Impact leaders plan for summer, announce theme

Hannah Rhodes
Staff Writer

Harding is preparing to welcome what is expected to be the largest freshmen class in its history this fall.

Current students are already making plans to ensure that new students will immediately begin to develop the friendships that make the Harding experience memorable.

Student Impact, Harding’s freshmen orientation program, is a special time for freshmen and transfers. This fall will mark Harding’s 16th session of Student Impact.

“Impact is a time for students to get acquainted with Harding,” said Dr. Delores Carson, assistant vice president for student services. “We want them to feel immediate acceptance and to establish immediate friends. They can really feel the warmth here on campus. The purpose of Impact is to provide an orientation for freshmen.”

“The reason ours is so successful is because our workers are wonderful. They all volunteer their time, and each exhibits a special personality and compassion of heart. They stay in touch and get away.”

Spearehading programs for Student Impact this year are co-directors Jeremy Picker and Rachel Harless, both seniors.

“We’ve both grown to love Harding University,” Harless said. “It’s a great place. The students here really benefit from the friendships and spiritual life. We want to make sure the incoming freshmen make the most of every opportunity. Impact is about getting students started on the right foot, and making sure they have fun doing it.”

The theme for Impact 2001 is “Here I Am.”

“It’s a reference to being at a new place, and a challenge to give ourselves up to God,” Picker said. Impact workers hope to see Christ placed at the center of all that they do.

“My idea for Impact 2001 is that it’s going to be more spiritually focused,” said junior Bobby Hartrog, who is serving on the spiritual life committee. “We have some ideas on how to make activities fun and exciting without sacrificing the spiritual focus. We want to provide a good experience for the freshmen.”

Picker said the entire Impact crew meetings to emphasize servanthood this year.

“We want incoming students to do more than just participate in the recreational activities,” he said. “We want to spend some time serving people, like widows and the elderly. We want to develop attitudes that reflect being a disciple and being a servant.”

The Impact co-directors will be assisted by a crew of volunteers including energy group leaders, who work with freshmen and transfers in small groups to help ensure that each student receives personal attention.

“Energy group leaders serve as mentors,” Carson said. “They really do feel personally responsible to the freshmen. They do a wonderful job of making sure that no one feels homeless. Everyone arrives a little anxious and afraid, but by the end of Student Impact it feels like everyone knows everyone. We try to think of any problem a student might have and make it easier for them, whether it be leaving parents or just starting college.”

Impact worker Josh Kasinger agreed.

“Impact helps students get involved,” he said. “They have an opportunity to get plugged in with the university and make new friends.”

Harless said she is looking forward to serving the new students.

“Jeremy and I are both really excited and can’t wait to get started,” she said. “Our goal is to provide the best welcoming environment we can. We want to give a good first impression, so that the freshmen who enroll will see Harding for what it is.”

Buchanan cancels ASI lecture

From Staff Reports

Former U.S. Treasurer Angela “Bay” Buchanan had to postpone her March 8 appearance in the Benson Auditorium as part of the university’s American Studies Distinguished Lecture Series. According to Dr. Bob Reely, the organization’s associate executive director, changes in Buchanan’s schedule made it difficult to organize another presentation by her this year.

“We schedule our speakers well in advance of their presentations, and it’s very hard to adjust changes to their schedule,” Buchanan had expressed an interest in addressing the university in the near future.

In 1981, when she was appointed by President Ronald Reagan, 32-year-old Buchanan was the youngest person to hold the position of U.S. Treasurer.

Reely said he is already beginning the planning stage for next year’s batch of speakers. He said Buchanan had expressed an interest in addressing the university in the near future.

“We’re not a bit of flexibility after the plans have been made. Buchanan’s appearance was scheduled for March 8. However, she is expected to return to campus to discuss how faith in God has brought them through difficult periods in life.

Chapel series keeps faith focus

 Speakers tell audiences ‘what is really important in life’

Jalilah Tyre
Staff Writer

Daily chapel is a Harding tradition. However, this week’s theme is a special tradition for students. In fact, many make sure they do not miss this week because they enjoy it so much. This special week is Struggles with the Faith week.

Past speakers have included Chris Delli, who told of his wife who died, leaving him with three young children. There was also Lester Holt, a news anchor from Chicago, who is now a news anchor for MSNBC. Several years ago, Paula Barbieri, O.J. Simpson’s girlfriend at the time of the Nicole Brown Simpson / Ronald Goldman murders, spoke during the week.

“It feels good to hear about others who have successfully overcome their struggles,” junior Melvin Foster said.

This week’s "Struggles with the Faith" programs began with an emotional story brought by senior Barbieri, who has successfully overcome the handicap was three years old, Cox lived with her grandmother and continued to abuse her physically and emotionally until she was 12.

"Here I Am"

On Tuesday, students heard from Mike Tanaro, a little over a year ago, the youngest person to hold the position of Treasurer. Angela "Bay" Buchanan had to reenergize and relaunch her physically and emotionally, she lost his wife in a car accident soon after her physically and emotionally. She was selected for an interview with Bob-Writers and Spirituality Series.

On Wednesday, students heard from Hannah Rhodes, who is now a news anchor for MSNBC. Several years ago, when she was 12, Hannah was in chapel Monday to discuss how faith in God has brought them through difficult periods in life.

Mike Tanaro speaks in chapel Tuesday as part of the Struggles with the Faith week. The annual series brings speakers to campus to discuss how faith in God has brought them through difficult periods in life.

Ashlee Johnson/The Bison

www.harding.edu/thebison

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“The reason ours is so successful is because our workers are wonderful. They all volunteer their time, and each exhibits a special personality and compassion of heart. They stay in touch and get away early… they really work hard.”

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Viewpoints

Eating disorder survivor credits God with beating daily struggle

Guest Room

Sara Hardesty

God used my time in Arizona to give me the strength to choose life over the pull of the eating disorder. It is a choice I have to make daily, but it’s one I’m committed to making for the rest of my life.

When the eating disorder first began, my life revolved around food and exercise. I felt like I had to be perfect. I would exercise for hours each day and count every fat gram I ate. At the time, I didn’t know what a fat gram was. Today, I know that’s how eating disorders begin on page four; it was evident this was a problem, and I needed help.

I moved to the Remuda LIFE Program in Chandler, Arizona, a Christian eating disorder treatment facility. Two days after arriving, I was able to find some peace. In order to overcome these demons, I had to learn to give up all control and trust completely in God. My time at Remuda brought me to a level of spiritual brokenness that I had never known, but God needed that brokenness to make complete healing possible.

After finishing treatment at the Ranch, I moved to the Remuda LIFE Program in Chandler, a suburb of Phoenix. LIFE is a residential “halfway” program designed to help prepare patients to maintain their recovery amidst the stresses of everyday life. The program continued to challenge me, pushing me outside my comfort zone and forcing me to confront my fears.

In all, I spent 45 days away from home, away from Harding and family and friends. During that time, I learned more than I ever imagined I would—about my eating disorder, my family, myself and my relationship with the One who created me. I used my time in Arizona, the relational bridges that grew there, and the prayers and encouragement of my Christian brothers and sisters to give me the strength to choose life over the pull of the eating disorder. It is a choice I have to make daily, but it’s one I’m committed to making for the rest of my life.

Letters to the Editor

Alumnus reacts to recent transplant story

Dear Editor:

Thanks so much for publishing your recent article (Feb. 16) on organ donation.

As an alumnus of Harding (B.A. 1985), I was very pleased to see Harding raise the awareness of the great need for organ donation. I was very fortunate to have received a kidney from my cousin, Karla Templeton Strickland. If not for her generosity, I feel certain that I would still be awaiting a transplant, as the average wait for my blood type was over three years.

Thank you again for your wonderful article. Education is the key to the solution.

Sincerely,

Corrine Alexander Reeves

Speak out: How do you survive midterms?

“Relax and sleep a lot, so that I can put off studying until the last minute.”

Chandy Buck, sophomore

“I take a lot of study breaks, so I can listen to music that helps me relax and relieves stress.”

Melissa Myers, sophomore

“I used to procrastinate, but I’ve started studying earlier, which has helped.”

Alaina Belch, senior

“I try to forget I have exams, so my parents don’t’ know I’m stressed.”

Phillip McCullough, sophomore

“I have a daily battle that affects the way a person thinks, feels, behaves and interacts with others.”

Ashlee Johnson

The Bison is a campus newspaper written, edited and largely financed by students, seeking to provide high-quality journalism and discussion of issues of concern to the Harding community. It also serves as an educational tool for students, providing practical experience to enhance skills learned in the classroom. The Bison recognizes its responsibility to be accurate, fair and objective in its reporting while upholding Christian ideals for the benefit of those who love Him. The Bison is published weekly during breaks, test weeks and summer sessions by Harding University, Searcy, AR 72143. Primary address: Searcy, AR 72149-0818. Contact The Bison office at 501-279-4139 or 501-279-4471 or send faxes to 501-279-4127.

The Bison is online at www.harding.edu/thebison.
Mayor proposes partnership between city, university

Chrisy Ingram
Staff Writer

Searcy Mayor David Evans met with Harding student leaders Tuesday afternoon to present an idea that would bring the student body and the community together for a weekend. This year, the festival was being planned, and Evans wanted to consult Harding students for ideas, as well as involve them more in the festivities.

"Summer in the City" began three years ago as a festival for the community with live entertainment and a classic car show. Prior to that, the festival was called "Springtime Searcy."

"We never really got it over the years," Evans said. "I pitched that we make it a festival of old rock and roll."

The idea caught on, and the festival has continued to grow.

"We went classic rock because no one else was doing it," said Tommy Jackson, editor of The Daily Citizen, who is working with Evans on the committee.

Evans said the event has become more successful each year, but its summer time frame has excluded most Harding students.

"Now we'd like to involve the Harding community," he said.

As a result, a tentative date for "Summer in the City" is Sept. 8. Evans' reason for proposing the festival to the students is to unite the student body with Searcy's community.

"I want those students to feel like it's [their] second home," he said.

He was eager to hear the students' ideas throughout the meeting. Student suggestions included a three-on-three basketball tournament with a cash reward, a cook-off between social clubs, a five-kilometer run, a skate/bike competition and a craft show.

In addition, Evans said a headline concert always concludes the day's activities. The Beach Boys, Lovin' Spoonful and Johnny Rivers have performed in past years.

The committee of students will meet again after spring break to discuss possible entertainers and other details for the event.

School of Education pursues accreditation for five more years

Michael Chaffin
Staff Writer

The Board of Examiners from the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, also known as NCATE, are on campus this week-end to start the recerti-fication process for Harding's School of Education.

They will be looking for evidence that Harding is correctly training students with aspirations of teaching.

Arkansas is one of five states in partnership with NCATE, which recently adopted a new set of standards, called NCATE 2000. Harding will be the first school in the state, and only the second school in the country, to go through the NCATE 2000.

"Under the old system, the way NCATE determined if you were meeting their standards was by going through a mock inspection," Tony Finley, dean of the School of Education, said.

"It was strictly course-driven. Under the new system, it is performance-assessment driven — do [education graduates] have the knowledge and skills to do the job?"

Finley said it was merely by chance that Harding was chosen to be one of the first schools judged by the new criteria.

"It just so happened that our time came up to go through accreditation this spring," he said. "This spring, we had a choice to do the old system or the new system. Since the new accreditation standards match up better with the new licensure requirements in Arkansas, it was just logical that we go with the new standards."

NCATE has a set of standards by which the school of education at each university in Arkansas is judged in order to get licensure from the Arkansas Department of Education. Simply put, in order for a graduating student to receive a license to teach, the school has to meet the NCATE standards.

"You have to be accredited by NCATE if you cannot offer those degrees," Finley said.

In late November of last year, Harding had a "mock inspection" to help prepare for this weekend. Dr. Jim Worthington, director of graduate programs at John Brown University, and a certified board examiner, visited and went through the inspection process, which many in the department believed was beneficial.

Currently, approximately 25 percent of Harding students are involved in the teacher education program, Finley said. Out of the 18 universities in the state of Arkansas, Harding is tied for third in number of students in teacher education training. Last year, out of all 18 universities combined, more than 1,500 students graduated with education degrees.

The accreditation Harding is seeking is an ongoing process, renewed every five years.

"We have been NCATE since 1982," Finley said.

Finley said the process has been part of a three-way communication process between Harding, NCATE and the Arkansas Department of Education. The goal of this communication process is making the mission and purpose of Harding, the standards set forth by NCATE and the requirements for licensure from the ADE to naturally fit together.

After 2002, licensure requirements from the ADE will undergo significant changes, which Harding is already prepared for, Finley said.

He said the changes involve "diastolic" alterations to classifications for teaching licenses. Examples include physical education being combined with health, and special education changing from a major in itself to an endorsement.
Dying to be thin

Diseases take many forms, recognized by several signs

Rachel McCluiston
Staff Writer

Every day students on college campuses nationwide—including Harding—go about their lives in a seemingly unusual way. Deep inside, however, they are suffering with an eating disorder that requires athletes to maintain a weight as determined by age and height, having a fear of becoming overweight, denying the seriousness of low body weight and missing at least three consecutive menstrual cycles.

Within the disorder of anorexia nervosa, people exhibit behaviors such as self-induced vomiting or the misuse of laxatives, diuretics or enemas, restrictive type anorexics do not.

"Those with anorexia restrict the food they eat and usually welcome the hunger sensation because it shows that they haven't overeaten," said Sherry Pollard, who has been a counselor at the Counseling Center for 19 years. "However, for bulimics, hunger is a bad thing because it sparks binge eating behavior!"

BULIMIA

Bulimia nervosa is characterized by episodes of binge eating, especially in sports such as boxing and other bulimic dis­orders, anorexia nervosa, are two eating disorders that plague the lives of many college-aged women across the nation. And although fewer men fight eating disorders than women, it is still a problem. Male athletes in particular may struggle with eating disorders, especially in sports such as boxing that require athletes to maintain a certain weight category.

According to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition, anorexia nervosa involves refusing to maintain 85 percent of normal body weight as determined by age and height, having a fear of becoming overweight, denying the seriousness of low body weight and missing at least three consecutive menstrual cycles.

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Anorexia nervosa involves denying the seriousness of low body weight and missing at least three menstrual cycles. In extreme cases, bulimics may have callouses on their fingers from forcing themselves to vomit.

A common way to determine if someone has an eating disorder is to observe their behavior around food. "The issue with most people who suffer from an eating disorder is control," Pollard said. "They've lost their desire to lose weight, but they don't know how to stop losing weight," she said.

Often triggered by depression, family problems or personal tragedies, an eating disorder can be a challenge to overcome.

SURVIVING

Just a year and a half ago, senior Sara Hardesty suffered from a type of anorexia, but after receiving monetary and prayerful help from Harding's student body and surrounding churches, she was able to admit herself to a Christian rehabilitation center.

"I'm not an authority on eating disorders," Hardesty said. "I just know what I've been through and that I've been blessed to get help."

Even though anorexia controlled her life for almost seven years, Hardesty said she is thankful and has grown from having overcome her situation.

"Having dealt with an eating disorder, I've come to a greater awareness of eating disorders," Hardesty said, adding that people can have disordered eating patterns even if they are not clinically diagnosed. After going through her situation, Hardesty said she can look at girls on campus and tell they have an eating problem.

"When exercising or losing weight takes precedence over other things like school or your social life, you have a problem," Hardesty said.

"People should ask themselves why the motivation behind their behavior is."

Numbers point to starting obsession with body image

Hannah Rhodes
Staff Writer

Amidst American culture's ever-increasing obsession with physical beauty, eating disorders have surfaced as one of the most prevalent dangers plaguing college-aged students today. Conservative estimates assert that five to 10 million adolescent girls and women and nearly 1 million boys and men struggle with eating disorders and borderline conditions, according to online statistics. Combined, the number of people suffering from eating disorders is triple the number of people currently living with AIDS.

Psychologists assert that the acceptance of natural beauty is compromised by a lack of diversity in body types portrayed in the media.

While the average American woman is 5 feet 4 inches tall and weighs 140 pounds, the average American model is 5 feet 11 inches tall and weighs 117 pounds. Almost half of American elementary school students between the first and third grades want to be thinner. And at the age of 10, four out of five children are afraid of being fat.

Eating disorders often begin as innocent diets. On any given day, almost half of American women are on a diet. Americans spend more than $40 billion on dieting and diet-related products each year. Ninety-one percent of women recently surveyed on a college campus said they had attempted to control their weight through dieting. Unfortunately, psychologists say that 35 percent of "normal dieters" progress to pathological dieting. Of those, one in four will progress to partial- or full-syndrome eating disorders. This is partially due to the fact that 95 percent of all dieters regain their lost weight in one to five years.

Eating disorders involve extreme emotions, attitudes and behaviors surrounding weight and food issues. They are serious emotional and physical problems that can have life-threatening consequences. Professionals believe that eating disorders arise from a combination of long-standing behavioral, emotional, psychological, interpersonal and social factors.

People with eating disorders often use food and the control of food in an attempt to compensate for feelings and emotions that may otherwise seem overwhelming. For some, dieting, bingeing and purging may begin as a way to cope with painful emotions. Ultimately, however, these behaviors damage young people's physical and emotional health, self-esteem and sense of competence and control.

On any given day, almost half of American women have an eating disorder. In the first of a two-part series, The Bison explores the deadly realities of this obsession.
I

Easier.

Student-preachers among Harding's oldest traditions

Editor's Note: Rebecca said. Stuttgart, spend most Saturday afternoons in Christ. The church-owned apartment makes the arrangement easier.

"It's not a big deal to stay there because of the church apartments," Rebecca said. "It was a mutual decision for us to go down every weekend. We really enjoy it."

On Sunday, Ely will preach a sermon and teach classes. Then, he and Rebecca will visit with the congregation a little more before they make the 75-minute return trip to Stuttgart.

"We've both grown spiritually by being able to minister to those in need," Ely said. "It is a great thing for us and them."

Ely is part of a longtime Harding tradition of learning to preach by actually doing it in area congregations.

For many years, Harding held classes from Tuesday through Saturday each week. This allowed the students to drive to their congregations, which were as far away as Missouri, and return Monday.

Dr. Patricia Neale Pryor, vice president for academic affairs, said Harding students of his generation went as far as Illinois. "It's difficult doing it, but you can't do it until you try," Pryor said. "It's like riding a bike—you can read all about it, but you can't do it until you try it."

After a close family friend died, he came to Harding to reevaluate his own life and realize that the architecture and engineering degrees he wanted weren't for him. He started working with a youth group in Kansas and found his niche: ministry.

One of the instructors in the HSBS program had been preaching at Stuttgart. He told the congregation about Ely's qualifications. Ely went to meet the congregation, and they offered him the position.

The Stuttgart congregation has about 65 members and has existed for more than 75 years. Ely and Rebecca visit with the members on the weekends to help them with their problems and encourage them.

"The practical experience I gain while preaching helps apply the knowledge that I learn in class. I also learn practical things that can't be taught."

Ely Lambert, Harding School of Biblical Studies student

The practical experience I gain while preaching helps apply the knowledge that I learn in class. I also learn practical things that can't be taught.

"Most of the churches that call can't afford a full-time minister, so our students preach on Sunday mornings, up to 220 miles away. On Wednesday nights, some of the students preach closer to Searcy."

Dr. Edward Myers, HSBS director, said the program encourages students to practice what they have learned in the classroom that week. The HSBS program used to have classes Tuesday through Thursday, but this year they discontinued to the rest of Harding with a Monday-Wednesday-Friday and Tuesday schedule.

"A church will call with a need for an preacher," Myers said. "Most of the churches that call can't afford a full-time minister, so our students preach on Sunday mornings, up to 220 miles away. On Wednesday nights, some of the students preach closer to Searcy."

Students will often preach at a church and, as they ready to graduate, take a new student to take their place for a few weeks. If the church approves of the new minister, he has easily found a church to preach at.

"Preaching on Sundays is good for the students because it helps them learn how to work with people in a one-on-one context with the local church," Myers said. "This is a blessing to the churches and the students because they learn together and help each other grow."

Of the 34 HSBS students, eight drive outside of Searcy on Sundays to preach. One student, Jamell Carroll, preaches at four different churches, the farthest an hour and fifteen minutes away.

"I preach outside of Searcy because there is no opportunity to preach with the local congregations," Carroll said. "Plus, I can apply the knowledge I learn in class better as I am preaching."
Coffee talk still best at Midnight

Midnight Oil finally has some competition — sort of. I, like a lot of people on campus, was slightly befuddled to see a new coffee shop open not only near Seavy, but a mere three doors down from Midnight Oil on Race Street.

Being tempted by a new business, I decided to give the Coffee Café a try, for who can resist a name like that? There was a powerful, odd smell upon entering that place, a musty smell that seemed to be covered up with sweet vanilla candles. Accompanied by a friend, I walked through the front room, past the staircase and to the back, where we placed our order.

The prices are reasonable and the selection was modest. My friend ordered a plain bagel and cream cheese, a cinnamon roll and a regular coffee. I ordered a chicken salad sandwich on a plain bagel with chips and water.

Upon entering the dining room, we took a while to find a place to sit. Not because it was crowded, but because all of the tables except (naturally) the one we which was taken were small and not ideal for eating at. With our options rather exhausted, we ended up sitting down and eating at one of the small tables.

To our pleasure, the bagels were good and fresh and my sandwich was pretty good. My friend, however, only ate about half of his cinnamon roll because he wasn’t expecting to bite into a cinnamon imperial. The roll was covered with a thin layer of icing that evidently had some sort of cinnamon oil added to it that made it taste like cinnamon candy.

As far as the coffee at the Coffee Café goes, let me just say that it is available at Walmart in a big red can labeled Folgers.

Although the food was decent, the atmosphere lacked the coziness characteristic of a coffee shop. We were annoyed at the Coffee Café for placing a television in the main dining room. It was frustrating because it betrayed the laid back attitude where I could sit and have a conversation.

Having a television there was a distraction not only to people trying to talk, but also to students that could easily venture three houses down to study.

After leaving, I concluded that we (the Harding community) aren’t the people that Coffee Café is marketing to. It was obviously designed for the retired adult community to get away from the Harding crowd — which is difficult to do at Midnight Oil.

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Let our consultants show you all the advantages of tax deferral, or call us for a free tax-savings calculator.

Call us for a free tax-savings calculator.
Basketball season wraps up; teams look forward to next year

New coach hired to lead men's, women's soccer teams

Mac Bell
Staff Writer

Just three seasons after Harding started its women's soccer program and a year after the men's program began, achieving the rank of Harding's most popular sport.

Harding alumnus Greg Harris was recently named head coach for both the men's and women's programs. He will begin his duties in June.

Head women's soccer coach Terry Edwards resigned from his post. Edwards started the Lady Bison program in 1998 and led the team to a record of 25-23-1 over all and a 10-7-1 mark last season. "I will be transferring from the bench to the stands," Edwards said. "I enjoyed my affiliation with Harding's athletic department. Now, I will be the number one spectator of the Lady Bisons.

Edwards will continue in his role as chairman of the Department of Foreign Language and International Studies.

The men's team, coached last fall by Franco Zengaro, compiled a 5-11 record in its first season of intercollegiate competition.

Harris is currently at the University of Louisiana at Monroe pursuing his doctorate in marriage and family therapy. A Florida native, Harris was a four-year lettermen goalkeeper at Queens College in Charlotte, N.C., from 1990-93. During his collegiate career, Harris helped achieve a national shutdown record for NCAA Division II men's soccer and served as team captain his senior year. After he earned his B.A. at Queens College, Harris came to Harding and completed a Master of Sciences in Marriage and Family Therapy.

"Harris was always in the back of my mind as the person to take over the program because of his athletic abilities and his personality," Edwards said. "I always intended to start the program and then allow it to grow into something that requires a full-time coach. This decision was for the betterment of the program."

Until June, Harris will be gaining his doctorate and working as a therapist at the Compass Family Resource and Counseling Center in Monroe, La.

"Soccer is so important to Harding because of the institution that it is and because of our affiliations with many states and countries that have good soccer players and fans," Edwards said. "Also, it is a growing in popularity in the town. There are over 1,000 children participating in Swan sports youth soccer."

Edwards will continue recruiting for the Lady Bisons and guiding them through their off-season workouts this semester. Graduate assistants will handle both duties for the men's team.

New coach hired to lead men's, women's soccer teams

Ryan Cook
Copy Editor

Although neither the Bison nor the Lady Bisons did well enough to qualify for this weekend's South Conference tournament in Tupelo, Miss., both squads had their high points this season, Harding's first in the GSC.

Bisons claim winning season

The men finished above .500 for the first time since 1995, knocking the Bisons out of first place. This season, the men scored a 182-120-2 season record.

"We had to win four straight there at the end to give us a chance to get in [the conference tournament]," coach Jeff Morgan said. "We only won three out of four. Missing out on the conference tournament was a letdown for us.

A last-second 79-77 win over Arkansas Tech Saturday salvaged the men's season.

Harding led 21-2 to start the game, but the Wonder Boys fought back to eventually tie the game at 77-77 with 35 seconds left.

Freshman Chad Wade missed what would have been a game-winning shot, but senior Dwayne McDonald finished his Harding career by tipping the miss in with 1.7 seconds to go.

"When I made it, I really wasn't thinking about it, I was thinking about the end of my career," McDonald said.

"It is a growing in popularity in the town. There are over 1,000 children participating in Swan sports youth soccer.

Harris, who has a 3.50 GPA, is an Intercollegiate Athletics of Foreign Language and International Studies.

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Given the importance of the conference tournament, the men failed to qualify for the NCAA tournament.

"We're just going to have to look forward to next year," Edwards said.

But the men did have a few bright spots this season, including winning a conference game against Arkansas Tech and finishing with a record of 7-2 in conference play.

"We went 7-2 in conference play," Edwards said. "That was really important for us. We also won a conference game against a tough opponent.

In conference action, Harding topped Arkansas-Monticello and Southern Arkansas twice each and dropped Henderson State at Ada.

The Lady Bisons won three of their first four GSC contests, but struggled against the conference elite, several of which were ranked in the NCAA Division II rankings.

"I think we had a really exciting team to watch play. Our guys played really well together, played great team basketball, and that led to good things on the court," Edwards said.

Individually, sophomore Jay Brogden led the conference by making 57 percent of his free throw attempts.

"We dropped some close ones there on the food court and being injured at the end, but he had a great year. Armard just continued to get better and really stepped up and played well at the end (when McDonald and Michael Jackson were injured). Danny was pretty consistent all year. He did a great job for us."

Once he earned his B.A. at Searcy, where he will be transferring from the Bisons to Harding because of the institution that it is and because of our affiliations with many states and countries that have good soccer players and fans.

"I thought I would have made the record a little different," Harris said. "For the positive side of that, some of our kids might have got some experience that they wouldn't have gotten," he said. "On the other end, on the defensive end especially, those injuries probably hurt us."

Harding did not lead the conference in any statistical category, but came in second in field goal percent-
Dear Mr. Stern, a few suggestions for you...

Overtime
Jeremy Beauchamp
Sports Editor

It is the best of times, it is the worst of times. It is the NBA. This season, scoring is down again, but defense is better. Shooting is sporadic, but the sparse highlight reels are fantastic.

Many believe that professional hoops has lost its freshness and flair — that it just isn’t as exciting as it once was. Just about every professional sportswriter has taken it upon himself to float around ideas about ways to make the game more thrilling.

Since Jordan isn’t coming down from his office, many suggest that they throw out illegal defense to end the all-too-familiar isolation technique that has diseased our most hallowed courts (ahame on the coaches for trying to win games by playing defense).

Others say the shot clock should be shortened by 10 seconds or, more drastically, only allow three-pointers in the first minutes of the game like they used to do 40 years ago.

I too have been thinking about ways to make the game more interesting. Now some may see my ideas as a little eccentric, but I guarantee ratings would soar.

- Teams play for a Sprite and a large box of McDonald’s fries.
- Sportscasters are counted and used often as substitutes (Marv Albert wins Sixth Man Award).
- In arenas that double as hockey stadiums, leave out some of the plywood on purpose for added fun.
- If players bang on the rim for more than two seconds after a dunk, 10,000 volts are sent through their money-grabbing hands (OSHA would love that).
- Three words: Clone Vince Carter.
- Make Kobe Bryant and Vincent Carter their own team, with only sportscasters and cheerleaders as teammates.
- Western conference players that average less than nine points a contest are sent to the Eastern conference to work on their game.
- Arm fans with paintball guns for air balls and free throw shooting.
- Losing teams buy everyone in the crowd a soda.
- Players wear Doc Martens for every home game, just to make it fair.
- Bring back that crazy chicken mascot. That chicken was awesome.
- Ejected players have to watch the game hanging on to the scoreboard.
- Change the Washington Wizards to the Washington Bulllets. Fire all of the Clippers.
- NCAA national champs play NBA champs, but NBA champs play with their legs tied to another teammate’s like a three-legged race.
- “2Ball” is banned from every All-Star Game from now until the XFL catches on.
- Backwards day.
- Make pros play firefighters and policemen and then flip it and make pros rescue people.
- Then see who deserves the pay raise.
- Make Karl Malone sit in the corner and write the words “I am a little, whiny baby boy who wouldn’t know a foul if it fed me and kept me dry in a storm for 25 days out of a 30-day month” 900 times during every game.
- Reggie Miller vs. Spike Lee.
- Make Shareef Abdur-Rahim lead the National Anthem and “O Canada” at every Vancouver game.
- Get rid of Predrag Stojakovic (what kind of rule is a Predrag Stojakovic anyway?).
- Keep illegal defense but get rid of legal defense.
- Ring of fire around three-point lines.
- Coaches have to sit with the opposite team (that may shut them up).
- Owner Mark Cuban buys everyone a Chalupa if Dallas wins (I’m sure that one catches on).
- Finally, bring back Dennis Rodman.

There has to be something in this list of value. Probably just the ink, but who knows.

If Allen Iverson can make a rap album, these suggestions are not so farfetched.

Nothing must be done before this game goes the way of Major League Baseball. Did I mention how awesome that chicken was?

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NCAA Men's Basketball
(all games Saturday, March 3)

- 1 Stanford vs. 18 UCLA
- 9 Virginia vs. 16 Maryland
- 19 Alabama vs. 12 Mississippi
- 10 Boston College vs. West Virginia

NBA Basketball
(all games Sunday, March 4)

- New York vs. Toronto
- Seattle vs. Minnesota
- Orlando vs. Detroit
- Charlotte vs. Boston

NHL Hockey
(all games Saturday, March 3)

- Buffalo vs. Colorado
- Pittsburgh vs. Washington
- Ottawa vs. Toronto
- Detroit vs. Los Angeles

XFL Football

Guess the exact score of Saturday's game

San Francisco vs. Birmingham

2/23 Sports Challenge winner: Blake Odom

* Editor's picks are in bold.