Country performer brings her award-winning music to Benson

DeANN THOMAS
Copy editor

Country-music singer Jo Dee Messina will perform Friday at 8 in the Benson Auditorium.

Messina, who sings "Bring on the Rain," with Tim McGraw, said she is enthusiastic about performing at Harding because it gives her the opportunity to perform for a whole new demographic of people. "I'm excited because [Harding] is in an area we don't play in a whole lot," she said. "Plus, it's a college, so it has young fan base. ... We don't get to play for that age group very often. I'm looking forward to the performance.

Messina will perform a mixture of her most popular songs, including "I'm Alright," "Bye Bye" and "Burn," and some new songs.

The country veteran said she starts planning her performances by choosing songs that fans are most likely to know. "It's always fun to be able to perform songs that people are familiar with," Messina said. "I list all the songs that I know the audience is familiar with, and then I try to mix in songs that I love that they might not know." Messina said she is excited because she will be performing some of the new music from her current project, "Delicious Surprise." The new record, which will include her latest single "Was That My Life," also showcases Messina's talents as a songwriter. Messina, who wrote "No Time for Tears" from the "I'm Alright" record, did a lot more writing for "Delicious Surprise." She said songwriting is one of the areas she wants to expand her career.

"I want to continue to grow as an artist," she said. "I think longevity is the key.

"Delicious Surprise" will be released June 24, according to the Web site for Curb, Messina's recording label.

The new album follows a string of successful releases for Messina. Her self-titled debut album achieved gold status, which means more than 500,000 copies of the album have been sold. "I'm Alright" achieved double-platinum status, meaning more than two million copies have been sold. Third album, "Burn," achieved platinum status, meaning more than one million copies have been sold.

Last year she released her Christmas album, "A Joyful Noise.

In 1999, Messina won the Country Music Association's Horizon Award, the Academy of Country Music's Top New Female Vocalist Award and was named Most Played Female at Country Radio by Billboard Magazine.

Sophomore Candice Gildewell said she enjoys listening to Messina's music and is anxious to see her performance.

"Jo Dee is an awesome singer," she said. "I'm really looking forward to going to the concert and having a good time with my friends.

Freshman Morgan Booth attended one of Messina's concerts in Chattanooga, Tenn.

She said she hadn't really known who Messina was before the concert but was so impressed with her performance she started listening to her music afterward.

"She puts on a really good show," she said. "She has a lot of catchy, girl-music. It's fun and up-beat.

"I'm excited because [Harding] is an area we don't play in a whole lot. Plus, it's a college so it has a young fan base... We don't get to play for that age group very often.

"Our job is to change that perspective and show people that black history is something to be enjoyed and embraced by everybody," said Ashly Williams, Multi-Cultural Student Action Committee president.
Celebrities should not misuse fame

Jeremy D. Beauchamp

The View
From Here

We love celebrities. They make us laugh and they make us cry and blah, blah, blah.

We pay them for their dramatic abilities, musical prowess and a myriad of other supposed talents. In fact, we pay them a lot — but not for their opinions. Still, they open their unscripted mouths.

Maybe that is a harsh statement, but recently, celebrity opinion on American involvement in the Middle East has been hogging the airwaves.

For years, Barbara Streisand has been an outspoken critic of anything Republican. This is not shocking; it’s one thing to be critical of. Her fire for the liberal cause was momentarily snuffed last year after she misquoted an Internet statement.

It's funny that the same people who rallied to support the president after 9/11 turned against him to promote the government’s intentions.

Celebrities love to play the popularity contest (especially when there may be a chance to overturn this Republican chokehold on government).

More than being Democrats, Greens, Libertarians, Reformers or Republicans, we are all Americans. It is duplicitous and divisive to use your fame to influence the political leaders who dislike (which I hope not all of them are doing).

Making “I am Sam” or “Ocean’s 11” makes you an expert on foreign policy as much as being editor of your university’s student newspaper.

To state your political view is no crime.

To try and subvert the country because they hold you in esteem is dirty and wrong — especially when none of us have any real clue what is actually going on (at least not like those in charge).

Stick to the Kid Rock duets, Sheryl Crow; to the live shows and hemp debates, Dave Matthews; to great movies like “Solaris,” George Clooney; to your hair color, Susan Sarandon; and to whatever it is you do nowadays, Rosie O’Donnell.

Please, no more ramming your political views down our throats because you feel justified by your celebrity status.

Speak out: Do you think celebrities should publicly voice their political views?

"I think it’s right for people to voice their opinions ... celebrities just seem to get their [opinions] in the news.”

Nathan Swain, junior

“I think everyone in the U.S. has freedom of speech, but celebrities shouldn’t act like they have authority on [political] subjects.”

Lisa Jones, sophomore

“They can voice their opinions about politics ... but they shouldn’t mean I have to listen to them.”

Molly Roseberry, sophomore

Members of the U.S. Army 82nd Airborne Division prepare to sweep an Afghan man’s home Nov. 7 in southeastern Afghanistan. Although the terror alert was lowered this week, President Bush cautioned Americans to still be on alert.

Hoping for peace reveals real world

Renee Lewis

Guest
Room

It’s official. I’m a grown-up.

I’m not sure how I feel about this yet. Today I read that North Korea has the power to hit the west coast of our country with a missile. Today I read that a little girl lost her life after a father went shooting people after a snowball fight in Philadelphia.

Today I heard that my childhood hero, Mr. Rogers, died of cancer. Today I learned that one of my club sisters has to say goodbye to her father. He’s leaving on a classified mission next week.

So today I’m a grown-up. I’m not a second grader.

Today I understand there are things more important than Osama and NATO.

So today I’m a grown-up. I’m not a second grader. Today I understand there are things more important than Osama and NATO.

But I really do want to do put my faith in God on this one. That’s difficult for me. I don’t know about you. I haven’t figured out why this crazy mess hasn’t been put to rest yet. I haven’t figured out why people like Osama and Saddam exist.

I haven’t figured out why in a world where great Christian people live, we still have weasels such as those two characters.

What I have figured out, however, is this: I want to see the world through the eyes of a second grader again.

I want to trust God. I want to put 100 percent of my faith in Him. I want to forget about this country’s leaders and NATO and remember God resides as this world’s one, true leader.

So today I’m a grown-up. I’m not a second grader. Today I understand there are things more important than Osama and NATO.

Although I can’t be a second grader again, I can enjoy the simple things in life.

After all, my little cousin may get his turn at taking home the class hamster this weekend.
ASI to present Arab-American distinguished lecturer March 6

Harding graduate Khalil Jahshan will address Middle East crisis

Jahshan is a leader within his home congregation and views the current conflicts between the United States and Arab nations holistically. "Faith is like a compass," Jahshan said. "It gives the faithful a sense of direction and a solid grounding to deal with difficult times."

As a professional in foreign affairs, Jahshan uses his religious compass to build better relations between the West and East. "I would encourage every Harding student to hear what he has to say," Reely said. "We will all come away having learned something we never knew before about the situation." Jahshan remains in continuous contact with Middle East leaders and with high-ranking foreign policy makers and other officials in Washington, both in the executive and legislative branches of the U.S. government. Jahshan's views on U.S. policy in the Middle East can be understood through a statement he made in a press conference in March 2001. "The question is not about Islamic beliefs and practices that generate hatred for the 'Christian West.'" Jahshan said, "[It is] about social, economic and political issues in underdeveloped Muslim societies that lead to despair and violence."

---

Paleontologist Paul Sereno has encountered some of the weirdest creatures that ever walked the earth. Yet some of the scariest things he's discovered aren't likely to become extinct anytime soon. Sad to say, mutual fund management fees will probably outlast us all. That's why Dr. Sereno was afraid of getting eaten alive. So he turned to a company famous for keeping the costs down. That meant more money for him and less for the monsters.

Log on for ideas, advice, and results. TIAA-CREF.org or call (800) 842-2776.

---

**Pro Tire & Service Center**

White County's newest & complete tire, wheel & service specialist

Alignment, brakes, shocks, struts, battery, CV boot, CV axles, U-joints, wheel balancing, oil & lube, front end repair...

...and parental billing is available!

309 Wisconsin St. 368-TIRE (8473)
Access Assessment

Reaccreditation process in full swing with many changes implemented, more on the way

ELIZABETH STEPHENS
Staff writer

I

n the 2003-2004 school year, students will not be the only ones receiving performance grade reports. Harding undergoes a school-wide assessment to ensure the university’s accredited status.

Harding is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, the division of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools that accredits colleges and universities.

The accreditation process takes place every 10 years, but Harding wishes to create a culture of assessment that will continuously permeate each level of the education process, according to Dr. Dean Priest, vice president for academic affairs.

"Assessment is integral to accreditation because it measures how well the university is doing what it says it is doing," Dr. Larry Long, associate vice president for academic affairs, said. "Assessment is continuous, ongoing and campus-wide."

Long said it will take a year-and-a-half to two years to study, write and produce the self-study report that is one of Harding’s requirements for the reaccreditation process, which will take place in fall of 2004.

The university facilitates the assessment process through the University Assessment Committee. The committee consists of 10 professors from various departments and two student representatives, senior Aaron Henderson and sophomore Kristin Barnes.

Dr. Cecilia Lopez, Harding’s liaison with the HLC, was on campus Tuesday to help the committee and the administration with the assessment process.

"The visit was exceptionally productive," Long said. "Dr. Lopez provided information and inspiration to our campus straight from the HLC; we will move forward with more enthusiasm and confidence now. We were privileged to have her here."

Aside from the committee, the academic department requires each academic department to create outcome assessment plans for each major within the department. These plans help faculty ensure the students are receiving the appropriate instruction within the classroom so they will succeed following graduation.

In many academic areas, including the College of Education, these plans include a nationally standardized test that students must take before graduation or before he or she is admitted into a school of study.

The outcome assessment plans for this particular field include classroom instruction that will prepare students to succeed at a national level.

Education majors are required to pass the PRAXIS I before admittance into the teacher education program.

"I felt like my teachers did a great deal to help me succeed on the PRAXIS I," sophomore Bethany Kloskie said. "Dr. [Maribeth] Downing directed us towards several resources available to education majors in the curriculum lab and she made sure that we were aware of Web sites that could [help] prepare us for the test."

Education majors are also required to pass the PRAXIS II to receive their licensure to teach. "Dr. [Pat] Bashaw and Dr. [Danny] Lee did a wonderful job of giving me the information that I needed to succeed on the PRAXIS II through their classes on classroom management and principles of learning and teaching," Gracie McKeand, who graduated in December, said.

Other departments also use national tests or develop in-house methods to gauge the level of success the students achieve.

"Assessment forced us to choose requirements that were best to produce clean, focused majors," Dr. David Cole, chair of the physical science department and member of the UAC, said. "We were able to do that without increasing the total number of required hours or decreasing the number of elective hours."

The UAC has recently created a form to give graduating seniors that will enable the university to contact the graduate’s employers.

These forms will question employers on the job skills the graduate came to their job with so each department can better equip students for the work place.

"These forms will only be used to gather knowledge on skills and disposition so that the university can use them to better prepare students," Dr. Beth Wilson, chairman of the UAC, said.

Through surveys and various other forms of testing, the university plans to create a culture of assessment that will allow the university to continue to improve its level of academic excellence.

Super Chinese Buffet
3208 E. Race

An "all you can eat" buffet with a special price for Harding students

Lunch buffet: $5
Dinner buffet: $6

(Drink not included. Must show I.D.)

Choose from jumbo fried shrimp, steak, peel-and-eat shrimp, dim sum, sushi roll, ice cream and much, much more!

Or, carry it out by the pound!

Call 368-8883

Compete for scholarship money!

The Miss Arkansas Pageant is a preliminary to the Miss Arkansas pageant. The pageant will be held on March 22nd at the Searcy High School Auditorium and requires a sponsor fee of $125. The rules are as follows:

• Contestants must be a resident of White County or have gone to at least one semester of higher education in White County

• Contestants must be at least 17 years of age and no older than 24 years of age on or before 10/01/03

The Miss Greater Searcy Pageant exists for the purpose of providing opportunities/scholarships for young women and for promoting their voice in culture, politics, and the community.

More information and entry forms are available by calling 305-4772 or 827-2069.
www.missarkansas.org

Stephanie Wilson
Miss Arkansas 2002
Lauren Davidson
Miss Arkansas 2001
Students enjoy the snow that was dumped on Searcy Monday night. So much snow fell that 8 a.m. classes and chapel were canceled Tuesday and Wednesday. The snow turned to ice Wednesday and campus conditions were so treacherous that all classes were canceled Thursday for the first time since 1987, according to the President’s office.

**SNOW DAY!**

Classes canceled for the first time since 1987

---

**Clinic promotes medical ministry**

CLAUDIA RAMIREZ
Staff writer

Members of the Harding community have found a new way to reach out to the citizens of Searcy — they are volunteering their time at the Christian Health Ministry, which provides health care and counseling to those in the community who can’t afford it.

The ministry, 104 E. Vine St. in Searcy, opened its doors in March 2001 and is open every Sunday from 1-5 p.m.

Taleen Luna, research assistant in the Center for World Missions, said her experiences as a volunteer translator for the ministry have been rewarding. She translates medical information in Spanish to those who can’t speak English, including one Hispanic woman who came to the clinic to have a pregnancy test done.

"The fact that I could be there to tell her that she was going to be having her first baby was such a great experience," Luna said. "I am thankful this lady found somebody at the ministry who was able to take care of her and to communicate with her in her own language. I think the Hispanics feel encouraged when they find somebody that can speak their language and explain to them all the medical procedures and insurance information."

The CHM is a nonprofit outreach care ministry with the mission of helping the medically disadvantaged in White County. The "medically disadvantaged," as defined by the CHM Board of Directors, are those who find themselves unable to pay for medical treatment, have no private medical insurance, are not receiving Medicare or Medicaid or have a very low income.

"I think that sometimes, by helping with the physical needs of people, you open the door to help them in their spiritual needs," senior Stephanie Giesemann, who works at the ministry as a translator and greeter, said. "Even people with no specific illness come to the clinic and find somebody to talk to, or to have somebody pray for them."

Volunteers also help those who don’t have health insurance find and obtain benefits.

According to Lowell Myers, director and coordinator of the program, 2,000 patients received care during the first year of operation. Hispanics make up about seven percent of this group. Another seven percent are made up of African-Americans.

The ministry has contributed both medically and spiritually to the patients, according to Myers. Through contact with the ministry, more than 60 people have expressed an interest in participating in Bible studies.

"[The CHM] is a holistic health care provider," Myers said. "They treat body, mind and spirit."
Super China Buffet features variety, good service

New restaurant plans to provide deliveries to campus, offers discounts to Harding students

BETHANY THOMPSON
Staff writer

The owner of Super China Buffet, Searcy’s newest Chinese restaurant, didn’t need a fortune cookie to tell him serving delicious food in a comfortable atmosphere with great service would make the restaurant popular in the Harding community.

Richard Zheng, the owner, has been in the food service business since 1992. He owns restaurants in Long Island, N.Y., and Iowa. He also plans to open a new restaurant in Hobbs, New Mexico.

He said the Super China Buffet is already making a profit and estimates 25 percent is from the Harding community.

Super China Buffet offers a special discount to Harding students.

In fact, the majority of Harding students that I questioned think Super China Buffet is the way to go when it comes to Chinese cuisine in Searcy.

“I don’t have much experience with the Chinese restaurants in Searcy, but I really like Super China Buffet,” junior Erin Reed said. “It was pretty good. I went with some friends, and we all stuffed ourselves.”

Senior Sarah Carpenter also said she enjoys eating at the Super China Buffet.

“The food was really good and the atmosphere was inviting,” Carpenter said. “I will definitely go back.”

So I decided to check it out and see what all the fuss is about.

The first thing I noticed when I walked in the door was the huge buffet. The decor was Asian-inspired, and the atmosphere was comfortable. Pictures of China were proudly displayed on the walls.

The buffet boasted several delicious selections. The Sesame Chicken, Honey Teriyaki Chicken and Mongolian Beef were a few of my favorites.

The seafood and spicy dishes were all very tasty. The buffet even had such amenities as pepperoni pizza and chicken nuggets for the All-American customer who is afraid to branch out.

Diners can finish up their meal with a whole bar-full of desert selections from—ice cream to cream puffs to Jell-O to fruit.

The verdict? Super China Buffet really delivers when it comes to food variety and service.

The dinner buffet costs $6.99 for adults and $3.95 for children under 11.

Adult lunchtime buffets cost $5.35 and children’s lunchtime buffets cost $2.95.

The service at Super China Buffet surpassed that of many Chinese restaurants I have visited.

The waiters and waitresses appeared every five minutes to make sure we had enough to drink and were comfortable. They were all very helpful and friendly.

My only advice to Super China Buffet would be to try to broaden the variety of music and reorganize the seating space into something a little more comfortable and spacious.

All in all, the buffet is a nice night out.

Students who don’t want to eat in the restaurant can order take-out. Menus can be picked up at the restaurant.

The menu includes traditional foods like Chicken Chow Mein for $3.30 per pint; Sweet and Sour Pork for $3.85 per pint; Sesame Beef for $8.15 per order and General Tso’s Chicken for $7.75 per order.

Crossword Puzzle

WEEK FIVE: The forum of Corinth

The 43 students studying in Greece this semester were far from the cold winter weather that assaulted Arkansas last week.

The week began with a visit to the Egyptian Museum, where artifacts from the dynasties of the past, including the treasures found in the tomb of King Tut, are found. Those keen to experience desert transportation had the opportunity to take a ride in the back of a camel before a light show in front of the Great Sphinx.

Security provided by the Egyptian government helped dispel the uncertainty created by world events. Heavily armed guards and police escorts kept the HUG group out of harm’s way throughout the trip.

A visit to the second largest mosque in the world in Cairo provided insight into the religion that captivates the Arab world. While visits to perfume manufacturers, carpet weaving schools and jewelry dealers provided the group with ample opportunities to return to souvenir stores, many were just as pleased with a bottle of desert sand from the base of the pyramids.

The last day of the journey was spent in three different continents. The HUG group visited the ruins of the Israeliite village of Succoth in the land of Goshen (Exodus 12:37) before crossing the Suez Canal into the Sinai Peninsula of Asia. The third continent of the day was hit on Monday evening when an Egypt Air plane landed in Europe with a group of travelers, weary from the journey of a lifetime, who were happy to be home.

Editor’s Note: Sophomore Jeffery Reaves is studying with the HUG program this semester. He will eventually travel to writing a dialect from Greece about what is like to be a student in a foreign country.

But whosoever has the world’s goods, and beholds his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him?”

1 John 3:17
Tennis teams on hold

Around the horn
Zeta Rho, Knights claim A-level titles
Gamma Sigma Phi swept all four levels of men's/middle club basketball, while 10 other clubs split the remaining titles. Most championship games were held last week. The potluck basketball tournaments are now under way, with club softball and women's club soccer coming soon.

Zeta Rho (A), Women's clubs

Senior Daniela Corrales takes a swing earlier this month during tennis practice. Recent rain, snow and ice has kept the Bisons and Lady Bisons nearly swept all conference games. The Seminoles (large C), Kappa Epsilon (small middle C), Xi Sigma, Xi Phi (small C), Kappa Xi (large D), and Men's clubs (large A), NOMA (middle D), TNT (large B), Searcy Dental Associates, P.A. (small B), Valentine's Special (large A), and Professional Tooth Whitening (small B) are available.

Sponsoring the March 26 Searcy Bisons Women's Tennis Tournament and the March 28 Searcy Bisons Men's Tennis Tournament.

PIZZA BUFFET! $3.99
(Place drink w/ this coupon)

Sunday-Friday: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Tuesday, Saturday and Sunday Night: 5 - 8 p.m.

Delivery: Sunday - Thursday until Midnight Friday & Saturday until 1 a.m.

Tennis Pro Event: Saturday, March 24; 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Searcy Tennis Center

Sports

Tennis provides hot bat for Harding's hot corner

J unior third baseman Morgan Trotter is on pace to shatter Harding's career RBI record of 123. The Fort Smith native has 93 RBI in his career to date, including a single-season record of 54 set last season. Trotter has a career batting average of .315 and 14 home runs, tied for fourth in Harding history.

Trotter's teammates appreciate his skills and what he brings to the team. "Morgan is an extremely hard worker," sophomore second baseman Jake Kirby said. "When it comes to hitting, he has a pure swing. He's rarely in a slump."

Head coach Shane Fullerton says Trotter is a good example of what a Harding baseball player should be. "Morgan is not our guys to have three priorities," Fullerton said. "First is to be a good person and have a Christian attitude. Second is to be a good student. Third is to be a good baseball player and show up every day with the expecation of working hard and winning. Morgan is the epitome of all three things."

This season, Trotter is third on the team in hitting with a .317 average. He has seven RBI, one home run and one double. Trotter has four multiple-hit games this season, including a 3-for-4 performance against Southwest Baptist.

Trotter came to Harding because his family tradition. "I felt the university could help him improve," Trotter said. "I came to Harding because it's a family tradition," Trotter said. "Then, coach Fullerton recruited me and it seemed to be a good place to be to clean up some."

In spite of his individual accomplishments, Trotter is a team player. "Our main goal is to win the Gulf South Conference championship," Trotter said. "We have the pitching staff, defense and lineup to be contenders at the national level."

Fullerton feels confident about having Trotter on the field. "He brings a consistent, competitive, never-quit attitude to the field," Fullerton said. "He's a very hard and methodical worker. Every time he is at the plate you expect something good to happen."

"Morgan is an extremely hard worker. When it comes to hitting, he has a pure swing. He's rarely in a slump."

Jake Kirby, sophomore

We only lost one runner from last year and we all ran a little faster overall," Kirby said. "We only lost one runner from last year and we all ran a little faster and did a little better than we did last year."

In last weekend's meet at the University of Missouri, Sengoe Slaps Confident Lead, Freshman Redrock won the 5,000 meter and mile runs, respectively.

Sophomore Kenly Penn led the Bisons with a second-place showing in the pole vault.

Baseball

Upcoming games

Feb 18, Central Baptist-W. N.: 1 - 0
Feb 19, Chapman-L. A.: 10 - 9
Feb 20, Southwestern Baptist-T.: 7 - 4
Feb 21, Concord-L. A.: 4 - 3
Feb 22, Evangel-Syracuse: 11 - 0
Feb 23, Oklahoma State-L. A.: 11 - 9
Feb 24, Arkansas-Pine Bluff-T.: 0 - 0
Feb 25, Hardin-Simmons-W.: 7 - 6
Feb 26, Oklahoma State-W.: 4 - 3
Feb 27, Central Baptist-W.: 0 - 1

TROTTING PROVES HOT BAT FOR HARDING'S HOT CORNER

In spite of his individual accomplishments, Trotter is a team player. "Our main goal is to win the Gulf South Conference championship," Trotter said. "We have the pitching staff, defense and lineup to be contenders at the national level."

Fullerton feels confident about having Trotter on the field. "He brings a consistent, competitive, never-quit attitude to the field," Fullerton said. "He's a very hard and methodical worker. Every time he is at the plate you expect something good to happen."

"Morgan is an extremely hard worker. When it comes to hitting, he has a pure swing. He's rarely in a slump."

Jake Kirby, sophomore

Indoor track on path to nationals

TODD RAMSEY

The indoor track team will finish the regular season this weekend at the Virginia Tech Last Chance Meet. After the Virginia meet, the team will take two weeks to prepare for the NCAA Division II Indoor National Meet.

Four HU runners and the men's 4x80 relay team have posted times good enough to have a chance to be invited to nationals, which will be March 14-15 in Boston.

Harding's likely qualifiers include senior Jacob Rotch, junior Maciej Mierczyk and sophomore Helen Singgini in the 5,000-meter run, senior Tyler Kemmerer in the 400-meter dash and the 4x400 relay team. Coach Steve Guyman said the team has been building on the success of last year's Bisons.

"The returning runners are a year older and a little stronger," Guyman said. "They run better as they get older. Coach [Bryan] Phillips left me a group of great athletes."

The team is hoping to get some runners in the top eight in the nationals, which would qualify them for All-America status. Several runners are poised to achieve that.

"If not, I have an accounting and finance degree to fall back on."

Helen Singgini in the 5,000-meter run, senior Tyler Kemmerer in the 400-meter dash and the 4x400 relay team for Harding's hot corner. The Bisons will take on the Central Baptist on Feb. 18 and Southwestern Baptist on Feb. 19. Harding's likely qualifiers include senior Jacob Rotch, junior Maciej Mierczyk and sophomore Helen Singgini in the 5,000-meter run, senior Tyler Kemmerer in the 400-meter dash and the 4x400 relay team. The 4x400 relay team has a good chance to be named All-America, Guyman said.

"We only lost one runner from last year and we all ran a little faster and did a little better than we did last year."

In last weekend's meet at the University of Missouri, Sengoe Slaps Confident Lead, Freshman Redrock won the 5,000 meter and mile runs, respectively.

Sophomore Kenly Penn led the Bisons with a second-place showing in the pole vault.

Baseball

Upcoming games

Feb 18, Central Baptist-W. N.: 1 - 0
Feb 19, Chapman-L. A.: 10 - 9
Feb 20, Southwestern Baptist-T.: 7 - 4
Feb 21, Concord-L. A.: 4 - 3
Feb 22, Evangel-Syracuse: 11 - 0
Feb 23, Oklahoma State-L. A.: 11 - 9
Feb 24, Arkansas-Pine Bluff-T.: 0 - 0
Feb 25, Hardin-Simmons-W.: 7 - 6
Feb 26, Oklahoma State-W.: 4 - 3
Feb 27, Central Baptist-W.: 0 - 1

"If not, I have an accounting and finance degree to fall back on."

Searcy Dental Associates, P.A. (small B), Valentine's Special (large A), Professional Tooth Whitening (small B) and Running all through the month of February... White County Surgery Center 710 Marion Street, Ste. 302 268-3666
Bisons blast OBU to clinch tournament spot

RYAN COOK
Sports editor

With Monday night's 94-72 victory against Ochata Baptists, the Bisons locked up their second consecutive berth in the Gulf South Conference Tournament.

But the Bisons, who were 19-6 overall and 11-3 in conference play before Thursday night's game at Arkansas Tech, still had unfinished business in the regular season.

Victories at Tech and in Saturday night's regular-season finale at Henderson State have also clinched berths from the West, while Ochata Baptists has the inside track on the fourth spot over Christian Brothers.

The Bisons will open the tournament March 7 at a site to be determined. The semifinals will be Saturday night, with the title game set for Sunday afternoon.

The tournament champion gets an automatic bid in the NCAA Division II Tournament.

If they win the tournament, the Bisons are still in contention for an NCAA berth. Eight teams in each region are invited, and the Bisons in region four are ranked No. 6.

"If we win our last two [regular season] games, we have a great shot to be in [the NCAA Tournament] no matter what we do in Tupelo," Coach Jeff Morgan said.

"If we win our last two and win one in Tupelo, I think we've got a chance."

The Lady Bisons (17-8, 8-6) trailed the Lady Bisons (20-7, 13-1) until the last minute of regulation play.

"They really had a hard time stopping her, especially when she was hitting that outside shot as well as being able to take it to the basket," Francis said.

Harding shot better than 50 percent from the field for the first time this season, making 35 of 62 shots.

"We love to beat OBU, and beating them by 20 is really good," Lawrence said. "We had a disappointing game Thursday. We battled hard in practice the last two days, and we tried to come out here tonight and prove that we're still in the running."

Five Lady Bisons scored in double figures against OBU: Lawrence, junior Tiffany Phillips (16), freshman Chelsea Simpson (10), sophomore Jamie Simpson (10) and sophomore Julie Hammit (13) and sophomore Jamie Simpson (10).

Henderson State defeated Harding, 75-54, in the teams' first meeting of the season Feb. 1 in Arkadelphia.

"We're chosen the hard road," Harding coach Jeff Morgan said. "They're a difficult team to come back on because of their ball control and tempo."

"We win our last two [regular season] games, we have a great shot to be in [the NCAA Tournament] no matter what we do in Tupelo," Morgan said.

"If we win our last two and win one in Tupelo, I think we've got a chance."

The Lady Bisons were ranked No. 6 in this week's South Region Poll.

"If we win our last two regular-season games, we have a great shot to be in [the NCAA Tournament] no matter what we do in Tupelo," Morgan said.

"If we win our last two and win one in Tupelo, I think we've got a chance."

The Lady Bisons could finish any where from first to third in the conference standings. Delta State and Arkansas Tech will meet in the regular season Saturday to determine the inside track on the fourth spot in the West.

"It's not a bad place for a couple of years. We'll take them with the fourth, third or second place team from the East in the first round.

"If we win our last two and win one in Tupelo, I think we've got a chance."

The Lady Bisons were ranked No. 6 in this week's South Region Poll.

"If we win our last two regular-season games, we have a great shot to be in [the NCAA Tournament] no matter what we do in Tupelo," Morgan said.

"If we win our last two and win one in Tupelo, I think we've got a chance."

The Lady Bisons could finish any where from first to third in the conference standings. Delta State and Arkansas Tech will meet in the regular season Saturday to determine the inside track on the fourth spot in the West.

"It's not a bad place for a couple of years. We'll take them with the fourth, third or second place team from the East in the first round.

"If we win our last two and win one in Tupelo, I think we've got a chance."

The Lady Bisons were ranked No. 6 in this week's South Region Poll.

"If we win our last two regular-season games, we have a great shot to be in [the NCAA Tournament] no matter what we do in Tupelo," Morgan said.

"If we win our last two and win one in Tupelo, I think we've got a chance."

The Lady Bisons were ranked No. 6 in this week's South Region Poll.