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Seniors set to graduate as May 11 approaches

by Darren E. Irby

The time has come... to graduate, to move into the "real world" with diplomas in hand. Commencement exercises are the conclusion of four or more years of study for the Class of 1991. Everyone is encouraged to attend the ceremony, which will be held May 11, beginning at 10 a.m. on the Benson stage.

The speaker for the ceremony is Jim Bill McInnis. McInnis is from Nashville, Tenn., and is currently serving as secretary for Harding University's Board of Trustees. McInnis, now retired, is a former preacher for Nashville's West End Church of Christ.

Black-robbed students will be the main attraction, with parents smiling and reminiscing about the first time they unloaded their child into the "Harding World" during Student Impact. Now the years of work, money and time are coming to fruition. According to the registrar's office, 350 students were registered to graduate as of April 10.

One senior, Ryan Gibbons, a radio/TV major from Wooster, Ohio, summed up his feelings about graduation by saying, "God has helped me to grow a lot. Sometimes it scares me to think about where I would have been if I wouldn't have come to Harding. Sometimes it seems like at a lot of Christian schools you don't get programs that match up with other schools, but I think Harding's programs match up with any other school's programs, with a spiritual aspect also. It is scary to be graduating, but I know that God has a purpose for me."

HIGHLIGHTS. Julie Syversonsky and Brent Mallory prove that Spring Sing and Pledge Week rely heavily on student involvement each semester.

Happenings

FOUR SCORE. "Rocky IV: The Ultimate 'Test" will be shown tonight at 7 and 9:30 p.m. in the Benson Auditorium. Admission is $1.

DON'T FORGET THE KID. "Home Alone" will be shown Saturday, May 4, at 7 and 9:30 p.m. in the Benson Auditorium. Admission is $1.

ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN. The President's Council will meet on campus April 26-27. The Board of Trustees will meet May 9-11.

HIT THE BOOKS. May 1 through May 3 will be designated "Dead Week" so that students may study for final exams. No extracurricular activities may be scheduled.

BREAK A LEG. "On the Verge" will be shown in The Little Theatre Thursday, April 25 through Saturday, April 27.

ALL IN THE FAMILY. "Dad," starring Fred MacMurray and Jack Lemmon, will be shown in the Benson Auditorium Friday, May 3 at 7 and 9:30 p.m. Admission is $1.

LAST CHANCE. "Rocky V: The Final Chapter" will be shown Saturday, April 27 at 7 and 9:30 p.m. in the Benson Auditorium.

ALMOST DONE. Final exams will be administered May 7-10.

HATS OFF. Commencement exercises will be held Saturday, May 11, at 10 a.m. in the Benson Auditorium.
The Father knows best: take two
time-outs and let Jesus do the rest

A 1932 article in the Daily Citizen, reprinted last February, recounts the tale of a Pennsylvania doctor who performed surgery on himself — twice.

"Dr. Evan O'Neill Kane, 70-year-old surgeon, was resting quietly after operating on himself for in­
audible b-muscles. 'The operation was a success,' he smiled.

"Dr. Kane did 1 rely upon his sense of touch in reaching the affected part.

"This operation was rather dangerous,' the veteran surgeon explained, 'and I seemed quite nervous.' He used a local anesthetic.

The idea of operating on one's own body seems ludicrous at first. Yet in a spiritual sense, we do just that: by attempting to fix our lives ourselves while the Great Physician stands nearby, shaking his head and waiting pa­iently for us to come to our senses.

Wielding a scalpel of self-righteousness, we diagnose ourselves and prescribe everything from shopping trips and chocolate binges to extended vacations and ex­tremal affairs to make ourselves feel better.

History says, 'We need a fresh start, a chance to begin.' But when we fail to trust the Lord, this fresh start becomes the same old mediocrity that will never last. But when we come to our senses, we will find that we need not start over with a fresh start, but can carry on with the work of the past.

As a beginning, let's consider.

graduation is a new beginning, not the end.

I was walking back to my cinderblock home away from home this week, enjoying the rare sunshine, when I caught up to Mark Moore. He was giving a wide-eyed prospec­tive freshman a tour of the campus, specifically the Cather-Sandel Art Collage of lost loves, also known as the "Passion Pit.""This is where you will be spending most of your time," he said. I heard Mark's 'saying, with sweeping gestures and bubbling enthusiasm, to the bright young man. "This is what we like to call a high-density target:" Mark smiled; the guy nodded. And I began thinking.

It seems so long ago that I was a freshman, stepping onto this campus, so much bigger than my familiar high school, for only the second time in my life. I remember getting lost on the front lawn, crying the first night in the dorm, wishing I was at home, never wanting to go home and going to my first B-Rock devo. Was that only three years ago?

I'll admit that thinking about graduation makes me break out in hives and run to the administration building to pre­register. But it is also rewarding to realize you have com­pleted something significant, and for those of us whose parents attended Harding, it's like coming full circle.

As it is hoped with a college education, I have gained much more than just "book learning." For instance, I have learned that you can wear socks with flats. Now, I know that this seems really trivial, but it is an important sartorial step for me, a recovering Garmann's addict. It's hard to dress without those zebra tags.

I have also learned that cinderblock walls are not strong enough to keep out the warbling of your neighbors' greatest hits or determined, water-logged termite, but they certainly put up a fight when you try to put one miniscule nail in them. Go figure.

But I think the most important thing I have finally learn­ed is that graduating from Harding is not the end. It is, perhaps as RIM says, "the end of the world as we know it," but it is by no means a grand finale. It is only the end of one stage in our lives.

I realized this over spring break during my fruitless job search. While I didn't get a six-figure job offer, I got to "network" (i.e. that term), wear a suit, "do lunch with"

Write View...by Marc Anderson and Craig Lair

'Historical' events actually created by media

"Up on the watershed, standing at the fork in the road..." — The Indigo Girls

We live in revolutionary times. We saw the wall fall. We saw the Soviet's new era of democracy. We saw Tiananmen Square — the symbol of Chinese democracy. We saw the destruction of Saddam Hussein's army and peace in the Middle East. We saw America at her strongest, leading the way in the service of peace.

Actually, these and other misconceptions have tainted all sense of reality. In truth, we saw nothing. We called these events a watershed of history, and applied our actions which caused them. We are certainly mistaken.

Though always existing, sensationalism in America reached new levels with the introduction of U.S.A. Today. Instead of reading, we shifted to the cute graphics, vibrant colors and bold headlines. A sense of the grandiose had infiltrated journalism for years and U.S.A. Today was the perfect outlet. Then came C.N.N. — the "world's most important network." But can history be shaped by the stories placed at the top of the hour?

Because of our over-feeding on this pseudo-journalism, everything we see on the news today is a new turn in history. But in our quest for the clear-cut solution, we fail to adequately solve the problems at hand.

This was demonstrated by the Kurds, still dying in northern Iraq. The solution of a "quick war for peace" seen by Americans blotted out the plight of these victims of genocide. Peace in the Middle East? Not yet! We cheer Gorbachev for his reforms, but won't deal with Boris Yeltsin, the apparent future of Russia. We cheered for those Chinese students in Tiananmen Square, but rejected their idea of democratic, low-cost items manufactured by these students — the brightest minds in the country who now work in prison factories.

Our quest for the short-term solution produces no solutions, only failures.

Our movies, books and plays have happy (or at least resolved) endings, so why shouldn't our wars? This new mentality applied to the world's events must go. We can't dictate history's time schedule. Did we actually believe that when the dogs were called off after 100 hours in the gulf, that Saddam would say, "Hey, let's give peace a chance?" If we did, we were mistaken. Do we think that Adam Smith's economics will cure the problems of communism in Eastern Europe? If we do, we are mistaken. Can we continue to demand resolution in foreign policy and place emphasis on the short-term? If we do, we will fail.

Historian Daniel Boorstin stated that the true landmarks in human affairs are seldom spotted quickly amid the tumult of headlines broadcast on the hour. Let's not allow our eagerness to live in earth-shattering times deceive us into disastrous decisions.
Professor tells of First Lady’s luncheon

Receiving an invitation to attend a First Lady’s luncheon in Washington, D.C., was quite an honor indeed. At first my mother and I thought it would be impossible to go, but Congressman Ray Thornton finally convinced Mother that it was imperative. He and his wife, Betty Jo, wanted to express their appreciation to us for our help in his campaign last fall.

The Congressional Club that gave the luncheon is composed of women who are elected to Congress or appointed to cabinet positions, as well as wives of men in those elected or appointed positions. This annual luncheon pays tribute to the First Lady, and this year it is Mrs. George Bush, nicknamed by her family “The Silver Fox.”

The Marine Band played as people arrived and as the honored guests entered the ballroom. Mrs. Bush, who looked lovely in a sliver-gray dress, was presented with a sculptured silver fox for her home in Kennebunkport, Maine. After being introduced by the President of the club, Mrs. Robert Matsui, Mrs. Bush made a short, heartwarming speech about her life as First Lady.

Getting to see Ray and Betty Jo in their apartment and in his office in the Longworth House Office Building was another treat. Ray took us on a special tour of the Capitol and even let us sit in the Speaker’s chair for a few moments.

We were impressed with the fact that being a Congressman is challenging work. Ray Thornton receives about 300 pieces of mail each day and almost that many telephone calls. Every group that is interested in legislation sends someone by to visit with the Congressman, and the reporters try to keep up with what is going on. Ray had to make a major speech at the Department of Commerce while we were there, so he stayed up most of one night getting it ready. He and his six staff members average about 12 hours a day and never get caught up. Betty Jo provides great support and encouragement. They are happy to be there and eager to serve.

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April 26, 1991, THE BISON, Searcy, Ark. 72143
Cope says goodbye after seven years

by Kevin Kee

Mike Cope came to Searcy in the fall of 1974 as a student. This summer he and his family will leave.

Mike announced his decision formally two weeks ago during Sunday services at the
College Church, the congregation he has ministered to for seven years.

It was a bittersweet announcement for him and his family. He said, "As Christians we are either at anchor or we are at sail. Diane and I feel God is directing us to pull up our anchor and to put up our sail."

He came to Harding in 1974 to get a degree in Bible and graduated in 1978. In 1982 he earned a master’s degree in theology at Harding’s Graduate School of Religion. He then went to school in Wilmington, N.C., before returning to Searcy in the fall of 1984 to try for the College Church’s vacant ministerial position.

A year later he took the advice of a fellow associate of Harding University's Alumni Chapter. Mike's interest in the mentally handicapped.

As the mentally handicapped.

"I have always had an eye toward

"I have always had an eye toward

We are either at anchor or we are at sail. Diane and I feel God is directing us to pull up our anchor and to put up our sail."

He said he came to

"I
didn't have a problem with it, but after being at the Benson Auditorium.

"I
didn't have a problem with it, but after being at the Benson Auditorium.

Whatever happens, even if it is from some distance,

Whatever happens, even if it is from some distance,

The class relocated several times to Heritage Auditorium and Administration Auditorium before meeting in its present location, the Benson Auditorium.

The class has grown in number from a handful of people to about 1,700 today.

"I'd really miss the atmosphere of the class," he said. "I enjoyed the relaxed structure and the chance to be a bit more pointed than in Sunday worship services." He said he will miss the love of friends that he and his family have grown to love.

"Someone once said that preachers are short on friends. Thankfully I haven't had that problem yet. It will be hard to leave them."

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PEAK OF THE WEEK. Mike Cope teaches nearly 1,700 students, faculty and associates of Harding University each Wednesday night in the Benson Auditorium. The class began in 1985 and often uses devotional singing and Conquerors’ skits to highlight its lessons.

(Photograph by Leslie Owen)
Intercollegiate awards presented to athletes in chapel on April 17

by Leann Morrow
Bison sport5 writer

The Harding recipients of the intercollegiate awards were announced and given plaques for their efforts in chapel Wednesday, April 17.

The M.E. Berryhill Award for outstanding male athlete goes to Richie Roberts, a senior from Shreveport, La. Roberts is on the tennis team and made All-AIC four years, NAIA All-District four years, All-American 1990 and Academic All-American 1991.

The award for outstanding female went to Kelly Willingham, a senior from Dallas, Texas. Willingham is a member of the volleyball team and made All-Conference two years, team co-captain, NAIA All-District two years and several tournament teams.

The criteria for the M.E. Berryhill Award include being a senior graduating during the spring or summer who has earned two letters in intercollegiate athletics, consistently given superior effort, demonstrated leadership ability, been a positive influence in life and conduct and made distinct contributions to the athletic program.

The intercollegiate awards for football are as follows:

Outstanding Offensive Receiver: Barry Bowens, a senior from Oklahoma City, Okla.; Outstanding Offensive Back: Darrell Biggers, a sophomore from Augusta, Ark.; Outstanding Offensive Line: Lance Proctor, a freshman from Richardson, Texas; Outstanding Defensive Back: Lee White, a junior from Houston, Texas; Outstanding Linebacker: Pat Gill, a junior from Hallsville, Texas; Outstanding Defensive Line: Kenwick Thompson, a senior from Houston, Texas; and Fighting Heart and Muscle: Kris Citty, a senior from Searcy, Ark., and Pete Phillis, a senior from Savannah, Ill.

In men's basketball, Michael Wood for free-throw percentages and Rolando Garcia won other various awards. In women's basketball, Nancy Wilson received recognition for her performance.

The NAIA scholar recipient for 1991 was Kelsie Hutchison.

The awards in cross-country went to Jimmy Sloan, Shauna Queen and Hutchison.

New SA president plans for coming year

by Michael Bass
Bison staff writer

The Student Association experienced its best voter turnout in recent years as more than 1,000 students took part in the primary election. A slate of five presidential candidates was narrowed down to two, Steve Martin and Steve Yates. Not only did the two candidates hold the same first name, both had the same major, radio/television, as well.

A runoff election was needed to decide between the two and on Friday, April 19, the ballots were cast. Steve Martin, a junior from Shadypoint, Okla., was chosen to represent the student body during the 1991-92 school year.

Martin felt his campaign began his first year at Harding. The efforts and sincerity of the SA president at that time generated a desire to follow in the footsteps laid before him. He, too, wanted to make the students feel good.

"I really want to make it an enthusiastic and fun year," said Martin.

During the three years he has been at Harding, Martin has tried to be involved in everything possible. The past two years have seen him mainly involved in campus ministry, where he has been a co-director of the "Crew," a campus-based service organization.

Student involvement is a concern for Martin as president.

"I think there are a lot of people in the student body that want to get involved but can't find the opportunity," he said.

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CHILLIN' OUT. Roy Montgomery, a freshman from Little Rock, is chillin' in Pikes and Chi O's "Baked Alaskans."

JUST A-SWANGIN'. Angie Luster, a freshman from Garland, Texas, takes time out of her day to enjoy the tranquil breezes of the afternoon. Harding swings remain a traditional meeting place for friends and couples of all ages.
SEEMS LIKE YESTERDAY

THE CRUSHER. Shantih slug Carla Suiter, a freshman from Childress, Texas, takes on the role of rough-and-tough football player on Silly Day.

BEEP-BEEP, BEEP-BEEP, YEAH! "1964 as the Beatles" brought Beatlemania to the Harding campus once again in 1991.

TIME OUT. Bison basketball coach Nicky Boyd discusses team strategy with his players. The 1990-91 season was Boyd's first year as head coach for the Bisons.

Color photography courtesy of Leslie Downs, Dr. Ed Wilson and Dr. Jerome Barnes.

MAKING AN IMPACT. Freshmen Shelley Hughes of Denver, Colo., and Rob Mamawtor of Ordway, Colo., discover what Harding life is all about in their Student Impact group. Student Impact began in 1986 to help orient freshmen and transfer students to their first years at Harding.
President's Council, Trustees to meet  
by Darrin W. Ellis  
been out west

The President’s Council and the Board of Trustees will soon meet for the second time this school year. Both of these meetings are important in deciding the future of Harding University. Each meets once in the fall semester and again in the spring semester to discuss a wide range of issues concerning Harding.

Twenty-four men from several states who have been involved with Harding for at least six years make up the Board of Trustees. “The board is made up of volunteers. They are not in any way paid for this responsibility. They devote a lot of their time to serve in this capacity,” Dr. David Burks, University President, said.

This is strictly a policy-making committee, and according to Burks, “legally and officially they are in control of the University.” All the policies that are a part of Harding University must be approved by this board. The administration brings ideas to the board and there they are either accepted or rejected. The board itself decides on its own ideas to become policy. Once these ideas become policy it is up to Burks to follow through with them.

“They are in charge of the University. They hired me,” Burks said.

In addition to this, Burks said, “We will discuss progress being made spiritually by the university, academically and athletically.”

One of the more important issues facing the Board of Trustees is the possibility of expansion. The problem of too many prospective students seeking an education from Harding is a good problem to have, but it does need attention.

Burks said, “We will be looking at what our future growth options are. We are at capacity and have been for the past couple of years.”

Another important meeting during this semester is that of the President’s Council. Unlike the Board of Trustees this is strictly an advisory committee. The previous president of Harding University, Dr. Clifton Ganus, Jr., founded the committee when he began his presidency in 1960.

The President’s Council is made up of 400 individuals, most of which are alumni. Among the duties of these volunteers are recruiting and seeking out those people who would be willing to give monetary gifts to the University.

Burks summed up their responsibilities when he said, “They serve as the eyes and ears of Harding in their own communities.”

SA President Vaughn reflects on year’s activities  
by Susan Vaughn  
been out west

“It was great to be at Harding!” A minor change in tense and an extra-created phrase that will forever ring in our ears will become too applicable for many of us who will be leaving soon.

My reflections of the last year’s activities are positive. At the risk of sounding like a Miss America farewell speech, I can say that the 1990-91 school year has not been an easy one for Harding, but no other year has made us as a student body grow and mature spiritually or academically.

The semester started with a hang on the Benson steps. After the Benson steps, we made our way up to the Benson tree and hung yellow ribbons on the tree. This was the Benson step” of hope and support to the cancer victims.

As weather stripped out of the North, classes went out of reach and plunderers got out of hand. October became a month to remember. We celebrated Halloween with a Sub-F/S-A-sponsored haunted house. And as if that wasn’t enough, a Sub-F/S-A pledge director was selected.

Sadie Hawkins was filled with memories not soon forgotten, from the scavenger hunt and the Benson steps. Participation was better than expected.

The 1990-91 football campaign was a smashing success. Participation was better than expected. Carpe diem!

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With 6-14 record, Bison baseball team looks back on season, ahead to playoffs

by John Bossung
Bison sports editor

With just four conference games remaining and a 6-14 AIC record, the Bison baseball team is still hoping for an outside shot at the playoffs, which begin April 29 in Magnolia, Ark.

Harding has doubleheaders with Southern Arkansas University and Henderson State University. One loss could add but nullify the chances of a playoff spot for the Bison. The Bisons host SUU at home and travel to Arkadelphia to play in the first game of the season.

Starting the season with nine straight conference losses hurt the team early and put them in a comeback position for the remainder of the season. A Houston, Texas, team still hopes for an outside shot at the playoffs.

One conference victory came in Conway after pitcher Trevor Black held UCA to seven innings and the Bisons came away with a 10-4 victory. The second win came at the hands of Henderson State. Harding also held on for a 6-5 victory and claimed their first home conference win of the season. Harding then defeated OBU on the road and pitcher Edgar Huerta picked up his first conference win.

Monticello was next for the Bisons and they split with the Weevils at home, taking the opener as freshman Nick Fouts picked up his first conference win. Black relieved Fouts and picked up the save with UAM threatening late in the game.

The Bisons then swept AACU at home and ran their record to 6-14 in the conference with four games remaining. Huerta picked up the win in the opener, going the distance and giving up only five hits. Fouts took the nightcap win and also went the distance, allowing three runs on 11 hits, six of which were in the first inning.

Harding will need some help from other teams to make the AIC tournament this week. Henderson and Monticello still are in front of the Bisons but have six games to play and the Bisons have four. It all will wait and see what happens.

Although the Bisons post a 12-14 record at press time, there have been bright spots on the season and some great individual performances. Traveling to Pensacola, Fla., the season was also a great achievement for the Bison. John McAfee picked up the win and Black got the save as Harding held on for a 4-3 win and started the season 1-4.

Another spring break contest matched Harding with the Ole Miss Rebels. The Rebels play in the SEC, one of the toughest baseball conferences in the country, and proved to be tough. But freshman Huerta kept his composure and the Bisons in the game. Tied at two through seven innings, the Rebels scored three runs and defeated Harding 5-2.

Left fielder Robert Cooper has been one of the reasons why Harding may have a chance at the playoffs. Cooper is currently hitting .372 and leads the team in base hits. With four games remaining, Cooper needs to hit to be the school record for a single season and hit to break the record. Cooper was hitting as well as .386 late in the season and had double figures in doubles and triples. In addition, he has thrown out more than 10 runners from right field alone.

Larry Chesher has also proved to be a leader for the Bisons again at third base this season. Chesher had been a four-year starter for Harding and had batted more than .300 all season. Chesher led the team in home runs with five until Cooper caught him late in the season.

One of Chesher’s accomplishments in his four years with the Bisons has been three straight trips to the AIC All-Star game in Little Rock. If selected this season, Chesher will be the first player in Harding’s history to be chosen to play in the game four straight years.

Huerta has pitched well for the Bisons this season. A Houston, Texas, native, Huerta led the staff all season long and should have a solid career for Harding. On the season, Huerta could be an Honorable Mention AIC selection this year and should be an All-Conference pitcher his last three years for the Bisons.

FIELD OF DREAMS. Head coach Steve Smith discusses team strategy. The Bison baseball team has only four conference games remaining this season.

Volleyball team excited about next season

by Darren P. Howard
Bison sports editor

Despite the loss of three key starters, the Lady Bison volleyball team feels good about the upcoming season.

“I feel really confident about next year,” said returning senior setter Tammy Todd. “I think we will be even more fundamentally sound next year than we were this year. The incoming freshmen really have a lot of potential and that means we should have a lot of depth.”

Though the Lady Bisons are losing three starting setters, they are returning three who will be stronger and have an additional year’s experience. Tammy Todd, Susan Humphrey and Lori Maples will anchor the starting lineup. Other returning key players include Robin King, Wendi Scott, Anna McFadden and Kathleen Basham.

Coach Karyl Bailey is very pleased with this year’s recruiting class. Eight newcomers, including seven freshmen and junior college transfer Becky Pruitt, will contribute greatly to the outcome of the season.

“The recruiting has been really good,” Bailey said. “You have to ask yourself how the newcomers are going to measure up in talent and game experience. I think our freshmen are very talented, but we have to gain experience as the season goes along. In a way, this will be a rebuilding year.”

The AIC should be the strongest, from top to bottom, that it has been since Harding started competing in women’s volleyball. “1AIC will probably be the team to beat,” Bailey said. “We will have to improve and gain game experience as the season progresses. If the chemistry is right, we will be competitive and hopefully make a run for it at the end.”

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The Bison tennis team has been causing a "racquet" throughout the Arkansas Inter-collegiate Conference. Harding coach David Elliott and his dominating team brought home their third straight AIC championship April 18. The Bisons won the championship outright by knocking off Southern Arkansas University at the Maulers' home courts in Magnolia, 9-4.

Harding had clinched at least a conference tie earlier when they defeated Arkansas Tech 9-4 at home April 15.

"We played a very good match on a great day," Coach Elliott said regarding the match with Arkansas Tech. "Our kids were ready to play after so many days off with bad weather."

Harding's tennis team stayed home the next day, April 16, to host Henderson University in a non-conference match-up. The Bisons continued their superior play, defeating the Reddies 8-1. The win boosted Harding's record to 20-3 overall and 6-4 in the AIC. The Bisons are riding in the 16th slot in the national poll.

For three Bison, the match with Henderson was the last at Harding. No. 1 seed Rigo Rosales, No. 4 seed Richelle Roberts and Lee Mackey are wrapping up their days at Harding.

Rosales is a senior professional sales major who has played for Harding two years. Rosales competed his freshman year for the Bisons and earned All-AIC, All-District and All-American honors. He transferred to UALR where he played two years of Division I tennis. During that time he was awarded scholar athlete and D1AC All-Conference both years. Rosales made the move back to Harding this year and has played superbly at the No. 3 position.

"This is the best team Harding has ever had. We have a lot of talent because everyone is so experienced. The whole team goes along great, and we also have a great coach too," Rosales said.

Roberts is the second senior who has anchored the No. 4 spot this season. He has played all four years of his college career at Harding. Roberts is a human resources major who has excelled both on and off the courts. Many awards have been sent his way, including All-District and All-Conference the last three years. Last year he was named All-American and recently received the Athlete of the Year Award.

The third senior player is Mackey. Mackey is a resident of Searcy and has played tennis all four years. Mackey, a senior economics major, hasn't seen a lot of playing time but has remained a strong back-up. Looking down the road, Coach Elliott said, "Recruiting looks good for next year but it's hard to replace players like these. We'll be favored in the layoff. We plan to go on to nationals and finish in the top 10."

The NAIA District Tournament begins today, April 26, and will conclude tomorrow. It is being held at Hendrix College in Conway. Harding has the best chance in the tournament and should go on to compete in Nationals May 3 in Kansas City.

RAISING A RACQUET. A member of the tennis team returns a volley during practice last week. The team won the AIC championship and begins NAIA district play today at Hendrix College in Conway. (photo by Brian Register)

Four tracksters ready for national meet

by Jason Harriman

As the end-of-the-season finish line comes into view, four members of the Harding track team are headed to the national meet, and another is close to qualifying.

Track coach Bryan Phillips said that he has a strong team heading into the AIC Championship in Magnolia, Ark., May 2-4. Coach Phillips, who said this year has been fairly balanced, is pleased that his team is competitive in every event.

Those headed to the Outdoor Nationals in Stephenville, Texas, May 28-June 1, are Jimmy Sloan, Shanna Queen, Rebekah Hutchison and Lori Wright.

Sloan, a junior from Proctor, Ark.,...
Seniors leave lasting impressions on campus

by Kevin Lange Kee

Members of Harding's Class of 1991 are preparing for that final graduation walk May 11 and, no doubt, are finding themselves remembering the highlights of their final semester.

Well, just in case someone out there needs a review, here are some of this spring semester's senior highlights:

Way back in January, the Alumni Association distributed an alumni directory to all senior class members. It provides contact in various U.S. cities for seniors to use after graduation.

"It was something new that we did this year," explained Carter Lambert, director of Alumni Relations. "It will give them a source of support as they look for jobs and other things."

Approximately 100 seniors participated in the first Senior Retreat in mid-February. The two-day event, sponsored by the Student Association's Spiritual Life Committee, the Alumni Association, the Bible Department and Dr. David Burks' office, featured Stanley Shipp as guest speaker. Shipp, a veteran motivational speaker and brother in Christ, encouraged seniors to "look at life's big picture."

"It doesn't matter how long you live, but what you live for," advised Shipp. "Don't let events over which you have no control rule your lives. Life is not a matter of understanding God but of trusting Him. He will provide everything you'll ever need—not want, but need."

Four senior class members spoke for small sessions of unity: Lori Westbrook and Lynn Regauld spoke to the women and Mark Halbert and Pat Odum spoke to the men.

Jeff Tucker, head of the SA's Spiritual Life Committee, felt that the retreat was a success.

"I felt like it went smoothly. It helped us focus on what we wanted to do with our lives spiritually as well as vocationally," he said.

SIGN UP: Senior Laura Beth Henderson of Searcy hangs a Student Impact sign with help from juniors Tracy Boyd of Searcy and Elizabeth Doyle of Sherwood.

Senior Bob Harp said of the retreat, "It was very encouraging. We all shared feelings about graduating and then prayed for each other."

In March the Alumni Association mailed newsletters full of legal advice and post-graduation tips to senior class members.

Soon afterward, the association sponsored a three-day Senior Week. Highlights of the week included the presentation of the senior class video and slide show in chapel. Mike Cope addressed seniors in a chapel talk, telling them that "when you reach what you think is the ultimate peak in your careers, that is the loneliest time in your life." He advised them to remember God in their plans to overcome that loneliness. Although the senior barbecue and "B" Rock devotional were postponed due to rain, the events were later rescheduled and met with success.

"We expected and had a great turnout for both the barbecue and the devos," SA President Susan Vaughn said after the events. "The barbecue behind Dr. Burks' house is an annual event and was a time for all of the busy seniors to come together for one last time of fellowship. It served as a kind of closure."

The seniors also decided on their Senior Class Project: the renovation of the Administration Auditorium. Senior Class President Stan King said that the goal is targeted to raise up to $75,000 over a five-year period.

"We hope to have a good number of seniors participate," he said. As the semester drew to a close, the seniors experienced a few more "last hurrahs" before graduation. Three seniors spoke in chapel during a special three-day chapel involving senior leaders. A special chapel session was held to honor the spring semester's graduating seniors. Each was called to the front of the Benson Auditorium and presented with a copy of this year's leadership book, The James F. Carr Jr. awards, recognizing outstanding students and their contributions to the church, school and community, were presented in a chapel session as well. Harding's faculty and staff, along with the Alumni Association, will sponsor a parent-faculty dinner on Friday, May 10. Graduation will be held the next day.

FUNKY, FRESH AND FINE. Pat McGaha of Searcy helps freshmen get a Fresh Start during Student Impact 1990. McGaha and Lynn Regauld of North Little Rock served as co-directors for the program during the summer before their senior year.

GOING MY WAY? Tom Gerber, a junior from Danville, Ind., stops to chat with senior Christine Myers of Irving, Texas.

HOWDY, PARDNER: Dialin' for her date, Jill Taylor of Daingerfield, Texas, tries to rope a man into joining her for some western grub.