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## The Bison, October 3, 2003

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# BISON the

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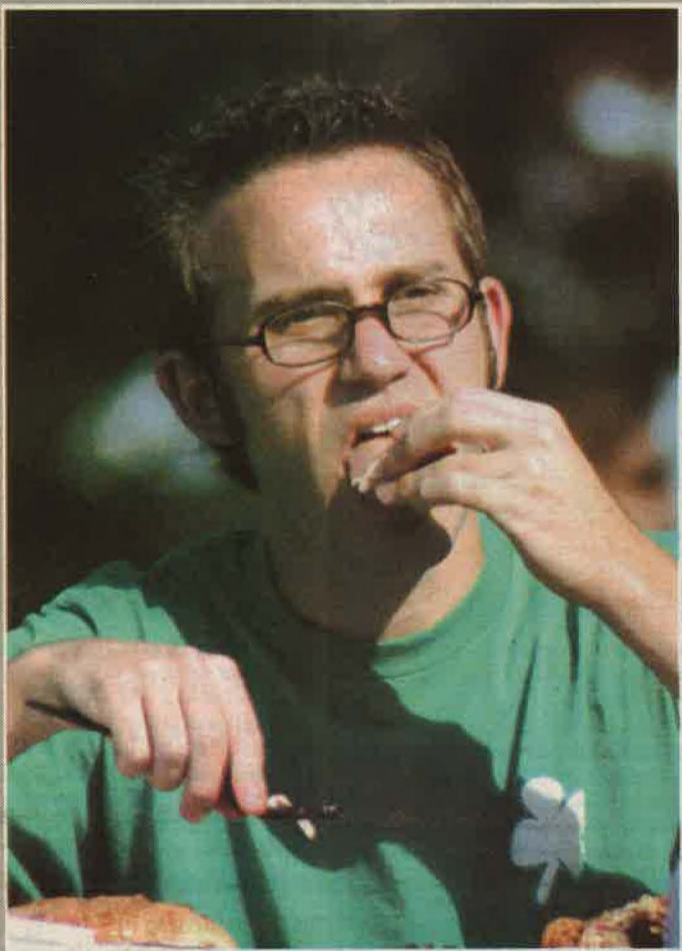
OCTOBER 3, 2003

www.harding.edu/thebison



## Is Harding a marriage factory?

— page 3



CURTIS SERIGHT / The Bison

### Dig in

Junior Stewart Deere shovels into an overloaded tray of meat at the Osborne Family Barbecue during Family Weekend Sept. 27. More than 2,000 trays were distributed at the event, according to the American Studies Institute.

## Student soldiers activated

### Local Guard unit preparing to spend year in Iraq

RENEE LEWIS  
Contributor

The Secretary of Defense approved the mobilization of the Arkansas Army National Guard's 39th Infantry Brigade along with a unit from North Carolina Saturday, Sept. 27. Harding seniors Jacqueline Dillion and Nicki Thompson report for active duty Oct. 12.

"The brigade has been on alert since July," Brig. Gen. Ronald Chastain, commander of the 39th Infantry, said. "We've been performing additional training, organizing family support groups and are prepared to accept this mission."

Nearly 3,000 Arkansan soldiers will begin reporting to 47 hometown units Oct. 12. Most likely the soldiers will relocate to Fort Hood, Texas, around Nov. 15, Thompson said.

In early September the deployment was delayed, which has left Dillion a little unsure of the decision to go now.

"I'm just naturally a skeptic," Dillion said. "I was a little enthusiastic the first time, but since they postponed it I'm thinking, 'Are we really going to go?'"

Dillion will work in Baghdad at the Tactical Operations Center where she will serve as a communicator to the units in the field. Thompson, however, hasn't received her work orders.

"I've heard different stuff," Thompson said. "But I've just concluded we'll find out before we get over there."

The brigade expects to be active for as long as 18 months, including four months prior to Iraq, 12 months in Iraq and four months following the mission.

Junior Jason Darden, also a member of the 39th brigade, said because of his role in the Army ROTC program he most likely will not report for active duty. He is waiting on the approval signature from his commanding officer.

"By letting me get in the ROTC program, the Army is investing in me to become a leader of the Army in the future," Darden said. "This takes precedence over me going to Iraq."

Darden shares in a sense of relief with his wife Mary, senior, who is pregnant.

"I want to be here for my wife and my new baby," Jason Darden said.

Unless the deployment is delayed until January when Thompson is eligible to enroll in the ROTC program, she will report for duty as scheduled. Thompson knows the mission will be a challenge for her.

"I know that it will be hard for me because it was hard for me in basic training," Thompson said.

Thompson joined the National Guard two years ago to earn a steady income in order to gain custody of her twin 17-year-old sisters after the death of her father.

Thompson never thought the idea of war was a reality.

"The day I started basic training was Sept. 11, 2001," Thompson said.

Thompson did receive custody of her sisters. She has made arrangements for them to stay with friends while she is active. Although Thompson is not in favor of the war, she said she is trying to keep a positive attitude right now.

"I'm trying to get my mind set spiritually and physically," Thompson said.

While in Iraq, the 39th brigade will participate in the Army's force-rotation plan and will join the Army's 1st Cavalry Division.

## Homecoming 2003

### Social, service clubs to choose court members

LORI LIMING  
Staff Writer

In an effort to increase student participation in Homecoming events, representatives for this year's Homecoming court will come from various social, service and cultural clubs on campus. In the past, students voted for a representative from each class.

The decision to make the change began last year because Kellee Blickenstaff, who is assisting with Homecoming plans, said she thought the student body had a negative attitude toward the Homecoming tradition.

Of the 4,500 ballots for class representatives distributed during chapel last year, only 1,000 were completed. Approximately 750 of those were filled in as jokes with names of boys or popular cartoon characters. The remaining 250 were completed properly, but Homecoming planners did not believe they showed proper representation of the student body.

This year, all women's social clubs, the Joy club, Circle K, the Multi-Cultural Committee for Student Advancement and the International Student's Society will each choose representatives for the Homecoming court.

Men's social clubs and the service clubs will each choose

a member to escort the female representatives.

Blickenstaff, who has observed higher student participation in Homecoming activities at other universities, believes the more a university allows the students to be involved, the better the participation is in the activities held throughout the week.

Blickenstaff hopes having social club and organization representatives will reflect the various groups that make up the student body.

"When I first approached Dean [Peggy] Huckeba, she thought it was a great idea as long as we set some guidelines: minimum GPA, no probations, in good standing with the university," Blickenstaff said. "Liz Howell, head of alumni activities, was excited about having more student participation at the game."

"After [President David] Burks approved the plan, [I] met with [Student Association President] Michael Campbell to gain the support of the SA."

Blickenstaff said response to these new procedures has been positive.

"I think it's a good idea because it more fully represents the student body," senior Lauren Younger said. "It's more fair this way."

▲ See Homecoming, Page 2

## Professor helps clean up after Isabel

ALLIE OSBORNE  
Staff Writer

The American Red Cross responded to Hurricane Isabel Thursday, Sept. 18, by sending approximately 2,000 active disaster volunteers and staff to North Carolina and Virginia. The Red Cross deployed volunteer Jack Shock, associate professor of communication, to serve with its Rapid Response Team for six days.

The RRT is a first-response group of media professionals.

Shock said his job was to coordinate media relations which included helping others prepare for interviews with the media as well as giving interviews.

"[I] act as a contact for major national network affiliates such as ABC, NBC and CNN, who use the Red Cross as a source for information about damages and casualties," Shock said.

Hurricane Isabel created many

tragic results, Shock said. According to the Associated Press, Hurricane Isabel caused 32 deaths. Approximately 550 single family homes were destroyed or had major damages and 9,500 homes had minor damages.

More than one million people in northern Virginia were left without drinking water. Four hundred crews from 12 states mobilized in an attempt to get power lines repaired. As of Sept. 25, a week after the hurricane struck, 400,000 people were still powerless.

The Red Cross was on the site soon after the hurricane hit. "It gives me a professional tune up to go out on the field and deal with ABC, CNN or a newspaper reporter," Shock said.

After a few days, when the national interest decreased, Shock began to work with the local and regional networks.

"The last three days I spent looking for news story angles to

pitch to the media to keep them interested," Shock said. "The focus turned to human interest — food service, volunteers and emergency kitchens, feeding 30,000-40,000 meals a day."

Shock interacted with the victims who were receiving Red Cross services and facilitated their interview experiences to the media. He talked with people who had lost their million dollar vacation homes, and he also talked to people who lived in poverty and had lost everything they had in the hurricane.

"Most people had a very optimistic and rugged attitude, talking of rebuilding and making the best of the situation," Shock said.

Shock found the same attitude when he visited poverty-stricken areas to seek out those who needed help. "These people were down, but not out," he said.

Shock said the disaster of Hurricane Isabel reminded him what is important in crisis situations.

"It reminded me that we should all be responsive to the needs of people who have been through a tragedy," Shock said. "Whether you respond through the Red Cross, a church or through a school effort, we should never turn a deaf ear to people who need help."

Shock said helping others during a time when they have suffered great loss gives him encouragement.

"It brings me a lot of personal fulfillment to be able to sit with people who have literally lost everything they had and let them talk about their experiences; to offer a little bit of help, though not nearly as much as they need," Shock said. "There is nothing more fulfilling than literally handing over a cup of water to someone." \*



GENE DAILEY / American Red Cross

Jack Shock, associate professor of communication (left), interviews hurricane victim Darrell Taylor in North Carolina Sept. 20 as part of the Red Cross Rapid Response Team.

OUTSIDE THE BUBBLE

SISTER SCHOOLS

Survey studies faculty of Christian schools

Results of a survey of 366 faculty members of 10 colleges and universities associated with the churches of Christ were published in the October issue of the Christian Chronicle. The study found that 45 percent of faculty members are over the age of 50, 33 percent are female and 86 percent are married. Salaries averaged between \$40,000 and \$49,000. Sixty percent of those surveyed held doctorates. More than 98 percent said they were members of the church of Christ. ■

CHURCH

Arabic translations of Bible distributed

More than 100,000 Arabic translations of the book of John and portions of Luke and Acts have been shipped to the Middle East and North Africa by the World Bible Translation Center. According to the Christian Chronicle, the texts will be distributed quietly by evangelists working in Jordan, Sudan, Lebanon and Egypt. ■

LOCAL

County to vote on sales tax hike Tuesday

White County residents will vote on a proposal for a permanent one-half cent sales tax increase Oct. 7. If the proposal passes, the tax revenue will be used to construct a \$10.5 million county detention center. The proposed 270-bed facility will replace the current jail in downtown Searcy. ■

STATE

North Little Rock purchasing submarine

The City of North Little Rock is buying a WWII-era submarine, the USS Razorback, from Turkey for \$10.5 million — including shipping. The 311-foot long submarine will begin its journey from the Middle East Oct. 20, and will eventually be housed in the planned Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum in North Little Rock. Turkey purchased the submarine from the U.S. Navy in 1970. The submarine is named after a reddish whale, not the mascot of the University of Arkansas. ■

CAMPUS IN BRIEF

Career Center hosting job fair Oct. 9

The Career Center will host the Business, Industry and Government Fair Oct. 9 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. in student center rooms 236 and 238. Students of all classifications are encouraged to attend the fair and speak with representatives from different companies and government organizations. Seniors are also encouraged to bring resumes and distribute them to recruiters. Some participating organizations may have jobs available. For a full listing of companies attending the fair, visit [www.harding.edu/career/fair.htm](http://www.harding.edu/career/fair.htm). ■

'A World Without Memory' in Little Theater



"A World Without Memory," a play by Seth Kramer, will show Oct. 3-4 at 7 p.m. in the Little Theater. The play focuses on the struggles of a family with a loved one affected by Alzheimer's disease. ■

# Rhythm and style all in a day's work for student 'sign shakers'

ANDREA MARTIN  
Staff writer

Little Caesar's Pizza on Race Street added a new attraction to its business this summer, sign shakers. Shakers attract attention from passing cars in a myriad of ways. And all for \$5.40 an hour. "They named the position from me doing my thing," junior Cliff Gagliardo said. The thought of Little Caesar's Pizza normally conjures up pictures of togas or speedy deliveries, but no longer. Little Caesar's now offers hot-and-ready pepperoni pizzas for \$5, and they're taking the news to the streets, literally. "All stores in Arkansas are shaking signs," closing manager Joey Jernigan said.

After a corporate meeting in Little Rock, store manager Jeff Rhodes hired six employees to shake signs along Race Street in order to attract business. "[We] only require that they move the sign," Rhodes said. Rhodes said the employees, including Gagliardo and senior Sean Beasley, have taken a little creative license with the position. "I try to get them [drivers] to notice me," Beasley said. "I am a glorified sign." Beasley and Gagliardo, while working along Race Street struck upon different interpretations of "shaking."

"I strut ... it's not dancing, more walking to a beat," Beasley said. Gagliardo is more demonstrative as a shaker. "I am developing routines, but it's usually impromptu," Gagliardo said. "I am an impromptu choreographer." What prompted this stylized shaking? Music. Gagliardo and Beasley listen to multiple genres from James Brown to classical movements. "I have had no formal training," Gagliardo said. "I do what feels right. I do have certain nuances and moves during certain songs." These shakers are having fun, but also doing their duty. "It brings a lot of new customers and awareness [to the restaura-



Junior Cliff Gagliardo attracts attention to and advertisement for Little Caesar's Pizza on Race Street Wednesday. Gagliardo is one of six 'sign shakers' employed to get attention.

rant] and puts us more in competition with fast food places," Rhodes said. Little Caesar's has noticed an increase in sales as a result of the sign shakers, but the effects do not stop there. "I caused an accident once. I felt bad about that," Gagliardo said. Direct negative responses, like having firecrackers thrown at the sign shakers, do not lessen the positive aspects of the job, like a new perspective. "Race Street is a busy thoroughfare, it's not the best cross section of town," Beasley said. "[The job] has opened my eyes to Searcy outside of Harding. It gives me a taste of the people that really live here."

Gagliardo worked all summer as a sign shaker and was the only employee to stick it out. This fall other employees such as Beasley have been hired. Now that there are new kids on the block, Gagliardo has to share the torch. "The sidewalk in front of the plaza is my stage," Gagliardo said. "It is my stomping ground, so to speak. Other workers have a respect for my sidewalk." Gagliardo's sidewalk or not, Searcy's sign shakers are the talk of the town because of their actions. "I feel like a total idiot sometimes, but it's one of the coolest jobs in town," Gagliardo said. ■

## Changes aim to boost involvement

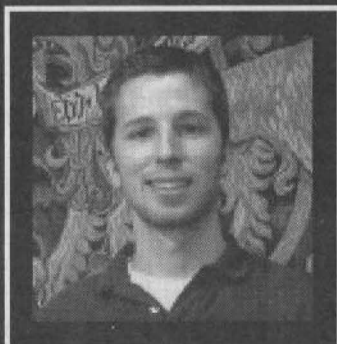
Continued from page 1

Homecoming is not supposed to be about 'Ms. Popularity.'" Some students believe the new voting procedure has flaws. "I think [the new procedure] limits the student body because

the only people who are chosen to represent the school are in clubs," senior Ashlee Wolfe said. "On the other hand, I think the ballot system would still be a popularity situation. Either way it's a lose-lose situation." The traditional voting process

for the queen candidates has not changed. The football players will still nominate three girls to represent them during Homecoming week. Students will be able to vote on the nominees in the student center the week of the chapel presentation. ■

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# THE BIG QUESTION

## Is Harding a marriage factory?

**JEFFREY C. HUNTER**  
Editor-in-chief

**O**n the swings. In the student center. Throughout campus. The evidence is everywhere. Harding's rumored marriage factory is in production mode.

Few will disagree that Harding has its fair share of budding relationships, but how the university became an assembly line of love, and who exactly is at the controls, is debatable.

Junior Rebekah Bowling is one of many students who think the administration and faculty have a big responsibility in the university's factory reputation.

"How could it not be [a marriage factory]?" Bowling said. "Even as freshmen the ring ceremonies start to push the idea of marriage at us."

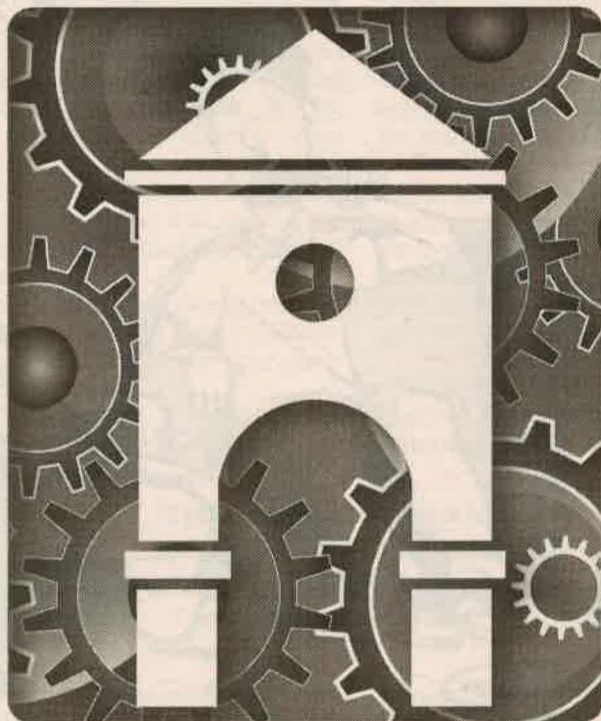
Harding's role in the family history of many students is where sophomore Hayley Brown thinks much of the university's reputation originates — but not all.

"A lot of people expect to find a mate here because their parents found a mate here," Brown said. "I've heard from the faculty that 'you're never going to be around this many Christian people again.'"

"That's definitely true, but when students get into a serious relationship, everyone thinks they're going to get married. It's a little of both the faculty and the students putting on the pressure of marriage."

Many students think the pressure to get married comes from within and the student body could be the power running the marriage factory.

"I don't feel that Harding is touted as a marriage factory by the institution itself," junior Matt Tignor said. "Sometimes if a student graduates from Harding without



**"Harding is full of incredible people who come from so many places with the same goals in mind. Why wouldn't you want to explore your options to find an incredible mate here?"**

— senior **Leslie Storment**

finding a significant other, they feel they've failed. The pressure is unspoken."

Mike Ireland, associate professor of Bible, agrees that pressure exists, but thinks that a conglomeration of factors work to create the marriage factory stigma.

"At Harding, we emphasize healthy relationships and marriages," Ireland said. "I don't see the signs [of pressure] that the students see, but the atmosphere makes it an issue on students' minds."

Ireland said students who aren't in a dating relationship might be more sensitive to the inferences of marriage.

"They simply have a different perspective," Ireland said.

Harding's unique design and Christian atmosphere combine to form an environment that just naturally leads to relationships, said senior Leslie Storment, who married senior Jonathan Storment this summer.

"Harding is full of incredible people who come from so many places with the same goals in mind," Leslie Storment said. "Why wouldn't you want to explore your options to find an incredible mate here?"

Ross Cochran, associate professor of Bible, believes the time students spend at the university is an opportunity to build a relationship that will last a lifetime.

"Those of us with a long-term relationship with Harding, such as faculty, see that Harding is the biggest fishing pool to choose a Christian mate or at least a chance to learn the qualities of a Christian mate," Cochran said.

But Cochran said the opportunities can also pose a challenge to students. He believes many students are apt to resist what they are encouraged to do — such as dating to find mates at this point in their lives.

Cochran said some young people naturally resist, filter and ignore what they don't want to hear when encouraged by faculty about marriage.

Flavil Yeakley studies trends and statistics concerning university students as the director of outcome assessment. He said students everywhere are beginning to wait to get married, and the evidence is beginning to show.

"I have heard that in all of the church-related schools there has been a decline in campus marriages [in recent years]," Yeakley said. "We are fairly sure the reason is because students are putting marriage off until later in life." \*

Staff writer **Alisa Moloney** contributed to this report

## Freshman among Spring Sing quartet

**JESSIE THOMPSON**  
Staff Writer

Sophomore Abbey Chandler, freshman Sean Frazier, senior Sam Peters and sophomore Melissa Ward were named as hosts and hostesses for Spring Sing 2004, "Beginnings."

According to Spring Sing producer Steve Frye, the most difficult part of the selection process was choosing four people out of the 25 who tried out.

"I like the fact that we have tremendous talent on Harding's campus because, while it makes the decision process hard, it ensures that we'll always have wonderful hosts and hostesses," Frye said. "I'm excited about the four we've chosen."

This year's hosts and hostesses are already helping with the selection of music. Meetings with club directors start in October, and Ensemble auditions will most likely be held after Thanksgiving break.

Students trying out for the host and hostess positions prepared their own material for the first audition. They were requested to perform a song they believed best displayed their vocal talents. They also prepared a sample introduction for a fictional social club act.

Each student sight-read an unfamiliar piece of music provided by the judges. After the individual singing, they grouped so the judges could discern how their voices blended.

"One of the things I want people to understand is that anybody we call back has potential for being a host or hostess," Frye said.

Seven faculty members, including Frye, Dottie Frye, Jan Jones, Jack Ryan, Warren Casey and Cindee Stockstill judged the auditions. Each judge is involved with the production of Spring Sing.

Those auditioning were required to have at least a 2.0 grade point average. Judges also took into consideration each student's reputation and respectability on campus.

The judges recognized the courage it took for the students to audition on stage in front of an audience.

"It takes a lot to get up there on stage and put your ego on the line," Stockstill said. \*



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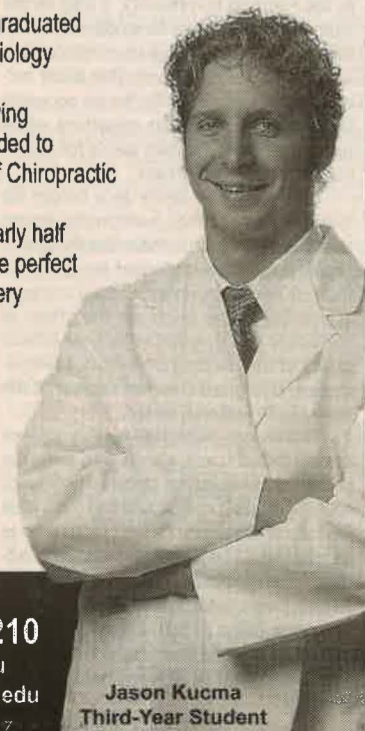
The Choice For Me

Jason Kucma is a Third-Year student from Medford, NJ. He graduated from Ithaca College with a Bachelor's Degree in Exercise Physiology concentrating in Cardiac Rehabilitation.

"The only thing that has ever captured my attention was studying the human body. The more I learned in school, the more I needed to know. The most logical step for me was to become a Doctor of Chiropractic so I could truly help people."

Before making his decision to attend Logan, Jason visited nearly half of the chiropractic colleges in the United States. "Logan is in the perfect location in a safe, residential area. The Admissions staff are very friendly and helpful and the faculty are excellent."

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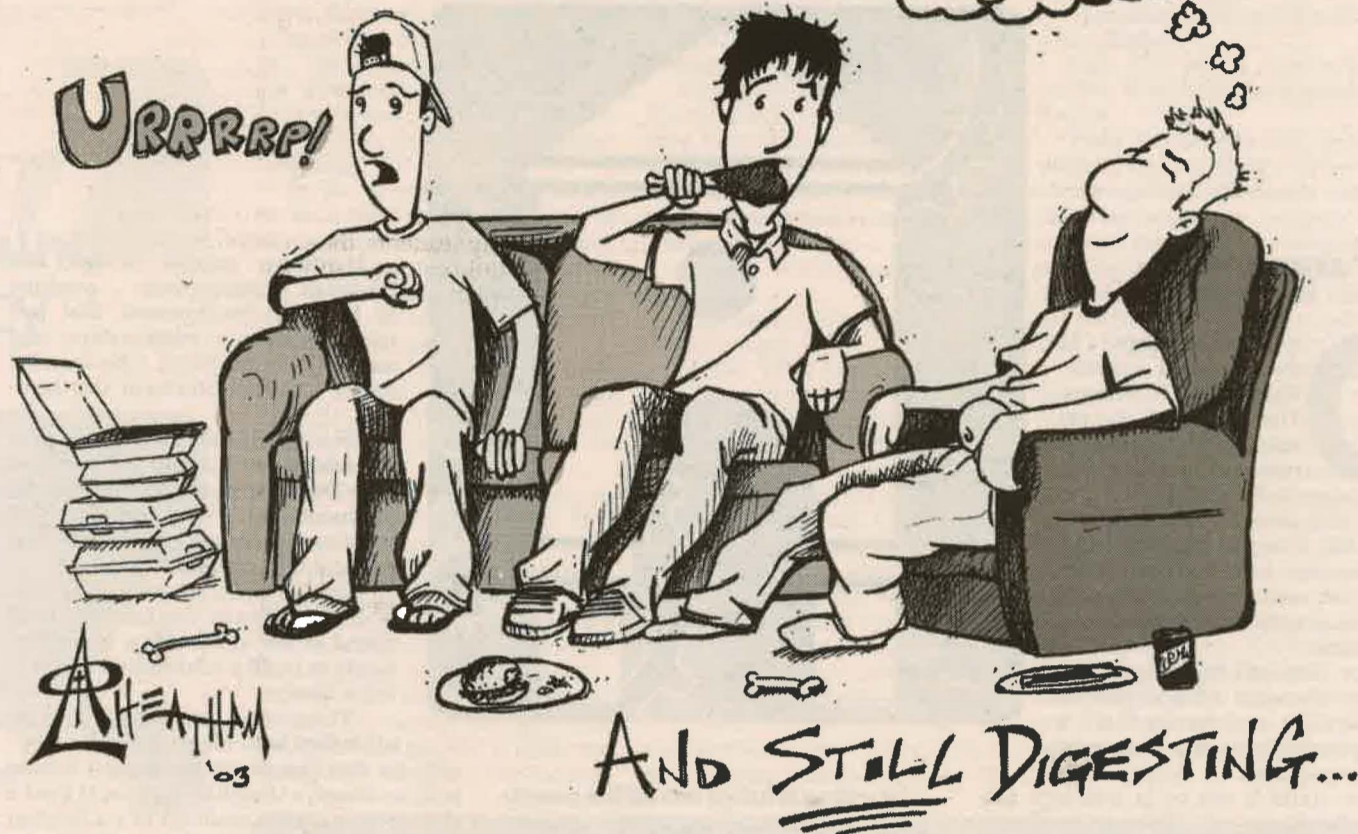
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The *Bison* is a campus newspaper written, edited and largely financed by students, seeking to provide high-quality journalistic discussion of issues of concern to the Harding community. It also serves as an educational tool for students, providing 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 the Christian ideals for which Harding University exists.

It attempts to serve as a forum for student perspectives, welcoming letters to the editor which adhere to ethical and professional standards and are no more than 300 words in length. Signed columns appearing in the *Bison* are the views of the writer and may not reflect the official policy of the Harding University administration. Unsigned columns represent the view of the editorial board.

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## SIX DAYS LATER...



## 'Consejos:' Meaning goes beyond words

I had never seen the man short of words. It wasn't because he was exhausted, or flabbergasted or even in shock. He simply did not know.

It was this past summer, the circumstance was a mission trip to Mexico, the topic of discussion was what Clamente would preach about when we got home. We had gotten here because I dislike habitual conversation with well-known friends. So after I had ordered my food in Houston's airport, I went over to Clamente because he was eating by himself.

I was searching for God's burning bush. What I got was a blazing tree.

Clamente is a Spanish minister for a church in a town close to where I am from. He speaks great Spanish and he babbles great English. He was an asset for our mission trip because he acted as our translator through customs, unexpected paper work and a close call with the Mexican police.

We talked about his church, where they worshiped, how many members came. We talked about future classes he would need to prepare for. He also told me he would be preaching on "consejos" for Sunday worship.

That was when I first heard the word. It came not in a whirlwind, not in a flash of lightning and not in a crack of thunder. It came like every other word I can't remember making a Spanish vocabulary card for.

COLLIN C. BILLS



### Guest Room

**Consejos cannot be translated into a simple English word. It requires a whole sentence — and that amazed me.**

It was when I asked, "Que es consejos?" when the silence began.

I had never seen the man short of words. It wasn't because he was exhausted, or flabbergasted or even in shock. He simply did not know.

As we grasped for air in our attempts to find mutual ground between the Spanish-English barriers, I began to piece together the meaning of "consejos" and what it meant in my life as a Christian. "Consejos" cannot be translated into a simple English word. It requires a whole sentence — and that amazed me.

"Consejos" means words of wisdom spoken by those who have already lived a life and learned from their mistakes — or simply put, "consejos." The writer of Proverbs 31 speaks of such wisdom. But it

is the truth behind the first line that gives "consejos" life: "The words of King Lemuel. An oracle his mother taught him."

Do we forget what words are? How words can be used to save lives from misery? Have we forgotten the words we learned from our parents and the messages that hid behind them screaming for our minds to grasp them? But it is not enough to just say words. And that is my point exactly. Clamente tried to tell me "consejos" was like "palabras," words in English, but that "consejos" meant much more. He said later that it is wisdom from those who have experience.

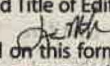
As I look around me, I see people who are not influenced by "consejos." They would rather struggle through hardships because they believe they must grasp life by the handles and ride it for themselves. I know, because I am one. I have found myself striving against my father's will in order to do what I want. I have found myself striving from my mother's will in order to please myself.

Somewhere, somehow, God found a way to get through to me. Just like he found Gideon hiding in the winepress and Moses herding sheep up a mountain, God gave me a burning bush. And he did so in the Houston airport with a simple preacher who shared an important message: "consejos."

### STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

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# At the end of a reign?

University should consider ending Homecoming queen tradition

**H**omecoming planners have recognized the student apathy that exists concerning the selection of a homecoming queen. In an effort to combat the lack of interest and increase student involvement, many social clubs and student organizations will be given the opportunity to nominate individuals to serve on the homecoming court.

The changes enacted this year could very well spark a new interest in an old tradition. If so, it should be the start of a series of changes to better reflect the desires of the student body as a whole.

However, if the changes do little to encourage student interest, and apathy to the homecoming queen tradition remains the same, the university should consider phasing out the tradition altogether.

Crowning a homecoming queen is a tradition with roots in Harding's distant past. At one time, it was most likely a popular event that provided students with entertainment and school spirit, but perhaps those times have faded.

The university has grown rapidly over the last decade and traditions and events have been forced to change to meet the demands of a much larger audience. It is possible that the university has simply outgrown the homecoming queen tradition.

Crowning a queen probably meant much more in the past when the student body's relatively small size allowed for closer relationships with a greater percentage of the whole. Today the majority of the student body might not know the homecoming queen nominees at all, and very few will know them personally. A candidate cannot be fairly chosen as a homecoming queen if the student body knows nothing more of them than what is said during their presentation in chapel.

In addition, the football team chooses the four nomi-

nees for homecoming queen, not the student body as a whole. Under the proposed plan, nothing will change in this regard. Only the homecoming court, not the actual nominees, will be representatives of student organizations. The football team (which consists of a small percentage of the student body) may not necessarily choose the same candidates the student body would pick.

The homecoming queen tradition is not only a victim of growth but also a victim of a cultural shift that is gradually taking place with each new class of students. In the eyes of many students, the selection of a homecoming queen places little value on attributes they believe are important. Instead, it seems to focus on more trivial matters such as outward beauty and social association.

This is not to say the university is promoting physical appearance as a means of selection. There is little doubt that event planners are quite sincere in their desires. They cannot, however, stop the natural perception of many students who think the homecoming queen selection process is little more than a beauty pageant.

Some students have also expressed concern that chapel time is used each year to exhibit the nominees. Perhaps more consideration should be given to the appropriateness of such a display given the majority opinion of the student body.

A student forum should be established to modify the current tradition or create a new homecoming tradition altogether. Student input is critical to any event that aims at choosing someone to represent the student body.

All things eventually come to an end, and some traditions are not any different. Other similar Harding traditions, such as the selection of a Petit Jean Queen and a May Queen ceased to exist long ago, only to be replaced by others. It might be in the best interest of all involved if the selection of Harding's 2003 homecoming queen is the last.

**It might be in the best interest of all involved if the selection of Harding's 2003 homecoming queen is the last.**

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Enforce dress code

I was so glad to see the two articles addressing the problem of dress code violations on campus in last week's issue of the *Bison*. As a junior, I have seen this problem grow worse each year. It saddens me that we, as Christian adults, cannot be committed to Christ enough to enforce these standards on ourselves.

I believe the only way we are going to curb this immodesty is to start in the dorms before students are out on campus. Certainly a professor can easily send a student back to his or her dorm, but how are they to know if they actually go and change? If the students blatantly ignore the dress code, will they not do the same with the professor's authority?

In order to stop this where it starts, I think that someone needs to be working the desk in each dorm before 8 a.m. classes and chapel.

Side doors would have to be locked and all students would exit through the dorm lobbies in the mornings. Whoever is working the front desk would watch and be sure each student leaving was properly dressed.

If someone were in violation of the dress code, they would immediately be sent back to their room to change and not allowed to

leave the dorm again until they were more appropriately attired. This would require extra time from resident life coordinators, resident assistants and student workers, but it would be well worth it for the student body.

Additionally, the professors and faculty could be authorized to give a sort of "pink slip" for dress code violations. Pink slips are given for a violation of good housekeeping standards, and dress code is at least as important, if not more so. I think implementing these changes would virtually eliminate the problem from our campus. Eventually, our student body as a whole might have the integrity to uphold these standards.

Chantel Mabe, junior

### Protect religious freedoms

In response to the recent opinion piece concerning Chief Justice Roy Moore's refusal to remove the Ten Commandments monument, I respectfully disagree.

If the founding fathers had followed the writer's logic concerning civil obedience versus disobedience then we would still live in a British colony. We would live in a country where [slavery] still existed. Rosa Parks

should have stayed at the back of the bus. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. should never have participated in his civil rights protests.

If we as Christians must obey the law regardless of its moral correctness, then we should not be evangelizing in those countries that have made proselytizing illegal. Christ gave us a mandate to go into all the world and preach the gospel. That includes this country with its special interest groups that are making a concerted effort to remove any reference to God from the public arena.

If we as Christians sit idly by without even offering our support to men of influence like Chief Justice Moore, or worse yet if we condemn him for the effort he is making on our behalf, then it will not be many more years before we will not have any religious freedom at all.

Maribeth Thompson, junior

### Letter Policy

The *Bison* welcomes your views on issues of interest to the Harding community. Letters to the editor from students, faculty, administrators and the Searcy community are encouraged. Letters to the editor may be submitted to HJ Box 11192 or thebison@harding.edu. Letters must be signed, contain a phone number for verification and be no more than 300 words in length. The *Bison* reserves the right to edit letters for style, clarity and brevity.

## TALK BACK

### Who makes Harding a marriage factory — the university or students?



"Both. Students because we make a big deal out of it, and the university because it's scriptural."

— Michael Minella, sophomore



"Definitely the university. From [Student] Impact on, they seem to force the idea that you've got to leave with a ring."

— Deanna Gribert, junior



"The ladies. They are only here for their M.r.s. degree."

— Phil White, sophomore



"The university. Its motto is 'engaging' heart and mind."

— Derek Lang, sophomore



JEFFREY C. HUNTER

A Word In Edgewise

## Fountain drinks and foreign policy

It is tough for me to admit that I gained anything of value from the French, but I must. While within the rather uptight borders of France this spring, I discovered just exactly what makes America so wonderful.

In keeping with my strict boycott of French products (which is a ridiculous thing to try to do while actually in France), many meals during my time in Paris were spent in defiance at an American restaurant.

This, however, wasn't entirely a bad thing. In fact, it taught me a very good lesson about my country and what makes it so wonderful.

So what is so wonderful about America? Fountain drinks. But not just any fountain drinks — unlimited fountain drinks with ice.

There was nothing more pleasing after slogging through an unfamiliar and often unfriendly culture than to sit down to a fountain drink and let 32 ounces of ice-cold America wash your worries away.

But it isn't necessarily the carbonated beverage that makes this country

**So what is so wonderful about America? Fountain drinks.**

so great, but the principle behind it and the way we serve it.

What do you get when you order a soda in Europe? Depending on your location either a lukewarm can or a small glass bottle. If you beg, you might get a cup. Forget ice.

Still thirsty? Too bad. If you want more, be prepared to pay an outrageously high price for another.

In contrast, you can walk up to any convenience store at an intersection in any town in the U.S. and purchase an entire barrel of soda for less than a dollar. It even comes with ice. In restaurants, you can even get more soda, without asking and without paying a dime more.

There is a deep fundamental difference between the European and American cultures that comes shining through these carbonated differences. France, like the rest of Europe, gives of themselves just as they do their soda — in small quantities, with a high expectation of profit.

Cooperation from Europe follows the same formula. You will get very little, and you will pay a high price.

It is precisely this attitude that has created a rift between the U.S. and Europe on an international level (and on a beverage level, created an entire continent of thirsty people.)

The U.S. gives of itself like the soda fountain at Seven-Eleven. Constantly pumping out Big Gulp portions of military support and money with very little in return. The entire world expects to gain from our goodwill, but only pays happy hour prices for it.

Perhaps it is an argument too deep to be attached to soda, but nonetheless it is quite true.

Just remember the next time you sit down to your bottomless glass of soda at a restaurant how lucky you are to be on the giving side.

And prepare yourself for a world where soda — and cooperation — is served one lukewarm can at a time.

# 8 straight

## Stuff to do in Searcy

Stand around

Make fun of the "City where thousands live like millions wish they could" sign

Park your car & stand around with Searcy youth

Think about the fun others are having

Ask locals: "How do I get to New York from here?"

Two words: Wal-Mart

Homework

Random Christmas Carols at Dr. Burks' house

Send your 8 Straight lists or ideas to HU Box 11192 or thebison@harding.edu

keep up.

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# Country-fried dictionary

A cheat sheet for deciphering South-speak

For all of the students who traveled to Harding from far-away lands such as California, New York and Illinois; for those who missed the countless repeats of "The Beverly Hillbillies;" and for those who thought it could never be done, here it is: A working guide to the Southern counter-language.

In no way is this ode meant to be a cold mocking of one of our nations most prized dialects. Instead, it is intended to celebrate the fullness and richness of what for many of us has become our second language.

Inclusions for this guide have been mulled, considered and thought over. When all was said and done, we just plain went on and done it.

**Ya'll** - The granddaddy of Southern comfort dialogue. Ya'll is more than a contraction of "you" and "all," it is a message of inclusion. Why limit ourselves to "you guys?" That phrase, although long held to be a better representation of the language, is gender exclusive. Saying "you girls" is equally exclusive, and saying "you guys and girls" or "you people" is really too taxing and tough on the tongue.

Ya'll know what "ya'll" means. Even those from other states have picked up the hallowed phrase whether they've wanted to or not. It's OK to admit it, it makes you cultured.

**Coke** - How can anyone from foreign fields forget the first time they heard this baffler? The common exchange heard across restaurants and fast food joints across the region usually goes something like this:

Server: What'd ya'll like to drink?

Customer: I'll have a coke (note the lowercase "C").

Server: What kind?

Oh yes, uncultured ones, there are many kinds of coke. One kind of Coke, many kinds of cokes. Cokes can encompass anything that tickles the throat on the way down to the stomach. Coke, at any given time, runs the gamut of all possible carbonated beverage options, including, but not limited to, Pepsi, Sams and Royal Crown colas. Sure Webster's New World Dictionary refuses to acknowledge the term as acceptable slang (as it does with the coastal "soda" or the Northern "pop"), but isn't it much better than the terribly ill-

conceived "sodee pop?"

**Used to could-** This one is wholly indefensible.

"I used to could be able to throw a knuckleball."

Ugh. This phrase must be built on lies. It must be from southern France.

**Fixin' to** - Simply put, "getting ready to do something." Does "to" need repairing? Obviously not, so don't be caustic or "uppity." Of course it makes no logical sense to say fixin' and there is no real grammatical defense, but you can't fail to see the point: It's all about culture. Don't think about it, just let it be.

**Reckon** - "A rose by any other name would smell as sweet, I reckon." Come on, it works. It may not be poetry but that's middle English. Sure it usually means to count, but the English language is an ever-evolving language; it cannot be held down by the dogmatic verb conjugations other languages have allowed to dominate them. Don't shun the language perversions that dominate Southern talk, they are a wonder of America, a last bastion against the language status quo. To be American is to do your own thing. Don't underestimate your freedoms!

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## SA plans night at new-look ballpark

**SARAH CRIST**  
Staff writer

The Harding baseball team will unveil its newly renovated facilities to students Friday at the Student Association's Baseball Movie Night. Jerry Moore Field will host the free doubleheader showing of the movies "Field of Dreams" and "The Rookie."

"Field of Dreams" will show at 7 p.m. followed by "The Rookie" at 9:30 p.m. Students will be able to sit in one of the stadium's 325 backed seats or bring their own blankets and sit on the infield. The movie screen will be placed on the pitcher's mound.

The original location for the night was the intramural softball field but head baseball coach Shane Fullerton wanted to bring some attention to the renovations and requested that it be moved to Jerry Moore Field.

"One reason we wanted to have the movie night at the field was to get students out to see the new facilities and celebrate the completion of everything we've done," Fullerton said. "We want to start [Friday] night off with the lights on at the field so everyone can see what has been done."

To add to the atmosphere, the Bison baseball team will be working the concession stands throughout the night selling popcorn, peanuts and crackerjacks, as well as hot dogs, drinks and Harding baseball t-shirts.

"The proceeds [from the food and shirts] will go to benefit the team," Fullerton said. "We're going to Pensacola, Fla., in the spring for a tournament so some of the money will go toward the cost of the trip."

During the past three years Jerry Moore Field has received a total face-lift.

"This project was long overdue," Sports Information Director Scott Goode said. "The field was raised, new dugouts have been built, there's a new press box, restrooms and concession stands."

Further landscaping around the field is planned in order to make the grounds outside of the field more attractive and complete the appearance.

The last step in remodeling involves the completion of the 18-foot-wide press box.

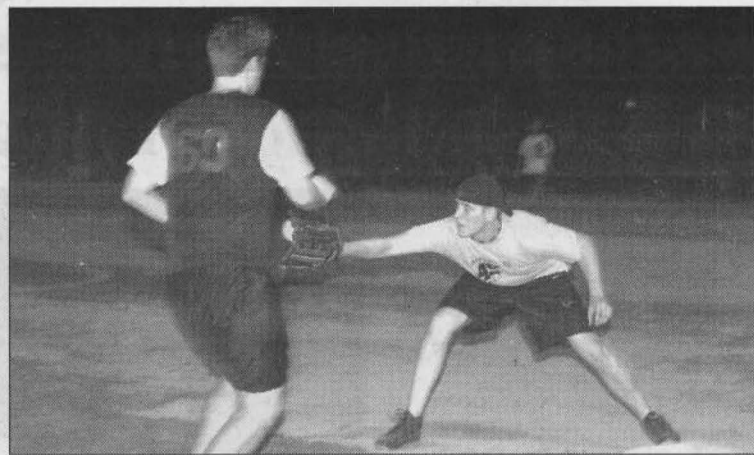
"In the past the scorekeepers, announcers and the scoreboard operators had to sit at the top of the stadium in the cold wind or hot sun," Goode said. "The press box will provide those people with a little more comfort."

The press box will hold two radio announcers, scorekeepers, its own public announcement system, scoreboard equipment and a permanent sound system.

"The only thing the press box doesn't have is heating or air conditioning," Goode said. "But we can adjust the temperature with a space heater or by opening the windows."

The Bisons hope with the completion of the renovations they will have one of the best looking stadiums in Division II.

"We have some of the best facilities in the region," Fullerton said. \*



Junior Ryan Bates stretches to make an out for King's Men social club Sept. 23. TNT, Kappa Sigma Kappa, Zeta Rho and Ju Go Ju social clubs won softball championships.

## Clubs win championships, softball season wraps-up

**JONATHAN MELLISH**  
Staff writer

As the fall club softball season is winding down, athletes are tending to their aches and bruises and looking forward to flag football.

In men's softball TNT won both A and B team championships for large club. Kappa Sigma Kappa won both A and B team championships for small club.

In women's softball Zeta Rho took the A team championship while Ju Go Ju clinched the B team championship for large club.

"If we play to the best of our abilities we've got a good shot at another championship," junior Mandy Thompson of Zeta Rho said. "I think [club sports are] a great way to include God in sports in a Christian atmosphere."

Junior Emily Felker shared similar thoughts on club sports.

"I like club sports because it gives

girls a chance to show action through their faith, since clubs are all about devos and relationships and such."

Jim Gowen, men's intramural director, said that competition is innate in club sports and good sportsmanship is encouraged from all the players. In turn, Gowen provides as much fairness as possible to the students who participate.

In flag football this year the games will be officiated by paid referees who are required to watch a video on the rules and procedures of the sport. The players are also given the opportunity to watch a video outlining the rules.

Students who are not members of a club can participate in intramural sports. Gowen said competition is nearly as intense but the same level of fair play is still encouraged.

"I think this is one of the great traditions at Harding," Gowen said. "I inherited what some great people did." \*



A construction worker applies finishing touches to a rail at Jerry Moore Field. The three-year renovation process is near completion, and the Student Association will be holding a Baseball Movie Night at the field on Friday to celebrate its opening. "Field of Dreams" will show at 7 p.m. and "The Rookie" will follow at 9:30 p.m. Admission is free.

and of course, balloons.  
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## SPORTS CHALLENGE

Well, it was a different week with the same results for my picks. How did you do? Last week's winner, Jonathan Edwards, showed me up. At least this is a new week with all new picks. Maybe you can take me this week. The best pigskin prognosticator will win two free buffets with drinks from Pizza Pro in Searcy. Playing is simple. Just predict the winners of each game and the exact results of the tie-breaker. Then tear out this form and drop it in the Sports Challenge box on the ledge next to the U.S. Post Office window by 10 p.m. Friday. Good Luck to you, and good luck Bisons playing on the road.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Box # \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

### NCAA Football

- Alabama @ Georgia
- Michigan @ Iowa
- Kansas St. @ Texas

### MLB Playoffs (10/3/03)

- San Francisco @ Florida
- Atlanta @ Chicago

### NFL Football

- Seattle @ Green Bay
- Denver @ Kansas City
- Detroit @ San Francisco
- Tampa Bay @ Indianapolis

Tie Breaker:

### NCAA Football

Guess the winner and exact score of Saturday's game

Harding @ West Alabama \_\_\_\_\_

\*Editor's picks are in bold

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## Bisons look to tackle losing streak, earn first GSC win

**MATT PRICE**  
Sports editor

Three games into the season, the Bison football team finds itself in the midst of a two-game losing streak following a 10-9 loss at home to Arkansas Tech Sept. 27.

The Bisons travel to West Alabama University Saturday in search of the team's first Gulf South Conference victory. Kick-off from Livingston, Ala., is at 7 p.m.

Head coach Randy Tribble and the players view the Arkansas Tech game as a missed opportunity.

"When you lose one like that, once you think you have a chance to win, it haunts you," Tribble said.

Tribble said the team's spirits were down following the loss.

"Everyone was down Sunday night while we were watching film," Tribble said. "They're going to bounce back. We'll be a stronger team."

On offense, senior quarterback Freddie Langston returned from a concussion to be the Bisons starter. He completed 22 of 39 on the evening for 228 yards. Senior wide receivers Santiago Collins and Demarcus Calhoun led the Bisons receiving corp. Collins led the Bisons with eight receptions for 94 yards. Calhoun caught seven for 64.

Defensively, the Bisons held the



Senior quarterback Freddie Langston looks for an open receiver down field against Arkansas Tech Sept. 27. After the Bisons fell to the Wonder Boys 10-9, the team's record in the GSC fell to 0-2. The Bisons look for their first conference win Saturday at West Alabama.

Wonder Boys to 233 yards. Sophomore linebacker Tank Daniels led the Bisons with ten tackles and two sacks.

However, the team was not able to compensate for five turnovers, the last of which was an interception with 12 seconds left in the game on the Bisons' final drive, sealing the victory for Tech.

"It's hard to win when you turn the ball over five times offensively," Tribble said.

Despite a 1-2 record, (0-2 in the GSC) the Bisons' defense ranks second in the GSC. Daniels believes the Bison defense will only

continue to get better.

"We're trying to get better every week," Daniels said. "We still have to try and dominate. We can still be the number one defense."

Daniels said people shouldn't doubt the defense's potential.

"Everyone thinks we're out of it," Daniels said. "We haven't even played a complete game yet. We'll put it all together and show we're a good team."

Tribble said Saturday's game at West Alabama should prove to be a good opportunity for the Bisons to end the losing skid.

"We match up well with them,"

Tribble said. "They throw the ball a lot. If we play well and hard we should win."

West Alabama is coming off a 47-17 loss to Delta St. Sept. 27. They are currently 2-2 on the season, 1-1 in the GSC. Collins also believes the Bisons should have the advantage in Saturday's game.

"They are small and fast," Collins said. "The 3-4 defense that they run ought to give us the chance to use some big plays and get more guys involved offensively."

Collins said they must put last Saturday's game behind them.

"We have to continue to improve," Collins said. "We have to eliminate the turnovers and mistakes and get our job done and roll as a team."

Tribble said the West Alabama game is an important one in establishing the kind of mindset the Bisons will carry for the remainder of the season.

"Emotionally, for our season mindset, this game is critical" Tribble said. "It's been forever since we won. It's so critical for us to get on a roll right now, everyone knows that."

Collins agrees that winning the game could turn the season around for the Bisons. "It would be good to have a big offensive game to get the ship headed in the right direction," he said. \*

### SPORTS BRIEFS

#### Midnight Madness set for Oct. 14

The Rhodes Rowdies will have the opportunity to warm up their vocal cords at Midnight Madness Oct. 14.

This year's bash will feature a 3-on-3 men and women's championship, a half-court shot contest, a 3-point contest and the unveiling of the Bisons' 2003 NCAA Playoffs banner.

Following the festivities, the Bison and Lady Bison basketball teams will conduct the first official practice of the season.



Morgan

"It's a great way to start the year," head coach Jeff Morgan said. "We're really excited about the upcoming season. This is just an opportunity for us to show our appreciation to the Rhodes Rowdies. It's going to be a really fun evening." \*

#### Run with Bisons at meet, Oct. 11

The cross country team will host the Ted Lloyd Classic cross country meet at First Security Stadium Oct. 11. This is the first meet held at Harding in two years.

In conjunction with the meet, Harding students will be invited to participate in the 5K race. In order to participate, students must form groups of at least five runners and choose a name for the group.

Men will be competing against men and women will compete against women.

Students can register for free at coach Steve Guymon's office until Friday, Oct. 10. The winning teams will receive t-shirts. \*

#### Name the Bison contest begins

The Harding Bisons have a new mascot. However, the mascot needs a name. That's where the students come in.

Starting today, students can submit names to brand the bison. Ideas can be sent to Liz Howell, alumni relations director, at Box 10768.

Three names will be selected as nominees for students to vote on in order to decide the bison mascot's name. \*

## Bison, Lady Bison soccer teams score clutch victories

**MATT PRICE**  
Sports editor

The Bison and Lady Bison soccer teams started the Gulf South Conference schedule Sept. 26 with losses to Christian Brothers University.

The Lady Bisons fell 6-0 to the defending national champions while the Bisons came up short 3-0.

"We played our worst game of the season against the defending national champions," junior forward Lori Boren said. "We just did things we knew we shouldn't do."

However, the ladies were able to rebound from the loss with a

4-1 victory on the road against the University of North Alabama Sept. 28.

Boren had two goals to lead the Lady Bisons. Junior midfielder Becky Taylor and sophomore forward Megan Hatcher also added goals. The Lady Bisons are now 6-3 overall and improved to 1-1 in the GSC.

The win was the first come-from-behind victory in the history of the Lady Bisons soccer program. Boren said the win against North Alabama was big for the program.

"We were playing without several teammates," Boren said. "Being able to come from behind really built our confidence."



CURTIS SERIGHT/the Bison

Junior goalkeeper Melanie Goodson lays out for a save at the Lady Bisons practice Sept. 24. The team dropped its GSC opener at Christian Brothers 6-0 Sept. 26, but bounced back with a 4-1 win at North Alabama Sept. 28.

Head coach Greg Harris said the Lady Bisons have focused on being successful all season. "We haven't had players step up and lead in the past. We haven't had this much depth before," Harris said. "But this year there is more trust and faith in each other to do their jobs."

The women's next match will be Sept. 7 at home against Ouachita Baptist.

The men rebounded from their loss with a 7-1 road win against Williams-Baptist University Sept. 29. Seven Bisons scored en route to the win. Sophomore forward Ben Faris added his team-leading eighth goal of the season.

Senior midfielder Jacobo Hernandez kicked his first goal of the season, while freshman forward

Cade Allen netted his first collegiate goal. The Bisons improved to 3-4 overall and remained 0-1 in the GSC.

"[The win] gave us confidence that we can do it as a team," Faris said. "It showed that we don't have to rely on one person to score all the goals. We're working as a team."

The Bisons remain confident that they can play to their potential and be successful.

"Each game is a new challenge," senior goalkeeper Michael Allen said. "We're still striving to reach the ultimate goal. The chemistry starts to gel each game. By the end of the season we'll be clicking on all cylinders."

The Bisons face Ouachita Baptist on Oct. 7. \*

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