March 9 serves as deadline for Creative Writing Contest

By Jeanne Preslar

Entries for the 72-'73 Creative Writing Contest will be accepted through March 9, according to Dr. Neil B. Cope, chairman of the journalism department and acting chairman of the English department.

The regulations for this spring's literary brain-child were distributed last week. It is open to any regular student of Harding College or Harding Academy.

The three divisions of entries include poetry, fiction and essay. Poems are to be typewritten, and short poems are limited one to a page. No more than five poems should be submitted by one person.

The fiction category includes short stories, plays and longer works. The essay division covers any non-fiction work, for example, reviews and inspirational pieces. These manuscripts must be typewritten and double-spaced. There is no limit to the length.

Entries should be placed in a folder or envelope with the author's name on the outside only, and they should be submitted to the American Studies Building by 5 p.m. March 9. None of the work submitted will be returned.

Judging will be done by a committee of five, including faculty and non-faculty members.

Winners of two contests sponsored by the Charles Ken­ neth Hammon Memorial fund, established by Mrs. Hammon for the purpose of promoting scholarship and Christian growth among young people, were announced Tuesday by Dr. Billy Ray Cox, Harding's executive vice-president.

Dr. Cox releases essay contest winners

By Evelyn Jones

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The three May Queen finalists are sophomore Anita Nance, senior Jan Brewer and junior Robyn Smith.

Margaret Wilson, a sophomore elementary ed. major from Baird, Texas, placed second, receiving a cash award of $150. Sophomore transportation business major Campbell Henderson from Pullman, Wash., took third place with winning $100.

Sunday features Horizons

By Evelyn Jones

The Horizons have sung from coast to coast, including a special performance at Washington, D.C.; and they have presently cut three L.P. albums. In addition to singing on the group's latest a monthly magazine entitled PTL ("Praise the Lord").

Traveling in a 1945 diesel bus, which has more than 15 million miles on her, they appear at churches, youth rallies, college campuses and civic organizations.

The group consists of five members including Danette Key, a graduate of Harding, who appeared with and choreographed the Belles and Beaux of the world.

Donations can be made at the door and albums can be purchased following the performance.
New abortion law makes murder legitimate

Yoo hoo America! Are we out there?
So, we've signed up for world peace, have we? Uh-huh! And what about our little girls? What's this thing about passing laws okaying abortion for pregnant women during their first six months of pregnancy? Yes, in a Supreme Court decision last Monday all state laws were overruled that restricted and prohibit a woman's right to obtain an abortion during the first three months of pregnancy. It passed 7 to 2.

So we've set out to save mankind all over the world with the new peace pact while at the same time, within our land we've condoned a form of murder for our own young. My, haven't we (the courts) grown more logical over the years?

What's next? Will we pass laws granting the right to kill our babies after they are several months old simply because we don't want them — as the case can and will now be with many unwed mothers, or because they (the babies) are deformed?

There is no difference in ending the life of a young child and aborting it in fetal stages of pregnancy. Should we say there is, then when does one acquire his soul? Since the Bible doesn't specify when the soul is given, it is safest to conclude that it is given at conception.

The unborn child should be considered as a person in the image of God and should be dealt with accordingly. To believe otherwise would be, in the words of Joseph Riley, head of the Massachusetts Catholic Conference, in the Jan. 23 Memphis Commercial Appeal: "to decide the issue on the principle that the developing child has no worth at all and no rights and then as it develops, it begins to have some rights and greater value."

Who are we to take the decisions of life in our hands anyway? Could this lead to the legal extermination of old people because they have become nuisances to their children? Yes — this one action on the part of the courts might very well lead the way to utilitarian form of government some day where someone says who shall live and who shall die, according to The Commercial Appeal.

The Supreme Court ruled that, as printed in last Tuesday's Arkansas Gazette, "for the first three months the decision to have an abortion lies with the woman and her doctor and the states' interest in her welfare is not compelling enough to warrant any interference. . . . For the next six months of pregnancy a state may regulate the abortion procedures in ways that are reasonably related to maternal health."

OK. Where death is certain to both mother and child if birth is given, actions to abort would be justifiable. But only in that case. National-wide statements have been made by women's libbers about the new law being a "victory for humanity," and a "landmark decision for women."

Really now — aren't we women lucky? We have the legal privilege to kill our own children if we so choose. If only our foremothers could have lived to see this day when we can carry on with killing our own children if we so choose.

"One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind" — backwards!!!

Feedback...

Senior frets over limited grad seating

I think that I shall just forget about all these problems for a while and just meditate on the symbolic, dignified ceremony itself. Ah, I can see myself now, marching down the aisle to music provided by our nationally-known chorus.

On stage with the chorus is the entire Harding faculty (some of which you can actually see), smiling their approval of our accomplishments. In the few seats we don't use, part of the proud families look on. Outside are the proud families that weren't so lucky, listening to the service, but no seeing it.

Excuse me, K.B., I think I better start doing something else. I am suddenly becoming very depressed.

Danny Blacker

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By Beth Tucker

Within our compact Harding community there exists a group of very special people. It is quite a large group, in fact, for 13 sets of parents and 13 sets of children have adopted each other — the "Chosen People" of Harding College.

Through each of the thirteen stories there runs a thread of similar emotion, experience and attitude. Not one voice fails to warn when the parents of chosen children speak of their good fortune. All share the same adventure.

There is the waiting...
The Don Englands, parents of 5-year-old Jennifer Rae Barnes (named for Billy Ray Cox) has been nominated by her doing parents as one of the nation's ten top babies. When interviewed, Mrs. Barnes eagerly offered to give The Bison a chance for as many pictures as you want!

"It's so breathtaking to watch them unfold through the years," stated Mrs. Joseph Pryor. The Pryors are the chosen parents of Beverly, 19, Judy, 16, and Susan, 12. "Beverly Jo is in love with medicine and music, Judy is an animal lover and Susie is very domesticated little girl," she related. "In a natural-born child, you expect certain qualities and interests, but here it just happens and becomes a delightful revelation.

The William Bridges family includes two adopted children, 6-year-old Melanie and 15-month-old Greg said Mrs. Bridges. "It warms us to see our environment shape their lives through the years."

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Mr. and Mrs. Don Diffee, parents of 2-year-old David Arthur, voiced the feeling in these words: "A mother who gives birth to a child is expected to love him. When you hold a child you know nothing of and take him into your heart, you discover you can love him equally. It's an amazing experience.

We, the parents, are the blessed ones." "We've done no one but ourselves a favor." "We needed to share ourselves and a baby seemed to be the answer."

"An adoptive parent has definitely benefited both on and off they go. The Chosen ones of Harding College are really the parents who have the good fortune to fill special roles.

There is the certain conviction in the voice of all the parents when speaking of adoption...

"We thrill with the news of each adopted child in this community. Our little girl is one of many," stated a smiling John Ryan, Ryan, assistant professor of speech. He and his wife are the parents of Julie Renee, born April 21, 1970 — which happens to be the birthday of Ryan himself! "Little did I know when I celebrated my birthday that somewhere my daughter was being born. "The Ryan's rejoice in the fact that they are "expecting" another child with each ring of the phone.

Mrs. Barnes expressed her attitude toward adoption thusly: "Jennifer is OUR baby. It doesn't matter who gave birth to her; when you feed her, rock her, change her and love her, she is your own.

"We have felt as though we were chosen. There are so many rewards, so much giving and receiving," affirmed Dianne McCampbell, instructor of English. McCampbell and her wife will shortly become the legal parents of two girls, Betty, age 13, and Gail, age 12. The happy response of natural-born children to their chosen siblings...

Melissa Lloyd, 3-year-old adopted daughter of Ted Lloyd, was greeted by her new brother with the glad shout of "At last! I have a sister!"

Mrs. Jerry Jones laughingly confessed that her two natural-born children, Kris Anne and Charles Allen, almost envy their older sister Angela since she is a chosen child. "I tell them they are all special in different ways: Angela was our first girl, Kris was the first child I gave birth to, and Charles was our first boy.

Then there is the answer that all chosen parents must give to their children when they ask...

"Written in the first page of Angela Jones' baby book is the poem "The Answer" by Heigler:

Not flesh of my flesh or bone of my bone
But still miraculously my own.
Never forget for a single minute
You didn't grow under my heart but in it.

Jack Ryan spoke for the whole group when he declared, "God sent His Son to earth for one special reason; He wanted to adopt all of mankind. We Christians are all adopted children — God's Chosen People."
Beth Alan "Snake" Dixon (right) and Tom Ed Gooden (left) were recently named All-NAIA honorable mention. In the past season Dixon finished second in rushing in the NAIA with 1,480 yards and Gooden led the conference in punting and passing. — Bison photos by Estes Eason, Dixon and Gooden voted All-American berths

By Doug Shields
"Harding College? Who are they?"
"They are a small, liberal arts, church of Christ school in Searcy, Ark. Incidentally, they are also the number six football team in the country in the NAIA according to final statistics released by NAIA offices in Kansas City on Dec. 22, 1972."

Three Bisons were honored on the NAIA All-American teams for their performances in leading the Bisons to an unprecedented 10-1 record, a tie for the conference title with Southern State College and a victory over Langston University in the Cowboy Bowl in Lawton Okla.

Edd "Eason, a senior who has started every game for four years, made the All-NAIA second team as an offensive tackle. The 6'4", 225 lb. lineman closed his career by scoring a touchdown on a tackle eligible pass play in the Cowboy Bowl.

Tailback Alan "Snake" Dixon and quarterback Tom Ed Gooden both were honored as All-AIC and All-District 17 athletes as well as honorable mention All-NAIA. Snake Dixon ran for 1,480 yards in the 1972 season to finish second in NAIA rushing statistics. Dixon, a junior from Fitzgerald, Ga., had a 134-yards-per-game average to lead the Bisons to third- and seventh-place finishes in national team rushing and total offense, respectively.

Gooden, who led the conference in punting and passing, quarterbacked last-minute heroics in the Cowboy Bowl. Gooden booted a 40-yard field goal into the wind with seven seconds remaining to win the game 30-27.

Last, and certainly not least, Coach John Frock was named Coach of the Year in District 17. With an intact offensive backfield returning, the Bisons will press on toward number one in 1973.

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