Inside
Another theft
For the second time this school year, more than $10,000 worth of university-owned computers and electronic equipment have been stolen. The most recent theft, which occurred in the mass break in the Reynolds Center. For more, see page three.

Valentine's Day
That Harding produces many marriages is more than just a running joke. Turn to page five for the stories of two faculty couples.
Nancy Sheller and Treva Pryor and Dennis and Sherry Organ — and a student pair getting married in July.

In brief
• Pi Sigma Epsilon, the College of Business Administration’s sales and marketing fraternity, will present the annual “Battle of the Business” Feb. 7 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Rhodes Field House. The event will feature pizza from various restaurants, the Stress of Learning ice cream and drinks. The Bisons and Lady Bisons will also take on southern Arkansas University-owned computers and electronic equipment have been stolen. The most recent theft, which occurred in the mass break in the Reynolds Center. For more, see page three.
• Student Ownership bands: Arkansas, University-owned computers and electronic equipment have been stolen. The most recent theft, which occurred in the mass break in the Reynolds Center. For more, see page three.

They’re already here
Lonestar to play packed Benson tonight
Michelle Scobba
Staff writer
Tonight, after weeks of anticipation, nearly 3,000 fans are expected to fill the seats of the Benson Auditorium to hear recording artists Lonestar perform.

Lonestar, including Dean Sams (keyboard), Michael Britt (guitar), Keech Rainwater (drums) and Richie McDonald (lead vocals), is one of the hottest bands in country music. The group’s first album, “Lonestar,” was released in 1998 and has sold more than one million copies.

Lonestar’s music isn’t really a country sound, Sams said. “It’s a good mix of many different types of music.”

With all of the buzz and anticipation, tonight’s concert promises to be one that students won’t soon forget, Miller said. “I think they’ll be good for the Harding group,” Miller said. “They seem to be down to earth and their shows are family oriented. I think the crowd will be pleased with them.”

As an added benefit, Lonestar came to Harding a year early. Bands usually arrive the day of the show, run sound checks in the afternoon and then perform the concert at night. But because Harding is the first stop on the 2002 tour, Lonestar arrived on Thursday and spent much of the day rehearsing. As a result, today’s schedule was left open. Students may even see the band members walking around the campus.

Gardner reassigned to direct new student programs
Jennia LaCaze
Staff writer
In an effort to strengthen the freshman and new student experience at Harding, officials have instituted a new office that promises to be more keenly focused on students’ first year at the university.

Butch Gardner has been named director of First Year Experience, a title that challenges Gardner to merge the first year experience for new students and freshmen.
“This is a totally new area that the university is embarking on,” Gardner said. “My goal is to make the freshman experience better.”

This is a ... new area that the university is embarking on. My goal is to make the freshman experience better.

Butch Gardner, director of First Year Experience

The position includes Gardner assuming control of Student Impact, Summer Experience and other new student activities throughout the year.
“The scope of this position is a broad one,” Gardner said. Gardner will be pressed to do research, set objectives and plan events, in addition to coordinating yearly evaluations to gauge the program’s effectiveness.

The research of incoming students’ interests will be vital, he said. “The biggest challenge is the unknown,” said Gardner, who will continue to serve as director of Minority Student Services and Stephens Scholarship Program.

Gardner currently attends the University of Arkansas at Little Rock in pursuit of his doctorate in higher education administration.

Gardner will finish his course work this summer and, soon after, will begin writing his dissertation.

He said he is confident he will be able to juggle both his new responsibilities and his course work.

Gardner began a coaching career after playing basketball at Harding for several years.

He started as Harding’s men’s assistant basketball coach in 1979 and remained in that position until 1984, when he was named head basketball coach at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff.

He remained at Pine Bluff until 1987, when he was offered a position at Harding to be the assistant dean of student affairs. He was later named assistant vice president for student affairs.
The Bison

February 1, 2002

Reality TV programs defended

Fishing for the perfect Southern good-bye

Speak Out: Have you ever been a victim of theft on campus?

Guest Room

Guest Room

Donda Burrigh

Staff writer

Chad Lawson

Copy editor

Pearl's

Pakistani Sovereignty, took American influence on Pakistan in the wake of the September 11 attacks, and in Afghanistan in a 17-day period late last year. Countless others have been injured or have been raising the images and words to describe the realities of those of us who could find ourselves in such a situation soon.

The organization, which calls itself The National Movement for the Restoration of Pakistan Sovereignty, took Pearl hostage and threatened to kill him in protest of American influence on Pakistan in the wake of Sept 11. They also demanded the release of Pakistanis being held in connection with the war on terrorism.

The group also warned all American journalists to leave the nation within three days or face a similar fate.

While physically being held by a government, Pearl's plight reminds us of the dangers a journalist can face in a country where free speech, or of the press; or the right of the people to mind.

It's almost a weekly occurrence when a story from overseas reminds us how right this is by no means universal.

Last week, a reporter for the Wall Street Journal, was kidnapped by a group in Paki­stan earlier this month.

The Bison

The Bison is a campus newspaper, written, edited and financed by students, seeking to provide high­quality, journalistic discussion of issues pertinent to the Harding community. It is available 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 the Christian ideals for which Harding University stands. It attempts to serve as a forum for student perspective, welcoming letters to the editor which adhere to ethical and peer­Agency standards. Editorial appearing in The Bison are the views of the writer or not reflect the official policy of the Harding University administration. Signed columns represent the personal views of the authors, while unsigned columns represent the view of the editorial board. The Bison is published weekly (except during breaks, test weeks and summer sessions) by Harding University, Searcy, AR 72149. Subscription rate: $5 per year. Periodical postage (USPS #177066) paid at Searcy AR 72149. Reprinting or use of any part of this publication requires written permission. Contact The Bison office at 501-279-4479 or 501-279-4471 or rfcook@harding.edu. The Bison is on-line at www.harding.edu/thebison.

The Cookie Jar

Ryan Cook

Editor

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

—First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

Growth up right in the center of the nation’s capital, many of my classmates learned the virtues of our Constitution. It was taught about the Bill of Rights, the First Amendment may be one of the most quoted sections of our country’s charter.

It's almost a weekly occurrence when a story from overseas reminds us how right this is by no means universal.

Such reminders hit a little close to home for those of us who could find ourselves in such a situation soon.

As a journalist, however; one part of that document stands out. I've put it up above for your reference. Ratified in 1791 as part of the Bill of Rights, the First Amendment may be one of the most quoted sections of our nation's charter.

Often touted by those of us in the fourth estate, it is our guarantee against censure or other unrestrained restrictions by the government.

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Often touted by those of us in the fourth estate, it is our guarantee against censure or other unrestrained restrictions by the government.
Spring campaigns set for 30 locations

Senior Lisa Metzzer and juniors Rob Hopper and Jennie Sifford listen during a meeting of the Sarasota, Fla., spring break campaign group. Wednesday night at the West Apartments. The Sarasota campaign members are planning a Vacation Bible School and lecture series during the trip.

Dr. Neale Pryor and his wife Treva cut the wedding cake after their wedding in 1960. More than 40 years after meeting while she was a high school student and he was working as a preacher to pay for graduate school, both Pryors work for Harding. He is a professor of Bible, while she is a fourth grade teacher at Harding Academy.

The best thing about marriage is that we love the same things: travel, music, art and books," Sherry Ogan said. "Fled and marry a friend."

Juniors Marina Shaw and Stephen Shannon met in the fifth grade. For many years Shaw and Shannon were best friends and began to have feelings for each other during their senior year of high school in Pennsylvania. Even though both have been secretly praying about their relationship with each other, neither one of them knew it. Eventually, they both shared that they had been harboring the same feelings for a long time.

Shaw and Shannon began their college lives at different schools about four hours apart.

"It took a lot of patience and perseverance," Shannon said. "She loves me even when I give her a reason not to."

They were apart for two years and plan to marry in July.

"He gives and gives and gives," Shaw said. "He would give his life for me ... He made me want to be a better person."

Shannon said college students give up on relationships too quickly.

"It takes perseverance," he said. "The best thing about Ma­rina is that she trusts God con­cerning us."

The program has grown tremen­dously since 1988, when the first student group ventured to Houston. On or around March 8, teams will travel to 30 different locations, including destinations as far away as Alaska, Hawaii and Mexico. There are currently 400 students signed up. During the weeklong campaign, the teams will work in a variety of ways to minister to the communities.

"We'll be working with an inner city church, doing Vacation Bible school, service projects and helping put the church as much as we can," said sophomore Steven Baird, who will be going on a campaign to the Dallas/Ft. Worth area.

Many campaigners will pro­vide a number of services while working for the churches.

"We are putting together a youth rally at the church," said senior Jeremy Ogburn, a member of the campaign to Chicago.

"We are planning classes and providing everything — we will be the speakers, the entertain­ment."

Less than two months remain until the groups leave. Large meetings are held for all students going on campaigns in order to disperse general information, as well as to encourage fellow stu­dents. Most teams also have smaller meetings to plan activi­ties and form relationships.

Students are also making ev­ery effort to turn in money and complete all forms in time.

"I'm going to use my Christ­mas money to pay my own way," Ogburn said.

The number of campaigns and campaigners are down a bit from last year. As a result, cam­paigns to Kaufman, Texas, and Griffin, Ga., were recently called off. Many affected campaigners switched to other groups.

The Bison
Senior art majors display talents

Ryan Saul
Staff writer

When the Stevens Art Gallery was unveiled in the fall of 1998, Harding’s art department was given a whole new space for its students to display their major works.

Every semester, senior art majors display their best works in one of the gallery’s two rooms. These shows are part of the department’s senior seminar class — a capstone course required of all graduating seniors that emphasizes the rudiments of artistic presentation, according to Dr. John Keller, department chairman.

All the art in these shows must be the best original works of each student artist. Keller said the students are evaluated not only by a group of fellow students, but by the faculty as well. These evaluations are averaged and a grade emerges that is worth 60 percent of the student’s grade for the course.

Many hours of work are logged when producing and preparing for a show. Each artist must advertise their upcoming shows, a task that includes sending out invitations, putting up posters and making chapel announcements. Although students do the majority of the work, faculty members, as well as visiting artists, also display their work in the Stevens.

“I supposed to be the best work, the best you can show,” senior graphic design major Heather Wooten said.

Although the pressure of promoting art can be burdensome, some of the experience of putting together an exhibition can provide students with a taste of their upcoming careers in the art world.

“Putting on the show opens you up to the atmosphere of promoting your work. Presentation is a big part.”
Paula James, senior

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“Putting on the show opens you up to the atmosphere of promoting your work,” senior graphic design major Paula James said. “Presentation is a big part.”

Many art majors agree their senior shows are a fitting way to end their undergraduate art studies.

“I think the experience of making your work vulnerable to the public eye is an experience that all art majors definitely need before leaving college,” senior fine art major April Ayers said.

“The senior art show is also a great way for art majors to learn about presentation.”

Junior Laura Banks and senior Jimmy Bark view the senior art shows of Audra Jones and Keith Brown Tuesday in the Stevens Art Gallery. Jones and Brown’s shows end today, were the first of 11 seniors to have shows this semester.

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The movie inspired me to think about the current giving spirit of America. That spirit doesn’t need to stop. We should continue to give not only our money, but also our time and friendship, to everyone who needs it.

Go rent “Pay It Forward” and decide what you are going to do to make a difference in a stranger’s life.
Junior tennis team. The women begin their season ranked 19th by the Williams Baptist, but the hopeful horrific note.

Being able to return as a strong between two men.

Season could have started on a

Heather Gray Intercollegiate

Pushed into a large, glass window comeback.

A pitcher for the Bisons was

Despite severe injury, Davis

"My goal is to return to the

Davis said he is focusing on being able to return as a strong pitcher at the end of the semester.

"I've missed so much school that the make-up work is what takes up my time," Davis said. "But what is good about being at Harding is that the teachers really do care about their students. They are willing to help individually and get their students caught up with their missed school work due to difficult circumstances." Davis said he is grateful for his life and for the support he garners from those that surround him each day he's at Harding.

The returning players for the men are junior Artur Sikora, senior Justin John and senior Jacobo Martinez, who is likely to play in the No. 1 singles position again this year after being named the Gulf South Conference West Division Player of the Year last season.

New to the men's team this season are freshmen Andrew Giron, David Ferreira, Stephen Paine and Derek Bullington, brother of former Bison Seth Bullington.

Giron and Ferreira are highly touted and will likely play in the top four singles positions. Ferreira is also expected to be paired with Martinez in the No. 1 doubles position, while Giron will play with Sikora in the No. 2 slot.

The men are optimistic coming into season play.

"We hope to have another successful season and repeat last year's achievement of getting to the [Regional] Championships," Sikora said.

"The men also have something to prove to other teams around the conference.

"As our team is growing, it has become more of a threat to other universities," Martinez said. "We have already proven that we can compete at the highest levels of the game, and I only expect it to get better from here."

As for the 19th-ranked women's team, all six of last year's starters return and hope to improve the previous season's mark of 21-10.

"We're better than last year and I know we have the potential to succeed at the Nationals," junior Daniela Corrales said.

"Having the same team as last year, and the experience that we gained, I know that this year will be our year."

The returning starters from last year are seniors Eva and Perrilla Axelsson, Laura Tollett, juniors Carolina Banuelos and Corrales and sophomore Sara Campbell.

Junior Carolina Banuelos returns a serve during practice on Tuesday. Banuelos is one of six returning starters for the women's tennis team. The women begin their season ranked 19th by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association.

Freshman pitcher hopes to turn trials into triumph

Heather Gray Staff writer

Harding's baseball season gets underway Saturday against Williams Baptist, but the hopeful season could have started on a horrific note.

A pitch on the Bisons was seriously injured over the winter break. The player, once in critical condition, is now waging a comeback.

Michael Davis, a freshman from British Columbia, was accidentally pushed into a large, glass window while trying to break up a fight between two men.

Despite severe injury, Davis recovered and is now rehabilitating so that he can move as he did before the accident.

Davis said he is focusing on being able to return as a strong pitcher at the end of the semester.

"My goal is to return to the mound in the spring," Davis said.

Davis has resumed abbreviated practices and is considered a medical red-shirt, a title that allows him to use the semester to practice while trying to break up a fight between two men.

Davis said he is grateful for his life and for the support he garners from those that surround him each day he's at Harding.

The top four positions on the team are expected to be split among the Axelssons, Banuelos and Tollett.

"We know each other very well and we get along great," Banuelos said. "We know how each other plays since we've been together for the last three years."

Other women's players are seniors Beth Bonbrisco and Michelle Shimpock, junior Cristi Sterling, sophomore Kelsey Fry and freshman Briana Lutes.

"We have a good team and I believe that, with a team effort, we can [exceed] last year's accomplishments," Shimpock said.

David Elliot returns for his 27th season as head coach of both squads, along with assistant coach Raymond Kelly. Elliot concurred with the team's high expectations of the upcoming season.

"I hope we can have the highest possible conference finish and a ranking that will be high enough to get to the Nationals," Elliot said.

The men's team opens its home season Feb. 12 against Christian Brothers at 1 p.m. The women play host to Arkansas Tech Feb. 28.

Bisons make a run for the playoffs

Men's Basketball (12-6, 4-4 GSC): The Bisons are tied for fourth place in the GSC West after defeating second-place Arkansas Tech in Russellville. The Bisons faced Arkansas-Monticello on Thursday and face the University of Central Arkansas at home Saturday at 8 p.m. Senior forward Daron Wilson became the second Bison in a row to be named GSC West Division player of the week, averaging 22.5 points and shooting better than 60 percent from the field in two games last week.

Women's Basketball (8-10, 2-6 GSC): The Lady Bisons hoped to break their five-game losing streak going into Thursday's game against Arkansas-Monticello. Results were not available at press time. The women play Central Arkansas at home Saturday at 6 p.m.

Baseball: Harding starts its season Saturday against Williams Baptist in Walnut Ridge. Starting the first game of the doubleheader will be junior Matt Walter, who was named to the Preseason All-GSC team.

Men's and Women's Tennis: Harding kicks off its tennis season indoors today. The men head to Arkadelphia to face Oklahoma Christian, while the 19th-ranked women prepare to face Northeastern State (Okla.) in Conway.
The following is an excerpt from an imaginary interview with Rams' owner Georgia Fontiere. Please note that the following is an exercise in rhetorical hyperbole and does not reflect the author's views on all women — just Georgia.

Interviewer: Mrs. Fontiere, do you mind if I ask you a few questions?

Georgia: Um, OK. I have a hair appointment in an hour, so it will have to be quick.

Interviewer: No problem, it shouldn't take much time at all.

Georgia: Actually, young man, the last time I went to the salon, I was there for five hours.

Interviewer: Uh, well, I'm sorry to hear about that ...

Georgia: She said it would only ...

Interviewer: Well don't let me waste your time. Do you mind if I call you Georgia?

Georgia: Not at all, darling. My hairstylist calls me George sometimes, which is quite funny because that is what I call my dog.

Interviewer: Clever. As you know, your Rams have made it to the Super Bowl for the second time in three years. How do you feel about the team's accomplishments this past season?

Georgia: The boys have done great. They had no trouble taking the ball into that cute, colorful rectangle-things all season. We are very thankful for all the support of the Los Angeles Rams gave us this year.

Interviewer: You mean St. Louis?

Georgia: Well, we have a lot of fans, so I guess I thank the ones in St. Louis, too.

Interviewer: Right. Your Rams face a tough contender in Sunday's game. How do you think your offense will fare against the Patriots' strict defense?

Georgia: We are playing the Patriots?

Interviewer: Yes ma'am. I didn't expect them to defeat the Steelers either, but they have two quality quarterbacks in Tom Brady and Drew Bledsoe.

Georgia: Of course they do. Are the Patriots a new team?

Interviewer: No. Georgia: Where are they from?

Interviewer: They are from the New England Patriots.

Georgia: Well, I have never even been to that city, so I am not too worried for my boys.

Interviewer: OK. Kurt Warner won MVP this year. What has it been like having him leading your team so deftly?

Georgia: Defly ... oh! So that is why he doesn't respond when I whistle at him in the locker room. Kurt's been amazing. Did you see him in that beef stew commercial? He looks so cute and masculine. Could you even imagine Jim Everett pulling that off?

Interviewer: No ma'am, I could not. The game is in New Orleans. Your team should have the weather and crowd advantage. What will this do for the team's spirit?

Georgia: I think it will be great. Did they say Britney Spears was going to be there again? All the boys have posters of her everywhere, and I understand why because I have heard her music and I just can't get that "Oops, I Did It Again" song out of my head. She has real talent.

Interviewer: Whatever. You only beat the Eagles by five points last Sunday. Are you worried about how close it was?

Georgia: Five? That is my hair color! I really need to get to my appointment, now. Thank you for the questions.

Interviewer: Just one more thing, ma'am. What will be the final score of Sunday's big game?

Georgia: 31-1. Rams win it in overtime.

If you haven't noticed it yet, the above was not a real interview. I know that it may have come off a little harsh, but you have to understand. Georgia (like Raiders' owner Al Davis) doesn't have any fans back in my home state of California.

The boys have done great. They had no trouble taking the ball into that cute, colorful rectangle-things all season. We are very thankful for all the support of the Los Angeles Rams gave us this year.

Interviewer: Again?

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Sorry, Georgia, you are a nice person. I'm sure, but are you also the most unpopular bottle blonde in Southern California. Go Patriots!