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Huff, Reed capture top SA positions

LISA LAUTERBACH  Student reporter

After running on a platform of unity and bridge building, junior Jimmy Huff was elected Student Association president with the support of 69 percent of voters in Wednesday's election.

The election concluded a week's worth of campaigning that included presidential campaign speeches in chapel Monday, a siege of fyres and a couple of campaign booths in the student center.

Nearly 1,300 students cast their ballots for next year's student leadership, voting on men or women of the SA representative to SA secretary.

Current SA president Michael Campbell said he was pleased with the turnout, which was up by about 200 voters from last year.

Campbell said his term as SA president was a rewarding experience, but he was ready to hand over the position.

"It turned out to be a bit more than I expected in both work and rewards," Campbell said.

"I got to meet and work with so many people who represent the campus. Campbell, who has known Huff for three years, said he believes he will be passing the SA over into good hands, a transition that will officially happen on the last day of chapel with the passing of the gavel.

"I feel very comfortable with the direction the SA will be heading under his leadership," Campbell said.

Another man drawing much attention this week was the bid for SA vice president. Junior Lin­n­nes Reed won the position with 65 percent of the vote.

Reed, who is currently completing her term as vice president of the junior class, said she enjoyed the leadership and planning opportunities the SA offers.

Next year, Reed hopes to make stu­dents aware of all the things the SA is involved in.

"I want to make the SA even more visible," Reed said. "When I got on the SA, I was surprised at how much the SA does that just isn't seen."

After running unopposed, junior Lau­ren Clark was elected as SA secretary for her second consecutive term. Clark enjoyed the experience of her first term and hopes next year to further expand on ideas started this year.

"I'm looking forward to working with the new people and with the returning members of the SA," Clark said. "I enjoy being involved and having a voice on campus."

Elections for class representatives turned out to be uneventful due to a lack of candidates. Next year's sophomore class will be represented by Matthew Hanes and Amanda Rodgers.

The junior class will be represented by Trent Floyd and Julie McCall, who both ran unopposed for the representa­tive positions. Class officers and senior freshmen SA representatives will be chosen in the fall.

Saluting U.S. protectors

Retired Army Gen. Tommy Franks saluted the Benson Auditorium audience April 22. Franks, who helped devise the military plan for the war against ter­rorism and the war in Iraq, was the final speaker of the year in the American Studies Institute Distinguished Lecture Series.

Secretary of Education to speak to graduates

NATALIE WADE  Student reporter

Bad Paige, U.S. Secretary of Education, will speak at the graduation ceremony in the Campus Athletic Center at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 15.

Nerly 600 students will receive diplomas, and more than 5,000 parents and guests are expected to attend.

Paige began working in education as a teacher and a coach at Jackson State University more than 40 years ago. Then, he served for a decade as dean of the College of Education at Texas Southern University.

After serving for five years as a trustee and officer of the Board of Education of the Houston Independent School District, Paige left TSU in 1994 to take the role of superintendent of the district, the nation's seventh largest.

As the first school superintendent to serve as Secretary of Education, Paige was instrumental in helping pass President George W. Bush's No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

Teaming up with states and districts, Paige is working to implement the new reforms enacted by the act. The laws will provide student and teacher the resources they need to ensure that no child will be left behind.

According to www.whitehouse.gov, the driving force behind Paige's work as secretary has been his shared belief with Bush that education in a civil right, just like the right to vote or to be treated equally. For that reason, he strongly supports the president's vision of affirmative action that promotes diversity in the nation's colleges and universities through race-neutral alternatives.

Harding is proud to host such a renowned speaker for the graduation ceremony.

"I am very interested in hearing Mr. Paige speak," senior Lindsay Schmidt said. "He will bring us wisdom and vi­sion."

"Students have responded positively to Paige's time on campus."

"I had never heard of Mr. Paige, but he is why my dad is willing to sit through a three-hour ceremony," senior Trisha Tucker said. +

Later chapel scheduled for fall semester

AARON J. MILLER  Staff writer

For the first time in 25 years, Harding will offer students an 11:45 a.m. chapel service option in the Heritage Auditorium on fall.

The late-morning chapel service option in response to a growing student body that no longer fits in the Benson Auditorium during fall semester. The more than 3,000-seat auditorium has housed the school's daily 9 a.m. chapel service since 1986.

For the past two fall semesters, administrators have solved the overcrowded problem in the Benson by organizing a simultaneous 9 a.m. chapel service in the Administration Auditorium. Around 700 students attended that chapel service this fall.

However, Daniel Cherry, administrative assistant to President David Burks, said many who attended the Ad­ministration Auditorium chapel service believed they were missing out on what happens in the Benson chapel service.

"One of the great unifying factors on campus is chapel, and when the students gave feedback from that chapel [Administration Auditorium], they didn't feel a part of the community," Cherry said.

Cherry believes the latter chapel option will be more appealing to students than the simultaneous Administration Auditorium chapel service. He said the university needs about 300 students to sign up for the 11:45 a.m. chapel alternative in order to fit the rest of the student body in the 9 a.m. Benson service.

Expecting that a later time would benefit the schedules of non-traditional students, including married students and those who are 23 or older, the chapel committee opened an early sign-up for non-traditional students two weeks ago. Seats for the new chapel will be available to all students when chapel sign-up begins May 3.

Senior Jonathan Johnson said he signed up for the chapel service for several reasons.

"I find myself staying up late for projects and just being able to wake up later is something that drew me to it," Johnson said. "I'm looking forward to see what they actually do with it since it won't be at the same time, and it will be smaller."
OUTSIDE THE BUBBLE

'The Passion' leads man to confess

A man who confessed March 7 to strangling his girlfriend to death said watching "The Passion of the Christ" contributed to his decision to kill her himself.

After watching the film, Dan Leach, 21, stood up before his congregation at the Avenue N church of Christ in Rosenberg, Texas, and asked for prayers on his behalf because he would be going to prison.

Later that day, he confessed the crime to his father, the church minister and three elders, who convinced him to go to the police.

Leach strangled his 19-year-old girlfriend, Ashley Nicole Wilson, after she told him she was pregnant and arranged the scene to make it appear like it was a suicide.

The body was found Jan. 19. Leach told the Fort Bend County newspaper that the film was one of a series of "pricks in his heart" that led to his confession.

Two men arrested while dicing jail

The FBI was called to White County and surrounding towns, answering complaints of pranks, according to the weekly police blotter.

The men were arrested April 24 when deputies observed the men taking photographs while driving repeatedly around the White County Detention Center. The deputies searched a vehicle warrant for the car and found guns, methamphetamine, chemicals used in making bombs, and paperwork suggesting possible ties to militias.

White County officials contacted the FBI, who agreed to aid the detectives and interview the suspects.

Difficulty increases for SAT testing

Beginning next spring, students taking the SAT college entrance examination will find the test has been restructured.

The new tests will include writing an essay, solving more advanced mathematics problems, answering more reading comprehension questions and answering multiple choice questions.

The tests will be scored on a scale of 2,400 points instead of 1,600 points and will take 45 minutes longer to complete.

Kangaroo protects man, wins award

A kangaroo named Lulu will receive a national award in Australia next month for rescuing its owner.

The owner, Leonard Richards, was knocked unconscious by a falling tree branch while checking for storm damage at his home in Tarif Flj South near Melbourne. Lulu stood guard over the man and enough noise to draw Richards' wife's attention.

Richard was taken to the hospital and treated for minor injuries.

The Royal Society for the Protection of Animals will award Lulu its animal valor honor next month.

FACES IN THE CROWD

Daniel Haile, Junior

Hometown: Gallatin, Tenn.
Major: Youth and family science
Social club: Treasurer for King's Men
Favorite Saturday morning cartoon while growing up: "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles"
Favorite peeper: "Dumb and Dumber" What is your best Harding experience? Spring break campaign to Liverpool "What made it so great were the people I worked with. We were an odd group of people that worked well together."
Favorite church song: "Someday"
What type of car do you drive? "A white 2001 Honda 2001 CRV affectionately called the Egg"

nickels wins postal award

Tobey Nickels, director of postal services, received the College and University Mail Services Association's "Golden Stamp of Approval" award at the association's conference held recently in Charleston, S.C.

Nickels received the award in recognition of the innovations and improvements he has made to Harding's postal services and the successful achievement of the department's goals and objectives.

Nickels was also elected to the organization's board of directors for the 2004-2005 year.

Four professors honored

Four Harding faculty members received Distinguished Teacher awards during the university's annual faculty and staff dinner Friday, April 16.

Kim Baker-Abrams, assistant professor of music; Dr. Scott Carroll, assistant professor of music; Dr. Raymond "Donny" Lee, associate professor of education; and Robin Miller, associate professor of education, are the 2004 award winners.

Recipients of the Distinguished Teacher Award are determined by in-class teacher evaluations by students, as well as evaluations from their faculty colleagues.

The four honorees received a $2,000 check and a framed certificate commemorating the award.

Staff awarded for service

Four members of Harding University's staff were presented with the 2004 Distinguished Service Award during the annual faculty and staff dinner Friday, April 16.

Harold Alexander, Jane Cavitt, Martha Hodges and Janis Ragsdale were honored with the annual awards at this year's event.

Faculty and staff nominated more than 30 staff members this year. The university president and vice presidents made the final selection.

All four honorees received a $2,000 check and a framed certificate.

Planning begins for fall

Meal plan selection for the fall 2004 semester is now available on Campus Pipeline.

Students can get campus maps at the union or the university's website for the first time today as well as review the fall menu and pricing.

Auction scheduled today

Gamma Sigma Phi and Phi Theta will be auctioning off gifts today on the cafeteria lawn from 5-7 p.m. to raise funds for Education for Life.

COMING UP

5.01 "The Lord of the Rings: Return of the King" Beacon Auditorium, 7 p.m.
5.01 "The Boys Next Door," Little Theatre, 7 p.m.
5.01 Rodeo vs. Arkansas Tech, home, noon; baseball vs. Arkansas Tech, home, 2 p.m.
5.07 David Degg and Michael Cropec, Benson Auditorium, 6 p.m.
5.10 Midnight Breakfast, cafeteria, 10 p.m.
5.13 Graduation, Campus Athletic Center, 10 a.m.

FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE

The weekly schedule is updated daily to reflect the latest information. For students and faculty, the schedule is available online.

For classes extending over two periods, the time of the examination in the course is determined by the time period in which the course begins.
President-elect calls for campus unity next year

STEVEN PROFAIZER

Junior Jimmy Huff focused his campaign for the SA presidency on building bridges. Now that the student body has elected him, Huff plans to bring leadership to students' relationships with each other and with the community.

"The SA president position has appealed to me for awhile, but I didn't want to run just to make a resume look good or because I thought it would be fun," Huff said. "I told myself I would only run if I saw a need at Harding and thought I could help do something about it."

While Huff has plans for helping students cross relationship boundaries and bring a greater sense of unity to the school, he said he is incapable of accomplishing anything without the student support and involvement.

"Realistically, building bridges will only come from within the student body. Nobody else will do it for us. I hope that, as SA president, I can help lead the student body in the right direction."

Two areas where Huff hopes to find common ground for building bridges are school support and school spirit.

"I used to feel that things like school spirit at sporting events was just stupid and boring, but life at Harding has convinced me otherwise," Huff said. "It is a time and place where everyone is together and unified."

According to Huff, basketball games are one of the most intensely supported events at Harding. Huff said he plans to encourage students to give similar support for other sports and events on campus. One of the ways he hopes to increase student turnout is organizing participation opportunities for audience members before and during different events.

"I really want to bring more enthusiasm to Harding next year," Huff said. "Anyone who has seen me speak in chapel knows I am pretty enthusiastic by nature, but I do know some enthusiastic people."

The 2004-2005 school year will hopefully create closer bonds — not only between Harding students but also between students and local Christians, Huff said.

"By involving area churches in outreach programs, I hope to encourage Harding students to do more than just attend local church services and to really become a part of the church," Huff said. "In turn, I want to encourage local congregations to reach out and really involve the other student bodies as members of their churches."

Building relationship bridges is far from the only thing Huff hopes to accomplish during the 2004-2005 school year. He said he also plans to serve as a bridge between the student body and the administration.

"People elected me to serve as their voice," Huff said. "The SA is not intended to be a puppet voice of the faculty to the students, nor a facilitator of grapples from the students to the faculty."

The SA by definition should be serving as a liaison between the students and the administration, Huff said. While the spiritual emphasis of campus is of great importance at a Christian college, he said the SA needs to also be dealing with students' concerns.

"I don’t want people to only bring the huge issues to the SA," Huff said. "I want all of the issues students have — large or small — to be brought to us. Any issue brought before us will at least be discussed at an SA meeting. We may not have the answer, but we will be voice of the students." Huff is considering an engineering major from Haskell, Texas, with aspirations of teaching on the college level. This year Huff served as an assistant director of spring break campaigns as a leader of a spring break campaign to Mulberry, Ark., the spiritual life director of Knights, a beaux for Tri Rappas and a resident assistant for Alleen Huff.

"I would love to teach college-level classes, and I really want to be involved in ministry any way I can," Huff said. "I would like to teach instead of actually working in my field, because I think it will allow me to be more involved in ministry opportunities."

Huff will officially take office in the fall, but he will start working toward his goals long before the semester begins.

"I feel the goal I have for next year is very realistic; however, it is also a very challenging one," Huff said. "This summer will give me time to think through and prepare for some of what I plan to do next year."

Students train, struggle to finish marathons

MICHAEL ALLISON

It’s considered by some to be the ultimate endurance test — a 26.2-mile test across the world.

However, people try to train for it and are able to mentally and physically prepare themselves. People who are physically fit to withstand the pain, it is something that can be either the pinnacle of their minds as one of the greatest accomplishments they have ever experienced or a crushing blow.

This grueling sport is a marathon.

Some Harding students have participated in marathons in the past few weeks, and every one of them said they came away with a sense of accomplishment.

Seniors Tim Avance and Courtney Neal both ran a half-marathon, approximately 13.1 miles, April 29th, at the Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon and Relay.

Avance said a few weeks ago he realized how different the atmosphere is at marathons while watching some seniors Natalie Bell and Justin White run in the Big D Texas Marathon in Dallas. He was intrigued by the entire subculture of marathoners and realized that was something that he would like to do, Avance said. "The idea of all of the specta-

ners and the other marathon runners encouraging you to push on and do your best was something that I decided to try as well."

"The key ingredients of training for a marathon are eating right and exercising daily," Neal said. "I started training by running a few miles at a time and improving from there."

"Once you have a training schedule, you have to stick with it," Neal said. "You can’t just run a few miles here and there. You have to make running a part of your daily routine." Huff also said that it takes a lot of dedication and determination to finish a marathon. Although there are hundreds of marathons and half-marathons run, Huff said only ten percent of runners are capable of finishing a marathon.

"I don’t think there is a more compelling story of how I have ever been a part of a group," Huff said. "The camaraderie and the dedication it takes to prepare mentally and physically for this is indescribable."

MILEAGE BELL, SENIOR

The culture of marathon running and the dedication it takes to prepare mentally and physically for the sport is indescribable.

However, some found marathons running to be a painful experience.

Senior Alan Gable said running in the Nashville Half Marathon April 24-25 was a difficult task. "It was one of the worst experiences I have ever had," Gable said. "It was extremely painful, it rained, and there were over 17,000 runners crammed together at the beginning. But, at the end, I had one of the greatest accomplishments ever in my life."

Even after all of the rigorous training that pushed these students to their limits, they all said they would not trade anything for the feeling of achievement.

Saul said that anybody could run a marathon if they set their mind to it.

"If you are really thinking about running a marathon, you should set a goal and try to achieve it in order to get you motivated to do your best," Saul said. "I want to finish, even if it means walking the whole thing."
SA's 'Umoja' meets goal; 'world' wins

BRANDON SUBLETTE
Student reporter

Thanks to both the Texans and 'Everyone Else,' Student Association president Michael Campbell said he believed the Umoja Project turned out to be a success. "I think it has been very successful in two ways," Campbell said. "One was monetarily, and the other was the way students reacted to it.

The Umoja Project's goal was to raise $25,000 dollars. So far, the project has enough money to pay all costs and fund the trip. "We've brought in $27,000 [all together]," Campbell said. "They thought it was big news, and that the students can step up to raise the final amount.

About $17,000 will go to the hospital in N Chiru, Sudan, one of the two projects detailed in the Umoja mission. In this war-torn region of Africa, medical supplies are scarce and funds are lacking for adequate continuation of the hospital to serve 60,000 war refugees.

The remaining $8,000 will go to the Chephungu School in Kenya, home to four Harding students, junior Ben Gerber, Nathan Hendrix, Mark Johnston and Chris Nicholson, as well as a community that lacks clean water. The four men went to Kenya in order to evangelize and school the people.

Students raised money for the project April 8-16 by giving donations, riding the SA taxi, participating in the 'Run for Their Lives' race sponsored by Outreach and attending the Battle of the Bands and "Charity by the Diners.

Pizzapro also sided in the project by donating $1 to the project every time a student presented a voucher at the time of the sale. Texans were challenged to uphold their reputation and raise more money "than the world."

Sophomore Katie Freeman said she thought the competition was an innovative idea. "It made Texans put their money where their mouth is," Freeman said.

Campbell said he was pleased with how well the friendly competition turned out. "I thought it was great," Campbell said. "I thought Texans did a very good job.

Despite their efforts, the Texans lost to the world with final totals at about $12,600 for Texas and about $13,600 for the world.

Although the project has officially ended, Campbell said students can continue. "They can help raise the additional $2,000 by donating their old T-shirts and replacing those shirts with new ones by purchasing the remaining 'Texas vs. the World' shirts.

"If we could just sell those remaining T-shirts, that would help a lot," Campbell said.

LISA BLOUNT
Student reporter

When the cast of "The Boys Next Door" signed up to perform, they didn't know they would also perform outside the theater.

The play, which opened in the Little Theatre Thursday and will be performed at 7 p.m. tonight and Saturday, is based on Tom Griffin's off-Broadway play about four mentally-challenged men who live together in a group home and Jack, the social worker who helps care for them.

In order to put themselves in the places of the characters they portray, the group visited the Sunshine School several times. Senior Jamie Rochell said going to the school was the best part about being involved in the play.

"It was good to be around them," Rochell said. "It helped remind me of how much like us they really are, especially with their feelings.' After working with the people at the Sunshine School and developing their characters, the cast and crew put on a pre-production recently for two women who work at the Sunshine School.

The cast wanted to see if the performers were accurately portraying their characters and avoiding anything that would seem to mock anyone.

"It was really hard trying to play this character because you want to be dramatic, but at the same time, you don't want to seem like you're making fun of those who are mentally-challenged," Rochell said.

Sophomore Megan Gilbert, who plays Sheila, said the women from the Sunshine School approved the performance and were pleased with what they saw.

"The ladies loved it," Gilbert said. "They didn't suggest that we take out or change anything.

Gilbert said portraying the character was also difficult because this will be the first time she has ever acted in a movie, like the one Hallmark produced in 1996.

"Being in a play is completely different because you have people you know personally and take out or change anything."

Gilbert said portraying the character was also difficult because this will be the first time she has ever acted in a movie, like the one Hallmark produced in 1996.

"Being in a play is completely different because you have people you know personally and take on the same character as usual," Gilbert said.

As director, senior Lindsey Harriman said she learned to appreciate the small parts of the play that can create laughs and still portray the characters in a realistic way.

"The neat thing about this play is that the little moments become funny... the washing of the dishes sweeping the floor," Harriman said. "It continues to help you step outside of yourself and see that mentally-challenged people are real people."

Senior Justin Dean, who plays Jack, said although he was involved in theater in high school, this production was a challenge. "We call it a roller coaster," Dean said. "You will experience so many emotions when watching this show. It's humorous and sad; the trick is learning to tap into those emotions when acting out the part.

Fourteen people are involved in the production: Harriman, Dean, Rochell, Gilbert, senior Tim Davis (Berry), freshmen Jordan Dyniewski (Arnold) and Ian Thomas (Norman), senior Lauren Cantrell (Mrs. Warren) and sophomore Heather Stringfellow.

Freshman Jordan Dyniewski performs as Jack, the social worker in 'The Boys Next Door.' The play opened in the Little Theatre Thursday night.

Sophomore Lauren Padgett served as the assistant director; sophomores Cynthia Noah served as stage director; freshman Seth Fish served as tech director; senior Natalie Graham served as lighting designer; and freshman Joel Benedict served as sound producer.

Tickets to the play are $4 or free with the Pass.
Muscle-building supplement raises questions

KYLE W. WORTH
Harding College of Nursing

"Is that ripped body you want in two weeks or less?"

"Increase your bench press by 50 percent!"

Does this sound too good to be true? Maybe...and maybe not.

Throughout the years its use has been controversial.

Until recently, little scientific evidence had either proved or disproved its effectiveness or safety.

Even today, the supplement has not received approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. So let's get to a few commonly asked questions regarding the use of creatine. What exactly is creatine? Does it actually work? And, is it really safe?

What exactly is creatine? Creatine is an amino acid compound that is made naturally in the body. Approximately 1-2 grams are produced naturally by the kidneys and liver each day. Another 1-2 grams are consumed from high-protein foods.

Dr. Don Shrag, distinguished professor of chemistry, said creatine assists muscles in acquiring the energy to move and to work.

Creatine (as extreme important in the utilization of energy in the body," England said. "It is the primary agent used in the utilization of energy in the muscle relaxation-contraction process.

In general, creatine has been found to be ineffective in long-distance, endurance athletic events, but helpful in short-duration exercises.

In increasing muscle function, creatine also causes water retention within the muscles. Many athletes assume that the "pumped up" feeling athletes experience after taking creatine is simply a result of the excess water in the muscles.

In general, creatine has been found to be ineffective in long-distance, endurance athletic events, but helpful in short-duration exercises.

Dr. Erv Turley, associate professor of kinesiology, said creatine does give athletes an advantage.

It allows for a quicker recovery after a work out, leading to greater volumes and intensity in training, resulting in greater strength gains," Turley said. "There is no denying that creatine works.

However, as you can see, the literature on the effectiveness of creatine is neither clear cut nor consistent.

Is creatine supplementation safe?

According to current research, creatine has been found to be relatively safe in short-term studies. Some mild side effects may include diarrhea, nausea, upset stomach, weakness, dizziness or weight gain. Excessively high doses (20 or more grams) used for several weeks may cause serious, irrecoverable kidney damage. In regards to the possibility of unknown side effects, Turley said he is concerned about the absence of information on creatine's safety.

"You are taking a chance," Turley said. "We don't have any longitudinal data on the long-term effects of creatine."

Should one consider using creatine?

Creatine is not recommended for those with kidney problems or for women who may be pregnant or breast feeding.

Adverse reactions must be maintained throughout creatine use to lessen its strain on the kidneys.

If medications are routinely taken (even drugs like aspirin, ibuprofen, or other herbal or vitamin supplements), consult your physician or health care provider before beginning creatine. Some of these drugs may cause serious side effects if used simultaneously with creatine.

Furthermore, children under the age of 18 and individuals with heart problems and/or high blood pressure should also seek medical advice if interested in using the supplement.

Also, when looking for a creatine product, it is important that the container is labeled "100 percent pure" or "free from impurities." Products not labeled in this manner may contain some potentially harmful byproducts.

Turley reminds creatine users that the product is man's attempt to synthetically mimic a product that God naturally produces in the body.

"There is always a chance for the supplement to cause harm," Turley said.

Now, the decision...

When deciding whether to use creatine or any other nutritional supplements, it is important to go to a qualified, professional health care provider, whether it is a physician, registered nurse or sports trainer.

In September 2000, a survey published in the International Journal of Sport Nutrition and Exercise Metabolism revealed that 69 percent of those studied received their information on creatine from popular magazines, whereas only 14 percent consulted physicians or other professional health care providers.

Although magazines, health food stores and internet sites may provide some educational information, they may also present biased or inflated facts to their readers.

It is important to judge carefully the intentions and qualifications of the writer, as well as the scientific evidence provided. Careful consideration of the benefits and potential dangers must be weighed in the decision-making process.

Advice from the experts

Regardless of the decision made on creatine, England recommends eating a good, balanced, high-protein diet for building muscle.

"Creatine will make all the creatine that is needed," England said. "God created us so that if we are healthy individuals, our bodies are going to be creating as much (creatine) as we need."

Turley said he believes the use of creatine "is scientifically sound," and although the product may work, "it doesn't mean it should be used.

"Turley suggested students should "get in the gym and work hard," and avoid taking supplemental creatine until more long-term research is completed."

EDITORS NOTE: The information provided in the Health and Wellness section is not intended to replace professional medical advice. The WBC encourages readers to consult a licensed medical practitioner when making any decisions regarding health.
Summer in Searcy

Students search for creative ways to spend summer days in Searcy and its surrounding areas

STEFANIE SHEA
Student reporter

It is that time again: the semester is almost over and many students are heading home for the summer. But what about those who are staying in Searcy; what is there to do around here?

Many Harding students would answer that there is nothing to do during the summer in Searcy. However, sometimes absolutely nothing can be relaxing, according to senior Melissa Hopman, who stayed for the entire summer last year.

"Searcy can be extremely peaceful in the summer," Hopman said. "As long as you have a friend or two with you, the summer can be enjoyable."

Even those who aren't interested in a quieter life can find activities in or around Searcy if they know where to look.

For example, Camp Tahkodah and Camp Wydwood are two local camps that love having students work as counselors.

Junior Micah Rine has worked at Camp Tahkodah for the past four years.

"I love working with the kids, and being outside in nature," Rine said. "The other counselors are fun to work with, and I think it is a godly, uplifting experience."

Junior Jordan Kendall-Ball said by working as a counselor he got to influence children's lives and, at the same time, to let them influence his life.

"I decided that it would be a great way to enrich my spiritual life," Kendall-Ball said. "The money was decent, but I ended up being paid in ways other than money. It was with the experience. I loved getting paid to play and help kids grow."

Working at a camp for the summer may not be the job for everyone. While some students look for a specific job, others are happy with any job they can find to make some extra money.

Either way, the traditional approach to finding a job is looking for a 'Help Wanted' sign, or looking at the Carmichael Community Center, 803 E. Elm St., where summer jobs are posted for students.

Senior Adam Gang said he plans to work a lot this summer.

"Hopefully, I am going to be working two jobs, around 70 hours a week, so I can get myself out of the huge financial debt that Harding put me in," Gang said. "With any free time I do have, I will go to Riverside with my friends and grill out, swim — just have fun with my friends who will actually be here."

Besides going to Riverside, students can enjoy outdoor adventures in the Ozark Mountains and at Greers Ferry Lake near Heber Springs.

At Greers Ferry Lake, visitors will find volleyball courts, campgrounds and events, like watermelon-eating competitions and a tug-of-war contest. It has two marinas which offer many exciting forms of water recreation, from parasailing to renting houseboats, ski boats, pontoon boats and Jet Skis.

"The trip to Heber Springs is not a long drive from Searcy," Hopman said. "You can easily stay there all day — just swimming, relaxing or playing games. If you take a summer class, you can escape and study there in the afternoons."

Another way students can spend their free summer hours is by volunteering at the local animal shelter, hospitals, or even the Sunshine School.

Because some students do stay in Searcy over the summer, there's always opportunities to get to know new people. Spending a summer together can create close friendships and the possibility of taking road trips together.

While staying in for summer sessions may not sound that exciting, keeping eye out for entertainment options can help pass the time until the fall semester starts again.

4 time-killers for a Searcy summer

Become involved with a church family
Church families fill their summers with devotional, picnic, camping trips and theme park adventures. As you enjoy the activities, you can build bonds with Christians in the Searcy community.

Volunteer at day camps for children
Take the time to improve your talent as you help children find their talents. Whether you enjoy playing sports, making crafts or writing stories, Harding and Harding host camps that need volunteers.

Go for a drive
Searcy may not be as large as Atlanta or New York City, but it does exist beyond Race Street. Put your car in drive and explore some of the areas of Searcy that are unknown to you. Take a friend in case you lose your way.

Relax — it's summer
Although you may choose to take some summer courses or work a job or two, enjoy your time off from the repetitive activities of the regular school year. Take the day you moved all year, and if you want, take two naps after you wake up at noon.
Six friends will soon say farewell after 10 years of friendship. On May 6, people across America will turn on their televisions to view the series finale of "Friends." Long-running television series find a way of coming to an end, similar to a break-up. Friend, "Friends," revolving around a core group of adult friends, dominated the airwaves and around dinner tables. The show is set in West 23rd, a block of life, several shows have dominated conversa- tion for the past 10 years around elementary school, Alfred, an alien from Melmarie, invaded conversa- tion with discussions on the breakdowns of Zack Morris and Rod Ritchie from "Saved by the Bell" echoed as class bells rung in middle school. The month of May is National Hamburger Month, Autism and Allergy Awareness Month, American Bike Month and Strawberry Month. But to the people of Memphis, May means one thing: the annual "Memphis in May International Festival." Known to most as "Memphis in May," this month-long revelry celebrates the indigenous genius of Memphis. Memphis in May hosts the city's largest events like the Beale Street Music Festival, the World Championship Barbecue Cooking Contest and the Sunset Symphony. The program also produces extensive educational, cultural and economic programs for the city. Beginning with the Beale Street Music Festival from April 30 to May 2, music lovers from around the world gather to commemorate the essential heritage of great music: the deep river of blues. It is said that Memphis continues to generate through history. The festival will have four big stages on 33 acres of the Tom Lee Park, which overlooks the Mississippi River and is right on the outskirts of historic Beale Street. More than 60 artists will perform blues, rock, gospel, R&B, hip-hop and alternative, creating a spine-tingling musical assortment guaranteed to shake your soul. Some of the artists performing in this year's show consist of Collective Soul, Fuel, Sister Hazel, Switchfoot, Chaka Khan, B.B. King, and many others. The official list of performers is on the Memphis in May web site, http://www.memphisinmay.org.

Another Memphis in May tradition involves celebrating an "honored country." The activities and programs offered for the honored country are dedicated to increasing the understanding of life around the world. The 2004 honored country is South Africa. Art exhibits, food tasting, educational exchanges, traditional and modern performance troupes and many other events bring the spirit of South Africa to Memphis in grand style. "The Super Bowl of Swim," the largest known pork barbecue contest in the world, is held May 19-21. For three stuffed days of smoked heaven, contestants eat, sleep and live pig. Everyone okays rowdily, and people compete to win more than $61,050 in prizes. Food-masters and good- timers will arrive at Tom Lee Park downtown. Memphis for competition that is both seriously fun and seriously messy. More than 90,000 pork lovers from Australia, Russia, Morocco, Ivory Coast, Estonia, Canada, France, Japan, New Zealand, Thailand and the United Kingdom assemble to compare and boast about their special smoked items and whatnots in Pig-Dom.

Memphis in May is the Sunset Symphony at 7:30 p.m. May 29. With its handsome setting on the banks of the Mississippi and the symphonic sounds of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra, this event truly continues a tradition of family and friendly fun. Fireworks displays will be shot off, displaying mythical lights above the river. Tickets for the music festival can be purchased through Ticketmaster or on the Memphis in May Web site. Barbecue contest tickets are $7 per day and may be purchased at the gates. Anyone interested in testing their barbecuing skills can find an official entry form online at www.memphisinmay.org.
Getting older does not mean growing up

Well, it's 2004. I'm 20 years old, and I don't have any superpowers. By the standards of the 5-year-old Aaron from 1989, I'm a complete failure. Seriously, I figured that by this time I would at least be one of the Ghostbusters or would have personally acquainted myself with Voltron. Want to know something that's really throwing me off-balance? Things I loved and adored as a kid are now being remade, and the originals are being referred to as "retro" or "classics." He-Man and the Transformers both have new cartoon shows and toys, and there's actually a live-action Transformers movie in the works right now. Yes, fellows, we have been given official permission to drool. But, like I was saying, my childhood has become nostalgic antiquity for today's kids, and that's just a little bit scary.

I still remember the first time I was seriously addressed as "Master Rushton, sir," and I still remember waking up 40 minutes later after I had passed out. I'm not a sir! I'm certainly not Mister Rushton! I'm certainly not Mister Grandpa, he can be Mister Rushton! I'm not Mister Rushton, I'm Aaron! I'm the Dude! For crying out loud, I still make goofy beards with my shaving cream! I can certainly understand the appeal of the Peter Pan lifestyle, wanting to be a freshman in college. (Well, OK, so I'm exaggerating a bit. Every single day of high school I spent at least 5 minutes in prayer to God that the next time I fell asleep in class, I'd just wake up and be a freshman in college.) I have to put down all my toys? I sure hope not. It's not that I'm not looking forward to being old, I think that's a goal we'd pretty much all like to achieve some day. The thing that scares me is the idea that one day I'm going to have to buckle down and do all kinds of responsible adult stuff, like drinking coffee and telling my kids not to do the same stuff I was doing when I was their age.

And there's something that ought to make every single one of you afraid for your lives—the idea of Aaron Jacob Rushton having children. Can you imagine what kind of warped minds would come out of a lifetime of being brought up by me?

Here's another scary thing. In 11 years, "Back to the Future II" will be completely out of date. 2015 will no longer be the wonderful "uturistic" thing it once was. I don't have a time-traveling DeLorean yet, and I certainly haven't seen any flying cars, and, frankly, I'm getting a little disappointed. I'm just not ready for all this real-life stuff. I'm not ready to be a Mister or a sir; I'm not ready to have to take things seriously; I'm not ready to do something other than live my life from punch line to punch line.

I'm just not ready for all this real-life stuff; I'm not ready to be a Mister or a sir; I'm not ready to have to take things seriously; I'm not ready to do something other than live my life from punch line to punch line.

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Ah, the memories
Looking back: A year of growth, success and service

This was a year of growth, success, and service.

The student body continued the tradition of Christian service in the community through children's carnivals, Scarey Appreciation Days, the rake and run, club service projects, and the countless acts of kindness that go unnoticed in the pages of this newspaper.

The Student Association, under unparalleled leadership, pursued a course of growth and success. The SA's month of prayer was empowering, and its Ugandan Project raised thousands of dollars to help Harding's giving spirit reach across the seas.

Harding's talented athletes provided a source of pride for student spectators, and were constant displays of the true definition of Christian athletes.

New majors and academic programs were added as the university grew by record numbers. Construction, from the remodeled cafeteria to the new engineering building, was a constant reminder of the university's expansion.

The university continued to build upon its role in the church by providing valuable opportunities, such as the annual lectureships, for Christians of all ages to gain knowledge and understanding of the Word.

This was a year of merit for the university, and she has her outstanding students, faculty and staff to thank for it.

Many of Harding's finest will be leaving soon. We hope that they leave with more than just a diploma in their hand—we hope they leave with fond memories, a second education, and the spirit of growth, success and service that Harding holds so dear.

Going 'postal' from a lack of mail

There are certain things in life you just can't resist.

If you see a dog with its ear flipped inside out, you have to un-flip it.

If someone says something smells horrible, you have to smell it.

If you're eating a Tootsie Pop, you have to bite it.

And if you walk by your campus mailbox, you have to check it.

I can hardly walk through the student center without making a quick stop to see if any mail has come for the since my last check.

Every time I pass, I know my mailbox is probably empty. But can I really go to sleep at night knowing that I might have a new credit card offer or a campus-wide mailing just sitting in there?

This habit leads to me looking for an unhealthy amount of daily mail checks. The problem stems from the fact that I really don't get much mail very often. By much mail, I mean any mail, and by very often, I mean ever. I know that many of you have no idea what I'm talking about. I see you contentedly waiting in the 'I've got a little yellow slip for the fifth time this week' game.

Meanwhile, I'm busy reasoning with my mail ladies that this is a new record for the longest time someone has not received mail, and that there absolutely must be something wrong with my mailbox.

During my freshman year, I went to take a campus-wide mailings lead-by-head from my mailbox to the trash can.

"Who would ever think about reading these things?" I used to say to myself.

I now live for those cordial invitations to events I probably won't attend. Of course, getting some type of personalized mail from family or friends is always best, but those hardly make regular appearances in my box.

You learn what you can get. After all, anything is better than finding a dark, empty steel box filled with nothing but a growing collection of cobwebs.

My daily episodes of disappointment have got me thinking about a much needed solution to my problem.

Proposed solution 1: Start volunteering my address to junk mailers. I never give out my address online—maybe that's my problem. I figure going down the list of interests and checking all of them should keep the mail flowing.

Of course, mail would keep coming to me long after I graduated, and the next 50 owners of my Harding box number would probably try to hunt me down.

Proposed solution 2: I have almost definitely concluded that getting mail isn't nearly as important as not finding my box empty. There's something about looking straight through my empty little mailbox, knowing where my mail should be, and seeing a yellow package slip in every mailbox opposite me that makes things just a little worse.

So, my second idea is to make up a fake yellow slip, and just leave it in there. Even when I didn't get any new mail, the slip would always be there to comfort me. I also think this would go a long way to suppressing my "cool factor" with my mailbox neighbor, who would think I always have a package.

I realize the easiest solution might just be to walk through the student center without checking my mail, but there are certain things in life you just can't resist.

STEVEN PROFIZER is a junior public relations major, and will be the editor-in-chief of the Bison next year. He may be contacted at spfizer@harding.edu.
Sports

**Bisons ‘wonder’ about GSC playoffs**

**SPORTS**

MATT PRICE  Sports editor

According to a line often used by sports enthusiasts, when you win more than one in row you call that a winning streak.

Since April 13, the Bisons are 6-0 in their last two conference series after sweeping Arkansas-Monticello April 17-18 and Gulf South Conference West Division foe Ouachita Baptist last weekend.

For the Bisons, the conference win streak couldn’t have come at a better time as they prepare to host the last conference series of the season having moved to within three games of Arkansas Tech and the division’s fourth and final playoff spot.

The Bisons’ opponent in the final series: Arkansas Tech.

According to head baseball coach Shane Fuller ton, the team’s chance to control its own destiny and extend its streak to the conference tournament in Millington, Tenn., for the second time in three years has arrived.

“For us, this is the first round of the GSC tournament,” Fuller ton said.

The Bisons plan to treat this weekend’s matchup like any other series and not worry about the playoff implications.

The Bisons had the opportunity to clinch a playoff spot in its final series of the year at home last season only their opponent was a top-ranked Delta State squad, to whom the Bisons subsequently dropped two of three.

Ironically, the Bisons’ 2004 season turned a positive corner following the Delta State series.

Before taking two of three from the Statesmen April 4, the Bisons conference record was 2-7. Since the Delta State series, the Bisons improved their GSC record to 11-10.

“They guys have just found a way down the stretch to get things done that they’ve needed to,” Fuller ton said. “Things find a way of equating.”

The Bisons will be looking for revenge against the Wonder Boys on Saturday, Arkansas Tech swept the Bisons last season in Russellville.

In order to prepare for this weekend’s series, the Bisons traveled to Conway Tuesday to face Central Baptist in a non-conference doubleheader.

The Bisons split with the Mustangs exiting them in game one 14-3 and dropping game two 14-10.

The Bisons used nine base hits, including three home runs to light up the scoreboard in the first game, which was shortened to five innings due to the mercy rule.

Redshirt freshman right fielder Devin Watts led the Bisons with a 3-5 performance in the series.

The Bisons off-season plan includes at least three men to fill the void left at the catcher position.

“We’re going to be very versatile,” Fuller ton said. “We’ve got a couple of players who can catch every day but we’ve got a few other players who can catch and throw that could help us out.”

According to Fuller ton, he is also in search of a left-handed reliever to spell junior right-hander William Trotter tied the school’s single-season record in innings came in the fifth with junior right fielder Tim Bowser and senior Mark Connell (into the game as a pinch hitter) both hit home runs closing the score 14-10.

That’s the closest the Bisons came, however, as the Mustangs pulled away early allowing Harding to rally.

Williams took the loss for the Bisons. His record falls to 1-2 on the season.

The Bisons’ fight for a playoff spot against the Wonder Boys beginsewith a doubleheader Saturday at Jerry Moore Field.

### GSC West Playoff Race

*Delta State 16-3*
*Southern Arkansas 16-5*
*Central Arkansas 14-7*
*Harding 11-10*
*Arkansas Tech 11-10*

*Eliminated playoff spot*

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Fans won’t ‘travel’ far to find baseball tradition

**Matt Price**

Sports editor

Students driving towards Park Plaza Shopping Mall on the Wilbur D. Mills Freeway (I-696) in west Little Rock may not know it, but in each trip they pass a small slice of Baseball Americana.

Nestled off the highway is Ray Winder Field, the home of the Arkansas Travelers, the Texas League Double-A affiliate of the Anaheim Angels.

The occasional drivers finding themselves dodging a baseball launched over the screen sitting atop right field are well aware of the 72-year old ballpark, but may not be familiar with its rich history and tradition.

The stadium is named for former general manager Ray Winder, who oversaw the team’s move to its existing site in 1932.

Ray Winder Field is among the ten oldest stadiums in America to still be home to a professional affiliate baseball team.

According to Bill Valentine, the team’s general manager for the last 25 years, very little has been done to the stadium cosmetically since its inception.

The stands are small and still in excellent condition and the tall outfield walls have not changed since the stadium was opened in 1932. The team has even been able to actually treat some of the same grass patches as baseball fans from 1932.

Perhaps the biggest change to the stadium’s appearance came in 1973 when the 55-foot screen was placed atop center and right field to protect cars driving on the freeway from being pelted by flying baseballs.

Valentine says he is preserving the history and tradition of the fans not just in the stadium’s appearance, but also in the one-time in the atmosphere presented to fans attending a game.

“Here fans feel the feeling of going back in time,” Valentine said.

**Ray Winder Field Little Rock**

May 31

Tickets are available in the Forbes Public Relations Office.

“Give fans the feeling of being back when baseball ruled all sports, when it was a valuable pastime and the only game going. We are a throwback of what games were like back then.”

Those searching for fancy statistics can’t find them at Ray Winder. Travelers’ baseball games offer a small menu of traditional baseball staples: hot dogs, cotton candy, peanuts, soft drinks and popcorn.

Games at Ray Winder offer organ music played throughout all nine innings, a feature Valentine says is uncommon at most of today’s parks.

“I like to try to stay, we’re authentic; we’re nostalgic, we’re quality family entertainment,” Valentine said.

**Baseball America magazine** took note of the traditions at Ray Winder Field in an article that published that gave fans a top ten list of things that must see in baseball.

The list included Ray Winder Field seeing a World Series, an All-Star Game, a game at Wrigley Field and Fenway Park and a day night doubleheader at Ray Winder Field in Little Rock.

The tradition the stadium tries to keep is matched only by the team that plays on its field.

The Travelers started playing professional baseball in 1866. The team was called the Little Rock Travelers until 1961, when it changed its name to the Arkansas Travelers, becoming the first professional team to be named for an entire region or state.

Valentine said the team is trying to revive the Little Rock name in its uniforms this season.

Creased across the chest of the away jerseys is the city’s name.

The team uses lightweight occasionally sport hats with an insignia featuring the letters I and R this season.

The team has been affiliated with two leagues—the Southern League and Texas League. The Travelers won four championships as a member of the Southern League and five since joining the Texas League, most recently in 2001.

The Travelers were affiliated with Major League Baseball’s St. Louis Cardinals until 2000 when they switched to the Anaheim Angels. The move was fact first, according to Valentine, but since the Angels’ World Series championship in 2002, those fans have returned to the stadium.

Former Travelers who were on the World Series team include pitchers John Lackey, Francisco Rodriguez and Brandon Donnelly, as well as second baseman Adam Kennedy.

Notable Travelers alumni include Hall of Famer Tris Speaker, Bill Dickey and Jim Bunning. Many of today’s stars such as Dimitri Young, Matt Morris, Eli Marrero and J.D. Drew came through Little Rock.

This season’s roster boasts four of the Angels’ top 10 prospects according to Baseball America, including the team’s top three prospects: first baseman Casey Kotchman, catcher Jeff Mathis and third baseman Dallas McPherson.

Mathis hopes the road through the minors will eventually lead to an Angels uniform, but said he does not get caught up in the pressure of being a top prospect.

“I just go out there and play,” Mathis said. “I love the game. I don’t think about it too much. I just enjoy talking about and recognized, but as far as that added pressure I try to keep that off.”

The 21-year-old catcher attended spring training with the Angels this season and believes he was taught valuable skills from managers together, an All-Star catcher, and Bengie Molina, the Angel’s current catcher and a Gold Glove award winner.

This season, Mathis has already had a top prospect. He held a .314 batting average and is second on the team in on-base percentage with a .379 average with two home runs and nine RBIs.

He has played a major role in the team’s 11-7 record, which leads the league’s East Division.

The team goal for Mathis this season is to participate in the playoffs, something he’s never was able to accomplish due to injuries and a late-season promotion to Arkansas last season.

Mathis believes the team’s key attribute is the unity the players have developed with one another as they have climbed the ranks of the minor league system together.

“I’ve played with the majority of these guys in this locker room for four years,” Mathis said. “It’s nice to be able to hang out even off the field and be such good friends. It’s really important.”

Until he takes over the catching duties for the Angels, Mathis plans to continue to find ways to enjoy minor league baseball.

“Thankful just to be playing baseball,” Mathis said. “To come to a place like this that’s made just for us to play in is amazing to me.”

If Valentine has his way, Ray Winder Field will continue for some time to be a place for young prospects like Mathis to play, for fans to remember what baseball used to be like and what the newly-constructed major league parks only wish they could be.
Successful athletic based on camaraderie for coaches

ASHLEY KELLIUM
Student reporter

It is a Harding tradition. On the first day of chapel, President David Burks makes the rounds in the Benson Auditorium, in search of finding someone who can correctly spell "camaraderie." Many students will spend four years at Harding, trying to catch the meaning — and the spelling — of the word.

Perhaps one of the areas where the Harding's sense of camaraderie can be seen most clearly is through the cooperation and teamwork among the athletic teams.

"Camaraderie is an extension of the Harding tradition," said Head Coach Sheree Fullerton. "Not only do the coaches support each other, but all the coaches approve the support we all have for one another."

"There is no jealousy like there is in other sports," Fullerton said. "All the coaches appreciate the support we all have for one another."

Fullerton said that the basketball players attend Midnight Madness for basketball and volleyball games and wear all the same T-shirts. "It shows the tradition of a tradition for us," Fullerton said.

Fullerton added that many of the baseball players attend track and volleyball games as well. He said it "is important that they want the other teams to succeed."

"The other day a coach walked into the locker room as if he was saying goodbye, he said 'I love you, man,'" Fullerton said.

Fullerton said that "There is genuine love and support at this school." Volleyball, football and women's basketball coach Brad Fransa shared membership numbers this year in an effort of cooperation.

When one of Fransa's players suffered knee injuries last fall, Giboney suggested that Leanne Lackey, a junior middle blocker for the volleyball team, step in and play for the basketball team.

Lackey had played basketball in high school so Fransa asked her to try-out. "I knew the [women's] team was in need," Giboney said. "I said 'I love you, man,'" Fullerton said.

Giboney said, "There's genuine love and support at this school." Volleyball, football and women's basketball coach Brad Fransa shared membership numbers this year in an effort of cooperation.

"Camaraderie is the way we do things at Harding," Morgan said. "That's one great thing about working here."

"I appreciate the fact that we have the best coaches in all the country working with the student-athletes that come here," Giboney said.

"We have a phenomenal athletic department. Don't take it for granted," Morgan said.

You don't see that everywhere either — Jeff Morgan, head basketball coach

"Such a classy style. The student body and the coaches appreciate it and work hard," Giboney said.

"The great chemistry amongst the coaches here is something that goes unmentioned — it's not like everyone else here," Morgan said. "It's great to work with each other's coaches and have them in the same room and the same building."

"I'm thankful for the camaraderie shared between our student body and the athletic department with the student-athletes," Giboney said.

"There is a great relationship between our student body and the athletic department with the student-athletes," Giboney said.

Sometimes it is hard to get work done when we are hanging out in each other's offices," he said.

"We can celebrate together when we win, as well," Giboney said.

Giboney said that "Harden's athletic director, has done a great job hiring coaches that share common goals and care about the environment in which their athletes compete."

"Harden keeps the mood light and fun," Giboney said. "He is laidback."

According to Scott Goode, sports information director, Harding is ranked 16th out of 188 schools among NCAA Division II standards in all sports. This means that for men's and women's collegiate sports, Harding has performed well in their respective competitions, Goode said.

Giboney mentioned the past couple of years in both women's and men's competitions, Goode said. "We've ranked higher this year than I think we ever have. We have a fun club that follows the polls in the past 50th."

The polls are sponsored by the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics.

In their respective practices, the coaches strive to establish a positive and fun attitude in their athletes. The coaches also strive to instill that camaraderie is not just an eleven-letter word, but a way of life and a Harding tradition.