Rising gas prices pinch students' pocket books

By Kelli Fager
Bison staff writer

College students are typically "broke." The average student, in one month, may pay car payments, credit card bills, college loan debt, club dues, laundry money, groceries and the list goes on.

With all of these expenses and with Spring Break just around the corner, paying more for gasoline is a major concern.

According to the Energy Information Administration of the U.S. Department of Energy, gas prices have drastically increased within the past few months. On Jan. 10, the EIA reported that the average U.S. price of all grades was $1.30. On Feb. 28, it was more than $1.45.

In just a little more than a month, gas prices have risen more than 15 cents. During this time, the price of regular unleaded gasoline increased 16 cents, while premium unleaded increased only 14 cents.

The Petroleum Communications Foundation said that gas prices are driven by the commodity market, and that gasoline pricing is based on the idea of supply and demand. The more people who need gasoline, the more the price will be. Other reasons for price increases include station's marketing strategies, customer's buying tendencies and the number of gas stations in a particular area.

But whatever the reasons, higher gas prices mean excessive costs for "Spring Breakers" this year. The increase in prices has some Harding students concerned about the expense of their Spring Break trips.

Jeremy Weber, junior, is traveling more than 800 miles to Colorado for the week and is concerned about the cost. "Even though it's a lot of highway miles, the trip is going to be pretty expensive," he said. "It's a long drive and our cars don't get very good gas mileage."

Mandy Hintz, junior, is worried about Spring Break costs as well. "I wasn't expecting gas to cost this much," she said. "I can pool it into saving on costs, but with gas prices as high as they are, it is still going to be an expensive trip."

So there is already to defray the costs of gas prices this Spring Break?

"According to a Nick's of Pumpugh.com offers some advice. First of all, buy the cheaper gas.

"People are getting excited about Spring Break and summer campaigns. According to Dwight Smith, campus minister. "For the most part, the money is in, tickets are being written, and we are down to the wire," he said.

The number of participants has increased this year for both Spring Break and summer campaigns.

According to Smith, 100 more students than last year are going on summer campaigns this year. This summer, more than 350 students will travel to 26 foreign countries to encourage the churches and spread the gospel through a variety of methods.
On Dec. 9, 1998, Donna and Richard Fasano gave birth to twin boys. Like all new parents, the Fasanos were thrilled with the arrival of not one, but two sons after in vitro fertilization ended there, but it didn't. According to the March 3 broadcast of "20/20," Nash recommended the Fasanos terminate the pregnancy and try again later. But the Fasanos would not risk the life of a child that was possibly their own.

When the babies were born, doctors' suspicions were confirmed with the birth of Vincent, who matched the Fasanos genetically, and Joseph, who did not. However, the Fasanos went home and began raising both of the children as their own.

The Fasanos claim that their home was a happy one, until three months later when a couple named Rogers served them with court papers claiming that they were Joseph's natural parents.

Genetic testing revealed that they were related to Joseph as claimed, and both couples later agreed that Joseph would live with the Rogers, as long as the Fasanos maintained liberal visitation rights.

"It's not just something that you can hand off to someone else, and I love him, he's part of my life, he's part of my son's life. He is a part of my family," Donna Fasano said. The Rogers now claim that the Fasanos are interfering with their lives by not allowing them an adjustment period with their son, according to the "20/20" broadcast.

However, this issue is about something much deeper than the custody of a child, although that is rightfully an important topic. This story speaks to the basic question of who is the rightful owner of a life: the genetic parents from whom every physical feature of a child comes; or the parents that carried and anticipated the child, taking every care for the child's safe arrival.

Like it or not, the two are forever linked, and this issue will never truly be resolved in either the minds of the Fasanos or the Rogers. Life cannot be contained, and it will continue to break every barrier that we set before it. It cannot be estimated, and life cannot be reduced to a prediction. We will never be able to fit the miracle of life, a process which we do not fully understand, into a box — that will never happen.

Technology is an amazing thing, a source from which many medical miracles originate daily. Yet just because the technology exists, does not always mean that we have the knowledge or maturity to use it correctly. This problem will only grow, and manipulate the conception of a human being.

For centuries, we have learned about and over and over that life will always find a way out of our creation. The Fasanos would have never known Joseph, now named Akeil, but they do. Until society learns to really grasp the need of the technological leap, errors like that of the Fasanos will continue to occur.

The year 2000: A big fat lie

During my earlier years of life, the promise of someday owning my own personal robot servant was comforting. Moving picture shows and television only encouraged this dream of a somewhat more advanced world. People of the future would come to play a role in this evil scheme.

Walt Disney himself was even in on it, with the idea of a voice-activated home and hologram phones with his EPCOT Center and Tomorrowland exhibits in Disneyworld.

He had me going — believing that by the turn of the century, my home would be ruled by giant panels of flashing buttons and switches. I actually believed that by the year 2000 I would have a robot of my own. It was brilliant, but misleading.

It was not until recently, though, that I remembered all of those unfulfilled promises. And what is really funny about this, is that I was a mall a few weeks ago when I came across a Dippin' Dots merchant in the food court, and decided to give the frozen dots a try. It was not the special goodness of the product that struck me then, as it was the company's trademark slogan, "Ice Cream of the Future." I then realized the implications of such a claim and the truth that it revealed.

First of all, when this "future" they speak of when ice cream, as we now know it, faces extinction only to be replaced by such a concoction?

And more importantly, what kind of future will it be for humans when we become so advanced that hundreds of tiny ice cream niblets will be more practical than two easy scoops? The idea is more comical than anything else, but it is the bigger picture at play here that causes me to wonder.

The future — when is it going to be here? We are already three months into the year 2000 and there is no sign of the times I once dreamed of — the space age! I was all but guaranteed as a child.

It is now that I realize just how far we are from the kind of world Popular Science magazine promised us.

There are no robot servants or flying cars. Moving sidewalks have not quite made it out of the apartments. When will silver space suits and plexiglass bubble helmets hit mainstream? Planet Earth is still waiting for time travel, hoverboards, jet packs, ray guns, Smell-O-Vision, teleportation and shoes that lace up automatically.

Was it all a lie — a pseudo-truth? So it seems. The reality is disheartening, but our dreaming is not in vain. An ancient Chinese proverb reads "the journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." The Hypercolor t-shirt was a good first step, but a long technological journey awaits us.

Our persistence will have its rewards, though. Your robot is coming. Just be patient.

Opinions

Just some thoughts...
The ownership of life

'Nontraditionals' should not be forgotten

The following excerpt is from a letter in response to a Jan. 28 letter, "Students should reflect Christian standards." This space is reserved for letters from students, faculty and other concerned readers regarding local and current issues.

I very much appreciated the letter which was printed a few weeks ago about remembering to treat "nonconformist" students in a Christ-like manner even though they may be different from you.

In addition, there is another very special group of students who, in my opinion, sometimes feel overlooked. We are the nontradiontals.

There is a story in the Bible about a shepherd who left 99 sheep to save one lost sheep. We believe we can do a better job of caring for the nontraditional students on campus. Nontraditional students are lumped together with young students. Many times, that is a sad mistake to make. We are just not the same.

The following is a list of ideas that I believe would help nontraditional students adjust to traditional university life:

-Grant academic clemency. (I still have [grades] hanging over my head from 1972).
-Reserve a section of the Benson for nontraditional students.
-Train teachers to recognize and handle special problems that nontraditional students may experience.
-Have a special lounge on campus.

-Family of student grateful for community

To the Students, Faculty, and Staff of Harding University, and to the members of the Seacoy community:

We want to thank each of you from the bottom of our hearts for the extreme display of charity that you extended to Sara. Your generosity, especially during the Christmas season, touched us deeply.

We speak to Sara almost daily, and to the members on campus.

To Sara and her family, we extend our love and concern.

-Sharon, Terry, and Caryn Hardesty, Summerville, SC

Editor's note: The preceding letter is in reference to former student, Sara Hardesty, who is recovering from an eating disorder after intensive treatment in Arizona.
Limit primaries to party members

Since Super Tuesday has come and gone, and Southern Tuesday is just around the corner, voters are anxious to find out who will be the new Republican nominee. As the candidates wrap up the last leg of the race, some voters are concerned with a little thing called open primaries.

Open primaries, by definition, mean that registered voters can go to the polls and vote for whom they want, whereas, in a closed primary, the voter has to vote for a candidate in their political party.

A lot of people think open primaries are a good idea. Of course, a lot of people also think SPAM is a good idea. In other words, it is possible for a lot of people to like something and still be completely off the mark.

The basic function of the primary system is to allow political parties to select their candidate for the national election. This is not an opportunity for independents and members of opposing parties to make their opinions known. That is what the national election is for.

Open primaries have the ability to destroy the primary system. In fact, in this year’s primary season, at least one state’s delegates were given to a candidate that the majority of party members did not support.

Michigan’s primary, held Feb. 22, is a perfect example of how the open primary can help thwart democracy.


So how did McCain win? Easy, Republicans only accounted for 47 percent of the voters in the Republican primary, according to Gary Langer in an article for abcnews.com on Feb. 23.

Thanks to the open primary, almost 20 percent of the voters in the primary were Democrats, who overwhelmingly voted for McCain. Independents constituted more than one-third of the votes cast, and they also supported McCain.

Besides the fact that open primaries often do not represent the party’s opinion, they can also be used for unsavory political gain.

Parties, not to mention candidates, use open primaries as a basic tactical maneuver. People vote for the weakest candidate in the opposing primary, causing him to win the opposing party’s nomination. Then in the general election in November, nobody votes for the nominee because his platform is still too weak to stand on.

In the end, open primaries are a bad idea. The primary and national convention are for the political parties. Let them choose their candidate. If we do not like who they choose, then we have the option of not voting for that person.

After all, that is what the national election is for.

Don’t you just love democracy?

Open primaries mimic national election

Open primaries are essential to the freedoms that we expect as citizens of the United States of America.

In the Feb. 28 issue of Newsweek, an article stated that Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, New Hampshire, Texas and Puerto Rico are the states and territories of the United States that hold open primaries.

Seven states, including the District of Columbia, allow party members and independents to vote in the primaries. The remaining 28 states have restricted the voting in their state to registered voters for a specific party.

Each state decides if it will have an open or closed primary. Each state has the freedom to decide how they will set-up their primary, which is all part of the democratic system.

In four years, our nation has an election day in which the entire nation can vote for the next president. There is no rule on election day that restricts a registered Democrat from voting for a Republican candidate. Why should the primary be any different?

An open primary has the same rules that our national election possesses.

Open primaries help prove the strength of a candidate. If a candidate wins in an open primary, he or she has not only received votes from their own party, but also from the other two parties.

Open primaries reveal the strength and appeal of a candidate to all parties. The ability to win in an open primary will help the candidate in the national election. An open primary is realistic and is good practice for the national election.

In the Feb. 14 issue of Newsweek, an article stated that Republican candidate, Gov. George W. Bush, won an open primary in New Hampshire, lost two open primaries in South Carolina, and lost an open primary in Michigan. In the South Carolina primary, Bush mobilized his conservative base and handily won the primary. In the Michigan primary, Bush simply did the same thing in Michigan. It does not matter that many of McCain’s supporters were not typical Republicans, or that Bush would have won Michigan, if it was a closed primary state.

What matters is that McCain appealed to the entire state, not just one political party, and the people rewarded him.

In an open primary, the candidate must focus on the entire state and all demographics, which in reality is how the national election is held.

The stronger candidate will be revealed after the ballots are tallied on Nov. 7.

Therefore, it is good practice to focus on all parties in the primaries.

Open primaries are essential to our freedom to vote as Americans. They allow the candidate to prove his strength before the national election is held.

Speak Up

If you could choose anyone to be president, who would it be?

Jeanisha R. Harris, junior
“Bishop T. D. Jakes. He is an evangelist, a chosen man of God.”

William Anderson, senior
“Dave Hudson (senior), he would be the people’s president.”

Lindsay McMillion, freshman
“Van Johnson (junior), because he is not a cheater.”

April Buchanan, sophomore
“I would choose Jesus.”
By Jamey Jones
Bison staff writer

It is that time of year again. A time for another break from the hassles of school. The big question is, what is everyone doing for Spring Break?

Besides the 450 students who are going on campaigns over Spring Break, others are making plans to travel as well.

"I’m headed for the beach," Marissa Moran, junior, said. "One of my friends is from the East Coast of Florida, and a big group of us are going to stay with his family for the week." Moran is not the only student headed for warm weather and sandy beaches.

"Two other guys and I are going to Myrtle Beach for Spring Break," Jordan Collier, freshman, said. "We plan to stay in a hotel and just hang out and enjoy ourselves at the beach."

Some students find that just heading home puts them close to the ocean.

"I’m going home to San Diego, and I’ll probably just hang out," Julia Leppert, sophomore, said. While many like fun in the sun, others prefer the chilly air of Colorado.

"My brother and I are going to go to Keystone and Arapaho Basin to ski," Adam Goertzen, sophomore, said. "It’s just going to be the two of us for some really good bonding and fun time."

Some will be doing a great deal of traveling over the break. Crystal Brown, sophomore, said she will be in several different places during the week.

"First I’m going to Pennsylvania to visit my roommate’s family," she said. "Then, I’m going to Lubbock to visit my best friend, who is going to get engaged on her birthday, and finally I’m going to visit my boyfriend in Mary­land."

Sue Anne Carson, senior, is going to do some similar traveling.

"I’m going to Texas to visit my old roommate, and then at the end of the week I’m going to the International Soul-Winning Workshop in Tulsa," she said.

Carson is not the only student who plans to end the break in Tulsa.

"After I go home to Arizona and get sunburned at baseball games, I’m going to end up at the Workshop on Thursday," Warren Shepherd, sophomore, said. "Some people like James Canterbury, junior, are going home for special events."

"This will be the first time in two years that all six siblings in my family will be in the same place," Canterbury said. "I’ll get to play with nieces and nephews and catch up with my brothers and sisters."

For Nathan Thompson, freshman, Spring Break will mean introducing his girlfriend to his family.

"This will be her first time in Colorado, and her first time to meet my parents," he said. "We plan on enjoying the big city." Others see Spring Break as a time to relax and enjoy family.

"I’m going home and then on a fishing trip with my dad," Jon Stacy, junior, said. While some are going to home to be with family, others are going home for different reasons. Two couples in particular are going home to make wedding plans for the summer.

Dusty Matthews and Crystal Davis, juniors, are going to her home in Colorado to tie up loose ends.

"We might find time in the hustle and bustle to go skiing," Matthews said. In addition, Sara Mulliken, sophomore, and Gregg Kendall-Ball, junior, are going to her home in Oklahoma to make wedding plans. Ironically, both weddings are on June 10.

Some people are not planning weddings, but they are going to be in them over the break.

"I’m going home to be the best man," Patrick Jackson, junior, said. "The wedding is on Monday, so I guess I’ll work the rest of the time while I’m home."

Some students will spend the week pouring the pavement making arrangements for the summer.

"I have to go home so I can find a job for the summer," Dianna Hone, sophomore, said. "Tassie and I are going to spend the break with the elders [of the Channelview Church of Christ in Houston, Texas] finalizing plans for our arrival in June as their missionaries in training," Kevin Smith, senior, said.

Student wins scholarship at Alpha Chi convention

By Tiffany Johnston
Bison staff writer

Tiffany Fox, senior, and Trudy Payne, Harding graduate, stand outside the FBI headquarters, located in Washington D.C., during last year’s Spring Break. This was just one of many stops for the pair, who also spent time touring the Supreme Court and the Smithsonian Institute. Students are busy making plans for this year’s Spring Break, which will officially begin next Friday, March 17, and will end Sunday, March 26.

Tiffany Fox, senior, and Trudy Payne, Harding graduate, stand outside the FBI headquarters, located in Washington D.C., during last year’s Spring Break. This was just one of many stops for the pair, who also spent time touring the Supreme Court and the Smithsonian Institute. Students are busy making plans for this year’s Spring Break, which will officially begin next Friday, March 17, and will end Sunday, March 26.

Each student was judged by a panel of three to five judges, most of whom are faculty sponsors.

Dr. Don England, Alpha Chi sponsor, said it is difficult to find presentations that do not sound like a review of previous studies.

"With all the research that has been done, it is hard to find something original," he said.

Harding also received the Star Chapter Award, which is a certificate given to the chapters that meet all requirements spelled out by the National Al­pha Chi Council.

What is coming up...

Tonight
SA Movies: "Anna and the King."
7 p.m., & "Stuart Little."
9:30 p.m., Benson Auditorium

Tomorrow
SAC Presents: The Talent Show, 8 p.m., Benson Auditorium, followed by SA Movie, "Stuart Little."

March 17
Spring Break begins

March 27
Classes resume

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Local, international speakers share struggles in chapel during Faith Week

By Sarah Terry
Bison staff writer

Speaking about his own conversion story, Rich Little, assistant to the president, the idea of bringing other powerful stories of faith and conversion to chapel audiences for one week each year. Struggles in Faith Week was instituted in the fall of 1996 and has become a "highlight of the year" for many students, Little said.

"Students anticipate this week and see it as a highlight," he said.

The first year, Little made a chapel announcement to recruit speakers for the week. Now suggestions for possible speakers come to him during the year via students, faculty and Christian magazines.

"It's a mixture of feedback and keeping my eyes peeled," he said.

The most recent faith building week, Feb. 28-March 3, included Lester Holt, an anchorman for the CBS affiliate in Chicago; Kaelin Vernon, freshman, who shared his story of a life-changing farm accident at a young age; Robert Reid, who works as a minister even though he has suffered from cerebral palsy since childhood; and Theron Williams, senior, who was a gang member while growing up.

While still in high school, Williams witnessed the killing of two brothers at a young age; Robert Reid, missionary to Portugal; and Theron Williams, senior.

father die from an overdose.

"I was nervous and scared to speak because not many people knew the whole story," Williams said. "But I felt that if I was asked to do it, there was a reason, and it was time to come clean.

The week concluded with a talk by Chris Dell, a 1981 Harding graduate, who shared the story of his wife’s death from breast cancer, and introduced each of their three children who is now raising as a single parent.

Little said the most recent Struggles in Faith Week was a successful story.

"There were some very powerful stories," he said. "We began on a high note and ended on a high note."

Little said the week is at its best: moving stories that are well-received.

"Students are the most receptive," he said.

"Faculty and students connect well because the students trust them; they sit in class or are taught by them."

"Traditionally, [faculty and students] are the most well-received."

Little said he has never contacted anyone who was reluctant to speak.

"[Speakers] take time out of their hectic schedules," he said.

"We have always been willing to share [their stories]. It is a great opportunity to help others."

To serve and protect

From unlocking doors to escorting students to dorms, an average night can mean anything for Harding Security

By Bryan Creech
Bison staff writer

Editor's note: This is the second of a four-part series that goes behind the scenes and features a day in the life of people who help make up the face of Harding.

It seemed like an ordinary night for patrol, checking out reports of rowdiness in Armstrong Hall. However, this time it was different.

"We were on a call to Armstrong, but on the way we heard a strange shuffling sound. So we turned around and looked up with our flashlights only to see a bike in the tree," Paul Williams, sergeant of security, said as he recounted one of his craziest experiences while patrolling the campus.

From the time they begin their patrol to when they hang up their hats at the end of a shift, security is hard at work, and retrieving bikes from trees is just a small part of their job.

Well, 32, has been working for Harding security for two-and-half-years. Along with wife Laura, and daughter, Debra, 11; Jordan, 9; Williams is a first-year dorm manager in Allen Hall. Before coming to Harding, Williams served as a preacher and a police officer.

"We’re here for the students and if we weren’t for them we wouldn’t be here," Williams said about security’s presence on campus.

A typical evening security patrol starts out with a routine drive around campus to ensure that no vandalizing or theft occurs. Security checks the outlying areas of campus and locks up the buildings. Next, the calls come in. These calls usually come in with a steady flow from the office, with an occasional break.

On that particular night, calls started out at Harding Academy requesting that the restrooms be opened for the students practicing in the gym.

Then Williams was called to check out a suspicious car in the Village Apartment parking lot. Once on the scene, he found the suspicious car was simply someone waiting to meet a friend. Williams then was asked to escort a female student across campus. This is a service that security provides to students, male and female, who do not want to walk across campus alone at night.

"I don’t like to walk across campus alone," Liz Freeman, sophomore, said. " Harding security makes me feel safer."

Other calls included a student locked out of his apartment. Close to 11 p.m., Williams went back to the Academy to begin locking everything up, preparing the campus for the evening’s curfew.

"We provide a service to students," Williams said about security. "We do it professionally and with a smile."

According to Williams, security’s goal is the prevention of activity that is harmful to students. Contrary to popular belief, the Harding security team is not just around to write tickets, they are here for the safety of the students and the campus.
One-act plays, 'Anna and the King,' 'Faust' open tonight in Little Theater

By Bryan Creech  
Bison staff writer

A Marriage Proposal and Faust, both one-act plays, will open tonight at 8 p.m. in the Little Theater. The plays will run through Sunday with nightly performances at 8 p.m., as well as a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday. Tickets are $3 and can be purchased in advance in the Reynolds Center or at the door.

Directed by Travis Eades, scenery and costume design, and best achievement in English fashion for the night. The King and I, directed by Andy Tennon, is a Russian farce about two people, who are older and still unmarried. The gentleman wants to propose and the lady wants to accept, but in the end their marriage hopes are thwarted by their own personalities, Eades said. "I chose this show because it is hilarious," he said, "and I really wanted to do a comedy."

The second one-act, Faust is a morality play. Directed by Matt Mellon, junior, Faust explores the darker side of humanity. Written by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832), the German legend has been adapted by Christopher Marlow, The Tragic History of Doctor Faustus, and now by Mellon. The play is about a biblical scholar, Dr. John Faust, who is bored and restless with his beliefs and ideals. The one-act centers on Faust as he conjures a spirit, named Mephisto, to cure his restlessness. "My style and approach came from minimalism and expression-ism influences," Mellon said.

Eades said that the plays complement each other. "Because of the shows, people will be able to see both ends of the spectrum done well," he said.

By Jody Knight  
Bison staff writer

For many years people have been fascinated by the true story of Anna Leonowens.

This Friday at 7 p.m. in the Benson Auditorium, Harding students will have the opportunity to see the story for themselves as the SA movie committee presents Anna and the King.

Leonowens, a British citizen whose husband died at a young age, moved to Siam (now Thailand) in the late 19th century, in order to support herself and her son. She was hired by the Siamese government to teach the English language to the king's 98 children.

Several movies have been made about this part of her life. With one of the most famous being The King and I.

In December of 1999, 20th Century Fox released yet another version of Leonowens' story. Jodie Foster and Chow Yun Fat star in Anna and the King, directed by Andy Tennant.

Anna and the King is based on historical information and Leonowens' published works. Early in their stay in Siam, Anna and her son, Louis, have trouble adjustting to the ways of the country. The Siamese acknowledge their king as a god. Anna and her son see him as a man, who should be questioned and sometimes doubted.

The tension between the two worlds leads Anna to head-to-head confrontations with the ruler on several occasions, questioning his wisdom on issues like slavery and women's rights.

During the course of the movie, Anna learns that this king has a brilliant mind and a soft heart. His country is in the middle of a conflict with the surrounding countries. He is trying to keep his country and his legacy alive, but with a traitor close at hand, that is becoming a difficult task.

This movie has a mixture of romance, humor, conspiracy and sadness.

Chow Yun Fat, of Hong Kong, had to learn English for his role as the king in his first American film. Anna and the King has been nominated for two Academy Awards: best achievement in art direction, and best achievement in costume design.

The costumes in this movie are extraordinary. In one scene, the king throws a ball for all the British occupants and traders in Siam. All of his wives, concubines and children dress in 19th century English fashion for the night.

I highly recommend this movie. However, be warned, it is a tear-jerker.
Conference play begins today for Bison baseball

By Kelly Carter
Bison staff writer

Preparation for the conference schedule is over. Bison baseball opens conference play today in Edmond, Okla., with a doubleheader against Central Oklahoma. This is immediately following a roller coaster week for the team.

Last weekend, March 3-4, the Bisons participated in the Lone Star Conference Preseason Jamboree hosted by Abilene Christian University.

Harding got off to a rough start Friday, committing six errors and falling to West Texas A&M 12-0. Later in the afternoon, the Bisons faced seventh-ranked ACU, and the results only got worse.

Harding committed a school-record 12 errors in the 18-4 Wildcat win. With 18 errors in two games, Coach Shane Fullerton knew something had to change.

"The team did not show our full potential on Friday," he said. "We made many mistakes. Our main mistakes were coming from the infield."

"This is the best defensive team Harding has ever seen," Barry Finnie, junior, said. "However, we did not show it on Friday."

Before Saturday's game against Cameron, Fullerton made several adjustments. In the infield, Rodney Cloud, senior, moved from shortstop to third; Mike Huebner, senior, moved from third to second; and Finnie moved from second to short.

The defensive changes proved advantageous, as the Bisons made only one error in the Saturday game and beat Cameron 9-4.

"The men had really good attitudes about switching the positions they were playing," Fullerton said.

Both the coach and players were pleased with the way the team bounced back after the two subpar games.

"We were intimidated by Abilene [Friday], but redeemed ourselves on Saturday," Grant Andrews, senior, said.

Senior pitcher Nate Watson went the distance against Cameron, allowing seven hits and three runs (one earned) while walking three and striking out three.

"I am proud that the men came back on Saturday and played hard," Fullerton said. "They came with confidence and were ready to win."

Last Tuesday, March 7, Harding picked up another win, pummeling Rhodes College 15-5.

Matt Wilson, senior, led the offensive surge for the Bisons, going 3-for-4 with four RBI.

Rhodes had their chances to score, as Harding pitchers combined to walk a season-high 13 batters.

But Rhodes was unable to take advantage of it, giving 2-for-19 as a team with runners on base.

Harding now enters their 24-game conference schedule with an 11-7 record. The team's goal is to rank first or second and make it to the conference playoffs.

"This will not be easy for us," Fullerton said. "There are three teams that are our top competition, but we have the ability to win."

Experience the madness
Sports fans nationwide anticipate NCAA tournament

The best part about being sports editor of The Bison is that I can write a story or column anytime I want on any subject. But for example, last fall I wrote a column about sports mascots and a column bashing the New York Yankees.

Did I abuse my power or exercise my right to free speech? That's your decision.

This week's column is on my favorite sports event of the year - the 2000 Cricket World Cup...or, so maybe that's a little farther down my list. But while I'm on the subject, did you know that 26 years ago today Lawrence Rowe completed 302 vs Eng Bridgetown, 36 fours 1 six? Is that amazing or what? Please tell me, because I have no idea what that means!

No, my favorite sports event is not cricket, but rather the NCAA men's college basketball tournament, a.k.a. the Big Dance, a.k.a. March Madness, a.k.a. Heaven.

Actually, I made that last one up myself.

Is there anything I don't like about the tournament? After hours of deliberation, I've come up with two things - people, actually: Connecticut's Khalid El-Amin and CBS's Bill "Man to Man" Kaftery. Other than those two eyesores, March Madness makes me happier than Rick Majerus at an all-you-can-eat.

I don't doubt that this year will be any different. Now you may be asking, "Landon, you freak, what makes the tournament so special?" The NBA has a 16-team playoff system, and other sports have similar tournaments.

Oh, you naive sports fan. How I pity you.

Don't you know that only college basketball has a 64-game single-elimination tournament? The first two days are actually the best. Who could imagine anything better than 32 games in 48 hours?

Don't you know that Selection Sunday is anticipated like no other Sunday of the year? It is the day a dozen or so teams, who have been sweating bullets, either scream with delight to see their college in the bracket or scream in horror at the thought of the NIT? More nails are chewed and more prayers are muttered on this day than any other.

Don't you know that only the Big Dance has the potential to match a school half the size of Harding up against the top-ranked team in all the land? This, more than anything else, makes March Madness special. Big upsets occur every year; the only question is who the victims will be.

My goal this week is to stir up excitement over the upcoming tournament. This column and the Sports Challenge were specifically designed for this purpose.

Make your picks after the bracket comes out Sunday. Watch the games. Root for your favorite teams. Root against Duke and Cincinnati. Enjoy the madness. I guarantee you will. If not, I'll give you a coupon for a free large pizza and two drinks from Mazzio's. I've got a drawer full of them.
OK, here's the scoop! The greatest sports event of the year, the NCAA Tournament, is fast approaching. Therefore, I thought that nothing less than the greatest Bison Sports Challenge of the year would suffice for this week. In fact, it is so great that it cannot be contained on this page. That's right— you actually have to do some work to compete for the pizza this week. Just follow these simple instructions. Don't worry— it's much easier than it sounds.

2. Near the bottom of the page, click on "Hoops Bracket Challenge."
3. Create a username.
4. Login using that username.
5. Click "Groups."
6. Click "Join Group."
7. Enter "Bison Sports Challenge" into the group name field and click "Find Group."
8. Click on "Bison Sports Challenge."
9. Enter password: "hubison."
10. Click "Bracket."
11. Make and submit picks.
12. Root for your picks and dream of winning a large pizza and two large drinks from Mazzio's in Searcy.
13. Write the sports editor a note telling him how great he is.

The next issue of The Bison will not be published until after the tournament is completed. So this is your only chance at a pizza for almost a month! The number of weekly entries, which was as high as 50 earlier this year, has dropped to around 12-15. Let's try to get as many as possible to enter this special edition. Picks can be made until tipoff of the first game on Thursday, March 16.

Last Week's Winner: Sean Judge

Meet the Bison
by Jody Knight

Jonathan Leijen
Classification: Junior
Major: Accounting / Bible
Hometown: Innissail, Australia
Sport: Tennis
Family: One brother, two sisters

What are the differences between American and Australian sports?
“In Australia they don’t have college sports. I had to stop playing tennis after high school.”

What are your thoughts on the team?
“I have had a lot of fun playing and traveling with the team. We’ve had some good laughs. The season has been tough because we have played some really hard teams.”

What are your thoughts on the coach?
“Since I hadn’t played in two and a half years, it has been hard to get back into playing. Coach has really helped me get back into playing well.”

How did you learn about Harding’s tennis team?
“I heard from Andrew Garner. He came to HUA last fall. He played for the team and we played together a couple of times. Andrew talked to the coach for me and brought a video back to Harding of me playing tennis. That is how I got on the team.”

What is your favorite thing about being at Harding?
“My favorite thing is being at a school surrounded by Christians. It is a completely different environment than at home. When I was growing up I wasn’t around Christians. It was my family and another family who were Christians— that was it.”

What are the things you miss most about Australia?
“I miss the rain forests, the beaches and the Rugby League. My mom has sent me a video of the Grand Finals, which is like the Super Bowl here.”

What is your favorite scripture?
Rom. 8:37— "No, in all things we are more than conquerors through him who loves us.”

“Fender Benders” May Cause Serious Injuries
Free report reveals how even minor accident injuries can have major health consequences.
Hayward, CA - Minor injuries from car accidents are often misunderstood. A recent free report reveals how minor accidents can cause hidden injuries that may take weeks, months, even years to surface. To receive the Free Report sent to you by mail, Call Toll-Free 1-888-380-9404. 24 Hour Recorded Message.