Long lines, longer wait come to end

Preregistration goes online at HUNet

Philip Davis
Staff Writer

Preregistration will no longer involve long lines or a restrictive time frame. For the first time, Harding began offering online preregistration Monday.

Using their e-mail user name and password, students are able to access the preregistration page from the HUNet home page at http://hunet.harding.edu.

Students can check the appropriate boxes for their meal plans, housing and to verify personal information, which is then submitted to the business office, where it is processed.

Molly Noble, director of the business office, along with other Information Services personnel, worked to offer this new service to students.

"We are really excited to be starting this," Noble said. "We hope this will help students through the process easier and with more convenience. Students are much more accustomed to computers now than ever before. They are also used to things being on their schedule.

"Students will like it once they get used to it. It will also help working, non-traditional or commuting students. They will not have to make a special trip or wait in long lines. They will be able to preregister anytime they wish."

Noble noted several advantages in the new system, dubbed BORIS (Business Office Registration Information Selection).

"The program will prevent students from filling out mismatched information," she said. "Meal plans may not match up with the dorm they are living in. The program will not advance until it is filled out correctly.

"The shift in using computers will make the whole process easier for us, too."

"In the past we had to hire extra staff and we used a lot of paper. This will allow us to cut down on those things."

"Once information is submitted, a student cannot log-in and change it," Noble said.

The business office hopes to have online class selection available in the Spring 2002 semester, Noble said.

For now, registration for classes must still be done through each student's adviser.

Juniors and seniors may register for classes with their adviser starting Monday. Sophomore registration begins Wednesday, while freshmen must wait until Monday, Nov. 15.

All students must preregister through BORIS or the business office before they can enter their schedules.

HU students, staff become Santas to South American children in need

Katie Tool
Staff Writer

Any South American children who may not otherwise experience Christmas will receive a box full of gifts next month from people they have never met who live thousands of miles away on another continent.

The Student Association's Spiritual Life Committee, in cooperation with the Magi Project of Memphis, Tenn., organized the Santa to South America service project.

This year, Harding's boxes are headed for South America rather than Romania, as in past years.

Hundreds of colorful boxes filled the Benson stage during chapel Wednesday, while students left dozens more at the SA office throughout the day.

Individuals or groups of friends put together each of the packages.

The donors chose the age and gender of the child who will receive their gift, then bought appropriate items and sizes. Filled with gifts for the kids and wrapped with Christmas wrapping paper, the boxes were ready for the trip to South America.

The boxes were shipped to South America service projects of the year, Santa to South America provides an opportunity for all members of the Harding community to help others, SA President Matt Milligan said.

"It is a chance to give back what has been given to us."

This year, some students who had difficulty wrapping their boxes, Youth Corps, Alpha Chi and the I.O.Y. Club wrapped more than 200 boxes.

Milligan said because some students chose to wrap their own, it is difficult to estimate how many boxes will be sent.

Although it is difficult to come up with service projects that the whole student body can participate in, it seems this project is a perfect fit for Harding students, junior Nathan Bills, a member of the Spiritual Life Committee, said.

"This is a service project well fitted for our campus," he said.

"Because of Harding's size, we can draw from all our resources. Everyone does their little part, and we are all able to come together."

Senior Amanda Rush agreed Santa to South America is a good service project for college students.

"It is something that everyone can do easily when they have time, so more students are able to be involved," she said. "It's fun to go shopping for a little kid because I don't get to do that very often."

Other students saw the boxes as an evangelistic tool as well.

"This is a good project because we have the opportunity, as college students with limited funds, to help out in some way," junior Robin Marshall said. "I hope and pray that the kids wonder who sent these boxes and what their motivation for sending them was. We are planting seeds."

Sophomore John Hawkins and members of Youth Corps, Alpha Chi and the I.O.Y. Club wrap boxes for the Santa to South America project. For the first year, the boxes will go to South America rather than Romania.

Senior Jennifer Henderson hoped her box would do the same.

"This is a great chance for the students to help people outside of the United States," she said. "It gives us a chance to spread the gospel to people who may have never heard of Christ."

Juniors Molly Noble, director of the business office, along with other Information Services personnel, worked to offer this new service.
Christian views political pluralism as a system of ‘both burdens and blessings’

If college students are still writing essays 500 years from now, one of them will certainly be written on the following: ‘While an extended essay describing the factors that led to the United States becoming a great power at the turn of the 20th century was unimaginable accessible with a click for classes, the system was constantly changing. I wish I could be there to grade those essays.

The best grades should go to those students who understand that what made the United States a great power at the turn of the second millennium was its government — specifically, our nation’s ability to maintain a democratic rule of law based on a respect for the rights of all people within society. I would also like to think that college students will still be able to recognize that our government is the product of the genius of the men who wrote our Constitution. It is an amazing feat that James Madison and the other framers were able to create a political system designed to prevent any one group or interest from controlling government.

America’s truly unique contribution to Western culture has been the way we have successfully managed that system in a society that has come to consist of a considerable number of political and social interests for more than two centuries. Even our biggest bump in the road, the American Civil War, is thought of nostalgically.

But the single greatest testimony to the vitality of American democracy will be the peaceful transfer of presidential power that will occur in January 2001. Few of us doubt that, whatever happens in the national elections next week, the losers will leave Washington, D.C., under their own power. This is a rare process in the history of nations, and even more remarkable for a nation as diverse as the United States.

Our electoral process makes us envy many nations, especially those where citizens must wait to see if the government will “accept” the results of an election once it has occurred. More than any other people, Americans have come to understand that when an election doesn’t go our way, we don’t take the streets with torches and pitchforks.

Evangelical and fundamentalist Christians, including the churches of Christ, have never been entirely comfortable with the whole idea of political pluralism. To many of our members, religious pluralism smacks of compromise. Many Christians assume that the same thing happens in politics.

As a result, our response to pluralism has been to try to retard the changes brought about the years from one extreme to the other. At one extreme, it has been suggested that we divorce ourselves from political affairs and leave the political process to pagans. The second has been to develop a mythology of American history based on the belief that the framers intended the United States to be a Christian Republic. Under this paradigm, it is the responsibility of Christians to espouse civic activism and “bring the national life more in line with the will of Almighty God.”

Both views are sincere, but both are wrong. The Christian response to living in a pluralistic society is to accept it as yet another form of government invented by men that presents Christians both burdens and blessings. Moreover, Christian political activism should be tempered by the fact that all earthly governments are temporal organizations.

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I would rather have two fall breaks because it makes school a little easier,” Laura Minor, freshman

“I wouldn’t really see a point in a fall break because everyone’s so busy. There’s no way we’d have time,” A.J. Gordon, sophomore

“I would want to keep the one long break, so I can have enough time to go home,” Erin Hill, junior

“I want to keep the one long break because I have too far to drive to do it twice in the fall,” Josh South, junior

Letters to the Editor

Battling technology

As technologically advanced as society is becoming, we are continuing to suffer in more fundamental ways.

I had to admit that a newspaper in the hand is always worth more than one on the screen.

Not only that, when I stopped online, I had lingering doubts about whether my order had actually been taken until the package arrived in the mail; if I e-mailed, I could never count on a quick response; and most recently, when I tried to preenregister for classes, the system was constantly down.

In other words, what the Internet provides in speed and convenience is lost in needed personal contact.

Just because we can carry out nearly every life function through a computer, doesn’t make that a good thing.

As technologically advanced as society has become, we are continuing to suffer in much more fundamental ways.

I have realized that I am not — and probably never will be — a technology-friendly person at heart.

True, the Internet is changing our world and making everything imaginable accessible with a click of the mouse, but I’ll always prefer pen and paper and Walden Pond.

Speak out: Should Harding add a fall break rather than a week-long Thanksgiving break?

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Students gather for early-morning prayer

SA initiates See You at the Benson rallies

Ryan Cook
Copy Editor

A group of 25 students gathered on the Benson steps at 8 o'clock Tuesday, Oct. 25. Nothing too uncommon about that, except that it was a group out of bed voluntarily at 8 a.m.

The students were attending See You at the Benson II, a special prayer meeting designed after the national See You at the Pole program, where high school students gather before school to pray around their school's flagpole.

"We're doing the same thing as See You at the Pole," Spiritual Life Committee Co-Chair Nathan Bills said. "We believe God can move on this campus."

In the event, students broke into small groups for prayer and then prayed collectively before enjoying donuts and orange juice.

Attendees prayed for the Santa to South America service project, Melissa Holley, a former student who was involved in an automobile accident this summer, campaigns and the upcoming elections. They also prayed for campus leaders, the lost people on campus, reaching out to Searcy residents with the gospel and other concerns.

The SA's Spiritual Life Committee organized the event.

"The whole purpose is trying to get students praying for campus."

"I love to start my morning off this way, and to be able to do it out here with my fellow students is awesome. It makes a day great,

Rachael Harless, junior

Junior Rachael Harless appreciated the spirit of camaraderie at the event.

"I love to start my morning off this way, and to be able to do it out here with my fellow students is awesome," she said. "It makes a day great."

Senior Sandy Hendrick appreciated the opportunity to pray for various concerns on campus.

"I like having more personal prayer time and praying about specific things happening on campus," she said.

The committee plans to hold See You at the Benson monthly. The November event is tentatively scheduled for 7 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 15.
Faces in the Crowd

Man behind the curtain oversees each detail of Benson Auditorium with a watchful eye

Editor's Note: This is the sixth in a continuing series featuring unique members of the Harding community.

Kira Leigh
Staff Writer

Throughout the semester, students attend movies, concerts, lectures and, of course, chapel, all in the Benson Auditorium. What they don't see is the man behind those events who helps make sure they happen. Steve Martin, assistant director of media services, is the man who keeps the Benson operating.

Martin has worked at Harding for 12 years. After graduating from the university with an accounting degree, Martin assumed his job, which usually requires a degree in technical theater.

Martin's job includes working on lighting, some staging and curtains in the Benson. However, events like the Homecoming musical, "The Man of La Mancha," are mostly done by students. Martin also edits Student Activities Committee movies and is heavily involved with Spring Sing.

During Spring Sing, Martin runs the light cues, which control the look of the lighting during each performance. "We usually have six club shows which have six directors with six different opinions," Martin said.

He fixes each cue until the director of that particular show is happy with it and then programs it into the computer. By the time he's done, he has around 600-800 cues.

Martin also works with the tour crews that come for SA-sponsored concerts. He is currently talking to the management of Sister Hazel, who will be performing in the Benson next weekend.

"Most of my work depends on them, whether they want a simple setup or not," Martin said. "They can use the stage pieces from Spring Sing and can use the Benson lights as well. Concerts that have moving lights usually bring their own." Besides lights and basic set pieces, Martin also assists with setup for the speakers who come to Harding. For Colin Powell, he had to set up platforms for the three choirs and band. Martin also helped with the Secret Service when George Bush came and with the police when Margaret Thatcher spoke.

"When Margaret Thatcher spoke, the police brought in bomb dogs to secure the auditorium," Martin said. "The dogs didn't like the clock that was hanging on the back wall of the auditorium, so we had to take it down for her speech. I think the humming of the clock bothered the dogs." Other than these special events, Martin also sets up chapel.

During chapel, he operates the lighting, the chairs and the podium. During chapel, he operates the lighting, the chairs and the podium.

Other than these special events, Martin also sets up chapel. After finding out the chapel schedule for the day, he checks the lighting, the chairs and the podium.

Martin, 36, a native of Carbondale, Ill., is married to Joetta Martin, Residence Life Coordinator in Pattie Cobb. The couple has two children, Jacob, 10, and Brittany, 4.
Local bands rally to benefit Hope Cottage

Saturday concert to aid center for abused women, children seeking safe shelter

Alva Llimatta
P/IJ-r

With a great cause, cheap tickets and excellent music, the organizers of Hope Fest 2000 want the event to be a success.

The first Hope Fest will be held Saturday at the Searcy Event Center from 3-11:30 p.m., with gates opening at 2. The event will feature seven bands. Admission is $3.

About two months ago, senior Mike Feril decided to get together a large concert to give the community a good time.

"We wanted to have a festival with a lot of bands, and we decided why not do it for a charity that's in town to do something for the community," Feril said.

After a search for a local charity which needed support, organizers decided on Hope Cottage, founded by the White County Domestic Violence Prevention, Inc.

At Hope Cottage, female victims and their children find safe shelter for up to 30 days. They are provided with full living arrangements, counselors and other professional and emotional assistance.

"No bands are making any money off of it," Feril said. "Nobody is making any money at all. It's going straight to the Hope Cottage ... They just don't have enough money; the money they need. I don't know exact figures, but I know they are well short of what they need for their yearly budget."

Feril expects 1,000-2,000 people to attend, raising as much as $10,000 for the Hope Cottage after ticket sales and other donations.

"The best thing will be handing the check to the Hope Cottage," Feril said. "That's going to be the ultimate thing, but second best is that we're going to have a good time. It's just going to be a good non-stop party, and you can't beat seven bands for three dollars."

In order of appearance, the seven bands performing include: Addictive, Living Stones, Marcus Welby, Down with Phil, Lassueyous and Big Silver.

Lassueyous, headlining the show along with Big Silver, has a record contract and is paying for transportation from Canada for the event.

Feril and junior Keith Mosley play in the bluegrass band Kickin' G. Big Silver recently won the Battle of the Bands concert in Little Rock.

The lead singer is base Alexander, son of Dr. Tom Alexander, dean of the College of Bible and Religion. The Little Rock band was known on Harding's campus as Screaming Minxes.

The planners say that Hope Fest will not be a typical Harding-based benefit concert.

"One big thing that makes this different, it wasn't a club doing it, it was just four random students that got together to do it," Feril said.

"Another big thing is that it isn't just based around Harding students, we got a lot of community involved in it. I know a lot of benefits around here that have just popped up here and there, and that's where we are focusing on having this money go.

"One of the things we talked about is the bad feeling of Harding around the community, especially with the younger people," Mosley said. "We thought it would be cool for them to see Harding put on something really neat. It's important to help us think, especially if we are going to put all this work into it. There is no reason to put work into something that is going to glorify us."

"The verse chosen for the event was Philippians 2:4: 'Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.'"

The concert will begin at 11:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Sun-Thurs and 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fri & Sat.

Advance tickets can be bought today in the Student Center, for regular price, on Friday. Additional information about the concert, contact Feril at 278-4396. Personal checks can be written to Hope Festival and given to Feril or Mosley.

About 25 volunteers have been working on the Hope Festival project for about two months. Feril, Mosley, seniors Colleen O'Connell and Jason Thomas have led the planning. The Student Association and Chi Sigma Alpha are also volunteering to help in the event.

Hope Fest is sponsored by 15-20 businesses in the Searcy community. Some of the biggest sponsors are Pizza Pro, The Big Ragoo, Tim's Market and Advanced Restoration. Each gave at least $100 toward the $2,500 needed to get the show going.

"The group raised money by first going out into the community to raise support with individual donors, but when that didn't work out as expected, Pizza Pro stepped in and provided $10 coupon books worth $50 in savings."

Volunteers went door to door in the dorms selling the books to students. Both Feril and Mosley work at Pizza Pro, and when they went to manager Verónica Nickerson, she was happy to donate to help the event.

"My mom has volunteered there [at Hope Cottage] and she's got some friends that have survived and a lighting crew, which will offer effects such as lasers, colored lights and a fog machine."

The Hope Fest has its own bank account set up with First Security Bank.

"Pro mic sound equipment is being provided at a discount by Loud and Clear Production in Benton.

Feril has also advertised on local radio stations and posted fliers in Searcy, Little Rock, Bald Knob, Harding and Arkansas State University-Beebe.

"I just hope it's a good turnout [and that they] get a lot of people to show up and support them," Nickerson said.

Either way, Feril is ready for the big event.

"I am pumped," he said. "I am ready for this show to happen, to have a big party out there and just have a good time.

Advance tickets can be bought today in the Student Center, for regular price, on Friday."

For additional information about the concert, contact Feril at 278-4396.
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*Note: Federal tax law, withdrawals prior to age 59½ may be subject to restrictions, and to a 10% additional tax.

Even if you don’t want to direct it, [producing] helps you understand the whole process of a show. It will help me with leadership. I’m the one making decisions and doing all the planning.

By Brooks, the best part of the process was writing the show. "I loved it, the most, getting to create a whole new character and present her to an audience," she said.

If you don’t want to direct it, [producing] helps you understand the whole process of a show, she said. "I never fully realized all the things that needed to be done to put on a show. It will help me with leadership. I’m the one making decisions and doing all the planning."

For Ralls, the best part of the process was writing the show. "The writing part is what I enjoyed the most, getting to create a whole new character and present her to an audience," she said. Choosing what to produce can be a task in itself, Holder said. "I searched over a year for my show," she said. "I knew I wanted a comedy that I could put a dance scene in. I wanted it to be about choices and whether you would want to, if you could, go back and change things," she said. "I chose to write the show myself, so it’s from a woman’s perspective. A big part of the show is how she [the character] doesn’t say what she wants to and regrets it."

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Making a statement

Bisons try to adjust without Gerald Payne; star receiver looks to future in the NFL

Jeff McKeand
Sports Editor

With just two weeks left in the regular season, the Harding Bisons face a tough road trip to West Alabama this weekend. To make matters worse, this is the Bisons' second out-of-state road game in row without their top receiver, Gerald Payne. With Payne making 46 catches for 1,040 yards and 14 touchdowns, Payne's absence has already put a noticeable dent in the Bisons' passing game.

Payne is one of 21 finalists in NCAA Division II football for the Harlon Hill Award – a Division II equivalent of the Division I Heisman Trophy.

According to Scott Goode, Harding Sports Information Director, Payne is one of three candidates from the Gulf South Conference and one of six from the Div. II South Region. A vote next week will narrow the number of candidates to eight.

Around 25 NFL scouts have looked at Payne this year, with three visiting within the last week.

"We've had scouts from the 49ers, the Titans and the Jaguars come to look at film this week," Goode said. "[Gerald] will probably be playing for someone in the NFL this time next year."

"Losing Gerald is a big loss, but it really is not going to change our offense that much," head football coach Randy Tribble said. "Even though [Payne] did get the ball thrown to him 15 times a game, we have other receivers who can step up and take control. Also, our running game started to come around after last week, so we will try to use that a little more."

"They put a plate in his arm Tuesday morning, and we hope to have him by the last game. We are not going to play him much," Tribble said. "But we want him to be eligible for all-conference honors and you must play 75 percent of the season. Right now, he is only at 72 percent."

Losing Payne has been a distraction, but for the time being, the Bisons' focus must remain on season. We want to finish strong. Losing make a pretty big statement about your character by how you finish your season. We want to finish strong and be a better team now then we were when we started the season."

Should the Bisons manage to win those last two games, they will eclipse the .500 mark with a record of 6-5. Harding closes out its football season against Ouachita Baptist Nov. 11 at 2 p.m. at First Security Stadium.

"We've had scouts from the 49ers, the Titans and the Jaguars come to look at film this week. [Gerald] will probably be playing for someone in the NFL this time next year."

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Men's, women's tennis programs warm up in preseason matches

Meredith Williams
Staff Writer

This year's Harding tennis team consists of 19 players from all over the world. The men's team has eight players hailing from the United States, Mexico, West Indies, Singapore, Serbia and Poland. The women's team consists of 11 players native to the United States, Mexico, Honduras and Sweden.

David Elliott is the head coach of both teams. He has been coaching the tennis teams at Harding University or Harding Academy for 32 years. Raymond Kelly is the assistant coach and has been working with Harding tennis for eight years.

"This is the best women's team we've ever had," Elliott said. "The men's team is very solid."

"The women's team has a great chance of being nationally-ranked this year," Elliott said. Both teams are expected to rank highly in the NCAA Division II South Region.

"We have a very hard working group of players and they get along well together," Kelly said.

The teams started practices during the first few weeks of school and will continue until next week. The players practice weekdays from 3:5 p.m. and during the weekend on their own time. They have December off from practice and will start back in January.

The tennis teams are in their preseason right now. The majority of their matches will be played starting in February. However, the matches they are playing now count towards their records.

"I've enjoyed playing this year," junior Louisa Duke said. "It's been a good opportunity to play with and against some great tennis players."

"For me, this is the type of college team that I've always wanted to play for," senior Laura Tollett said. "We're competitive and we have a blast together."
Great rivalries highlight final weeks of NCAA football