Twelve-year-old Demi Mears, her brother Garrett and their friends Logan and C.J. Gulley were full of excitement when they entered the White County Fairgrounds Tuesday night.

The children said they were looking forward to eating a lot of free food and spending time with a lot of college students.

“We heard there was food, and we were ready,” they all said.

Mears and her friends were among the approximately 300 Harding students and Searcy citizens who mingled at the Searcy Sampler, a free dinner that offered an assortment of foods from local eating establishments.

The event, held at the White County Fairgrounds, marked the end of the Searcy Appreciation Days, in which students and faculty worked to establish relationships with the community and thank Searcy for the hospitality and services that it offers to an often-exclusive Harding campus.

McDonald’s, Dairy Queen, Pizza Hut, Pizza Pro, Super China Buffet and Ryan’s Steakhouse and Buffet provided the food.

When attendees voted for their favorite cuisine of the evening, New China Buffet won with nearly 60 percent of the vote.

Mears said that she enjoyed China Buffet’s food and the time spent with other Searcy residents.

“I think it’s cool the community in Searcy can get together and have varieties of food like this,” Mears said.

The Mears and the Gulleys heard about the dinner from Harding students who visited with them while collecting cans in the Cloverdale neighborhood.

“We were out in the yard and college kids come by and talked to us and invited us,” Marla Mears said. “I think [the dinner] is a pretty neat thing.”

Event co-chairman Rodney Keeton and Sir-Bhan Russell said they were pleased with the turnout and Searcy Appreciation Days as a whole.

“It was great to interact at the Sampler and spend time with the community and to be a part of them,” Keeton said. “When you looked over the crowd, you couldn’t distinguish between students and [Searcy residents].”

Keeton said he hopes next year’s Searcy Appreciation Days will build upon the foundation laid this year and form a solid relationship with the entire community.

Approximately 1,300 students and faculty participated in a variety of activities, including writing thank you notes to area businesses, visiting nursing homes to give residents manicures, painting, and delivering goody baskets to city workers.

Youth Corps members hosted a basketball tournament, which provided a unique opportunity for high school students to receive attention from Harding students. Two teen-age girls walked away with an X-Box and a Nintendo Game Cube.

“Word will get around about that,” Keeton said, predicting greater attendance at the tournament next year.

Russell said Searcy Appreciation is a great way to build a heart of service.

“As Christians, we are called to serve, not to be served,” he said. "I think it’s another way to give back and create a different atmosphere for the students with which they will be able to speak to their peers on"
OUTSIDE THE BUBBLE

Fallen soldier honored at OC

Oklahoma Christian University bestowed an honorary bachelor’s degree Feb. 18 to a student soldier who died in Afghanistan. Kyle Seitsinger, a sergeant in the Army Reserves, was called to duty in Afghanistan in November 2003 with 12 months remaining to get his degree. He and seven other soldiers died when a weapons cache exploded Jan. 29. Seitsinger was majoring in journalism and Spanish at Oklahoma Christian, where he served as editor of the campus newspaper for two years.

Before attending the university, Seitsinger graduated from Wentworth Military Academy in 1994 and served a 6 1/2 year tour of duty in the U.S. Marine Corps.

At the presentation ceremony on the interim board, McRae is one of 57 small school districts that is being forced to consolidate under Arkansas’ new education reform laws.

Treasury changes design on nickels

The U.S. Treasury announced this week that 190 million redesigned nickels have been minted and shipped to the Federal Reserve banks to go into circulation.

The treasury had announced in April that two new nickel designs would be released this year. The first new design features the Jefferson Peace Medal, which displays crossed hands and a peace pipe overlapping a hatchet, instead of Thomas Jefferson’s estate, Monticello. Jefferson’s face remains on the front of the coin.

The second new design will be released this fall and replaces Monticello with an image of the keelboat used by Lewis and Clark when they explored western America.

‘Gigli’ named worst picture

Jennifer Lopez and Ben Affleck were among the “winning losers” at the 2004 Golden Raspberry Awards Feb. 29. Ragazze voters picked the couple’s movie “Gigli” as 2001’s worst picture, Affleck as worst actor, Lopez as worst actress and the couple. Stallone as worst screen couple.

Sylvester Stallone and Demi Moore were “dishonored” for supporting actor and actress.

FACES IN THE CROWD

Brian Newberry, Senior

Hometown: Hendersonville, N.C.

Major: Computer engineering

Social club: President of Kappa Sigma Kappa

Favorite restaurant: Georgetown One Stop

Favorite band: the Beatles

Favorite video game: “Mario Cart”

Most memorable Harding moment: Backpacking trip through the Richland Creek Wilderness in more than 8 inches of snow.

Favorite TV show: “The Simpsons”

Favorite dessert: Cherry cheesecake

Favorite movie: “River Runs Through It” or “Dumb and Dumber”
Grant gives scholars aid for graduate school

AARON MILLER  
Student reporter

Harding is in the process of selecting 22 students to participate in the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program, a federal grant meant to prepare students for graduate school.

The U.S. Department of Education approved Harding in October to receive $220,000 for its first year of the four-year grant. Then, Harding named Dr. Linda Thompson as program director in December.

The McNair program is designed to provide instruction, experience and mentoring that will help students graduating from low-income families, first-generation students — those whose parents did not earn college degrees — and minority students apply to graduate school. “Our services are all aimed at helping students be competitive in the graduate admissions process and ready for the rigors of graduate school when they graduate,” Thompson said.

One of the ways the program will benefit students is by offering workshops and activities that will help them develop communication and research skills. It will help students prepare to take the Graduate Record Examination, locate sources of financial aid and apply for graduate assistantships.

The program will also include trips to research conferences and universities. In addition, McNair scholars will be given the opportunity to intern for 10 weeks this summer doing research. A research mentor in the field in which the students wish to earn their doctorate will guide each intern so they can complete a literature review, attend classes on research techniques and writing skills, and research and write a paper of publishable quality.

Tuition will be waived and a living allowance of $1,000 a month and board will be provided for each intern. Interns will receive stipends of up to $1,200.

Students will also receive credit hours for the work.

The McNair program, like Upward Bound and Student Support Services, is a federally funded TESP program, which is rooted in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965. Harding is one of 179 colleges in the nation to receive the McNair grant.

The McNair Program, which was started in 1989, was named in honor of one of the seven crew members killed in the space shuttle Challenger explosion in 1986.

Students can apply for the program until March 31 at the Lee Academic Center 106. Anyone wanting more information should call 279-4028.

MOMS IN SCHOOL

 Mothers work hard to balance homework, homemaking

MEGHAN MICHAELSON  Copy editor

Many college students are looking forward to April for sunny weather, Easter and Spring Sing. But senior Mary Darden is counting down the days for different reasons. In little less than a month, Mary is expecting her first child, a girl she and her husband Jason will call Alysa Jade.

“I’m nervous, excited and happy,” Mary said. “Every emotion you can feel, I’m feeling it.”

Aware of the big changes coming in their lives, Mary and Jason are busy preparing.

“We live in the Village Apartments, so we have an extra room,” she said. “Right now, we have been getting it ready for the baby.”

The Dardens also plan to sell their mustard because it is too small for a family.

Mary said she has received a lot of support from friends like junior Courtney Daniels and graduate student Raquel Collins, who are also student mothers.

“We have been given so many things like old baby clothes and bottles,” Mary said. “Older student moms know what it is to like not have a lot of money.”

Courtney said she is also grateful for her professors’ support. “Dr. Sheila Sullivan (associate dean of the College of Nursing) gives me advice about her own experience with her kids and how to work with student parents,” she said. “It is like talking to my own kids.”

According to Peggy Huckle, assistant dean of students, even though there is no official program to work with student parents, the administration is willing to do what it can.

Harding and Student Services is to meet students’ needs,” Huckle said. “We try to meet with the individual and see what we can do.”

Huckle said Student Services excuses student parents from chapel one at a time so one parent can care for the child when needed.

Courtney said she does not attend chapel on Tuesdays and Thursdays and stays with Jackson, but on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays the whole family attends together.

“Their (the professors) allow me to take Jackson to class and understand when I have to take him to the doctor,” Courtney said.

Mary said she is also grateful for her professors’ support. “Our (the students) work with student parents,” she said. “It is like talking to my own kids.”

“The best advice I can give is not to ask questions and do research. It has helped me to think ‘I can do this.’” MARY DARDEN, SENIOR

“They (the professors) allow me to take Jackson to class and understand when I have to take him to the doctor,” Courtney said.

Mary said she is also grateful for her professors’ support. “Our (the students) work with student parents,” she said. “It is like talking to my own kids.”

Holding her 1-year-old son, Jackson, junior Courtney Daniels studies for her leadership strategies class. Like many student mothers, Daniels has to divide her time between school and family.

In addition to her classes, Daniels also works for the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program, a federal grant meant to prepare students for graduate school.

The McNair program, like Upward Bound and Student Support Services, is a federally funded TESP program, which is rooted in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965. Harding is one of 179 colleges in the nation to receive the McNair grant.

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Students can apply for the program until March 31 at the Lee Academic Center 106. Anyone wanting more information should call 279-4028.

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Students find ways to pay
Uncle Sam

DEANN THOMAS
Managing editor

For many students, working through the rest of the spring semester is difficult enough without the added worries of meeting the April 15 tax deadline.

Several possibilities exist for students who need to file taxes.

The students in Harding's senior-level preparation class get hands-on experience by filing taxes for students and local residents. The free service is offered in Malo 128 from 3-5 p.m. every Monday through April 15. Since 22 students are involved in the class, they rotate what weeks they help with the service.

David Allen, associate professor of accounting, oversees the service, which is in its 18th year. He said his students will help file about 200 tax returns this year.

"It's real life experience for the students," Allen said. "It's also good for Beavercap and for the Harding community."

Besides appreciating the work experience, senior Travis Curry said he enjoys working with the service because he gets to meet new people and help them with a task that can be stressful.

"Filing taxes seems to overwhelm a lot of people," Curry said. "Sitting down with them and helping them organize everything is always a good thing."

Students can also get help with their taxes from local certified public accountants. Some companies, like Allen Wade Turner and Associates, offer discounts to college students. Buddy Wilson, a CPA at Turner Wade Allen, said the company will prepare basic W-2 tax returns for students for $50 rather than the usual $65. He said prices vary with the amount of information that is turned in.

**TAX SEASON**

- Tax deadline, April 15
- Business students offer free consultations, Monday, 1-3 p.m.
- Local accountants give discounts.
- Some students depend on family members and family's tax preparers.
- Some students prepare taxes themselves.

knows the family through Heilman's father's business and provides more personal service than going to bigger accounting companies.

"We drive 40 minutes to get her to do our taxes because she is so friendly and goes out of her way to help," Heilman said. "She even helps me plan ahead."

However, some students, like junior Jo Provenzo, file taxes on their own. Provenzo said her parents will check to make sure everything is accurate before she mails in her forms, but that she feels filing taxes wasn't as stressful as it is perceived.

"It's not as scary as I thought it would be," Provenzo said. "I thought it would be a more complicated process, but it wasn't."

---

EMILY WADE
Student reporter

Travis Wilson, junior.

"I felt like everything that was happening was my fault. Well, rather, I knew I caused it. After it was over I was physically, spiritually and emotionally exhausted."

"I wanted to stand up and shout to stop the movie. The hardest part was when Mary ran after Jesus when he was carrying the cross."

Valerie Goodale, junior.

"It's hard to describe because when you read it, it's different. Every time he got whipped, I jumped. "I jumped with every sound. Even though I am a Christian it changed me. No one will be able to watch it and not be changed." Kyle Chandler, junior.

---

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Arkansas Hospitals
Important for Life.
New drug causes concerns

JENNIFER NACIN
Iowa State Daily (Iowa State U.)

(U-WIRE) AMES, Iowa — A muscle-growing drug designed to fight muscle-wasting illnesses may have implications for athletic departments across the country if made available in the medicinal market.

There is concern among American sports officials that the new drug, a gene that mimics insulin-like factor-1 (GIF-1) — originally designed to help people with muscle-wasting illnesses such as AIDS or muscular dystrophy — could be used illegally to build "superathletes."

The drug is virtually undetectable and could make users' muscles larger and stronger without much effort.

The drug is being tested at the University of Pennsylvania, where trials showed a 10 to 30 percent increase in the mass, strength and endurance of the muscles of lab rats after they were injected with a gene therapy treatment.

Officials in the Iowa State University athletic department said they had not heard about this study and were surprised to hear what it could do. They said they were concerned that, if the drug does work on humans the way it is supposed to, it could have damaging physical side effects on anybody who takes it for performance-enhancing purposes.

"If level playing fields, you would like people to perform with their own natural abilities," Coberly said. "The NCAA has strict regulations against the usage of performance-enhancing drugs and gene therapy." "It's very closely monitored [now], with drug testing by the NCAA and our own drug tests," Terry Allen, associate head football coach, said. "[The NCAA] can come in at any time, at least three times a year."

Allen said Iowa State and members of the Big 12 Conference conduct additional random drug tests on student-athletes throughout the year.

Coberly said if the gene therapy was released for human usage, it would go undetected. "I'm sure that the appropriate governing bodies will take whatever action is necessary, if needed," Coberly said.

Marc Shulman, team physician at the Thielk Student Health Center, said there may not be cause to worry because results in rats may differ from results in humans. "It takes a lot of research to see if it works the same in humans as it does in lab animals," Shulman said.

Douglas King, professor of health and human performance, agreed.

"In terms of some aspects of physiology, there are some differences in rats and humans," King said. "The bodies may not deal with [the drug] in the same way."

Although there are concerns physiological damages could occur from using this muscle-building gene therapy, gene therapy is an option for those who need to take it.

"There are a lot of good things that come from this therapy," Shulman said. "It has to be in the right patients at the right time for the right reasons."

He said a good example of the appropriate use for this type of gene therapy would be in patients experiencing significant loss of muscle mass because of muscular dystrophy.

Shulman said for now, he expects more concern for non-athletes who are not sanctioned by any organizations and would take gene therapy drugs to enhance their appearance. He said they could be at greater risk of physical harm due to side-effects including liver damage, testicular and ovaries changes and mental disorders.

In a concurrence article published last week in USA Today, confusion or reluctance about administering mouth-to-mouth resuscitation often costs heart attacks victims precious minutes.

Dan Tancibok, 911 director for Centre County, Pa., said his dispatchers haven't changed their instructions for untrained bystanders to rapidly instruct 911 callers to perform mouth-to-mouth resuscitation until rescuers arrive.

According to an article published last week in USA Today, confusion or reluctance about administering mouth-to-mouth resuscitation often costs heart attack victims precious minutes.

Dan Tancibok, 911 director for Centre County, Pa., said his dispatchers haven't changed their procedures and will continue to instruct 911 callers to perform both chest compressions and rescue breathing.

Tancibok added that chest compressions combined with rescue breathing have led to several "confirmed saves" in which untreated individuals were able to successfully administer CPR and restart a victim's heart before rescuers arrived.

Some emergency dispatchers do not advise resuscitation technique

SHAUN PARCELS
Daily Collegian (Penn. State U.)

(U-WIRE) UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — Emergency dispatchers in cities across the country are eliminating mouth-to-mouth resuscitation from the instructions they give 911 callers attempting to administer CPR.

Instead, dispatchers in cities including New York, Cleveland and Chicago are instructing callers who do not know CPR to focus on giving only chest compressions until rescuers trained in mouth-to-mouth resuscitation arrive.

Victims of cardiac arrest require immediate CPR, said Linda Van Dyke, the training coordinator for Alpha Community Ambulance Service.

"Once someone goes into cardiac arrest, their survival rate goes down every minute," Van Dyke said. "After 3 to 5 minutes, the survival rate is pretty low."

Centre County dispatchers are trained to follow American Heart Association guidelines, and the county's policies are reviewed by the Seven Mountains Emergency Medical Services Council, and Tim Nelson, the regional training coordinator for the council.

The council is contracted by the Pennsylvania Department of Health to advise emergency medical service providers in Centre, Mifflin, Clinton and Juniata counties on all pre-hospital emergency care.

"Our medical advisory committee will most likely discuss the change at their next meeting in four to six weeks," Nelson said.

Tangi McRae, a spokeswomen for the American Heart Association, said the change is due to a multitude of factors, including the simplicity of this modified technique allows untrained bystanders to rapidly intervene.

The American Heart Association is not planning to eliminate the practice of teaching mouth-to-mouth.

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

MEDICAL CENTER PHARMACY
268.3311
Located in the Searcy Medical Center
Memories of toys from childhood linger into adulthood.

EMILY B. WADE  
Student reporter

The rumors are sad, but true. After 43 years of plastic paradise, Barbie and Ken are going their separate ways. Barbie, the most famous doll in the world, met Ken on a television commercial in 1961. While these two are in Splitsville, and while you are mentally dividing their assets, take time to reflect on some toys from the good old years.

When I was little I had a Glowworm," senior Lindsay Allen said. "Its batteries went out in church, and I started crying hysterically. I thought someone had killed my Glowworm. My mom had to take me outside to explain to me about the battery thing.

"When I was little I had a Glowworm. Its batteries went out in church, and I started crying hysterically. I thought someone had killed my Glowworm." LINDSAY ALLEN, SENIOR

An endless amount of toys fills shelves throughout the country, and while you are mentally dividing their assets, take time to reflect on some toys from the good old years.

"I had more than 30 Marx Machines when I was growing up," freshman Jesse Byrum said. "I played with them all over the house. The worst was when my mom or dad would step on one I had accidentally left out."

An endless amount of toys fills shelves throughout the country.

"I had the whole Strawberry Shortcut set," senior Courtney Pringle said. "I would play for hours in my bedroom by lining my toys up on my bed. I am an only child, so I had no choice but to make up the voices for my dolls."

While those growing up without siblings relied on their own imaginations for playtime, some students had sisters and brothers to help them create new games.

"My sister would put makeup on me, which would usually end up being a disaster," senior Alisha Pesiarz said. "Then we would play with our My Little Ponies. We would watch the cartoon and set it out as the show played."

These toys evoke memories back to a time when life was simplified into nap time, snack time and playtime. That time doesn't have to be over for us, but the toy thing, well that should probably go, at least soon.

For all the Barbie fans, the doll promises to remain friends with Ken. Her spokesman, Russell Arons, vice president of marketing at Mattel, said Barbie finally called her relationship quits because Ken failed to commit and give her a ring. Hey, just because she can't bend at the joints doesn't mean she can't think for herself.

Barbie

In the early 1950s, Ruth Handler pitched the idea of a three-dimensional doll to Mattel, Inc., the company bound by her and her husband Matt. Mattel, Inc., rejected the idea, and Barbie did not make her debut until 1959 at the American Toy Fair in New York City. The doll's name comes from the name of the Handler's daughter, Barbara.

LEGO

Nik Christopher, a Danish carpenter started manufacturing wooden toys in 1932. Two years later the toys adopted the name LEGO. The name is formed from the Danish words "leg godt" meaning "play well." The wooden toys began to make way for the traditional plastic brick in 1949.

Etch-a-Sketch

Ohio Art Corporation created the Etch-a-Sketch in 1960. Considered the world's first laptop computer, the toy is recognizable by its red frame and two white knobs. Each sketch provides hours of creative play on a flat board filled with aluminum powder.

Mr. Potato Head

George N. Levy gave the name of Mr. Potato Head with the production of plastic face pieces for fruits and vegetables. In 1952, Hasbro, Inc., produced the first plastic Mr. Potato Head. This toy immediately made history by becoming the first toy to be advertised on television.

Hot Wheels

Mattel, Inc., introduced Hot Wheels to attract boys as Barbie had attracted girls. The miniature vehicles have sped into the hearts of children since 1968. On Hot Wheels' 30th birthday, Mattel, Inc., celebrated the production of its two-billionth vehicle.

Mr. Potato Head

George N. Levy gave the name of Mr. Potato Head with the production of plastic face pieces for fruits and vegetables. In 1952, Hasbro, Inc., produced the first plastic Mr. Potato Head. This toy immediately made history by becoming the first toy to be advertised on television.

Toy Timeline: A look at toys that have amused children for decades
LEISURE

Variety of MP3 players rock the market

The good and the bad of four MP3 players

BRANDON SURLETTE  
Student reporter

With all of the portable hard drive MP3 players on the market, it is difficult to determine the features and components essential for purchasing one. Weight, design, sound quality, gigabytes (GB) and price are all factors to select a particular player. Although there are a multitude of admirable players out there, four seem to rise above the competition.

Apple iPod Mini (40B)

As a predecessor to its older brother, the iPod, the iPod Mini is leading the market with its chip design and perks dimensions. The iPod Mini Music Store you can select from a music library comprised of 19 different genres ranging from country to alternative that you can preview to buy anytime on Mac or PC.

- Debut: Feb. 16, 2004
- The Good: A mini click wheel for enhanced durability and stability, more than 70 hours of music, notable sound quality, design, graphs and skin exteriors that come in five colors: silver, blue, pink and green.
- The Bad: No recording capacity, no user replaceable, 1.5-inch hard drive expensive.
- The Cost: $249 to $290

Creative Nomad Jukebox Zen, XX (30GB)

This MP3 player is a 1.5-inch hard drive, the Zen is the most for the cheapest. It is just a little bigger than the four big dogs, Apple's iPod and Dell's DJ.

- Debut: Sep. 18, 2003
- The Good: Low price tag, 300GB (largest in its class), USB 2.0 compatibility, user replaceable battery.
- The Bad: Blatant design, not recordable, no radio.
- The Cost: $238

Dell Digital Jukebox DJ (10GB)

The idea behind this novel technology is hard and intuitive.

- Debut: Oct. 27, 2003
- The Good: Largest display in its class, built-in design, remote, extended battery life, "on-the-fly" play list creation, voice recording.
- The Bad: No radio, no lines in recording albums and no order, more money for less memory.
- The Cost: $249

RCA Nitrix (1.5GB)

The lightweight and miniature design is the frontrunner for the future of digital MP3 players.

- The Good: Light-weight, convenient for working or exercising, easy operation, no acid and 1GB for the one-inch hard drive (smallest in its class), more than 20 hours of music.
- The Bad: No radio, no recording function, no carrying case, no remote.
- The Cost: $152 to $199

CDs

Usher

"Confessions"

This album features 14 new ballad songs, including the single "Yeah," a collaboration with Lil Jon and Ludacris.

Release Date: March 23
List Price: $18.98

Weezer

"Weezer" (Redeemed Remastered)

This digitally enhanced version of the band's second album "Weezer" includes two discs, the blue album and a disc of rare tracks.

Release Date: March 23
List Price: $29.98

DVDs

"Mama Lisa Smile"

Julia Roberts stars with Ray Liotta and Julia Stiles in the film dubbed as an all-girls version of "The Poker Society.

Running Time: 1:17
Release Date: March 9
List Price: $28.95

"Dr. Suey,"

The Cat in the Hat

Mayer takes a mismatched Cat in the Hat to a brand new version of Dr. Seuss's classic book "The Cat in the Hat"

Rated PG

Running Time: 1:26
List Price: $25.98

A&E GUIDE: Harding’s menu for entertainment outside the campus borders.

COMEDY

Bill Cosby

Actor and comedian Bill Cosby will provide laughs at the Ophir Theatre at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. March 26. Tickets are available at www.ticketsmaster.com. Tickets price range from $45.50 to $49.50. Call (800) 987-3300 for additional information.

MUSIC

Aerosmith

Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame 2001 inductees Aerosmith will rock the Alpine Arena in North Little Rock at 8 p.m. March 19. Classic rockers Cheap Trick will open for Aerosmith. Tickets are on sale at www.ticketsmaster.com. Prices range from $10.75 to $65.75.

PERFORMING ARTS

David Copperfield

Magician David Copperfield will mesmerize audiences at the Dr. Phillips Theatre at 5:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. March 23. Tickets can be purchased at www.ticketsmaster.com. Prices range from $37.50 to $45.50. Call (901) 323-3000 for additional information.

Shrine Circus

Annual animal, entertaining animals and graceful gymnastics will entertain crowds at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday at the Mid-South Coliseum in Memphis. Tickets are available at the box office or at www.ticketsmaster.com. Prices range from $11 to $13.

SPORTS

Memphis Grizzlies

Rivaling NBA Most Valuable Player Tim Duncan and the defending world champions San Antonio Spurs visit the Grizzlies at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Memphis Pyramid. Tickets are available at the door or at www.ticketsmaster.com. Prices range from $25 to $110.

THEATER

"Just Be a Man About It"

Memphis Ophir Theatre presents "Just Be a Man About It" at 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sunday. Tickets can be purchased at www.ticketsmaster.com. All tickets are $23. Call (901) 323-3000 for additional information about shows.

"Haunted Mansion" opens door to mindless humor

STEPHANIE SHA

feature reporter

Obviously attendance must be down at Disney theme parks. It is the only explanation I have that would explain making "Haunted Mansion," a fright comedy based on a park attraction.

The good news is "Haunted Mansion," rated PG, brings to the atmosphere life. Finally you understand what ghosts are haunting that dirty, spider web-filled, iron-gated manse that you have stood in a two-hour line to see.

The film begins with the attraction's familiar ghoul to watch. The movie tells how the new broken-down house was once a boarding and splendid fortune owned by Master Gracey (Nathaniel Parker). In the 1870s, Gracey, an accomplished Southern gentleman, falls in love with Elizabeth, a beautiful woman considered to be beneath Gracey's stature.

Ignoring the advice from his trusted butler, Loomis (Trevor Stamp), Gracey plans to marry Elizabeth. Elizabeth, however, can't face running the life of her one true love. Rather than live without him, she commits suicide or does she?

Heartbroken, Gracey hangs himself, thus causing all who would live in Gracey Manor to be cursed forever.

Years later Jim Evers (Eddie Murphy) along with a neighbor who just doesn't know when to stop working, Evers and his family are driving out of town for their vacation, and Evers makes one last stop.

Upon arrival, Ramsey's ghost guarding the family at the door and quickly shuts them to the dining room where they will dine with Master Gracey.

As they eat, in front of a massive fireplace, a tormented新冠 blowes over the estate, floods the grounds and leaves Evers, his wife, Sara (Marsha Thomason), rough daughter Megan (Talaya Davis) and son, Michael (John Fiedler) stuck at Gracy Manor staring at the ghost.

The family soon realizes that Ramsey's an answering resemblance to the late Elizabeth. That's when they find out the meaning of their visit and realize getting away will be a complicated mission.

This film is just mindless entertainment. The story's only purpose is to allow Murphy time to flash his phone smile, tell terrible jokes and run around the mansion aimlessly.

If you are not a big fan of slapstick films, or if you are pushing your pennies, do not stress.

I would recommend that you do not waste your time or money on this movie. I only enjoyed a few of the scary party.

If you want a good experience, take a trip to Disneyland or Disney World to see the real-life Haunted Mansion and ride the roller coasters. At least that way you will be getting your money's worth.

The Student Association movie committee will allow "Haunted Mansion" in the Benson Auditorium at 8 tonight. Tickets cost $2 and are free with the Pass.

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SDS

"Mona Lisa Smile"

Julia Roberts stars with Ryan Gosling and Julia Stiles in the film dubbed as an all-girls version of "The Poker Society.

Running Time: 1:17
Release Date: March 9
List Price: $28.95

"Dr. Suey,"

The Cat in the Hat

Mayer takes a mismatched Cat in the Hat to a brand new version of Dr. Seuss's classic book "The Cat in the Hat"

Rated PG

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Senioritis strikes again
When fear comes, faith brings peace

AMANDA SEMBER
Guest Room

March signals spring for some and outside couple time for others, but for those of us that have only three months until graduation, it denotes a spiral into the inevitable: senioritis. That's right, folks, the cliché hits the fan. In true senioritis fashion, I had to force myself to sit down to finish writing about how much I don't want to write this column.

Somewhere in between 20 credit hours and endless 10-page papers that I know teachers love to read as much as we love to write, I lose focus. I lose that drive. I forget that this isn’t all there is to life.

Believe me, it’s easy to do when your planner looks like a Jack Pollow painting. I don’t want to deal with the influx of job fair flyers, loan consolidation offers and tips on how to “conquer” career indecision that suffocates my mailbox. Some of you know what I’m talking about. Every call from home turns into a game of guessing which relative or family friend will ask the infamous, “So what are your plans for after graduation?”

The Centers for Disease Control may be putting up the defenses against SARS and mad cows, but they have overlooked how to vaccinate this yearly epidemic. When days like these hit, I try to refocus my sights, not on graduation, but on the cross. When a restless spirit breaks my concentration, I ask God to quiet my heart and give me patience. When I have become weary of the classes and the workload, a simple song reminds me that I am meant for something more. When this world and its pressures try to burden me, I need to remember peace because He has already overcome the world (John 16: 33 NIV).

I encourage anyone tired of school in the words of another Switchfoot song I can’t get out of my head: “I dare you to move.”

I dare you to run as Paul said in Hebrews 12, “with perseverance the race marked out for us ... considering Him ... so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.” (NIV) Three months left and we will finish strong because He is strong.

There is only so much growing you can do in one place. At a certain point, you start to get edgy and yearn for a new atmosphere, a brand new way of life. That, I believe, is part of what senioritis is. It’s the readiness to move. The excitement and willingness to meet new people and try new things — elsewhere. In light of this, senioritis can be a good thing: a call to action, to change something mundane in a life that God meant to be purpose-filled.

True, I’m counting down the days, greeting each one with part anxiousness, part sadness and part exhilaration. I take my tests and feel the freedoms of summer and, believe it or not, the commitments of a career (hopefully).
As far as scents go, Aaron "nose"!

Jeffrey C. Hunter

You might be a Harding student if...

I have been a pretty slow news week for the Bison. Thank goodness for the Internet.

We occasionally scour the Net for any mention of our university, because you never know when (and where) you might find something that would make a good news story.

Sometimes a story is brought to light, but usually little is gained from the search. On a good day, however, the Web's vast vault coughs up some really interesting things.

Below are some funny puns collected this week from "You might be a Harding student if..." someone's long-forgotten personal Web site.

Please note that the site was last updated in 1997, so some of the older ones were taken out because they had died.

Some are campy, some are exaggerated, and some are so true that it's scary.

Enjoy.

You might be a Harding student if...

• You bring an engagement ring on a blind date.
• You have two full drawers of club T-shirts.
• You have the Pass.
• You are the reject of the marriage factory.
• You have dated the reject of the marriage factory.
• You are the marriage factory.
• You have slept in a train station in Europe.
• No matter where you go — Little Rock or Memphis — you always run into at least three other Harding students.
• The dorm mother flushed your goldfish down the toilet. You are at home.
• You're a victim of the Mabee challenge.
• Pizza Pro knows you on a first name basis.
• You have survived Jimmy Allen's Romans class.
• Your day is not complete until you check your club account.
• You have participated in a discussion on whether it is "Harding Bison" or "Bison Harding".
• You know what the letters DCB stand for.
• You have ever referred to anyone as "That person who sits in front of me in Bible."
• You plan your sleep patterns around chapel skips.
• A true sign of loyalty is sitting in your friend's chapel seat each time they finish up a term paper.
• You have gotten angry at a character in a movie for botching up their chances at an engagement (darg nah it, we take those seriously here) and/or made commentary (rude or otherwise) because of it.
• You are a male and you find yourself at 2 a.m. at Waffle House.
• You are a female and you find yourself at 2 a.m. in an unoccupied, empty classroom.
• You think someone is a rebel for wearing shorts before 2 p.m.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editorials should sign work

I have been following the articles that have been put in the school paper without a name or signature to identify the author for some time now. I know the fine print says that unsigned articles are the work of the editorial board. However, I worked on a school paper for a long time, and am aware of how this kind of things works. I know that only one of you actually wrote these articles regardless of the fine print disclaimer. Personally, I hold similar views to yours (which are decidedly conservative in nature) and I applaud your efforts.

However, it carries the appearance of cowardice to say that you believe something and not stand up for your beliefs by signing your name to them. Are you afraid to be known as a conservative? If so, you should have this integrity (and may I say, the intestinal fortitude) to actually claim your beliefs as your own.

If you do not sign them, the student body wonders whether this is just another article written by the higher-ups of Harding or something that one of our peers actually believes. Valid questions, I think. Appearance do indeed matter, so buck up, pull up your pants and say who you are. There are others who believe the same thing and will stand up with you on such matters, but we cannot do so if you refuse to say who you are.

Gabriel R. Roper, junior

EDITORS NOTE: One should never assume that articles, opinion or otherwise, were written by the "higher-ups of Harding." This newspaper is student edited and largely financed by students. Like any major newspaper in the United States, the Bison publishes a staff editorial in most issues. While editorials may be unsigned, they are not unattributed. As the fine print says, unsigned editorials "reflect the official opinion of the editorial board," which discusses, plans and approves each editorial in advance. Please refer to the left-hand column of page 8 for the name of each member of the far-from-cowardly editorial staff.

TALK BACK

What are your plans for Spring Break?

"Going home to Hunting Beach, Calif. and visiting my roommate and five girls..."(he) then Hollywood and teach[ing] them how to surf.

"For the first part of the week I’m going to San Diego then to Bronson, Mo. for the College of Business Leadership Colloquium. It should be an exciting learning experience."

"I am going on a spring break campaign to Fort Worth to work with the Fortress Church. We’re planning to work with kids and do a couple of service projects."

"I am going home to spend time with my family and sleep, sleep, and sleep some more."

— Chris Hanvey, junior
— Kevin Redd, senior
— Shannon Ellis, freshman
— Mandy Black, junior

www.harding.edu/thebison/opinion.html

The Bison March 1, 2004 • Page 9
**Sports**

**Bisons drop two of three at West Florida**

**MATT PRICE**

The Bisons dropped their second straight series to a Gulf South Conference Eastern Division team Feb. 17-19, losing two of three against the University of West Florida in Pensacola, Fla.

The Bisons were disappointed with the weekend's results.

"We definitely came back with a bitter taste in our mouths," head coach Shane Fullerton said. "We expected to beat them. If we went down there again this weekend we'd expect to beat them again."

The Bisons now stand at 9-5 overall as they head into their first conference series of the season against Henderson State in Arkadelphia Saturday and Sunday, an outing the Bisons are ready for.

"With it being conference time our guys are anxious and ready to go," Fullerton said. "This is what the season is for: dueling in conference."

The non-conference season allowed the Bisons to rotate different players in different positions and allowed Fullerton to experiment with different line-ups. Fullerton believes the team has plenty of depth with which to work.

"We know a lot more about our team," Fullerton said. "But we definitely aren't settled on a set lineup."

The Bisons traveled to Pensacola in order to face a tough opponent with no conference implications to prepare for their upcoming season. West Florida is the defending Gulf South Conference champion. The Argonauts also held the best team ERA in the conference last season.

UWF pitchers maintained strong pitching skills against the Bisons, allowing only four runs between three games.

"They did a great job of maximizing everything given the situation," said Kyle Kimbrough, a senior righthander. "Fullerton said, "But we had as weak an offensive team as we've had all season."

Argonauts pitcher Todd Androsko had BISON batters baffled in Game 1. Androsko (2-2) allowed just two hits through three Bisons base runners, while striking out 11 dropout Harding 7-0 in a complete nine inning game shutdown.

The first hit for the Bisons came in the first inning when junior first baseman Justin Cone singled to left center with two outs, extending his hitting streak to 10 games.

The Argonauts put two runs on the board in the first off BISOS senior righthander Justin Goodrich when first baseman Ryan Fillingham scored second baseman Owen Davis and third baseman Patrick Cotterill with a single to center.

West Florida scored one run in the third and put two runs across in the fifth and sixth inning. Fillingham led the Argonauts offensively going 3-5 for one run scored and three batted in. Cotterill went 4-4 for two runs scored and one batted in.

The Bisons only other hit came in the ninth when senior shortstop Ben Neely drove a pitch to left field.

Goodrich allowed six runs of nine hits in six innings of work. His record falls to 2-2 on the season.

Senior Bisons pitcher Mark Connett continued his winning ways in Game Two as the Bisons held off the Argonauts 3-1. The right-hander allowed one earned run on three hits while striking out seven in a complete seven-inning game. Connett improved his record to 3-0 on the season.

The Bisons travel to Arkansas State Feb. 27-28 in a doubleheader against Henderson State University in Arkadelphia.

Sophomore pitcher Brandon Kimbrough slides back to first base to avoid being caught stealing. The Bisons will begin the Gulf South Conference season Saturday in a doubleheader against Henderson State University in Arkadelphia.

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**Student Lectureship**

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**Kaplan rebate offer: Being a fan is kid stuff**

It is amazing to me that after four years in college I am thinking like a child for the first time since my days on the playground.

This semester, I have had the great opportunity to participate in the "Friends Program" with my girlfriend Emily Sauer, the Petit Jean scholarship editor.

Our little buddy is eight-year-old Kyle. He is a second grader at Sidney Donnely Elementary School. He loves Jeff Gordon, the Chicago Cubs and Harding basketball.

Emily and I thought it would be a great idea to start bringing Kyle to Harding basketball games towards the end of the season. At first, I wasn't sure if he would have a good time, but Kyle proved me wrong.

I set no matter how disappointed you were about not attending the Harding-Henderson State game at the Rhodes you didn't cry like our little buddy.

To Kyle, the Rhodes Field House was as well as the Staples Center.

At the real home game of the season, Kyle found himself sitting on press row sandwiched between Terry Pridgeon and the Daily City editor, "Do you like basketball?" Kyle was on top of the world.

While I imitated the real time state of the Lady Bisons game against the Golden Suns on the Internet, Kyle as watched the game while downing chow at McDonald's.

To Kyle, the disappoointing record didn't matter. He still planned on cheering his little heart out. He screamed while a Golden Sun shot a free throw and also missed. Kyle felt he had contributed a lot.

In his mind, anything is possible. Kyle being able to eat chicken and French fries could be a top NBA draft pick.

Kyle is a sports fan in a world where there is no BALCO, sexual assault cases or million dollar contracts.

Kyle reminds me of myself at his age. Some how along the way I forgot how to be a real sports fan. I forgot how to cheer at the unbelievable.

I forgot how to look at sports through innocent eyes.

As the night progressed and the menu was tipped-off, I realized some of that childhood like I clearly needed.

The thrill on the alley-copes from Emmanuel White to Jameis Wold was as smooth as the Taco Bell drive-thru attendant handing me a Gordita.

If Harding games were nationally televised, those huge fly-in coupons would be a free Spirit on Sportscenter's Top Ten Plays of the Day.

Plays like that sent my inner eight year old into frenzy.

Perhaps in some ways, professional sports haven't lost all innocence. Perhaps all that has changed is the way we watch them.

I hope next season someone else picks up Kyle as a little buddy. He has a lot of great lessons to teach.
Two-sport Bisons thrive on competition

Micheal Allen
Student reporter

Harding has its share of student-athletes, but among those ranks are few who participate in two sports throughout the school year.

For these athletes, competing in more than one sport has been a way of life for as long as they can remember.

These athletes spend countless hours lifting weights, conditioning or practicing their jump shot. Even though much of their time is spent on working out and trying to stay in shape, these athletes believe that all of the hard work will pay off in the future.

Some enjoy the thrill of the competition, the feel of playing competitively and putting forth their best effort makes them want to compete constantly.

Junior Leanne Lackey has spent the past three years playing for the Harding women's volleyball team.

Following volleyball season, Lackey joined the women's basketball team.

Lackey gave the injury-plagued squad a contribution as a reserve forward. In 10 games, Lackey averaged 0.9 points per game, 2.5 rebounds per game and 1.9 steals.

Lackey said that going straight from volleyball to basketball has kept her in good shape.

"Basketball is a game that I have always loved," Lackey said. "When I made the team, I knew that it would be very difficult to play two sports in one year. But, after all of the intense workouts and games for volleyball, I felt that I was in good enough shape to play basketball."

The two-sport athletes believe that although participating in two sports in one year may be physically exhausting, it helps them prepare for the upcoming season in their second sport.

Freshman Tray Baker, a defensive lineman, on the football team, is also participating in track and field this year. He hopes the shotput, discus and hammer throw will benefit him in his upcoming season in football.

Baker said he truly wanted to become a football player, but still wanted to be able to continue his track career.

"If not more than anything, track definitely helps me in putting the explosion I need for football." Baker said. "Keeping all of the necessary muscles in shape will definitely help me be ready to compete at a high level next year."

Senior starting center Grant Taylor and sophomore running back Dejuan Patton both believe that participating in track and field has also enhanced their football talents.

Taylor said working out in track and field has also helped him with his football balance and which are vital for him to compete in football.

"Track and field definitely has helped me improve my footwork." Taylor said. "To work out in both sports goes hand-in-hand with trying to become a better athlete."

Athletes believe that all the hard work they do is a challenge.

Sophomore Abby Rodenbeck, who runs both cross-country and track and field, said she found it difficult to adjust to the different sports.

"Each day, each sport presents another new obstacle that I love to try and overcome." Rodenbeck said. "By participating in one sport, I love making myself better for the other." With the rewards earned in participating in two sports, there are also sacrifices.

"The athletes struggle in finding time to juggle both school work and practice."

There are many nights when test cramming is the only option because of preparing to go out of town for a game or a meet.

These athletes also say that it is almost incomprehensible to find time to juggle both school work and practice.

Between the games and practices, there is very little time to be spent with friends. But all of these athletes said the sacrifices are worth it.

"This is what makes me happy," Taylor said. "I love the competition and the thrill of going out and doing my best against others."
Indoor National Championship on the line for six Bison runners

ASHLEY KELLUM
Student reporter

The Harding indoor track team is again on its way to the NCAA Division II National Championship Meet March 12-13 at the Reggie Lewis Center in Boston.

The NCAA released its final list of qualifiers for the meet March 2.

Six Harding runners have posted national-qualifying times in their respective events.

Harding's qualifiers include seniors Scott Wiecheka, Jacob Rotich, Janet Kogo and freshman Peter Kosgei in the 5,000-meter run, senior Tyler Kemmerer in the 400-meter dash, and freshman Przemyslaw Bobrowski in the one-mile run.

The team members are confident that they will finish in the top eight in their events, which will qualify the runners for All-American status.

"I'm hoping to run the 5K in under 14 minutes, 15 seconds. That goal is pretty attainable for me."

SCOTT WIECHKA, 5,000-METER RUNNER

"I'm hoping to run the 5K in under 14 minutes, 15 seconds. That goal is pretty attainable for me."

SCOTT WIECHKA, 5,000-METER RUNNER

The Bison and Lady Bisons finished their regular indoor season Feb. 13-14 at the Tyson Invitational in Fayetteville, Ark., and the Missouri Southern State Invitational in Joplin, Mo.

Wietecha, Rotich and Kosgei ran side-by-side, finishing within seconds of each other in the 5,000 meters.
At the Tyson Invitational, all three set new personal best times and reached provisional qualifications for the indoor national meet.

Wietecha broke the school record of current team-mate Rotich when he won the 5,000 meters.

That school record lasted only a few hours before Kosgei became the third Bison to hold the 5,000-meter record in the same day.


Senior Tyler Kemmerer, who is scheduled to compete in the 400-meter dash at the National Meet, ran a school-record 47.02 in this event at the Tyson Invitational.

Kemmerer's time was the third fastest in the NCAA-II this season.

Many on the team believe Kemmerer will finish in the top five at nationals.

Bobrowski, who won the mile run in 4:09.06 at the Tyson Invitational, said he believes he has a good chance of placing in the top five as well.

This year the team has more qualifiers than 2003, when the Bisons sent only three runners to the indoor national meet.

Wietecha said the team has been fortunate to be so successful in the indoor season this winter.

"We are not in as good of shape as we could be for indoor," Wietecha said.

He said head coach Steve Greymon put more emphasis on training for the outdoor season because there is more of a chance for Harding to qualify for nationals in May, when "nationals really count."

The outdoor season runs March 11-May 8.

If the runners qualify for the NCAA Division II Outdoor National Championships, they hope to have more runners qualify for the NCAA Division I Invitational.

Next, the team will compete in the NCAA Division II Indoor National Championship Meet March 12-13.

This week's key match-up features a " Robbins Road" match-up with North Carolina vs. Pike. Will the Bobcats win and earn a top seed? You must decide! Last week's big winner was sophomore Andrew Goebel. The RGB match-up with the next pair will win two free tickets with drinks from Pizza Pro in Searcy. Playing is simple. Just predict the winners of each game and the exact results of the tie-breaker. Then tear out this form and drop it to the Sports Challenge box on the ledge next to the U.S. Post Office window by 1 p.m. Friday.

Name

Box #

Phone#

NCAA Basketball (3/6)

☐ N.C. State @ Wake Forest
☐ Mississippi State @ Alabama
☐ Memphis @ Cincinnati

NBA (3/6)

☐ Memphis @ LA Clippers
☐ Detroit @ Denver
☐ Sacramento @ Miami

NHL (3/6)

☐ Nashville @ Ottawa
☐ Montreal @ Los Angeles

Tie Breaker:

NCAA Basketball

Guess the winner and exact score of Saturday's game.

North Carolina @ Duke

*Editor's picks are in bold

Dribbling on to playoffs

Junior guard Edward White looks for an open lane on the road against Arkansas Tech Feb. 20. The Bisons played the University of Georgia in the first round of the Gulf South Conference tournament in Tupelo, Miss., March 4. Results from the game were not available at press time. If victorious, the Bisons will play in semifinals Saturday.

Sports Teams

Clubs-Student Groups

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Sports Challenge

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