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## The Bison, April 3, 1998

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**HARDING**  
UNIVERSITY



"It's All Fun and Games"



"Anybody Wanna Play?"



"X Marks the Spot"



"Stick to the Facts, Ma'am"



"Ain't Nothin' but a Groove, Baby"



# the BISON

Harding University • Volume 73 • Number 15 • 03 April 1998

## In the news...

• An armored car carrying \$2.94 million was hijacked by robbers dressed as security guards in Commerce, Calif., Police Dept. Sgt. Jeff Jablonsky said. The robbers made off with all of the cash, except the coins, after shooting the car's driver and driving away while a second guard was making a delivery in a bank.

• Jackson Kind, who is likened to a modern-day Fagin (the Oliver Twist character who lured children into stealing), was sentenced to five consecutive life sentences plus 22 years after leading a group of children, ages 14 to 17, in jewelry store robberies in 1995 and 1996 that netted more than \$300,000.

• Marcelle Becker was indicted by a Los Angeles federal grand jury on a count of interfering with the duties of a flight crew and faces 20 years in prison after a July 1995 scuffle in which she insisted that her 8-pound Maltese ride in his carrier in the first-class seat next to her. A flight attendant put the dog and its Louis Vuitton carrier under the seat.

• Carmen Valentin, a 35-year-old grandmother, was charged with statutory rape and endangering the welfare of a child after she told police that she was eight months pregnant with the child of a 14-year-old.

• Nick Howell, a guest in a Buckingham Palace ballroom, needed six stitches in his head after a plaster molding dropped on him from the ceiling. The palace called it "terribly unfortunate and inexplicable," noting that the ceiling had been inspected three weeks earlier.

The above news items were selected from the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette.

## Spring Sing celebrates 25th anniversary

Stacey Baysinger  
Bison staff writer

It is not only spring fever that has Harding's campus and its students surging with excitement. The welcome change of weather may be a portion of it, but this increase in enthusiasm can probably be attributed to the arrival of Spring Sing weekend. And it's not going to be just any show - it's "Sing: A Celebration of 25 Years of Spring Sing!"

The spectacular event has grown for a quarter of a century from a small production started by just two Harding students. In 1974, Jerry Palmer and Kathy McKinney, with the help of Dr. John Ryan as faculty adviser, organized a show in which social club members could create and perform musical acts for inter-club competition. Their idea was to emulate student singing shows performed on other college campuses. Harding's first show was performed twice in the Administration Auditorium for an audience only a fraction of the size of the recent average.

"In 1975, everything landed right here [pointing to his shoulders]," Ryan said. Now he is the show's producer. A portion of one of his office walls serves to display each Spring Sing program, including the first one, which was hand-drawn by Palmer.

For the first few years, the production consisted of as many as 16 individual shows, as well as the hosts' and hostesses' numbers, Ryan said. Many clubs did their shows alone, and others performed with a brother or sister club. The groups sang from risers on stage and used hand motions to accentuate the songs. As years passed, the productions were increasingly enhanced by bright costumes, ornate backdrops and original song lyrics. This year, there are six separate shows with several clubs working and competing together.

Ryan said he has enjoyed watching the development of a more coopera-



"Is it Still in the Night?" Photographs by Jeff Montgomery.

tive spirit during the years, not only within the same club or cast but between casts. "In earlier years, competition was at the forefront," he said. "Now I hear kids say, 'If we win, great. If not, that's fine - we're having a blast!'"

In addition to the gradual, natural shift of emphasis from competition to cooperation, other intentional changes have caused Spring Sing to evolve since its inaugural year. This year, the producers and directors deliberately tried to turn every aspect of the production up several notches to celebrate the anniversary. Ryan said the show will involve "more spectacle and theatrical trickery." He also said that they have incorporated several "special guests" into the finale.

Cindee Stockstill, associate producer, said everything from the settings to the costumes are more elaborate. The crew has more capabilities with the lighting, and the stage has a completely new look compared to previous years. "We tried to open the stage up as wide as we could, and we incorporated built-in levels. We put the jazz band in the center, upstage, on a rotating platform," she said. "We've even expanded the program to include the lyrics for the club shows."

Despite all of these outward changes and advances, Ryan hopes Spring Sing continues to "showcase an exceedingly talented student body" as it has done in the past. "I also hope that it provides

a tremendous outlet for the creative, artistic expressions these people have," he said.

Spring Sing began as a student-created and -produced show and, through its 25 years, has remained just that. "I am constantly amazed at how much the students do in this show. I would have to say that it is probably 98 percent student-produced," Stockstill said. She said that the ensemble, for example, does most of its own choreography; Dottie Frye, director of the hosts, hostesses and ensemble, only has to give them a general framework.

"It amazes me that we get such a slick, professional look from the hard work of students who don't have much professional production experience," Stockstill said. Relatively few theater majors are involved in the show, she said.

This year's hosts and hostesses are Eve Clevenger, a senior from Nash-

ville, Tenn.; Justin Lawson, a junior from Searcy, Ark.; Marcus Neely, a junior from Memphis, Tenn.; and Ashley Short, a junior from Paragould, Ark. The ensemble has 20 members, and the six casts for club shows range from 80 to 120 members. The theme was developed during the production of last year's show. The hosts, hostesses, ensemble and club directors began their work last fall, and actual rehearsals started in late January.

The club shows for Spring Sing '98 include Chi Sigma Alpha and Regina, "Ain't Nothin' But a Groove, Baby"; Ju Go Ju, Ko Jo Kai, Pi Kappa Epsilon and friends, "X Marks the Spot"; Delta Chi Delta, Delta Gamma Rho, Kappa Gamma Epsilon and friends, "Anybody Wanna Play?"; Alpha Tau Epsilon, GATA, Ka Re Ta, Sigma Phi Mu and friends, "Stick to the Facts Ma'am"; Knights, Shantih, Sub-T 16, Tri Kappa, Theta Beta Kappa and friends, "It's All Fun and Games"; Chi Omega Pi, TNT, Zeta Rho and friends, "Is It Still in the Night?"

The shows will be judged by 20 guest judges, including the four hosts and hostesses from the first production in 1974. They are scored in four categories - originality, music, costumes and choreography. Percentage of participation from involved clubs is also awarded. Winners will be announced at the sold-out Saturday night performance.



Spring Sing hosts and hostesses for 1998 are (l to r) Marcus Neely, Eve Clevenger, Ashley Short and Justin Lawson. Photo by Tonia Davenport.

Kathryn's **COMMENTS**

Last week in Jonesboro, when a fire alarm sounded and a school full of children were sent directly into a line of gunfire, the world changed. Almost immediately, the innocence of the city of Jonesboro was shattered, along with its security and peace. The state of Arkansas and the entire nation were thrown into turmoil. How could this have happened? Who was responsible? What would happen next?

And in the end, when 10 students and one teacher lay injured and four young girls and another teacher were buried, the madness raged on. Families struggled to deal with the situation; students feared returning to school. Lives had to be adjusted to the tragedy; friends were gone, as were sisters, daughters and mothers.

The biggest shock of all, however, came the minute that the world realized that this heinous act was not committed by hardened criminals or deranged maniacs, but by two boys. Not men – boys. Two boys who had Shannon Wright as a teacher; two boys who had been in school just days before with the students they killed. As the story developed and the names were released, a feeling of disbelief spread around the country.

As a result, the media took an new interest in the state, too. News crews invaded the normally peaceful community of Jonesboro, national news magazines featured the state and the tragedy, television shows devoted hours and hours to the situation and the lives lost. Updates came every 30

minutes on CNN; some channels stayed on the situation constantly. Not a news broadcast in the last week has gone without mentioning the tragedy in the town of Jonesboro.

A question of punishment also arose. Lawyers debated state laws and questioned whether people who choose to commit adult crimes should be treated as such.

Throughout it all, though, the community of Jonesboro has stood firm in its faith. Church services were packed, ministers came into the schools and offered counseling, prayers were lifted to remember those affected. Even the national news shows featured different services and showed the religious strength of the community.

The city of Jonesboro, its residents and the state of Arkansas have really impressed the country with their faith and example. The people of Jonesboro pulled together and created a bond that will join them forever, although the tragedy probably already had. But this bond will be one of encouragement, memories and honor for those they lost.

Jonesboro did change as a result of this tragedy. This tragedy has strengthened a community and created an environment that will foster the memory of those injured and lost. It has built a city of faith and has shown the world its example.

kjjg



Facing the

**ISSUES...****The B.S.A. should not be permitted to practice discrimination**

**BJ Marshall**  
Bison staff writer

The Boy Scouts of America (B.S.A.) is hardly a private organization; therefore, it should not be allowed to discriminate against members or potential members because of issues such as race, religion or sexual orientation.

The California Supreme Court ruled last week that the Scouts are a private organization and so are not restricted by the California Unruh Civil Rights Act, which forbids businesses from discriminating on the grounds of race, religious affiliation, etc. This includes corporations, proprietorships and non-profit entities. There is substantial evidence, however, that the B.S.A. is very much not a private organization but a public service with many businesslike qualities.

Consider the B.S.A.'s nationwide chain of retail stores and their hundreds of camps. Their catalogs rival those of J.C. Penney, selling merchandise ranging from knives to cookware and tents. Clearly, a profit is to be made with sales of this national magnitude.

The B.S.A. even operates under a certain IRS code as a tax-exempt corporation. The U.S. Supreme Court holds that even private religious institutions under this code will lose their tax exempt status if they were ever found to be discriminatory, even on religious grounds. This seems somehow not to apply to the Scouts.

The Boy Scouts are funded largely by sponsors and donations. The United Way provides a full one-third of the Scouts' funding, a statistic that many courts have already ruled would separate a private organization from a public one.

It's hard to understand how the B.S.A. offer open membership and enjoy generous public support but insist on being treated as a private

organization. A New Jersey court stated that the Scouts cannot pretend to be a private group because they so strongly emphasize open membership in their recruiting. They should be subject to California's anti-discriminatory laws.

The B.S.A. itself published a statement saying, "Neither the charter nor the bylaws of the Boy Scouts of America permits the exclusion of any boy. The National Council and the Executive Board have always taken the position that scouting should be made available for all boys who meet the entrance age requirements."

Apparently the B.S.A. have ignored the existence of that statement, because they ousted 16-year-old twins when they claimed they were still searching for truth and would not pledge allegiance to God. Timothy Curran is another example of an excommunicated scout, and an eagle scout at that, whose position was terminated when the B.S.A. found him to be homosexual. Curran noted that the recent events would no doubt encourage other scouts to lie about their beliefs or sexuality for fear of being ousted themselves.

The Boy Scouts of America cannot expect to have it both ways: enjoying public support while maintaining a private status. The evidence seems to show that they have more characteristics of a public institution, in which case they should not be allowed to discriminate against anyone who wishes to find security and a sense of belonging in their organization.

*"(The Boy Scouts are) an expressive social organization whose primary function is the inculcation of values in its youth members."*

Ronald George  
California Supreme Court Chief Justice

**Should private organizations be able to set their own rules and regulations?****Private groups have every right to protect their own interests**

**Elizabeth Smith**  
Bison staff writer

The gavel has been raised, and beneath it lie two decisive verdicts regarding the moral and legal rights of private institutions to create and adhere to laws that discriminate on the basis of race, religion or sexual preference. One such organization, the Boys Scouts, has recently become the target of of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and other civil rights coalitions because of the Scouts' attempt to ban members who do not conform to the standards they have used since 1910.

Timothy Curran first filed suit against the Boy Scouts in 1980 after he was excluded by the council in Berkeley, Calif., and kept from working with the organization because an article in the local paper correctly insinuated that he was a homosexual. Curran was 18 years old and held the rank of a decorated Eagle Scout.

Curran's case followed an indecisive path through the California court system. The major question in this case and similar cases in California was whether or not the organization in question was a business. According to the state's Unruh Civil Rights Act, businesses are not allowed to discriminate on the grounds of race, religion or sexual orientation. Although a Superior Court found the organization to indeed be a business, the Court of Appeals did not.

In the case of *Randall vs. Boy Scouts of America*, two boys filed lawsuit claiming that they were kept from participating in the organization because of their openly atheistic beliefs. The Boys Scouts' pledge, required for membership, includes a vow to serve God, something each boy was unwilling to say.

In 1992, another California Superior Court ruled that the scouts could not discriminate on the basis of religion; that decision was upheld by the Court of Appeals.

On March 24, the California Supreme Court concluded both matters and ruled that the Boy Scouts of America can legally bar homosexuals and atheists to further their cause because they are voluntary organizations and, therefore, do not fall under civil rights laws.

Although groups like the ACLU claim that such decisions encourage the continuing disregard for human rights, the Boy Scouts feel that the court ruled to instead protect their rights. Rebecca Fields, a spokeswoman for the Boy Scouts, stated in clear terms that they do not inquire about a person's sexual preference although, "we do not believe a person who engages in homosexual conduct provides a role model consistent with those values," she said.

It is fundamental that any organization, in order to promote its standards, utilize leaders consistent with its beliefs. Part of the Boy Scouts' basic mission is the belief in God and Christian service. To remove God from any part of that equation would only change the mission of the Boy Scouts.

A football team would not be effective if its players did not support the idea of a coach or the use of helmets. Justice Joyce Kennard echoed this sentiment when he wrote, "Could the NAACP be compelled to accept as a member a Ku Klux Klansman?"

Although failure to meet the requirements of the Boys Scouts can legally bar a person from participating with the organization, there are other opportunities for volunteer service in nearly every town and city. Susan Sher, counsel for the City Corporation, summed it up best in the *Chicago Sun Times* when she said, "There are various city agencies who have mentoring programs for high school students, and you don't have to be a Boy Scout or Girl Scout to be in the program."

the **BISON**

Editor: Kathryn George  
Artist: Karen Carruth  
Adviser: Kay Gowen

Business Manager: Melissa Gilmore  
Copy Editor: Melissa Jackson  
Sports Editor: Philip Murphy

Photographer: Tonia Davenport

Columnists: Brent Bates, Jeff Krinks, Heidi Neuenschwander, Laura McNutt

The *Bison* is a campus newspaper written, edited and largely financed by students, seeking to provide high-quality journalistic discussion of issues of concern to the Harding community. It also serves as an educational tool for students, providing practical experience to enhance skills learned in the classroom.

The *Bison* recognizes its responsibility to be accurate, fair and objective in its reporting while upholding the Christian ideals for which Harding University exists. It attempts to serve as a forum for student perspectives, welcoming letters to the editor which adhere to ethical and professional standards.

Editorials appearing in the *Bison* are the views of the editor and may not reflect the official policy of the Harding University administration. Signed columns represent the personal views of the authors.

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this week in **HISTORY**

1778 – The dollar sign (\$) was created by New Orleans businessman Oliver Pollock.

1860 – The Pony Express began postal service between St. Joseph, Mo., and Sacramento, Calif.

1889 – Paris' most famous landmark, the Eiffel Tower, was completed.

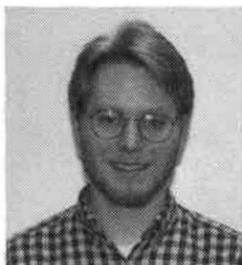
1902 – The first motion picture theater was opened in Los Angeles, Calif.

1973 – The last United States troops left Vietnam.

1909 – The Queensboro Bridge in New York City became the first double-deck bridge opened to traffic.

getting **PERSONAL****Bearing with the faults of others**

Brent Bates  
Bison columnist



It was a hot August afternoon in Texas. I had spent an entire day running around Wet n' Wild with my cousins. My parched little grade school body was craving the Italian ice my mom had been promising all day long.

"Mom, can I please get some ice cream?" I whined. "Please... please... please!" Sacrificially, she walked me across the water park to the stand that was already closed. "Mom! You said that I could have some ice cream. It's all your fault. I want some ice cream!" I yelled.

"I'll take you to McDonalds to get some," she compromised. But I wanted the special kind of ice cream, so I fussed all the way to McDonalds. In protest, I refused the soft-serve and waited in the car. When my Mom and cousins got back in the car, I lamented all the louder.

It was then that my Mom tested a whole new form of discipline. Splat! Her vanilla sugar cone stood perpendicular to my face like Pinocchio's nose. The cream oozed down my face as I sat there in silence. My cousins were stunned. No one said a word the whole way home.

If any one person has put up with my weaknesses, it has been my mother. From the months of pregnancy to this very day, she has been weighted down with a burden named Brent. Of course, she wouldn't say that, because she has a mother's love - a love unconditionally bearing my burdens - that sometimes displays discipline. This mother's love, which God displayed to us, is the same love we are to display to others as we bear each other's burdens.

God has born our weaknesses with patience and through Jesus' sacrifice. God has always been patient with his elect. For example, God gave the Israelites more than 600 years to straighten up their act after they entered into the land of Canaan. That is 30 times the amount of years most of us have been burdening our mothers. God put up with a lot of sin against himself before he disciplined them in exile like my Mom did with the ice cream cone. Additionally, Jesus bore our sins on a cross, which was the ultimate suffering for our sake. Jesus didn't endure torment for any selfish reason, rather "the insults of those who insult [us] have fallen on [Him]" (Romans 15:3). For this reason, Paul tells us that we should pick up the slack for others.

Elevating others above ourselves is a major theme in both Jesus' and the Apostles' teachings. Jesus told us to "bless those who curse" us. He encouraged us to actively do good to those who will not do anything for us in return. If we were only to do good to those honest and worthy people around us, there would be nothing separating our actions from the non-Christians. We must stand out as different. Thomas A' Kempis, in *The Imitation of Christ*, pointed out that "if all men were perfect, what should we have to bear with in others for Christ's sake?" In enduring the faults of others, we "will fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2).

The next time someone cuts you off on the road, borrows something without asking and then breaks it, calls you in the middle of the night, has an annoying indiosyncrasy... (and the list could go on and on), remember that "you, too, have many faults which others have to bear" (A' Kempis, 44). In fact, we annoy many people with some of these same faults, yet we want to see them reprimanded, while receiving grace ourselves. Remember that God has put up with your many faults and that he calls you to do the same for others.

When we bear each other's burdens, we will certainly become weary if we don't lay our heads on God's shoulder. Dennis Jernigan, a popular praise and worship artist, shows how we can cry out to God when bearing another's burdens:

*Lord, sometimes I give all I have left to give;  
Sometimes I run dry so that others might live.  
Sometimes I think you have left me alone;  
Sometimes I wish you would just call me home.  
And when I run dry, I will cry out to you.  
Oh Lord, I need a shoulder to cry on,  
A heart to share the pain.*

**EVEN THE LOCALS LOVE SPRING SING!!****Summer Home**

I never began a summer so alone as I did the summer of 1996. All but two of my best friends were either out of town or disagreeing with me to the point that we didn't talk - and one of the two previous ones worked 60 hours per week. Before that summer I had never felt as if I lived at my home, either. Even though I had stayed there alone before, I never felt it was mine to do what I wanted with. Then school let out in spring and left me in Searcy with a house, so I decided to make it mine, but to do so quietly. I vowed that since my summer placed me in solitude at the beginning, I would try to stay in solitude until the end. I gave my new phone number to four people: my grandmother, my mother, and the two friends I talked to. I didn't plug in my answering machine because I didn't want any messages to answer. I even stayed, basically, in one of three places: at home, at work or out of town. I went to my house to escape from life, and in the process of living there, realized a part of my life that I needed to know.

Like on the evenings I spent mowing the yard. I arranged the order I mowed so that I could mow my favorite part last, often mowing until 7:30 or 8 p.m., when the sun, setting over my neighbor's pond, would make the sky change color from deep blue to gray and the grass turn a few shades darker. Sometimes, if the cows grazed in the pasture next to my house, they would lumber over the hill, chewing grass and groaning at my neighbor's cows across the road. Then I finished mowing, stopped and listened. For a while I heard nothing, and a feeling of ownership engulfed me. It was the feeling that I belonged in that yard watching the mountains as they changed from green to blue to black, and listening to the mockingbird in the tree above me yell as loud as he could for all of me to hear. I felt that I controlled where I was, what I was doing, and where my life was going. I knew, then, that all I needed was me.

Or when I cooked dinner. While I lived with my mom, we had a deal that who cooked didn't have to do the dishes - I usually did the dishes. But that summer at my house I relished cooking. Most often I made a salad; slicing carrots, bell peppers, cheese, mushrooms, and lettuce. I applied French dressing and deemed it dinner. I had a hamburger if I thought enough ahead to take beef out of the freezer and to make cheese dip to complement it. Once, my grandmother gave me corn from her garden. I sat outside my back door, shucking away until I had 15 small, ready-to-cook ears. After dinner I would wash dishes and sit down to relax. I felt confident, as though I could get lost in the woods but never starve because I could kill and cook cheese dip with nothing more than a microwave. I gained strength from my independence; I gained strength from knowing that I was by myself and that I had depended on me to provide for me.

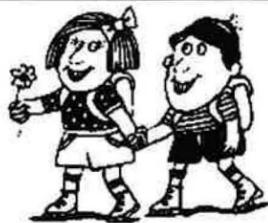
Finally, I painted the ceiling. School loomed less than three weeks away, and renters loomed sooner than that. Before they moved in I had to paint the largest room in the house, clean the house, and move all of my belongings to storage. In the two weeks before I moved, I worked eight hours at work, then went home to work six more standing on a ladder. Back aching, I leaned backward scraping the texture off the ceiling so that the new paint would roll smoothly. Then, with the furniture moved to make way for me to paint, the house changed. As I turned its walls and ceiling white, the cold concrete floor gained an equally cold skin of tile. I packed dishes into boxes, emptying the cabinets. As my mother and I loaded my furniture into my grandfather's truck, all I felt was stress: stress of getting everything out on time; stress of being sure the house was ready, and most importantly, stress of not knowing where I would sleep that night. I readied my home and gave it away but didn't have anything to replace it with. On the day my mom and I gutted the house, the renters moved in.

That summer I discovered that I like control. I like to control my environment, mowing the grass around me. I also like to control me. Moreover, I learned that I try to be a part of everything that happens to who or what I care most about, whether it's good or bad for me or them or it. That's what I learned to do. But while gutting the house, I began to realize something. There are some things, such as people, that I can't nor shouldn't control no matter how hard I want to or how hard I try. I started my summer alone with a house and two good local friends, some other friends out of town, and one that I hadn't spoken to since February. I spoke to her the day I moved away from home.

Postscript  
(Written 14 months later)

Ralph Ellison wrote of a three-month span he spent alone in the woods of Ohio, trying to make sense of his mother's death, living on nothing but what he shot with his gun or foraged from the fields. He pinpoints that timespan as one spent making sense of the world, and asks himself if that was the time he first became a man. I ask a similar question here, because I want to know: could I ever deny myself if I did not know who I am to deny? My time that summer was self-centered; but shall I not say, it was in that house where I no longer live, where I spent my summer taking care of myself, that I discovered what it is to be a Christian man?

- contributed by Greg Bales

**Conversation starters...**

- April is National Poetry Month.
- April is Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Month, also known as Pets Are Wonderful Month.
- April 3 is American Circus Day. John Bill Ricketts organized the first American circus in Philadelphia, Penn., in 1793.
- April 6 is Twinkie Day. The treat was invented by James Dewar in 1930.
- April 9 is the longest word day. The longest word (207,000 letters) was published in a science journal.

Information for this week in history and conversation starters is from *Celebrate Today!*, Prima Publishing, 1996.

# WINGS and Men of God conferences to assemble April 17-18

Janalyn Williams  
Bison staff writer

The third annual WINGS (Women In God's Service) Conference and the second Men of God Conference will be held on the Harding campus the weekend of April 17 and 18, 1998. The two conferences are being held on the same weekend so husbands and wives can come to Searcy together and learn more about serving God.

The WINGS Conference is sponsored by the Department of Marriage and Family Therapy, while the Institute for Church and Family Resources will host the Men of God Conference.

The theme of this year's WINGS Conference is "Triumph Over Trials." The featured speaker for the WINGS Conference is Dielinde Spears. At her most recent visit to Harding, she spoke in chapel about her struggles in the faith. She shared her hardships and triumphs to show that

one can prevail using the love of Christ.

Spears was born in East Germany when Hitler was at the height of his rule. The Russian army drove her family out of the country, forcing them to leave behind all of their belongings. She lived in Poland for 13 years under Communist rule. She and her family moved to West Germany when she was young. Spears attended a deprogramming school that enabled her to overcome the communistic mindset she had developed.

She married her husband in West Germany. He was an American soldier stationed there after World War II. Spears has lived in many places in Europe and in the United States. She has been living in Nashville, Tenn., for nearly 20 years, and she currently teaches German at David Lipscomb University.

Spears will share her life transformations with the women in attendance

at this year's WINGS Conference. She will discuss how her outlook of communistic ideology was dissolved when she embraced democracy. Her speech, entitled "The Life Story," will take place on Friday, April 17, beginning at 7 p.m.

Other women scheduled to speak at the conference are Suzanne Spurrier, library director, and Debbie Poss, ASI secretary. Graduate student Michelle Browne will sing, and The Lemmon Sisters, a local singing group, will be performing during the luncheon. Other events will include slide shows and small group discussions. All activities will take place at Harding Academy. Child care will be provided upon request. There is no fee to attend the conference; however, there is a luncheon that is available to attend at a cost of \$6.00 per person.

Many renowned Christian men are scheduled to speak at the Men of God Conference. Kicking off the

conference will be Don McLaughlin, the pulpit minister for the North Atlanta Church of Christ in Atlanta, Ga. The title of his lesson is "Ninth Inning, Two Outs, Full Count... No Fear and Other Lies." McLaughlin will begin speaking at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 17, in the Benson Auditorium.

Following McLaughlin's speech will be breakout sessions. These will be small group discussions affecting men of God. Leaders of these discussions will include Harding faculty members and Christian leaders. Jack Evans, president of the Southwestern Christian College, will lead breakout sessions about Christian men in the church and in the future. Joe Beam, president of the Family Dynamic Institute, will lead sessions about topics concerning business and marriage in the church. Faculty members scheduled to speak at the conference are Neale Pryor, Ken Neller, Ross Cochran and Jimmy Allen.

Another speaker returning to Harding after his appearance in chapel during Struggles in the Faith Week will be Jeremiah Cummings, a former leader in the Nation of Islam. Cummings was recently converted to Christianity by Dr. Jack Evans. He will speak about "The Challenge" he has endured.

Steve Flatt, president of David Lipscomb University, will conclude the Men of God conference Saturday afternoon, April 18. He will present "A Reason to Believe."

The song service will be led by Terry Davis, assistant dean of Student Life, and Bruce McLarty, pulpit minister at College Church of Christ, will be the emcee for the event.

The weekend of April 17 and 18 will be dedicated to building one's faith in God and increasing the growth of Christianity. The Men of God and the WINGS conferences will help those in attendance as they seek spiritual renewal.

## 'Rediscovering God' television production features Norton and McLarty

BJ Marshall  
Bison staff writer

The Institute for Church and Family Resources has organized a new project, a television production titled "Rediscovering God."

The show features Bruce McLarty and Howard Norton who hold discussions about various biblical topics. The format is an open textual Bible study in which McLarty and Norton exchange views on different subjects within their featured topic. So far, the discussions have been based around Jesus' Sermon on the Mount.

"The lessons about the Sermon on the Mount were chosen because it seems as though they still relate to things going on in the world today, even as they did in Jesus' time," Nathan Mellor, assistant director for the Institute for Church and Family Resources, said.

Originally, the project was intended to be used by churches in order to aid and instruct teachers. "These lessons are useful to people who are looking for God, or just to the person who is just seeking to know God in a new way. These shows may help the viewers to know and appreciate God in a way they haven't been able to before," Mellor said.

"The program was ultimately going to be available on video, but we decided to take advantage of Harding's channel 16 and go ahead and televise it," Norton said. "We had hoped to make it available to congregations for Wednesday night studies, to maybe give the teachers some ideas. During filming, though, we decided it would be good for a regular TV show, too."

"Rediscovering God" is organized entirely by vol-

unteers. It is filmed once a month in the faculty lounge on the second floor of the McInteer building, but three segments are filmed at a time.

David Hurd, director of Video Services, is in charge of taping the show, which is produced by Mellor and directed by Dutch Hoggatt, associate professor of communication.

"The show is very relaxed and unrehearsed," McLarty said, "and it's an open discussion that focuses on the teachings of Jesus."

Norton added, "We like to let the viewers feel that they are part of the conversation, not on the outside looking in."

McLarty said that the show is intended to be used for several purposes. It serves as an easily accessible television ministry but may also be helpful for Bible classes or independent study groups.

"We want churches to be able to use this series of lessons for years to come," he said. "We hope they can make a difference and are put to good use."

Eventually, plans call for additional guests and a variety of topics. "We hope to have more faculty, staff and student participation to help the show grow and draw a large audience," Mellor said.

The hosts hope to share their own thoughts

about the ministry of Jesus and to open up the opportunity for further discussion among those viewing the show. "Hopefully, our lessons will stimulate an interest in Scripture so that the audience will continue to study among themselves," Norton said.

So far, six segments have been recorded and are being aired on Harding's channel 16. They normally air a 27-minute segment on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. that repeats the following Thursday at the same time so that each segment ends up broadcasting twice a week.

Plans call for nine more segments, making a total of 15.

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# The Voice of the Prairie brings a tale of love and life to the stage

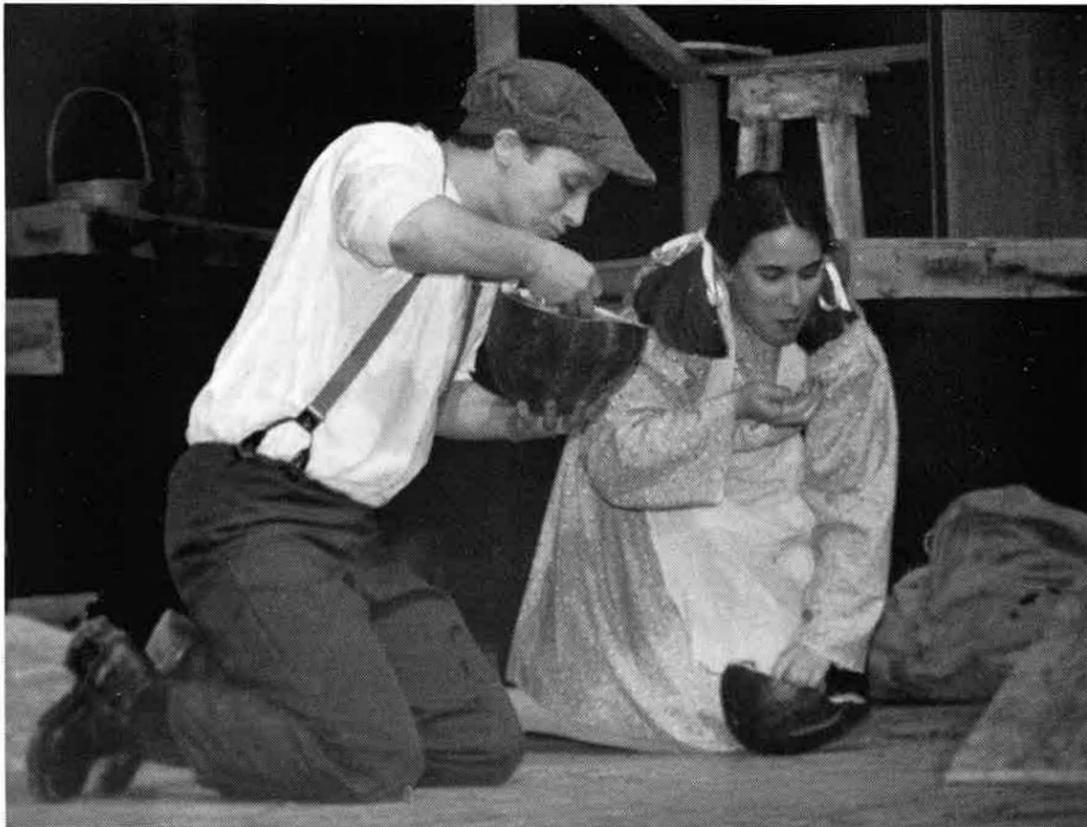
Jami Boyd  
Bison staff writer

Spring Sing/Youth Forum weekend brings people from near and far to campus, but Harding has more to offer than just the Spring Sing show. This year's play is *The Voice of the Prairie* by John Olive, directed by Ben Howe, and assistant directed by Dawn Crabtree.

Howe, a senior theater major from Searcy, is directing this play for a Senior Seminar project. "The play has minimal faculty involvement, but Robin Miller is the general overseer, and Dr. Morris Ellis has facilitated everything and organized the technical work," Howe said.

Howe said that the play is a true romance and is a good "date movie." "The story is in league with James Cameron's *Titanic*, but I'm no James Cameron; the script is just that good," he said.

*The Voice of the Prairie* recounts the story of David Quinn (Pete Vann), a farmer who becomes the unlikely friend of New Yorker Leon Schwab (Allen Cox). Leon is a good-hearted con artist who runs a freelance radio station. He dreams of making history by conquering "the wilderness of the



Pete Vann and Hope Lewis rehearse their scenes for an upcoming performance of *The Voice of the Prairie*. The play will open on Friday evening and will also be performed Saturday afternoon, as well as both Friday and Saturday evenings of next weekend, April 10 and 11. Photo by Tonia Davenport.

great plains." The year is 1925. Quinn begins working for Schwab, telling stories on the radio. Before long, Quinn becomes a celebrity and Leon finds

himself in trouble with the newly formed FCC.

Quinn's stories tell of simpler times. It was 1895 when his hobo grandfather died and left him alone. As a young boy, Davey (also played by Vann) meets Frankie the blind girl (Hope Lewis), an abused child who sees better with her ears than most people do with their "stupid eyes." The two run away together and travel by smuggling themselves onto freight trains. During their travels, they fall in love, but as fate would have it, they are separated.

The play bounces back and forth between these two time periods and chronicles the adventures of Frankie and Davey through the eyes of an older, more mature Quinn. But "Radio is magic, you

have to be careful with magic." Although Francis Reed (Tiffany Yecke) is now grown up, the stories that she hears on the radio take her back to a time when she was the free-spirited Frankie, the blind girl. Will she follow her heart back to the boy with whom she was once in love? Or will her better judgment prevent her from being hurt again? It's a touching story about true love.

Vann, a sophomore theater and vocational ministry major from Memphis, Tenn., said, "I feel a real connection with the part as Davey. This is a great learning experience as well as a great theater experience."

With four performances, two during Spring Sing/Youth Forum weekend and two the next weekend, everyone has a chance to see the play.

Show times are Friday, April 3, at 7 p.m.; Saturday matinee, April 4, at 3 p.m.; and Friday and Saturday, April 10 and 11, at 8 p.m.

"We work just as hard as Spring Sing and get only a fraction of the recognition - so come see the show," Vann said.

## Campus events...

- Daylight Saving Time changes on Sunday morning. Clocks should be advanced one hour.

- The Student Association intends to file for the position of S.A. officer or class representative are due to the S.A. office on Monday, April 6.

- The School of Nursing will sponsor a Health Risk Wellness Screening for all Harding students, faculty, staff, family members and alumni on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 7 and 8. The screenings will be from 6 - 10 a.m. and will be in Olen Hendrix room 119.

- A Red Cross blood drive will be Tuesday, April 7, and Thursday, April 9.

- Applications for scholarship positions for the *Bison* and *Petit Jean* staffs can be picked up in Student Center 211. Completed forms are due on Friday, April 10, by 5 p.m.

- The American Studies Institute will present Lamar Alexander on Thursday, April 16.

- The musical group Sweet Deliverance will perform on Saturday, April 18, at 7:30 p.m. in the Benson Auditorium.

If you have an event you would like printed in Campus News, please submit it to the *Bison* office (box 11192) by Thursday of the previous week. Please include your name and phone number for verification.

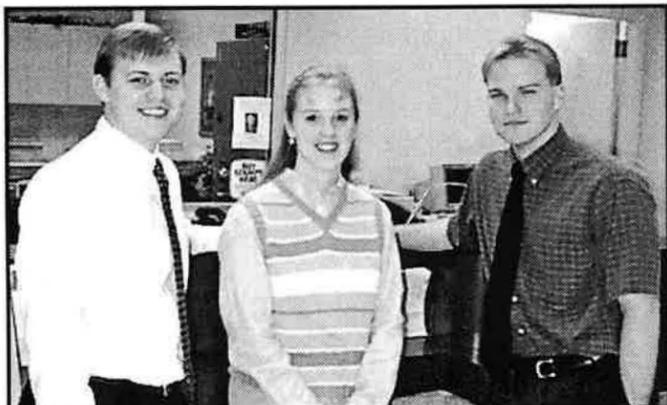
## •• NOTICE! ••

This notice is 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.

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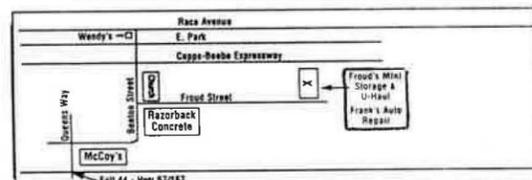
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# Arnold strengthened by the power of prayer, support of students

Yavonda Fletcher  
Bison staff writer

Freshman Michael Arnold believes in answered prayer. Although he would not have chosen the route he's taken to get his answer, he attributes his fall and his increased faith since his fall to the prayer he had offered just prior to his accident.

On March 6, Arnold and students Amy Stump, Maurine Sachs, Nate Free, Jill Sutton, and Sallie Chase drove to Little Rock to celebrate Chase's 21st birthday. After eating at the Purple Cow restaurant, they decided to go shopping at Park Plaza. They drove into the lot and parked the cars. According to Chase, the group was running to get inside because it was cold. Stump was chasing Arnold because of a sarcastic comment he had made to her. When Arnold reached a three-foot retaining wall outside of Luby's Cafeteria, he hurdled it effortlessly. "He was laughing as he jumped over it, telling Amy that she couldn't catch him," Chase said.

Stump said, "Because I'm shorter than Michael is, I couldn't just hurdle the wall. I stopped so that I could jump over it, but instead I watched him fall."

After he fell, Stump and Chase ran into the mall, screaming for someone to call 911. Sachs and Free went to the bottom level of the parking garage to see if Arnold had survived the 40-foot fall. "The whole scene felt like it was out of some movie. I didn't expect him to be alive. When we got there, Michael was lying on his side, breathing heavily. I was so relieved that he was breathing at all," Sachs said.

Within two to five minutes, the paramedics had arrived to whisk Arnold to UAMS Hospital where he would immediately undergo brain surgery to reduce the massive swelling. During the surgery, the doctors had to remove part of his brain's frontal lobe. One surgeon believed that Arnold had a 50 percent chance of recovery, but another one only gave him a 12 percent chance of survival. Besides the severe trauma to the head, Arnold also suffered a fractured heel on his right foot. He shattered the ankle, tibia and fibula in his left leg, and he shattered his left elbow.

Although the prognosis seemed bleak, Christians from Harding and Little Rock started praying diligently. They spread the

word to their friends via the telephone, letters, e-mail and even the Internet. People from all over the world who had never met Arnold were praying for his recovery. In fact, the first person to pray for him didn't know him at all. A man standing in the parking garage saw the fall. Not knowing exactly what to do to help, he ran to Arnold and saw his W.W.J.D. bracelet. The man asked himself what would Jesus do, and immediately put his hands on Michael and began praying.

"This entire situation has increased my faith that God does answer our prayers. I now know how important it is to offer prayers to Him about everything, no matter how small. If God can save Michael, then he can handle anything," Sachs said. "This situation has opened my eyes to the power of prayer."

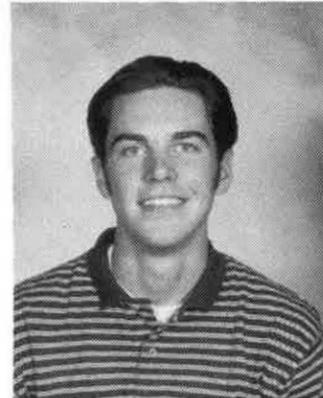
While this situation has increased the faith of those surrounding Arnold, it actually resulted from a prayer that he prayed for himself. "I prayed that God would do something drastic to test my faith. Sallie had prayed the same prayer in December and her best friend died. She really struggled with her faith, but the whole situation

strengthened her," Arnold said. "I thought that I needed something like that to help me. Two days after I prayed that prayer for the first time, my brother-in-law fell asleep at the wheel, ran off the road, and hit a tree. He was okay, but it was almost as if God was asking me if I really wanted to pray this. I thought about it and repeated the prayer." A few days later, Arnold experienced the fall.

"I don't regret that this happened. I feel like my body is totally normal, except I have a couple of casts. My double vision is improving and I can remember everything except that night's events. I haven't had a negative thought because too many cool things have happened to me as a result of this. I don't have time to be negative," Arnold said. "I am just blessed. The Lord has had His hand over me."

Chase said, "The doctors told us that, if he survived, he would have to learn how to do everything all over again. I knew that he was going to make it through this and that he would still be normal. I knew that God was testing his faith and that the Lord would sustain him."

Arnold was moved last week to Baylor Rehab-



Michael Arnold, Petit Jean 1998

ilitation Hospital in Dallas, Texas, but he is still on the minds and hearts of Harding students. The Student Association and JOY are sponsoring a Penny Drive that will help pay for some of the hospital expenses. This fund-raiser started the week of March 26 and will continue until April 29. Containers are located in the dorm lobbies and other busy areas around campus.

Although he won't be returning to campus this semester, Arnold does plan to finish his classes by correspondence and computer. And next fall, in keeping with his academic plan, Arnold intends to spend the semester at Harding's international studies program in Athens, Greece.

## Creative writers honored as Jo Cleveland writing contest winners

Emily McMackin  
Bison staff writer

Winners of the Jo Cleveland Writing Contest received some invaluable advice at an awards banquet held in their honor last Thursday night. Guest speaker and novelist Tony Markham let the aspiring writers in on one of the best kept secrets in the book publishing trade. "It's a gamble," Markham said; "you have to keep submitting your work no matter how many times you get rejected." After years of writing, Markham, a former Harding student and Searcy native, has finally hit the

jackpot with the publishing and Pulitzer Prize nomination of his novel, "The Jaxon Files."

Associate Professor of English Dr. John Williams hoped that Markham's story would inspire the student writers to pursue their dreams. "The Jo Cleveland Writing Contest gives us an opportunity to honor our student writers," he said. "We heard about Markham and decided that he would be a good person to share his talent."

Markham, who was originally an art major, became interested in writing when another student

gave him a copy of a book entitled "Gravity's Rainbow" by Thomas Pynchon. Although he didn't enjoy it at first, he admitted that it left him with the desire to create art through the written word instead of on the canvas. Since then, Markham, who received a doctorate in creative writing from the University of Southern Mississippi, has had several teaching jobs while pursuing a career of writing on the side. He currently teaches writing and philosophy at the State University of New York at Delhi.

Markham encouraged student writers to take

lessons from the greatest piece of literature, the Bible. "Know your Bible and study how God puts together a story," he said.

Markham's speech encouraged a few of the writers to consider submitting their works. Junior elementary education major Andria Johnson, who won first place in the category of children's literature, admitted that she would like to see her story, "The Music of Andres," in print. "There is a need for multicultural literature in our society, and I would like to write stories that fill that need," she said.

Senior English major

Ginny Blake, who received first place in the short fiction category, also hopes to be published soon. "I hope to write stories that readers can understand and identify with easily," she said.

Senior biochemistry major Wendi Wagner, who won first place in the essay category, got her idea from personal experiences. Senior English major Greg Bales, who received first place for poetry, says his best material comes from his own struggles. Other winners were Jason Clark, Michael Morrison, Jon Mitchell, Jeni Shepherd, Monica Hartsell, Erica Lee and Melissa Tittle.

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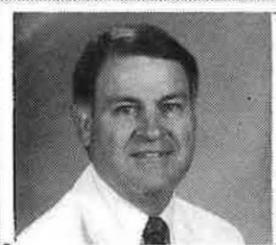
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# SPORTS

## Black/Gold game set for Friday

Bryan Burlison  
Bison Staff Writer

The Harding University Bison football team ends their spring training Friday with a black/gold scrimmage on the Bison football field at 4 p.m. that will give fans a preview of next season's team.

The Bisons have been working hard in the weight room and on the practice field to prepare themselves for the 1998-99 football season. Coach Randy Tribble's thundering herd is mentally and physically ready to enter its second season in the Lone Star Conference.

On offense, the Bisons return quarterback Luke Cullins. The wide receivers are Grant Chism and Aaron Evans. Marc Fager will also be a key player and help

with wide receiver duties.

Freshman Jason Sneed will take over as tailback. The offensive line is young but hungry with Troy Berreth, Ryan Blount, Archie Walker, Skip Griffith and David Bagley muscling it out in the trenches.

The sixth lineman position will be Paul Neil, who also has the grace and good hands to be a tight end.

Next year's Bisons have a defense worthy of the name "legion of doom."

Linemen Greg Taylor, Chris Cook, Jason Smith and Clay Madar haunt conference teams with their experience and enthusiasm at playing the game of football the black and gold way.

Brian Caffey, Said Perez and Jordan Harr call the defense at the linebacker

positions. Headhunter Rob Stroud returns to terrorize defenses across the LSC. Laron Poullan is strong at safety. Jess Lanier and Jamal Harris return at the corners.

The only transfers this year are Shaylon Hart and Carlton Smith. Hart is a junior college transfer from Kilgore, Texas, who will help the Bisons as a wide receiver.

Smith fills in the much needed fullback position. Smith comes to Harding from Mississippi. Both players should develop and improve this spring and get good playing time in the fall.

Only a few injuries plague the Bisons this spring as Perez has a torn MCL and will be out for the rest of the spring but will return in the fall. Walker has

a banged knee but will play in the black/gold scrimmage. Quarterback Mac Hurley has a pestering shoulder injury, and defensive lineman Tim Daniels suffered a concussion slamming heads with the offense.

The Bisons finished just short of the playoffs last season, only missing the cut by a few points. They are obviously hungry for a playoff berth this year. With the power and grace they bring to the table, the University expects the Bisons to make a strong run in 1998-99.

The scrimmage is a first glimpse of what the Bisons hope will be a winning season.

This summer, a few incoming freshmen may also get a shot at a starting position for the Bisons.

## Sports Notes

### See ya Sampras

Marcelo Rios of Chile defeated Andre Agassi on Sunday in the final of the Lipton Championships, ending Pete Sampras' two-year reign as the world's top-ranked player.

Rios, 22, played nearly flawless tennis, dominating Agassi 7-5, 6-3, 6-4. The Santiago native is the first South American to be No. 1 since the ATP Tour ranking began in 1973.

"Being the best player in the world for Chile is something, like, not normal," Rios said. "I feel proud."

Until this year, Rios was known primarily for ill-mannered behavior that made him unpopular with other players and the media. But he smiled Sunday and threw his racket only once, tossing it into the stands after winning match point.

Rios, who entered the tournament as the No. 3 seed, ends Sampras' streak of 102 consecutive weeks at No. 1. Sampras lost to Wayne Ferreira in the third round.

### Tennessee Trio

The Tennessee Lady Vols captured their third NCAA basketball title in a row to finish the season at 39-0. This record was the best ever for men or women in NCAA Division I.

They won their games by an average of almost 30 points this season.

The scary thing is that they might be even better next year. All five starters return next season and Coach Pat Summitt has signed a couple of premier recruits.

Junior forward Chamique Holdsclaw lived up to her status as consensus national player of the year, collecting 25 points, 10 rebounds and 6 assists.

### Harding volleyball signs two prospects

The Harding volleyball team recently signed high school seniors Summer Page and Karl Whitney.

Page is a 5'11" outside/middle hitter from Visalia, Calif. In high school, she was team captain, team MVP and 2nd Team All-Conference.

Whitney is a setter from Newbury Park, Calif. She was All-Conference for three years, team captain for two, team MVP for two, Volleyball Athlete of the Year, and a Scholar Athlete for four years.

"Karl is an excellent setter and will compete for a starting spot immediately," Coach Karyl Bailey said. "She is a real floor general as well as an offensive threat. Karl comes with the whole package. She has everything the NCAA Division I coaches are looking for, except size."

Page will be used as a utility player for Harding and will likely fill several roles for the Lady Bisons.

"Harding should be much improved in 1998," Bailey said. "We are excited about our new players and our prospects for the upcoming season."

## Bison tennis teams defeat Hendrix

Philip Murphy  
Bison Sports Editor

The Harding University men's tennis teams defeated Hendrix 9-0 while the women defeated Hendrix 8-1 last Tuesday.

This brings the men's record to 10-3 and the women's record to 11-3.

"It was a good solid day," Coach David Elliott said. "We took care of business. It's hard to play at a high level of intensity when you know you're going to walk away with a win."

This was the third win against Hendrix this season. "It wasn't really a problem beating them," senior Julie Gil said. "We knew we were going to win because we've beaten them so many times. We were pretty confident."

The Harding University Invitational Tournament will take place this Friday, April 3 and Saturday, April 4.

Northeastern State, Henderson State, Midwestern State, Drury College and Ouachita Baptist will play in the tournament.

"The sun popped right out and we played really well against them," Andrew Garner said. "It's a good warm-up match for this weekend. There are going to be a lot of top-ranked teams to come in. It's going to give us an idea of what we'll be able to do in the Lone Star Championship."

The Harding women were coming off of a loss to Arkansas State University.

"ASU was out of our class," Elliott said. "They're probably a top 40 team in Division I. This is probably one of the best teams they've ever had. Their worst player is almost as good as our best player."

The women's team will host a game against Ouachita Baptist on Tuesday, April 6, at 3 p.m.



Junior Cristina Rodriguez smashes a serve to the opponent during a match against Hendrix in Tuesday's pre-conference play. Photo by Kristi Burns.



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# Bisons fall to Lyon, split with SWOK

Indie Pereira  
Bison staff writer

The Bison baseball team started out strong, but lost to the Lyon College Scots Wednesday, March 25, extending their record losing streak to 12 games.

Bison players Josh Bostic, a senior center fielder, David Rampey, a senior second baseman, Seth Watson, a freshman left fielder and Derek Reeves, a sophomore catcher, all scored in the first inning, bringing the score to 4-0.

The Scots came up dry the first three innings but scored two runs in the fourth inning. Both runs were batted in by walks.

The Scots made three runs in the sixth inning, taking the lead and bringing the score to 5-4. They increased their lead in the eighth inning to 6-4.

The Bisons came back in the eighth inning to tie the game at 6-6 with scores by Watson and Reeves, sending the game into an

extra-inning showdown. Lyon College's Curt Dennis scored a run on a wild pitch by sophomore Bison pitcher Ryan Smith in the ninth.

The Bisons were unable to score in the ninth, and the game ended with Lyon winning 7-6. The Bisons' season record fell to 3-18.

The Bisons spent the game juggling pitchers, with seven players taking their turn on the mound. Three Lyon College runs were the result of walks or wild pitches.

The Bisons went into the game with a 12-game losing streak, the longest in Harding baseball history. Their conference record was 0-4.

They extended their losing streak to 13 games last Saturday after losing to Southwestern Oklahoma University 15-0.

In the second game of the double header, freshman Phil Gisel gave up four runs in the first inning. He then settled down to pitch five scoreless innings.

Down by two runs,

Harding began to rally in their last at-bat.

After two consecutive walks, Rampey hit a single that converted into an RBI.

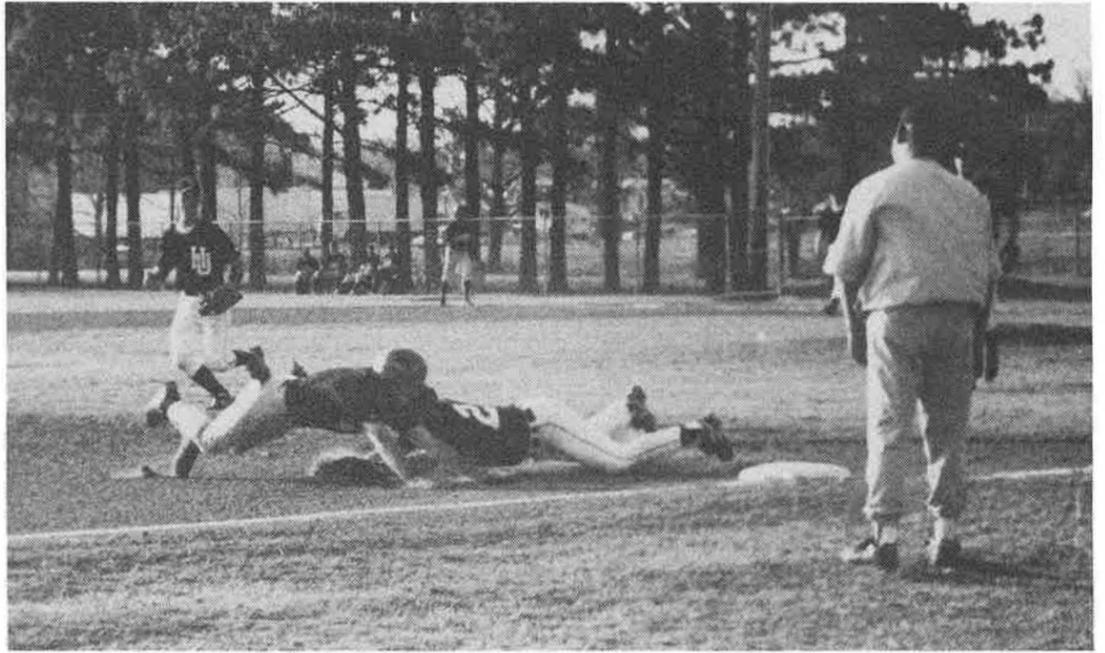
Freshman Eric Chin then hit a scorcher down the third base line to drive in

two more runs to give Harding the victory.

After losing the first game of Sunday's doubleheader against Southwestern, 7-2, the Bisons repeated their performance from a day earlier and had another late

inning comeback to win the game. They won the game 7-6 due to a seven-run rally in the bottom of the sixth inning.

The Bisons will play their next home game Tuesday, April 7, at 6 p.m.



Ryan Tharp reaches to make the tag while the Southwestern baserunner dives for third base. The Bisons split both of the doubleheaders against Southwestern last weekend. Photo by Tonia Davenport

## OPINION

# Baseball is the best kept secret in Searcy

Philip Murphy  
Bison Sports Editor

On the best of days, you wake up, throw on your jeans, run to chapel and find a thin, crumpled dollar bill left over from a Friday night date.

Or you drudge into the cafeteria and, after searching what seems like countless hours for a morsel of food, you find the oasis in the Sahara. The light at the end of the tunnel. The answer to your prayers. The hidden Easter egg. The cereal counter.

Yeah, it's been there all along, but once you find it, your day becomes a little bit brighter.

Last Saturday I found another such Easter egg. As I was complaining, with countless others, of nothing to do in Searcy, I stumbled across Jerry Moore Field, home of the Bison baseball team.

Most students could probably find Cambodia on a map as easily as they

could locate Harding's Jerry Moore Field.

I was treated with a front-row, shiny aluminum bleacher. Usually one would just have a minute section of the bleacher, but there was more than enough room to have my own bleacher on this night.

This year, Sports Information assistant Todd Goode has incorporated great sound bytes to aid the game's action, and mid-inning stretches are accompanied with music.

Need a couple of innocent laughs? Just watch the group of Little Rascals race for foul balls.

Attending Harding baseball games has now jumped to number four on my Top Ten date places. No admission. No chilly theatres. No window shopping. Did I mention no admission?

You can easily have an ARAMARK dinner and take a stroll across Park Street, pass the Ganus Athletic Center and cross the bridge

over Gin Creek to one of the best hidden treasures in Searcy.

Despite their not-so-perfect record, the Bisons are actually one of the best teams in the conference. It's just going to take some time before it shows. And even if they aren't the best team in the nation, they're still better than we are.

You never know who is going to be out on the field playing. Harding has had several players get drafted by Major League teams. Which one will be next?

The Harding baseball team needs all of the support we can give. They have proven that they can beat anybody at home. Earlier in the season they beat Central Missouri State, the third ranked NCAA Division II team in the nation.

It's getting close to the end of the year, and a trip to Jerry Moore Field would definitely provide an alternative to the regular date to the Little Rock Tandy 10.

Come support the Bisons Tuesday, April 7, at 6 p.m., Friday, April 10, at 4 p.m., and Saturday, April 11, at noon and enjoy the ballgames.

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