Club induction provides a sense of belonging

by Tammy Veazey
Bison staff writer

Hayrides and functions, softball, basketball and devotionals – these are just a few ideas one may think of when social clubs are mentioned. However, clubs have also caused controversy, received close scrutiny from administrators and faculty, and adhered to new induction procedures in recent years.

Many question the role of the social club on Harding's campus. And many hold contrasting views of its definition. Still, every year, hundreds of freshmen and transfers consider being in a club desirable enough to spend hours upon hours going through the induction process.

“I don’t feel like I know them well enough to make any judgments,” she said. “I just look at their desire to be in Shantih.”

Voting sometimes seems like a long and difficult process, but measures are taken so that everyone is happy with the outcome.” McCorkle added that visitation has made a positive difference in the voting system.

Although the voting process was difficult for those voting, for pledges it was an even more stressful time. Adams said she raved with excitement and relief upon discovering her acceptance by Shantih.

“I was nervous and excited and hoping my roommate would receive an invitation also,” she said.

Adams has high expectations for what her club will mean to her.

A Christian attitude was also what Kim Camble, who is pledging Delta Gamma Rho, was looking for in a club. These hopes were precisely the ones that McCorkle said her club had fulfilled for her. “These girls have helped me in the search for who I am spiritually,” she said. “They are behind me in my challenges and are there to pick me up when I fall. They are a support system made up of Christian girls.”

Miriam Adams, another freshman, said she thoroughly enjoyed the activities of induction week, especially the minor dates (defined as “a hug or sharing a coke”) and major dates (“spending more than 15 minutes with a person”).

Teri Wade, a freshman from Russellville, Ark., is pledging Ju Go Ju. “I enjoy that we get to meet a lot of people,” she said, adding, “I’m really excited about being a cutiepie.”

Megan McCorkle said unity games, scavenger hunts and the name game added to the fun of getting to know the new pledges. “They were a little shy at first but were more comfortable as the week progressed,” she said.

McCorkle also mentioned that the voting system can be difficult. “I don’t feel like I know them well enough to make any judgments,” she said. “I just look at their desire to be in Shantih.”

Armstrong said, “Voting sometimes seems like a long and difficult process, but measures are taken so that everyone is happy with the outcome.” McCorkle added that visitation has made a positive difference in the voting system.

Although the voting process was difficult for those voting, for pledges it was an even more stressful time. Adams said she raved with excitement and relief upon discovering her acceptance by Shantih. “I was nervous and excited and hoping my roommate would receive an invitation also,” she said.

Adams has high expectations for what her club will mean to her. “I want to develop strong friendships that will help me refocus on God and what’s really important,” she said.

A Christian attitude was also what Kim Camble, who is pledging Delta Gamma Rho, was looking for in a club. These hopes were precisely the ones that McCorkle said her club had fulfilled for her. “These girls have helped me in the search for who I am spiritually,” she said. “They are behind me in my challenges and are there to pick me up when I fall. They are a support system made up of Christian girls.”

Zeta Rho class II members publicize their club by doing line cheers in the Benson lobby during evening activities. Photo by Kami Wentz.

Ju Go Ju inductees stretch to loosen up for a club football game in which Titans and Ju Go Ju combine forces to compete. Photo by Kami Wentz.
Who didn't relish the ice trays? My roommates have heard this statement more times than they probably care to admit. They've also heard about dirty dishes left floating around the apartment and globs of toothpaste left in the sink. My roommates know that little things really have a way of getting under our skin. They've also learned that I usually don't have any problem finding the right words to express myself. The side of my shoe is the innocent victim of someone's bubble gum. Yum. Left laying out in a parking lot, I'm ready to scream at the next person I see who has gum in their mouth. If I try to pull into what appears to be an empty parking spot at Wal-Mart, only to discover an unplugged shopping cart blocking my path, I'm aching to announce on the Wal-Mart loudspeaker: "Take your carts to the cart returns when you're through with them. Don't leave them unattended in some less-savvy parking lot." Perhaps I'm a tad extreme, but I don't think I'm the only person on this campus who lets little things get to me. In fact, I'm 28 years old and still possess the same lack of patience for little bumps on plastic cup lids, those little "other" or "diet" bumps. She can't stand for those bumps to be left up. Now personally, the bumps don't really make too much difference to me either way. But to her, raised bumps are bothersome, and she always takes the initiative to remove them.

We've all got our own way of doing things. We've all got our favorite team, our favorite brand, our favorite political gripe. And some of us can get downright mad when we encounter someone who doesn't do things our way, or who doesn't pick us for NFL player of the century should be selling peanuts in the stands. I've seen girls, and guys, begin a friendly conversation about Saturday's football game only to find them three minutes later with voices raised and faces red. So why is it that we don't get tinged mad about what should be the most important thing in our lives? The next justification that pro-student enrollment cap advocates would put forward is that the existence of a power structure that is not based on the formal lines of a power structure that is not based on the formal lines of education and administration in all levels of education will lead to a more post-modern and less structured education system. The problem with this is that many of us get mad in situations when we are not in charge of making the decisions of what happens in the school. The heart of this argument becomes, "Should an enrollment cap be enforced?"

The goal of Harding is to provide an environment in which spiritual and intellectual learning not only will be the focus of each student. A problem seemingly active, though, is the student body growing too large for the teacher to handle. While this debate should not be managed by the administration, but by the advantages and disadvantages of growth. So I ask, should a student enrollment cap be enforced? Yes, it should — if one is dealing with a modernist school.

Jeff Hammond

Bison guest curator

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**Student Surveys**

We asked 100 students whether they would return to Harding for Homecoming festivities after graduation. The survey says:

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**Daily Reflections**

... on wearing socks with sandals

by Misty Nosauk
Bison columnist

My question is this: Why do people insist on wearing socks with sandals? Now I realize there are numerous reasons one could use to justify him or her decision to commit such a faux pas. But before we examine those reasons, let’s take a brief look at the history of sandals, shall we?

Back in the days of old, when apostles roamed the earth and Christ was making his physical debut as Savior of mankind, it was customary to wash the feet of travelers upon their arrival. Why? Because their feet were dirty! Let me go on a limb here and assert the idea that they weren’t wearing socks. If they had been, I find it highly improbable that their feet would have needed washing. As a matter of opinion, I have always found it very rewarding to follow the examples of New Testament Christians wherever possible.

Although there exists a plethora of styles, the basic function and purpose of the sandal has remained relatively unchanged in its passage from generation to generation. If sandals worked for them, shouldn’t sandals work for us?

As we look back through the history of fashion, we see that socks were not required. Sandals allowed the wearer to remain as close to nature’s elements as possible while still protecting the vulnerable soles of their feet from the unwanted penetration of foreign objects. Sandals allow uninhibited toes freedom of movement. The whole thing is an ingeniously perfect concept that some of us have managed to foul up.

I am beginning to believe that those of us who generally choose not to wear socks possess a mindset of liberation—a care-free, feel-good kind of groove. That’s not to say that this idea holds true for everyone. Nor does it mean that sock-wearers can never attain this personal state of nirvana. It’s only to say that they may be depriving themselves of a truly genuine experience.

It’s not the end of the world! There are still a lot of us who choose to wear socks with sandals. For those of us who have missed the fashion boat and are stuck in the past, I implore you to consider the alternatives.

Sock therapy begins with the feet. If you are tired of wearing socks, try some of the new styles available today. There are socks that can successfully betray your true motives for wearing them in the first place. You can never go wrong with argyle or hand-woven-looking hiking socks. White socks, however, are a different story. Unless you have just participated in some sporting event and have exchanged your tired athletic shoes for some comely sandals for the ride home, there is no reason to wear white socks.

You know who you are! It’s become second nature for you to wake up and put on those thick, white, sport socks with sandals on a beautiful, sunny day. What’s the purpose? Your feet are destined to spend an eternity confined in the dark and gloomy prison cells we call socks. Tragedy of all tragedies.

But just when I begin to think that I’ve fairly argued both sides, and logic has proclaimed the sockless population victorious, there’s always some guy who testifies that socks keep his feet warm when it’s cold outside. Hey, he’s probably right. But if it’s cold, should he really be wearing sandals? You see, there comes a time in every man’s life when his mother no longer has to remind him that, “Honey, it’s November. Go put your coat and gloves on.”

Please understand that I’m not condemning sock wearers. I try to be open-minded and understand why people do the things they do. And as I said before, there are always exceptions to every situation. However, my purpose here is two-fold. First, to challenge the sock-wearers of our generation to re-evaluate their reasons for mixing socks and sandals. Secondly, to commend those of you who have already decided to experience the elements of nature—wiggling toes and all.

Just to think of the twelve apostles crusading in socks and sandals...

**Creative Talents Age**

By Judie O’Farrell

The grim party pauses, punch cups in hand, knots brows, frowns toward the closed door—Whispers, wrists rise to eyes. Still not here.

Rude of him, waiting until all of the guests have arrived, hoping for some grand entrance, no doubt. Fashionable—not hardly.

Another olive? Cake? Nuts, perhaps? Jaws obey, forced to swallow sweetness and spread the same. Neck, also compliant, bobbing head up and down...

But eyes betray, glancing again at the door, shifting at each tinkling fork. Empty.

Odd, isn’t he, our anticipated. Always the last to show, But never a minute late.

**Editor’s Note:**

This space is being reserved for student submissions to the BISON each week. To be considered for publication, send your letter, poem or pencil drawing to Box 1192 two weeks before publication date. All submissions must include the signature and phone number of the creator.

**Historical Happenings**

October 11, 1975, was the day that William Jefferson Blythe Clinton said ‘I do’ to Hillary Rodham.

October 11, 1928, was the birthdate of Roscoe Robinson, Jr. Robinson was the first African American to achieve the Army rank of four-star general.

October 11, 1884, was the birthdate of Anna Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, 32nd president of the United States. She was the first wife of a president to give her own news conference in the White House, and was affectionately called “the first lady of the world.”
Background, but she says there has always been a yearning inside of her to write, something that linked back to her youth. "My daddy was always a big story teller," Priest said. "Since I grew up without a lot of books or mental aids, I spent much time listening to my parents and grandparents tell stories." Priest enrolled in a creative writing course at the Institute of Children's Literature and also had two articles published in magazines.

"The writing of Her Reflection of His Image took seven years, and upon its completion, Priest still had to find a publisher for the book. "I first submitted the book to Word Publishing, but they informed me that they would not publish the book if I did not have an agent," Priest said. "I then decided to submit the book to Quality Publishing, and I was very excited when they told me they planned to publish it."

Caroline Priest, who teaches reading, has written Her Reflection of His Image, which focuses on the traits of God on the works of novelist E.L. Doctrow and debates the value of his literature.

Her Reflections of His Image was an attempt by Priest to write a book for Christian women who are trying to reflect God in their daily lives. Priest graduated from college with a music and education major, but two Harding professors have recently done just that.

The process of writing and publishing a book can be a long and often tedious task, but two Harding professors have recently done just that. Carolyn Priest, who teaches reading, has written Her Reflection of His Image, which focuses on the traits of God and trying to apply these to a woman's life. Dr. John Williams, a professor of English, is the author of Fiction As a False Document: The Reception of E.L. Doctorow In The Postmodern Age, which focuses on the works of novelist E.L. Doctorow and debates the value of his literature.

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The publishing of the book, which took two years, was completed earlier this year. Priest's book is advertised widely in Texas and Louisiana and is available in the Harding bookstore.

"There is a certain responsibility you feel when you first see the book in print," Priest said. "So many people are going to read it, and I began to wonder if I said everything just right. But, I know the book has a worthy message, and I am very happy and excited about the final product."

Williams' book explores the various works of E.L. Doctorow, a contemporary novelist whose works are not yet taught. Doctorow's works consist of eight novels, one play and one collection of short stories.

Some of Doctorow's works include Ragtime, Welcome to Hard Times and Loon Lake.

Even though Doctorow has a more limited audience than such novelists as Stephen King or John Grisham, Doctorow has been able to gain favor in the eyes of academic critics as well as the public, which is something Williams calls very rare.

Doctorow has won many national awards including the 1985 National Book Award for his novel, World's Fair.

Dr. Williams' book is designed to be a reception of Doctorow's works, which means that it explains how critics have received and interpreted Doctorow's writing. Williams spent more than four summers researching and writing the book.

It is designed to be a helpful guide for those people who want to study Doctorow, and it is sold almost exclusively to libraries.

Williams' novel also explores the postmodern movement and, more exclusively, its effect on literature.

According to Williams, the postmodernist critics of literature have been very critical of fiction and question if the works of Doctorow or any other have any validity or value. Williams tries to explain this criticism and make some sort of sense out of it. At the same time, he also attempts to portray his view that literature is essential to our society today.

"I feel very proud to be a voice in the academic world that says, 'let us not get critical about fiction,'" Williams said. "Writing this book gave me a chance to raise issues to all Christian readers about what is truly harmful in today's culture and to emphasize the message that literature is supposed to mean something."

Library adds free-access databases to aid in Internet searches

By Leigh Brennan
Bison staff writer

For everyone at Harding who does research for term papers or homework assignments, life has just been made easier. The Brackett Library has added more Internet databases to use in their searches.

Ann Hobby, the reference librarian, explained that the library has more than 60 databases on FirstSearch, an online search program. Although they have had FirstSearch since 1994, four more free-access databases were added this year: General Science Abstracts, Humanities Abstracts, Reader's Guide Abstracts and Social Science Abstracts.

In addition to these and nine other free services online, 50 databases charge a slight fee to obtain information. In order to use these, students must purchase a yellow Search Card, which costs $5 and allows for 10 searches.

However, Hobby suggests using these fee-based sources only if the information cannot be found in other library resources. She suggests checking first in the free databases, the CD indexes and print indexes.

If the information is not accessible there, Hobby said, students should not be discouraged that the other resources cost them money because the cost is actually quite inexpensive—only 50 cents per search. The library even underwrites part of the cost.

Another advantage of FirstSearch is that the Interlibrary Loan (ILL) system may be used in conjunction with it.

To order books or articles from another library, students need only follow the computer's prompts. If the file is too large or misunderstood prompt, according to Hobby, the request is automatically given for an order, but next-day delivery can sometimes be arranged.

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"It is our objective to not only help students find information for one assignment, but also to help them develop skills that will enable them to do research for any project, either here at Harding or at their jobs in the future."

When we fill your prescription, all you have to say is: 'Bill it to my dad.'

Boyce Arnett, P.D.
Class of '66

MEDICAL CENTER
PHARMACY

Located in the Searcy Medical Center

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George Strachan and Brian Firence, both sophomores, skim through the nation's top sports stories on an Internet database. Many students take advantage of such Internet opportunities. Photo by Kami Wentz.
Country group Blackhawk plays to cozy crowd

by Aaron Wegner
Bison staff writer

The popular country music group Blackhawk filled the Benson Auditorium with their distinctive knee-slapping and hand-clapping sound on Oct. 3. The Nashville-based group played for one and one-half hours to a lively and enthusiastic crowd of about 2,000 people.

Blackhawk is a relatively new country band whose sound is more contemporary and upbeat than most country bands. The group was awarded the TNN-Music City News Group Star of Tomorrow Award after their debut album, "Blackhawk," soared in popularity and produced multiple top-40 hits. Their recently released follow-up album, "Strong Enough," has propelled the group into the ranks of the elite in the country music world.

As Blackhawk gives a top-level performance of their popular hit songs, an enthusiastic Benson audience cheers, claps and sings along.

Congressman Tim Hutchinson to speak Tuesday

by Robin Benson
Bison guest writer

Congressman Tim Hutchinson will address the issues candidates are facing in the upcoming election, respect within government, and the citizens' duty to society in his address Tuesday night at the House of Representatives since 1992. He has been spoken concluding with their present smash single, "Big Guitar." The group genuinely seemed to enjoy playing in the small but cozy Benson, and lead singer Henry Paul repeatedly classified the crowd as being that of a "small college, but a big heart."

"It is not like Harding is a big money-making spot," said sophomore Bobby Davis from Louisville, Ky. "It said a lot that they came here and gave the level of performance that they did."

Junior Lance Wijgerton of Pittsfield, Ill., said of the concert, "I thought that the band did many unique things, such as the original introductions to many songs, that gave an extra spark to all of the songs. This also presented an aspect of the songs that you wouldn't hear on the CD."

Everything from the "cowboys" in the audience throwing their hats onto the stage to the large number of women trying to touch a "cowgirl" on stage, contributed to the great energy level of the crowd," said sophomore Pam Shirley of Cabot, Ark. "They really played to the crowd well."

The 37th annual Arkansas State Fair begins today and continues through November, 26th at the State Fairgrounds in Little Rock. Regular gate admission is $5.

The Sears Learning Center will present "Running Low?" a workshop on time management skills, Monday, Oct. 14, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Heritage room.
Former presidents have a way of sticking around for years

by Kate Sugg
Bison staff writer

A question has been plaguing the minds of students across campus for months now: Rich, Nathan, Ryan... Why are you guys still here? These former Student Association presidents have joined an elite group of past presidents who remained on the Harding campus after serving their semesters as students body leaders.

The group includes Dr. Rod Brewer, professor of English; Dr. Ross Cochran and Dr. Jimmy Allen, professors of Bible; Dr. Winfred Wright, professor of French; and of course, Dr. David Burks. Keeping these men around has certainly benefited the students of Harding, and it's probably safe to say that the prolonged stays of the younger "ex-presidents" won't be bad for Harding either.

All three of these talented young men are still very much involved in campus life and activity here at Harding, and all of them are still contributing in different ways to the university.

Rich Little was S.A. president three years ago and since then has been busy with several different projects here at Harding. After graduating in 1994, he began his work on his master's in education and Bible. He has now finished the degree and began serving the university this year in two official roles.

One of these roles is that of faculty sponsor for Spring Break Campaigns. Little explained his task as "finding ways that Harding can use her facilities and the talents of students and faculty to help the church." One example that Mello mentioned is the television production studio, which he described as an excellent resource for the ministries of the church. His job is to point out resources like this one so that they can be used in the most efficient and productive ways.

Mello is also one of the coordinators of Feed Arkansas, a state-wide canned food drive that is uniting schools and churches across Arkansas in an effort to collect food for the hungry. Mello plans to finish his master's and then continue his work in Christian education.

Ryan Sorrell was president last year and is not ashamed to admit that he is spending some time this semester recovering from that hectic year. He will finish his degree in youth ministry with a minor in psychology in December. Sorrell plans to then go to Abilene Christian University to work towards a master's in marriage and family therapy.

He is not sure exactly how long he will be staying. Sorrell is still very active in Titans and is also helping with the Feed Arkansas program.

Now that we know why they're still here, inquiring minds want to know... Zach, how long will you be staying?
Harding dominates NSU, 33-7

by Paul King
Bison sports editor

In last week's game against Northeastern State University, the Bisons traveled to take on the one-and-three Redmen. Looking forward to a contest they had never won in Tahlequah, Okla., Coach Randy Tribble remembered all too well the 27-0 loss from last year. "They kicked us pretty hard the last time we were there," he said. This Saturday, though, would be different; at least, that's what the team hoped.

The first quarter only saw one scoring attempt, a narrowly missed field goal by freshman Jeremy Thompson. The Bison defense was keeping them in the game by stopping the Redmen offense.

According to Tribble, it was the turning point in the game. "That was the shot we needed to get a little boost," he said. It didn't get any easier for the Redmen. On their next possession, Brian Caffey, a freshman defensive back, caused and recovered a fumble which led to a 16-yard Chris Pierson touchdown jaunt. Pierson, a junior transfer, finished with 167 total yards, of which 142 were rushing.

The first half ended with an interception by cornerbacc Jeff Lanier and the Redmen totaling only 49 offensive yards. Physically, Harding was more aggressive than their counterpart, which had been a focal point for the black and gold. Senior defensive end Will Allen said, "The whole time in practice, Coach told us to take the physical game to another level, and that's what we needed to do to win." Allen had four tackles on the day, two for a total loss of nine yards.

In the third quarter, Harding rushed for two touchdowns on their first two drives. The first was by junior fullback Chris Chism, and for the second one, senior Clay Beason pulled a quarterback sneak. In between series, NSU got its only score, a 41-yard rushing touchdown.

Harding's running game and special teams helped to sustain their lead throughout the rest of the game. The Bisons totaled 182 yards rushing and seven punts, averaging 38.9 yards per punt.

Our game plan was to drive it in on them any way we could," Beason said, "and it just so happened that our running game was on." With the running game in to run down the clock, Beason finished with 132 yards on nine completions. Harding controlled the clock by nearly 10 minutes.

Toseal the game 33-7, Lanier intercepted his second pass and ran it in for a touchdown. "It felt really good to get the touchdown," Lanier said remembering that he had intercepted a pass against NSU last year as well.

Allowing their opponent to score the fewest points all year and shutting down a running back with 50 yards worth of losses, the defense also was able to come up with five turnovers. "The key to the game for us was that our defensive front physically dominated their offensive line," Tribble said.

Senior linebacker Christian Scudder summed up the feelings of both the players and the coaches saying, "We finally got out and played our game; we outplayed them, physically beat them and proved that we could beat a good team on the road."
Talented cross country competitors pursue trip to national tournament

by Jeremy Schopper
Bison staff writer

"Since I have been coaching, this is the most talented group of athletes we have had," said Bryan Phillips, coach of the men’s and women’s cross country teams.

The men’s team is ranked 17th in the nation after a strong showing in a meet at Oklahoma State Oct. 5. They finished eighth out of 18 teams, of which all but two of the top seven are members of the NCAA Division II. In their previous three meets, the men finished first, first and second, respectively.

The women are not ranked nationally but they have fared well against the competition, finishing first, first, fifth and fourth, respectively.

Contribution to the success of the team is the time and effort put forth in practices every weeknight at 8:30. These generally consist of running eight miles in various drills, including running hills, intervals and repeats. These variations may include anything from running 800 meters 12 times, an eight- to 10-mile run or a fast-paced five miles.

The team pulls double duty on Mondays and Wednesdays, working out at 6 a.m. in the weight room and finishing with a four-mile run.

"Even though they sometimes get painful, I really look forward to going to practice," said Kelly Lauterbach, a freshman from Loveland, Colo. "We always have so much fun when we’re together. We really enjoy each other’s company."

The men’s team shares the same sentiment. "We really have grown together," Jonathan Dandy said. "Since most of us are juniors, we’ve had these three years together. We have developed a lot more confidence in each other as time has gone on."

This attitude of “team first” has parlayed into a winning attitude that has extended to lofty goals. "I would love it if we were able to make it to national competition as a team," Lauterbach said. Jonah Tanui agrees that this goal is quite attainable. "We have put ourselves in a strong position to make it to nationals," he said.

Students encouraged to join basketball teams as Midnight Madness kicks off ’96-’97 season

by Paul King
Bison sports editor

Many colleges across the country are kicking off the upcoming basketball season as soon as the NCAA will allow it — Monday at midnight — bringing in another year of Midnight Madness, Harding style. This event is designed for the fans, the players and the coaches. This year, the Rhodes Memorial Fieldhouse will be rocking to the pep and spirit of the Thundering Herd. The band will start playing at 11:15 p.m., setting up the main event, which is to see the Harding Bisons and the Lady Bisons take the court at exactly midnight.

"It’s a way to kick off the first practice and have the students and coaches watch both the men’s and women’s teams scrimmage," Coach Jeff Morgan said.

Students are encouraged to wear their jerseys, make a lot of noise and make a sign or poster supporting the Bisons. Winning clubs of the shoot-offs will each receive $100.

Doors will open at 11 p.m. Last year was the first time Harding participated in Midnight Madness, and a crowd of more than a thousand was on hand to cheer on their Bisons.

Door prizes will be another carryover from last year’s event as lucky students will receive numerous gifts, and one special ticketholder will get a half-tuition scholarship if he or she can sink a half-court shot.

Clubs have a special incentive to participate. Each club is encouraged to send a representative to the courts at 11:30 to set a 3-point contest. Men’s and women’s clubs will participate separately in elimination rounds leading to the finals.

Morgan encouraged clubs to wear their jerseys, make a lot of noise and make a sign or poster supporting the Bisons. Winning clubs of the shoot-offs will each receive $100.