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Nickel Creek to take Benson stage
SAC plans for large crowd, concert tickets still available

LINDSAY LOWE
Staff writer

Nickel Creek will grace the Benson Auditorium stage Friday at 8 p.m. The reserved seat tickets are $12 for faculty, staff and students or free with the Pass.

Tickets can be purchased at the door.

Mandolin player Chris Thile, guitarist Sara Watkins and fiddle player Sean Watkins make up the musical trio whose music borders on the boundaries of bluegrass with influences from almost every musical genre. "Nickel Creek's music reaches a wide range of people," Dustin Vyers, director of student activities, said. "I think a lot of people are into guitar and playing their own instruments, and they respect artists like Nickel Creek who play their own instruments."

The concert has attracted attention from the Harding community as well as people throughout the state and beyond. "Several are finding out from the Nickel Creek Web site," Vyers said. "We are having people come from Nashville, St. Louis, everywhere." Vyers said interest in the concert is visible in the ticket sales. As of press time, the Student Activities Committee sold more than 2,100 tickets.

"Ticket sales are going great," Vyers said. "Last week we averaged 50 a day, and this week we averaged 100 a day." Students who have been exposed to Nickel Creek's music said this is a concert they will not miss. 

"I am totally excited about [Nickel Creek], coming here," senior Jessica Woodler said. "I recently saw them in Memphis, and they are even better live than on their album. It amazes me that people our age can play so well. Anyone can tell that they are talented musicians."

Nickel Creek released two albums, "Little Cowpoke" and "Here to There," before releasing its self-titled album in 2000 with the help of Allison Kraus, who produced the effort. The album went Gold in 2002. The band's latest album is "This Side."

Construction of education building may begin in June

ALISA MOLONEY
Staff writer

Construction could begin this summer on a new home for the College of Education, President David Burks said. Plans for the $22 million facility are still being developed.

"We're still in the early stages," Burks said. "The process of designing is ongoing."

No firm plans have been finalized; but construction could begin as early as June of 2004, depending on funding. Burks said funding for this project will come exclusively from gifts to the school.

The three-story building will connect with the Administration Building to relieve the crowded English and education departments.

The new building will be used entirely by the College of Education, which currently has an enrollment of more than 250 students.

The building will be built adjacent to the American Studies Building facing Center Street where the Sears Honors House and Sewell Hall currently stand.

"Change is always difficult," Burks said. "But this type of growth is needed and [the Honors House] is in a strategic location. We're going to provide a very good place for them to grow because this is a very good program."

Faculty members in the College of Education and administrators are forwarding their new home.

"We're excited," Pat Bashaw, assistant professor of education, said. "This is going to give us the opportunity to grow. Without a doubt, it will allow us to better serve our students."

Burks is in the process of finding new homes for the soon-to-be-displaced Honors program and Student Health Services.

"We have not decided on a place for the nurses' station yet, but we are considering the Bell House on Center Street for the Honors Society," Burks said.

The Bell house is a one-story building on Center Street a few blocks west of the Sears house. Dr. Jeff Hooper, dean of the Honors College, believes the new location will better serve the needs of the 750 members of the Honors program.

"[It's] close enough to campus to feel included but far enough away to give it a feeling of a retreat," Hooper said.

Bible graduate program approved to begin on Searcy campus

RENEE LEWIS
Contributor

Within the next year Harding University will offer a master's program in Bible at the Searcy campus. President David Burks said. Although most details have not been arranged, the program, comparable with the business and education graduate programs, most likely will consist of a one-year, 36-hour curriculum.

The Board of Trustees made the decision Oct. 17 to begin a program in Searcy after studying the Graduate School of Religion in Memphis. The study was designed to aid the growth of graduate studies in Bible at Harding.

"The board reaffirmed its commitment to graduate studies in Bible and religion," Burks said. "The board would like to see the number of students in graduate study increase."

Depending on the size of the new program, at least two new Bible faculty members will be hired to help carry the load of more courses. Existing faculty members will teach a number of the graduate classes as well.

In addition to the new Searcy program, the university is making efforts to reduce the deficit at the Memphis campus while continuing to provide quality biblical education to the students.

"One of Harding University's purposes is to train young men to be ministers," said Don Shores, chairman of the Board of Trustees, said. "How that can be done most cost-effectively is important to consider."

To help decrease the deficit, Burks said the graduate assistance program in Memphis will be changed to mirror the program that began in Searcy this year.

"We're simply implementing the same policy in Memphis that we've already implemented in Searcy," Burks said. "[The policy] will help reduce the deficit."

Everett Huffman, HGSD dean, said the Memphis campus has five graduate assistants this year and it plans to increase that number significantly next year.

The increased number of graduate assistants will help reduce the budget by filling jobs without hiring extra staff members. Along with cost cuts, Burks said fund-raising is key in reducing HGSD's deficit.

"We'll simply be more aggressive going to individuals and churches asking them for money for the graduate program," Burks said.

Huffman said the extra fund-raising efforts are worth the education the students are receiving in Memphis, which has an enrollment of 251 this year.

Since the program in Memphis is a two-year program, some believe the smaller program in Searcy will be good for those wanting to receive a master's degree in Bible in a shorter time frame.

"I think the one-year program in Searcy would be a good way for some students to receive the education without as much of a time commitment," senior Robert Meyer, Bible major, said.

Meyer, who plans to attend HUG- SR next fall, said the ministry opportunities in Memphis that have attracted him to the school. "One of the benefits about going to school in Memphis is that there are so many ministry opportunities that you don't have in being in Searcy," Meyer said. 

NEWS
Frisbee club takes game to new level, page 3

ANNEA MARTIN
Staff writer

Called Harding University's most ambitious fund-raising effort, the Eagle's Wings Campaign will supply funds for student scholarships, new buildings and long-term solutions for the university.

The estimated goal for the campaign is $135 million over the next five years. The tentative plan calls for $16 million for scholarship funding, $22 million for capital projects and

See WINGS Page 3

Campagne
aims to raise
$135 million

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**OUTSIDE THE BUBBLE**

**SISTER SCHOOLS**

ACU club donates $75,000 for ball field

Fratuder Sonals, a men's social club at Abilene Christian University, announced plans to donate $75,000 for the construction of an intramural field in honor of its sponsor, Larry Sanders.

According to a university press release, the donation represents the largest-ever gift to ACU from a social club. All of the funds will be provided by the club's members and alumni.

**NBA star joins San Antonio church staff**

David Robinson, former member of the San Antonio Spurs basketball team, was appointed minister at-large Oct. 12 by the Oak Hills church of Christ in San Antonio, Texas.

According to the Oak Hills congregation, Robinson’s specific ministry role has yet to be developed. Initially he will be teaching a weekly men’s Bible study with Max Lucado, senior minister.

Robinson’s decision made national headlines when it was announced Sept. 12, but Lucado said he was surprised by the reaction.

"ESPN, CNN and many other outlets announced the decision," Lucado said. "I suppose to us it feels less surprising because it felt like something David would do."

**ARKANSAS**

Meteor blazes through sky, shakes city

Jonesboro residents were surprised by a sonic boom and bright flash in the night sky Nov. 3 as a meteor made an unexpected entrance into the earth’s atmosphere.

Witnesses say the flash resembled the blue flame of a welding torch, and authorities received reports of shaking homes within a 50-mile radius of Jonesboro. A team from the Center for Earthquake Research and Information in Memphis is searching for debris.

According to NASA, the chances of being struck by a meteor are one in 2 billion.

**CAMPUS IN BRIEF**

**Spring registration begins Monday**

Registration for spring classes begins Nov. 10. Class schedules are available in print in the lobbies of both auditoriums and on Campus Pipeline.

Students should visit with their academic advisor before setting up a schedule for next semester.

Registration for seniors begins Nov. 10; juniors, Nov. 12; sophomores, Nov. 14; and freshmen, Nov. 17.

**Rake and Run this weekend**

The Student Association plans to clear fall foliage from as many Scary yards as possible in the annual Rake and Run Saturday.

Groups and individuals should meet at the College church of Christ at 10 a.m. for instructions. The SA will provide rakes.

Pizza will be served at the completion of the project at 1 p.m. for $2.

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**NEWS**

**Administrators trade Searcy for a few weeks in Florence classroom**

**ALLI OEBSORSE**

Staff writer

Some administrators who have not been able to participate in one of the five overseas programs because of their responsibilities on the Searcy campus are getting an opportunity to experience Harding University in Florence this fall thanks to a new approach by the International Programs office.

Instead of sending one or two people who stay the entire three months, the HUP program is featuring five different administrators this fall who will each teach about two weeks.

The arrangement was implemented after retired faculty member Joe James, who was scheduled to stay with the HUP group for the semester, had to cancel after accepting a full-time teaching assignment.

"It would not be my first choice of methods every time, but I think it is good to do occasionally," Jeff Hopper, dean of International Programs, said.

"I want the whole university to feel like they have experienced the international programs. Obviously the students do, and some teachers do, but only the ones who get to go."

Hopper was the first administrator to teach at HUP this semester. Keith Cook, vice president for Information Technology, followed Hopper and Dr. Larry Long, associate vice president for Academic Affairs, relieved Cronk, Dr. Mike James, chair of the communication department, and his wife Beth have tea in front of the Duomo in Florence. Dr. James is spending two weeks at HUP as part of a semester-long program to give university administrators the opportunity to experience the international studies program.

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"What it special is the students being in that place together with the staff at the HUP villa and the actual doing the things you do and seeing the things you see," Hopper thinks Harding's international programs are an asset to the university and its program ranks high above most other similar colleges.

"I have an ideal vision that someday everyone at the university will feel like they are part of international programs, and that each one will have the memories from their time spent there and some hope of going," Hopper said.

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**Eths brings unique beat to Lyceum**

**SARAH CRIST**

Staff writer

The world-renowned Ethos Percussion Group will bring its dynamic performance to the Administration Auditorium Nov. 13 at 7 p.m. as part of Harding's Classical Lyceum Series.

Tickets will be available for $2 at the door. 

The Ethos Percussion Group consists of 200 professional drummers who perform with harmonies and rhythms from all over the globe to draw its audience into its energetic music.

The four-member band has played and recorded with the American Symphony, the New World Symphony and the Manhattan Chamber Orchestra.

Newspapers from around the country have consistently given the group good reviews saying that it leaves "the audience up and cheering."

"I am a professor of music, is excited about the group's performance," said Ethos Percussion Group Director, "The variety of presentations should entertain people of all ages," Gemus said.

---

**Lunar eclipse occurs Saturday**

5:12 p.m. partial eclipse
5:30 p.m. total eclipse begins
6:30 p.m. total eclipse ends
9:51 p.m. partial eclipse

The moon will be noticeably distant from the night sky for 24 minutes Nov. 6. The lunar eclipse will be the third of the year but the first viewable from Arkansas.

A lunar eclipse occurs when the moon passes through the earth's umbilical shadow. Indeed sunlight will make the moon appear red.

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**BENSON AUDITORIUM**

Friday @ 8 p.m.
Benson Auditorium

$12 or free with the Pass

Doors open @ 7 p.m.
Spring Service
Students give spring break to Christ
JESSE THOMPSON
Staff writer

Every year during spring break, Harding students have the opportunity to do mission work both nationally and internationally in various communities and churches. Instead of going to the beach or the ski slopes, groups of Harding students spend spring break helping others.

This year there are campaign groups going to 25 cities in 14 states and four other countries including Canada, Nicaragua, Mexico and Honduras. The groups are going to each corner of the United States, Washington, California, Florida, New York and Hawaii.

"Spring break campaigns are an opportunity to grow spiritually while serving others," senior Robert Meyer said. "Serving others helps us grow spiritually in a way that nothing else can. It makes you a part of God's plan.

Groups will conduct activities like Bible studies and Vacation Bible Schools, according to the needs of the local community or church. A student can work with adults, children, the homeless, the sick, college students, suburban communities or inner-city communities.

"I want to be able to encourage the church," junior Andy Pratt said. "I want to bring a group that is on fire for God and can encourage these people.

The campaigns allow for students with a variety of personalities, talents and interests to become involved. Each group has a different focus and different objectives so students can find a campaign that they will be best suited for.

The group going to Jinotepe, Nicaragua will be conducting a Medical Mission along with its Bible studies. The groups that will be going to Fort Worth, Chicago, Los Angeles, Orlando, Fresno, Little Rock, Calgary and Mexico will be focusing on the urban settings of their communities with homeless shelters, food pantries and underprivileged children. Several of the campaign groups will be participating in inner-city youth ministry and street evangelism.

Campaigns like the one going to Chandler, Ariz. are aimed at strengthening and encouraging the existing local churches.

Churches and communities are not alone in benefiting from spring break campaigns. The campaigns can be encouraged and uplifted by each other and the people they will serve, Pratt said.

While many people have already signed up and meetings have begun, there are still spots to be filled on campaigns. The price range of the campaigns is as varied as the campaigns themselves. They range from under $100 to $1,000.

Editor's note: This is the second story in a three-part series focusing on mission opportunities available to Harding students.

'Wings' campaign seeks to secure university's future
Continued from page 1

$12 million for restricted needs. The largest portion, $85 million, will be used to increase the endowment. The campaign, launched by President David Burks, Dr. Jim Carr, executive vice president and Mark Williams, vice president for Advancement, is in a quiet stage of planning the quiet stage, the advancement team meets privately with potential donors.

"Many colleges launch a quiet phase and talk to best contributors to let them in on what their plans are, [and] let them get behind projects they are passionate about," Williams said.

The campaign seeks donors of several kinds, Burks said.

"One of the first things we do is go to faculty and staff members to ask for financial commitments over five years," Burks said. "We are currently in that process."

Along with soliciting faculty and staff, the advancement team seeks out other donors in private and corporate sectors.

"We're going to the four corners - alumni, committed Christians, corporate entities and foundations," Williams said. "[We are] basically going to anyone."

Once completed, the quiet phase will give way to the implementation phase. This phase will use techniques including personal visits, direct mail, aggressive phone marketing and the Internet to reach donors.

"It can broaden the outreach to organizations that don't come from the church of Christ but applaud what Harding stands for," Williams said. "We are trying to take the Harding message to a broader audience."

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We may not stay up with you all night, but we'll help you through it.

The Bison November 7, 2003 • Page 3

Frisbee players hope to become official HU club
LINNEA REED
Staff writer

Ultimate Frisbee. To some it is a relaxed pick-up game, for others it is an intense intercollegiate competition.

Either way, the spirit of the game prevails, and a group of Ultimate players at Harding are hoping to demonstrate that spirit in the form of an official club.

The group of Ultimate players, who show off their skills on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 4 p.m. in Harding Park, have submitted a constitution to Student Services and are awaiting official recognition as the Harding University Ultimate Frisbee club.

They have asked Scott Adair, assistant professor of Bible, to sponsor the club.

In Ultimate Frisbee, two teams try to score by throwing the disc downfield to teammate and getting it into an end zone.

After a player catches the disc, he or she cannot move.

If, when passing, a team drops the disc the other picks it up at that spot and begins advancing toward the opponent's end zone in the opposite direction. Fouls are called by the players.

There are no referees, even in intercollegiate Ultimate Players Association-sanctioned tournaments.

The self-called fouls allow for the spirit to rule. The players say the spirit of the game is the most important aspect of Ultimate Frisbee.

"It's like pick-up basketball, you call your own fouls," junior Luke Dockery said. "You don't argue, you may just contest a foul and the disc goes back to the other team. The rules are set up to where the game just continues on.

The forming club has already played in two tournaments this year, in Jackson and Nashville, Tenn.

The team took first place in the Jackson tournament, the Blue Plate Special, winning all seven games.

At the Itchfest in Nashville, it placed ninth out of 16 teams.

"The schools that beat us [at Itchfest] were our schools," Dockery said. "We weren't prepared to play at that level so we struggled.

However, the team is looking forward to success this spring.

"The first tournament is in February, which we could potentially win," Dockery said. "We have a good shot at making it to regionals."

Besides the fun and competition the tournaments provide, the tournaments also give the Harding players opportunities to show Christ to others.

The team plays before and after each game, inviting its opponents to join.

"It's really good to play a sport with them and show them how we do it for a reason to glorify God in all that we do," Chastine said.

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I can't even begin to tell you what a pheno­lic amide is. I did absolutely terrible in my Chemistry class in high school. The only time I had any clue at all what was going on was when we burned the chemicals to make all the different colors. OK, well, there was that, and then there was this one time on the final exam where the question had some mysterious chemical compound that was made of sodium, carbon, hydrogen and oxygen. I don't re­member any of the subscripts (those little numbers), but I do know that the chemi­cal symbols next to each other spelled out NaCHO. So of course, in the middle of the final exam, I shouted out "Hey! That spells nacho!" I tell you that for no good reason, re­ally. I just thought it was funny. But really I don't know what a phenolic amide is, but I do know what capsaicin is. Capsaicin is what makes hot peppers hot, and that's good enough for me.

You see... I've got a problem. It's an ad­diction, really, and possibly a downright dependence.

What a lot of people don't know is that capsaicin really does produce pain in the mouth, throat and digestive system. This stuff really hurts. Now, since your body is in pain and is not actually receiving any physical harm, your body doesn't know how else to react so it starts putting out endorphins. Endorphins are those amazing little happy hormones that keep us all whistling zip-a-dee-doh and skipping along the cobblestones, feeling groovy.

Now, since the capsaicin produces pain, and the pain produces endorphins, the endorphins produce a natural high, if you will.

Now, with all that in mind, what I'm about to tell you is evidence of my addiction. I assure you, none of the following is made up.

I was sitting at the house by myself over the summer, just goofing off at the computer. I live out in the middle of the country, and it was too late to go to see a movie, too late to call anybody, too late to do too much of anything, but way too early to go to sleep. After all, when you wake up at 1:30 in the afternoon, how early can you really go to bed?

I was feeling a bit down in the dumps, so I tried to find something to do to cheer myself up. Well, none of my friends were online, so I couldn't talk to them. I didn't feel like watching a movie. Reading a comic book didn't help, boy was I in trouble. After some careful consideration, I suddenly came to the conclusion that my capsaicin level was too low. After all, I'd not had hot sauce all day, and I'd been awake for nearly nine hours. Trampling, I walked into the kitchen and stood at the counter. I pulled down a box of crackers and a bottle of Garlic Tabasco sauce. I took out one cracker and applied hot sauce liberally. I ate the cracker.

I decided I didn't need the crackers. I popped the plastic mouth off of the top of the bottle, turned it up and drained it dry in about 15 seconds. I then watched to the fridge and washed it all down with a jar of habanero salsa. By this time, my arms were shaking violently and my sight began to swirl and merge into one big red blur. I leaped to the spice rack, pulled down the chili powder and the ground cayenne and started them both clean. I seem to re­member at this point that there was a bag of fresh jalapenos lying off to the side of the counter. Well, there had been, at least...

I woke up three hours later, on the floor, completely dehydrated, shirt torn, jeans turned all over the cold linoleum floor of the kitchen. I can see where I'm headed. It's not a happy place. A few years from now you're going to see me sitting on the side of the road begging for change just so I can buy a fresh cayenne. I'll be out behind bars and restaurants, just hoping for the throw-away buffalo wing sauce. One day I'll be walk­ing out of a clinic with an IV drip plugged into my arm and a bottle of Texas Pete Hot Sauce flowing straight into my arteries.

There are witnesses to my addiction. I can go through a half bottle or more of hot sauce at one meal in the cafeteria. I began eating fresh jalapenos at approximately 18 months. Fresh jalapenos, mind you. Pick­led jalapenos, the ones in the jar, yes, they can be hot, but fresh jalapenos have been known to burn the skin. I carried a bottle of Louisiana 'One Drop Does It' Hot Sauce to church camp for an entire summer. I had a holster attached to the side of my pants that I carried my hot sauce in. One drop really doesn't do it for me.

Am I living a lie? Is all the joy I derive from my life a mere sham? Does my existence hold no meaning for me other than my next capsaicin fix? Of all the problems I have with the cafeteria, this one holds out to the forefront: not enough hot sauce! I can't make it through three meals without running out.

I sit at my table in the cafeteria, fork in one hand, hot sauce bottle in the other, and without fail some guy comes up asking for the hot sauce. I watch him shake his few meager drops onto his chicken sandwich, or maybe throw a little in with his ketchup. Ha, ha, I say. The only reason I ever eat French fries is to have something to put hot sauce on. I'd drink it straight from the bottle, but then people would look at me funnier than they already do.

I use crushed red peppers as potpourri. I eat bushes upon bushes of pepperoncini, jalapeno, chipotle and habanero, and I am not satisfied. I crave more. I want to feel the burn.

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The Bison is a campus newspaper written, edited and largely financed by students, seeking to provide quality journalistic discussion of issues of concern to the Harding community. It also serves as an educational tool for students, providing practical experience in the journalistic 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 provide 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 are printed with the views of the writer and may not reflect the official policy of the Harding University adminis­tration.Unsigned columns represent the view of the editor.

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Jeffrey C. Hunter
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

OPINION

AARON RUSHTON
Big Guy,
Big Mouth

I use crushed red peppers as potpourri. I eat bushes upon bushes of pepperoncini, jalapeno, chipotle and habanero, and I am not satisfied. I crave more. I want to feel the burn.

The spice of life: An addiction gone too far?
Smooshes and smoothies

Behavior of couples can create feeling of isolation, awkwardness

The revamped student center was opened for students in the spring of 2000. Ghosts of the sacrificed bowling alley lingered, but those have now been replaced, by important memories. Students gathered together in the lounge to watch the terrible events unfold on September 11, 2001. They gathered again last semester to celebrate the basketball team's first NCAA Div. II National Tournament berth. But not all of the memories are important or happy ones. The familiar air of old, worn out bowling shoes and oily wooden lanes has been replaced by an even more welcoming establishment: the student center lounge has become a place for campus-bound couples to express their romantic feelings.

The area is referred to by a repulsed student body as the "Passing Thru" or "Lounge of Lust." The warm feeling of having a gathering place for friends has been supplanted by the cold feeling of awkwardness for anyone who ventures into the area to study or relax.

Students, faculty and visitors who walk through the area to get their mail or buy a smoothie are exposed to behavior that is not always appropriate for a public forum. Unknowingly, some couples occasionally create a sense of isolation by showing appropriate affection in an inappropriate setting.

Plainly put, the lounge rules pale in comparison to dorm rules during open house. Many believe the lounge has become a kind of demilitarized zone where students behave with each other as they please, without concern for what other eyes may see.

The student center is often the meeting place for visitors to our campus, and to have such public displays of affection in full view serves as poor advertisement for us as student body.

There are many dating couples on Harding's campus who choose to show their affection in appropriate and private ways without offending their fellow students or creating an uncomfortable atmosphere in public places.

Couples should not be discouraged from showing affection on campus, but they should be very careful in the way they choose to do so.

Affection is a wonderful thing that is shared between couples, but fact may be that there are even more admirable qualities. Students lying together on couches, and hosting a baking up form of make out parties are hardly behaving appropriately for a college campus, let alone Harding's campus.

In the area of personal conduct, students should adhere not only to the "letter of the law," but also to the "spirit of the law." While couples might not be violating the rules set forth in the student handbook, they should still strive to behave in a manner that upholds the mission of the rules - to maintain a positive Christian atmosphere for everyone on campus.

Fall asleep on the couches, hold hands on the couches, enjoy a cold treat together on the couches, and can be reached at 501-279-4471 or just be sure you stay awake to get the group's attention.

Jeffrey C. Hunter is editor-in-chief of the BISON and can be reached at 779-4471 or jhunter@harding.edu.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Volleyball uniforms inappropriate

I know nothing about sports. Actually, most weeks I have no clue what is going on in the arena so I can't comment on whatever is happening. I can't even remember what team is playing. All I can say is that I was sickened to see the cheerleaders and the volleyball players walking out onto the court wearing those horrible uniforms.

I've never been one for dressing seasonally inappropriate clothing; I've never worn a pair of shorts with a long-sleeve shirt in the middle of winter. But was it necessary to produce an entire team of people in the worst possible clothing?

I doubt that it was even possible to get any type of heat retention. I'm not sure why they wore them, I guess the decision was made by the head coach. Don't get me wrong, I think that the players are great, but it is unacceptable to dress in clothes that are not comfortable and not appropriate.

I think the volleyball players should have been able to voice their opinion on what they were wearing and I think the administration should have been willing to listen.

I know that there are certain rules that the cheerleaders and volleyball players must follow, but I think that the administration should have tried harder.

Charrison Ferguson, freshman

Editor's Note

Since newspapers cannot be clicked, tuned, watched or scanned, they have become less than popular to the current tech-savvy generation. Thus, most students are unfamiliar with the most popular rules of newspaper journalism.

Questions occur frequently concerning the basic workings and components of the newspaper, specifically in the matter of opinion.

There is a distinct difference between the BISON's opinion columns and the news and sports and leisure pages. As their names imply, the opinion pages carry facts, the opinion pages carry opinion.

This is true (in theory) with all newspapers, and anyone who opens up a paper should be able to clearly and quickly determine what is fact and what is opinion. Any media that blurs the line between fact and opinion is being dangerously irresponsible.

Like most of the nation's newspapers, the BISON regularly publishes an editorial. An editorial is the viewpoint of the entire editorial staff, therefore it is unsigned and the author is not specified. (See above.)

Opinions are not limited to those of the editorial staff. Readers are invited to contribute their opinions and are encouraged to do so. Responsible, appropriate and signed letters to the editor of 300 words or less are printed frequently, regardless of the writer's stance. (See [right].)

EDITORIALS

In short, newspapers provide a unique public forum for the exchange of opinion. Freedom of speech is extremely valuable, but it should be guided not only by the writer, but also by the informed reader. Read. Think. Participate.

Do you like the activities the SAC brings to campus? Will you be there tonight?

No, I don't like bluegrass or country music.

Yes, they provide an opportunity for guys and girls to hang out somewhere on campus.

I enjoy the groups because I'm a small-town country girl. Unfortunately, I can't go Friday because I have to work.

I like the ones that are during Bison Dance, but we need more variety. I am going Friday... I'm excited because I have third-row tickets.

— Daniel White, freshman — Nathaniel Prosser, freshman — Ashley Fridel, freshman — Erica Dugan, freshman

TALK BACK

A Word In Edgewise

With one year to go, race looks more like circus parade

It's less than a year away, and I can already see your eyes glazing over.

At first glance, it seems the often dull world of politics has produced yet another snoozer. But don't lock box.

Upon closer examination, you will find a highly entertaining, and uniquely American, spectacle.

This year, the race for the presidency is looking more like a circus parade and less like a sprint to the finish.

The selection of democrats running for their party's nomination is almost as large and unpredictable as the selection of Chinese restaurants on Race Street. (China Star's General Tsos spicy chicken, however, beats all the spice-less candidates.)

States have turned their primary season into a popularity contest and are switching their primary dates or adding straw polls, all while making organized, worthwhile campaigning difficult.

Meanwhile, the only person with out a primary opponent, the current president, has amassed enormous sums of money on last report for his primary campaign.

Who knows what he'll buy with the almighty amount of cash, but it probably won't include European diplomatic gifts.

And beat of all, ABC News Channel has replaced its regularly scheduled conservations with Daily Politics, a nightly up close party debates twice in recent months — all in an attempt to be fair and balanced, of course.

Regardless of one's political affiliations, this has to be slightly more entertaining than the nine Democratic nominees thus far.

We are lucky to have four candidates, two representatives, a four star general, a doctor-turned-governor, and a preacher who would be impressive assortment of candidates.

Unfortunately, they have turned out to be less than inspiring yet another snoozer. But don't loose interest just yet.

At first glance, it seems the often dull world of politics has produced yet another snoozer. But don't lock box.
LEISURE

Bluegrass? Folk? It's all Nickel Creek to me

The band released its self-titled album in 2000, which has since sold 800,000 copies. Earlier this year, the band won their first Grammy for Contemporary Folk Album. They were also nominated for Country Instrumental Song.

Bluegrass/country maven Alison Krauss has helmed productions on both Nickel Creek releases, and her light touch has paid off. Top songs include "Sweet Afton," "Pastures New," "The Fox," "When You Come Back Down," "Speak," "This Side" and "Smoothie Song."

When asked what songs are the band's favorite to play live, Peets just said every night is different, but "the live show brings a unique experience to the songs performed."

Judging by its Web site and tour manager, Nickel Creek is a young band that likes to have fun; tonight's concert should showcase just that, plus more talent than all the country acts that usually grace the Benson stage.

THE ROAD TO RETIREMENT MAY SEEM SMOOTH, BUT IT'S LITTERED WITH TOLLS.

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Consecutive game streak part of the job for HU’s Beller

BY MATT PRICE
Sports editor

Cal Ripken Jr., Bruce Matthews and A.C. Green are names synonymous with longevity and dependability. As far as the Bison football team is concerned, Justin Beller’s name can be added to that list.

When the Bisons take the field for their last home game against Southern Arkansas Saturday, Beller will be preparing to make his 41st consecutive start at right guard for the Bison’s offensive line. Beller has not missed a start in his four-year career with the Bisons.

However, at game-time on Saturday, the streak is the furthest thing from Beller’s mind. His biggest concern is opening running lanes for the Bison tailbacks and keeping the defender lined up in front of him away from the quarterback.

“He’s never really been about the streak,” Beller said. “I never think about it. I never realized it even existed. You just have to prepare yourself to play each game. It’s pretty easy to play football every week.”

Offensive coordinator James Frank said durability is one of Beller’s best characteristics.

“He’s done a great job for us,” Frank said. “He’s played through a toe injury, aches, pains and two bad shoulders. He’s turned into a pretty steady type of guy.”

Beller began his college football career as a redshirt for Arkansas the first half and realized I missed [playing football]. I had to step in. I’m just lucky I fell into it and got to keep it going.”

Head coach Randy Tribble was pleased that Beller was able to start immediately for the Bisons.

“It was pretty awesome to have a guy ready to start on the offensive line,” Tribble said. “Not too many guys can do that.”

Beller said one advantage he has on the offensive line is his experience.

“I know what to expect and I know what to see,” Beller said. “I now have the ability to get over the nervousness and the anticipation of playing in a game.”

The coaches and players also count on the leadership that Beller provides on the field. While Beller said he isn’t a vocal leader on the field, he tries to lead by example.

“The coach expects me to be stable,” Beller said. “If there’s any confusion I just want to be there. There are a lot of guys just as capable as I am.”

The Bison players have also developed respect for Beller’s role as a dependable offensive line anchor.

“Justin has been there every game,” sophomore quarterback Adam Lybrand said. “It’s easy to get hurt down in the trenches, but Justin’s stayed healthy. It’s really important to have a guy go in there game after game and do a good job.”

Once Beller’s career is over, there will be more than his playing skills that will be missed by the Bisons.

“More important than being a good football player is a good person,” Frank said. “There’s not many players who’ve started as many games as he has. He’s had to fight a lot of wars in there when he was dog-tired. He’s what Harding looks for in a football player.”

Both Beller’s on-and-off field performance was rewarded last season. He earned second team All-Gulf South Conference honors in 2002. He did not allow a sack last season. Academically, he was named to the 2002 Verizon Academic All-District VI team as well as the 2002 Academic All-GSC team.

Once Beller walks off the field for the last time and the streak ends at the conclusion of the season, he wants to have positive memories of his senior year.

“Id like to see us win,” Beller said. “We’re capable of winning that. We’ve had some challenges to get over, but we’ve gotten over them and become a team. We hope we’ll be remembered for fighting through those challenges and getting better with every step.”

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Guest Room

The thrill of the hunt

It’s 4:30 on a Saturday morning in the Ozark Mountains. The air is still and the whole world seems silent.

Most people, especially college students, are still asleep. Gradually, lights begin to come into windows all across the country, especially in the South. Soon the unmistakable sound of tailgates being slammed shut will break the silence as deer hunters load pick-ups, All-Terrain Vehicles, stands, camouflage, guns, knapsacks, boots and bags of deer corn.

Deer hunting season has begun.

On Saturday modern gun season will open in most parts of the Arkansas.

Every year as hunting season approaches, hunters begin acting strangely. They begin showing up at gun and tackle shops, spending hours with their wants, needs and desires.

Deer hunting is more than a sport. It is a lifestyle. It is a passion. It is a tradition.

The thrill of the hunt is the thrill of being successful. It is the thrill of being a part of a great American pastime. It is the thrill of being alone in the woods, experiencing nature and God’s creation.

For many, hunting runs in the family. I am a second-generation hunter. Even since I watched my father string up a deer in the crab apple tree in our backyard in Virginia, I have been intrigued by hunting. For many of us hunting comes naturally.

“I can’t even remember when or why I decided to start hunting,” said second-generation hunter Zach Hamrick. “It’s just our culture.

There is something indescribably beautiful about the way the dawn breaks over trees and fields covered in frost, untouched by any unnatural object.

Only a hunter can understand the quality of silence and the experience while sitting in a hardwood forest.

“One of my favorite things about hunting is being in the woods and experiencing the earth come alive for a new day,” Dr. Phil Thompson, associate professor of Bible, said. “Just the cool air and the rustling of the leaves; it calms me.”

I know it is difficult for some people to believe, but for most of us just getting out in the woods and experiencing God’s amazing creation is enough to keep us going back to the woods year after year.

It is something I just have to do. To describe what motivates us. It’s the feelings, the experience, the tradition and the companionship.

In some ways it is almost like a migration instinct. The season opens and we all instinctively migrate to our respective areas.

Some head to the mountains, others to the delta and others, like my father, coordinates so we can head south to the Bryant Hunting Club in Fordyce, Ark.

We’ll keep going there as long as we can to experience the joy of hunting.

and of course, balloons.

Balloon–A-Grams

3201 E. Race

685-4444
Lady Bisons look to make most of first tournament appearance

MATT PRICE  
Sports editor

The Lady Bison soccer team wrapped up its regular season at home Nov. 4 with an 11-0 shutout of non-conference foe Delta State. The 11 goals scored by the Lady Bisons set a single-game school record for most goals scored.

Four players netted multiple goals for the Lady Bisons. Sophomore midfielder Hilary Rosenbaum led the team with a hat trick, the first of her career.

Harding also out-shot the Delta State Bisons, 12-0. It was the second time in this season a team was held without a shot. With the win, Harding improves its record to 10-6-1 overall for the season.

Delta State is a first-year program that will compete in the Gulf South Conference in 2004. Its record fell to 0-4-1 on the year.

The Lady Bisons now turn their attention to preparing for the postseason. Harding's no. 3 regional ranking is the top mark in the GSC tournament for the third time in Harding soccer history.

The regular season is over in Huntsville, Ala., will feature the Lady Bisons in a rematch with defending national champion Christian Brothers University. The Lady Bisons won the previous meeting in Memphis 4-0 Sept. 27.

The Lady Bisons are excited about the chance to play a spoiler against CBU. "We have a chance to redeem ourselves," senior midfielder Courtney Saul said. "We have nothing to lose. We just want to come out, play our game and show everyone in the country something different."

The Lady Bisons' 2-1 upset of then-seventh-ranked West Florida University Oct. 19 gave the team the confidence it needed for the rematch with CBU. "If we win, we beat the best," Saul said. "We can play with anybody. We just have to show how good we really are."

The team believes it must use the same focus in preparing for the tournament. "Our plan is to go in and enjoy the opportunity that we have been blessed with to play together," head coach Greg Harris said. "We want to focus on playing together as a team rather than against our opponent."

"No matter what the scoreboard says following Harding's game, the team believes this season has been successful. "It is going to be a really tough game," senior midfielder Katie Ford said. "As long as we go in focused and leave everything we have on the field, no matter what results, I think we all will come away with our heads held high."

Our standout asset this season is that there are girls with a lot of fighting spirit who just want to play soccer."

Led by five seniors and 11 returning starters, Harris knew at the start of the year that this would be an opportunity to shine. "This year's team has improved a lot in talent and maturity," Harris said. "We were a very young team last year and that allowed for us to develop into a more experienced players, as well as players that have the ability to compete at this level."

The team began the season seeking improvement and with a win tomorrow, the 2003 Lady Bisons will hold the school record for victories in a season.

The seniors are also pleased with ending their careers on a successful note and want to keep the season going. "It's been a great season," Saul said. "Being ranked third in the region was a whole different way to go out. We really turned things around. No one expected us to do that but we showed we have the ability to compete at this level."

The senior runner Jacob Rottick is down following his victory at the Ted Lloyd Invitational Oct. 23. Rottick notched her first career hat trick in an 11-0 win over Delta State Nov. 4. The Lady Bisons hope the goals will continue to come easy when they make their first-ever playoff appearance Nov. 8 against defending national champion Christian Brothers University at the Gulf South Conference Tournament in Huntsville, Ala.

The Harding cross country team placed first in the men's competition for the fourth straight year and second in women's competition at the Gulf South Conference Championships Oct. 25.

In the women's division, Harding swept the field, claiming the top five spots.

Senior Jacob Rotich finished first for the second year in a row. Rotich set a conference record in the GSC tournament for the second time in Harding soccer history.

The Cobra cross country team is ahead in Huntsville, Ala., will feature the Lady Bisons in a rematch with defending national champion Christian Brothers University at the Gulf South Conference Tournament in Huntsville, Ala.

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SPORTS

**Victory at Regionals new goal for Bison, Lady Bison cross country**

**MATT BLANSETT**
Staff writer

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Finally, a week will work with all new picks. I think I had more right than wrong last week. Maybe I'm getting better. Paris Brazil was the last big winner.

The best prognosticator will win two free buffets with drinks from Pizza Pro in Sacry, Freezing 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. Read low to you, and good luck Bison playing their last home game against Southern Arkansas on Saturday.

**Sports Challenge**

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