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Petit Jean completes annual publication
77th edition to be presented in April

From Staff Reports

The Petit Jean staff completed its final deadline Feb. 14, finishing the 2001 yearbook on time.

Most people probably are not aware of the time and effort that goes into creating the yearbook, but the Petit Jean staff spent many hours in the production lab perfecting all 320 pages.

"The nature of those who work against a deadline is to be detail-oriented and time-conscious," said Rachel McCauley, editor-in-chief. "I am proud of the work that each editor put into their section."

The staff actually began working on the yearbook last spring, when McCauley chose the theme and began thinking of how to design the cover.

"Actually, Dustin Vyers [associate editor] designed the cover," McCauley said. "Dustin is such a creative person with great ideas. He was helpful in giving ideas for other design elements as well."

One week before school started in the fall, the yearbook staff traveled to Petit Jean State Park for a three-day retreat. During the retreat, the staff brainstormed for ways to develop the theme, but the retreat served other purposes as well.

"The retreat was a time for the staff to get to know each other before the work started," said Jenny Thompson, student life editor.

"The retreat was fun and crucial for the staff to develop unity," said Kelly Carter, academics editor. "It was designed for us to get an idea of the work the upcoming year would entail."

Because the editorial staff included 12 people with different jobs, it was a necessity for the staff to work well together in order to meet each deadline.

The yearbook was completed in five deadlines, each about four weeks apart. For each deadline, editors assigned and collected stories, chose pictures, wrote, rewrote, edited, designed and more.

With each deadline came different obstacles, which usually meant staying up all night to solve the problems just finishing the required pages for that deadline.

Many staff members may have associated the yearbook office with stress, but others did not.

"Working on the yearbook wasn't as stressful as I thought it would be," Vyers said. "It was a lot of work and late nights, but it wasn't too bad. It was fun."

Overall, the staff said they enjoyed this year because it was a new experience that sharpened time management and self discipline.

"The staff worked well together," said Amanda Rush, copy editor. "There were some rough times, but that comes with any deadline-oriented job. I think this year's staff was talented and did a quality job. I enjoyed the experience of working on the yearbook."

McCuiston said. "The retreat was fun and crucial for the staff to develop unity," Thompson said. "I learned a lot from [working on the yearbook]."

Petit Jean staff writer, left, student life editor, and Amanda Rush, copy editor, edit Petit Jean proofs. The 77th edition of the yearbook was recently completed and will be presented to the student body in April.

HU honors former professors with computer lab dedication

Natasha Jaworski
Staff Writer

The Department of Foreign Language and International Studies recently opened a new computer lab which is designed for the specific needs of foreign language students.

On Feb. 15, the lab was dedicated to Mrs. Winfred and Dorothy Wright, who retired from the department last year.

The Wrights, who had been faculty members for more than 30 years, returned to their alma mater in 1966 after spending six years as missionaries in France.

The Wrights were instrumental in beginning the Foreign Language Department. At the time they arrived, there was only one modern language class offered on campus, a German scientific reading class.

"When we first started teaching, we were in a small room in the American Studies Building," Dorothy Wright said. "All we had was one reel-to-reel tape recorder and a blackboard."

They are greatly missed in the department, since they were the heart of the French program before they retired, said Dr. Terry Edwards, department chairman.

He said the dedication of the computer lab was one small gesture of appreciation.

"I knew they were going to get the lab, but I didn't know they were going to dedicate it to us," Dorothy Wright said. "We are completely overwhelmed at this honor."

It's nice to have your work recognized, particularly by people you work with," Winfred Wright said. "The department has come a long way from the Wrights' early days. The state-of-the-art new lab includes Macintosh G4 computers, a CD burner, a scanner, a laser jet printer and special headphones that have microphones especially designed for language comparison.

"I think they're going to make progress much faster and learn about the culture much easier," Dorothy Wright said.

"There is also new software to go along with the computers, including CD-ROMs that teach the culture and history of different countries. Internet access also allows students to visit various foreign web sites."

"It is nice to have a current way to experience the foreign culture of the language you are learning," Carolyn said. "You can visit, virtually, places that you hope to go to."

Edwards said the lab will be a useful tool for foreign language students.

"Any book or textbook is inherently several years behind in its information," Edwards said. "You can visit, virtually, places that you hope to go to."

Edwards said one of the most exciting features of the lab will be the ability to have video conferences with foreign students.

The only restriction is that the lab is not available to all students, only to those enrolled in a foreign language or who have permission from a professor.

This restriction may be lifted if we get the staff and the funding to fix eventual broken computers or computers with bugs," Edwards said. "We welcome the chance to open it up."

Dr. Noble Gess, assistant professor of Spanish and German, has been named interim director of the lab.

In conjunction with the new lab, the department hired Fleming Bell, assistant professor of modern foreign languages, last fall.

[We hired him] specifically because his dissertation [at Florida State University] involves Internet use in the teaching of foreign languages," Edwards said.
Editor-in-chief
Sarah Terry
Business Manager
Mark Kinonen
Copy Editor
Ryan Cook

The Bison is a campus newspaper, written and largely financed by students, seeking to provide high-quality journalistic discourse of issues of concern to the Harding community. It also serves as an educational tool for students, providing practical experience to enhance skills learned in the classroom. The Bison recognizes its responsibility to present, fair and objective, independent, editorially distinguished journalism, which Harding University supports. It attempts to serve as a forum for student perspectives, welcoming letters to the editor which adhere to ethical and professional standards. Editorials appearing in The Bison are the views of the writer and may not reflect the official policy of the Harding University administration. Signed columns represent the personal views of the authors. The Bison is published weekly except during breaks, test weeks and summer sessions by Harding University. © 2001. Subscription rates: $10 per year; Second class post-age (475 557600) paid at Searcy AR 72149. Postmaster: send address changes to Harding University Box 1192, Searcy 72149-0001. Comments to the editor: phone at 501-279-4339 or fax at 501-279-4473 or send e-mail to 501-279-4217. The Bison is edited at www.harding.edu/thespinon.
Making history
Harding hosts APSA gathering for first time

Sarah Madden
Staff Writer

The Arkansas Political Science Association will hold its annual meeting this weekend on the Harding campus. This is the group's first time to hold its meetings on campus.

"It's important that for our university to host and support conferences like this when we normally wouldn't be able to," said Dr. Terry Edwards, chairman of the Department of Foreign Languages.

Arkansas politics, international relations and state and local government. Schedules with specific times and locations are available at registration.

Elrod said he thinks students may be interested in the "Roundtable on the 2000 Presidential and Congressional Elections." Howard will chair the discussion, which will be at 3 p.m. today in the Hammon Room (student center 230).

"I think it's going to be one of the more exciting panels," Howard said. "We're looking forward to not only discussing the ramifications of the presidential election, but also the elections that took place here in Arkansas."

I'm excited that Harding has reintroduced this class," he said. "It's a dead language but not a dead subject. I believe in it strongly and recommend it strongly as an elective.

There are only four students enrolled in the class this semester, down from last semester due to a scheduling conflict. Jewell enjoys the class despite the small numbers.

"This is a small, but enthusiastic class," she said. These students had several reasons for deciding to take the class.

I thought it would be fun and kind of neat to know Latin because so much of the English language is based on Latin," sophomore Melody Chaffin said.

Senior Dawn McCann agreed. "I've always wanted to study Latin because it is the root of the Romance languages," she said. Latin can also offer great benefits to students. Many medical and legal terms are rooted in Latin. Learning the basics of the Latin language can also improve the usage of the English language, Jewell said.

In addition, Jewell said many of her students that study abroad for a semester come back and express their excitement about having understood ancient inscriptions.

"I plan to study linguistics and etymology in graduate school," McCann said. "Latin and other classical languages are essential for determining the origins of words and their variations between languages.

Freshman Alicia Adams said Latin is helpful in studying English.

"Latin forces you to improve your understanding of grammar and the origin of the English language and culture," she said. Nathan McIntyre, a junior Bible major, said Latin is instrumental to the study of biblical languages.

I'm excited that Harding has reintroduced this class. It's a dead language, but not a dead subject.

Terry Edwards, chairman of the foreign language department

Latin classes return to schedule after 67 years

Jalaina Tyree
Staff Writer

A large percentage of the English language comes from Greek and Latin. Harding offers several classes every semester on different levels of Greek, but for 67 years, Harding has not offered a Latin class. That changed this year.

Last fall, Dr. Alice Jewell, professor of English, was asked by Harding to teach Latin classes. Harding offers several courses since the 1970s, but it has produced this class. It's a kind of neat to know Latin because so much of the English language comes from Greek and Latin. Learning the basics of the Latin language is important for determining the origins and meanings of words and their variations between languages.

"I'm excited that Harding has reintroduced this class," he said. "It's a dead language but not a dead subject. I believe in it strongly and recommend it strongly as an elective.

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Chapter 2 headlines Gospel Explosion weekend

Michael Chaffin
Staff Writer

The Harding Minority Student Action Committee is teaming up with the Office of Admissions to present Gospel Explosion weekend.

A gospel music concert, set for 7 p.m. tomorrow night in the Benson Auditorium, will highlight the weekend. The concert will feature several a cappella singing groups, including Chapter 2, formerly known as Redeemed, Southwestern Christian College's summer tour group, and the Nashville Youth Chorus. The concert is free and open to the public.

Chapter 2 is a 14-member gospel group from New York. Two of their members, Terrance Talley and Errica Walker-Beavers, are Harding graduates. Only 12 of the members will be here, because two of them are currently in Broadway productions.

"They are a very accomplished group," Mike Williams, director of admissions, said "It's going to be a good thing."

Senior Clara Gary, a member of the Minority Student Action Committee, said that not only is gospel music a "major part of black history," but that gospel concerts are a Harding tradition that has not been kept up.

Junior Nicki Thompson is pleased about being able to have this weekend as a part of Black History Month. She said it comes with a purpose.

"We're excited about this weekend being associated with minorities. It is geared toward recruiting minority students."

Other activities for the weekend include campus tours for visiting groups, a fireside devotional, "a barbecue and fun fest" in the Ganus Athletic Center and a creative writing contest in which the winning essay will be read Friday evening.

Butch Gardner, director of Minority Student Services, says the Gospel Explosion weekend is an event that was held more commonly in the past but has recently tapered off.

"This year, we are taking a new approach to make it more of a 'homecoming' for minority Harding alumni and students," he said.

Williams emphasized that Harding students are encouraged to attend the concert and other events.

Sunday series to examine abortion issue

From Staff Reports

A special three-part series on abortion begins Sunday at 5 p.m. in the Downtown Church of Christ Family Life Center.

The objective of the series is to examine the abortion issue and how the Christian should respond to it.

Compassionate, confidential counsel will be provided to those who are struggling with any area of the abortion issue.

David Matthews, one of the ministers of the Downtown church, will be the speaker. The series continues March 4 and 11 at 5 p.m.

Minority committee joins diverse backgrounds

Jaren Page
Staff Writer

In the fall of 1999, Butch Gardner, director of Minority Student Services, started a new committee designed to diversify the campus and bring students together. The Minority Student Action Committee works to help Harding students from different backgrounds get acquainted.

"Our main goal is to diversify the student body and bring students together and help end ignorant opinions that people tend to form about others without even knowing them," senior Ella Thompson said.

Matthews, committee president, said, "I wanted to begin a group that would involve minority students in campus life." Gardner said, "Our committee allows them to stay involved and keep them interested in their cultural backgrounds."

The committee's first big event was putting on campus performances of the play "A Raisin in the Sun" last year. While the play was a success, it also allowed the committee to promote themselves on campus.

During Black History Month, the Minority Student Action Committee has been working hard to promote their efforts and the events they are sponsoring. The group put together various activities through February. Committee members have been regularly displaying moments of black history on the Benson screens after chapel and performed a skit in chapel last Friday.

Most of their efforts have been aimed toward the minority weekend that begins today. This weekend, the Minority Student Action Committee, along with the Admissions Office, is sponsoring a Weekend called Gospel Explosion. During the weekend, the committee will host a barbeque, a fashion show and a concert featuring Chapter 2, a capella gospel group.

In addition to the month of February, the committee will begin working on a school-wide unity formal, which is tentatively scheduled for April 6.

"This banquet is an opportunity for students who don't normally get involved in school activities to take part in something special," Matthews said. "I think that it will be especially exciting for those who are not in a social club to get to attend a formal banquet with all of their friends."

Other committee officers include junior Nicki Thompson, vice president; freshman Teneisha Robinson, secretary; and seniors Lonnie Smith, historian.

"We want to educate the university without being strictly a minority group," Gardner said. "Everyone on campus is welcome to participate in our activities."

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Facets in the Crowd
Student reaps blessings of post-transplant life

Editor's Note: This is the 12th in a continuing series featuring unique members of the Harding community. This story is a continuation of the organ donor awareness story that ran in the Feb. 16 issue of The Bison.

Chrsy Ingram
Staff Writer

A

justing to the spring semester is a challenge for transfer students. But for one of those new faces, the struggle has been especially great.

Freshman Bryan Petrak journeyed from Pennsylvania to Searcy this semester in search of a better atmosphere.

Although he has endured more than most students, his struggles have served to make him stronger as a part of the Harding family — not set him apart from it.

"I really needed the support of fellow Christians, people who share my same beliefs," he said.

Petrak attended the School for Culinary Arts in Rhode Island for two years. A three-month internship awaited him in Ireland the following summer.

Two weeks before he left for Ireland, Petrak suffered kidney failure and was immediately hospitalized.

Undergoing kidney dialysis three times a week, he was unable to take classes. He said kidney dialysis was a painful procedure.

"They actually drain the blood out of your body, clean it and shove it back in," he said.

Petrak's family went in to test him for a possible match for a kidney transplant. His mother was one of the first to be tested. It was then that she found out she had breast cancer.

Petrak didn't understand why things were happening as they were, but he remained strong.

"You end up relying on God for everything at that point," Petrak said.

His mother had treatments, and is now doing well.

Petrak's 18-year-old brother, Mike, was a match as a donor. The youngest age for a donor is usually 21, but Petrak's brother wouldn't let anything stop him from helping. In September, the two underwent surgery.

"As soon as the transplant was over, I wanted to get on with my life," Petrak said. He decided to transfer to Harding.

He is majoring in dietetics and considering pre-medicine in the area of nephrology — the study of the kidney and its diseases. "I know I could be passionate about it because I went through it," he said.

Undergoing surgery in September to receive a kidney from his younger brother after his own kidneys failed, Petrak received painful dialysis treatments three times a week before the successful operation. Petrak, who wears a green ribbon on his backpack to symbolize donor awareness, is considering majoring in pre-medicine in the area of nephrology — the study of the kidney and its diseases. "I know I could be passionate about it because I went through it," he said.

Petrak received God has helped me through this. I want to do what I can to give back.

Bryan Petrak, kidney transplant recipient

God has helped me through this. I want to do what I can to give back.

Bryan Petrak, kidney transplant recipient

Play the classical guitar, running and kickboxing. "I have been able to do so much that I never thought I'd be able to do again," he said.

Petrak wears a green ribbon on his backpack, symbolizing donor awareness.

"There are just not enough donors," he said. "People just don't sign up. There definitely needs to be more education about organ donation."

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Myca Haynes
Jaren Page
Staff Writers

Those who are looking for a new place for parties or functions have a new option in downtown Searcy. Everett, a new children's clothing store at 103 W. Market St., houses a unique hobby opportunity as well—paint-it-yourself ceramics.

Upsstairs in this quaint store is an entire studio designed for pottery decoration. Everett offers a variety of pottery that customers can paint or decorate themselves. It only costs a set fee of $5 for Harding students, which includes paints, brushes and cost to glaze and fire the final product so that it is safe to eat off of. The only other fee is for the actual pottery, and there are many different pieces to choose from.

The pieces range from small square tiles to large platters or complete tea sets and cost $2 to $20. They are lead-free and dishwasher-, oven- and microwave-safe.

Owner Kimberly Kirkman is looking for opportunities to grab the attention of the youth of Searcy, especially Harding students.

"We advertise in The Bison as well as posting and distributing fliers to let more college students know about us," she said. "It is a unique activity that students will enjoy!"

While it is a fun activity to do with a small group of friends or family, it is also a perfect setting for a date or a club function. It is inexpensive and it is the perfect atmosphere for good conversation. Customers are also welcome to bring their own refreshments for their enjoyment while decorating.

"We really want to open up to more Harding students," Kirkman said. "It is a fun atmosphere and it is finally something new in Searcy." Everett is also trying to expand its pottery customers to different events.

"It is a great atmosphere for families," Kirkman said. "We held a bridal party Saturday, Feb. 17. It is our first and we hope to do more like it in the future."

Everett has a larger second floor party room for groups of five or more. A party package is a great idea for birthdays, functions and even bridal showers. The package includes two hours, a piece of pottery (which can increase the price) and all the needed materials. Food is included for bridal parties beginning at $14 per person, with the food catered from Midnight Oil.

"Every Friday night we are open until 9 p.m. with live guitar music by Harding student Eric Chance," Kirkman said. "Midnight Oil provides coffee."

As a children's store, Everett also sells a variety of children's accessories including clothing, books and nursery bedding.

Kimberly Kirkman began the shop with the dream of owning a children's book store but with the success of the large chain Books-A-Million she knew it would be difficult to get started. She and her husband and her parents began a children's clothing store in stead.

The store, named after Kirkman's daughter opened November 24, 2000. Store hours are Monday through Thursday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. through 3 p.m. For reservations or more details, call 278-4646.

Paint-your-own pottery shop offers an outlet for crafty Searcy residents

Senior Amy Martin, left, junior Scott Ware and senior Christie Harris paint pottery at Everett, a new children's clothing store that also houses paint-it-yourself ceramics. The store, located at 103 W. Market St., offers a set fee of $5 for Harding students, which includes paints, brushes and cost to glaze and fire the final product so that it is safe to eat from. The pieces range from small square tiles to large platters or complete tea sets and cost anywhere from $2 to $20.

A student takes a swing during the car bash Monday night before the Bisons' victory over Ouachita Baptist University at Rhodes Fieldhouse. (See related story page 7.) Students paid $1 for two hours on the car, donated by a Harding alumnus. The Student Association sponsored the car bash, which collected about $200 for Spring Break Campaigns.

Ashlee Johnson/The Bison

February 23, 2001
Night, and the team scored big in its farewell performance. Coming into the game the Bisons had just suffered a heartbreaking Saturday night loss at Delta State and needed to win their next two games in order to enjoy a sixth winning season in seven years. The game drew the second largest crowd the Rhodes Fieldhouse has ever seen, and the fourth largest in Gulf South Conference history. An estimated 3,117 Rowdies were on hand to cheer the Bisons (12-11) on to a 107-87 win over the Ouachita Baptist Tigers (5-20).

Harding went into their last home game with sophomore Michael Jackson out due to a foot injury, and sophomore Dwayne McDonald limited to four minutes of playing time in his final home game because of a similar injury. However, the absence of these two key players did not stop the Bisons.

With three seniors playing the last home game of their careers, Harding was determined to make the most of their talents. Senior Armand Etame scored 17 points and recorded three assists, while fellow senior Danny Jeune achieved his season-high eight rebounds and scored 11 points for the Bisons. McDonald managed to score two points and grab one rebound during his limited time on the court.

The Rowdies saw the most action from sophomore guard Aaron Farley. Farley recorded only the second triple double in Harding history totaling 20 points, 10 assists and 10 rebounds.

The Bisons found themselves quickly behind in the first half, having to overcome a nine-point deficit. In what turned out to be the most decisive four minutes in the game, the Bisons scored 17 unanswered points, while the Tigers turned the ball over four times. The deafening crowd roared as the first-half came to a close without much of a threat from the Tigers, and the Bisons entered the second-half ahead 51-34.

The Bisons continued to pull away from the Tigers in the second half, as Ouachita added to their Gulf South Conference season high 37 three-point attempts as they desperately tried to get back into the game. As the final buzzer rang, Harding had achieved its second triple-digit score in as many home games. On the game, Harding managed 54 points in the paint, while the Tigers had a relatively low 22. The Bisons also out-rebounded the Tigers 41-32.

Also leading the Bisons in scoring were junior Dathan Wilson with 19, Etame’s 17 and freshman Darren McCollins with 14 points. McCollins also dished out eight assists.

The game was especially well-attended following all of the hype surrounding the final home game. Little Rock CBS affiliate Channel 11 was on hand to do a story on the infamous Rhodes Rowdies. The story aired Wednesday.

After the game, coach Jeff Morgan commented on the fans. “They’ve done a great job all year. I can’t say enough about the relationship between the team and the Rowdies,” he said.

The Bisons play their final game of the season tomorrow at 8 p.m. at Arkansas Tech in Russellville.

Football team reads for season with 13 new signees

Jalaina Tyree
Staff Writer

Football coach Randy Tribble has signed 13 new players for the 2001 Bison squad since players were allowed to sign binding national letters-of-intent Feb. 7.

Six of them are transfer students from junior colleges, while seven are current high school seniors.

“We are really proud we have them in our program,” Tribble said.

Tribble said the transfers often have immediate impact. Because they have already played two years of college ball, they will bring the experience and maturity the team needs, he said.

New Bisons who transferred include Rashad Cooper (corner back, Arizona Western), Julius Jenkins (defensive end, Tyler College), Robert Lolohes (running back, Tyler College), Jon Williams (linebacker, Community College of San Francisco), Kelvin Williams (linebacker, New Mexico Military) and Errick Wilson (defensive back, Arizona Western).

“We’ve got the kind of players to step up,” Tribble said.

Many of the high school players that have committed to Harding are going to be redshirted for their first year in order to get used to playing college football and become familiar with the program. This also helps them because, although they can’t play their first year, they will still be able to practice with the team and have four years of eligibility left. However, some freshmen, like Harding Academy star wide receiver Luke Anderson and Jake Stephenson (offensive lineman, Carrolton, Ga.), could see some playing time.

Other incoming freshmen who have signed with Harding include Travis DeSims (wide receiver, West Plains, Mo.), Matt McJunkins (defensive lineman, Mineral Springs, Ark.), Joe Price (wide receiver, Houston), Spencer Ross (wide receiver, Harding Academy) and Michael Whitlow (defensive end, Littleton, Colo.).

“Freshmen form a foundation for years to come,” Tribble said.

Having only lost three defensive players from last season, these new additions to the team can only help provide that quickness the Bisons need to become a better team. “We need to be better at running the ball,” Tribble said.

The Bisons are also counting on several players who were red-shirted or injured last season to become key players. One such player is senior Jason Sneed. Tribble said Sneed is a “special guy” and hopes he can stay well enough to use his skills and make a difference next season.

Although spring practice officially starts March 5, the team has already been practicing a few times each week to get back in shape.

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Ashlee Johnson/The Bison

Senior Danny Jeune displays his strict defensive concentration as he stays down his opponent. This is a role he has filled with pride ever since he signed with the Bisons.

Senior Dwayne McDonald limited to four minutes of playing time in his final home game because of a similar injury. However, the absence of these two key players did not stop the Bisons.

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The Bisons play their final game of the season tomorrow at 8 p.m. at Arkansas Tech in Russellville.
XFL: Xtreme waste of viewers’ time

Once the game began, it was nothing more than football. Not only was it only football, it was bad football. I only watched the first quarter of the game before turning the channel. The game was too heavily influenced by “Smackdown” for my taste.

The camera angles of the game were not as impressive as I had hoped. The new features such as the X-cam and the roving cameraman were more dizzying than interesting.

The 26 wireless microphones on the field did not bring me closer to the game. They added to my reason for changing the channel.

The sounds they offered were cluttered with background noise and the occasional profane word.

If I wanted to be that close to the game I would already have my license to be a referee. I personally cannot stand showmanship on the football field, so this spectacle highlighted all that is wrong with football particularly got under my skin.

I felt sorry for them to have to be dressed like that in 20 degrees New York weather.

There are, however, a few good ideas in the XFL. I like the fact that players are paid $45,000 per season, with a bonus pool based on winning. With this system, the players play to win because it means more money in their pockets.

I also like the fact that they have brought football to major cities that have not had a professional team in some time, such as Los Angeles, Las Vegas and Memphis.

The television ratings for the first two weeks of the XFL were beyond what was expected, but the ratings for the games on Saturday and Sunday fell below the level promised to advertisers. Many expect the ratings to continue to fall.

It will be interesting to see how many fans continue to tune in during the weeks to come.

However you feel about the XFL, whether it brings hope or hype for the future of football remains to be seen.

For me, I won’t be watching until I find out if it has stopped being a spectacle and started being a game.