Impact leaders plan committee, theme for 2005

JENNIFER ALLEN
student reporter

The office of First Year Experience announced the theme and introduced the leaders of next year's Student Impact, the university's new student orientation program, in chapel Feb. 7.

Butch Gardner, director of First Year Experience, selected juniors Randi Tribble and Nathan Copeland as co-directors of the four-day event, which will begin Aug. 17.

After putting together a steering committee to assist them with the program's organization, Tribble and Copeland chose "Who Am I?" as the 2005 Student Impact theme.

Tribble said the theme, which is based on a song by the Christian group Casting Crowns, made perfect sense.

"It's appropriate for the freshmen, who are beginning a new stage in life, and it is a good topic for the speakers," Tribble said.

The directors say they plan to keep up with the program's traditions, including the hypnotist performance andibus in President David Burks' backyard. However, Tribble said they hope to do something different with the speakers this year, and that the entertainment will be more extensive.

"The basic concept of Impact has stayed the same since the program's inception in 1986, according to Gardner. He said the volunteers are what keep it going from year to year. Gardner said "Impact wouldn't be Impact without the volunteer spirit that comes from the student body," Gardner said. "I call it the "Harding Spirit" — the service and giving back that the students do."

That volunteer service apparently makes a difference. According to the office of First Year Experience, 91 percent of students who participate in Student Impact return the next year, whereas only 59 percent of students who do not attend the orientation program return.

"I feel like Impact is the most successful program on campus," Gardner said.

Tribble said she is looking forward to serving next year's freshmen, transfers and new students.

"I am excited about seeing all the freshmen coming and seeing how this group will impact them," Tribble said.

Disc golf arrives

NEW COURSE LANDS IN SEARCY PARK

BRENT CLARK
student reporter

The Searcy Parks and Recreation Department opened a free Frisbee golf course over Christmas break in the sports complex at the city's industrial park.

Frisbee golf, also known as disc golf, consists of a player throwing a specially designed disc into a goal, which is an elevated basket. The game is similar to golf, as the object is to complete the course with the fewest throws.

"We try to look for new avenues to provide the community on a regular basis," Holloway said.

Designers Bill Trousdale and Robbie Shaw laid the plans for the course Aug. 8, and in September, the goals and greens were set. The course, which sits on about a acres of land, is not completed, but it is playable, Smith said.

Smith said the Parks and Recreation department could leave the course in the condition it is in now, but they would rather increase the aesthetic appearance.

We envision adding some berms, landscape work and also probably planting some trees," Smith said. "We will try to upgrade the whole course through those measures."

Junior Michael Harvey said he was interested in the new course because he has played Frisbee and golf separately, as well as the combination game of disc golf.

"It's easier than golf, but different from Frisbee," Harvey said.

Junior Whitney Jordan, Ultimate Frisbee team member, said the disc golf course will provide him with another way to enjoy the game he loves.

"In Ultimate Frisbee, you are always running around with the disc golf, it is not as athletic, but it does require more skill, especially with the disc placement," Jordan said.

Smith and Holloway said they are eager to see how much play the course receives.

Smith said he has two goals for the disc golf course: to provide local citizens with another sporting activity and to attract some competitive national golf disc tournaments to Searcy.

Defining freedom of speech

Colorado professor's paper compares 9/11 victims to Nazis; campus questions state universities' role

DEMM McCARTY
student reporter

Increasing scandal at the University of Colorado at Boulder in recent weeks over an Ethnic Studies professor's controversial statement has caused members of the Harding community to question the boundaries of the constitutional right to freedom of speech.

Professor Ward Churchill has been criticized for opinions expressed in his 2001 essay, "Some People Push Back — On the Justice of Roasting Chickens."

The essence of Churchill says America deserved the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon and compares the victims to Adolf Hitler, an important architect of Hitler's Germany.

According to MSNBC News, offended readers of Churchill's essay have posed security threats at his speeches and the governor of Colorado has called for his dismissal.

In a statement published by Boulder's Daily Camera Feb. 1, Churchill accused the media of inaccurately covering his work, saying that defamation of his character and threats against his life occurred as a result.

"The gross distortions of what I actually said can only be viewed as an attempt to distract the public from the real, the issue that we need to head off to a further stifling of freedom of speech and academic debate in this country," Churchill said.

Senior Urses Purkhi said he worries that Churchill's remarks may be publicly dangerous.

"Every American is allowed their freedom of speech, but most fail to realize that that freedom comes with responsibility," T.J. MICHAEL

"Creating anti-gov­ernment feelings at a public school is the equivalent of yelling "bomb!" in public," Purkhi said.

"It creates a social or political uproar that leads to instability in a lot of areas. Public school represents the government, and for some to spread their own propaganda using the school's re­source is completely out of order," Purkhi said.

Sophomore T.J. Michael said accountability in the classroom is what cuts out subjects in which they believe.

"Every American is allowed their freedom of speech, but we need to be aware that freedom comes with responsibility," Michael said.

Senior Taylor Plott said he thinks that as an American citizen, Churchill should not be censored.

"As a teacher and authority figure in a con­ trolling role over other people, if he is going to be censored for derogatory remarks against the government, then in fairness, any teacher could be censored for positive or affirming remarks," Platt said.
Survey advises med school hopefuls
A new Kaplan survey, administered to 130 promised advisors of the National Association of Advisors for the Health Professions conference, focused on various issues such as medical school admissions factors, the application process, candidates' qualifications and school evaluation criteria.

When choosing a school, 81 percent of the counselors suggested that academics should be first priority followed by financial aid consideration and the rankings of prospective medical schools.

While work experience is considered important, 96 percent of the advisors said clinical experience should be the most significant priority for premed students.

Writing skills, charisma and presentation skills were considered the least important traits on the list.

In addition, 84 percent called the interview a "very important" part of the process and suggested that applying for medical school could achieve optimum success by taking the MCAT in April.

Advisors said dedication and drive are the factors most critical to medical school success.

Zondervan launches new translation
Zondervan and the International Bible Society announced Feb. 4 the release of a new Bible translation, Today's New International Version, aimed at 18- to 34-year-olds. The TNIV is the largest Bible launch in history, with nine different TNIV Bibles available.

Zondervan and the ISS are bringing the TNIV to market after 10 years of rigorous translation by the Committee on Bible Translation - the same independent committee that translated the most popular English Bible translation, the New International Version.

Harding graduate gains recognition
Due to the newspaper work of 1982 Harding graduate Jerry Mitchell, Edgar Ray Killen, a 79-year-old preacher, has finally been charged with the June 1964 Philadelphia, Miss., murders of three civil-rights workers.

Mitchell, a reporter for The Clarion-Ledger in Jackson, Miss., has researched civil rights cases Mitchell's reporting. was convicted in 1994. Deed with the murders of Michael Schwerner, 24, and James Chaney, 21.

Mitchell also shared the responsibility for the 1989 reopening of an investigation into the same independent committee that translated the most popular English Bible translation, the New International Version.

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Students plan for service day

ERIN COOK
student reporter

Approximately 1,300 students, faculty and staff are signed up for the Student Association's fourth-annual Day of Service, which will take place in the afternoon of Wednesday, Feb. 23. Day of Service organizers expect more than 1,500 people to participate in the event, which, according to SA officials, is an effort to unite the Harding community in service to the city of Searcy.

Unlike last year, classes on Feb. 23 will be shortened to 85 minutes, starting that morning before the Day of Service begins shortly after noon. Students can access the shortened schedule at www.harding.edu/dayofservice. At 12:35 p.m., students, faculty and staff will meet in Benson Auditorium for chapel before the Day of Service, said President Jimmy Huff.

"The goal of the Feb. 23 Day of Service, according to organizers, is to show Christ to the Searcy community through service projects. While most students agree the campus-wide service event accomplishes this goal, others believe that some people at the university and in the community may perceive the day differently," Huff said.

Senior Nik Proser said he participated in the Day of Service the last two years and thought it had a positive effect.

"We went into the elementary schools to read to the kids," Proser said. "I think it helps for the kids to see college students come, spend time with them and represent Christ to them."

Proser said though Harding students are participating with the intent to serve others, there are some people who may not view it so positively.

"People are going to look at this project in two different ways," Proser said. "Some will see it and think that we are such a self-oriented university that we are trying to make ourselves look better to the community, but others will see what we are all doing and hopefully see the heart behind it."

Sophomore Adrienne Brenon said she thinks the Day of Service helps others view Harding in a more positive light, but in order to keep the public opinion from becoming negative, projects of this nature should continue.

"I think we should be serving the community like this all of the time," Brenon said. "One day is not going to alter the opinion of a community; it takes continuous effort by the student body."

Proser said one way to overcome possible negative community opinion is to keep the intentions and the image portrayed true to the day's name.

"The way people view the Day of Service will depend largely on the people participating in it and how they portray themselves and their motivations behind it," he said.

Mc Cormick said that having the half-day schedule of classes proves Harding's commitment to service.

"By this faculty giving up that classroom time, they are demonstrating their commitment to a greater cause," McCormick said. "That commitment is something unique to Harding, and I'm thankful that the faculty sees this as an important day."

Senior Jessica Sloan, coordinator of the business cooperation for the Day of Service, said the following businesses will be offering discounts: Lenny's - a free bag of chips and drink with purchase of a sandwich; Pizza Pro - 25 percent off; Grandys Bar & Que - 10 percent off; Dairy Queen - 1/2 price Blizzards and free medium drinks from noon to 6 p.m.; Trail Dust - lunch price all day ($4.99); and Sonic - 10 percent of regular price single items.

Sloan said project leaders of each group will hand out Day of Service cards to those participating in the activities. Businesses will give the appropriate discounts to students who present a Day of Service card at the time of purchase.

"This is a great opportunity for us to push services on our daily life and do something out of the ordinary," McCormick said.

BRAD MCCORMICK, DAY OF SERVICE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Some wonder how others interpret event

STACEY CONDOLORA
student reporter

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You're Invited to Searcy's 5th Bridal Fair February 20, 2005 1-3:30 at the afternoons at Becky's Hallmark & Frames

Breaking concentration
Rhodes Rowdies attempt to distract a University of Central Arkansas player during the Bisons Feb. 14 game. The Bisons lost by a score of 71-68.
SA reworks open house schedule

EMILY BURROWS

After the Student Association voted in December to change the resident halls' open house format, the new schedule is getting mostly favorable reviews along with suggestions for additional improvements.

Freshman Molly Brooke Threadgill, women's SA representative, said last semester open houses were normally on the first and third Sundays of the month, and students were given two-and-a-half hours per month to spend with friends of the opposite sex in their dorm rooms.

Threadgill said this semester the men's and women's open houses alternate, so students are able to visit three dorms each Sunday of a month. For example, the first Sunday of February was open house for the men's dorms. Harbin, Allen, Cone and East Married Apartments. Feb. 20 is designated as the last Sunday of the men's dorms, Armstrong, Graduate, and Keller.

"It is still the same amount of time, minutes-wise," Threadgill said, though there are differences with each individual dorm.

Threadgill said a lot of people were unsatisfied with having only two-and-a-half hours in the women's open house format each month. Threadgill said she has already enjoyed the benefits of the new open house format.

"Personally, I like it a lot better," Threadgill said. "Because now, I can even go to my girlfriend's dorms during open house without being concerned with people also coming to visit me. It just works out better."

Freshman Ike Peters said he agrees with the SA's decision.

"It gives you more time to hang out in one place, because you may have made promises to visit certain people," Peters said.

"If open house was just a free-for-all, we'd all just be running around wasting time," sophomore Lindsey Walker said she thinks the change is a step in the right direction.

"It gave people more opportunities to visit their friends without having to split the time between them," Walker said. "But I think an even better change would be to a totally different day, like a Friday night where friends can rent a movie and just hang out in the dorms instead of going out and spending money."

Sophomore Dan Breeden said he sees the benefits of the new open house format, but thinks there is still room for improvement.

"Breeden said it is good that students are able to see more people, but he thinks the overall amount of time should be lengthened.

"I understand the whole reason behind it," Breeden said. "But I think we should just get rid of it all and let guys in girls' dorms and girls in guys' dorms all the time. If not, they will just go off campus to hang out, and that could be worse than being in a dorm room."

The SA said it hopes, regardless of individual interests, that the students are benefitted.

"It is progression," Threadgill said. "Hopefully, that is better for the majority of the students."
JULIE PYE
student reporter

To get away from common weekend activities such as movies, fast food and trips to Little Rock, students often create different entertainment activities in Searcy to spend the hours without spending the dough. Days can be filled with fun and cheap events if students know where to look.

Arkansas, being the Natural State, offers outdoor recreation options like Heber Springs, Riverside Park or Berry Hill Park.

Junior Tyler Hendrix said camping trips provide time away from campus, and could create lasting memories.

"We all crammed into one tent because it was pouring rain," Hendrix said. "It rained all night but in the morning, after a breakfast of leftover weenies and Oreos, we jumped off the cliffs and... ended up having a really great time."

Other options are unlikely service projects.

Sophomore John Beauchamp said service projects like walking dogs at the Humane Society can be fulfilling and invigorating.

"I walk dogs at the pound sometimes, and it's a lot of fun," Beauchamp said. "I don't like doing the same stuff all the time, and I get a chance to help a good cause."

When alone, it can be challenging to find things to do. Sophomore Drew McCanless said he has no trouble amusing himself.

"I went to the mall and rode down the elevator 20 times and went to Abercrombie and Fitch," McCanless said. "I tried on everything I wanted to and didn't buy anything."

Because $5 for a meal can quickly deplete the bank account, students turn to their apartments and dorm rooms for a home-cooked meal.

"Instead of going out for dinner, I like to cook a big meal for everyone," Crosby said. "My friends come over and we'll try out new recipes."

On the other hand, students like junior Lindsey Walker go out looking for more adventurous activities.

"One time I went with some friends spotlighting," Walker said. "We didn't expect to catch anyone, but a man actually got out of his car and chased us. It was pretty scary, and we haven't been since then."

Students can stay on campus for less-expensive options.

"Four of us played 'Marco Polo' in the lily pond," sophomore Emily Wells said. "It had about an inch of water in it. We closed our eyes and stayed close to the edge so we wouldn't hit the rock in the middle."

Junior Drew Fralick said he finds humor in playing jokes on people around campus.

"Do you like taxidermy?" Fralick said. "One time I walked around with a [mounted] deer head. I ran around and went to the window of the first floors of the girls' dorms, and they thought it was a campus deer nibbling on leaves outside their window. They were pretty freaked out."

To finish up the night, students head for their dorm rooms, but entertainment doesn't stop there. Junior Mike Beck said when he's back in his room, he likes to get out his guitar and jam.

"I like to make up songs and learn new chords," Beck said. "There are a few guys who play in my dorm, too, and we just hang out and we have a good time playing our guitars."

Freshman Michael Wright and Sophomore Josh Scruggs strum a few Jack Johnson hits on guitar and mandolin on the front lawn Feb. 15. Living in a small town, being college students and having little money force students to use their creativity genes when it comes to entertainment.

Freshman Steve Gorder jumps for the disk as sophomores Saum Parszefall and Tony Haas collide during an Ultimate Frisbee game on the front lawn Feb. 15. The front lawn serves as the field of choice for many Frisbee players.
Students face the physical effects of a distorted self-image

SUSANNA SMITH
features editor

Skip breakfast, work through lunch and push food around the plate at dinner. This is what freshman Rachel Mosby said she experienced every day last summer as she struggled with anorexia nervosa.

"It originally started with an eating disorder caused by stress," Mosby said. "It was perfectly innocent, I wasn't hungry, I had stopped eating, and I had stopped sleeping. When I got better, I gained back two pounds and I freaked out about it. So, I stopped eating. Enough people asked at the beginning when [my eating habits were] related to stress, that later, they thought it was like before.

"For all people knew, they thought it was stress," Mosby said.

Mosby's struggle with starving herself represents many young people's struggle nationwide. According to the National Eating Disorder Association, approximately 10 million females and one million males struggle with anorexia or bulimia nervosa as 25 million deal with the binge eating disorder.

To heighten awareness about anorexia, bulimia and binge eating, the National Eating Disorder Association named February National Eating Disorder Awareness Month focusing on the theme "Get Real: Unmask the Problem.

To honor the month on campus, the art gallery is exhibiting eight paintings created by 16-year-old Kristen Baker, a junior at Saucy High School, who is recovering from an eating disorder. Baker painted as part of her therapy. In the description of her painting, "As If I Were Stuck in a Crowd and the Only One Sticking Out," Baker writes, "How can someone so included and involved feel so secluded!"

Sharon Pitt, assistant professor of communication, said all of her students are required to come into her office for a 10-minute interview.

"I probably get an average of three people a semester who deal with anorexia," Pitt said.

Dottie Prye, director of Pied Pipers and Spring Sing, said she had similar experiences in the classroom.

"When we talk about self-worth [in speech class], eating disorders come out," Prye said. "During prayer requests, it comes up about friends. I've had a few boys with it as well. It's not just a female affliction."

Whether male or female, the three symptoms of eating disorders identified by the American Psychiatric Association are:

• A person who refuses to maintain body weight that is at or above the normal weight for the age and height of the individual.
• The person shows an intense fear of gaining weight or becoming fat, even if the person is underweight.
• The person has a distorted body image.

Mosby said that throughout her struggle with anorexia she identified strongly with the last symptom.

"It was a very serious attitude of, 'I'm starving myself until I look perfect,'" she said.

Junior Dan Elsmore said he is concerned about others' attitudes toward those who struggle with eating disorders.

"More people need to know how devastating eating disorders really are," Elsmore said. "Maybe then people will think twice about what they say to people about having a thin figure."

Mosby said she needed accountability from people who noticed her eating habits. "I needed someone to confront me," Mosby said. "The first time I realized I had lost my period [I thought], 'If I lose my period and I can never have kids because I'm starving myself, I will never be able to forgive myself.'"

"I realized what I was doing, so I stopped. And I constantly relapsed. During those times I stopped praying. I knew that what I was doing with my body was sinful, because it is the temple of God." Mosby said her turning point came when she heard Wiley Lowe speak at Uplift, a summer camp for teenagers on campus.

"He told this story," Mosby said. "This girl was living with this guy who was abusing her. Her parents offered to fly down to get her. Everything was perfect for her to come back to a new life. She still decided to go back to the [abusive] guy. [Lowe] said that even when we're offered something new, we choose to go back to our old beat-up pick-up truck. That's what I'm doing. I thought, 'Every time I go back to this sin, that's my old pick-up truck.'"

Frye said she thinks the root problem is how people see themselves in relation with God.

"We haven't brought into the idea that we are made by the creator of the universe," Frye said. "It's going to take some people talking about [self-worth] in class to change anyone. There is such a rationalization that it's normal."

Mosby said she now sees others struggling and realizes what they are going through.

"I saw a girl today and thought, 'She's anorexic, I want to kill her,'" Mosby said. "What anorexia means for me is that they're beautiful. But I pray for her, I want to tell her she's beautiful." Mosby said. "What anorexia means for me is that others understand most is that they're beautiful. Beautiful is the way God created them. Even if everyone thinks I'm a loser and obese, God loves me and accepts me, and that's what that matters."

Reflecting Mosby's conclusion, Baker's oil painting, "Crossfaith," shows a stream of colorful light coming out of a cross.

"It's beautiful, they're the way God created us, that's why they're beautiful," Mosby said.

For more information on National Eating Disorder Awareness month, contact the National Eating Disorders Association at info@Nationaleatingdisorders.org or visit http://nationaleatingdisorders.org.
MISHA KALHIN
student reporter

The year 2004 was a great one for music, and 2005 is looking just as bright. The past year produced a melting pot of styles, creating monsters like the Killers (the "Las Vegas Strokes"). The new and politically improved Green Day, and Maroon 5 (the self-described spawn of Stevie Wonder and Led Zeppelin).

Despite last year's music, one album made me put away my Velvet Underground records. It was an album titled, "Funeral," by the Canadian band, Arcade Fire. I know some of you might be having a Nathaniel moment right now, "Canada," you might say, "Can anything good come from there?" Indeed. I fell in love with the band after watching them play on "Late Night with Conan O'Brien" recently. Their sound and unique performance was remarkable. I bought their CD that weekend and haven't even really listened to it 20 times since. Several of the band members loved ones passed away in a very short period of time in 2003, 2004, hence the title, "Funeral." "Neighborhood #1 (Tunnels)," sets the stage, introducing the listener to the hometown, and deals with trying to maintain relationships while suffering from the pain of having dying loved ones.

"Neighborhood #2 (Laika)" is my personal fave, partially because Laika is the name of the first dog launched into space by the Soviets in the late '50s. I guess it is a metaphor for a departing friend. The climax is the inevitability anthem, "Wake up." Despite the tragic context of the album and overall theme of a "family tree losing leaves," it has some optimistic undertones in saying that the same time that things close people lose loved ones, so does life, and while he isn't speculating, he makes a convincing and caring father and avoids overplaying the character.

So what's missing?
The old adage of, "If it's not on the page, it's not on the screen," holds true here. All problems with this film could have been remedied by a rewrite or by scraping the script altogether.

De Niro doesn't seem to deliver great performances anymore and in most films, seems content to play roles with a generic "De Niro"-ness. He avoids that trap with this film, however, and while he isn't spectacular, he makes a convincing and caring father and avoids overplaying the character.

The basic mystery of the story comes down to one question: "Who is Charlie?" The viewer is then forced to ask a follow-up question: "Do I care?" The problem with this, and most other "Sixth Sense" films is that the existence of a surprise is a given and the audience is left to wait on it. Therefore, a good surprise equals a good film, and a bad one equals... you get the idea. It is truly a shame that this film isn't better, especially since Fanning and De Niro are attached to the project. Fanning deserves all the praise. It is her character that is the best child actor working in films today. Cold distance, agonized terror and even sadistic playfulness are all sides Fanning shows in her portrayal of Emily.

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Casey McLeod, Pharm.D  
Class of '97

Harding's menu for the week:

MUSIC

Theater

Alderbrook, After the Tragedy, Till We Have Faces and Pictures of Echoes

This four-band show, including Harding band Till We Have Faces (formerly known as In Nomine Patris), will start at 8 p.m. on Friday at Blank Generation in Little Rock. Admission is $5.

CIRCUS

Circus Gatti

For those feeling a craving for clowns and wild animals jumping through rings, Circus Gatti is bringing its entourage to Allied Arena 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. on Saturday, with doors open at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. respectively. Two hours of fun, "Animal galore," and "over 100 performers" are promised.

Tickets cost $16.75 in advance, with prices varying the day of the show depending on age. Coupons are valid on the day of the show only. Tickets can be purchased online at www.ticketmaster.com, or by calling 501-975-7575.

LEISURE

Arcade Fire is the band for 2005

STEWART DEERE
entertainment editor

Remember a time before "The Sound of Music"? I do. When horror films didn't always rely on one big surprise or twist for their entire storyline? Well those days seem to be gone. "Hitchcock and Sork is just another example of this bad "Hitchcock and Sork is the story of David Gal­loway (Robert De Niro), a widower who is left to take care of his 9-year-old daughter, Emily (Dakota Fanning). Emily has never been the same since the death of her mother and has begun to speak to an imaginary friend named "Charlie." The problem is that "Charlie" has a twisted side that begins to appear in David and Emily's daily lives.

So the basic mystery of the story comes down to one question: "Who is Charlie?" The viewer is then forced to ask a follow-up question: "Do I care?" The problem with this, and most other "Sixth Sense" films is that the existence of a surprise is a given and the audience is left to wait on it. Therefore, a good surprise equals a good film, and a bad one equals... you get the idea.

It is truly a shame that this film isn't better, especially since Fanning and De Niro are attached to the project. Fanning deserves all the praise. It is her character that is the best child actor working in films today. Cold distance, agonized terror and even sadistic playfulness are all sides Fanning shows in her portrayal of Emily.

Do Niro doesn't seem to deliver great performances anymore and in most films, seems content to play roles with a generic "De Niro"-ness. He avoids that trap with this film, however, and while he isn't spectacular, he makes a convincing and caring father and avoids overplaying the character.

So what's missing?
The old adage of, "If it's not on the page, it's not on the screen," holds true here. All problems with this film could have been remedied by a rewrite or by scraping the script altogether.

LEISURE
LETTER POLICY

The Bison welcomes your views on issues of interest to the Harding community. Letters are encouraged.

Letters must be signed, contain a phone number for verification and be no more than 500 words in length. The Bison reserves the right to edit letters for style, clarity and brevity.

Letters to the editor may be submitted to Box 11192 or thebison@harding.edu.

Iraq argument was correct but flawed

Jonathan Reinhardt makes a strong but convoluted argument when he raises the question "What freedom are we dying for?" in the Feb. 4 issue of the Bison. While I agree that this war has little to do with enhancing "freedom" in the United States or the Middle East, I take exception to the path that he uses to reach this conclusion.

Mr. Reinhardt asserts that "there is no natural law that says humans live best when they have the right to life, a vote and a pursuit of happiness, or to health, privacy and the pursuit of wealth." He goes on to state that these are claims made by the U.S. Constitution. Apart from the fact that these principles are not established in our Constitution but rather in the Declaration of Independence, it is considerably high-minded to dismiss 300 years of Western political tradition in one sentence.

What Thomas Jefferson stated in the Declaration was that there are certain rights that all humans are entitled to no matter where they are born. Unfortunately, Jefferson never told us what to do when nations refuse to recognize the existence of these rights. As a result, the United States has been left to pick and choose when to intervene and when to abstain from intervention.

I believe that the point Mr. Reinhardt was trying to make in his essay was that it is a mistake to think of the American invasion of Iraq as being part of an effort to extend liberty and democracy around the world. This war was initiated to make the United States and our oil supplies more secure. To argue otherwise is to suggest that the pressure of intervention can never end until the last dictator in the last totalitarian state is removed from power.

Dr. Mark Ethel, associate professor of political science

Fans need to behave

Why are the Rhodes Rowdies being lauded for their school spirit? Is being angry, boozing and insulting the refs and opposing team members the kind of "spirit" we want our school to embody?

If boozing, name-calling, insulting, standing at the boundary line, and psychologically and physically acting in a deliberately aggressive and intimidating way is Harding University's current idea of "school spirit," then I am led to question where the identity of this school is in the Bible university.

This is in no way meant to reflect the students who are simply there to support and encourage their team in a positive way - I think that the emphasis here should be on "positive." That's my public apology to the Rowdies not that great

I'm sorry to you Rowdies, but the From the Bleachers column in the Feb. 4 issue of the Bison, "Rhodes Field House not on ESPN's radar," was ridiculous.

Though I'm not much of a Harding basketball fan, I have no problem with cheering on the team and showing school pride. I find fault in the attitude that some of these people have, as well as this article which likens the Rhodes Rowdies and the atmosphere during a game to a Division I-A ranked basketball team that seats more than 16,000. I call into question the intelligence of anyone who believe that any Harding basketball game could rival that.

Well, you say, "But our fans really care about the game." I wonder what the attendance of a basketball game would look like if Harding started charging $2, $3 or $5 for admission. I am not necessarily sure how much a Kansas University basketball ticket costs, but I know I can't buy them online and that every season they are sold out.

According to a hard-core Rhodes Rowdie, they are some of the best fans in all of sports (minus, of course, the Greenbay Packers, because man, it's cold up there, and Chicago Cubs fans, because how many times can you see Sammy "go at his bat"). I have even heard a Rhodes Rowdie compare himself to fans such as the Cameron Crucises (the ultra-crazy Duke fans who camp out in front of the stadium, among other insane things). Be fans, cheer your team on, but be realistic, people.

Wenoko Young, former student

Don't you wish there was something that could be done to help stamp out all this mindless solitude?

AARON RUSHTON

Big Guy, Big Mouth

The HU personals:

Happy belated Valentine's Day!

As I was sitting in my dorm room, my own movie reading comics this Valentine's Day, I thought to myself how good and pleasant it is to be in the company of people who care about you. Many of you at Harding are blessed with close friends, and several are fortunate enough to have a significant man or woman in our lives to help pass these long and share the loads.

But did you know that there are still single people at Harding? Don't you wish there were something that could be done to help stamp out all this mindless solitude?

I bring you the Harding University Personals.

Perhaps, for legal reasons, we can't list names, but don't worry, we've made sure there's some way to contact your potential significant other.

---

HARDING MAN seeking HARDWOMAN for just a fun relationship, nothing serious, nothing long-term. This engagement ring included. E-mail kicksandpiggies@dar.com

DEMOCRAT seeking DEMOCRAT. Nothing romantic, just making sure I'm not the only one. E-mail lonelyliberal@harding.edu.

EMO BOY, 182 seeking BREAK-UP. I'm trying to write my sad whiny emo songs but my life actually going pretty good, so I need a girl to be really mean to and then break up with me. I'm the kind of long-haired guy in the faded T-shirt with the badly tuned acoustic guitar; I'll be on the front lawn mowing under a tree.

---

LONELY GIRL seeking PERFECT GUY. I'm an internationally renowned supermodel who just happens to be a fully trained chef; you're a big, burly comic book collector with a passion for James Bond movies.

I'm irresistibly attracted to Hawaiian shirts and three-day stubble; you're an avid Cartoon Network fan who can quote "Monty Python" skit to no end. I love a man who drives a beat-up suburban almost as old as I am; you've convinced that Spring Sing would be better if it featured Led Zeppelin and Pink Floyd. Where are you, my perfect man? E-mail me at keepdreamingfatboy@eye.ahright.com

I've got to write an e-mail really quick. See you next time!

"A reunion is a momentous event for the reunion organizer."
Four more years of Bush

Bush is committed to a strong nation

Confident and strong are the words used by President Bush in his Feb. 2 address to describe the state of the union. He could just as easily have been talking about himself. Throughout the 53-minute speech, Bush dealt with issues in a firm and straightforward manner, leaving little doubt as to his plans for the next four years.

After a few necessary remarks regarding progress and the economy, the substance of the speech began with a demand for restraint in federal spending. Bush said, "I especially support consistent with his statement, "taxpayer dollars should be spent wisely, or not at all."

This commitment to fiscal responsibility was just one of many conservative positions Bush advocated throughout the night. His proposal to reform Social Security was another.

Since its inception Social Security has been an institution lauded by Democrats both in and out of office, their unwavering commitment to it is the best hope they have of maintaining control of the vote of an entire demographic. But as Bush clearly illustrated, the current system is in jeopardy and will fail unless action is taken in the near future to prevent its financial instability.

Many students seem to believe that this is an issue better suited for debate in retirement homes than on college campuses. They must realize that today's college students are the very group that stands to benefit the most from the new plan, and likewise, the very group that will suffer the most if the current system is not reformed.

Without reform, Social Security will ultimately end up in the red. At that point, Congress will be left with only two options: they will either drastically cut benefits or pass a huge tax increase. Bush's reform plan is an attempt to ensure that this will not happen.

With numerous references to "the young work," Bush made it clear whose interests he had considered when creating the plan. For current and soon-to-be retirees, he made promises that their system would not change, that his concern is for their children and for their grandchildren currently in these Social Security reforms. He made a delicate issue, but that Bush is ultimately able to handle with understanding and determinism.

As his speech continued, Bush spoke of his intention to uphold moral values. He spoke of the great responsibility faced by families today to raise moral children, he promised to protect the sanctity of marriage and he called for high ethical standards in medical research.

Finally, Bush spoke of the success in Iraq and the perseverance of freedom. His renewed commitment to ending tyranny and oppression was both powerful and comforting. He promised to stand with Iraq as they fight for their freedom inspired hope.

"The state of our union is confident and strong," he said. At the conclusion of his speech, Americans knew it would remain that way for many years to come.

Good for Palestine, bad for the elderly

Bush's support of an independent Palestinian state is a bold and commendable move, but it needs Social Security plans are unnecessary.

Four more years of President Bush, and like last term, he has some plans that range from "not a bad idea" to "I'm moving to Canada."

First, the good news: Bush requested that Congress approve $380 million to help the Palestinian people build an independent state. That was a pretty gutsy move.

Supporting the Palestinians has become as associated with war as wearing a small, centrally-placed mustache. I'm one-eighth Jewish and I fear being accused of racism for supporting Palestinians.

But for our own president not only to endorse but also offer financial support to the Palestinians, well that is chutzpah. Then again, he might just be trying to smooth things over with the militant, Islamic, Arab community, I mean the Palestinians. This might be the first time that they can say, "George, with these dollars, I'll be reducing it with aihad."

Now the bad news: Bush wants to change Social Security. The Social Security system has protected poverty among older Americans for nearly 70 years. And now Bush claims the system has become a welfare program. But this claim is misleading and aimed at gradually deterring Social Security payments.

When Social Security was first implemented, Americans were eligible for benefits at age 65. The Social Security system was roughly 62. The system has been so successful that one is still eligible for benefits at age 66, while life expectancy has risen to 77.

Unfortunately, there is a small problem: the baby boomers. There is a large concentration of aging Americans and an inadequate number of young people to support them through retirement. These are extraordinary circumstances calling for a short-term solution.

Bush has proposed diverting some funds paid into Social Security to personal retirement accounts. Theoretically, these investment accounts could produce additional funds that will supplement reduced benefits paid out in the future.

Assuming these funds wouldn't be lost in market fluctuations and will be profitable enough to supplement reduced benefits sufficient to cover the duration of one's retirement, this still leaves us with the problem of paying for current retirees while diverting Social Security taxes into private accounts.

This cost is estimated at $1 trillion.

Bush's plan leaves the United States with two options: reduce benefits to current retirees, or resort to deficit spending that would make John Maynard Keynes lean his collar.

The alternative is to leave Social Security the way it is, making only minor adjustments to deal with a temporary problem. The other option is to raise the retirement age, which might cause those AARP slogans we are trying to avoid.

Neither action is appealing, but Bush's plan is risky and unwarranted. Let's take an action that solves a temporary problem, not one that jeopardizes a successful program.

Valentine's Day; Yada, Yada, Yada

Valentine's Day; Singles Awareness Day; Day of Novalentines - whatever you want to call it, it's over. And besides a few girls walking around with melted Russell Stover cherries, things are back to normal here in Searcy.

Chocolates and flowers may have been their most common gifts, but there were a lot of guys who purchased the universal girly gift - anything from Bath and Body Works.

Don't get me wrong. Bath and Body Works products smell really good, and I am an awfully thankful girls shop there.

Shopping there with them, however, is another story. It is quite possibly my least favorite place to be in the whole world.

Now in general, I can shop with the best of them. Sometimes, I even like a good mall trip. Unfortunately, the fun stops about 1/2 mile from the store entrance when the small equal to that of 1,000 body-sprayed girls hits my nose.

It's pretty much down hill from there. When a girl is at the mall with barracks that first scent, it's straight to the source.

Once I see it, I always mention the smell to the people behind us. Women of all ages are lined up systematically opening their eyes, in their nose, and then upon detection of the smell, they find one they like, they buy, then must then take it to face of sudden death against every other scent in the store.

I consider myself a team player, but there is nothing, absolutely nothing, that I am going to look at in there. At least Old Navy has that token guy's section. That's okay.

I appreciate the gesture. I don't really want to screw up a situation that's there. There is always a small part of me that is thankful for this. After all, there are worse places.

Enter the Semi-Annual Sale. Ladies, Victoria's Secret is not a fun spot for guys. There are few more uncomfortable situations you could put us in.

Semi-Annual time means there are millions of sale-priced women shoppers in any decent Victoria's Secret at any given time - millions of girls and about three nice guys.

As soon as you walk in there, things get complicated. Men don't want to appear creepy to the other women in the store. So, we need to be close enough to you at all times to make it clear we are not using the Semi-Annual Sale as a speculator event. At the same time, we don't really want to be involved in the process, so we try to keep a reasonable distance that tells any lookers, "Well hey, you can stroll along this girl and not stalking you."

Trust me; if you ever find your guy standing by you and awkwardly looking at the ceiling during a Semi-Annual sale, it is true love.

STEVEN PROFAIZER is editor of the Bison and may be contacted at profaizer@harding.edu.

The fun stops about 1/2 mile from the store entrance when the small equal to that of 1,000 body-sprayed girls hits my nose.

"The deep fried pickles at Dixie Cafe." - DEBBIE MCCLAIN, junior

"Back Yard Burger's veggie burger because it is the best fake meat in Searcy." - JOEL SHELBY, sophomore

"The vegetarian plate number three at Mi Pueblo." - MARY PATTESON, previews

"The straight up fish and chips at Huckleberry Catfish." - TROY MARRS, freshman

TALKBACK

Q: What is the best meal in Searcy?

"The deep fried pickles at Dixie Cafe." - DEBBIE MCCLAIN, junior

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"The straight up fish and chips at Huckleberry Catfish." - TROY MARRS, freshman
Young tennis teams start off strong

SARAH CRIST
sports editor

After completing the fall season with winning records, the women's and men's tennis teams began the spring season with wins against Hendrix College.

Coach David Elliot said he was happy with the way both teams have competed so far this year. "The season has started off really well," Elliot said. "The guys are 7-1 so far, and the girls are 6-2."

The men's losses came against the University of Arkansas — Little Rock and the women's losses have come from UALR and Northeastern State. Elliot said all of the teams' losses have been to great opponents, and that the teams played well in all of the matches.

Both teams have a strong core of returning players as well as newcomers. For the men, seniors Derek Bullington and David Ferreira are leading the team. Senior Andrew Green has been red-shirted due to an ankle injury over Christmas break, but will continue to practice with the team in order to regain strength. Sophomore Ethan Blyant and freshman Enrique Mendanaa are new members of the team who will be contributors during the season as well, Elliot said.

"I'm really looking forward to the season. I just want to have fun and play my heart out."

BRIANA LUTES, junior

"The women return with one senior, Briana Lutes, as well as junior Catherine Carui and sophomore Milena Chisaca. Elliot said freshmen Karina Gomez and Maria Hernandez will bring strong competition to the team as well. "I'm really looking forward to the season," Lutes said. "I just want to have fun and play my heart out."

Ethan Christmas

Elliot said both teams would like to reach the National tournament May 12-15. "We'll have to get to the conference tournament first," Elliot said. "We've always been able to do that and hopefully will do it again."

Elliot said the Gulf South Conference is one of the most difficult in the nation. Last year's National Champion and the runner-up were from the GSC. This year's challenges include Delta State for the men and Ouachita Baptist for the women. "Delta State is always our big match for the guys," Elliot said. "They're always good, but we've always had success when we play them. That match usually determines if we end up second or third in the conference, but as long as we're in the top four, we're happy."

The Lady Bisons continue their season Feb. 18 at Henderson State and the Bisons continue their season Feb. 24 at Ouachita Baptist University.

Steroids help set records

What constitutes a record? With the recent uproar surrounding steroids and athletes, I've begun to wonder what records are all that notable. The use of steroids in Major League Baseball has been a big issue the last few weeks, especially after Jose Canseco's Feb. 13 appearance on "60 Minutes."

Canseco's new book, "Juiced: Wild Times, Rampant 'Roids, Smash Hits and How Baseball Got Big," was the catalyst for the interview.

Canseco claims he introduced steroids to baseball in 1985 and that their use took off from there. He adds that in the near future, the majority of professional athletes will be using steroids. In other words, they're here to stay.

The fact that steroids can, will and already do make athletic events more exciting is a given. Sure, it's interesting to see what effects a drug can have on a person's athletic skills, but I don't think that athletes should be able to break records while "under the influence" of drugs.

I'll be the first to admit, I don't know much about steroids. In fact, beyond knowing that they can help an athlete gain strength, I really don't know anything about them. What I do know is that I question the true abilities of today's professional athletes. Granted, lots of other factors have attributed to the number of sports records being broken. Baseball fields have gotten smaller, the number of games in a season has increased, and people cuss their bats, but that's another issue. Again, I don't know much about steroids so if I've missed something, I'm sorry; I just miss watching athletes exhibit pure God-given talent.
Tickets a must for game

SARAH CRIST
sports editor

Students planning to attend the last home Bison basketball game Feb. 26 will need tickets in order to be admitted into the Rhodes Field House.

Greg Harnden, athletic director, said the decision to ticket the game came because the demand and interest in the last game of the season has grown in the past few years.

Ticket distribution for the game will begin Feb. 22 in the Gauus Athletic Center gymnasium. Students can pick up a ticket with their student ID card from 4-6 p.m. on a first-come, first-served basis. Students will not be allowed to pick tickets up for friends, even if they are in possession of the friend's ID card. Reservations will not be taken for tickets.

The athletic department recognized the potential crowd problem for this year's final game when the reserved section of the Rhodes Field House sold out several weeks ago.

"We've never sold out of reserved seats before," Harnden said. "When we did, we realized that we would need to ticket the game so that we didn't have to turn people away at the door. We are making sure that students get first priority, followed by faculty, staff and Booster Club members." "Harmen said that no tickets will be sold at the door so people who are traveling to see the game will need tickets as well.

"People who have traveled extended distances just to watch the game have been turned away before, and that's what we're trying to avoid this year," Harnden said.

Harden also said the final game has drawn such large crowds the last two years that Stearvin Fire Marshall have come to enforce fire codes.

The game against Henderson State University has drawn a larger crowd than usual in the past due to several factors, Harden said.

First, it's the last game of the season, so more people come to watch, he said. Secondly, the game is against Henderson, a team that provides strong competition. Thirdly, Bison Daze generally falls on the same weekends as the last home game, so there are more people on campus who want to attend the game.

Sophomore Bree Terry said she thinks the ticketing of the last home game is understandable.

"I think the biggest problem is that students have friends and family coming to town who want to see the game but probably won't be able to do so now," Terry said. "I have friends visiting that I want to bring to the game, but the odds of them being able to get in aren't going to change now."

Sophomore David Mainprize said he has heard students suggest that the game be moved to the GAC.

"I've heard people say the game should have been moved to the GAC so more people could come," Mainprize said. "But that wouldn't completely change the atmosphere of the game."

People who already possess tickets in the reserved section will not need a general admission ticket in order to get into the game. The tickets are required to enter the Lady Bison's game as well, and no one will be admitted without a ticket, regardless of whether or not they have their ID, Harden said. Students will not be required to have both a ticket and their ID when entering the game.

Pushed by the nation's best

Track team competes against top universities, Olympians

AARON ERLAND
student reporter

The track team made its mark on the Tyson Invitational Feb. 11-12 as members of the team ran against 56 of the nation's top track teams, premier professional athletics and Olympians.

Coach Steve Guymon said the Tyson Invitational, held in Fayetteville, Ark., is one of the biggest indoor meets in the nation.

"This meet was a very competitive meet where we faced teams such as Stanford, Kentucky, Florida, Texas, Arizona and more," Guymon said.

Guymon said he was proud of the Harding track team and the fact that each student who ran at the Tyson Invitational ran a personal best, set a school record or qualified for nationals.

Senior Caity Szytym was the only qualifier at the meet as she ran a personal record of 9:49.12 in the 3,000-meter run event. Szytym placed seventh in the event.

Guymon said she was the only qualifier at this meet as the men's relay team was not the only qualifier at the Tyson Invitational.

"The atmosphere at the meet was amazing," Gasson said. "The entire time you are rubbing shoulders with some of the best athletes in the world, and it pushes me because the level of competition is so high." The men's relay team was not the only qualifier at the Tyson Invitational.

"We will be taking five men and five women to the indoor nationals, and my goal is to come back with ten All-Americans," STEVE GUYMON
head coach

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Sophomore Matt Hall protects the ball during the Feb. 14 game against the University of Central Arkansas. The Bison lost the game by a score of 71-68.

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- (1st Timers)

- (YOGA)

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FREE YOGA CLASSES!

Saturday, February 19

Beginning Yoga - (1st Timers)

1 p.m. - 2 p.m. & 2:10 p.m. - 3:10 p.m.

Sunday, February 20

Flow Yoga - (Faster Paced, More Advanced)

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. & 2:40 p.m. - 3:40 p.m.

See ya there!

(each class limited to 20 - come early!)

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See ya there!

(each class limited to 20 - come early!)
Toke time to sniff a bee up your nose

Someone once warned me if I always take time to stop and smell the roses, sooner or later, I’ll inhale a bee. Though extremely true, but not too likely, I’d like to believe that it’s worth the risk.

Sure, I might end up picking bug guts out of my nose as well as possibly being emotionally scarred for life, but surely there will be the times when I actually do get a good hearty whiff of a rose.

In reality, the philosophy of the well-known quote is what should be emphasized, not the literal act of smelling roses (though I’m all for it). Just in case anyone has any questions about what that actually entails, I’ve made up a handy list of a few things you can do to slow your life down and metaphorically “smell the roses.”

• Leave five minutes early for class and saunter along the sidewalk instead of sprinting across campus without even glancing around at your surroundings.
• Take the long route wherever you’re going and use that time to stop thinking, and just let your brain relax.
• Cut out the “Through The Lens” page and take it for a walk or drive through downtown Searcy and find the answers to the “I Spy” photos.
• Or just make a paper airplane out of the “Through the Lens” page, and see how far you can throw it.

For those of you who missed it last semester, I have brought back the old game “I Spy” in a version all my own. This semester’s prizes consist of gift certificates from Midnight Oil, Lenny’s Sub Shop, Pizza Pro and Dairy Queen. The object of the game is to figure out what places, or things, the photos represent. They are all located in downtown Searcy and within a few miles of campus for those of you without transportation.

Send your responses to campus box 11192 with your name, phone number and box number, along with the answers for the photos on an index card or sheet of paper. I will draw 10 random names from all of the correct answers sent to me by Wednesday, Feb. 23.

In the Feb. 25 issue of the Bison, I will print the answers for all of the photos along with the winners of the contest.

So hey, even if you can’t find a rose to go sniff, you can at least go figure out where I pointed my zoom lens and win some free food. At least this way you won’t inhale a bee.

CHELSEA ROBERSON is a sophomore graphic design major and the 2004-2005 Bison photographer. She will continue “Through the Lens” for the rest of the year. She can be reached at 501-279-4696 or crobersa@harding.edu.