is a grants coordinator for the Arkansas Department of Human Services. They have three children. (10 Palmer Court, Searcy, AR 72143)

1983

Tomy Sitton is the cross-country and track and field coach for East Jackson Comprehensive High School. He has served as president of the Track/Cross-Country Coaches of Georgia

and started the Track/Cross-Country Coaches of Georgia Hall of Fame inductions for athletes and coaches. He also sits on the U.S. Track and Field's national men's executive long distance running committee. He coached the USA Elite men's team to a bronze medal in Japan in 2005. (3940 Suwanee Place Drive, Suwanee, GA 30024)

1984

James Sudbury ('78) married **Lisa Oglesby Swanson** Dec. 29, 2010. James is managing partner of ACMR, a business consulting firm, and Lisa is a corporate trainer at Avizent, a risk management company, and owner/chief instructor at North Texas Kenshin Kan. They have four children. (209 W. Moore Ave, #201, Terrell, TX 75160)

1985

Leslie Clonch is vice president and chief information officer for University Health Care System. He is a member of the Health Information Management Systems Society and the College of Health Information Management Executives. He holds the designation of Certified Health Care Chief Information Officer. (6536 Shady Point Drive, Plano, TX 75024)

1988

Angela Collins Caldwell was honored as the Outstanding Dietitian of the Year at the Arkansas Dietetic Association Conference in Little Rock in April. She and her husband, Rick, have two children. (730 Hoelscher Lane, Pochahontas, AR 72455)

1991

Gray Dillard is chief financial officer and treasurer for Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield. He was a member of the Hot Springs 50 for the Future and completed the Leadership Hot Springs Program where he served as treasurer. He works with the Maumelle Sports Association where he coaches youth baseball, basketball and softball. He and his wife, **Elizabeth Doyle**, have three children. (107 Quapaw Trail, Maumelle, AR 72113)

Kristine Witzeling Morris was promoted to assistant clinical professor of nursing at Texas Woman's University in Dallas. She also achieved recognition

[ALMA MATTERS]

Students serve in life and in death

By LIZ HOWELL, assistant to the president for alumni and parent relations

Janet Flath did not attend the University; she only worked in the cafeteria but her life was changed because she loved Harding students. She was vivacious, upbeat, never met a stranger nor forgot anyone whom she met. When Zach Neal ('01) was a student, he knew her as the "ice cream lady."

To Neal's surprise, when he returned to work in Student Life after many years, Flath remembered him.

While working at Harding, Greg Holliman met Flath and began a friendship that lasted 19 years. Holliman was disabled from an auto accident that killed his parents, and Flath was a great source of strength, support and encouragement for him.

More than 10 years ago, Flath was injured in a freak accident that left her a paraplegic. People urged her to sue, but she refused. "If I sued, I might get a little money, but that won't bring my health back," she said.

Because of their health and disabilities, both Flath and Holliman could no longer work. Finances were always tight. She became very resourceful in finding ways to both have meals and survive. They never missed Westside Church of Christ's SAME (So All May Eat) Café, College Church of Christ's Caring and Sharing meals, student suppers, potlucks, open houses or special events.

Holliman would bring her to campus to movies, ballgames or just push her in her wheelchair through the student center. "When she was feeling down, we came to Harding. The students

were her joy, and they would always make her feel better. Corey McEntyre ('07) would give us movie tickets sometimes while other students would talk to us and treated us with kindness," explained Holliman.

Flath was a great encourager with her cards, newspaper clippings and letting people know she was praying for their unborn babies or for their loved ones who were sick. I was fortunate to be a recipient of this part of her ministry and humbled by her caring spirit. On Medicaid because of her disability, she arranged for students to be hired as her caregivers.

As the time for her death drew near, she took care of all of the arrangements and went to people she could count on — former and current Harding students. She contacted Cindy Hunter and Emily Myers ('01) for her burial clothes. They worked with Delta Gamma Rho social club who took up a collection and bought her clothes. She loved to draw and color so some of the money collected by DGR went to buy markers, coloring books, a drawing pad and a huge pack of crayons. Another need was met when DGR member Emily Blake sewed two gowns together for a better fit.

Following her death, Robin Miller ('77) and his wife, Donna Jo, did her makeup. Neal led the memorial service. Regina and Chi Sigma Alpha social clubs are providing the upkeep of her grave.

Flath touched countless lives, and many anonymously provided love and support. By the world's standard, she had very little and barely survived. She would be the first to disagree because of the joy she received from her Harding family. **H**

from the National League for Nursing as a certified nurse educator. Her husband, Marshall, is a fourth-grade teacher at Carrollton Christian Academy. They have three children. (8901 Smokey Drive, Plano, TX 75025)

1993

Troy Foster is a doctor of osteopathic medicine, specializing in physical medicine and rehabilitation. His wife, Jayne, is a physical therapist. (3900 Collinwood Ave., Fort Worth, TX 76107)

Shawn Hart is senior minister for Garden Valley Church of Christ. He and his wife, Kristen, have four children. (1020 W. Fromdahl Drive, Roseburg, OR 97471)

1994

Raymond Henson was named Career Development Facilitator Champion by the National Career Development Association July 1. He is one of two people nationally honored with this award for his work promoting career development education and works for the Arkansas Department of Career Education as education and instruction manager for career guidance, exploration and preparation. He and his wife, **Elizabeth George** ('96), have two children. (5475 Highway 319 W., Austin, AR 72007)

Shannon and Tracy Harvey Simmons announce the birth of a son, Archer Elijah, April

15. Shannon is a therapist at Heartland Behavioral Health Hospital and has a small private counseling practice, Shepherd's Touch Counseling, and Tracy homeschools their other eight children. (605 W. Hickory, Nevada, MO 64772; 2godsglory@sbcglobal.net)

1995

Tom ('96) and **Kathy Shappard Wright** announce the birth of a daughter, Avery Frances, Jan. 11. They have three other children, Anna, Abby and Alex. Tom is the IT manager for Memphis Gastroenterology Group, and Kathy is a homemaker. (3694 Haynes Road, Bartlett, TN 38133)



Making an IMPACT

By JENNIFER HANNIGAN

Influential, successful, inspiring and creative — these are just some of the words that can be used to describe the following list of Harding graduates. Now these honorees can list two more: distinguished and outstanding. Each year, graduates who have proven themselves within their field are honored at the Black and Gold Banquet Homecoming weekend. The following have earned the respect of those around them while actively serving God, family and community.

► DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS

Serving as minister for Camp Creek Church of Christ in Atlanta, **Dr. Howard Wright** ('68) has made it his mission to help those in need. He has preached in churches across the country, including Arkansas, New York and Pennsylvania.

In addition to his ministerial duties, Wright formerly held the position of executive director of Target Youth Centers, a Long Island-based program responsible for juvenile delinquency prevention, court diversion and drug prevention. Wright trained community volunteers and students in mediation and conflict resolution to assist young people in trouble with the court system.

Wright holds gospel meetings and speaks in many regional and national lectureships. He served as coordinator of Crusade for Christ, an evangelistic endeavor sponsored by churches of Christ, when it was held in Atlanta.

He is a clinical family therapist and licensed clinical social worker, facilitating marriage and family workshops with his wife, Claudine. He lectures on human relations symposiums and social work seminars, conducts mediation and conflict resolution workshops, and peer leadership workshops for public schools.

Under Wright's leadership, the Camp Creek Church initiated a male mentoring program for boys in the congregation and neighborhood schools. With concerned male volunteers, these at-risk boys are receiving precious modeling and guidance at a critical time in their lives.

Wright and his wife have three children and four grandchildren.

► OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNA

Liza Freeman ('02) **Wright** has worked in various congressional, senatorial and state offices. She is currently employed by The Winrock Group Inc.

Wright serves as chair of Harding's President's Council and works in coordinating President's Council meetings, activities and communication with its 1,200 members. The members not only provide scholarships to students but are goodwill ambassadors and recruiters, helping graduates with their professional careers and assisting with the University's strategic plan.

This year Wright co-chaired the Big Brothers Big Sisters Toast and Roast to benefit children in need of a mentor to fill the role of a missing adult in their lives. She has served on the board for five years and now serves as secretary.

Wright is a graduate of the Little Rock Chamber of Commerce's Leadership program and serves on the Leadership Greater Little Rock Alumni board where she is past chair. She was selected by Little Rock's magazine *Soiree* and featured as a "Woman to Watch" in 2009.

Wright is the corresponding secretary for Daughters of the American Revolution and a member of the Arkansas Arts Center.

She and her husband, Chris, are active at Pleasant Valley Church of Christ in Little Rock, Ark.



Dr. Howard Wright



Liza Wright

► OUTSTANDING ALUMNI



Dr. Scott Mills Dr. Tiffany Brooks Arlin Hendrix Bruce Binkley Dr. Betty Watson Jennifer Huntley Dick Carter

College of Allied Health
Dr. Scott Mills ('84) is an audiologist and owner of Carolina Hearing Doctors, a private audiology practice in Winston-Salem, N.C. The practice provides hearing aids, care and protection for its patients. Mills received his Doctor of Audiology degree in the inaugural class of the audiology doctoral program at University of Florida School of Health Sciences.

In addition to his work within the practice, Mills also serves as president of the North Carolina Academy of Audiology and as a board member of the North Carolina Speech-Language-Hearing Association and American Academy of Audiology Government Relations Board. He also received a governor appointment to the North Carolina Hearing Loss Advocacy Task Force.

Within the community, Mills is a deacon at South Fork Church of Christ where he and his wife, Sue Ann Morgan, attend. The couple has three children, Brittany Sullivan, Emilee and Thomas, all of whom are students at the University.

College of Arts & Humanities
 As senior writer for One-Eighty Communications, **Dr. Tiffany Yecke** ('01) **Brooks** has been lead writer for a number of books, many of them going on to become New York Times bestsellers. Titles such as *Play It Like You Mean It: Passion, Laughs and Leadership in the World's Most Beautiful Game* (with Rex Ryan) and *I Beat the Odds: From Homelessness, to the Blind Side, and Beyond* (with Michael Oher) are just some of the works she has helped produce.

In addition to her writing experience, Brooks has taught in many university settings, teaching literature, drama and composition. She also makes appearances at presentations across the country speaking on literary topics.

Brooks and her husband, A.J., live in Meridian, Miss.

College of Bible & Religion
 Currently serving as visiting missionary for Oklahoma Christian University, **Arlin Hendrix** ('70) has devoted most of his life to evangelizing in France. He began his time in the country as a Bible teacher at Centre d'Enseignement Biblique in Lyon, France, and still maintains that post along with maintaining the Bible correspondence courses sent throughout the French-speaking world, whether as a hard copy or online.

Recently, Hendrix has begun marriage seminars in the country. He has traveled to other countries, including Belgium, the Czech Republic, Germany and Switzerland, as a speaker and lecturer on many occasions.

Hendrix and his wife, Pamela, together have four children, Jana Johnston, Karen Love, Daniel and Nathan, and seven grandchildren.

College of Business Administration
 Upon arriving at T.D. Williamson Inc. in 1987 as tax manager, **Bruce Binkley** ('80) has held several positions and serves as president and chief executive officer of the company. Binkley was named president and chief operating officer in 2005 and was later appointed as CEO in 2008. He joined the TDW board of directors in 2004.

Binkley has more than 29 years of experience in financial and operations management with companies such as Phillips Petroleum, Unit Rig and Equipment and TDW. His broad scope of experience includes extensive knowledge of manufacturing and service operations, and business development.

Binkley also serves as the president of the Indian Nations Council of the Boy Scouts of America and a board member

of the Tulsa Area Chamber of Commerce and the Tulsa Area United Way. He is a founding member of the Broken Arrow Economic Development Commission and past board member of Hope Harbor Children's Home.

Binkley and his wife, Kim White, have four children, Shannon Grodin Poynot, Taylor, Jordan and Kyle, all of whom are alumni of the University.

College of Education
 Since fall 1968, **Dr. Betty Work** ('64) **Watson** taught at Harding until her retirement at the end of the 2011 school year. Watson's focus was on language arts for elementary and early childhood curriculum. She taught courses in emergent literacy; language arts; correcting reading difficulties; family, school and community; foundation of early childhood education; and the course for which she is probably best known — children's literature.

Watson served as director of the early childhood program at the University beginning in 1997. She was also awarded distinguished professor status for her outstanding teaching abilities. She served as main contributor to writing for the College of Education's NCATE visits, allowing the early childhood program to achieve national accreditation.

Watson holds memberships in the National Association for the Education of Young Children, Southern Early Childhood Association, and the International Reading Association. She is a regular speaker at state, regional and national conferences for each organization.

Watson and husband, Zearl, have two sons, David and Zac, and two grandchildren.

College of Nursing
 For **Jennifer Latham** ('98) **Huntley**, her professional journey has taken as many turns

as her life has. Huntley began as a nurse at Arkansas Children's Hospital in the pediatric cardiovascular intensive care unit, moving on to work with IntelliStaff travel nursing for adult intensive care. She then diverged into farming blackberries with her husband, Mark.

During the birth of her daughter, though, Huntley's life changed, and she was partially paralyzed, able only to walk on completely flat surfaces without excruciating pain. She has not let the obstacle hinder her dreams, though. She works as a title insurance underwriter with her husband's law firm, maintains the couple's snake breeding business, and operates Jennifer Huntley Photography.

She and her husband have three children, Braxton, Asher and Tennyson.

College of Sciences
 After graduation in 1961, **Dick Carter** began his career serving in the U.S. Army as a research lab technician within the medical unit. He later moved on to become a microbiologist for the U.S. Army biological laboratory where he led investigations to study the growth response of various viral strains. Stemming from his army days, Carter moved into work with the National Cancer Institute, becoming deputy general manager and later facility manager.

Carter has received several awards during his career, including the **Federal Energy and Water Management Award** and the **National Institutes of Health Award of Merit**.

He served as elder from 1980-2007 of Fredrick (Md.) Church of Christ as well as on the American Cancer Society and Veteran's Club of Frostburg State University.

Carter and his wife, Sandra, have three children, Shelley Lynn Sunkel, Troy and Ryan Carter — all of whom are alumni — and five grandchildren.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

SUBMITTED PHOTOS. WATSON PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY



1996

Chad and **Tamara Bledsoe Austin** announce the birth of a daughter, Emily Bell, July 3. They also have two sons, Connor and Ethan. (7803 S.W. 51st Blvd., Gainesville, FL 32608)

Debie Burlison Head was named Outstanding Dietetic Educator of the Year at the Arkansas Dietetic Association Conference in Little Rock in April. She was also named the incoming president for the Arkansas Dietetic Association. (3760 Little Rock Road, Rose Bud, AR 72137)

1997

Sergei ('00) and Wendy Nickols Brajnik announce the birth of a daughter, Ellery Marie, Jan. 24. They have three other children, Delaney, Landon and Rylan. Sergei is an originations manager for Santander Consumer USA, and Wendy is an elementary school teacher in Denton Independent School District. (4400 Shadow Oak Drive, Corinth, TX 76208)

Andrew and Jaime Hill announce the birth of a daughter, Lucia Grace, April 22. (Huatengyuan 11-1005, Courtyard 54, E.S. Third Ring Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100022, People's Republic of China)

Julie Wright Munsell joined the communications team of



Entergy Arkansas Inc. as chief spokesperson for the company. Her husband is Scott. (1504

Winbourne Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72116)

Scott and **Alyssa Rickard Pakulski** announce the adoption of a daughter, Selena Josephine, April 6. She was born April 1. Scott is a systems analyst for Visteon Corp., and Alyssa teaches English for Livonia Public Schools. (7595 Abigail Drive, Superior Township, MI 48198)

1998

Linda Benthall married Ian Zelnick May 20. Linda is site director for Lipscomb University's global learning program. (1913 Seminole Ave., Nashville, TN 37211)

Clint Jones is superintendent of County Line School District,

and his wife, **Lorie Baker ('97)**, teaches first grade at County Line Elementary. They have two children, Hannah and Luke. (202 Washington Drive, Charleston, AR 72933)

1999

Justin "Scott" and Lezlie Russell Bradford announce the birth of a son, Andrew Russell, Jan. 9. They also have a daughter, Addison. (14903 Blue Egret Drive, Cypress, TX 77422)

Tim ('94) and Erin Cox announce the adoption of a son, Sullivan Joseph Matthew, June 17. He was born March 8. They also have a daughter, Corban. Tim is a full-time graphic designer on a government contract and also an adjunct professor in the art department at Harding. Erin is a homemaker. (212 Billy Davis Drive, Searcy, AR 72143)

Jeff Fall is a senior software developer for Dell. He and his wife, Jaime, have three children, Allie, Aubree and Ayden. (300 South A.W. Grimes, #20103, Round Rock, TX 78664)

Kelly and **Karie Stewart Green** announce the birth of a son, Paxton James. Kelly is a cardiology fellow at Vanderbilt, and Karie is a homemaker. They have three other children, Annie, Daniel and Hudson. (760 Cowan Drive, Nolensville, TN 37135)

Matthew ('97) and Dallas Hill Henderson announce the birth of a son, Rives Matthew, May 17. They also have two daughters, Nora and Elyn. (2907 Blue Hill Drive, Rogers, AR 72758)

Billy ('01) and Stacey Dempsey Neal announce the birth of a son, William Tuillus, April 23. They have four other children, Suzannah, Molly Beth, Jack and Charley Kate. (201 Michelle Drive, Longview, TX 75605; neal-family4@yahoo.com)

Seth ('00) and Lovie Watson Sellers announce the birth of a son, Hooper Isaiah, March 10. They have another son, Tobin. Seth is a veterinarian, and Lovie is a homemaker. (404 Stetson Court, Brighton, CO 80601)

2000

Jonathan ('01) and Jennifer Hutchinson Gorham announce the birth of a daughter, Eden Deborah, Dec. 11, 2010. They also have a son, Malachi. Jona-

than is a clinical psychologist in the Air Force, and Jennifer is a provisionally licensed psychologist. (2100 Regent Drive, Abilene, TX 79605)

Ryan ('98) and Marlea Plante Hedden announce the birth of a son, Everett Ryan, Feb. 11. They also have a daughter, Kate. (1056 Willowood Ave., Goose Creek, SC 29445)

Dan and Crystal Jensen Whittington announce the birth of a son, Hudson Evan, April 6. They have two other children, Mia and Aidan. Dan is a financial adviser for Edward Jones, and Crystal is an assistant professor in the family and consumer sciences department at Harding. (108 Summerwood Drive, Searcy, AR 72143)

2001

Jon and **Shannon Fonville DeShazo** announce the birth of a daughter, Tabitha Kate, May 18. They have another daughter, Naomi Adele. Shannon is a family physician in McKinney, Texas. (2204 State Blvd., McKinney, TX 75071)

Jeff and Heather Worthy Goff announce the birth of a daughter, Liberty Annelouise, Nov. 11, 2010. They also have a son, Grady. Jeff is manager of sales training and process at Carefusion Inc., and Heather is a homemaker (17043 W. Cunningham Court, Libertyville, IL 60048)

David and **Katherine Gurr Hopkins** announce the birth of a son, Landon Cole, June 29, 2010. They have two other sons, Carson and Tucker. (40 Tralee Trace, Sharpsburg, GA 30277)

Clint ('03) and Martha Pupko Lercher announce the birth of twins, a son, Luke Alan, and a daughter, Calla Grey, Oct. 20, 2010. (6712 Greenwood, Little Rock, AR 72207)

Rob O'Lynn is assistant professor of preaching and ministry at Kentucky Christian University. He also is an interim minister for a congregation in Raceland and a chaplain at Cabell Huntington Hospital. He is working on his Doctor of Ministry in homiletics at Harding School of Theology. His wife, **Rachael Parsons ('03)**, completed her B.A. in history from Shawnee State University in Portsmouth, Ohio, in December 2010. She works at Gymboree and is working on her M.A. in history from

University of Nebraska at Kearney. They have two children. (312 Walnut St., Proctorville, Ohio 45669)

Josh Satterfield is a financial adviser with Edward Jones Investments. His wife, **Lauren Robinson ('02)**, is a homemaker. They have two sons, James and Jack. (13006 Beny Oak Drive, Woodway, TX 76712)

John ('04) and Tia Tarole Stone announce the birth of a son, Ashton John, Jan. 11. They have three other children, Abigail, Anthony and Anna Leigh. John is an assistant professor at Harding in the College of Business Administration, and Tia is a homemaker. (2 River Ridge Road, Searcy, AR 72143)

Katie Kwast Stoneman was elected to serve as an executive



board member for the Texas state-wide organization of speech-language pathologists and audiologists.

Her husband, **Michael**, works at Fannie Mae as a vendor manager. They have two daughters, Ava and Claire. (2815 Spanish Moss Trail, Frisco, TX 75034)

2002

Angela Adams married Regan Stoehr July 24, 2010. Angie is an obstetrician/gynecologist in St. Petersburg, Fla., and Regan is a manager for Wal-Mart. (11850 Ninth St., N., #4304, St. Petersburg, FL 33716)

Daniel and **Kristen Webster Demaree** announce the birth of a daughter, Jordyn Danielle, Sept. 30, 2010. They also have three other daughters, Sonya, Sage and Joelle. (8421 Randy Drive, North Richland Hills, TX 76182)

Jeremy ('04) and Jenni Woodward Knox announce the birth of a daughter, Hannah Joy, June 12. They have two other daughters, Summer and Abby. Jeremy is a category analyst at Wrigley Gum Co., and Jenni is a homemaker. (2342 Blue Ridge Ave., Brentwood, CA 94513)

Michael ('05) and Naomi Gill Wyant announce the birth of a daughter, Arden Sofia, June 30, 2009. They have three other children, Logan, Avery and Trevor. (401 Willoughby Lane, Collinsville, IL 62234)

Youngest mayor

Having the title "mayor" on your resume at the age of 24 isn't something just anyone can boast. But alumnus **Jeremy Wilson ('09)** was able to do just that on May 8, 2010, in his hometown of Blossom, Texas.



"The previous mayor held the office for eight years, and nothing was getting done," says Wilson. "I then decided I had the experience to be mayor since I had previously served on the city council at the age of 20 and knew what was going on."

Wilson won the election with 58 percent of the vote. From focusing on city-wide cleanup to working closely with the volunteer fire department, he has managed to accomplish much during his first year in office. The city attained a \$500,000 loan to install new water meters and restructure the water tower. Blossom's dam has been reconstructed as well, and the city is in the process of building a new city hall and three new baseball fields.

A lifelong resident of the town with a population just under 1,500, Wilson is the youngest mayor in Blossom history, the second-youngest mayor in Texas history, and the current youngest mayor in the U.S., a feat which earned him a mention in *Southern Living* magazine. Wilson is thrilled to be serving the community.

"I enjoy being involved in the city of Blossom at this level," he says. "It inspires me that people take my opinion seriously since I am so young. The youngest person next to me who serves on the city council is 56 years old. I enjoy politics in general — I love the challenge, and I love the experience I am getting for the next step in my career."

A business management major, Wilson graduated in December 2009. He moved back home and became a manager in training at Hibbett Sports in February — he still works there in addition to his duties as mayor. As for the future, Wilson says he still has a lot to accomplish before the next election in May 2012. If he doesn't run for re-election, he plans to run for a city council position to stay involved in the community.

"My next step would be to hold a county office and keep moving up from there. I would love to be elected to a state office. That is a dream of mine ... I can see myself in state government or even national government one day."

No matter where his career leads him, Wilson says his education and life at the University prepared him well to be mayor of Blossom.

"Harding taught me to have a Christian attitude no matter what happens. Since holding this position, I know I cannot make everyone happy. There have been many times when I thought, 'What I have gotten myself into?' But then God shows me why." ■ — Heather Williams

2003

Jared ('04) and Bethany Schackmann Culbertson announce the birth of a son, Ethan Matthew, July 14. They have three other children, Caleb, Abby and Andrew. Jared is a research mathematician, and Bethany is a homemaker. (3570 Jonathon Drive, Beavercreek, OH 45434)

Dean ('02) and Morgan Kimbrough Holt announce the birth of a son, Canaan James, April 12. They also have two daughters, Emmersen and Clara. Dean is the inside sales manager for Anixter Inc., and Morgan is a homemaker. (1670 Tartan Lane, Collierville, TN 38017)

Ryan ('02) and Allison Alex-

ander Kirksey announce the birth of a son, Jackson Alexander, April 17. They also have a daughter, Jordan Elisabeth. Ryan is administrative director for the Baker Institute of Public Policy at Rice University, and Allison is a homemaker. (1083 Gladstone Drive, League City, TX 77573).

Tavia Nicole Martin married Adam Carlucci Oct. 16, 2010. Tavia is working on her master's in counseling at Regent University, and Adam is serving in the U.S. Navy. (5933 Ludington Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23464)

David and Cara Sheumaker Mohundro announce the birth of a daughter, Daila Joy, June 9. David is a senior software engineer at ServiceU Corp., and Cara is a speech-language pathologist at LeBonheur Children's Hospital. (8737 Mt. Hill Drive, Lakeland, TN 38002)

John Phillip and Carmen Sutton Nabers announce the birth of a son, Jackson Phillip, Aug. 7, 2010. Phillip is a litigation specialist for Bank of America, and Carmen is a financial analyst for AmerisourceBergen Specialty Group. (6909 Whitestone Drive, McKinney, TX 75070)

Sarah Tunick married Christopher Nall, Sept. 4, 2010. Sarah is a kindergarten teacher, and Christopher is a mechanic for Ford Motors. (4313 Hewitt St., Greensboro, NC 27407)

2004

Daniel Johnson teaches French at Gallatin High School where he is a finalist for Tennessee Teacher of the Year. He and his wife, **Taylor Davis ('03)**, have a son. (107 LaVista Drive, Hendersonville, TN 37075)

Timothy and Stephanie Schuller Nance announce the birth of a son, Martin Shakespeare, May 2. They have another son, Henry. Timothy was Teacher of the Year in 2010-11 at Oakland High School, and Stephanie tutors French. (707 Lynn St., Murfreesboro, TN 37129)

Elizabeth Reding married Jeff Hine July 9. (3832 Florence Drive, #3, Alexandria, VA 22305; lizhine19@gmail.com)

2005

Daniel ('06) and Mallory Carta Haile announce the birth of a daughter, Audrey Linette, Dec. 16, 20 0. (2149 Loudenslager

Drive, Thompsons Station, TN 37179)

Blake and **Jessica Osborne Silvers** announce the birth of a daughter, Mallory Kate, April 1. (4 Round Rock Circle N.E., Rome, GA 30161)

Ryan Stork graduated with a Ph.D. in quantitative biology from the University of Texas at Arlington May 12. He and his wife, **Katy Keetch**, have a daughter, Annalee Karen. (5318 Rowcrop Drive, Arlington, TX 76017)

Michael ('07) and Natalie Wade Whitlow announce the birth of a son, Michael Dow III "Tripp," Nov. 23, 2010. (7660 S. Rosemary Court, Centennial, CO 80112)

2006

Amanda Berry married Adam Pfeiffer April 9. (335 Central Ave., #4, Sandusky, OH 44870)

Kellen and Lela Jones Kemp announce the birth of a son, Rylan Kenneth, March 2. They also have a daughter, Jacey Dae. Kellen is a graphic designer and animator for Weatherford International, and Lela is a homemaker and flute teacher. (21419 Park Bend Drive, Katy, TX 77450)

Andy and **Emily Burton Pennington** announce the birth of a son, Brooks Andrew, Sept. 25, 2010. (22 Waterloo Loop, Vilonia, AR 72173)

Luke and Lauren Moody Williams announce the birth of a son, Lawson Carter, Feb. 7. Luke is a physical therapist at Woodlawn Nursing Home. (20 Lake Oak Drive, Batesville, AR 72501)

2007

Benjamin ('04) and Vanessa Snyder Dowdy announce the birth of a son, Ethan Thomas, April 15. They have another son, Jackson. (2007 Polk Bayou Loop, Batesville, AR 72501)

Anthony and Jackie Thrapp Sofo announce the birth of a son, Ian Thomas, March 8. Anthony is an applications developer/analyst for Chesapeake Energy, and Jackie is a homemaker. (2309 N.W. 152nd St., Edmond, OK 73013)

2008

Byron "Dale" ('07) and Triston Graham Coley announce the birth of a daughter, Ayla Sloan, May



17. Dale is a teacher and coach at Boerne High School, and Triston is a nurse at Methodist Children's Hospital. (9603 Silver Moon, San Antonio, TX 78254)

2009

Slade ('07) and **Kendra Wallace Daniel** announce the birth of a son, Ryker Slade, Aug. 28, 2010. Slade is a district manager in Dallas for ADP TotalSource. (125 Cedar Springs Blvd., Sulphur Springs, TX 75482)

Chris ('11) and **Jana Bankston Mitchell** announce the birth of a son, Kage James, June 10. (417 Craig Drive, Searcy, AR 72143)

J. Danielle Woods married Carl Johnson March 19. Danielle is a substitute teacher, and Carl is the assistant manager at Edge Logistics. (513 E. Queens, Lubbock, TX 79403)

2011

Jacob Austin Schroeder ('10) married **Ashley Blake Ellis** July 30. Jacob is working on an M.B.A. degree from Oklahoma State University and Ashley is working on her M.B.A. degree at Oklahoma Christian University. (606 E. Redbud Drive, #163 S, Stillwater, OK 74075)

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

Opal Bean Baxter ('32), 103, died April 23. She also earned degrees from University of Houston and University of North Texas. She taught in five Texas schools during her 37-year teaching career. After retiring to Searcy in 1995, she was a member of College Church of Christ. She was preceded in

death by her husband, Paul.

Arnold Robert "A.R." Brown ('41) 94, died Jan. 24. He spent most of his youth in what is known today as Zambia, Africa, where his parents were missionaries. He returned



to the United States in 1937 to study medicine. When he completed his internship in Tulsa, Okla., he moved to Searcy to work at Hawkins Clinic Hospital. To fulfill his dream of Africa to a medical mission work, his family spent two years in current day Zimbabwe. In 1949, the Brown family returned to Searcy where he served the community through his medical practice and his work for the Lord. He was instrumental in beginning Searcy Medical Center and White County Medical Center. He served two congregations as an elder: Downtown and Westside churches of Christ. During their later years, he and his wife enjoyed working on their farm. He was preceded in death by his wife, **Ruth Lambirth** ('48). He is survived by two daughters, **Ruth Anne Toland** ('67) and **Carol Ann Daniel** ('70); two brothers, David and Bernard; a sister, Betty Wetton; five grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Irl Stalcup ('44), 90, died March 21. He is survived by a son, Corky; and a daughter, Janet Morales.

Claudia Pruett Petty ('47), 87, died Aug. 3. She was a lifetime member of Associated Women for Harding with the Claudia Petty Patron Scholarship named in her honor. As a member of Southwest Church of Christ, she was involved in foreign missions, hospital visitation, jail ministry, food pantry, the Treasures group and New Horizons Bible class. She was a Mary Kay consultant and a member of Silver Sneakers. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Bill** ('49), and a daughter, Annette. She is survived by a son, **Carl** ('72); and two daughters, **Tish Allison** ('74) and **Diane Burton** ('75); a sister, **Georgia Hobby** ('38); seven grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

Kathryn Roberts Campbell ('54), 79, died Aug. 9. She earned her master's from Harding in 1968.



Before being on the faculty at the University where she was a professor of physical education for 36 years, she taught at Palatka (Fla.) Junior High, Harding Academy, Georgia Christian School and Searcy Junior High. She was a member of Downtown Church of Christ. She is survived by her husband of 58 years, **Eddie Ray Campbell** ('53); two sons, **David** ('75) and **Danny** ('83); three daughters, **Linda Kathryn Garvey** ('77), **Julienne Young** ('88) and **Mindy Sue Campbell** ('07); a brother, James Roberts; two sisters, Sandra McLarey Lloyd and Glenda Moore; and 11 grandchildren.

Robert "Bob" Fletcher ('58), 75, died July 24. He earned his master's degree in education administration from Southwest Missouri State University. He was a lifelong farmer and cattleman and worked as a teacher, football coach and administrator for several schools, including Belleville, Ohio, California, Carthage, Republic and Sedalia, Mo., and finished his career as high school principal at Russellville, Mo. He was a member of the church of Christ in California, Mo., and the Moniteau County Cattleman's Association. He is survived by two sons, Kirk and Keith; three sisters, Phyllis Thornton, Nancy Fowler and Mary Ellen Callens; five grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

Ronald Baxter Harrist ('58), 73, died June 19, 2010. He earned a B.S. and M.S. in mathematics and physics from Texas Tech University and a Ph.D. in statistics from Southern Methodist University. He was on the biostatistics faculty at the University of Texas School of Public Health in Houston for 28 years until his retirement in 2000. He was integral to the establishment of the Austin regional campus of the UT School of Public Health and was its first director. During his 38-year career in biostatistics, Ron participated in hundreds of epidemiological, medical and public health studies and was widely published. He is survived by his wife, Kay; two sons, Steven and Walter, a daughter,

[EVENTS]

NOVEMBER

3
Lyceum: Pianist Tony Caramia

10
ASI speaker Paul Sperry

21-25
Thanksgiving recess

DECEMBER

17
Fall graduation

18-Jan. 8
Winter recess

JANUARY

18-21
Impact

22
Spring classes begin

FEBRUARY

2
ASI speaker Dr. Victor Hanson

13
Lyceum: Soprano Beth Porter

20
Winter Preview

MARCH

5-9
Spring break

APRIL

5-7
Spring Sing

5-8
Bison Days IV

12
Lyceum: Guitarist Doug Niedt

19
ASI speaker Dr. Condoleezza Rice

MAY

5
Spring graduation

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

BROWN PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY; CAMPBELL PUBLIC RELATIONS FILE PHOTO

Rebecca Montgomery; two stepsons, Hilton Moore and Lawton Moore; two brothers, Lynn and Phil; and eight grandchildren.

Gary K. Ackers ('61), 71, died May 20, in Oro Valley, Ariz. He earned a doctorate in physiological chemistry from Johns Hopkins University in 1964. He held positions at the University of Virginia School of Medicine and Johns Hopkins University before coming to Washington University School of Medicine in 1989 as head of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics, where he established the molecular biophysics program and expanded the faculty. He remained department head until 1996 when he returned to research and teaching and became professor emeritus in 2007. His research focused on the thermodynamics of macromolecular assemblies, in particular oxygen binding to human hemoglobin and protein-DNA systems. In 1984, he served as president of the Biophysical Society, a national organization, and, in 1987, he cofounded the Gibbs Conference on Biothermodynamics, which honored him in 2010 with the inaugural Gary K. Ackers Lecture in Biothermodynamics. He is survived by his wife, Jo M. Holt, who was his close collaborator in the last decade of his research career; a son, Keith; two daughters, Lisa and Sandra; a stepson, James Hazzard; and two grandchildren.

Kirk Manor ('64), 68, died April 26. He worked at Winrock International, was a member of the Rotary Club, served on the board of the White County Single Parent Scholarship Fund, and taught Bible class at College Church of Christ. Kirk is survived by his wife, **Bonnie Sellars** ('08); three sons, Kirk, Caleb and Joshua; two daughters, Terri Childers and Connie Keller; his parents, John and Nell; two brothers, John Curtis III and Dale; and six grandchildren.

Margaret Swallie Goulet ('77), 57, died Sept. 21, 2010, from cancer. She taught 30 years for Plain Local Schools in Canton, Ohio, before retiring due to illness. She is survived by her husband of 30 years, James; two sons, John and Zachary; and her mother, Martha Swallie.

Randy Kemp ('78), 55, died Aug. 14 from injuries sustained in a

[ENHANCING THE MISSION]
Don't make these gifts at year-end

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

As the end of the year approaches, donors often make more and larger gifts to charity than they make earlier in the year. Many people simply wait for the closing of the tax year — and the barrage of financial appeals — to make their major gifts. If you fall into this category, you may want to consider the following suggestions. They might help you avoid making a "tax-unwise" gift.



Ted Hackney

HURRIED GIFTS

With the hectic lives many of us lead, we may tend to put off certain things until we have the time. But then, before we know it, the calendar runs out, and we're staring at Dec. 31. We rush to complete a year-end gift.

In our haste, we can make serious mistakes. If you expect to make a gift before the end of the year, allow plenty of time. Avoid the rush. Start now by visiting www.hgift.org, our planned giving website.

Beware of knee-jerk gift decisions. With all the crisis-related appeals we receive at year-end, it's easy to get caught up in the emotion of the moment and respond with a generous gift. Were we to back off a bit and think through such a decision, we might do something entirely different. We might give less, more or maybe not all. But at least we would have considered our decisions carefully, including the organization

crying for our support. As stewards of our resources, we do well to temper our emotions with prudence and plan our giving in a way that accomplishes the greatest good. Impulse giving may be okay for pocket change but not for the major assets that comprise our estates.

TAX-UNWISE GIFTS

The opposite of a tax-wise gift is a tax-unwise gift. The latter is a gift that fails to use our tax code to maximize our charitable giving. For example, let's say you have \$10,000 in long-term appreciated stock and you want to make a year-end gift of \$10,000 to charity. You could either give the stock or sell it and give the cash. If you sold the stock, you'd have to pay tax on the gain, thus leaving less money to give to further God's kingdom.

On the other hand, you could make a tax-wise gift and transfer the stock directly to charity. By doing this, you would avoid any tax on the appreciation of the stock. Since your charity is a qualified nonprofit organization, they can sell the stock without incurring tax on the capital gain.

As we approach the end of the year, consider how to make your giving fully satisfying to you — both in what you give and how you give. For more information, please call our toll-free number at 800-477-4312, option 3, or email us at endowment@harding.edu. ■

motorcycle accident. A lifelong journalist, he began his career at the Searcy Daily Citizen. He moved up the ranks from reporter and photographer to city editor and newsroom supervisor. After that, he took over as editor at the Heber Springs Sun-Times and later was named editor and publisher. Most recently he served as director of communications for the Association of Arkansas Counties, which gave him a chance to take part in the inner workings of state government. He was an avid outdoorsman whose favorite activity was riding motorcycles. He is survived by his wife of 35 years, **Peggy Gardner** ('78); two sons, **Jeremy** ('01) and **David** ('08); two sisters, Helen Massey and Betty Bailey; and a grandson.

Teresa "Terri" Kay White Parrish ('82), 50, died May 28. Terri

first worked for AT&T as a marketing representative, spent 11 years as a full-time homemaker, and the last five years she was a sales associate with Stein Mart and an usher at the Tennessee Performing Arts Theatre. She was a member of Brentwood Hills Church of Christ. She is survived by her husband, Johnny; a son, Landon; her parents, C. Bruce and Judy White.

Christy Tucker Bethel ('93), 41, died July 15 after a three and a half year battle with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. She graduated from Middle Tennessee State University with a B.S. degree in interior design in 2001. For 11 years she worked as a registered nurse at several Nashville, Tenn., hospitals, including Vanderbilt, St. Thomas and Centennial. She

worked as an interior designer for Interior Design Associates and The W Group. She is survived by her husband of nearly 18 years, **Douglas** ('92); her mother, Sherrilyn Tucker Johnson; a brother, **Phillip Tucker** ('90); and a stepsister, Sharon Tucker Vu.

Junghyun "Jason" Suh, 20, of Gumi City, South Korea, died June 19. He was a junior chemistry major at the University and a graduate of Harding Academy in Searcy. He was an accomplished artist who also loved to write. He is survived by his parents, Boksoo Suh and Misoon Namgung; and a brother, Jungmok Suh.



The end of an era

By DR. JOHN WILLIAMS, department chair and professor of English

Era: Period of time distinctive for its aspects, events or personages. ▽ For the last 45 years Dr. Dennis Organ ('66) has taught, preserved and nourished the liberal arts at Harding with the same crucial influence wielded by icons such as Drs. L.C. Sears and Ray Muncy. Thus

it seems fitting to mark his retirement as the end of an era: the Dennis Organ era in Harding University's profession of the humanities.

The humanities — which include art, music, literature, philosophy, theater and history — are not the only ways to approach the question of what it means to be human, but Dr. Organ — golfer, anglophile and iris-fancier — cannot envision understanding God's world without their help, and his career reflects that conviction.

He has been at Harding since 1967, his entire professional life. An award-winning teacher, he became chair of the English department in 1982. What Gary Elliott ('62) built in the 1970s, Organ refined in the 1980s and 90s. He sought quality teachers and insisted on professionalism. He pored over departmental curricula, grading standards, pay scales and anything else that affected how things run, realizing that lofty ideals are given shape by humdrum policy.

His most apparent gift was efficiency or willpower in league with talent to make things work. Behind every routine communication or meeting was no-nonsense analysis that helped his faculty see clearly both the problem and range of solutions.

But long before he became dean of the College of Arts and Humanities, Organ saw his discipline in the context of the entire institution. He willingly entered curriculum planning at the university level. He chaired more than his share of committees, relishing their role in keeping the humanities strong and vibrant within the University's mission. Needless to say, he brought to the task a sophisticated knowledge of world literature, history and the arts.

Moreover, he wrote or edited many of the documents describing the purpose and function of the humanities. His sense of language in these matters was as efficient as his memos but also had an elegance in keeping with his own understated but passionate taste for beauty and belief in its importance to our spiritual selves. In short, the University's vision of the liberal arts

— no doubt shaped by many hands — owes far more than most realize to the dedication of a slender, bespectacled man who did the often unrewarded (though for him never unrewarding) grunt work of debate, revision and compromise.

Despite his machine-like efficiency that daunted those with lesser powers, Organ did the work because he loved both his academic discipline and his University. If the liberal arts are synonymous with "humane" learning that exhibits many of the characteristics of Christian thought and faith, the word fits how he treated his students and colleagues. No matter how strongly he may have disagreed with a decision, he never undermined it with behind-the-scenes backbiting. His nearly absolute refusal to speak ill of others was a gossip-killer for more than one person spoiling for a gripe session.

Organ's reserved exterior masks a bleeding heart and soft touch. The efficient bureaucrat is also a keen judge of human nature and ability, with a knack for putting faculty members in position to succeed. The same man who could recoil in silent horror at a breach of decorum in the classroom would not hesitate to give students second and third chances. In another age, Organ's attributes would have earned him the title of "a scholar and a gentleman," when those terms meant the highest example of both professional and Christian behavior.

The above definition of "era" includes the archaic word "personages." It means people of distinction and, in spite of its stuffiness, can still be reserved for Organ, who is not stuffy himself but seems at home in a time when that quality

was an accepted by-product of the earnestness required of serious men. For 45 years, with a quiet yet commanding seriousness, he helped define Harding's coming-of-age as a Christian university.

Now he is retiring to a life as grandfather and other less important duties. As a personage — not to mention as a person — he will be missed. **H**



ILLUSTRATION BY HANNAH ALEXANDER

High performance



Whatever your sport, Harding University Bookstore has the apparel to help you look your best with brands like Nike and Under Armour.

All types of clothing, caps, mugs and other imprinted items are available.

Harding University Bookstore

800-477-4351 | hubookstore.harding.edu/home.aspx



HARDING
UNIVERSITY

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

Forwarding Service Requested

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

FH00013753
BRACKETT LIBRARY-SERIALS
BOX 12267
BRACKETT LIBRARY

[Final Frame]

PHOTO BY BRAD NEWTON/TEXAS RANGERS



Take me out to the ball game

Dalton Braziel, an incoming freshman from Mansfield, Texas, throws the first pitch as the Office of Admissions Services hosts the annual Harding Night with the Texas Rangers on Tuesday, July 26, at the Rangers' ballpark in Arlington. More than 900 prospective and current students, parents, alumni and friends of the University attended. Braziel is one of 1,311 freshmen and transfers at the University this fall.