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Student lectureship plans take shape

Yaronda Fletcher
Bison staff writer

"Student Lectureship is a good chance for the student body to look into our own, find the leaders, and teach each other," Sa President Ryan Allan said in announcing the annual student lectureship.

Various students will have the opportunity to share their faith and beliefs with Allan and Spiritual Life Directors Mark Childress and Angela Early. Many of the students were simply requested by their peers, and then met the guidelines from the College of Bible and Religion.

"I am very honored and humbled by this whole experience. To be used by God is a pretty cool thing, but at the same time it is very humbling to be considered worthy enough to be used by Him," said Jennifer Stover, a junior psychological major from Memphis, Tenn.

Laura Rubio, a senior French major from Memphis, Tenn., said, "I was surprised, until nervousness overcame me. My stomach dropped, but I didn't even think of saying no because I really wanted to do it."

The students picked ideas that are unique to them but related to the lectureship's topic in some way. Just as no two topics are the same, no two speakers used the same process to develop their individual lessons. Deborah Root, a junior elementary education and vocational ministry major from Fort Worth, Texas, said she selected a passage from 1 Samuel that had been on her heart lately. She will be speaking about "God's Perfect Timing." Mark Cross, a senior international business major from Maumelle, Ark., said, "I chose something that I've had to learn in the last few years. It seems that the things I try to plan don't work out, but when I leave it up to God everything works. I thought that if I struggle with this then others might too." Her lesson is titled "Dependence on God—Independent from the World."

Pete Vann, a sophomore theatre and vocal minor maj or from Memphis, Tenn., wanted a topic that would go with his personal strengths. "God has blessed me with the ability to tell a story, so I tried to think of a story I could tell. I decided to tell Christ's story because that is more powerful than any points I could make on my own," he said. Vann will be speaking in chapel on Tuesday. His lesson, "The Fire That Deuces Us," tells about the crucifixion through the perspective of Christ, a Roman soldier, and a Jewish religious leader.

The speakers all feel that the student lectureship offers students a unique opportunity. "Student Lectureship is important because it is a chance for us to develop our own faith, rather than relying on the older generation," Cross said.

Vann said, "Not only is the lectureship good for the student body who get to hear what their peers believe, but it also helps the speakers. As any teacher would tell you, they learn more than their students do because of their preparation. My preparation has brought me closer to God."

Other speakers will include Pat Billings, Jeremy Blair, J.R. Duke, Alan Howell, Alissa Lingua, Tiff Pelli, Emily Price, Seth Rubin, Dan Rucker, Scott Schweiger, Russ Turner and Jenny Walters Childress.

Allan urged everyone to attend the classes and the nightly meetings. "If you show up and give it a chance, it could change your life," he said.

Collins to provide Saturday evening entertainment

Diane Grubbs
Bison staff writer

Wall Collins will be performing at Harding Saturday evening, March 7. Collins, an accomplished stand-up comedian, was born in Springfield, Mass., and began his career in Boston. He had planned to be "the best architect that New England had ever known," but he felt a strong calling to show business. An accomplished drummer, his "hunger for entertainment" led him to the comedy scene.

Collins has performed on the Late Show with David Letterman, Showtime at the Apollo, A&E's Evening at the Ingram's, Comedy Central's Stand-Up, Spotlight, and TNN's Crook & Chase. He has also made straight club appearances in New York, Boston and Los Angeles.

Collins has been well received in performances at hundreds of colleges and universities. For three consecutive years, he has been nominated as "College Campus Entertainer of the Year."

Wall put on an excellent performance that was enjoyed by all who attended and the material covered something that everyone could relate to," a spokesperson for Central College in Iowa said.

With the motto "Keep it clean and clear," Collins is known for his good, clean fun. "The show was a complete success with freshmen through seniors; his jokes were clean and had everyone in stitches all night; we can't wait to have him back again," a spokesperson for Lynchburg College in Virginia, said.

Wall Collins was an outstanding stand-up comedian; his show was not only hilarious, but well put together; and due to audience reaction, he went beyond contractual obligations and performed for an hour and a half, generously."

"He is great and funny," Assistant Dean of Student Life Terry Davis said. "The people on campus will really enjoy hearing him and will appreciate his humor."

His strong point is that he has clean comedy, and he'll set us up for Bill Cosby."
Last week, I began to send out resumes in the hope of securing a job for after graduation. In between searching many newspaper want ads, internet job search sites and personal contacts, I have spent countless hours on resumes, cover letters and requests for employment.

Am I expecting some big break staff more work than I thought it would be? Do I worry that I won't get a job or that I won't be happy for long? Absolutely not. The three questions boils down to one word: yes.

Now, I'm not afraid that I'll be homeless, living in a cardboard box somewhere between 17th and Constitution streets in Washington, D.C., derpaid, overworked burger flipper or waitress, but I am nervous that I will have a hard time finding the right job for me.

Sometimes I place too much emphasis on what we can put on paper that proves our skills and abilities, and not enough emphasis on what we can do with our hearts and what makes up our souls. Have you ever heard that saying, "You can't take your skills and abilities with you?" Well, I think it's my opinion about having lists of accomplishments for our professional work on earth. Sure, it's nice to have a list of our abilities and make us proud to look at, but what do they really mean to me?

I have that I have to trust that God will lead me to the best place in the world where He can use me for His purpose as well as me and me. He has blessed me with, and I'm sure that no matter how much I worry about what I am I am doing where I'm going, ultimately, it isn't under my control. I will go where I know God and others need me. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Sometimes I really worry that I won't get the best job, the best apartment or have the future career that I want, but there's hope. Sometimes you just have to put up with the press and the death, the one point in time when their lives seemed to have it all, will make your paths straight. It is not difficult to recognize that we live in a materialistic world that is over run with greed and selfishness. Our senses are flooded every day with products that we can have for a very money and have to be brainwashed to desire more than we had. What a waste of energy and time.

When anyone makes it into the public eye, so the auctioneer's job is to control the price of an item at auction: "its intrinsic value, plus a quick sense of overprice meronment."

"What auctioneers are doing by this indiscretion is selling all the remaining pieces of the people's feelings." — Roger Rosenblatt

The deceased items sold at celebrity auctions.

Stacey Basinger
Bee staff writer

All I know about is that someone makes it into the public eye, for whatever reason, he or she no longer afford the luxury of peace and quiet in any public place. He or she is forced to deal with the press and the public, at some point in time when their lives have earth have ended. So many celebrities are forced to deal with the press and the public, at some point in time when their lives have earth have ended.

Sotheby's brought in about $30 million more than the actual estimated value of Jackie's various belongings. People shamelessly paid extremely large amounts of money for something that was theirs to do or be like. It's not difficult to recognize that we live in a materialistic world that is over run with greed and selfishness. Our senses are flooded every day with products that we can have for a very money and have to be brainwashed to desire more than we had. What a waste of energy and time.

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My so-called life

Jeff Krinks

It starts around 7 a.m. My day begins. Slowly, I ascend into the conscious world. I realize that in about an hour my alarm clock will sound, with its intermittent shrills. I look at the clock, which says 7:04, and smile, knowing I can squeeze in one more dream. My grandma has probably been up for two hours already.

The alarm goes off, and I awake. The sun is shining. The birds are singing. So, naturally, I start whistling along with them. As I get dressed, the eggs sizzle on the pan and the toast pops up from the toaster. With a few long sips from a glass of orange juice, I'm out the door. Nothing new.

Then my cell phone rings. The voice on the line says, "Hurry down to the airport - outside the main terminal. I'll meet you there."

Before I can say, "OK," the hang-up. Barely missing a Walmart truck, I squelch wheels and make a quick U-turn. I jump on the highway and make it to the airport in record time.

As I pull up I notice a tall gentleman in a dark suit and shades. He waves me out of the car and through a few corridors marked "Airport Employees Only." To my surprise, no one notices. The man calmly reaches in his jacket and pulls out a headset. He tells me to put it on and press "play."

"My name is Mr. Johnson. I'm with the U.S. Bureau of Investigation. I need you to go a few steps with me."

I grab my briefcase and try to look calm. "What's going on?"

"I need you to cover a series of phone calls between 8:25 a.m. and 8:45 p.m. I'll expect a full report upon your return."

Through the hangar door appears my transportation - an Apache fighter helicopter. The rotors are already spinning and the cockpit door is open. The tall gentleman slaps me on the back and gives a thumbs up. I hop in, not knowing exactly what to expect next.

The biting sound of the blades intensifies, and the giant machine lunges upward. I'm off! Within minutes my target appears. I lower the altitude until I'm hovering just above the tree tops. I find an open spot and lower the chopper to the ground. The grass underneath fans out in all directions as I set the wheels down.

The clock on the instrument panel reads 8:57. I grab the duffel bag under the seat and open it. It contains the necessary uniform for my mission: a pair of khaki pants, a blue plaid collar shirt, argyle socks and brown hiking boots. Quickly I put everything on - I don't have much time.

A crowd has already begun to gather at the target coordinates. I run as fast as I can to the intersection - Center and Blakeney streets - up the stairs, through the doors, past the lady with the clipboard, and into my chapel seat. Whew, that was close.

As I pull out my cell phone and call home base, I hear, "Make up for the missing call. Get a July green light, that's where I'll be this May."

Upon landing, I get the green light and return. My day ends. It was all a dream. I turn the shower faucet to hot and stumble in as the train rumbles by the window. After drying off, I put everything on - I don't have much time.

As I was dreaming, it's strange when some of the dreams come true. One of my most vivid was moving someday to California. If God gives me the green light, that's where I'll be this May. Also, I dream of coming to Illinois, perhaps near the center of my state. Even in my dreams, I still want to come true.

We each have a natural ability to dream (unless it's finals week). Unfortunately, I'm late to chapel, I forget my number two pencil, and I don't have much time. Do you have specific dreams or aspirations? More than merely dreaming them, I hope you'll make them a reality. With all the talents and skills you've been given, your dreams might actually come true.

As for me, I'm aspiring to learn how to cook more than just hamburger helper.

Conversation STARTERS...

• March is American Red Cross Month.

• March 9 is the birthday of the Barbie doll.

• March 12 is Fire Side Chat Day, commemorating President Franklin Roosevelt's first Sunday evening broadcast.

• March 13 is Uncle Sam Day, celebrating the first Uncle Sam character, which was published in the New York Lantern in 1852.

• March 17 is Saint Patrick's Day.

The World Will Never Stop Shaking from Those Seismic Steps

Running this evening, I felt them. When I noticed I had lost the sun to the earth's curve, I realized I had lost the day both to the Bell Curve and to the curve of Peyton Manning's perfect pass - not so perfect today - on TV.

Only a few minutes before my legs turned into pillars of fire, I pulled a hill too steep, too long to top without walking.

As I slowly crested the hill, I saw purple crested clouds cresting gray mountains, the only thing I could see that could see the sun. Then I ran on into the gray light that gives an aura of terrible surprise, like when watching lightning-spining thunderheads boil over a pasture or when hearing that a marriage is breaking up.

And I was able to take the earth's curve and make it to the airport - outside the main terminal. I'll meet you there."
Periodical database available through First Search

Elizabeth Smith
Managing Editor

Despite the beautiful weather that the spring semester often affords, many students are required to spend endless afternoons and countless hours tucked away in the corners of Harding's Brackett Library doing research for term papers. While this process is never easy, the library staff has recently added a database known as Wilson Select.

Wilson Select is the first full-text periodical database available to students. According to Reference and Instruction Librarian Ann Hobby, Harding accesses Wilson Select through the Arkansas State Library system as part of First Search. The search allows for 18 free searches and an additional 50 searches that have a fee. In order to access any of the searches, each student must present a valid Harding I.D.

The greatest benefit of Wilson Select, according to Hobby, is that it allows students to search for articles on a selected topic and read corresponding abstracts. They then can choose which full-text article they want to read. Rather than using journals or microfiche, they may simply print the article directly from Wilson Select. "First Search is very user-friendly and allows for very sophisticated searches," Hobby said. (Wilson Select) allows you to search like you would any other database, but also includes the full text of the article," Hobby said.

Wilson Select is limited to periodicals. According to Hobby, it includes articles from many journals that Harding's library does not subscribe to in print form. Because Wilson Select allows students to have a full text at their fingertips in a matter of moments, Hobby expects it to enable students to collect research material much more quickly. Jennifer Scism, a sophomore interlibrary loan assistant, said, "Students will less frequently have to order information from other places so far in advance, and it will save them a great deal of time."

Implementing Wilson Select has been a goal of the library staff since early in the fall, 1997, semester. It was late fall before the library was actually able to connect with the system. Past first-searches have required a lot of time because of a sluggishness of the state Internet system, but recent improvements are making the process faster. Prior to Wilson Select, online searches would bottleneck and result in an overloaded system state-wide. Searches often consumed a great deal of time or simply shut down. Wilson Select has been able to sidestep this problem.

To anyone who attended the stress management seminar recently held on campus. We have the wonderful products referred to in the presentation. We are located in Searcy. For more information about these products call: 268-5667

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Seminar addresses education, involvement and growth

Indie Pereira  
Bison staff writer

Religious education, involvement ministries and church growth were the topics of the 3-in-1 seminar, offered Friday, Feb. 27, and Saturday, Feb. 28.

The religious education and involvement ministries seminars have been held separately in the past. They were teamed up this time, along with a new church growth seminar, to form the 3-in-1 seminar.

Dinner and a keynote address kicked off the seminar Friday evening. Ray Fulenwider from the Central Church of Christ in Amarillo, Texas, spoke on this title. “Driven Church.” Fulenwider is also the author of a book by this title.

The seminar Friday evening will be followed by the church growth seminar Saturday night, along with a seminar Friday evening.

“A Heart of a Teacher” served as the theme for the religious education branch of the seminar. This seminar sought to answer questions such as how many students should be in a class, how do we get workers and how do we know if anybody’s learning?

The Pleasant Valley Church of Christ in Little Rock teamed up with Harding to offer this year’s seminar. Matt Mellor teaches the class, “Teaching with gadgets and gimmicks,” at the 3-in-1 Seminar. The seminar was designed to instruct teachers on progressive teaching methods. Photo by Tonia Davenport.

According to Yeakley, there are 2,188 fewer churches in the United States than there were in 1980. Missouri and Tennessee are among the states that have seen a significant decline in church membership.

“Every religious group is going through tension over leadership style and worship style,” Yeakley said. Both of these subjects were addressed as a part of the church growth seminar. Yeakley said that the younger generation wants a more open leadership style with worship that is praise oriented, employing contemporary music. The older generation may resist change, he said, “imposing the culture of the 1930s in the church of the 1990s.”
Hillary Keller
Bison staff writer

Many Walton scholars attend Harding. Their scholarship has brought them here from various countries in Central America and Mexico and is providing them with an education. Last summer, they decided to give something back: the Jesus Project.

The Jesus Project was created by and is run by mostly of Walton scholars. The projects theme is Its better to give than to receive, and thats what it does. The Jesus Project provides medical and school supplies and hygiene products to Central America, while teaching about Jesus. Nora Shebelut, a senior psychology major from Panama, said that the Walton scholars wanted to give back something as a way of saying thank you for what they have received. As the Lord has given us to us, we want to give back. The main point is to give, but in the end we receive so much. Shebelut is also the coordinator of the project.

Last August, the group traveled to Icacal Island in El Salvador. Though the island is only separated from the mainland by a river, it is so isolated that the few people who live there seldom interact with one another and even more seldom leave the island.

The group of 25 Harding students arrived for their week-long stay in Icacal Island bearing health supplies, school supplies, food and the message of the gospel. They provided everything necessary for their project, including books, notebooks, pencils and paper that the children would need to learn at the tiny, one-room school.

The children who came to the school were taught not only reading, writing and other traditional school subjects, but they were also taught about the love of Christ and Gods plan of salvation.

Carlos Velasco, a junior business management major from El Salvador, said, We take lots of supplies for them, such as clay, colored pencils, crayons, etc. The families of Icacal hardly have anything. There is no running water, no electricity, no telephone or any of the other things that we take for granted. This group provided its own transportation and food. We took several special coolers filled with ice and food to last the whole week, he said.

Language was not a barrier for this mission trip because most of the participants spoke Spanish. But Shebelut said one American nurse who couldnt speak Spanish came along. The smile of the American was good enough for the children. They could understand, she said.

Funding the project would have been nearly impossible without the help of companies in the United States and the respective countries of the students. We asked for a lot of help, and we got a lot of help, Velasco said. Last year, companies donated $7,000 to help with the project, including a $1,000 donation from one company so we could buy a library of books for the kids. Everyone was so generous to us. They were all really eager to help, so we got most of the things we needed.

If they could avoid it, the group didnt buy anything until they got to El Salvador. Laws about what crosses the border were strict. We really wanted to take cash and buy our supplies when we entered El Salvador. Its much safer and a hassle that way, Velasco said. All of the donated money went toward buying educational tools for the children.

This year, the Jesus Project has big dreams in mind. One of their plans is an improved classroom. The school that already exists in Icacal is an inadequate building thats not big enough to house a school. The Jesus Project plans to build a new classroom for the tiny school and to provide books, paper, pencils, and other supplies that will help to keep it running.

The project is also working on getting a generator for Icacal. The only water the children have is nasty and from wells. It often makes them very sick, Velasco said. We plan to get them a generator so they can dig deeper wells and get cleaner water.

Planting trees is also on the agenda for this summers trip. The climate in Icacal is extremely hot in the summer, and the children have almost no protection from the scorching heat. We want to plant trees around the school building so the children have some protection from the sun when they play outside, Velasco said.

The Jesus Project also hopes to teach the adults in the area about Christ and about how to form a community so they can make Icacal a better place for the children. Seeing the children smile was the most rewarding part of the trip, shebelut said. This was the first year for the Jesus Project, which had been in the planning stages since 1996.

We hope to keep expanding the Jesus Project in the future. We will keep coming back to Icacal Island, but we want to start projects in other countries. Our goal is to have one Jesus Project in every Central American country someday. We want to keep returning to the same places every year so the people know that we really care about them, and that we want to improve life for them, Velasco said.

The projects board of directors, which includes Shebelut, Velasco and Floryluce Argueta, said that more workers and donations are needed for this summers trip to be completely successful.

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The members of the Jesus Project team worked last summer on Local Island, El Salvador, to assist the islanders and teach the children about the gospel. Photo courtesy of Carlos Velasco.

The Jesus Project team members act out biblical parables with children at the school on Local Island. The team members used biblical applications to teach children. Photo courtesy of Carlos Velasco.

The Jesus Project team members act out biblical parables with children at the school on Local Island. The team members used biblical applications to teach children. Photo courtesy of Carlos Velasco.
Bison track team races into season

Janalyn Williams
Sports staff writer

Harding University's track teams are heading into this year's season with full force, said Coach Bryan Phillips. "We are returning three All-Americans, a tough team, and we have a lot of fresh talent coming on."

The returning All-Americans for the women's team are all sprinters. Erica Harris is a senior from Brentwood, Tenn. . Callister Lush is a sophomore who competed in the 1996 Olympics for her homeland of Nigeria, and Bumiegh Tombiri, a sophomore, is also from Nigeria.

The men are also being led this season by three All-Americans. Tommy Noel, a senior from Louisville, Ky., is a veteran All-American. The other returning All-Americans are junior Jonah Tanui and sophomore Jepht Langat, both from Kenya.

Ubah made it to the qualifying round in the Atlanta games. At a meet in Nebraska this season, she recorded the fastest time in the nation in the 55-meter. She said she is definitely working to become a two-time All-American.

"That's about a recent meet. She is my favorite event," said Phillips. While she said she is definitely training for this season because she is going to assist the academy's track teams. "We haven't competed very well so far, but we are ready for the meet that is coming up," he said.

The team is dependent on the efforts of a junior transfer student, also from Kenya, Jerry Maritim. A distance runner, Maritim is expected to contribute to the team this year. "He has a great record and a lot of potential. We are hoping he can continue his efforts for Harding," Phillips said. Other returning distance runners are seniors Jonathan Dandy, of Topeka, Kan., and Seth Crum, of Canton, Ohio.

Both teams are looking to practicing and training as their main focus at this point.

The boys team competed in their first meet Thursday, March 5, at Southern Arkansas University.

The men are preparing for Division II. The track teams are returning three All-Americans and Langat was a NAIA All-American. Photo by Tony Davenport.

Sports Notes

Wake Forest Recruiting Incentives

Wake Forest recently began a policy that every recruit will have a laptop computer. That sparked an idea for football coach Jim Grobe.

"I've told folks that we should include ping pong along with the laptop, we've made it in recruiting."

At least steer a Mercedes

Torry Gwynn just doesn't get the respect he deserves. Apparently, an imposter presenting to the San Diego Padres star recently told a Ford Escort out for a test drive in San Diego and forgot to bring it back.

"A Ford Escort," Gwynn said when he was asked the why. "What does that have to do with my reputation?"

You Snooze, You Lose

Spring training has only just begun, but the Clubhouse leader for the strength and injury camp is tough to bear. Pittsburgh Pirates reliever Jason Silva strained a neck muscle turning off his alarm clock.

Drop the Subject

The Oakland Raiders gave permission for Chester McCoccio to meet with the Washington Redskins to see if there was interest in a trade for defensive tackle. Washington looked else where, after McCoccio was asked if he wanted to see the weight room and the replied he wasn't much interested in weight rooms.

Bisons capture LSC honors

Carlton Bryant was placed on the Lone Star Conferences North Division All-Conference team. Senior J.R. Duke was given an Honorable Mention. The Lady Bisons' Molly McPherson and Mandy Cox were also placed on All-Conference Honors. Duke, Emily Prysock, Susan Reese and Stephanie Benson were given Academic All-Conference Honors.

AP Top 25

1. Duke
2. Arizona
3. Kansas
4. North Carolina
5. Utah
6. Connecticut
7. Kentucky
8. Princeton
9. Purdue
10. Mississippi
11. Stanford
12. Michigan State
13. UCLA
14. Cincinnati
15. South Carolina
16. Arkansas
17. Michigan
18. Rice
19. UCLA
20. New Mexico
21. Maryland
22. Syracuse
23. West Virginia
24. Temple
25. Oklahoma State

Sports Information Office

A 16-12 final season record does not tell the whole story of the Lady Bison basketball season.

In a rebuilding year, with a new coach and a new conference, a winning record would be a goal. During an up and down season, the team played many exciting games and produced some big wins and other near misses.

Individually, the Lady Bisons were recognized for outstanding play during the year. Mandy Cox, the only senior, was twice recognized as Lone Star North player of the week.

During both weeks, Cox hit eight three-pointers to equal the LSC record. She had game highs of 32 points (Carroll) and 30 points (West Texas). She ranked fourth in NCAA II, making 3.3 three-pointers per game.

Junior Emily Prysock ranked sixth in the league with 6.2 assists per game and was player of the week when she set a Harding record with 17 assists in the game against North-Eastern Oklahoma.

Sophomore Rachel Raglin ranked 16th in NCAA Division II with an 83.1 percent from the free throw line.

Junior Susan Reiss was the team's top rebounder (7.3 rpg). She had a game high of 15 in the overtime win against Ouachita.

The team produced big wins against highly ranked Southwestern Oklahoma (70-62), East Central Oklahoma (85-75), and won close games against NAIA number five East Texas Baptist (73-72) and their old rival Lyon College (71-64, 63-61).

Lyon is ranked in the NAIA and owns late season victories over two of the NAIA's top five teams. Union (1) and David Lipscomb (5).

Two "near misses" were at West Texas (79-75) and Southwestern Oklahoma (65-64).

In the friendly confines of the hoodie, the Lady Bisons were 11-2. They were 3-10 on the road.

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Lady Bisons fall to ACU in LSC finals

Bryan Burleson
Bison staff writer

The Lady Bisons could not overcome a 20-point deficit at halftime in their 76-54 loss to Abilene Christian University Saturday.

The ACU Wildcats were ranked 13th in Associated Press polls.

ACU jumped out to a 19-point lead at the 13:22 mark of the first half and was never threatened. The Lady Bisons shot just 28 percent in the first half to ACU’s 52 percent.

Before going to the finals, the Lady Bisons went into Thursday night’s semifinal game against Ouachita Baptist with bright hopes of winning the game and the tournament.

The Lady Bisons had won the last eight of 10 games played against the Lady Tigers. In the first meeting of the year between the two, Ouachita won with a score of 86-69 over the Bisons. This season, the Lady Bisons got revenge when they met again in the infamous Rhodes Field House with the Rowdies of Harding University. The Lady Bisons won the game 80-69 in overtime, setting the stage for a semifinal game to be played at Rhodes Field House.

Ouachita Baptist’s star player, Holly Goodwin, was sidelined with a torn ACL from an injury during a previous game. But the Lady Bisons had no mercy.

The crowd was vibrant and enthusiastic, which, no doubt, gave the Bisons the extra edge to bury the Tigers.

The Lady Bisons opened the game with a barrage of three-point attempts, trying for an early lead. Iron and backboard were the only weapons in the Lady Bisons arsenal.

Junior Karie Fouts battles for position underneath the basket as senior Mandy Cox shoots a three-pointer. Photo by Tonia Deserport.

The seniors included forward Molly McPherson, who was the team’s leading scorer (20.7) who made the “red shirt” route and will again make the Academic All-America team; Cliff Miller, who started all 12 games during his four years; Louis Bonner, who was the leading rebounder and force inside; Calvin Brown, who came back from a knee surgery and played well; Matt Daniel, an assist leader and had seven assists during the season; Susan Reiss and Rachel Raglin, senior forwards, who came back from injuries during the season; and Sammy Ussery, a crowd favorite who got the “four-year hurl” and spirit leader of the team.

Levern Floyd, Felix Jones, Brent Adams, Clark Spencer, Steve Meaders, Ryan Semanchik and David Duke all saw varying amounts of playing time and were scheduled to return next year. In addition, Brian Tanner and Drick Gatley, both freshmen, went the “red shirt” route and will return with four years of eligibility.

A season analysis tells us that, when the Bisons won, they won big, averaging a 31-point winning margin in the 14 victories.

In their 27 losses, there were only six games that the Bisons won.

As some teams acted like American Gladiators on the court looking for a berth to the Lone Star Conference finals.

A short run by the Tigers was as close as they got to the Bisons, as the much-improved Lady Bisons proved to be too much. As the students in attendance cheered and the Bisons scored their 100th point, everyone knew the game was over. The final score was 102-69.

Cox led the team in scoring with 15 points and post Molly McPherson led with 15 rebounds. Freshman Krista Anderson came off the bench to score 10 points and Barron had 12.

Susie Relis and Rachel Raglin teamed up to tear the Tigers apart defensively, as junior Emily Prysock called the shots on offense and had seven points of her own.

Late in the game, Coach Brad Francis showed his sportsmanship by putting in the future of the Lady Bisons, freshmen Kelly Fager and Hannah Pfouts. Together, they added eight points, but more importantly, they got to see some game time and get some experience.

Cox will be the only Lady Bison to graduate and leave the team.

Next year’s basketball team will be packed with experienced uppers.

McPherson, Prysock, Reiss, Barron and Raglin will likely lead the Bisons next year.

Bisons fare extremely well in first year of Lone Star Conference play

Ted Lloyd
Sports Information Director

Rhodes was great! Playing in a completely rebuilt Rhodes Field House had to be the highlight of the 14-12 Bison season. After each game, visiting teams would remark about how great the Harding fans were. "There is nothing like our fans anywhere in NCAA II," was a common statement.

Both attractive and functional, Rhodes was usually loud from the opening whistle to the final buzzer, and the student section was standing the entire game.

Some of the opponents, especially early in the season, were "dazed" but when the word got out about the Harding fans, some teams seemed to be energized and play even better than on their home floor.

"A season to remember" was Coach Jeff Morgan’s chosen theme for the Bisons. Without a doubt, expectations were high for this senior-laden team. Was a 14-12 record a disappointment? Probably yes, but nowhere was it more of a downer than with the coaches and team.

The Bisons’ 7-7 conference record was good for fourth place in the eight-team Lone Star Conference (LSC)-North division, and Harding was in the running for an at-large bid to the NCAA Division II tournament.

The senior-laden team included all the seniors, including senior Mandy Cox, to hit her first pointer. With only a few minutes left in the first half, the Lady Bisons played conservatively by subbing players back in the game to continue the strong defense and explosive offense.

Intensity picked up and so did the physical play. Both teams acted like American Gladiators on the court looking for a berth to the Lone Star Conference finals.

As some teams acted like American Gladiators on the court looking for a berth to the Lone Star Conference finals.

Junior Karie Fouts battles for position underneath the basket as senior Mandy Cox shoots a three-pointer. Photo by Tonia Deserport.