Financial struggles force cuts at ACU

Harding officials empathize with sister school in light of ‘difficult economic time’

JEFFREY C. HUNTER
Editor-in-chief

Officials at Abilene Christian University are preparing to cut programs and possibly employees to make up for a projected $5.6 million budget shortfall. ACU President Joyce Money told the Optimist, the university’s student newspaper, that skyrocketing insurance and utility rates, rising health care costs, investment losses and a cut in Texas grant money led to the current financial situation.

While Harding has not experienced the same difficulties as its sister school, Mike Williams, vice president for advancement, empathizes with ACU.

“It has been a difficult time period in higher education,” Williams said. “ACU just seems to be experiencing some belt tightening.”

Overall, Williams described Harding as being in “excellent condition” financially.

“In light of this difficult economic time, Harding is constantly managing our costs so we are fiscally responsible,” said Williams, who commended ACU on its efforts to be good stewards and make difficult budget cuts. “We are aggressively trying to build a stronger and larger constituency base to support us. It is an institutional priority to build a financial base so Harding can remain affordable to as many students as possible.”

ACU projects it will need more than $5 million to pay off its $8 million deficit and to continue operations.

In a Jan. 26 announcement, ACU released plans for its second belt-tightening in two years. The plan includes changes similar to budget cuts two years ago, but the most widespread cuts since a major reorganization in 1992.

“More than $1.2 million will be cut through department and program restructuring,” Williams said.

The university’s Department of Academic Advance and the Learning Enhancement Center will be eliminated. Distance education, continuing education and career service programs, among others, will be restructured to cut costs.

The largest departmental reduction will be in the athletic programs, with $351,000 will be saved through a reduction in scholarships.

Initially, ACU planned to eliminate about 25 employees through early retirement and oucatache.

Forty-four faculty and staff members accepted the university’s retirement offer, a move that will save the university more than $500,000, but additional positions could still be cut.

‘Of all the things we have done, this causes me the most concern,’ Money told the Optimist. ‘This causes me to lose sleep.’

Some of the shortfall will also be overcome by revenue enhancements, including a hike in tuition and additional student fees.

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Pi Theta Phi
added to growing social club list

LISA BLOUNT
Student reporter

As she watched the more than 300 hopeful women gather on the Benson steps for a Delta Gamma Zeta mixer in September, senior Jordan Tanksley couldn’t help thinking how sad it was that not all women would be able to get into the club of their choice.

She knew that the large number of women pledging social clubs would probably cause some women to be denied entrance to their favorite club.

“I wanted them to be able to choose the club that was right for them, not to wait for the cut.”

Tanksley said.

What she did not know then was that she and 34 other girls who felt just as passionate about the need for another women’s social club would change Harding’s 14th Pi Theta Phi.

Tanksley and several other girls began forming a plan for the club last semester. The idea developed so quickly that they presented their plan before the deans within a day. After they talked to the deans, the women began forming committees, such as finance, T-shirt and jersey, and service committees, in order to prepare for the undertaking.

The process of choosing members was not a complicated one, according to junior Jessica Sloan, Pi Theta Phi president. She said different girls heard about it on campus and signed up.

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Studies lead HU professor, students in
SEARCH OF THE RED PLANET

DEANN THOMAS and JAMIE HIGGINS

Copy editor and student reporter

The January landings of the Mars Exploration Rovers on the red planet didn’t seem quite as distant an event for four Harding students and two professors who got to see some of the behind-the-scenes preparatory work for the rovers.

In August, sophomore Philip Ashley, senior Amanda Gerlach, juniors Alex Hamilton and Amanda Woldridge, Dr. Ed Wilson, professor of chemistry, and Dr. James Mucken, professor of physical science, watched scientists practice maneuvering full-scale models of the rovers at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif.

Dr. Eddie Turco, the head engineer for the rovers, gave the group a tour of the laboratory and showed them the proceedings as the scientists prepared for the rovers’ landing in January.

“I was amazing getting a personal tour and watching all the simulations,” Ashley said. “Just being there helped me learn more about Mars.”

Wilson, who received a three-year $670,000 research grant from NASA in October to develop an instrument to study biogenic ions on Mars, coordinates with Turco and other NASA scientists.

While Wilson’s research for the grant does focus on measuring traces of water vapor and methane that would indicate that life has existed on Mars, Wilson said he hopes the information obtained will be helpful for future use as well.

“We are looking for more than just signs of life,” he said. “Our instrument will measure the atmosphere’s constituents, which will help us understand what resources Mars may be able to provide for us on Earth.”

Wilson said the trip was a good way to remind the scientific community about the research Harding conducts.

“I’m happy we have our foot in the door at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory,” Wilson said. “It keeps our work out in the open.”

Woldridge and Ashley, along with other students, assist Wilson with the research. Part of their task is building a gas cell that will simulate the Martian atmosphere so they can test Wilson’s gas-measuring instrument.

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outside the bubble

church relief to iraq slow in coming

Church-supported relief agencies have made little headway in efforts to provide support in the Middle East, especially Iraq, the Christian Chronicle reports. Groups blame violent attacks, including the Oct. 27 bombing of the International Committee of the Red Cross headquarters, for a reduction in the presence of humanitarian aid groups in Iraq.

A lack of interest in providing aid to the region is also causing problems for relief organizations. Nashville-based Healing Hands International told the Chronicle that, so far, the amount of church contributions specifically for Iraq is small.

study: Arkansas not ready for attack

A study published Feb. 2 by the American Medical Association said Arkansas would be vulnerable to a bioterrorist attack.

The study cites troubles encountered during an outbreak of whooping cough in 2001.

"The question was what would happen if we had a real bioterrorist attack," Dr. Gary Wheeler, director of infectious diseases at Arkansas Children's Hospital, told the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette. "What would happen if we had something that spread quickly? My conclusion was we'd be in big trouble."

The report said the Health Department was unprepared and understaffed in the state's rural areas.

sales tax increase defeated

A bill to raise the state's sales tax was defeated in the Arkansas House of Representatives Feb. 4.

The bill proposed increasing state-wide to 6 percent, a 1 percent increase. The increase would have raised more than $460 million in revenue for the state's education system.

The bill failed 44-54 on the 50th day of the legislature's special session on education reform, the longest on record.

Sheriff fires jailers after investigation

White County Sheriff Pat Garrett fired White County Detention Center administrator Capt. Kathy Spurlock and another jailer Feb. 5 after an investigation uncovered improper conduct by the jailers.

In a press release, the sheriff outlined a number of problems with the jail's operation, including accusations by a female inmate of improper conduct by a jailer and accusations by a female inmate of impotency by a civilian delivery man, and a drug overdose by an inmate within the jail.

In addition, the sheriff said jailers were responsible for not reporting a skim. 19 escape to superiors and not searching their own unauthorized investigations.

Faces in the crowd

Tim Wylie, senior

Hometown: Searcy
Major: Math, Computer Science
Wife: Rachel Wylie
Daughter: Maya Elizabeth Wylie, 4 months
Club/organization: Omega Lambda Chi Eau
Favorite movie: "Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure"
Favorite drink: Dr Pepper
Favorite food: Fruit roll-ups, strawberry shortcake
Favorite pizza toppings: Mushrooms and pepperoni
Favorite word: Exuberant, ambivalent, eloquent
Favorite Bible verse: John 17

Campus in brief

Uplift counselor positions open

Applications are available for students wanting to serve as counselors at Harding's Uplift summer youth camp. Full and part-time paid counselor positions are open for all three Uplift sessions, which will be June 12-17, 19-24, and 26-July 1.

Interested students can pick up an application in the Institute for Church and Family office, Mcmire 121.

Thompson, Johnston re-assigned

Harding University received a grant from the McNair Program in the U.S. Department of Education in the fall. The grant will enable the university to better prepare minority students for success in graduate school, according to the Academic Affairs office.

Dr. Linda Thompson, former director of Student Support Services, assumed the role of director of the McNair Grant in December.

Dr. Jim Johnston, associate professor of education, has left the classroom and replaced Thompson as the Student Support Services director.

Switchfoot tickets on sale

Tickets for the Feb. 13 Switchfoot concert are on sale every weekday from noon until 6 p.m. in the Benson ticket booth. The reserved seat tickets cost $20 or are free with the Pass.

Dustin Vyas, student activities coordinator, said there are still good seats available.

"We begin advertising on Little Rock radio stations next week, so students should purchase their tickets as soon as possible if they want good seats," he said.

HU adopts weather policy

If winter weather lateseئً, Harding might delay morning classes by two hours or completely shut down the campus, according to the inclement weather policy the university adopted this spring.

On a delayed schedule, 8 a.m. classes will begin at 10:45 a.m.; 11 a.m. classes will meet at 2:30 p.m.; and 12:30 p.m. classes will begin at 3:15 p.m. Afternoon classes will meet at regular times.

Off-campus students who find it difficult to get to campus in bad weather will be given an excused absence on delayed-schedule days.

The university will post announcements regarding closings and delays on Campus Pipeline and notify the news media, including television stations in Little Rock and local radio stations.

coming up

2.06 "The Tryong Place" and "Electra," Little Theater, 7 p.m.

2.06 SA Movie, "Indiana Jones Raiders of the Lost Ark," Benson, 8 p.m.

2.07 SA Movie, "Indiana Jones Temple of Doom," Benson, 7 p.m.

2.07 "The Tryong Place" and "Electra," Little Theater, 7 p.m.

2.08 SA Movie, "Indiana Jones The Last Crusade," Benson, 9:30 p.m.

2.07 Alpha Omega's Super Saturday, College Church of Christ, 9 a.m.

2.07 Women's prayer brunch organized by JOY club, Student Center 2:30, 10 a.m.

2.10 Baseball vs. North Alabama, Florence, 4 a.m., noon.

2.10 Basebol vs. North Alabama, Florence, Ala., 1 p.m.

2.06 "The Tryong Place" and "Electra," Little Theater, 7 p.m.

2.08 Women's open house

2.09 Women's Basketball vs. Arkansas-Monticello, Rhodes Field House, 6 p.m.

2.09 Men's Basketball vs. Arkansas-Monticello, Rhodes Field House, 8 p.m.

2.09 SA prayer chapel

2.12 Women's Basketball vs. Southern Ark., Rhodes Field House 6 p.m.

2.12 Men's Basketball vs. Southern Ark., Rhodes Field House, 8 p.m.

2.06 THE BISON FEBRUARY 6, 2004

www.harding.edu/bison/sionews.html

2.06 THIS WEEK

Weekly window

Mike Kelley performs on the Benson stage 3 a.m. with a crowd of about 100. (Photograph: F. Patti Jean)
HU to establish College Bowl team
Quick-witted, knowledgeable students needed for competition

LISA LAUTERBACH
Student reporter

Try your luck at this trivia tenor: Astronomers now think its red string-like markings are due to magnesium sulfate filling up cracks between its icy flows. If so, it contains the biggest deposits of carbon on the solar system. For 10 points — name this Jovian moon.

If you know the answer to this question, or could use some clues, try Jeopardy. The program, which declares itself the "Varsity Sport of the Mind," has a long-standing history that includes involvement by more than 500 schools across the country.

Dr. Mike James, chairman of the communication department, is helping bring this Emmy-winning program to campus.

"We're trying to get a team together and prepare for the regional competition taking place in February 2005," James said. He describes a good College Bowl candidate as being "quick-witted in a specific area of knowledge, such as arts, sports, sciences or current events."

Although the regional competition is more than a year away, James and Dr. Mark Bird, associate professor of political science, have already started preparing. Although only five people can be on the Harding College Bowl team, a recent meeting brought together nearly 20 interested students.

Therefore, the first glimpse of on-campus College Bowl competition may come as soon as April. That competition, taking place after Spring Sing, would be a round robin tournament comprised of teams Harding students put together on their own.

"We're encouraging people to put a team of four together," James said. "We'll then take the best individual scores and compile our team."

The national College Bowl competitions are presented in a game-show format where each person on the team has a buzzer and rings in when he or she knows the answer to the question being read aloud by a moderator. If the question is answered correctly, the team receives a bonus question before play resumes. In the end, the team with the most points advances.

Sophomore Kyle Johns is interested in participating because of a prior positive experience with quiz bowl teams. "I was involved in it for a year and half while in high school and really enjoyed it," Johns said. "My specialty area was probably history."

While the Harding team will not compete at the regional level until next year, College Bowl rules specify that one member of the team can be a graduate student. This means that seniors interested in participating may still be able to throw their names in the running.

For those still curious about their own College Bowl aptitude, the answer to the Jovian moon question is Europa.

New service club to host Super Saturday

JAMES

ATENAS HERNANDEZ
Student reporter

Alpha Omega, Harding's newest service organization, will sponsor Super Saturday, a small-scale version of its annual event, Saturday, 9 a.m. Feb. 17 at the College Church of Christ.

The event, which is Alpha Omega's first outreach project, will involve teaching 100-200 children about Jesus' parables. A group of 50 Alpha Omega siblings and other volunteers will present the lessons through lessons, puppet shows, crafts and games.

"The parables were chosen because they are Jesus' most common way of teaching,"freshman Robert Gerlach said. "Christ used them as examples and characters taken from everyday life tell us stories with deeply rooted theological implications."

Freshman Andrew Looper, president of Alpha Omega formed the club in December with help from Liz Hasse, director of alumni relations.

"Alpha Omega was born out of a desire to grow through the teaching of Jesus Christ," Hasse said. "We want members to develop leadership skills within the organization."

The service organization is open to all Harding students. There are no fees to join and no mandatory attendance for meetings or projects.

"Our club has an 'as you can do it' motto," Looper said. "We don't have dues, and you can pick and choose what projects to be involved in. [Members are encouraged] to come whenever they can."

For more information, contact Looper at 365-8003 or freshman Robby Ball of Muskogee at 279-3043.

NASA fellowships fund student space research

Continued from page 1

At the Jet Propulsion Laboratory for eight weeks this summer to meet the requirements for a NASA Workforce Development Fellowship grant that he received from the Arkansas Space Grant Consortium.

The consortium grants these scholarships in an effort to recruit students to work for NASA. Wilson said.

Ashley is studying oxygen concentrations in exhaust plumes of hybrid rockets.

Gerlach, another recipient of the consortium's grants, is studying the infrared spectrum of hybrid rocket exhaust plumes.

While Gerlach used part of her grant to pay for tuition, she used the remaining money to travel to the Stennis Space Center in southern Mississippi where NASA tests rocket propulsion and partners with other industries to develop and implement remote sensing technology.

Hamilton is researching atmospheric kinetics for his grant from the consortium. He said he has success so far in his project and is working on automating the instrument.

While not all the students involved intend to go into careers in research, most are certain their experiences have been beneficial.

Waldridge said she plans to work in the medical field after she graduates but has enjoyed her experiences with the research team.

"My future is in medicine, not research," she said. "But these experiences helped expand my knowledge base and my appreciation for the research field."

FIND ME, SAVE MONEY.

John Rogers
Tara's Gold Campus Rep.
279-4866
jrogersa2@hotmail.com

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CONTINUED from page 1

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FIND ME, SAVE MONEY.
Memphis Opera provides culture

BETHANY EDWARDS
Student reporter

Classic opera, formal dressing and elaborate atmosphere at the Byrd Theatre are two things that make attending a performance by the Memphis Opera pleasing. This is the last opera of the season for the Memphis Opera, "The Marriage of Figaro."

Sophomore Anya Burt, a fan of classical music, enjoyed the change of pace from the usual weekend entertainment.

"I think it was a real treat. It's fun, and it's something you don't get around here," said Burt.

"We don't have musical shows come through. We have movies, but movies are very limited in their cultural exposure. The opera is something beyond pop culture, and it's nice to get a dose of that every now and then."

As a vocal music major, Burt said she appreciated the talent of the performers.

"I don't really enjoy all the big vibratos, but I am amazed that those people can sing so well," she said. "I think it's a real vocal music major, so that's right up my alley."

Sophomore Justin Morgan, who has been a member of the maid innsy, saw "The Marriage of Figaro" and experienced his first fancy into the world of opera.

After taking a music appreciation class last semester, Morgan thought the performance would be more interesting because he had learned about opera and other music styles.

"I've been to the opera before, it was interesting," said Morgan. "I liked it, though, because it was quite funny. Just to hear everything done in Italian was interesting in itself, but seeing the acting together with the singing and the dancing around and everything — that was hilarious."

Although one doesn't normally think of classical opera as risque, freshmen Collier found the show wasn't anything of the content slightly debatable.

"If the opera had been a movie, I probably wouldn't have wanted to go back and see it because it would probably be rated PG-13 for all the sexual content everywhere else," Collier said. "It wasn't graphic, but it was very showy and trying to seduce everyone else."

Despite speculation about the opera's appropriateness, Collier said she enjoyed her overall experience at the opera.

"It's fun to get dressed up and go out and be sophisticated," she said. "And I really enjoy classical music."

Freshman Tara Turner said the luxurious atmosphere at the open house was nearly as enjoyable as the story that played out on stage.

"I think the opera is beautiful," Turner said. "For part of the play, I was looking around and up at the ceiling. Even though I've been there several times, I just like to look at it. It makes me feel like a queen."

The music department sold $7 student tickets to the opera, and $10 tickets next fall. Tickets for the December, Dr. Arthur Sharran, chairman of the department, said the opera tickets have become a tradition over the past 15 years.

The university even made some special accommodations for opera-bound students by extending curfew to 1:30 a.m. Friday and Saturday.

"Ticketholders have really gone up the past three or four years," Turner said. "This year, we had sold 640 tickets. Unfortunately, that was more seats than were actually in the theater, and we had to cancel 200 tickets."

The increasing number of tickets sold also shows that students outside the music department are becoming more interested in attending the opera, Turner said.

"When you're getting those kinds of numbers, it's going to be all sorts of people," she said. "These students are from all disciplines."

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Club looks toward future of service

CONTINUED from page 1

When the club officially chartered Jan. 21, they had 35 members, including seven freshmen. The club has expanded the service opportunities into office positions along with opportunities in order to balance out the roles and leadership opportunities.

"It was tough to watch my friends go through [Freshman Week] without me," Jernigan said. "But after talking with the girls and seeing the enthusiasm, they had for the future of this club, I decided this was where God wanted me to be."

Sophomore Melanie Shearin of the club appreciated the sacrifice that the freshmen made for the club. They all worked on the project and started work on computer science, agreed that for programmers, PCs are the best option. Harding's computer science students worked with PCs exclusively in the classroom and labs.

"I would be fine with a Mac, but it's important to use what everyone else is using," said McCown.

"When it comes down to it, Mac programmers usually get left out of discussion," Shearin said.

The club is considering expanding its membership to include all students.

"I would love to expand our membership to include all students," said McCown.

"It is exciting to see the growth of the club," said Jernigan.
College students know resisting the urge for long hours of study and cramming their schedules with everything. And what are we supposed to do in this situation? Do something about it, is a big problem for college students. Though the problem is most often sleep-related, sometimes a diagnosable sleeping disorder is to blame. Either way, it’s important to identify the problem and do something about it.

There are currently 88 documented sleep disorders, according to the International Classification of Sleep Disorders. The four symptoms to watch for are excessive daytime sleepiness, sudden loss of muscle control, and falling asleep during activities, such as driving and talking with friends. These symptoms are associated with sleep-related breathing disorders, which is a condition that can affect the amount of oxygen in your blood.

One in four people experience some type of breathing disturbance during sleep, according to the National Sleep Foundation. The condition is most common among adults and can disrupt your sleep cycle, the body will know when to sleep and when to wake up. A disturbed sleep cycle, the body will know when to sleep and when to wake up. A disturbed sleep cycle is difficult to treat, but because the college lifestyle is so stressful, many students are inclined to take medicine to help them sleep. This can have an impact on their health and well-being.

Sleep deprivation can have serious consequences, including daytime fatigue, mood swings, and difficulty concentrating. It can also lead to long-term health problems, such as obesity, diabetes, and heart disease. Sleep deprivation can also affect your ability to think clearly and learn effectively.

Sleep disorders are a common problem among college students. In fact, according to the National Sleep Foundation, 70% of college students report experiencing at least one symptom of a sleep disorder. The most common symptoms include difficulty falling asleep, waking up frequently during the night, and feeling tired during the day.

Sleep disorders are a result of lifestyle factors, such as poor sleep hygiene, stress, and lack of exercise. It’s important to adopt healthy sleep habits, such as going to bed and waking up at the same time every day, to ensure a good night’s sleep.

Sleep disorders can be managed with lifestyle changes, such as getting regular exercise, maintaining a regular sleep schedule, and avoiding caffeine and alcohol before bedtime. In some cases, medication may also be prescribed to help manage the symptoms of a sleep disorder.

Mary Anne Knapp, clinical social worker and therapist at the Center for Counseling and Psychological Services, said a third of the students see at the Pennsylvania State University counseling center have a diagnosis of major depression. She said the high reports are a result of college being a stressful period for most people.

"College is a time when things are so much change going on and pressure," Knapp said. "But you’re supposed to succeed, how?"

Mary Anne Knapp said although this study shows there is a high rate of student depression, it is impossible to tell if it is a result of higher societal pressures.

"Maybe students do have more pressures," Newton said. "We can speculate, but we don’t have all the answers.

Some students said higher depression rates are a result of stress in the college years. "I do think it’s more stressful times," Newton said. "There’s a lot of competition, Penn. State sophomore Lani Layeni said, ‘Some people can’t handle the pressure.’"

Penn. State junior Alexis Davidovich said it is easy to lose your purpose in your college years. "I feel that students feel like they don’t have anywhere to turn," she said.

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"You’re supposed to succeed, how?"
Why did just see that?!
The Super Bowl - in a Spring Sing sort of way

T e doors were locked at 7 p.m. Anyone left standing in the cold was left with nothing but frosted fingertips and visible breath.

Inside, the joint was jumping. The long-awaited meeting with our forever conference foes was on. The masses chanted in chorus raves and raves with each turn-over of a 5-point loss. The blessed Bisons were on their heels after the half, watching a 20-point Reddie run rules hopes of Rhodes fading.

But wait. This crowd was raucous for a comeback. Hope and eyewash and viewing unreality, also searching for length. There exists.

72-14 (10-1). Contact The Bisons.

Jeremy D. Beauchamp
Guest Room

Everywhere we look we are bombarded with the glorified importance of success. It's the winner's score who scores the long-term contracts, who write the history books and who own the land.

We can be worse than this feeling.

Why does losing affect us so much? The converse is true as well; winning affects us greatly but in a different, usually a nonviolent way. Winning sets the soul free, while losing burdens it. Should that be?

Everywhere we look we are bombarded with the glorified importance of success. It's the winner's score who scores the long-term contracts, who write the history books and present Laverne and Shadrac with a lifetime of these terms, then life is but a series of winning and losing. Success wins everything or every time.

Paulo had Waterloo; the United States lost in Vietnam; Julius Caesar had the Senate; and the Yankees had the Marlins, the Diamondbacks, the Angels, etc.

Losing is a downer. It sucks the life right out of you. So what do we as fans do to recover from devastating losses such as last Saturday's? I think it is imperative that we realize that sports are only a distraction.

At best, sporting events are replacements for war. We pick our sides and watch to see who wins the battle. As with the battle, it is difficult to remain passive, so we work ourselves into a frenzy over these battles, in order to feel we are an important part.

I for one need to realize that if I died next week, pitchers and catchers would still return to spring training. The Bisons would still do nothing in the off season and the Yankees would still lose to some upstart in October.

Someday, thousands of years in the future, an archaeologist will rediscover Rhodes Field House. He will be enchanted with the chintz and sconces that puncte the forensic atmosphere of the retired airplane hangar. Rather, this historian will give a lecture at some museum about the primitive idea of throwing inflated synthetic cow skin and round, basket-shaped rim to score points.

A 72-0 loss to Henderson State is a blow on the radar screens of our own lives. People are losing their lives in other countries for lack of nourishment or love of country, yet we get upset over the chintz and sconces that puncte the forensic atmosphere of the retired airplane hangar.

That mirth doesn't add up but it appears to make some sense. What does it mean to us than famine or death because they are close enough to deal with?

This is the problem with the emotion we place on these games. What's wrong with a harmless distraction when we are enveloped by school work? Probably nothing; as long as it stays that way.

Go Bisons!

JEREMY D. BEAUCHAMP is a guest columnist and former editor of The Bisons. More of his columns can be contacted at spagetiCus@yahoo.com.
Keep your clothes on, Janet! America should defend its dignity from invading stars

The NFL called it "offensive, inappropriate and embarrassing." Absolutely.

The Federal Communications Commission called it "blasphemy, crude and deplorable." Right on.

Justin Timberlake called it a "wardrobe malfunction." Yeah right.

There is no doubt that something at the Super Bowl halftime show was malfunctioning, but it sure wasn't the wardrobe.

At the end of the border-crossing performance, singer Justin Timberlake removed part of Janet Jackson's costume, exposing her breast to TV viewers worldwide.

Why is it that a mediocre pop artist and a fading star think they can violate the sanctity of the public airwaves and fill homes across the globe with sleaze?

It's simple—because they know we will let them get away with it.

Any normal person exposing themselves in public would have been arrested and charged with indecent exposure. Jackson did it in front of 90 million people, and not only will she get away with it because of her celebrity but she will be celebrated by many of her contemporaries.

Every day in this country, musicians fill radio with crude lyrics; TV shows promote "alternative" lifestyles; movies display graphic violence and sex; and celebrities, in general, feel they have the right to push their beliefs onto their audiences.

These acts are occurring more and more frequently, and the American people are doing less and less to prevent it.

Fortunately, the American people do not have to put up with it.

The Janet Jacksons and Justin Timberlakes of the world should not be allowed to control our society.

They must begin to crack down on sleaze by demanding that all people, even the pampered elitists of society, be held accountable for their actions.

The issue at hand is not overreacting conservatives versus Hollywood liberals. It is not opposition versus expression. And above all else, it is certainly not a "wardrobe malfunction."

The issue at hand is dignity—and unless we step in and take control, the entertainment industry might just strip it all away.

TALK BACK
Should NASA's budget be increased to put man on Mars?

"Yes, I've always wanted to meet Marvin, and the technology advancements would be nice too."

— Luke Davis, sophomore

"We're already on the moon with our little flag, and we have an international space station... so it seems somewhat irrelevant to spend more money on space exploration."

— Shelby Beamon, sophomore

"Yes, Mars could have vast natural resources and we need to know about them."

— Drew Frallic, sophomore

"No, America has many other things to be concentrating our money on."

— Melissa Dormeyer, freshman

The interview:
Exposing the editor

Editor's Note: The following interview was conducted at the insistence of student reporter Emily Wade (much to the embarrassment of yours truly.)

I've always wanted to do a rock-n-roll interview or write for Rolling Stone. However, in my quest for the ultimate interview, I found myself staring around a stuffy, cluttered office with a trash can that doubled as an end table.

I was in the office of this publication's editor-in-chief, who, in his pre-college life, has been on many major news outlets in the country and was featured in People magazine.

The man's name: Jeffrey Hunter.

So you might ask, "How do I meet this Jeffrey Hunter?" "Where is he from?"

Actually, we all know him as the editor-in-chief of the Bison.

How can someone squeeze so much time and information to the student body and yet remain behind the scenes?

Where do you fall in rank on the family assembly line?

"I have an older sister who is a first-grade teacher and a brother who works on a weapons of mass destruction task force for the western United States."

Oh, the baby of the family. I bet they steered you in all kinds of crazy directions. What's the worst piece of advice you have ever received?

"Speak your mind. Sometimes it's just better to let what's there pass. It's an opportunity for unnecessary trouble."

What's your dream job?

"I would like to be an ambassador for a small, exotic country. Don't get me wrong, I enjoy writing, but if the future keeps me elsewhere, I'm OK with it."

Since you enjoy writing, who inspires you as a writer?

"Kenneth Towsley, director of print and publications for the USDA during the cold war, has been a prisoner of war and has won a Pulitzer Prize for local journalism in a small town. I am from a small town, Lockney, Texas, so I thought his credentials were insightful."

What would you save from your office if the building were to catch on fire?

"Definitely my Greece photos. They're my escape, my reminder and my window. I look at them when I need a break but know I can't leave my desk."

Well, since this is probably your last year as editor, do you have any last wishes for the Bison before you resign your post?

"I hope the Bison grows with the student body. I hope there will eventually be more discussion and information for students and faculty."

I guess the rock-n-roll reporter dream may never come true, but after the interview I realized a few things.

Rock stars are cool because of their talents, their ability to function on sleepless nights and their positive effect on others.

After spending time with Jeffrey, I decided that he shares some of the same characteristics. He's good at what he does; he often spends sleepless nights working to meet deadlines; and he keeps the student body updated on what's happening.

OK, he's not exactly a rock star, but he sure is living the dream.
Blue jeans: the staples of a college student's closet

NATALIE WADE
Student reporter

Blue jeans have been around for more than 150 years, yet students still seem to love them. Whether they are ripped, beaded, beat-up and 'worn-in' or not, they are the most popular choice for work clothes and casual wear, especially among teenagers. Stars like James Dean, who were widely known for being rebels, connected jeans to the anti-authority trends of the day. Jeans were thought to be so rebellious that some schools in the United States banned students from wearing them.

This view was dismissed in the 1980s, and the popularity of jeans rose among university students. Students created their own styles, including embroidered, painted and psychedelic jeans in an effort to keep up with the latest trends. The jean revolution really began when prices were lowered in the 1970s and when designer labels began producing jeans in the 1980s.

Since that time, the sale of blue jeans has skyrocketed to the point that people of all ages find blue jeans a necessity to complete their wardrobes.

"I don't think a college student can survive without jeans," sophomore Brenna Davis said. "They are comfortable, they coordinate with anything and you don't have to wash them often."

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 Trilogy provides escape

Michael Allen
Student reporter

"Snakes, why did it have to be snakes?"

Whenever you hear this, you know the theme song that has to be simmered next. That theme song belongs to one of the greatest fantasies.

These movies contain all the ingredients for a classic trilogy. We have definitive bad guys in the German Nazis, an irresistible hero in Indiana Jones, his pals and, of course, beautiful women.

Each movie is in its own way a great milestone in the action genre. The Indiana Jones movies bring to mind classic action films that engage the audience with sly humor and incredible stunts. "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom" is simply a roller-coaster ride of action. If you hear this, you know the Indy movie is about to begin.

For those looking for a fun escape, look no further than theIndiana Jones trilogy.

Grammar Awards:

Just when the world has seen enough of Justin Timberlake, the entertainment world is generously giving us more. Timberlake is among the list of performers this year's American Grammy Awards at 8 p.m. Sunday.

The young riser-taker will be Black Eyed Peas; 'Outkast'; Britney Spears; Mariah Mclybrid; Earth, Wind & Fire and one Top 40 hit maker.

I don't know about you, but I've been tuned out of the artists who are on the Grammy elimination list.

Beyonce, Eminem, Avril Lavigne and Christina Aguilera, please give me your sets of earplugs for this display.


David Bowie's "ويره" is the choice for Best R&B Album for "Fame." I've never heard of this, so I'm not sure what the audience is going to do with this one.

Just Ramble

I am highly disappointed with the nominee for the top category this year. Song of the Year boasts an Aguilera original, a young punk rocker, a song I've never heard of, the man who thinks he's the real "Slim Shadey" and "Ladies of R&B." Poor Luther. Suffering from a stroke in the spring of 2000, he's been unable to sing the benefits of his hit single, "Dance With My Father Again.

The song, nominated for Best Record of the Year, Best Male R&B Vocal Performance and Best R&B Song, is my vote for "Ladies of R&B." Each category (R&B, Love and R&B Song) has its own category. Vondras can also be considered for Best R&B Album for "Dance With My Father Again.

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Sports Teams

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Bison baseball opens season with exhibition split; Goodrich, Bowser lead Bisons to win in Game 2

AARON J. MILLER

The Harding baseball team split an exhibition doubleheader at Jerry Moore Field Jan. 31 against Southwest Tennessee Community College.

Head coach Shane Fullerton believed the exhibition would give the Bisons the opportunity to play live baseball against another team in order to prepare for the regular season.

"Today was as much as anything else about preparing ourselves for the season," Fullerton said. "I think these games and preparations today did a lot to show us where we are, and that's the main thing we wanted to see out here today."

The team must now prepare for the start of the regular season against Gulf South Conference rival, the University of North Alabama, Feb. 7-8 in Florence, Ala.

"We need make sure our team defense is where it needs to be," Fullerton said. "Specifically, our catchers, plays at first, and third base and things like that, because North Alabama is one of those teams that's going to test us.

The Bisons first regular season home game is Feb. 17 against Lyon College.

Against Southwest, the Bisons dropped game one to the Saluqis 9-6. Southwest scored first with an unearned run in the top of the third inning.

At the bottom of the inning, Bisons junior first baseman Justin Cone answered with a double to right field, scoring two runs.

By the bottom of the sixth inning Southwest looked on four more runs but failed to hold the lead. Fullerton's Siegel capitalized on a series of five wild pitches and took a 6-5 lead.

Senior righthander Mark Connell checked the runners on third in game one of the Bisons' exhibition doubleheader against Southwest Tennessee Community College Jan. 31. The Bisons dropped the first game to the Saluqis 9-6 in nine innings. The Bisons answered in game two, defeating Southwest 7-3 in seven innings. Harding begins the regular season on the road against the University of North Alabama Feb. 7-8. The Bisons first regular season home game is at 1 p.m. Feb. 17 against Lyon College.

Fullerton said, "We didn't think there was any big momentum change that evening. Fullerton believes the team knew they were going to win the second game to start the season off right.

"I don't think there was any big momentum change that happened. I think it was just an expectation of excellence, and that's what we try to preach to them," Fullerton said.

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From Three Rivers to Gulf South:
New Bisons adjust to Harding basketball, try to help team to postseason

Sprovell decided to redshirt this season and serves as the Bisons emotional leader during games. After speaking with Morgan and assistant coach Tim Kirby about the positives and negatives of taking a redshirt, Sprovell decided a break would give him the opportunity to better grasp Harding's basketball system. A redshirt season also allows Sprovell to play for two full seasons instead of a season and a half. The time off will also help him academically by allowing him time to finish his degree. "Being a redshirt, I try my best to go hard at practice so every time is like a game situation," Sprovell said.

In welcoming the three players, the Bisons adjusted the team’s chemistry. "This adds a new dimension for the transfers," Profit said. The seniors were excited about the guys coming in," Morgan said. "They brought a huge energy level to the floor, practice and the games."

Fan support has also helped the transfers to easily adjust. "I really enjoy the support that students give at basketball games,” Profit said. "The school spirit brings energy to the team."
The players believe their contributions to an already talented squad will give the Bisons a good shot at finishing the season strong.

"The three keys for us to make it to conference are hard work, practicing our defense and working on our rebounds," Zayas said. The Bisons must also depend on team chemistry to help them as the regular season winds down. "Everyone is working real hard and knows their roles within the team," Profit said.

As the trio adjust to a new atmosphere, the team unifies in bringing its skills together. "The more we are working together, the better we will get mentally and physically," Sprowell said. "I think a winning team has good chemistry on and off the court."

Around 6:30 p.m. Jan. 31, Athletic Director Greg Harrisen asked public address announcer Dr. Dutch Hoggatt to tell a gathering Rhodes Field House crowd that all the reserved seats had been sold. The doors were locked. No one would be allowed entry without a ticket.

Students immediately pulled out cell phones and dialed friends and relatives to tell them the terrible news of the sell-out of the Henderson State-Harding basketball game. A sea of Harding basketball fans hoping for the chance to be allowed into the game gathered outside the Rhodes. As I gazed at the crowd, I wondered what chaos would ensue.

For frustrated students looking for a change in the issues that handles admission to basketball games, I just have one piece of advice: Get to the game earlier! For now, admission is going to stay first come, first served. Certainly sell-outs are a problem, but they just don’t happen that often for Harding basketball.

This was the only second sell-out in seven years. The last sell-out was — you guessed it — last year’s game with Henderson State. Administration realizes there could be a problem in the future if games continue to sell out.

"We’re really concerned about this," Hardeen said. "We don’t want to blow this off, but this is not a huge problem to have. No other Division-II school in the country (with a facility) that seats 3,000 has this problem." Disgruntled students may have heard a variety of stories about how admittance was handled Saturday evening. However, Hardeen was quick to point out that every one who waited outside got into the game. No one was refused entrance.

Hardeen waited until after tip-off in order to see how many uninsured reserved seats were available. Students were then allowed to fill those seats.

Bison Duke visitors aren’t to blame for the sell-out. The fact that Bison Duke was scheduled for the same weekend as the Henderson State game for the second year in a row is purely coincidental. This year’s Henderson game is the only weekend match-up on the spring schedule. Students running from broadcast programs in the Benson Auditorium to changing students for tickets have been made.

However, Hardeen said the administration wants to avoid following the example of Division-I schools and forcing students to buy limited tickets.

Any students with bright ideas on solving the sell-out bug one e-mail them to the Bisons and they will be passed on to the administration.

I know the Lady Bisons wouldn’t mind if you showed up a little early. Also, maybe the fans could import some of that same rowdy encouragement to the women that is given to the men. I was surprised to see how 3,400 people could sound like 4,000.

The Lady Bisons entered a packed arena in the second half only down by one. Did I mention they are looking to snap a 12-game losing streak?

If they had received only half the encouragement the men receive, the game could have been closer. Who knows, maybe they could have even pulled off an upset.

Instead, the team was treated like an unknown opening act while fans eagerly awaited the headliner.

I’ve learned through watching valleyball and men’s basketball that the fans really can have an influence over the game. Maybe we could help the ladies out by contributing to end the losing streak on Monday against Arkansas-Monticello.

Come on Rowdies, this is our duty.
Bisons’ last-minute rally not enough against Henderson

JORDAN CROW
Student reporter

The Bisons dropped consecutive home conference games for the second time since joining the Gulf South Conference with a 72-68 loss to rival Henderson State University Jan. 31.

Beginning with a dunk from redshirt freshmen forward Matt Hall, the Bisons closed the game close throughout the first half, going to the locker room trailing 26-22.

Harding maintained a strong defense in the first half, holding Henderson State to a 29 percent shooting percentage. The Bisons, however, could not maintain their first half momentum.

The Bisons opened the second half by going more than five minutes without scoring. During that span, the Reddies shot 8-10 from the floor, jumping to a 24-point lead.

Despite a last-minute second half rally, Henderson State could not overcome the Reddies’ performance from the charity stripe, Henderson State, the best free-throw shooting team in the GSC, hit 11-16 free throws down the stretch to pull out the victory.

With the loss, the Bisons fell to fourth in the Western Division of the GSC with a record of 5-3, 12-7 overall.

The Reddies played a game to go to Delta State Thursday, but results were not available at press time. The next Harding home game is Feb. 9 against the University of Arkansas-Monticello.

“People showed a lot of guts, a lot of character and a lot of heart,” student head coach Jeff Morgan said.

“You need one of these to happen to keep trying in each game despite our record.”

Morgan knew the Bisons would need to stop Parvillion to win the game.

“We know that we would have to do a good job on him because he has given us fits last year and this year,” Morgan said.

Morgan was proud of the effort the Bisons showed by not letting up during the last 24-point deficit.

“Our guys showed a lot of guts, a lot of character, and a lot of heart to give themselves a chance at the end,” Morgan said. “We just dug ourselves too deep a hole.”

Vanderbilt junior forward Jaime Reddies added his second double-double of the season with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

Senior guard Darren McCrillis led the Bisons with five assists.

Despite losing back-to-back conference games, the Bisons remain confident that a strong run to the postseason is in their favor.

“Don’t count us out,” senior guard James Profit said. “We’ll be ready when the time comes for that conference championship.”

Student reporter ARIELLE COX contributed to this story.

Lady Bisons look for positives despite consecutive loss streak

EMILY SANE
Student reporter

The Lady Bisons tipped off their Gulf South Conference play with a 77-45 loss to Delta State Jan. 8, and the team continues to battle for its first conference win of the season.

Outscored 70-55 by Henderson State Jan. 31, the team extended its losing streak to 12 consecutive games.

The streak stands as the longest losing streak in the history of Lady Bison basketball, surpassing the previous record of 10 consecutive losses occurred in the 1985-86 season.

“We had a hand in (Usiney’s) face a lot of the time,” senior forward Chad Ware said. “He’s just a good player.”

Senior forward Staver Parvillion also contributed to the Reddies’ victory. He made his presence known inside, leading Henderson State with 20 points and 11 rebounds.

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