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April '91

Harding College Bulletin



Citizenship for Melanie

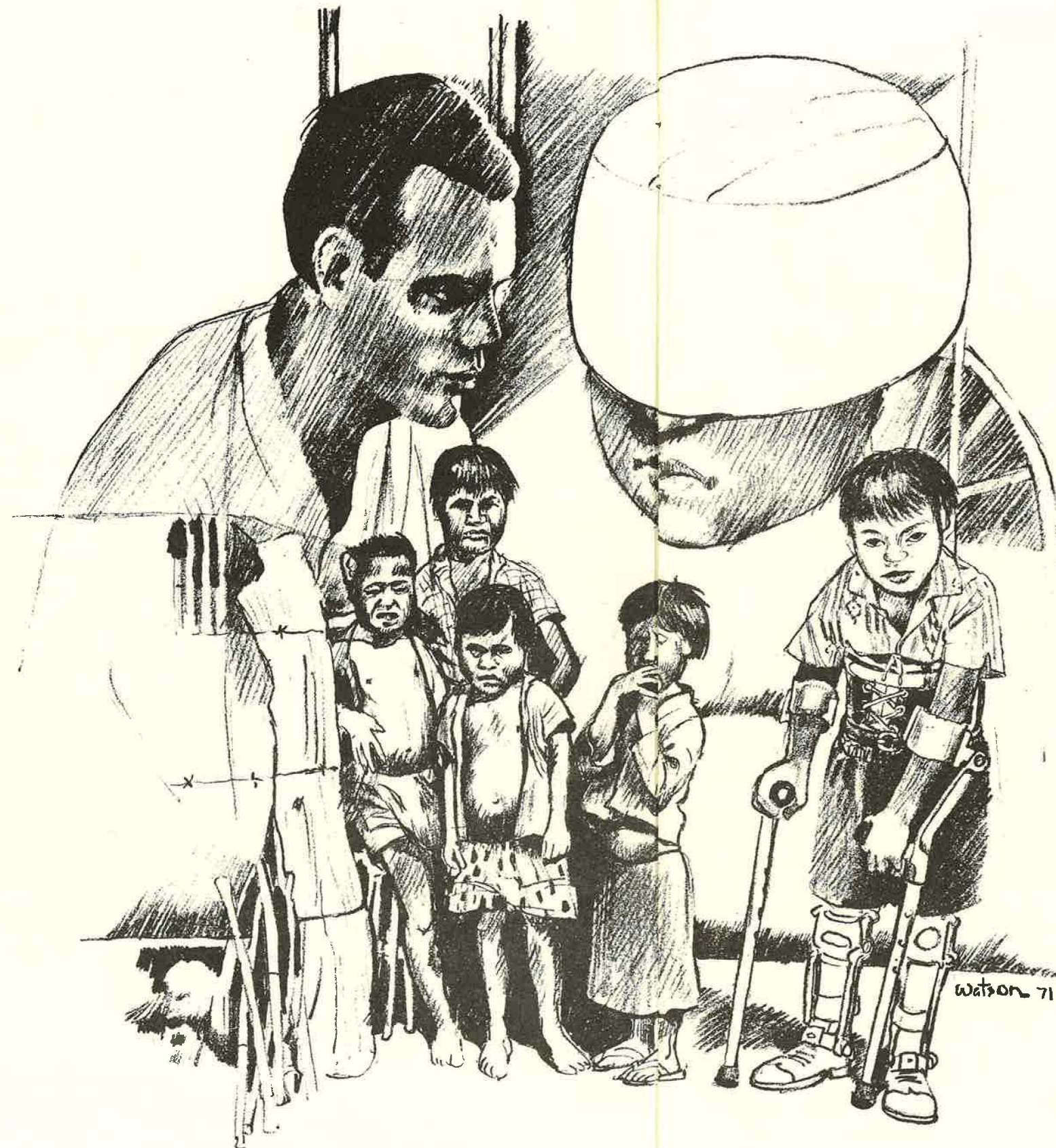
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HARDING

VOLUME 46 APRIL, 1971 NUMBER 10

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EDITOR'S NOTE — James E. Borden, MD, attended Harding 1955-58, completing his pre-medical requirements. The following article was written for the Herald and News of Klamath Falls, Oregon, by Miss Nancy Duncan of Gresham, Oregon, who went to Southeast Asia last summer as a freelance writer. The story is reprinted by permission of the Herald and News.

A Mission of Mercy

By Nancy Duncan

VANG VIENG, Laos (Special to the Herald and News) — It is the time of the monsoons in Laos and in the beautiful valley of Vang Vieng rice paddies look like squares of lake and the towering limestone caves are dark with rain. In Vang Vieng village, Laotians continue to work in their wet fields or sit under bright umbrellas at the morning market selling their produce.

In the same village, a young American surgeon works alone, repairing the mutilated bodies of a war that doesn't stop even for monsoons. On July 7, in the first terrorist attack on civilians in several months, the North Vietnamese entered Phou Cum, a Meo refugee village about 130 miles north of Vientiane, killing more than 30 people and wounding 25 others.

The most seriously wounded were sent to Dr. James Borden, 33, a clinical surgeon working with the U. S. Public Health service in Vang Vieng under the auspices of the Agency for International Development.

Dr. Borden, a native of Klamath Falls, Ore., is the only American surgeon in Laos. He and a handful of Lao and Philippine doctors handle all the war casualties in Laos as well as attempt to combat widespread illness and disease among the Laotian people.

In the late 1950s, another American doctor, Dr. Tom Dooley, established his jungle hospitals in Laos because this landlocked, mountainous country was so isolated from medical care. Today, there is still a huge need for medical personnel, supplies and facilities in Laos. The war and the growing number of refugees have accentuated the health problems almost to a crisis level.

Dr. Borden came to Laos almost a year ago — his second tour in Southeast Asia. In 1967-68 he was in Vietnam, working in a civilian hospital in Da Nang. He is the son of Mrs. Ernest L. Borden, 1435 Pleasant St., Klamath Falls.

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The young Oregon doctor begins his day at about 7 a.m. when he leaves the small AID compound and drives his jeep down the dirt road to the hospital, only about three blocks away.

He makes the rounds of the patients and usually has an operation scheduled for later that morning. On his way through the ward he stops at every bed, checking dressings, examining the progress of the patient. He speaks in Lao to his patients, asking how they feel, quietly listening to complaints. One old woman rocks back and forth on the bed crying softly.

As the doctor passes, she points to her cheek and tells him to please take the metal out because it hurts. Dr. Borden explains that a piece of shrapnel is lodged in her cheek but to operate would be more dangerous than to leave in the shrapnel.

An expression of pain crosses the face of one frail dark-eyed boy as the doctor examines the wounds in his leg.

"Your feet are getting pretty swollen," he tells the boy, "You're going to have to get up in the wheelchair soon."

The boy looks down at his bandaged legs but says nothing. He is 14 and a soldier in the Royal Lao Army. His father hovers worriedly nearby.

Whole families often come to stay at the hospital with the patient, settling in on the next cot. Many of these are refugee families who have no place else to go.

Five of those wounded in the recent North Vietnamese attack were brought in recently. Thao Ba Peu, 13, is one of these victims. The top half of his face is swathed in bandages. He has been shot through both eyes and the force of the bullet has left a gaping hole in his small face. On the cot beside him lies his older brother, perhaps 15, grave and unsmiling. He watches protectively over his younger brother, brushing the flies away, pulling the old sheet over his legs, whispering to him to sooth his small whimpers.

At times, the little boy reaches up to touch his head. There are no parents to comfort these children for they were both killed in the same attack.

"These are the saddest," Dr. Borden said: "This is the third patient I've had in the past couple of months with both eyes destroyed. And to be blind in this country . . ." He left the sentence unfinished but its answer is obvious. Laos does not have enough physicians even to care for the very ill and wounded. There are no such things as rehabilitation centers.

"The blind, the paraplegic, the crippled must somehow survive on their own or die. There is no one to give them care except perhaps their own families, if, indeed, they have any family left.

"Thao has only a brother. When his face has healed, he and his brother will probably be sent back



Dr. Borden (center) performs surgery daily at the Vang Vieng hospital. He is being assisted by two Philipinos, Vivian, left, and Art. Two Laotian surgeons and a British doctor make up his medical staff.

to their village where hopefully there may be friends or relatives to look after them."

Even as Dr. Borden and the few other doctors in Laos work to stem the tide of illness and mutilation, the medical problem grows. In addition to the ordinary number of Laotians sick from tropical diseases such as malaria or dysentery, war casualties are increasing as the insurgency drags on.

The fighting on the Plaine des Jarres has created 15,000 new refugees who have been forced to leave their homes and travel to new areas, causing them to be more vulnerable to disease and casting an additional burden upon the doctor in the area to which they move. (There are approximately 250,000 refugees in Laos — about one-tenth of the population.)

Malaria is the most serious health problem in Laos today.

"All medical problems pale into insignificance compared to malaria," commented Dr. Charles L. Weldon, chief of the Public Health Division of AID. "It is the medical problem of by far the greatest magnitude and is accentuated by the stresses of refugees who are forced to flee their homes and travel through the jungles."

Dr. Weldon said it was impossible to attack the disease comprehensively because of the security situation. The only way to effectively control the disease is to spray insecticide over a wide geographical area for a considerable length of time. "The circumstances in Laos preclude such a prerogative at this time," he declared. He added that it was almost impossible to cure a person of malaria other than taking the person out of the malarious area. With so much of Laos infected, this is obviously impossible.

"A lot of things predispose to illness here," Dr. Borden explained. "It's the rainy season and malaria shoots way up. Everybody in the country probably has malaria. There'll be a lot of dysentery in the next few months. The medical problems in Laos are horrendous. Not only the weather but the war.

"People should be settled but they're moving, trying to get away from the North Vietnamese. They are living like animals with no shelter and they are sick. They are all sick."

We visited several refugee villages around Vang Vieng. At the first village, a woman came up to us with her sick baby, gesturing and pointing to the child. One of the men with us examined the baby. "It looks like malaria," he commented. "But if we take this child, we leave ten behind. It sounds heartless to leave the child, but what can we do. What we need here are medics who can come into the villages and administer medical care and take only the worst ones into the hospital."

As we were leaving, another woman came up to us, also pointing to her child. This one, too, had the yellowish, sickly look of malaria. At another village further north several of the women had huge goiters protruding from their necks, commonly caused by iodine deficiency. One old woman sat squat-legged, rubbing her eyes which were red and infected. Several women again brought their babies to us.

Prakane Phouphoe, the AID rural development official, said that medical care was the most vital need in his area.

"Many people are sick here," he said. "If they are very sick, I take them to the dispensary in my truck. But some people don't know the dispensary. They are afraid. I need a medic. Before, a medic used to visit every week. I like them to know the medic well. If I bring him out here, they will not be afraid of him."

A major obstacle to proper medical care is the lack of medicine. Dayton Maxwell, an AID worker who has been in Laos since 1959, explained that the Lao government gave its medics a certain amount of medicine which was supposed to last a certain time. "That's all he gets. He can't order more. If there is an outbreak of disease or an emergency, he's stuck."

The villages we were visiting were refugee villages but as we drove through one regular village, Maxwell commented that if we stopped here we would find exactly the same problems as in the refugee villages.

"It's a monstrous job," Dr. Borden said. "Any place you open a hospital in Laos, within three days you'd have it full of sick people. All the hospitals are full and brimming over. This hospital which is kept mainly for serious surgical cases is full. If you go to the boonies and open a hospital, within a week it would be full of sick people. If you put in 100 hospitals, they would be full because everybody is sick."

The main AID health program in Laos is the village health program, which trains local people as medics and nurses and establishes medical facilities throughout the countryside. The program, begun in 1963, has trained an estimated 1,500 people and has constructed about 600 dispensaries or small hospitals. (Only about 300 of these are still functioning. The rest have been overrun by enemy forces.) With so few doctors in the country (about 28, some of whom are administrators), much of the treatment of disease must be left up to these local medics.

"We give them a bag of medicine and send them out to the village," explained Dr. Borden.

"We tell them, if the person has chills and fever, it's malaria. And the medic treats them. It's very rudimentary treatment. Some get well. Some get worse. In that kind of program, you feel like you're batting at flies, yet you have a program that is working. It's stopgap medicine. What we are doing is plugging a gap. It's the only thing we can do when a war is going on."

The training program was centered at Sam Thong, about 150 miles north of Vientiane, which is where Dr. Borden first worked in Laos. But last March, the Communists overran Sam Thong and everyone had to be evacuated. New construction on the hospital had just been completed.

In fact, the morning of the evacuation, Dr. Borden had planned to perform the first operation in the new operating room. The training program was halted temporarily in the search for a new location.

The loss of Sam Thong was a personal loss to Jim Borden for he believed in the American effort there and saw it as symbolic of the whole medical effort in Laos. But he moved to Vang Vieng and there among the desolate mountains, continues his never-ending work.

"Doctors ask me how I can feel I'm accomplishing anything when the job is so mammoth, when there are so many sick people. Isn't it frustrating? they ask. Don't you feel you are batting at the wind? Certainly it is a mammoth job. Certainly you can't treat all the people.

"You have to individualize. It's not a mountain of pathology but an eight-year-old boy with appendicitis or a soldier who is shot in the stomach. When you take one patient at a time, you are accomplishing something. You are saving lives."

Jim Borden almost quit medical school in his first year. But it is a world of strange coincidences. Life Magazine had just published an article on Tim Dooley and Jim's sister, worried that he might quit, cut out the article and sent it to him. That same week, Jim saw a notice that Dr. Dooley was to speak in Portland. He went.

"That combination of things changed my mind," he said. "I didn't quit and I'm forever grateful that I didn't."



Citizenship for Melanie

BY ALICE ANN KELLAR



Eighteen alien subjects rose in a courtroom in Little Rock and repeated their names and nationality for Judge G. Thomas Eisele. One four-year-old duly but quietly averred "Melanie Joy Bridges, Korea."

Slowly she started the words, "I pledge allegiance to the flag . . ." With that and other minor technicalities, the five years of writing, waiting, saving and hoping were ended for Mary and William Bridges. Their Melanie and the others were citizens of the United States.

It was part of a game for Melanie, but for her parents it was the culmination of a long dream that started and ended with the same flair of simplicity. The interim, however, was far more complex.

Photographs by Bruce Baker

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Filly dress up clothes make a lady feel truly feminine.



Melanie came to live in the Bridges home when she was 11 months old, but she had lived in their hearts much longer and in their minds for an even longer time.

During their courtship, William, who is a staff accountant at Harding, and Mary Howard planned their lives. "We'll have two and adopt one," they decided. But they hadn't figured on fate or Mrs. Becky Tilotta.

Mrs. Tilotta taught in the Christian Workers' Workshop at Harding one summer and Mary attended her class. One afternoon the enthusiastic missionary woman showed slides of a Korean orphanage she had visited. "My heart was broken when I saw those children sleeping on the floor because there weren't enough beds. We'd been married two years and I had been wanting a baby. When I came home I suggested to William that we adopt he said 'ok' and that was it," Mary said.

"It" didn't prove to be quite so effortless, however.

The couple wrote a letter to the Holt Adoption



A family now, Mary and William Bridges relish the joy they have found with the specially chosen daughter, Melanie Joy.

Agency in Crestwell, Oregon. Started by the late Harry Holt, the agency has received international acclaim for work with Korean children. Then they spent nearly a year corresponding to complete the necessary papers.

Their approval papers came in January, but a series of complications developed. Melanie had pneumonia, then measles. Time dragged.

Finally on June 21, 1967, the Bridges found themselves at O'Hare Field in Chicago.

Mary remembers that "Everyone got off the plane and our hearts sank. We thought another delay had arisen." Finally the hostess started down the ramp with a bundle and the new parents recognized the clothes they had sent for their daughter to wear.

Melanie came to her mother and was content, but when William took her, she laid her raven-topped head on his shoulder and smiled. "From that moment she was ours," Mary recalls, softly chiding skeptics who

have wondered about their feelings.

Melanie has fulfilled her parents' dream. A strong willed lass, she is quite selective in matters of dress and, typically feminine, she loves to play in front of a mirror. She is enrolled at the Harding Nursery School, and has brought home enough hand work to fill the walls with carefully placed decor.

Now the favorite topic of conversation for the Bridges is getting another child for the family to love. They have apprehensions about it though—all centered around such things as budgeting their funds to accommodate increasing costs, whether or not they will have to wait long—the same as natural parents. And they debate over choosing a boy or a girl.

As in most affairs, Melanie has come up with a ready answer for their dilemma. "Would you want a brother or sister?" they ask. And Melanie quickly retorts, "I'll settle for two."

THORNTON SELECTED AS COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

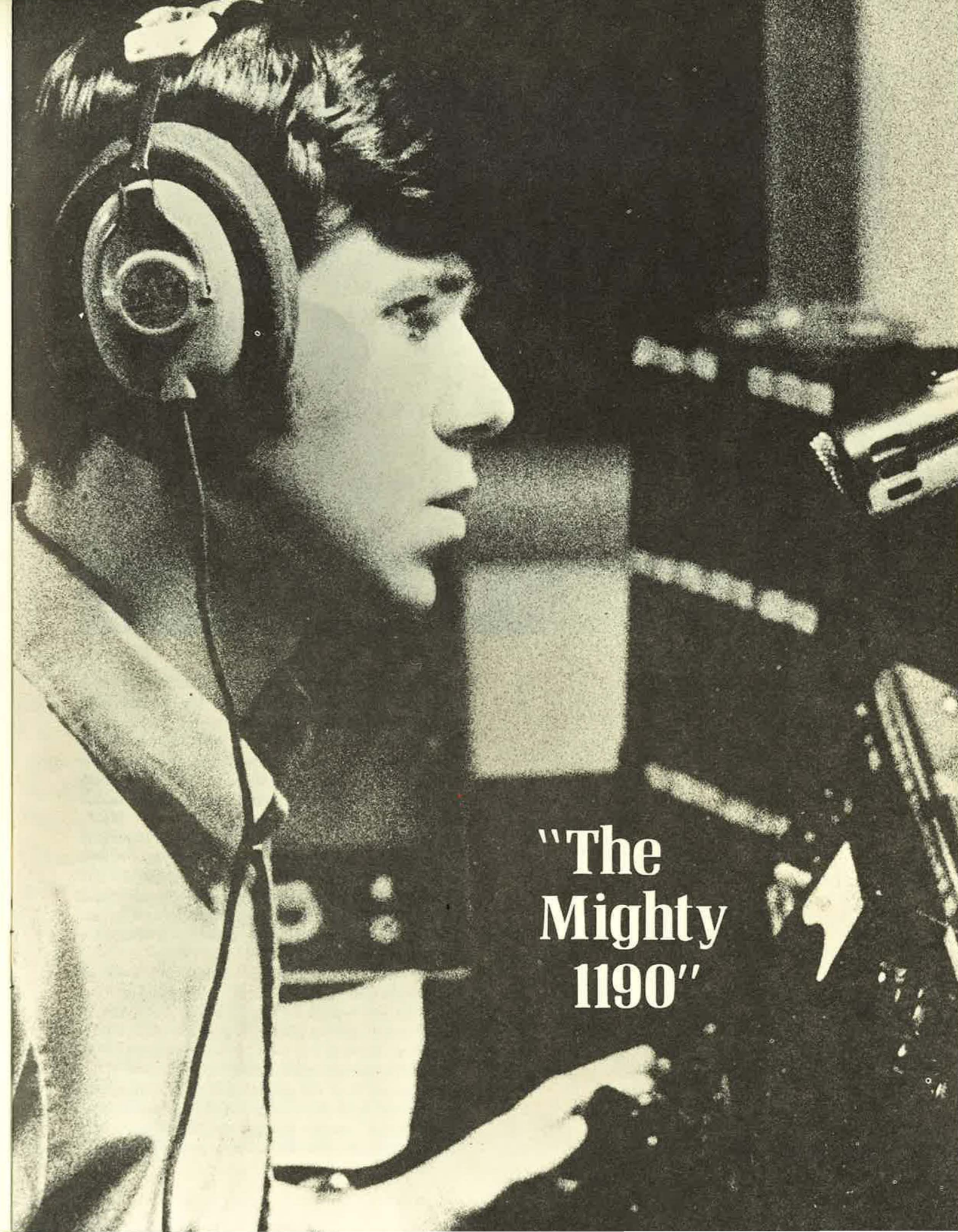
The selection of Ray Thornton to serve as chairman of the President's Development Council has recently been announced by President Clifton L. Ganus.

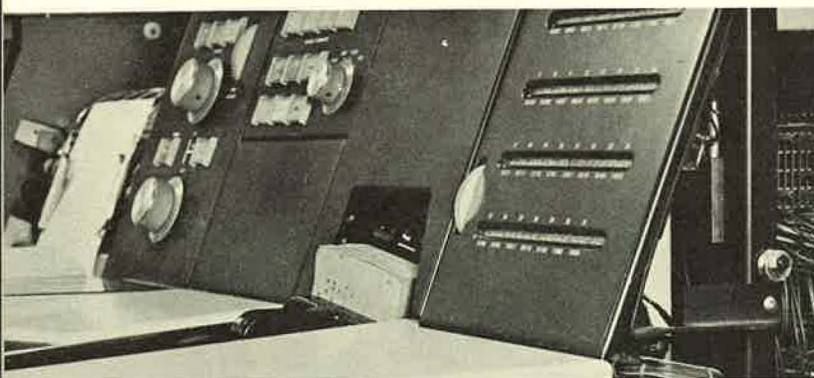
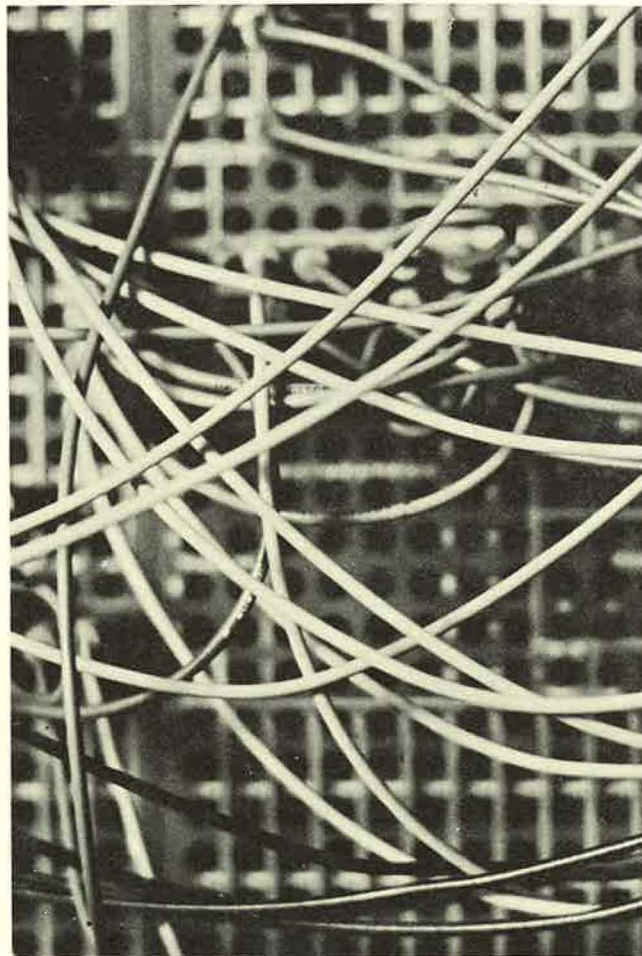
Thornton, the newly elected Attorney General of Arkansas, will direct the activities of the 178-member council. He has served as a member of the council since 1968. The council was organized in 1965 when Dr. Ganus assumed the presidency of the college.

"I am very happy that Ray has accepted the chairmanship of the Development Council. We are very appreciative of his work for Harding and I am confident he will do an excellent job in helping our development staff coordinate the work of the council," said Dr. Ganus. In accepting chairmanship of the council Thornton commented, "I am enthusiastic about the work of the development council and I am honored to serve in this capacity. Harding is a great institution. Harding has a great future and she will continue to serve and influence the youths that seek her guidance."

Before his election to the Attorney General's post, Thornton practiced law in both Sheridan and Little Rock. He has served two years as chairman of the Arkansas Board of Law Examiners and two years as chairman of the Radio Free Europe Fund in Arkansas. While serving in the latter capacity, he traveled to Germany, Portugal and Austria to become acquainted with the RFE program.

The native of Arkansas attended the University of Arkansas, Yale University and the University of Texas before receiving a degree from the University of Arkansas Law School. Prior to the 1970 state elections, Thornton served as a delegate to Arkansas' Constitutional Convention.





BY DAVID C. CROUCH

A light above the door flashes on; a friendly voice from behind a panel of assorted knobs, dials and switches methodically repeats the words "Welcome to the new sound of contemporary KHCA, 'the Mighty 1190,' coming to you from the basement of the Bible building on the Harding College campus." With such a routine beginning, Harding's campus radio station initiates another day of programming.

However, nothing else about KHCA is routine and there is never a dull moment around the station. A staff of thirty-five wanders in and out of the studios and offices. Some are recording spot news and advertising announcements; some are awaiting their turn behind the microphone in the main studio; and others are typing daily program schedules.

Two-thirds of the staff are freshmen full of vitality and surrounded by the charisma of broadcasting. During a semester a student becomes a jack-of-all-trades as he solicits advertising, schedules programming, roams a news beat and works as a disc jockey during three-hour shifts in the station's main studio.

From the time the station signs on at 6 p.m. each day until it signs off at 12 midnight, continuous news, music, special campus features and religious programs are disseminated over the station's carrier current sys-



tem. As the name implies, the system utilizes electrical wires as an antenna. The station transmits its signal into wires which run throughout the campus and serve as an antenna. Using this system the station at peak hours entertains a listening audience estimated at 50-60 percent of the student body.

In recent years campus radio stations have projected themselves into the roles of one of the major spokesmen on the college campus. No longer is the campus radio station simply the source of popular music or broadcasts from distant athletic events. For college students in the seventies the art of communicating is the key to bringing a struggling society together. Through this emphasis on communication, the audio reporter of campus activities has emerged and assumed a leadership role.

Using the synonym "Campus Communicator," the KHCA staff began a revamping program to "communicate" with the audience. Some innovations were attempted; some old ideas were scrapped; and many previous ideas were renovated. The end result has been to change routine programming into a more challenging listening experience for both the audience and the broadcasters.

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The ten-member news staff developed a "rapid radio news" programming. Through the use of tape recorded interviews made on one of the many news beats, the sounds of campus activities and the voices of campus personalities penetrate into the dormitory rooms. State, national and world news is also beamed over the airways through affiliation with the 55-member Arkansas Radio Network. Harding is one of two collegiate members of ARN.

Patterning the *Face the Campus* program after several nationally televised programs, the staff has attempted to inform students about current campus issues or administrative decisions. Each week a college administrator or student leader is questioned by the collegiate newsmen. The station also accepts telephone questions from students in the dormitories. Another special program, *Radio Research Reports*, is a ten-minute feature on various areas of campus life.

Involvement in campus activities is another phase of KHCA's "total communication" program. This year as a public service for students, KHCA co-sponsored with the Student Association a defensive driving course. The eight hour course was taught by personnel from the Arkansas Highway Patrol. A one dollar fee per student was charged and the class met nightly for two hours.

The emphasis on the students' spiritual lives is a major part of the daily programming. Throughout the day programs such as *Words of Peace*, *Thought for Today* and *Seriously Speaking* provide moments of meditation and admonition for the student body. The

fifteen minute *Soldiers of Christ* program initiated this year features Christian personalities. These interviews with Christian men and women as they reflect on the meaning of Christ in their lives have continued to draw favorable response from the listening audience.

Like most radio stations, KHCA has an abundance of music. As one staff member commented, "We have a little bit of everything." Strains of classical, semi-classical, country-western and popular music can all be heard filtering over the airways. Typical of most college students today, the "swinging *now* beat" is the most popular and the listening audience swells during the five hour segment of the daily schedule when this type of music is being aired.

The station is housed in the basement of the Bible building and includes two studios, a control room and an office. Equipment in the station is valued at more than \$15,000. Much of KHCA's present equipment was donated by radio station WHBQ in Memphis. The station began broadcasting in 1965 with a transmitter secured by Bob Eubanks, assistant professor of speech. For the past four years Eubanks has served as the station's faculty advisor. Eubanks attends the University of Oregon during the summer months working toward a doctoral degree in mass communications.

Collegiate broadcasting has undergone considerable change in recent years. These changes are reflected in the programming of the Harding station. "Communication is based upon the continual flow of ideas from person to person," Gary Martin, station manager said. "However, the word 'communication' is no longer used alone; it is invariably preceded by the word 'mass'. No longer does the student newspaper serve as the main thrust of mass communications. The radio station has begun to share more of the burden of communicating to the students. I feel the radio station can serve as a unifying factor on the college campus," said the senior secondary education major from Gainesville, Fla.

The station manager noted that a certain amount of influence can be exerted upon the student body by both the audio and printed media. "This is where the Christian broadcaster and reporter can exert the right influence," he added.

"Where is collegiate broadcasting in the 70's headed? Toward a greater involvement in campus activities, I hope. Because broadcasting is instantaneous, it will play a role of increased importance on the college campus in the 70's. Students are interested in the *immediate*. Let's hope that the *immediate* is relevant to the students' needs." □

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Economy: A Harding Byword

A recent study by the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education resulted in the conclusion that two-thirds of American public and private institutions of higher education are in financial difficulty or are headed for financial trouble.

Economy has become the byword on most college campuses. In an effort to stem operating costs, budgets are being sliced; special programs are being

abandoned; salaries are remaining stationary; and the number of college personnel is being decreased. For some of these schools, concern about economic matters has come too late to help the school withstand the financial crisis of the 70's.

Harding has always been an economy-minded institution. Our goal has been to provide a high standard education at the lowest cost to as many students as possible. Since tuition and fees pay only approximately 60 per cent of the college's operating expenses, Harding must receive 100 per cent value out of every dollar received. This concern for quality and economy has held Harding's tuition costs for students below the costs of most of our four-year Christian colleges.

Harding is one of the few colleges in the United States to do a cost study of every department in the college. The results of the study will help Harding maintain the top quality academic instruction in the most economic manner. Harding's creative and innovative approaches to education have demonstrated that an economy-minded school can achieve academic excellence.

Economy and a desire to share in the education of Christian youth can also be demonstrated in Harding's student work and student loan programs. Many Harding students have traditionally paid for their college expenses by working on the campus. We believe the educational axiom that those who work for an education appreciate it more.

More than 25 per cent of Harding's student body work on campus from five to fifteen hours each week. This year approximately 500 students earned \$255,000. The total earnings represent an increase of 475 per cent in the last eight years.

Approximately 1,000 Harding students participate in various student loan programs to meet their college expenses. During the 1970-71 school year approximately \$670,000 was made available in student loans. This total has increased more than four times in the last eight years. The college also awarded 675 full or partial scholarships during the present school year.

Economy is not a new trend at Harding, but it is a continual process designed to assure the highest standard of spiritual and academic training for the greatest number of Christian students. Those who have invested in Harding have seen worth-while goals achieved through efficient management. □



Apr '91

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