Mote replaces Davis as assistant dean of students

By Meredith Garrity

After five years as assistant football coach of the Harding University football team, Roddy Mote has traded his position on the playing field for one in the administrative field.

Mote's appointment as Assistant Dean of Students was announced Friday, Jan. 7, after Terry Davis, former assistant dean of students, resigned in December and accepted a position at Georgia Tech University in Atlanta, Ga., where he will pursue a doctorate degree.

Mote already has a positive attitude toward his new position, one that will make him responsible for discipline, student activities, social clubs participation and dormitory life.

"I love football and I love to coach. I feel that this job requires a lot of the same skills, just without the football," Mote said.

As manager of Harbin dormitory, assistant football coach and an instructor in the kinesiology department, Mote has been a positive influence in the lives of students for years. Now he says he wants to build a relationship with the student body as a whole.

"The main goal that I have as the new dean of men is to fulfill the Harding mission of developing Christian servants," Mote said.

Mote said he was surprised when Delores Carson, assistant vice president for student services, approached him with the position.

"I have always been interested in administrative work, but I didn't expect it to happen so soon," Mote said.

Carson said she chose Mote for the position because of his qualifications.

"Roddy has instant credibility with the students. He is well known on the campus and he brings a wealth of experience to the job," Carson said. "He is a caring individual who is going to provide positive leadership for our male students."

Mote graduated from Harding in 1984 with a B.A. in secondary education.

He coached football teams for several years in Texas, Tennessee and Georgia, before returning to Harding in 1995 to earn a masters degree in higher education.

Mote earned his masters, and he accepted the assistant football coach and kinesiology instructor positions at the University.

"He is an excellent dorm manager, coach and teacher," Carson said. "He also looks at this job as an opportunity to help students." Mote and his wife, Kim, have three children: two boys and one girl, ages two, five and eight. Mote and his family live in Harbin dormitory but plan to move out this summer.

"Dean Mote is a great guy. They really picked the best person for the job," said Matt Burcham, sophomore.

Mote has resigned his coaching position to devote full time to his new role in student services.

A sign of change

Naming of Burks Boulevard commends President for commitment to expansion

By Bryan Creech

Bison staff writer

The newest street on campus now has a name — Burks Boulevard.

The street, located between the Campus Athletic Center and the Reynolds Center, was named at Harding's last Board of Trustees Meeting earlier this month.

Burks Boulevard connects Park Street to the Beebe-Capps Expressway and was formed during the construction of the Reynolds Center.

The new street marked the completion of the building and the ever continuing expansion of Harding's campus.

Burks Boulevard is the newest entrance to Harding University. The new marquee sits at the south entrance of Burks Boulevard, forming visitors to Harding of events on campus as well as the time and temperature.

Burks has done so much for Harding with the Railroad removal, the new street should be named after him and his wife," Don Shores, member of the board, said.

Working with the city of Searcy, Burks led the successful effort to relocate the railroad tracks to an off-campus location.

Removing the tracks helps with traffic to and from the Reynolds Center and the Campus Athletic Center and allows students to cross without the hassle of the tracks.

"We believe that this is particularly significant because Dr. Burks has been the driving force behind the development of the southern portion of the campus," Shores said. "His vision has led to the complete new look and the expansion of that part of the campus."

Burks said he was surprised by the decision of the board, and he accepted the name for the new street reluctantly.

"Both Leah and I were very honored by the naming of the street," he said.

What is going on...

Russia's venerable National Philharmonic Orchestra, touring Great Britain in November with almost no financial support from their homeland, was forced to play for spare change outside a McDonald's restaurant in Swanses, Wales. They took in about $32.

Scottish psychopathic murderer Noele Ruddle, who has been in the Carlisle mental hospital in Glasgow for eight years, was released in August because no treatment is currently available for his paranoid schizophrenia. British law prevents a prisoner's hospitalization if it cannot result in an improvement, however slight, of his condition.

Inmate Timothy Marshall, 39, petitioned a Florida Judge recently to release him early in 2000, as per terms of his 1985 15-year cocaine-trafficking sentence. The only problem, said the judge, was that Marshall was an escapee for 11 years. Marshall now accuses the state of "wrongfully refusing to give him credit" for time served while on the run.

In a November raid on a warehouse used by Red Command, Rio de Janeiro's most prominent drug-and-money-laundering gang, police discovered hundreds of freshly pirated copies of a CD, "Prohibited Rap," which the gang's neighborhood lieutenant had intended as Christmas presents for their best cocaine customers.

By Meredith Garrity

President David Davis and his wife, Leah, pose under the street sign that bears their name. The Board of Trustees named the boulevard that connects the Beebe-Capps Expressway and Park Street after the Burks' for their dedication to the University.
Opinions

Just some thoughts... You're a good man Charles Schultz

You can learn a lot from watching a child. Even more when that child is illustrated and surrounds himself with an odd cast of companions including one known as "Pig Pen" and a pet beagle who writes novels and plans for D-Day, all while sitting atop his red-roofed doghouse.

For the past 50 years, the hard lessons and follies of life have been played out by Charlie Brown and the "Peanuts" gang against the backdrop of a rapidly changing world.

Along the way, readers gently learned that life is not always fair; adults cannot always be trusted in a young world and children cannot always be expected to grow up quickly.

As an avid follower of the Sunday comics, I have grown up reading "Peanuts." While I may not have spent every moment thinking about the characters or storylines after reading the newspaper down, I admit that I was a little melancholy when Charles Schultz, the Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist and illustrator, announced in December that the comic's five-decade run was coming to an end (the last daily comic ran Jan. 3, and the last Sunday strip will run Feb. 13). I was not alone.

Suddenly, an often cynical and calculating world was enmarmed with one lovable loser whose dog usually is his one friend.

However, I don't think that it is necessary the little boy who always wore the same bright yellow shirt with a zigzag stripe that I, or most of the world, will miss. Rather, it is the insight that something simple and good has come to an end.

Although Schultz admitted that he was always enthralled by a child's world, he never attempted to portray his ageless characters as carefree or naive.

Instead, Schultz concocted a wonderful mixture of innocence and intelligence, satire and seriousness, history and hilarity and he did it on his own.

Schultz refused to allow any other illustrators to work on the column, although most comic strips have a team of writers and illustrators.

Yet Schultz has always been content to go it alone, leaving most people unaware of the mystery behind the cartoon and its creator.

In fact, very few people know the story behind Charles Schultz.

I issue of newspapers, Schultz's early life reflected that of Charlie Brown.

In school, he was thought to lack the intelligence to "make something of himself."

In love, he lost his first girlfriend to another man. And early in his career, he was brushed off as "just another cartoonist."

The purpose of this column is to challenge you to think outside of the box. I am not suggesting that you read "Peanuts" every Sunday, but instead to look at the world through the eyes of a child. This is a good way to learn about the way we view the world, to look for the best person for the job. There are many different ways to look at the world, to be able to retain some things that are good for us.

Meredith Hlasta
Bison staff writer

Campaign 2000: Don't be so quick to check the "R"

"Don't be so quick to check the 'R.'"

Okay I said it. Are you okay? You know the "R" I am talking about: Republican.

Now, before you get too upset, hear me out. I am not endorsing a vote for Republicans.

However, I am suggesting that as intelligent people, we need to think through this whole election process and vote on the policies endorsed by the candidates.

The purpose of this column is to challenge you to think outside of the box. I want to encourage everyone not to just look for that "R" or that "D," but to instead look for the best candidate, examine their views on policy and review their voting record. In short, look for the best person for the job.

Just because someone belongs to a certain party does not necessarily mean that he or she has the views you think they do or even the ones you want them to have.

However, with a little research, you can find out who does represent you.

I am not suggesting that you read everything about politics from now until November.

I am talking about a looking at Time, Newsweek or any respectable newspaper.

Read and find out who has said what, who has voted for what, who is funded by whom, who has backed whom and who will not commit to anything.

One of the biggest issues in Campaign 2000 are tax cuts. When the amount of money the government takes in is reduced, the money has to come from existing programs' budgets.

One of the areas facing proposed cuts is Social Security, according to Senator John McCain, one of the Republican Party's six Presidential candidates.

Other candidates have proposed numerous other cuts. A cut in Social Security may not sound important to you now, but in 2014, the projected year when Social Security will run out, it will affect you either directly or indirectly.

Some of the other issues sure to be debated during this election include the marriage penalty, inheritance taxes, Social Security taxes, gun control, environmental concerns and racial profiling.

Some issues are more prominent in one party that the other. For example, the Democrats (Al Gore and Bill Bradley) are fighting over education issues, while the Republicans (George W. Bush, McCain, Steve Forbes, Orrin Hatch, Alan Keyes and Gary Bauer) argue over tax cuts — what to cut and how much to cut.

Speaking of voting, we are statistically the generation that does not vote. Why is that? People have fought for our right to vote — ever heard of the American Revolution?

Did you know that most of our parents could not vote until the 21st Amendment? Our fathers were being sent to Vietnam to fight when they could not even vote for or against the person who sent them there. Don't you think those 18-year-old men would have liked to have the right and privilege to vote? You do, but do you take advantage of it?

Why do we take for granted this right and allow others to elect our leaders? Even the youngest of us here is going to be entering the working world within the foreseeable future.

The policies being debated now affect us in a big way. We need to care and we need to ask how much we can care with our vote.

Let me encourage you right now to register to vote if you have not. You can register through your county courthouse or through a post office in your state. Consult your state for specific information.

If you are already registered, then vote by absentee ballot in your state's primary and more importantly in the general election in November.

When you go to vote, do not just instinctively check "R" or "D." Vote for who you qualify. Be an educated voter.

But most importantly, be a voter.

Meredith Hlasta
Bison staff writer

Campaign 2000: Don't be so quick to check the "R."

This section is reserved for letters to the editor. Please send letters or ideas for editorial content to Box 11552.

I am a staff member at HU and also a non-traditional student. This allows me to see both sides of university life. I am so thankful to my classmates and professors for the acceptance and assistance I have received.

As we begin a new semester, I would like to remind us all that we usually have students who do not come back. Sometimes it is because of financial difficulties, health problems or other family situations. Other times, though, it is because they have perceived an attitude among us that is alien to what the term Christian means.

In short, non-traditional students like myself, we also have those who could be termed "non-conformists." They may dress a little outrageously, and express views that we do not agree with or even act in ways that are unacceptable behavior for Christians.

But have we responded to them with the mind of Christ? Although he never condoned actions or attitudes against God's will, Jesus did interact with those in a way that they knew he cared for them as individuals. He met them on their level and worked with them to bring them to a better level. If we respond to these "non-conformists" in a dogmatic and closed-minded way or totally avoid them, will we be able to retain them, not only as students, but as Christians? I think we will truly ask ourselves, "What would Jesus do," and then do likewise.

Marilyn Dowed

The Bison is a campus newspaper, written and largely staffed by students, working to provide high-quality journalistic discussion of issues central to the campus community. It serves as an educational tool for students, providing practical experience to enhance skills learned in the classroom. The Bison encourages its responsibility to reflect the diversity of its student body.

The views and opinions expressed in The Bison do not necessarily reflect the official policy of the Huntington University administration. The Bison is published weekly (except during holidays and summer vacations) by Huntington University. Faculty Adviser: Kay Gowen

Photographer: Ric Helms
Sports Editor: Landon Horton
Advice: Jim Miller

Students should all strive to meet Christian standards.
U.S. should return Elian to rightful parent

"Sit right back and you'll hear a tale, a tale of a thankful trip, that started from this tropic isle aboard this tiny ship."

Cuba is the tropical isle in this story. Though beautiful on the surface, Cuba contains political problems that frighten people so horribly, some risk their lives to live in another world - a free world. Some have successfully made the trip, others have failed. Some have sacrificed their own lives so their children could live in a better world. This is where Elian Gonzalez enters the picture.

On Nov. 22, six-year-old Elian and his mother, Elizabeth, along with 11 others, embarked on a trip to America. They were 13 desperate refugees who have repeatedly said that life in communist Cuba automatically constitutes child abuse. Elian's father, however, opposes this statement and demands that the boy be returned to him.

"Elian has repeatedly stated to his father that he does not want to be returned to Cuba," the petition filed by Elian's Miami relatives and quoted in the Jan. 13 Washington Post said. "[Being] forced to return to Cuba would submit him to abuse and neglect, and the Castro regime has taken control of Elian's father."

How did Elian get caught in the middle of an international custody battle? Let us return to that fateful November morning. Why was the need to get away so great that this young mother would risk herself and her child on a rickety boat to Florida?

The answer may be Lazaro Munero. Munero and Elizabeth had been seeing each other since 1997, according to Dateline NBC. He was the leader of the expedition that morning. The original group included 15 Cubans who set out Nov. 21. However, when the motor failed and they were spotted by a Cuban patrol boat, one mother aboard decided that the trip was too risky and she and her daughter did not leave with them.

Since the boat left Cuba's shore at least twice, it is obvious that Elizabet was conscious of her wish for Elian to return to his father.

"Everyone wants what is best for him. I believe that what is best for little Elian is for him to be with the person he believes in, the person he trusts the most - his father."

The Castro regime has taken control of Elian's father. However, Elian's divorced mother and share with Elian this dream for Elian. She has a dream for Elian. She wanted what we all take for granted every day - freedom. In this land of immense prosperity, we need to respect the wishes of Elian's late mother and share with Elian this great gift of freedom. Should Elian Gonzalez be sent back to Cuba or be allowed to remain in the U.S.?

Kevin Haney, junior
"No. His mother gave her life to bring him to freedom."

Melody Chaffin, freshman
"No. He has a family who cares about him here and this is where his mom wanted him to be."

Sara Beth Sanders, freshman
"Yes. Elian Gonzalez should be sent back to Cuba because that is where he belongs, and I don't think it is right to view him as a political figure."

Marcus Moore, sophomore
"No, his mother died. Let him stay here."

Facing the Issues

U.S. should respect mother's wishes

So much controversy about a boy named Elian. This six-year-old boy who seems very average on the outside is, in fact, not average at all. Elian Gonzalez, along with 12 would-be refugees, left Cuba and set sail for Florida before dawn, Monday morning, Nov. 22.

However, a storm on the first day of travel caused the ship to capsize leaving 10 dead including Elian's mother. Elian was found on Thanksgiving day alone and adrift in the Atlantic Ocean.

"Because his divorced mother decided while fleeing Cuba with Elian and he has been claimed by South Florida's politically powerful and highly vocal Cuban community, his case has been propelled into the realm of high politics and foreign policy," Karen DeYoung wrote in the Jan. 10 issue of the Washington Post.

A judge in Miami has granted temporary custody of Elian to his Cuban-American great-uncle and has scheduled a hearing for March 6.

Miami relatives are fighting hard to keep Elian in Florida. They have repeatedly said that life in communist Cuba automatically constitutes child abuse.

"Elian's father, however, opposes this statement and demands that the boy be returned to him. "Elian has repeatedly stated to his father that he does not want to be returned to Cuba," the petition filed by Elian's Miami relatives and quoted in the Jan. 13 Washington Post said. "[Being] forced to return to Cuba would submit him to abuse and neglect, and the Castro regime has taken control of Elian's father."

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"Everyone wants what is best for him. I believe that what is best for little Elian is for him to be with the person he believes in, the person he trusts the most - his father."

"It is important for a child to have people he can depend on, people he can trust. That kind of bond cannot be formed in a few short weeks. Elian should be allowed to return to his father who loves him.

Many people believe that Elian is better off free in the U.S. than with his father in Cuba. Yet they do not recognize the importance of the father in a child's life. I took swimming lesson at the local YMCA as a child. As entry-level swimmer, our fathers were asked to accompany us. We would swim laps in the shallow end, trying to float on our backs.

I never felt a hint of fear as long as my dad was near me. One day, however, all of that changed. A new drill designed to take the fear out of swimming for us was introduced to the class. Our fathers lined up along one end of the pool to catch us. One by one, the others soared through the air plunging into the water submerged for only a second before their fathers saved them from certain death.

Brave and fearless as they were, I could not take that first step. My dad's arms were open and ready, but I did not want to drown. Slowly, it seemed as if everyone around me grew silent, until I looked up to see my dad reaching for me, and I heard the voice of the one person I knew I could believe in. "Jump, I promise I'll catch you." He caught me, and in that pool my dad and I built a bridge that I could not have built with any other person. The name of that bridge is trust.

Elian has been through a lot. Everyone wants what is best for him. I believe that what is best for little Elian is for him to be with the person he believes in, the person he trusts the most - his father.

"Sit right back and you'll hear a tale, a tale of a thankful trip, that started from this tropic isle aboard this tiny ship."

"In this land of immense prosperity, we need to respect the wishes of Elian's late mother and share with Elian this great gift of freedom."

Speak Up

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Blazing new trails: 85 students make their way on campus

By Sarah Terry
Bison staff writer

A little more than a month ago, Scott Colvin was a high school senior in Jefferson City, Mo.

Today, he is a college freshman and one of 85 transfers and new students who arrived on the Harding University campus in mid-January for the spring semester.

In high school, Colvin found himself in the unique position of having enough credits to graduate a semester early.

Rather than waiting until the fall to begin college, he opted for an early start.

"It's something I wanted to do," Colvin, who plans to major in physics and math, said. "I planned to come to Harding anyway. This gives me a head start in college."

According to Carol Kell, assistant director of admissions, the number of transfers and new students enrolling in the spring has remained steady for a number of years.

Kell added that the students who come to Harding in the spring semester come for reasons as varied as the students who arrive in the fall.

"Some students find they were not a good fit at their first school," she said. "For some students, it's Harding's location and distance from their home. For others, it's the environment that's offered at Harding."

Many of the students who begin school in the spring are full-time and from the Searcy area, Kell said, noting that only 25 of the 85 new students live on campus.

"Beginning college brought a lot of changes. I realized that I wanted to be closer to home," Rubio said, whose two older sisters formerly attended Harding.

Both Colvin and Rubio admitted that the prospect of enrolling in a new school during the year can be daunting.

But Rubio said she has no regrets about her decision to transfer.

"I have felt so welcome. Everybody has been so friendly and inviting," she said.

While Colvin already had several friends at Harding, he said beginning school in the middle of the year was still a bit intimidating.

"It was kind of scary," he said, adding that he probably would not recommend transferring in the middle of the year to a student who did not already have a group of friends.

In May, after Colvin completes his first round of college finals, he will return home to walk with his class in his high school graduation ceremony.

Access center to provide hands-on training for mathematics, science education on campus

The Center for Mathematics and Science Education at Harding University is now an access center for the Eisenhower National Consortium for the Improvement of Mathematics and Science Education (SCIMAST) in Austin, Texas.

The center is one of the ten science and mathematics consortia funded by the U.S. Department of Education to identify and share resources that assist teachers and schools in improving mathematics and science education.

Harding will provide training with materials that support mathematics and science education as well as network sessions for teachers to share their experiences.

Teachers will be offered on-line information about materials and actual hands-on experiences to see what resources are available and how they may be used in their classrooms.

The Center for Mathematics and Science Education at Harding University is located in Sewell Hall, Room 8 and is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Other services provided include computer access, print and on-line materials, peer training, teacher training, and access to other consortium resources.

Call 279-4167 or e-mail the center for Mathematics and Science at mathscicenter@harding.edu for more information.

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Meeting challenges students to ‘focus on the journey’

By Rachel Wilson
Bison staff writer

The College Church of Christ held its annual gospel meeting Jan. 16-19, featuring guest speaker Kurt Picker from the West Houston Church of Christ in Houston, Texas. Picker presented six sermons from II Peter focusing on how the apostle Peter’s eyewitness of Christ influenced his testimony and writings to other Christians. He then correlated Peter’s experiences to those of present-day Christians and encouraged the audience to let their lives demonstrate the power of Christ.

"Picker was very good at relating to the audience," Tamera Smith, sophomore, said. "I really liked his thoughts about the divine nature of God and how we can experience that power."

"He did an excellent job of reaching the students," John Chenshir, senior, said. "He used the life of Peter to encourage a young person to be able to look ahead and see what God can do."

Picker graduated from Harding in 1976 and has been preaching for the West Houston Church of Christ for 17 years. He now has two children and two nephews attending the university.

"Listening to my uncle was good," Jeremy Picker, junior, said. "It was neat that other people got to hear the kind of message he brought. He was so genuine."

About 40 people responded to the invitation throughout the week. Perhaps the most fulfilling moment for Picker was witnessing one of his nephews become a Christian on Tuesday night. However, Picker admonished his audience to not let the responses, however, be what determined the success of the meeting. He said the real success would be measured in how people committed to refocusing their lives on a daily basis.

"Many lives were touched and conversations sparked by the sermons," Jeremy Picker said. "Talking and thinking about it is more of what needs to happen."

Tquon Moore, a youth minister from the West Houston Church of Christ led the singing at each gathering.

Together, Moore and Picker acted as a team to encourage the audience.

"I enjoyed the way Tquon and Kurt interacted," Smith said. "They played off of each other's strengths. Tquon did his best to get out of the way and encourage the audience to focus only on God."

The urgency of Picker’s message touched the hearts of many people, according to Chesshir.

"He put the story [of Peter] in a light I'd never seen it in before," he said. "He showed that we still have a place in God’s plan even when we fall short."

"The examples he gave of righteousness were very beneficial," Smith said. "He did a good job of showing us that, like Peter, if we will get out of the way, God will take care of the rest."

Neale Pryor, vice president of academic affairs, commended Picker on his success as a first time speaker at the College Church of Christ gospel meeting.

"He [Picker] did a very fine job, and it was his first meeting for College."

A little studying goes a long way

Brian Brophy, junior, takes time before his next class to catch up on some last minute reading on the second floor of the student center. The start of a semester in a new millennium gave many students the chance to make resolutions regarding their academic studies as well as other personal goals and ambitions.
Brass quintet entertains with delightful blend of Dixie, Gershwin

By Elizabeth R. Smith & Stephen Jerkins

The Saint Louis Brass Quintet performed to a full house and concluded to a standing ovation Monday night as part of the Classical Lyceum Series. Allan Dean, trumpet; Ray Sasaki, trumpet; Thomas Bacon, horn; Melvyn Jernigan, trombone; and Daniel Perantoni, tuba, make up the group, which has been in existence, with various members, for more than 35 years.

The quintet performed a variety of brass pieces including three tango arrangements, a Baroque medley, six "animal ditties," a Gershwin medley and an arrangement of Japanese songs.

However, the five performers agreed that their favorite performance piece is one entitled, "Divertimento for Neglected Musical Instruments," which showcases less-known instruments, such as a garden hose equipped with a mouth piece and a slide trombone that spanned from one side of the stage to the other.

"My favorite piece is the instrument demonstration," Jernigan said. "The audiences always seem to love it."

Josh Brown, senior, has attended several past Lyceum performances, but found the quintet to be the most enjoyable.

"I have been a few times, but this is probably the best one that I have been to," he said.

Having been around for about 35 years, the quintet prides themselves on having a great deal of experience.

In fact, of the five members, four teach music at the university level and all have performed internationally, Jernigan said.

With Monday's performance successfully completed, the music department is preparing for Thursday, Feb. 3, which marks the final Lyceum performance of the semester. The show turns the spotlight on pianist Dr. Neil Rupman at 7 p.m. in the Administration Auditorium. Tickets can be purchased at the door for one dollar.

An amateur boxer with a record of 6-0, Rupman is also a professor of music at the University of Central Arkansas. His performance will focus on the works of Robert and Clara Schumann.

The Saint Louis Brass Quintet has been in existence for more than 35 years and has performed internationally.

Sarah McLachlan's album "Mirrorball" features live versions of some of her most popular singles. The album is on sale for approximately $16.

"Mirrorball" marks McLachlan's musical milestone

By Vicki Cupper

I have a theory that live albums are better than studio albums. Sarah McLachlan's "Mirrorball" is no exception.

Released at the end of last year, "Mirrorball" is one of the best live CDs I have ever heard. Her performance rivals any by music greats Carol King or Joni Mitchell. Cassie Hudson's backing vocals complement McLachlan's voice perfectly.

The first track, "Building a Mystery," is not unlike the studio version. It has the typical extension with a hard cut off at the end. "Mystery" is an excellent song to open with. It sets the mood of the whole CD.

"Hold On" has a beautiful introduction. This song really showcases McLachlan's talent as a songwriter. "Hold On" then blends with "Good Enough," a ballad about failure to please the one you love.

Undoubtedly the best song on "Mirrorball," the hit "I Will Remember You" is one of music's proudest moments. McLachlan's voice is full of the heart and soul intended for this musical milestone.

"Adia," although not a personal favorite, is a beautiful song live. It has a cool, dramatic ending. I definitely prefer the live version to the original version on "Surfacing."

The next track, "I Love You," is an emotional love song about a woman who loves a man but cannot tell him. When she finally has a chance, it is too late. It has a lovely Spanish-guitar type solo and a beautiful harmony.

Another excellently written love song, "Do What You Have to Do" is an intimate ballad — just McLachlan and her piano — about doing what you have to do to survive the pitfalls of love.

"The Path of Thorns (Terrey)" is the most upbeat song on the whole CD. Beware — it is catchy.

"Fear" is a wonderful song about the doubts we all experience in a romantic relationship. I love this song, although McLachlan valves Mariah Carey's range on the high notes during the chorus (I really miss those eardrums).

Her debut hit, "Possession" is better off left alone. Unfortunately, McLachlan adds some hard guitar and a funky, 80's electronic/drum-machine thing at the beginning. It has a cool ending, though. I have never liked the beginning of "Sweet Surrender" or the whole song for that matter. However, I like this version — it is kicky and energetic.

"Ice Cream" is a really cute song. It shows that McLachlan is not serious all the time, and she does have a sense of humor. I love the part when the audience sings along.

"Fumbling Towards Eternity" is the calming low to "Ice Cream's" sugar high. It is a wise and beautiful song about not denying ourselves the satisfaction of properly reacting to our emotions. Good advice.

To hear the final track, "Angel," is to understand why the song was written in the first place. McLachlan's vocals are more heartfelt than "Angel" than on any other track. I cry every time I listen to this song. The voice will rip your heart out and stomp all over it.

This is one of the best live CD's every produced. The audience's response to each song made me wish I was there with them to share in the magic that is "Mirrorball." It will have the same affect on you. So go ahead. Buy the CD. You will thank me for it.

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By Vicki Cupper

I have a theory that live albums are better than studio albums. Sarah McLachlan's "Mirrorball" is no exception.

Released at the end of last year, "Mirrorball" is one of the best live CDs I have ever heard. Her performance rivals any by music greats Carol King or Joni Mitchell. Cassie Hudson's backing vocals complement McLachlan's voice perfectly.

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Home victories boost Bisons to 2-2 in conference

By Kelli Fager
Bison staff writer

After a stretch of losses on the road earlier this month, the Bisons returned home with two convincing conference victories.

The first win came Jan. 20 against a tough Southwest Oklahoma State University team with a score of 94-79. Michael Jackson, sophomore, and Armand Etame, junior, grabbed seven rebounds each while Levern Floyd, senior, led the team with 17 points.

"We'd been anticipating getting back home and were excited about playing in the Rhodes again," Floyd said. "The Rowdies are a big part of our success."

Last Saturday against the Cameron University Aggies, the Rhodes Rowdies chose the team on to yet another Bison victory.

Harding dominated the first half of the game, scoring eight three-pointers within the first 10 minutes of play. In one stretch, the unstoppable Bisons charged at the Aggies with a 24-point run.

Harding's offensive game overshadowed Cameron's defense, extending the lead to more than 30 points by the middle of the second half. When the final buzzer sounded, Harding had embarrassed the Aggies by a score of 100-58. This victory marked the Bisons' first triple digit score of the season.

Against the Aggies, Chris Hardaway, senior, led the team with 24 points, while Jackson again led the team with 13 rebounds.

"We were making everything that we threw up there," Hardaway said. "Our defense was causing us to get a lot of rebounds. That's what won our last two games - not giving up second shots."

Coach Jeff Morgan agreed. He said rebounding is key to the team's success.

"It's something we've worked on a lot and did a much better job at these last two games," he said. "Rebounding is what finishes the play and puts the ball back in our hands. It's just part of playing good defense."

But the Bisons will need more than just strong defense to be the best in the Lone Star Conference.

"Confidence is key," Morgan said. "These first two wins at home give us a little more confidence going into this weekend."

"The wins against Southwest and Cameron were great for our confidence and for keeping us focused for the games ahead," Hardaway said. "We know we're going to have to play smart and play good defense to compete with the best in the conference."

Being one of the best means making the conference tournament at the end of the regular season. To do this, the Bisons must own one of the top four records in the conference.

"Winning at home and splitting on the road puts us in a good position to make the [Lone Star] conference tournament," Morgan said. "A conference record of 8-6 or even 7-7 should give us a good chance."

Currently, the Bisons are 2-2 in the conference, and 7-9 overall. Earning a berth in the tournament will not be easy as the Bisons must face top-ranked North Central Oklahoma tomorrow night.

"They've been a very strong team in this conference for several years now," Morgan said, speaking of UCO. "They're a 'run and gun' team with an up-tempo style. They have averaged over 100 points a game the last couple of years and are usually a very fun team to watch."

Two years ago, the Bisons ended up on the losing end of a 117-109 score against UCO.

The two teams will tip off tomorrow afternoon at 4 p.m. in the Rhodes Memorial Fieldhouse.

Play intensifies as Lady Bisons continue conference schedule

By Alan Seim
Bison staff writer

As the road to the conference tournament rolls on, the Lady Bisons are beginning to pick up the pace.

This weekend marks the closing of a four-game home stand for the Lady Bisons. They played Northeastern State University last night and will play the University of Central Oklahoma tomorrow afternoon at 2 p.m. in the Rhodes Memorial Fieldhouse.

The team hopes to improve their conference record to 4-2 after this weekend, before heading to Batesville to play Lyon College, Feb. 1.

Rachel Raglin, senior, has been instrumental in leading the team to their recent success. The Lady Bisons, now 8-7, find themselves in prime position in the Lone Star Conference standings.

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Rachel Raglin, senior, has been instrumental in leading the team to their recent success. The Lady Bisons have surprised those who doubted them.

"We are now playing better as a team," Jamie Pate, senior, said. "Considering the amount of new additions, we are adjusting well."

The offensive production of the team has picked up since the beginning of the season, according to Francis. Much of this increase can be attributed to the play of Krista Anderson, junior.

"Our offense has progressed recently, and as our new players adjust, it will continue to improve," Anderson said.

With only 11 games remaining on the schedule, each game grows in importance for the Lady Bisons. The team thinks they can improve on last year's squad, which advanced to the conference tournament, according to Raglin.

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For the past four weeks, the name of John Rocker, relief pitcher for the Atlanta Braves, has been all over sports news. Controversy has officially set in. The establishment has rightly pegged him as a racist and bigot.

In the Dec. 27 issue of Sports Illustrated, Rocker directed racial slurs toward many different ethnic groups. He also made degrading comments about women. The man even made a racist comment about one of his own teammates.

Apparently, Rocker has very low chance for certain cities too. The mention of New York City set off a rampage. He said he cannot stand the city and its people. There are far too many foreigners in New York City, according to Rocker, who wonders "how they got in this country." What upsets him the most is the three nights he had to play in Shea Stadium during the playoffs.

To say the least, Mets fans do not like Rocker. They threw bat-teries, bottles and quacks at him. Although I am not saying their behavior was right, I do think he had it coming. Rocker egged the fans on when he spat and rudely gestured at them during a batting practice.

Yet after all this, he says the fans are the "degenerate." I say it takes one to degrade one. Although Rocker has not broken the law or caused any physical damage, he should be able to degrade other human beings whenever he chooses. Children watch this man. Do we want our children to think this type of racist and sexist behavior is acceptable?

With hate so prevalent in today's world, our children should not have to be exposed to the hatred of this ignorant man. Many people believe it is Rocker's right to say whatever he wants. I say it is no man's right to hate.

Hate is the root of violence. I am sure the forefathers of this country did not mean for the First Amendment to be a hiding place for ignorant people who seek at-tention by degrading others. I believe this man should be punished for his actions. The baseball commissioner is making Rocker go through psychological testing. I am not sure if this is just a good public relations ploy by the league.

If media continues to let Rocker speak his mind on all things, I think sales will start de-clining. With hate so prevalent in today's world, our children should not have to be exposed to the hatred of this ignorant man. Many people believe it is Rocker's right to say whatever he wants. I say it is no man's right to hate.

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