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HARDING
UNIVERSITY

SPORTS
Bisons face Henders
State on national
television Saturday.
 Page 1B



Harding Continues Tornado Cleanup

More Help Still Needed In Arkansas Communities

By SAMANTHA HOLSCHBACH
 news editor

While the tornadoes that struck Arkansas and several southern states have faded into the background of current news, the cleanup efforts are continuing and will endure well into the future. As part of this continued relief, Harding students and Searcy community members are collaborating to provide assistance to victims in Clinton, Melbourne and Mountain View, Ark.

"We are continuing to go over there and touch people's lives," Campus Minister Todd Gentry said.

In addition to the 800 Harding students who provided relief in Clinton on Feb. 10, several volunteer groups have recently helped clean up and will continue to do so.

Volunteers assisted Clinton residents on Feb. 6, 9 and 12; Melbourne residents on Feb. 8; and Mountain View residents on Feb. 15 and 19.

Volunteers came from many organizations and backgrounds: the Student Association, Harding clubs, Campus Ministry and local churches have all been involved. Presently, the cleanup is transforming into a rebuilding effort.

As the rebuilding gets underway, see TORNADO page 3a



JEFF MONTGOMERY | Public Relations

A Harding student removes metal caught in the branches of a tree in Clinton, Ark., on Feb. 10. More than 800 students gathered in Clinton to aid in the relief efforts after tornadoes blew across the state and destroyed homes and business, killing 13 in Arkansas. (See more photos page 3b.)

Faculty Explores Break Options

Questions Linger After Professors Vote To Pass SA Recommendation

By BLAKE MATHEWS
 assistant news editor

Despite a 90-41 faculty vote to pass the Student Association's requested semester holidays, school administrators stressed that specifics still need to be worked out before dates and practicalities can be finalized.

A special faculty meeting has been called for Feb. 27 to discuss implementation of the SA's request.

Last Monday, the faculty of Harding University gathered in the Founder's Room and voted 90-41 in favor of canceling classes on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, as well as a date to be determined referred to as "fall break."

"This vote was a victory for Harding University," said SA president Charlie Walker, who brought the MLK Day proposition before the faculty last month. "There seems to be a universal question from students as to why friends at other schools and even family members get these days off, but at Harding we do not."

The proposition originally called for classes to be canceled on Labor Day as well, but was revised by the SA in order to give students a break further into the semester, when it would be of greater use.

"At first I wasn't sure what to

"There seems to be a universal question from students as to why friends at other schools and even family members get these days off, but at Harding we do not."

Charlie Walker
 sa president

think," Walker said. "We had been told by some faculty and administrators that we had no chance of getting our proposal passed."

Historically, Harding has declined to cancel classes in observance of any federal holiday that honors an individual. The faculty's decision on Monday is a first step down the path that could set a new precedent for university policy, a step praised by Walker and many students.

"There was considerable support from the faculty for taking those two days off," Harding president Dr. David Burks said.

However, he said he cautions students about jumping to conclusions while the matter is still largely in its planning stages.

"All of these decisions haven't been made yet," he said. "It would do students a great disservice to say that we're taking these two days

see VOTE page 3a

Southwind Prepares To Break Ground On New Shops

By CARA GUGLIELMON
 assistant copy editor

Walking along Harding sidewalks or sitting in Searcy restaurants, people may often hear a phrase rising above the chatter: "The only thing to do in Searcy is to go to Wal-Mart." Chuckles generally follow and the group of talkers continues with life, not expecting anything to change. But things are about to change.

A shopping center across from Wal-Mart is planned to open August 2008, providing Searcy with more shopping, dining, entertainment and hotel options. Construction is underway.

"It'll bring more jobs for one thing, better food and more things to do," said Jenny Green, Loan Assistant at First Southern Bank, the project's financier.

The center, The Shoppes at Riverchase, will be 42,180 square feet of 12 to 15 businesses, said Mark Watson, founder and principal of Southwind Partners LLC, the company developing

the center. Among confirmed businesses are McAlister's Deli, an AT&T telecommunications store, Sprint and a four story Holiday Inn Express.

Initial construction involving ground and utilities work is nearly finished and above-ground construction will start the week of Feb. 24 if weather permits, Watson said.

"It's almost impossible to lease air, which is kind of what we've been doing," he said. "It's almost the same concept as trying to buy a house that's not there."

Watson also said the draw for businesses increases with three confirmed tenants and upward construction about to begin.

Southwind hopes to bring apparel businesses, corporate groups, a nail salon, a spa, another restaurant, boutiques and relocated Searcy groups. Talks with companies are in progress and other hotels are buy land in the development.

"We talked a lot with Starbucks," Watson said. "I'd say it's



art courtesy of MARK WATSON

Construction is scheduled to begin on the new shopping center, The Shoppes at Riverchase, on East Race Street across from Wal-Mart. The computer rendering of the complex leaves room for between 12 and 15 businesses.

pretty likely that Starbucks will come to Searcy."

Although Starbucks may not join The Shoppes, talks with Southwind point toward a future Searcy location.

To make the center accessible,

engineers will extend Evans Drive north over Race St. to create a four-way intersection.

More businesses mean more jobs, which will benefit students and Searcy residents.

"There are going to be a lot of

employment opportunities there just with MacAlister's alone," Watson said.

Beyond working for the new businesses, students can influence what stores come to Searcy through

see SHOPPING page 3a

Former HU Coach To Enter Hall Of Fame

By AMANDA PRUITT
 editor in chief

Longtime Harding football coach John Prock will be inducted

into the Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame at a ceremony tonight at the Alltel Arena, along with 11 other athletes and coaches.



Prock

Prock, 78, joined the Harding staff as an assistant in 1960, the second season of Harding sports. He took over the program as head coach in 1964 until his

see PROCK page 3a

In The Gallery



ALYSSA MORAN | The Bison

Sue and Cecil Adams browse through the gallery at the art building, looking at the original paintings and photographs of Harding alumna Anna Greek.

Flu Season Strikes Harding

By JARED ABELSON
 student reporter

In Arkansas, the seasons seem to change halfway through the day. One season has not left campus so quickly, though, and that season has nothing to do with the weather.

The flu season has been wreaking havoc on Harding's faculty, staff and student body, causing both students and professors to suffer in and out of the classroom.

Though most hotspots around campus become vacant during a flu season as bad as this one, Student Health Services has seen at least 100 students, faculty and staff each day over the last week. Director of Student Health Services Lynn McCartney said this year has been far busier than other years for those sick with the flu and other ailments.

"We are seeing a lot of the flu, and a virus that is not the flu

Steps To Avoid The Flu

- Drink juices and take Vitamin C
- Wash hands
- Don't eat and drink after others
- Use energy wisely

but mimics the flu's symptoms," McCartney said. "This year has been busier than I have known in the past."

With so many different illnesses going around campus, McCartney said she encourages all students who feel any flu-like symptoms to visit Student Health Services immediately. According to McCartney, if a student does have the flu, a referral to a doctor can be very beneficial.

"If a student tests positive for the flu, within the first 48 hours doctors can give a student Tamiflu that will shorten the duration of the illness and the severity of the symptoms," McCartney said.

Still, many students are battling different illnesses and will not benefit from taking Tamiflu. Megan Bush, a junior biochemistry and molecular biology major, said she started feeling ill last Tuesday and has been struggling to feel better ever since.

"I have missed out on a lot of study time, which I'm hoping won't affect me too much during my tests next week," Bush said.

Bush also said that she was not alone in her illness.

"Some of my friends are getting sick and others have already been sick and are recovering," Bush said.

While students who are already feeling sick may not see a need to visit Student Health Services, McCartney urges otherwise.

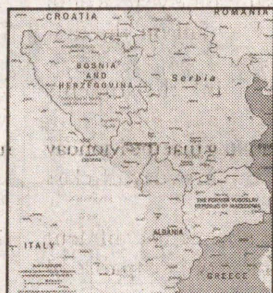
"If a student is already ill, [they should] get in touch with us and let us have a chance to determine what their illness is so that we can

see FLU page 3a

The Newsreel

Kosovo Celebrates Independence

Sunday night, ethnic-Albanians in Kosovo took to the streets with banners, fireworks and a 3,300 pound chocolate-and-vanilla "independence cake" as the province became the sixth independent state to rise from the ashes of former Yugoslavia.



KOSOVO

Up until Kosovo's parliament voted unanimously for independence, the area had been a province along Serbia's southern border with Albania. Tension between Kosovo's 2 million ethnic-Albanian citizens, who are Muslim, and the Orthodox Christian Serbs has erupted into bloodshed several times in the past century. In 1998, Serbian troops occupied Kosovo in order to combat an ethnic-Albanian insurgency there, only to be forcibly removed by NATO after evidence of massacres and war crimes emerged.

Not everyone is celebrating Kosovo's independence. The 130,000 Serbs still living there have refused to join the "false state," depending on Russia to stand behind them. Along with Romania, Spain, Azerbaijan and other states struggling with restless minority populations, Russia has refused to recognize Kosovo's independence from Serbia. The Serbian government has promised legal consequences for the seceding province, though it is doubtful that any formal military action will be taken.

USDA Issues Massive Beef Recall

The United States Department of Agriculture ordered the largest recall of meat in its history on Sunday, after determining that a California meatpacker had not met USDA standards.

The recall of 143 million pounds of beef comes after a videotape was released by the Humane Society of the United States, showing cows that are too weak to stand up being subjected to electric shock, high-pressure water jets and forklifts. The videotape was made secretly by an employee at Hallmark Meat Packing in Chino, Calif.

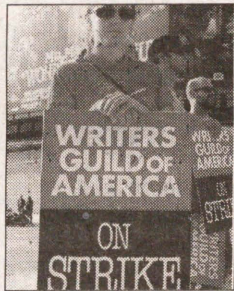
Aside from charges of animal cruelty, Hallmark and its distributor, Westland Meats, are accused of allowing unhealthy animals to enter the U.S. food supply. Government regulations prohibit cows that cannot stand from being slaughtered for food, out of fear that they may have "mad cow disease."

The 143 million pounds of beef represent the entirety of Hallmark's meat production over the past two years. Although much of the meat has likely been eaten already in school cafeterias and fast-food restaurants, the USDA said that consumers should not be worried.

WGA Ends Strike

After over 100 consecutive days of reruns, unscripted TV, and for some desperate Americans, reading books, the Writer's Guild of America called an end to its strike last Wednesday.

The WGA voted near-unanimously to end the strike that brought prime time entertainment to its knees after reaching a deal with the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers. The new three-year contract will give writers a share of the profits made from online media, money previously seen by only producers, studio executives and actors.

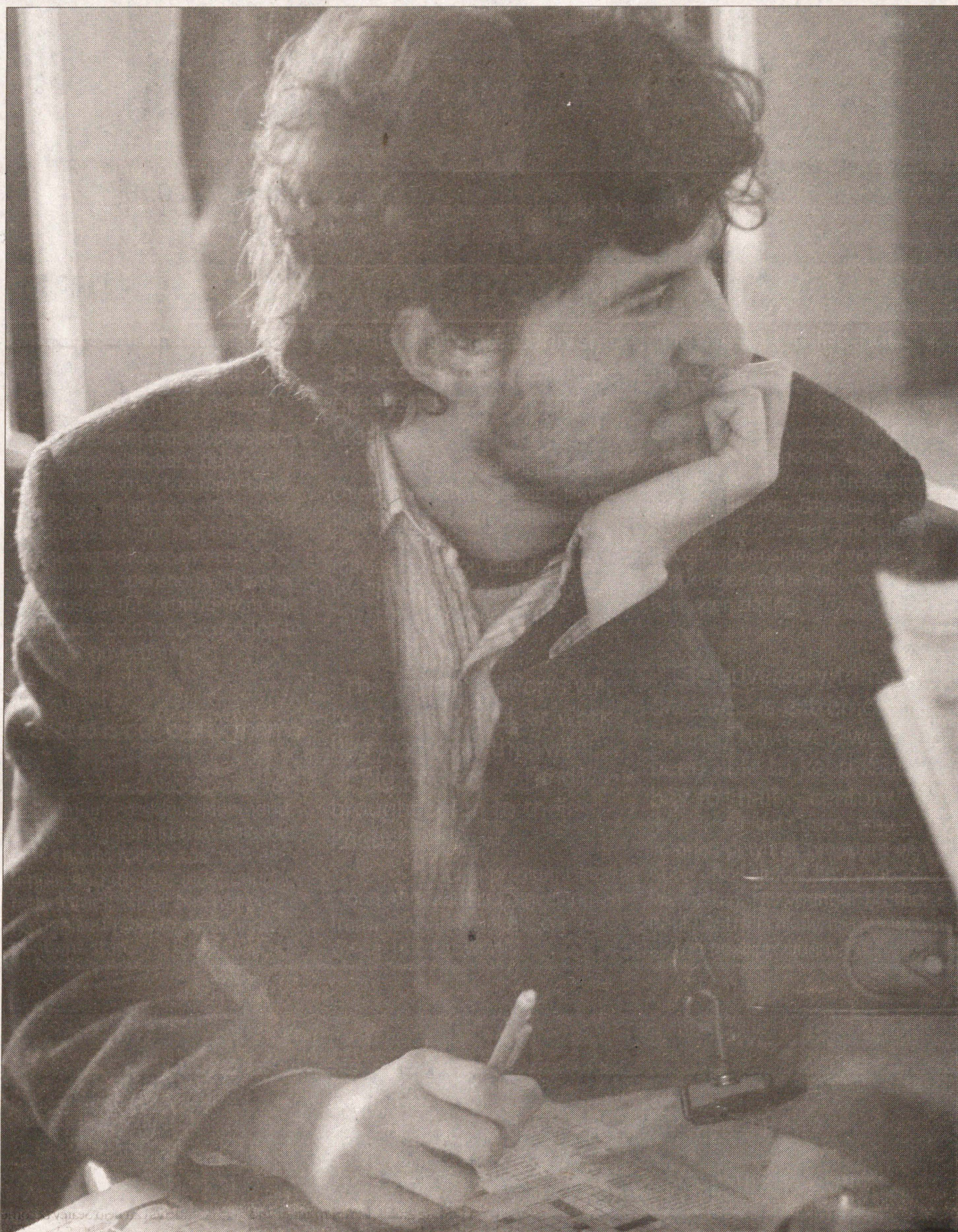


WGA STRIKE

Crowd favorites like "Lost," "House" and "The Office" will be returning before the end of the season, and the late-night talk show circuit is back on its feet after three months of awkward, hit-or-miss comedy.

Though there is rejoicing on both sides of the TV screen, the writer's strike had its share of casualties. Popular series "Heroes" and "24" have been delayed by at least a season, and experts estimate that the strike cost Los Angeles \$2.5 billion in lost wages and industry-related damage.

The Window



ALYSSA MORAN | The Bison
Musician and Harding alum Cheyenne Medders takes a break from his crossword puzzle at Midnight Oil. Medders will be bringing his music to the stage at Harding tonight at 9, along with The Nobility.

The WATERCOOLER

"This is about reducing the risk to human life on Earth — nothing more."

— Pentagon spokesperson Bryan Whitman, denying accusations that the navy blew a falling satellite out of the sky Wednesday night just to test its missile defense system. The \$60 million operation will protect humans on the ground from the satellite's toxic fuel, according to the U.S. government.

"Kosovo is not better than us."

— Abed Rabbo, aide to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, suggesting that Palestinians should follow Kosovo's example and declare independence from Israel. Israel has not yet recognized Kosovo as an independent state.

"This deal gives Universal access to some of the greatest brands in the world,"

— Universal Pictures co-chiefs Marc Shmuger and David Linde, on a recent deal with toy-maker Hasbro to develop movies based on popular titles like "Monopoly," "Battleship" and "Stretch Armstrong."

"The Iranian nation's will to continue nuclear work has won over the will of big powers ... [and] brought them to their knees"

— Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, speaking on Iran's refusal to halt its controversial nuclear work.

"He was anything but a monster."

— Jessica Baty, girlfriend of Steven Kazmierczak, who shot and killed five people at Northern Illinois University before taking his own life last Thursday. Baty claims that Kazmierczak had never shown signs of violent tendencies in the two years they had been dating.

"The adversary to be defeated is extremely strong; however, we have been able to keep it at bay for half a century."

— Fidel Castro, who stepped down as president of Cuba after almost fifty years of leadership. His younger brother Raul Castro is likely to be elected as the next president.

The CALENDAR

<p>FEB. 22</p> <p>Pizza Wars, 6 p.m. Rowdie Madness, 8 p.m. The Nobility & Cheyenne Medders 9 p.m., Ad. Aud.</p>	<p>FEB. 23</p> <p>Bison Baseball, Noon</p> <p>Basketball Lady Bisons, 1 p.m. Bisons, 11 a.m.</p>	<p>FEB. 24</p> <p>Bison Baseball, 1 p.m.</p>
<p>FEB. 25</p> <p>Women's Clubs Meet</p>	<p>FEB. 26</p> <p>Bison Baseball, 1 p.m.</p>	<p>FEB. 27</p> <p>No Events</p>

The NUMBER

364 — The number of licks it takes to get to the center of a Tootsie Pop, according to a "licking machine" designed at Purdue.

Ramirez Earns Annual Regina Spirit Award

By SAMANTHA HOLSCHBACH
News Editor

Actively engaging herself in myriad Harding activities, junior Lina Ramirez's life could easily epitomize the definition of "busy."

The female winner of the Regina Spirit Award, which recognizes "service and excellence tempered by humility," Ramirez has exhibited such qualities, as evident in her campus involvement. Assuming leadership positions, she is currently the president of Circle K International, a service organization, the secretary of the International Business Society and the athletic director of the Pi Theta Phi social club.

Ramirez is also a member of both the American Marketing Association and Delta Mu Delta, a business club, and she handles an average class load of 17 hours, although she once tackled a 20-hour semester.

Ramirez said she could not believe she was the Regina Spirit Award winner.

"I was really surprised and honored. I didn't even expect that that would happen," Ramirez said.

Ramirez said she tries to

seize every opportunity. "I like to stay busy; I like to be with people a lot." She said she also desires "to prepare [herself] for the business world and everything that comes with that."

Ramirez said she has one main strategic means by which she juggles her activities.

"Time management is key," Ramirez said. "[I don't] really have a handle on that yet and I'm trying to learn those skills."

Ramirez was born in Medellin, Colombia, and at age 5 moved to Hollywood, Fla., later moving to West Palm, Fla. Transferring to the American culture was not easy for Ramirez's family.

"It was a really drastic change coming to the U.S.," Ramirez said. "I had family here; it made my [extended] family closer."

But the move to America and its accompanying adjustments also strengthened the Ramirez family's faith.

Ramirez said, "As a family, we learned to trust God because a lot of times we couldn't foresee the future, even when we wanted to."

Ramirez said her upbringing prepared her for her college life, as she was taught to do her absolute best in school. College would be a necessary aspect of her future, a given.



ALYSSA MORAN | The Bison
Junior Lina Ramirez engages her creativity by constructing and painting cards for others. Ramirez plays sports in her spare time, too.

In the little spare time now she enjoys playing and watching sports, especially basketball, soccer, volleyball and football. "I enjoy watching [Bison sports] whenever I can," she said. Furthermore, Ramirez said she is fond of creating arts and crafts, especially creative cards, and reading.

Despite her many responsibilities, Ramirez said she prefers to emphasize her normalcy and looks to the goodness that has shone luminously in her life, especially in her present. "I'm just a regular person," Ramirez said. "This year has been quite a blessing. I'm more amazed this year than in years past."

VOTE: Questions Remain About Holiday Possibilities

CONTINUED from 1a
off and the matter is solved."

In fact, the matter is far from solved. Though the faculty vote is official, how their decision will affect life at Harding remains a formidable logistical problem.

"There are all sorts of moving pieces when you do one of these," Dr. Kevin Klein said. "There could be shifts in when the semester begins and ends."

Klein said some years would see MLK Day fall on the first day of school.

"I don't think the students really realize that," Klein said. "They're thinking that the Monday following the first day of class will be MLK day."

Walker said he is confident that the faculty is capable of working it all out.

"I know this because thousands of schools across the country have found ways to work out the details of celebrating holidays," he said.

One of these thousands of schools is Yale University, which responded to pressure from the student body in 2001 and canceled classes on MLK Day. The academic calendar at Yale is not unlike Harding's: a long Thanksgiving break with little to no one-day holidays.

When a Monday was subtracted from the academic calendar for MLK Day, several elements of the schedule were rearranged as a result. Some Monday classes met on Fridays, and an extra day of class was added to the schedule.

Whether or not Harding will borrow from Yale's example remains to be seen. Burks said the future is nothing more than a cloud of possibilities at this point, and to rule anything out would be "premature."

"Having sufficient class time is a concern to some faculty members," Burks said. "We still have to determine whether or not days will be added back in to both the fall and spring semesters to make up for the days that would be lost."

This is but one of many possible solutions. Classes could be extended into the Monday of finals week, which means the finals schedule would need to be revised accordingly. Another option involves bringing students back to campus on the Friday before the semester traditionally would have to pay for Harding open and fully operational that weekend.

"Yes, adjustments will have to be made, and no, I don't know all the answers," Burks said.

But Walker said he believes it is possible to take two class days off the calendar and still maintain Harding's educational standards. Not only is it possible, but Harding students already go above and beyond what most schools ask. Complicating the schedule in order to make up for lost class time, Walker said, is "unnecessary."

"Even after we celebrate these two holidays, we will still go an average of six more days than other Church of Christ-affiliated schools and 24 more days than Harvard University," he said.

Sylvia Baker is a retail supervisor in the Student Center. As an Aramark employee, she is also affected by the decisions the faculty will make. Which facilities, offices and services will be closed and which ones need to stay open on these school holidays is another concern that

must be addressed.

"If somebody wants to take off work to them, MLK Day, I won't stop them," Baker said.

Many services on campus would not function efficiently with a significant amount of staff out on holiday. As one of the supervisors of Searcy's only Taco Bell, Baker is a prime example.

Baker said she would not be taking off work for MLK Day. "Oh, I'll be here," she said. "Ya'll gotta eat."

It seems that canceling classes for two days will cause a headache for each one it relieves. Knowing the logistical can of worms they were about to open, why did the faculty decide to vote the way they did?

Part of it had to do with simply giving the students a break. Some, like sophomore Jennifer Gibson, were already missing days of school just to spend time with family.

"I try to go home one weekend a semester," Gibson said. "So I have to skip class on Friday when I do."

New holidays like the "fall break," which has yet to be assigned a date on the calendar, will give students more freedom to make long trips without sacrificing class attendance.

In the case of MLK Day, Walker said he recognized the inconvenience of the day's position on the calendar, but "convenience is not the standard by which we honor great men."

Burks said that those who voted to cancel classes on that day felt "that it would be the right thing to do."

"There's a desire to respect the African American students on this campus, and the feeling is that this is the right time to observe this holiday," Burks said.

Klein said in an age where many schools cancel classes as a sign of respect for King, not following suit could misrepresent what the Harding faculty stands for.

"We run the risk of being perceived as being against his agenda by not taking classes off," Klein said. Harding's refusal until now to treat MLK Day as a holiday "implies at best evidence of insensitivity or at worst a latent racism" to some members of the community at large.

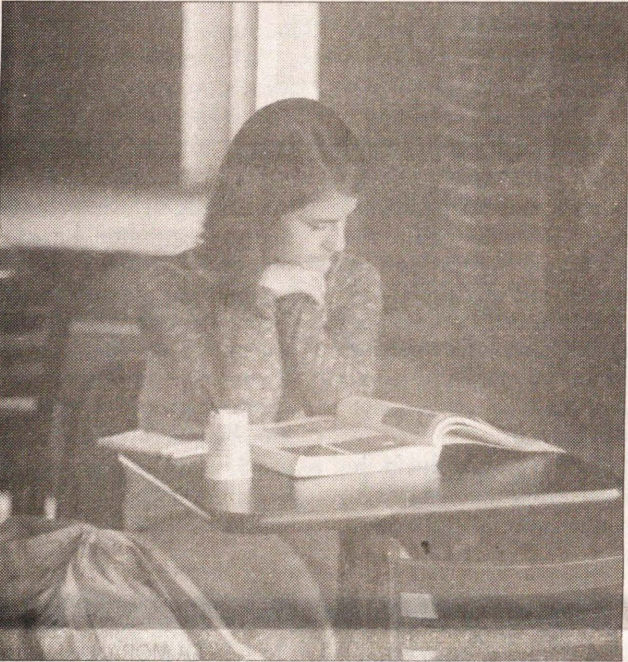
But beyond respect and appearances, there is a deeper meaning to honoring King. His fight for equality still continues in a world that wants to think in terms of "them and us." If that is not the reason we observe MLK Day, Klein said, then we're missing the point, and doing a terrible injustice to a great man.

"MLK's life was built around two things: advancing civil rights, and advancing education," Klein said.

He said he and others worry that a three day weekend will turn into a five day weekend, further limiting classroom time and pulling students away from the very education Klein said he believes is essential to effectively honoring the civil rights pioneer.

"I hope those, like myself, who very much want to see the Civil Rights movement remembered will work to do so in a manner that does not sacrifice the 'most vital and indispensable element — learning,'" Klein said, quoting King. "I am confident we will."

Extra Credit



ALYSSA MORAN | The Bison
Junior Bethany Yarbrough studies her text book in the student center near the fireplace.

MALL: Economy Benefits

CONTINUED from 1a
student polls, Watson said.

"It could be a way for us to contact groups that we haven't contacted, and a way to revisit ones we already have, and be able to provide them with what the students want," he said.

College students, including non-residents, are about 20 percent of Searcy's population.

"There are 5000 [Harding students], so they've got to be a part of our community," said Corey Keith, Harding graduate and community president of First Southern Bank.

The mall's architecture will be new for Searcy, said Adam Hart, Harding graduate and founder and principal in Southwind Partners, LLC and Hart Construction, LLC. He said construction, LLC, is overseeing the center's construction.

"The architecture and design of the center really will combine to make it the nicest, highest-class shopping center in the area," Hart

said. "It's a very modern looking shopping center. It's not all straight and uniform looking. We've got different awnings and construction styles throughout the building."

The center will benefit Searcy's economy along with its architecture.

While The Shoppes at Riverchase will improve life for current Searcy residents and students, they will also boost Searcy's market and atmosphere long-term and affect all of White County.

"Probably in the next 20 years I think you'll see Searcy become more of a Conway market, which would be more than twice the [current] size," Watson said.

Students can help Searcy become a more thriving center of shopping, dining and business if they voice their opinions and take advantage of the center.

"Come out and support the restaurants while they're here," Keith said. "Make Searcy their home for the students."

PROCK: Influenced Players

CONTINUED from 1a

Influenced in 1987, amassing a school-record 114 victories and Arkansas Intercollegiate Championships in 1972 and 1976.

Beyond the wins and losses, however, Harding assistant coach Tim Perry said Prock will be remembered far more for his positive influence on his players. Prock fostered a family atmosphere among the players and invited them to his house for meals.

Perry, who came to Harding as a walk-on wide receiver from West Virginia, said it was Prock's sense of fairness with all his players that he has tried to emulate as a high school coach at Central Arkansas Christian and now at Harding.

"He gave me an opportunity to fulfill my dream of playing college football," said Perry, who played at Harding from 1976 to 1979. "I was just a walk-on, but he treated me

just like any of the guys he recruited that were on scholarship. He gave everyone a chance."

Prock affected the landscape of Arkansas football. Not just by the titles or style of play. Six high school coaches and most of the current Harding football staff, including head coach Ronnie Huckeba, played for Prock.

"I can't speak for everyone, but I had the desire to coach even when I was in high school, but that desire was reinforced when I got here," Perry said. "Coach Prock taught us a lot of positive traits and characteristics that I have emulated in my own coaching style."

Because Prock is too ill to attend tonight's ceremony with a wife Charlene will accept the award on his behalf, and he will join former track coach Ted Lloyd, who was inducted into the Arkansas Hall of Fame last year.

FLU: Get Treatments Early

CONTINUED from 1a

help them care for themselves or refer them," McCartney said. "We offer over-the-counter meds, and try to teach students about hydration and all the things they need to know to get through their illness."

So McCartney said she advises students who have not yet been sick to keep a few things in mind in order to avoid coming down with any illnesses going around campus.

"I try to encourage students to eat healthy, to drink fruit juices and take vitamin C to build up immunity, to choose how they expend our energy carefully, and to wash their hands," McCartney said.

Students should also avoid eating and drinking after someone else, use good hygiene and keep a little distance from students who are already showing symptoms of the flu.

"The more contact there is the easier it is to spread a sickness," McCartney said.

Although many doctors in the area do not feel that the flu season has peaked for the city of Searcy and White County, McCartney said she thinks the flu should begin to subside soon and students will begin feeling better.

"We are seeing so many students that I hope we peak and start tapering off within the next week," McCartney said.

Until then, students should continue taking care of themselves to avoid contracting the flu and should always remember to visit Student Health Services with any ailments they may be experiencing.

"We cannot write prescriptions," McCartney said, "but we try to help students learn how to care for themselves symptomatically."

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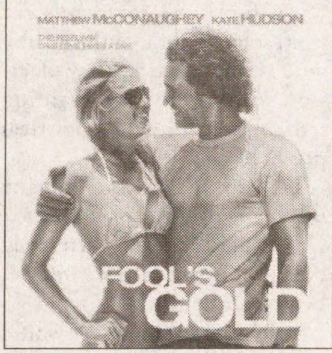
Comedy Strikes 'Gold'

By TRACI MILLIGAN
student reporter

In "Fool's Gold," Ben "Finn" Finnegan (Matthew McConaughey) is completely obsessed with treasure, and one legendary treasure in particular: the Queen's Dowry.

The legend is that the 18th century treasure was lost at sea in 1715, and Finn has spent eight years trying to find the treasure. Instead of focusing on finding a real job or fixing his failing marriage to his wife Tess (Kate Hudson), Finn devotes all his time and energy to deciphering the legend of the Queen's Dowry and scouring the ocean for clues as to where the treasure might be. Finally, all of his efforts pay off when he finds a plate that seems to have belonged to the Queen's Dowry. At the same time, he sinks his boat and almost gets himself killed when the famous rapper, Bigg Bunny (Kevin Hart), who Finn owes money, captures him.

Meanwhile, Tess is working to get off of the island where she has been stranded ever since she met Finn. She has landed a job as a steward on a yacht owned by billionaire Nigel Honeycutt (Donald Sutherland), and once she divorces Finn, she plans to go back to Chicago to finish her education. On the morning their divorce is supposed to be finalized, Tess has to get divorced



by herself because Finn arrives late, unavoidably detained by Bigg Bunny's lackeys.

Finn excitedly tells her about his discovery. Tess, the brains behind Finn's treasure hunting scheme, does not want to admit she is interested in Finn's search and points out that he does not have the money to go looking for buried treasure. Finn is determined, and he finds a way: he meets Nigel Honeycutt and his spoiled, ditzy daughter Gemma (Alexis Dziena). Finn explains the story of the Queen's Dowry to Nigel, and immediately the billionaire expresses that he and his daughter would like to help Finn and Tess with their excursion. It looks like Finn and Tess will finally get to lay their hands on the famous treasure, except there is one problem. Bigg Bunny and his lackeys have recruited Moe Fitch (Ray Winstone), the man who mentored Finn, and they are searching for the

Queen's Dowry too.

Finn and Tess have to figure out how to salvage their relationship and find the historical treasure first while saving themselves from the hands of the brutal rapper.

After the success of "How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days," "Fool's Gold" teams up McConaughey and Hudson again for another lovable movie. They have great chemistry on screen and time their comedic moments together expertly. Sutherland, a seasoned actor, delivers his performance as Nigel Honeycutt efficiently; he provides comedic relief subtly through his occasional clever comments. Dziena is a relatively unknown actress; despite her obscurity, she plays her part well. She imitates the stereotypical celeb-tante perfectly, providing some amusing "dumb blonde" moments while charming audiences at the same time.

"Fool's Gold" has it all: romance, adventure, comedy and action. The movie appeals to lovers of all film genres, and it especially engages those who are fans of the pairing of McConaughey and Hudson. It is a hilarious movie that can whet anyone's appetite for an exciting treasure hunt.

If you are looking for a light-hearted movie that is adventurous, funny and interesting at the same time, go see "Fool's Gold."

Spring Training



ALYSSA MORAN | The Bison

Sophomore Micah Canterbury takes advantage of the warm weather with a game of catch.

Book Offers Moving Tale

By DREW MCCANLESS
student reporter

Everyone at some point in their life has been to a circus or maybe even dreamed of being in a circus. "Water for Elephants" by Sara Gruen is a poignant tale of a young man's life in a medievalesc, Depression-era circus. In the very beginning of the book, the main character, Jacob Jankowski, remembers the day he hopped the circus train and one is almost taken back to that day, experiencing each and every part firsthand.

Jacob joins the humdrum Benzini Brothers circus during the era ruled by the Ringling Brothers. When the

owner of the circus learns of Jacob's background in veterinary medicine, Jacob is instantly recruited to care for the ailing animals, which regularly receive beatings from their cruel trainer. There is a romantic side to young Jacob and he develops an attraction for Marlena, a beautiful circus performer who also happens to be married to the cruel animal trainer. However, the most endearing relationship mentioned in the book is that of Jacob and Rosie, the elephant purchased to replace one of the main attraction circus animals.

While trying to shield the animals from the torment, Jacob is often on the receiv-

ing end of the abuse himself. One feels compelled to read further, just to continue the intriguing and devastating journey.

What really draws the reader into the story is how amazingly real everything seems, from the descriptions of the living conditions to the language and expressions that were commonly used in that time. The book really captures the experience of the Depression: hard times when one had to do what one could to survive, even if that meant stepping on others to do so. But the one thing that uplifts us all is Jacob's spirit and how he will never be broken by his circumstances.

Money For Pizza

By ALEX BLAIR



Brain Teasers: Puzzles & Games

Sudoku

	2	1	4	8				
	5			3				7
			1					
	4		5					
				7	4			
8								1
	6			4				2
2					5			3
3			8	2		7	1	

Difficulty

Cryptique

"XAW SBZQX
QXWR XM
CWXXBKC
XAW XABKCQ
GMI POKX
MIX MS EBSW
BQ XABQ:
HWJBHW
PAOX GMI
POKX."
M equals O

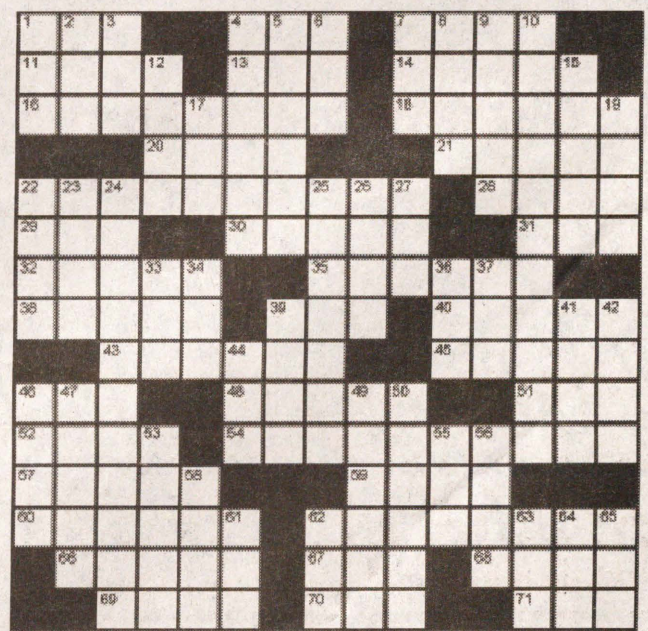
Difficulty

Answers found on 5a

The Bison Crossword

Across

- 1 Motorcoach
- 4 Numbers man (Abbr.)
- 7 Young salmon
- 11 At the apex
- 13 Gehrig, for one
- 14 Spoken
- 16 Losing weight
- 18 Healthy steam baths
- 20 Call off (Abbr.)
- 21 Styptic weed
- 22 Limbering up
- 28 Ailing
- 29 Meadowland
- 30 Chinese silk fabric
- 31 Maiden name
- 32 Cravat
- 35 Eggesting
- 38 Mex. indian
- 39 Fed. agency
- 40 Tibetan priests
- 43 Actress Andrea
- 45 Rasoul
- 46 Enemy
- 48 Scruff's
- 51 Asian holiday
- 52 Adherents (Suffix)
- 54 Stationary bikes
- 57 Tower of _____
- 59 Rave
- 60 Stays fit on ice
- 62 Aerobics
- 66 Change
- 67 Bend
- 68 School type
- 69 Old wives' tale
- 70 Compass pt.



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Down

- 1 Soap measure
- 2 Shoshonean
- 3 Turf
- 4 Secure, as a win
- 5 Cloak
- 6 Month (Abbr.)
- 7 Ballet step
- 8 Word of regret
- 9 Libertines
- 10 Jogging buddy (2 wds.)
- 12 Purplish brown
- 15 Stay fit socially
- 17 Cheetah

- 19 Japanese beverage
- 22 Execute
- 23 Indian buzzard
- 24 Indoor fitness activity
- 25 Fitness aim, to stay _____
- 26 Wine country
- 27 Wildebeest
- 33 _____ Mix
- 34 Poetic contraction
- 36 Variety
- 37 Fabray, informally
- 39 Plant fiber
- 41 Swear
- 42 Tennis units
- 44 One (Fr.)
- 46 Lies
- 47 Honshu port city
- 49 Mistakes
- 50 Rare
- 53 Fight
- 55 Pen need
- 56 Discontinue
- 58 Suggestive look
- 61 Sp. girl (Abbr.)
- 62 Existed
- 63 Vase
- 64 Beverage
- 65 Double agent

Answers In Next Issue

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GUARDIAN OF THE MEMORIES: SEARCY



FRANK W. BROWN, MD

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Frank W. Brown, MD

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Night Sky Displays Wonders

By SAMANTHA HOLSCHBACH
assistant news editor

When the colorful vibrancy of day's delights, excursions and activities surrender to the quiet of night, it seems the colors might fade to black and white; as such, night appears to bid most people indoors in a continuation of daylight, albeit artificial. However, night offers its own flavor of the spectacular, especially once one is aware of certain spectacles that can be glimpsed regularly or occasionally. As artist Vincent Van Gogh said, "I often think that the night is more alive and more richly colored than the day."

Perhaps the most obvious, common display of nighttime beauty is the moon, whose monthly phases can foster interest in and of themselves. The source of the moon's different phases, varying from the sliver of a new moon to a full moon, is the sun, whose light constantly illuminates half of the moon.

The extent to which the sunlit portion of the moon faces earth creates the different moon phases. Differentiating the change of the phases requires just a little memorization: if the sunlit portion is on the right side, the moon is waxing (the sunlit portion is enlarging); conversely, the opposite situation is the waning of the moon (the sunlit portion is decreasing), in which the left side is lit. If the majority of the moon is lit, it is called a gibbous moon, and lesser stages are well known as quarter and crescent moons.

During the moon phases, unique finds can be seen and

understood. For instance, when one examines the waxing crescent moon, a dim glow can be seen to the left, the unlit side of the moon. This faint radiance has been dubbed "the old moon in the new moon's arms," but is better known as simply earthshine because it is light from earth that is reflected onto the moon surface; this light is then reflected back to earth. Further features of the moon that incite interest are rays that radiate outward from craters. These can be best seen with binoculars on full moons but apparently can be discerned with the naked eye. Near the southern edge of the full moon is the 53-mile-wide crater Tycho, which arguably exhibits the best rays.

Apart from the moon exists the sky's fireworks display, the meteor shower. Meteor showers are predicted seasonal occasions in which meteors—space particles that burn upon entering the earth's atmosphere, creating flashes of light—are seen in unusually high numbers.

Through summer, the prominent upcoming meteor showers are the Lyrids, Eta Aquarids, Delta Aquarids and Perseids. April 22's Lyrids will hardly be visible due to a nearly full moon, but the Eta Aquarids of May 5 are prospected to showcase about 20 meteors per hour sans a bright moon. July 29's Delta Aquarids will bestow a show similar to the Eta Aquarids, averaging 20 meteors per hour in a crescent-moon sky. Finally, the Perseids shower, one of the most-favored displays for its balmy Aug. 12 setting and high meteor count of 60 meteors per hour, ought to dazzle viewers, especially after midnight once the moon

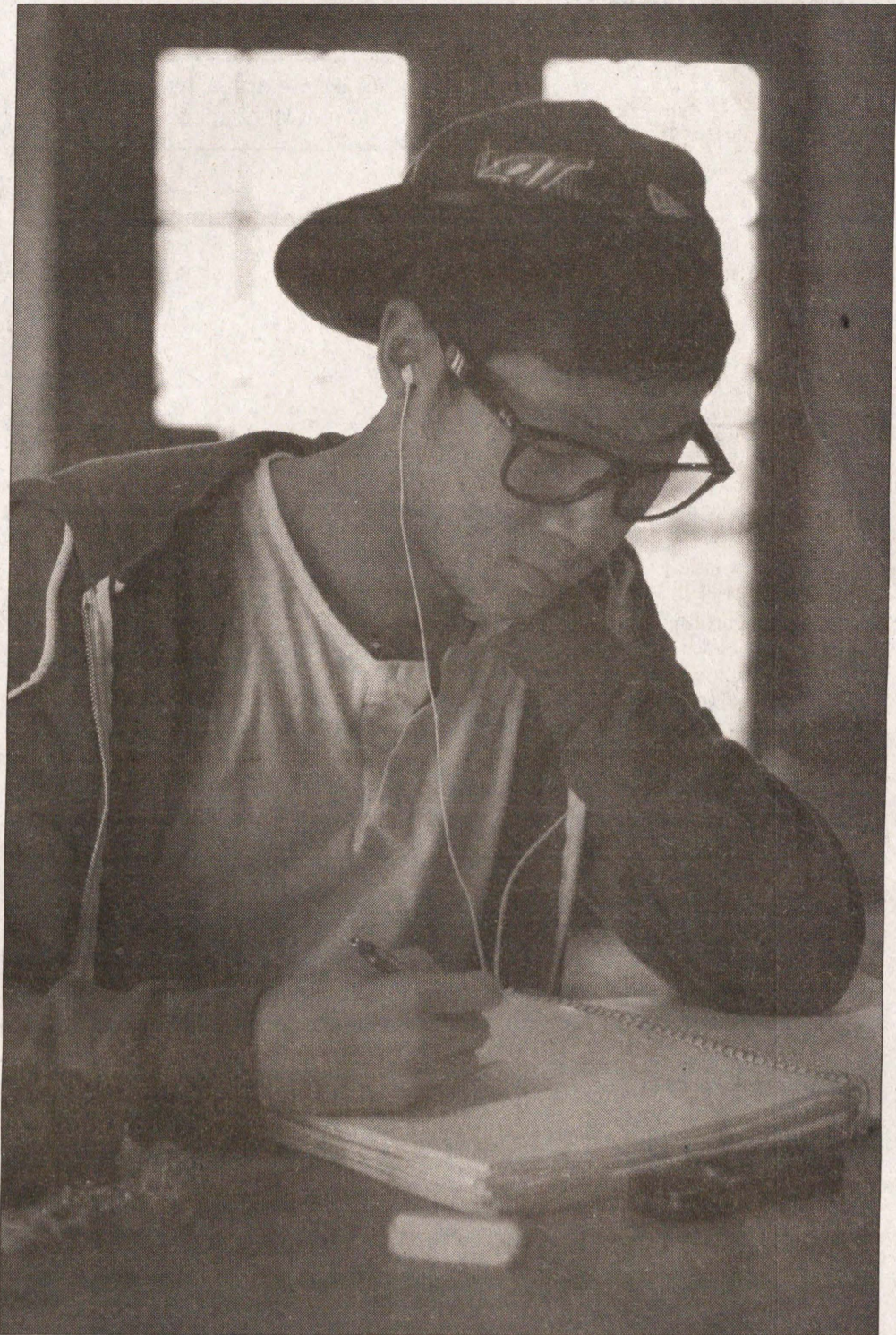
disappears.

Finally, both lunar and solar eclipses awe viewers whether they are total or partial. Lunar eclipses occur when the moon, earth and sun are aligned on a full moon; the moon often turns a rusty orange or red color in the process. What accounts for the reddish hues, as opposed to a blackout that might be expected if the sun is completely masked by earth? The astonishing answer: certain wavelengths of light, near the red end of the spectrum, are retracted through the earth's atmosphere onto the moon; if this eclipse phenomenon were seen from space, one would view the sun concealed by earth, circled with a band of orange-red light. A total lunar eclipse occurred on Feb. 20, and a partial one (in which only a portion of the moon enters earth's shadow) will occur on Aug. 16. Concerning solar eclipses, these entail the moon's shadow moving across the earth; viewers see that the moon covers the sun, creating a peculiar twilight appearance due to the absence of sunlight. A total solar eclipse will occur on Aug. 1, but the closest to the U.S. it can be seen is northern Canada.

The sky showers its beauty upon us in the forms of unique moon features, stunning meteor showers and soul-penetrating eclipses.

And still, there's so much more cosmic beauty to observe than these, in the forms of the aurora borealis, comets, distant galaxies and more. May we always signify such wonders as the products of our Master Painter, whose astronomical art is ever kinetic, ever exquisite to behold.

Passing The Time



ALYSSA MORAN | The Bison

Vince Ching, a senior education major, studies at Midnight Oil before heading to a SALT meeting.

Brain Teasers: Answers from 4a

Cryptique

-Ben Stein
"THIS: DECIDE WHAT YOU WANT"
"THE FIRST STEP TO GETTING THE
THINGS YOU WANT OUT OF LIFE IS

Answers To Last Week's Crossword Puzzle

NOTED	LEIS	PACE
ABATE	ANOA	SWAN
YOUNGSTOWN	TART	
SETA	MILADY	STE
	FUN	ARCHER
MARIA	BALSA	
AMEND	HAGS	RAVE
MENDS	ALE	STRAY
ANTE	TIED	TEASE
	EVILS	ORBED
LANDED	FEW	
EDO	TIARAS	PIPE
EDIT	ERECTOR	SET
RUSE	SIDE	DELLA
SPED	TAOS	EPEES

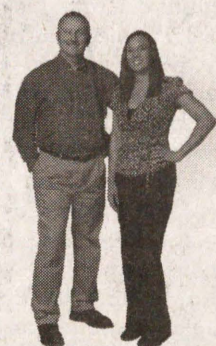
Sudoku

7	2	1	4	8	9	3	5	6
4	5	9	6	3	2	1	7	8
6	8	3	1	5	7	2	9	4
9	4	2	5	1	8	6	3	7
1	3	6	9	7	4	5	8	2
8	7	5	2	6	3	9	4	1
5	6	7	3	4	1	8	2	9
2	1	8	7	9	5	4	6	3
3	9	4	8	2	6	7	1	5

This Week In History

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>February 18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1503) Henry Tudor created Prince of Wales. (1927) US and Canada begin diplomatic relations. (1945) US 5th Fleet launches invasion of Iwo Jima against Japan. <p>February 20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1953) US Court of Appeals rules that organized baseball is a | <p>sport and not a business, affirming the 25-year-old Supreme Court ruling.</p> <p>February 21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1855) Washington Monument dedicated. (1962) John Glenn is the 1st American to orbit Earth. Friendship 7 was the name of the shuttle. (1965) Black nationalist leader Malcolm X assassinated. <p>February 22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1821) Spain sells (east) Florida to US for \$5 million. |
|---|---|

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INFORMATION

The Bison is a campus newspaper, edited and largely financed by students, seeking to provide high-quality journalistic discussion of issues of concern to the Harding community.

It also serves as an educational tool for students, providing practical experience to enhance skills learned in the classroom.

The Bison recognizes its responsibility to be accurate and objective in its reporting while upholding the Christian ideals for which Harding exists.

It attempts to serve as a forum for student perspectives, welcoming letters to the editor which adhere to ethical and professional standards and are no more than 300 words in length.

Signed columns appearing in the Bison are the views of the writer and may not reflect the official policy of the Harding University administration. Unsigned columns represent the view of the editorial board.

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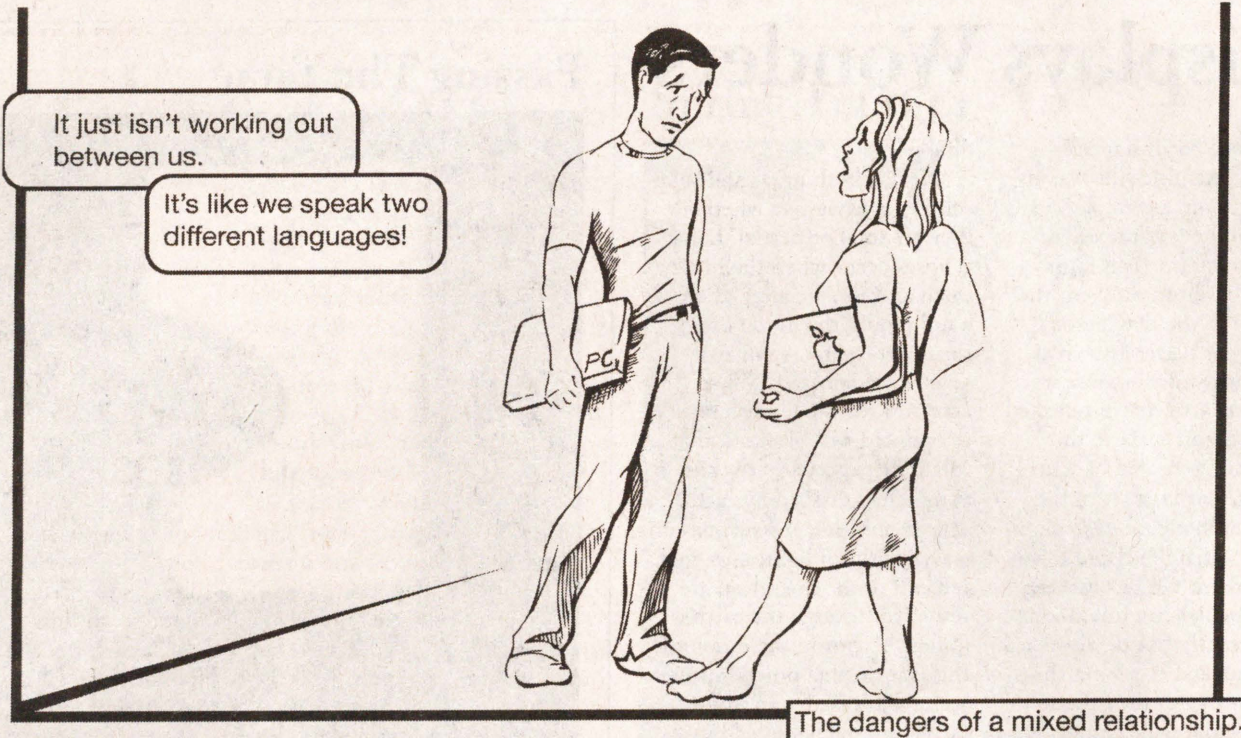
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LETTER POLICY

The Bison welcomes your views on issues of interest to the Harding community. Letters to the editor from students, faculty, administrators and the Searcy community are encouraged.

Letters must be signed, contain a phone number for verification and be no more than 300 words. The Bison reserves the right to edit letters for style, clarity and brevity.

Letters to the editor may be submitted to HU Box 11192.



On Your Mark, Get Set, TXT

When I was in high school, I took a typing class. In the late '80s, the electric typewriter was holding on for dear life as a form of word-processing technology, and I learned to type on one of those old, loud machines. As a skills course, typing was extremely practical, but it was also hopelessly boring. As the teacher called out letters, and like trained monkeys, we hit keys. For the entire first week, we could only type the letter "f." It was a long week.

On test days we had timed typing exercises to see how many words we could churn out per minute without making mistakes. It was sheer mental and physical torture. When the teacher said "fingers ready," the panic and sweating began. And then the sound of keystrokes and carriage returns filled the room, as students typed like the wind. But as intense as all this pressure was, no one would have dreamed of filming us and putting it on national television. Only C-SPAN could be worse than watching teens type.

Oh, how times have changed. One of my students recently told me about the LG National Texting Championship held in New York City on April 21, 2007 (I'm a little behind here — more evidence that I need a grad assistant). Teens competed in contests of speed and accuracy for the grand prize of \$25,000, and the whole thing was broadcast on ESPN. For several hours, sports fans could watch a room full of teens crouched over their cell-phones, ignoring the rest of the world as they texted for dear life.

Naturally, most parents might ask how this is any different from watching their own teenagers on the sofa texting for ten hours per day. The same languid pose, the same rapid-thumb movement, the same defiant refusal to acknowledge that anyone else is in the room. In fact,



MICHAEL CLAXTON

Guest Space

"The only difference between the National Texting Championships and the average American household is that instead of winning \$25,000 at the end of the day, Dad will be paying the same amount to Verizon at the end of the month."

the only difference between the National Texting Championships and the average American household is that instead of winning \$25,000 at the end of the day, Dad will be paying the same amount to Verizon at the end of the month.

How does one get in shape for this event? Finger lunges? Index curls? Knuckle pops? Is there such a thing as a "Thumb-Master"? Is there a certain way to grip the cell phone? Or maybe it's all mental preparation: memorizing shorthand, trying to go through an entire day without any vowels, filtering out all distractions (such as people trying to talk to you and such). Whatever the strategy, this has to be the only sport in the world where contestants train 24/7.

As usual, television has followed its standard formula of finding a pop culture craze that annoys parents every day and putting it on TV. We've seen this pattern before. Does your teen sing so loudly in the bathroom that the family pets run and hide? Let's film her for "American Idol."

Does your son go out with a different girl every week? He may be the next "Bachelor." Do your kids whine constantly about their chores? They are already living "The Simple Life." But TV may have reached a new low. Perhaps the writer's strike has even affected athletics. Instead of airing reruns of "Sports Center," ESPN must be desperate to fill airtime with fodder like the Texting Championship.

After last year's contest, the new champion was a 13-year-old from the East Coast, whose proud mother was interviewed on CNN: "She gets eight to 10,000 text messages per month, so I thought if anyone can win this, she can." And so another parent gleefully cashes in on her daughter's bad habits. Augustus Gloop's mom felt the same way. While some called her son a lazy, gluttonous goof, she believed that someday society would find a way to reward his special talents. I think this enabling East Coast mom needs an Oompa Loompa song (1971 version):

Oompa, Loompa, doo-pedy do
I've got a perfect PZL 4 U:
Oompa Loompa, doo-pedy de
Close up your phone and
LSTN 2 me.
What do you get when you
kid is a twit?
Cooped up all day in a messaging fit?
Texting is really a drain and a bore,
And it can make your
thumbs . . . so . . . sore.
Oompa Loompa, doo-pedy da,
Their conversation skills are so blah,
Oompa loompa, doo-pedy de
Your kids could use some
TXT therapy."

MICHAEL CLAXTON is an assistant professor of English and a frequent contributor to the Bison and may be contacted at mclaxto1@harding.edu

Focus On The Issues

Mudslinging Diverts Attention Away From Important Topics

We are in a time of extreme delicacy. We have continued problems in Iraq, with mass murders of both civilians and military personnel with no end in sight, the growing concern of extremist ideologies of all sorts, the continuing lack of peace and security in Palestine and Israel, the humanitarian concerns in Sudan and surrounding areas and the current state of our nation's debt (\$9 trillion and counting). However, rather than acknowledging those issues and confronting them, we divert the focus to local concerns (of the political nature) and get absolutely nothing done with regard to the important matters that face our nation.

On both sides, we have politicians attempting to bring attention to themselves in order to get elected, or re-elected, instead of bringing attention to the real issues. The problem is that these same politicians — some of who might very well have been chosen by the people to create the policies that deal with these growing international concerns — spend their time criticizing their political opponents, rather than dealing with the issues that actually matter.

On one side, we have the Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama campaigns constantly criticizing each other, when one would think it would be wise to try to unite the party for the general election. The Clinton campaign has made statements concerning race and drug use and either fabricated or exaggerated Obama's views on certain issues. In the Republican race, candidates are fighting for the label of "conservative" while calling each other the "liberal" candidate — an extremely derogatory title for a Republican. This is not just an issue revolving around the presidential candidates, but around every level of government. These have only been mentioned because of the wide media coverage and public concern over the national office.

If this is how the presidential primaries are turning out, one can only assume that the months leading up to the general election in November are going to be far worse. We should let these candidates know through our voting power and our voice that the mudslinging is unacceptable. Until this is done, we cannot expect the candidates to change their campaign strategies.

Rather than setting themselves apart from candidates by campaigning on who they are, the candidates are campaigning on what the other candidates are not. We are letting elections become all about voting against one person rather than voting for another. The difference is that the best candidate for this country would not always be found in the former, but more often than not in the latter.

How are we supposed to help make things better in the world or bring about changes in the way we deal with other nation-states, if every two years we have to ask the world to



CJ RIVENBARK

Guest Space

pause its problems or conflicts? The world is not going to stop its continuous conflicts of ideals and people so we can spend months debating who is the worse candidate. The incumbents could focus more on their jobs rather than smearing the opposing candidate and the challengers could also put an end to their mudslinging campaigns so that our current elected officials can do their jobs without having to combat character attacks.

I am not saying we should not question our elected officials and the jobs they have done because it is important to seek the best possible leaders for our nation. What I am saying is we should look at the extent to which we criticize one another and not spend more than \$70 million just on campaign ads like we did during the 2006 election (most of which were negative). That is money that could have been invested in our economy and time that could have been spent dealing with the matters Congress is supposed to deal with — problems both foreign and domestic. Also, far too many people cast their vote solely based on a 30-second advertisement, and they do nothing to further investigate the validity of the content within the ad or the character of the candidate. Mudslinging harms more than just the character of the individual candidates; it also hurts the character of our nation and the belief that democracy will result in leaders being elected because of their positive capabilities.

I know what I am saying will be read, agreed upon by most people and then discarded because of America's love for gossip and the negative things being said about others. However, we need to be an informed populace that sifts through the political garbage that populates the airwaves and discover the truth behind the candidates. We can start by showing that we do not want Congress, and our other elected officials, to spend every second year focusing solely on their elections and dividing the country even more, but to do the duties we have elected them to carry out. The world is not going to be without problems whenever it is convenient, so let us firmly declare that we will not stand for this form of campaigning that detracts from our government's ability to govern efficiently.

CJ RIVENBARK is a guest contributor for the Bison and may be contacted at crivenba@harding.edu



JONATHAN STRASSER

Guest Space

European Travels Enrich College Experience

OK, I'll admit it. For most of my life, I had no interest in the Sunday-school wall maps of Paul's missionary journeys. You know, the ones with the red-and-green dotted lines. I remember meeting some missionaries from countries in Africa, but the places they lived seemed like another world — a world with zillions of starving kids who would love to eat the spinach I wasted. Practically speaking, they lived on another planet. Fast-forward to my senior year of high school.

I visited the Honors House during a preview day in Spring 2004. Part of the tour involved a slideshow of the international programs. The pictures were incredible. Skiing with former Olympians in Chile sounded like a breathtaking experience, but given my love of ancient history, Greece won me over. I signed a save-the-date check for Athens and returned home. Fast-forward two years.

We climbed through the ruins of castles. We had communion on the mountain above Corinth. We ate bread dipped in fresh olive oil. We worshipped with a church in Athens that could praise God in four languages. Then we went to Egypt.

Relaxing in our Cairo hotel after a long day of travel, I strolled around the rough cobblestone drive circling the property. Suddenly, I froze in my tracks at an eerie shout. It turned out to be my first call to prayer: "All-aaaaaaah ha' Akbat!" My spine tingled at the strange sound. Soon, a forest of tall minarets sporadically broadcast their own calls to prayer, each singing independently in a different key when his watch struck 5 p.m. My first thought was simply an observation: "These people must not use atomic clocks yet." My second and more lasting thought was, "Wow, here I am, a Christian, in a city where almost all of the people don't know Jesus."

A night or two later, we went with our guide to a mosque and watched the Friday evening prayers. Our girls borrowed green nylon hoodies to be modest. Honestly, I was nervous. I felt so out of place.

The next Sunday, I remember singing to God in a packed hotel room with 40 people. Our voices shook the walls. We were all desperate to praise Jesus after a week of immersion in Islam. Dr. Monte Cox taught us about the different cups of the Passover — while we broke the bread in Egypt. In that setting, I soaked up every word.

I found myself walking in a moonlit desert at 3 a.m. Some people in our group had decided to watch the sunrise over Mount Sinai. There were herds of camels, roped together, running up and down the narrow footpath. Since we weren't willing to pay for rides, some Bedouin owners weren't nice enough to share the path with us. I distinctly remember being shoved into a boulder, forcing both of my palms into a camel's stinking wool and pushing him back to his side of the path. Our group finally reached the top of the mountain with wind-chapped lips and tired legs and worshiped the Lord as the sun rose. We were within eyesight of where Moses once met Him.

We visited a village in the ancient land of Goshen. There were many poor children nearby. While boarding the bus, I noticed a Harding student at the back of our group turn around and get off the steps. He removed his heavy sweatshirt and put it on a nearby kid who needed it. It swallowed his thin shoulders and bony ribs, but his smile said it fit him anyway.

Experiences abroad like these have widened my perspective to the peoples of our world. The maps in the back of my Bible don't bore me any more, since I have seen some of the locations with my own eyes. When I hear news of a disaster overseas, I now care enough to listen and pray regularly for the people who are suffering. Additionally, I have formed some of my closest friendships during study and travel abroad. I've met some of God's wonderful people. I feel so very blessed to know a few of their stories.

When I leave Harding this summer, I'll take more than a diploma with me. I will have memories in my mind, friends in my heart and — hopefully — two eyes that see the world a little more clearly. I hope you get to study abroad during your time at Harding. It might just turn into the best three months of your life. What will your stories be?

JONATHAN STRASSER is a guest contributor for the Bison and may be contacted at jstrasse@harding.edu

THE QUOTE

"This should be a transition to free and fair elections. And I mean free and fair. Not these elections that the Castro brothers rig."

— PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH, calling for election reform in Cuba after the resignation of Fidel Castro.



AMANDA PRUITT

The Fish Wrap

'Older' Actors Still Flex Movie Muscles

Maybe 60 is the new 50. Or 40. Or perhaps even 35. With the right amount of nutrition, exercise, and botox, Americans are only as young as they feel. After all, today's 60-year-olds are still spry enough to fight a guerilla war in a rainforest, dodge bullets with the reflexes of an over-caffinated preschooler and survive battles despite being outnumbered 50 to one. And all this without a single visit to the chiropractor.

Right.

Maybe those qualities don't apply to every individual past the age of 60, but for Hollywood's Sylvester Stallone and Harrison Ford, age is no excuse to stop combating the forces of evil. Both actors have reprised their 1980s action-movie roles for (at least) one last go-around.

The migration back to the 1980s started when Stallone, 61, starred in 2006's "Rocky Balboa," the sixth saga of America's favorite fictional Italian underdog boxer from Philadelphia. Stallone returned to old form again earlier this year by starring, directing and producing the action movie "Rambo."

Stallone was later busted for illegally importing 48 vials of human growth hormone into Australia — proving that without a shot of drugs, even the mighty machine-gun wielding John Rambo can't hold back the forces of age while fighting off holding off evil military hordes. Considering Stallone spends about half of the most recent movie without a shirt, he was probably using drugs to avoid the whole "grandpa" look that his age suggests.

As Stallone continues to relive the 1980s one old character at a time, Ford, 65, has created the biggest stir in the 60-year-old action hero department when he announced he would return for the fourth time as Indiana Jones in a movie that will be released May 22. The first trailer was released on Good Morning America Feb. 14.

Never mind that the last Indiana Jones film, "The Last Crusade," came out in 1989. Never mind that some students on campus weren't even born when Ford and Sean Connery, who played Indiana Jones father, rode into the sunset before the closing credits.

Among the action sagas of the last 30 years, Indiana Jones was perhaps the greatest of them all with an acclaimed cast and a crew list that was unparalleled. Steven Spielberg directed the original trilogy, which began in 1981 with "Raiders of the Lost Ark," and Star Wars creator George Lucas has served as both a writer and producer. John Williams, who has written the musical scores of "Star Wars," "Jaws" and the first "Harry Potter" movies, composed the Indiana Jones music.

Even with a 19-year break in between films, the upcoming Indiana Jones movie, officially titled "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull," features nearly all the creators who made the original movies possible. Even the original poster artist has returned.

Indiana Jones features the larger-than-life architect/adventurer who finds the treasures and solves the puzzles one step ahead of the Nazi soldiers. With a bullwhip in one hand and the iconic fedora on his head, Indiana Jones lives through punishing battles that would kill an average man, let alone a man old enough to draw Social Security checks.

"I don't know if the pants still fit, but I know the hat will," Ford quipped shortly before filming began in 2007.

Considering the movie has still employed the "B-movie" stunt doubles and camera tricks instead of computer graphics, the film was more physically demanding than many of the modern action movies that require more acting in front of a blue screen than on location. Still, apparently Ford has survived the filming, age aside.

In the coming months, LEGO and other companies will be rolling out the Indiana Jones-themed toys and games, each featuring the jowly likeness of the 65-year-old hero. Still, it's strange to think second graders will be staging pretend fight scenes with senior-citizen action figures, but this is the new (or old) America we live in today.

While little girls are playing dress up in front of a mirror, Hollywood is perfecting the art of dressing down about 20 years.

AMANDA PRUITT serves as the editor in chief for the 2007-08 Bison. She may be contacted at apruitt@harding.edu

A Letter Of Appreciation

Harding Community Provides Disaster Relief To Central Arkansas

As I drove west on Highway 36, looking back from the top of the hill, all I could see were cars. Cars full of students from this university who had decided to give up a day and help people who had been devastated by the tornadoes that ripped through our state on Feb. 5.

I can honestly say that I have never been prouder to be a part of the Harding community than I was on Feb. 11. More than 800 students, faculty and staff spent the day doing whatever they were asked. We were able to turn in a volunteer report to FEMA for over 5,000 volunteer hours. The good done by the Harding community cannot be measured, but for those who went, you can know your actions truly touched many people. May we all remember in every day we have an opportunity to be a light in a dark world, to touch people with the love of Christ and to provide hope in times of hopelessness.

Thanks for being a group that actively strives to make an eternal difference.

Below is a note sent from David Cook who is the Minister for the Choctaw

Church of Christ just south of Clinton. "When I first heard that the university was coming, I was indeed grateful. At first I thought, 'Well, maybe we will have 100 students come and that will help as we try and clean up.' When the bus was unloaded and there were hundreds of kids that flooded our high school's auditorium I was overwhelmed. I can not express my appreciation enough.

"I just wanted to express our appreciation for all the efforts of Harding University. The Sunday morning service was an awesome experience for our community and when the song 'Blessed Be the Name of Lord' was sung, there was not a dry eye in the room. I have spoken to several county officials who have expressed the fact that we would not be where we are now in our community had it not been for the efforts of the student body.

"As a former student I am moved to have experienced such love and dedication to Christian service in my

own community. I remember going out to Beebe when I was a student at the university to help the clean up after the tornadoes in 1999. I remember the devastation of that community, but it is different when it is in your own backyard and it is people you actually know and worship with who have lost everything.

"I am overwhelmed by what Harding was able to achieve in one day. Wesley Potts, one of our local law enforcement officers mentioned, 'When you have 800 students stop in with trash bags you are going to impact a lot of people.' I have heard countless stories since that visit. Debbie Arnold lost everything and after seeing my Harding T-Shirt she began to cry and said, 'We were cleaning up and then some Harding students just showed up and without their help we would have never cleaned up this yard and been able to sort through this stuff.' Your presence in our community made an everlasting impact that has opened many doors to share the love of Jesus

with people who know nothing or very little about our Lord.

"We are heading in the right direction as far as rebuilding our community goes. We would not be where we are now had it not been for your efforts. I am proud to be associated with such a caring group of people at Harding. We are still in need of your prayers as we strive to reach out to people that have been effected by this tragedy. We know the rebuilding process will take months and possibly years. With the help of the Lord and the support of our brothers and sisters we will get there. We have a loving, strong community and we also have the support of people all around helping lift us up in our time of need. My heartfelt appreciation goes out to all of those who have had an impact on our community. It was truly a day of caring."

ANDREW BAKER is the Director for the Institute for Church and Family. He may be contacted at akbaker@harding.edu

Welcome To The Neighborhood

Former Yugoslavic State Declares Independence

Americans have a tendency to become obsessed with the race for the White House during election years. I may be one of the more consumed political nerds on campus: I often check RealClearPolitics.com for the latest polls before heading to my first class. But I also get frustrated by how the presidential rat-race can bump other important issues off the front page and out of our consciousness. Sometimes it's hard to see past the headlines about the epic struggle between Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama, or about the last throes of Huckabee in his ill-fated but persistent quest to beat John McCain for the Republican nomination.

The first two months of 2008 have already seen innumerable stories worthy of comment. The continuing violence in Kenya and the simmering uncertainty of Pakistani politics will likely remain unresolved for months if not years. And we can celebrate (or dread) the progress made by scientist J. Craig Venter toward creating the first synthetic organism. Or we could ponder the disconcerting regularity with which disconnected American college students take up arms against their peers.

Beyond all of these developments, something arguably even more important happened this week. This event should stir a little pride about the best moments of our own political history, as



BRETT KELLER

Guest Space

"Our support for the freedom and self-determination of the people of Kosovo should be celebrated by Americans of all political persuasions."

well as raise some measure of apprehension about the consequences of American involvement in yet another hot zone. On Sunday, Feb. 17, a little place called Kosovo declared independence.

Since we Americans have had several generations of superb wealth and power, we may occasionally feel out of touch with our roots. Our nation got its start as a rebellious backwater fighting for independence against the world's greatest power. I'm proudest of being an American when my country stands up for the little guy both at home and abroad.

Kosovo is a tiny country about the size of Vermont, located in the Balkans, a mountainous region north of Greece. Populated by about 2 million people,

mostly Muslim, Kosovo is the latest of a half-dozen states to emerge from the crumbling of the former Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia was an agglomeration of ethnicities and religions held together by the iron fist of communist rule under Tito. In 1991, Yugoslavia began disintegrating. First Slovenia and Croatia declared independence, followed by Macedonia, Bosnia and Montenegro. Serbia, under Slobodan Milosevic (who died in 2006 while on trial for war crimes) responded violently to each region's attempted secession.

Conflict between the predominantly Muslim ethnic Albanians who make up the majority of Kosovo and the minority of primarily Orthodox Christian ethnic Serbs prompted Serbia to intervene with brutal force. Milosevic's assault on Kosovo left thousands dead and made refugees of hundreds of thousands. NATO airstrikes in 1999 ended the fighting, and led to Kosovo being placed under NATO rule. Since then, Kosovars have been slowly edging toward this declaration of independence from their oppressors.

Our support for the freedom and self-determination of the people of Kosovo should be celebrated by Americans of all political persuasions. It is made even more remarkable by the fact that Kosovo's independence movement has been supported by

both Presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush.

Other nations are not quite so happy about an independent Kosovo. The people of Serbia and its leaders are furious. While the United States, Great Britain, France and Germany all moved to recognize Kosovo's declaration, key nations such as Russia and China opposed it. China and Russia both face their own separatist movements, so they see an independent Kosovo as an unwelcome encouragement to the provinces they continue to repress by force.

The future is still up in the air: tiny Kosovo is one of the poorest places in Europe so it's dependent on NATO support and protection to thrive. It may further a terrible precedent for us to support a nation defined by ethnicity. And this week's declaration may spark next year's war in Kosovo or elsewhere, but I'm hopeful things will turn out for the best.

In my view, in the case of Kosovo the United States has done a remarkable job of supporting the right cause for the right reasons. This July 4, launch an extra bottle rocket for Kosovo, our world's newest nation.

BRETT KELLER is a guest contributor for the Bison and may be contacted at bkeller@harding.edu

Barton: U.S. Founded By Religious Men

David Barton returned to Searcy Feb. 12 to present his argument on the central role the Christian faith played in the founding of the United States. As only the second speaker in the history of the American Studies Institute to be invited back for an encore presentation, Barton made the most of his opportunity to pepper a receptive audience with anecdotes and documents supporting his thesis that the founders of the Republic were intensely religious men whose revolutionary ideas of self-government flowed directly from their faith. In such, he directly challenges the academically popular position that the members of the founding generation were creatures of the enlightenment, secular in their world view, unorthodox in their Christianity and committed to establishing a "Godless Constitution."

Barton is the founder and president of WallBuilders, an organization committed to "presenting America's forgotten history" and advancing the role and political influence of Christians in the public square. Hundreds of times per year he presents his case to various civic groups, textbook boards, ministers, pastors, legislators and judges. He advocates the position that the founders were neither personally secular in their beliefs, unorthodox in their Christianity nor desirous of walling off expressions of faith in matters of government.

Barton has called into question whether the famously cited language a "wall of separation between church and state" was and is properly understood in its historic context. Barton rightly points out that the phrase comes not from the Constitution but from a private letter between President



KEVIN KLEIN

Guest Space

"Sadly and ironically, the progressive left in American politics is harming the most dynamic and effective engine of social reform in American history — evangelical Christianity."

Thomas Jefferson and a group of concerned Baptists from Danbury, Conn. The Baptists, a persecuted minority, were reassured by Jefferson that they would be secure in their religious liberty due to a "wall of separation between church and state." Barton maintains Jefferson was referring to a wall which kept the state at bay but did not prevent the exercise of faith in the public square.

However we are to understand Jefferson's phrase, Barton makes a valid point by reminding his audience that the phrase should be interpreted in its historic context. Jefferson wrote the letter on a Friday (Jan. 1, 1802) and two days later attended a Christian worship service in the U.S. Capitol Hall of Representatives. In fact, Jefferson, frequently portrayed today as irreligious, was extraordinarily pious in his worship attendance at the Capitol during his years in Washington.

How would the public react today if a sitting president organized and attended Christian worship services

in the U.S. House of Representative's chamber? What would the court say? What would the reaction be to missionaries paid at public expense? What about Proclamations of National Days of Prayer and Fasting? What of an "official" United States version of the Bible? Yet all of these occurred during the founding generation of the Republic. It is by reminding us of these inconvenient truths that Barton does his greatest service. Barton possesses neither the professional credentials of an historian or lawyer but his scholarship and tenacity has laid bare the weakness of the argument that the founders' original intent was to establish a secular society enshrined in a "Godless Constitution."

Barton reminds us that the movement toward an increasingly secular state, neutral and neutered in matters of public morality and religion, constitutes a radical departure from the founders' generation. Those who contend the change is for the good must still contend with the overwhelming evidence that Christian values and professing Christian statesmen and women dominated our founding and shaped our heritage.

Sadly and ironically, the progressive left in American politics, which has of late been hostile to religion in the public square, is harming the most dynamic and effective engine of social reform in American history — evangelical Christianity. Nineteenth century religious awakenings triggered countless civic and social reforms. Ministers and "Christian Statesmen" like Jeremiah Evarts led campaigns in defense of Native American rights, for abolition of slavery, women's suffrage, public education, prison reform, and on and on. Even in living memory,

when far too many southern white evangelicals failed to recognize the moral and biblical imperatives for black civil rights, it was the Christian cadences of the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. which called the nation to repent.

Citizens today may regret or support the building of an increasingly high wall separating church and state. They may argue its merits and demerits based on theory or theology. But to characterize the founding generation, indeed most generations until relatively recent times, as seekers of a "Godless" social contract is demonstrably false.

Our founding document invokes our Creator as the source of our inalienable rights and our Sustainer by his Providential care. Included in these rights is an assumed right of self-government. Even now, "We the People," can always alter, or even abolish, our form of government should we choose. In doing so we should take note of Alexis de Tocqueville. In his "Democracy in America" he marveled at the beneficial role of religion in American, and warned against the secularist thinking of his fellow Frenchmen.

"Such men sincerely wish to prepare mankind for liberty. When such as these attack religious beliefs, they obey the dictates of their passions, not their interests. Despotism may be able to do without faith, but freedom cannot... And what can be done with a people master of itself if it is not subject to God?"

KEVIN KLEIN is chairman of the Department of History and Social Sciences. He may be contacted at kklein@harding.edu

A night at the OSCARS

Classic Makes A Comeback

Audiences Welcome The Return Of The Western

By CARSON FANT
student reporter

Go west, young man, and grow up with the country." Those words, written in an editorial by John B. L. Soule, inspired Americans to pioneer towards the Pacific and helped create a mythology unique to the United States.

In the past 125 years or so, the medium of tales of brave cowboys and adventurers has changed from dime novels to radio shows and, more famously, to the big screen.

The Western may not be as popular as it was half a century ago — it has no face with John Wayne's being dead and Clint Eastwood's moving to the director's chair — but it has made a bit of a comeback this past year. Four films which feature the themes and/or structures of the Western have been nominated for Academy Awards, including "No Country for Old Men" and "There Will Be Blood," which lead all films with eight nods apiece. Both films are nominated for best picture, best director and best screenplay. The other two films, "The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford" and "3:10 to Yuma," were nominated for three total Oscars.

When I think of the Western, I picture how I viewed the genre as a little kid. I remember my Daddy Flint's audiotapes of Louis L'Amour novels, as well as the fierce rivalry between the cowboys and the Indians.

It's strange, I always remember wanting to be an Indian. I think it was the image of their war paint and tomahawks that appealed to me.

I'm not an authority on the Western, and I wouldn't even say it is my favorite movie genre, but I don't think it is a stretch to say we can all identify with some of its themes: good guys must stand up for what is right, hard and honest work will be rewarded and evil will always be identified and defeated.

However, the films previously mentioned don't follow these guidelines strictly, sometimes even defying them. But, then again, we don't live in a black and white world.

"No Country" and "There Will Be Blood" are arguably the two most talked about films of 2007, thanks mostly to the classic bad guys each film gives us.

In "No Country" the villain is Anton Chigurh, a man so rotten he sometimes decides if a stranger will live based solely on a coin toss. One of the characters asks Chigurh if he knows how crazy he is. He is really asking for all of us.

"There Will Be Blood"'s bad guy is Daniel Plainview, an oilman who can charm the pants off you while he is stealing your future.

Of the two, Chigurh is more of a typical Western villain. He is a killing machine, and because he has no feelings,

he is clear-cut evil. Plainview, on the other hand, begins his story as a hard worker that sees a way to better himself. What makes him a villain, though, is his relentlessness to gain land and power no matter the cost. When Plainview says, "I hate most people," we believe him because of the steps he has taken on his quest for power.

Chigurh and Plainview are played by Javier Bardem and Daniel Day-Lewis, respectively. Bardem is the favorite in best supporting actor race, and Day-Lewis is in the same position for best actor.

I don't want to shortchange, though, the good guys of "No Country." Llewelyn Moss and Sheriff Ed Tom Bell are small reassurances of goodness in the evil country. We're not sure if Moss and Bell, played, respectively, by Josh Brolin and Tommy Lee Jones, can match the force of Chigurh, but they aren't going to sit idly by. It's these kind of heroes that we love to see, the men willing to take a stand when no one else will.

"The Assassination of Jesse James" turns the legend of the famous outlaw on its side. James, played by Brad Pitt in the film, even admits that most of what is written about him is lies. Robert Ford, played by Oscar nominee Casey Affleck, is so enamored with James that it breaks his heart when James rejects and belittles him. It's a sad part of life to realize our

heroes are humans.

Of the aforementioned movies, "3:10 to Yuma" is closest to the classic cowboy movies and is actually a remake of a film from 1957. It's the story of a man who must escort a gang leader to a train taking him to prison. The man, played in the recent film by Christian Bale, needs the money he'll earn by delivering the gang leader, played by Russell Crowe, but he needs the respect of his wife and sons even more, and because it needs to be done. The film is an exciting tale of a man who must follow his convictions.

Each of these films, except for "3:10 to Yuma," is nominated for best cinematography. Roger Deakins filmed both "No Country" and "The Assassination of Jesse James," and "No Country" and "There Will Be Blood" were filmed on the same locale near Marfa, Texas.

I find it fitting that the Academy is honoring these films for their visual beauty. The West doesn't represent what it used to. Those considered pioneers today are typically scientists or astronauts. But the movies can still depict what we dream about and what we remember from childhood.

I highly recommend seeing these films. They were all thought provoking, well made and well acted. And they were a rip-roaring good time.

And the nominees are...

Best Picture

- "Atonement"
- "Juno"
- "Michael Clayton"
- "No Country for Old Men"
- "There Will Be Blood"

Best Animated Feature

- "Persepolis"
- "Ratatouille"
- "Surf's Up"

Best Foreign Language Film

- ISRAEL
- "Beaufort"
- AUSTRIA
- "The Counterfeiters"
- POLAND
- "Katyn"
- KAZAKHSTAN
- "Mongol"
- RUSSIA
- "12"

Best Director

- JULIAN SCHNABEL
- "The Diving Bell and the Butterfly"
- JASON REITMAN
- "Juno"
- TONY GILROY
- "Michael Clayton"
- JOEL COEN and ETHAN COEN
- "No Country for Old Men"
- PAUL THOMAS ANDERSON
- "There Will Be Blood"

Original Screenplay

- "Juno"
- "Lars and the Real Girl"
- "Michael Clayton"
- "Ratatouille"
- "The Savages"

Adapted Screenplay

- "Atonement"
- "Away from Her"
- "The Diving Bell and the Butterfly"
- "No Country for Old Men"
- "There Will Be Blood"

Best Actor

- GEORGE CLOONEY
- "Michael Clayton"
- DANIEL DAY-LEWIS
- "There Will Be Blood"
- JOHNNY DEPP
- "Sweeney Todd The Demon Barber of Fleet Street"
- TOMMY LEE JONES
- "In the Valley of Elah"
- VIGGO MORTENSEN
- "Eastern Promises"

Best Supporting Actor

- CASEY AFFLECK
- "The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford"
- JAVIER BARDEM
- "No Country for Old Men"
- PHILIP SEYMOUR HOFFMAN
- "Charlie Wilson's War"
- HAL HOLBROOK
- "Into the Wild"
- TOM WILKINSON
- "Michael Clayton"

Best Actress

- CATE BLANCHETT
- "Elizabeth: The Golden Age"
- JULIE CHRISTIE
- "Away from Her"
- MARION COTILLARD
- "La Vie en Rose"
- LAURA LINNEY
- "The Savages"
- ELLEN PAGE
- "Juno"

Best

Cinematography

- "The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford"
- "Atonement"
- "The Diving Bell and the Butterfly"
- "No Country for Old Men"
- "There Will Be Blood"

80th Academy Awards Live Feb. 24 at 7 p.m. on ABC

BASKETBALL WEEKEND

the BISON



February 22, 2008

BRANDON HIGGINS

The Payoff Pitch



The Quiet Ones

Basketball is a game where everyone has to contribute in order for a team to play to its fullest potential. Simply relying on your star player to score 20 points per game might win you some games, but the good teams will be able to effectively neutralize that player — and probably your entire team.

Sometimes the most underrated players on a team are the people who really ignite the team and make it run smoothly. Now I want to recognize some of Harding's most underrated players for what they've done so far this season.

First of all, Steven Barnett doesn't get much credit at the point guard position for the Bisons because he's usually distributing the ball to other players; however, he's one of the best players on the team at getting to the basket and making things happen in the paint. Teams sometimes forget about him because he shares the ball so much, but I'm sure the players for Ouchita Baptist will tell you that Barnett can score if you don't pay attention to him. The junior guard from Altheimer, Ark., scored 17 points against the Tigers on Feb. 16 to help lead the Bisons to their eighth conference victory of the season.

Let's not forget about Barnett's defense, either. He's a pesky perimeter defender, and he has a knack for forcing turnovers. The Bison guard is in the top 10 in the conference in steals at 1.69 per game.

Another Bison who quietly goes about his business is sophomore Trent Morgan. The Little Rock native averages 11 points per game and also hauls in almost four rebounds per game. Like Barnett, Morgan helps ignite the Bison defense, averaging 1.82 steals per game. He also distributes the ball to his teammates, averaging 3.26 assists per game. Morgan is your typical stat-stuffer who does everything the team needs him to do.

For the Lady Bisons, Kristen Donnell has been the post presence that coach Tim Kirby needed her to be in the absence of injured senior Jacque Frendendall. Donnell is a rebounding machine, collecting more than seven rebounds per game for the Lady Bisons. Donnell has also contributed offensively, scoring more than eight points per game.

Defensively, Donnell leads the team with 16 blocks, and she's second on the team with 33 steals.

Another underrated player for the Lady Bisons is senior guard Kinsey Tucker. She averages more than eight points per game, but her leadership qualities have given the Lady Bisons the boost they've needed as they head toward the final weeks of the season.

Tucker has also racked up 1.87 steals per game to lead a stingy Lady Bison defense; however, her presence alone improves the team.

These are just a few of the players who have helped fuel successful seasons for their respective teams. Keep an eye on them as the season nears the postseason.

BRANDON HIGGINS serves as the sports editor for the 2007-2008 Bison. He may be contacted at bhiggins@harding.edu

Dixon, Harding A Good Fit

By CHRISTOPHER O'DELL
student reporter

For senior guard Chris Dixon, the road to Harding might be a little different than that of his teammates. He didn't grow up in Arkansas. He didn't watch Harding basketball games as a kid, and he didn't come to Searcy straight from high school. The road that led Dixon to Harding actually began in a town most people have never heard of: a Texas town called Stephenville.

After being heavily recruited by head basketball coach Jeff Morgan and his coaching staff three years ago, Dixon decided to choose Division I Tarleton State over Harding. He averaged 7.2 points per game and 4.2 rebounds per game as a starter for the Texans before suffering a season-ending injury nine games into the 2004-2005 season.

After tearing his quad muscle, the coaching staff for the Texans "blew him off" and told him he wouldn't play for seven or eight months. For Chris, the incident epitomized his experience at Tarleton State.

"I was at a school that wasn't really the place for me," Dixon said. "I never really belonged there."

After sitting out a season, Dixon went on to play two

seasons at Missouri State-West Plains, where he averaged 7.8 points per game and 3.9 rebounds per game as a sophomore. It was then that he decided to send an e-mail to Morgan to inform him that he wanted to play basketball as a Bison at Harding.

"I told him we didn't have any scholarships left, but that he could come here and redshirt his first year," Morgan said. "He practiced with us every day last year, and we were finally able to give him a scholarship this season."

Dixon's talent earned him a starting position in the Bisons' lineup this season, where he is currently averaging just under 9 points per game, including 16 per game in his last three games.

"He really gets after it on the floor," Morgan said. "He brings great leadership to our team because of that."

The Bisons currently hold a 14-9 overall record with four games remaining on their schedule before the Gulf South Conference Tournament March 5.

"The season started off slow, but I knew we'd pick it up and get to where we needed to be," Dixon said.

Perhaps the road that led to

see DIXON page 4b



CRAIG RAINBOLT | The Bison

Senior guard Chris Dixon dunks during the Feb. 14 Gulf South Conference game against Delta State. Dixon scored 25 points in the Bisons' 90-64 victory over the Statesmen. Dixon was 4-6 from 3-point range with three rebounds and two assists.

Bisons, Reddies Renew Rivalry

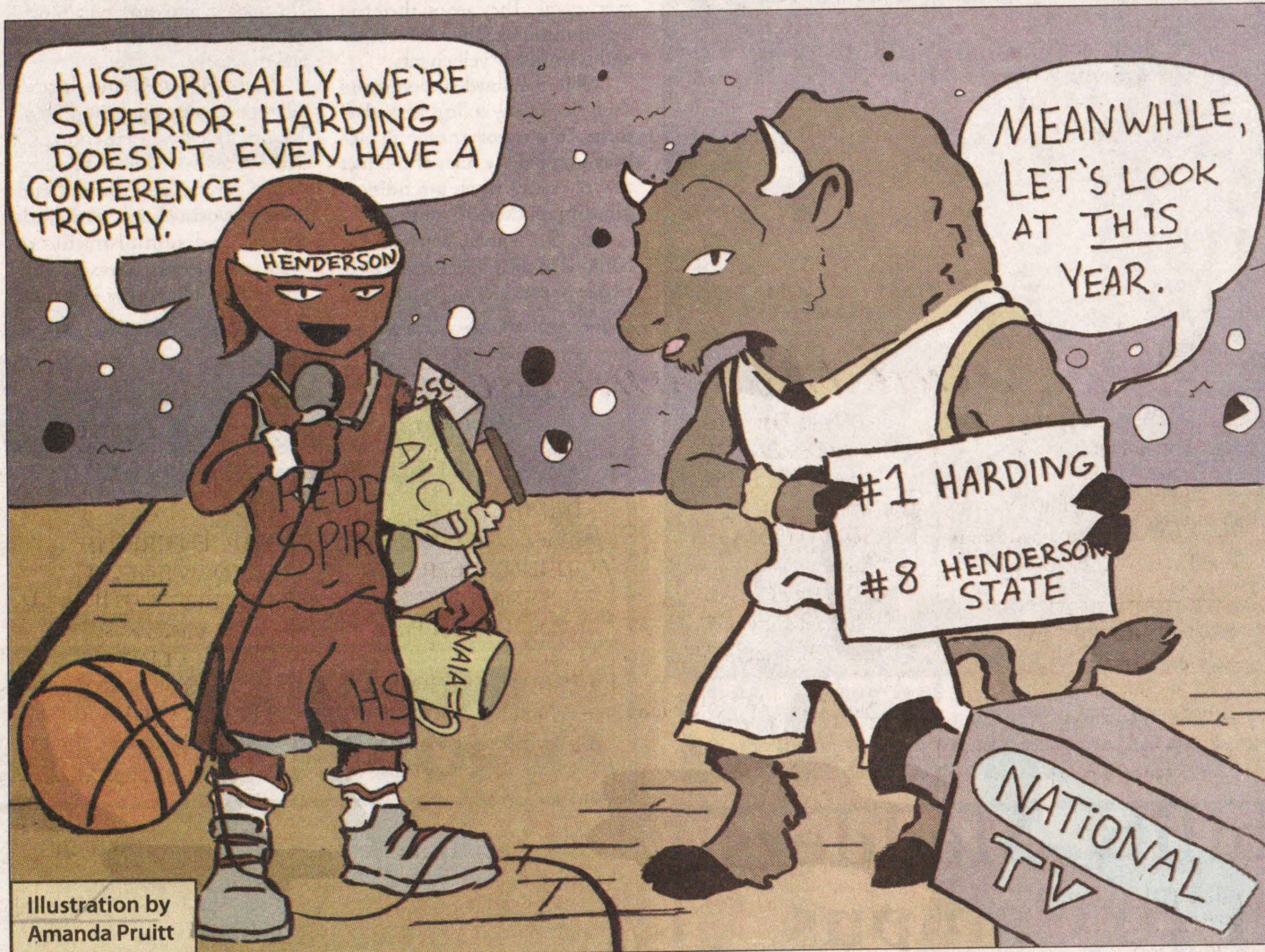


Illustration by Amanda Pruitt

By BRANDON HIGGINS
sports editor

For a typical Harding-Henderson State basketball game at the Rhodes Field House, about 2,800 fans have the opportunity to see the two Gulf South West rivals square off.

During their meeting tomorrow morning, however, that number will increase to about 28 million as the Bisons host the Reddies on CSTV.

Though this will be meeting number 101 between the two schools, the rivalry that has crested to this national television opportunity has only been in the making for the last few years. Head basketball coach Jeff Morgan said he remembers when the current rivalry really surfaced.

"I think it really all got started back in 2001, 2002 and 2003 after Henderson had just won a couple conference

championships," Morgan said. "It was especially heated in 2003 because both of the teams had separated themselves as the number one and number two teams in the league."

At the time, Harding was one game behind Henderson State in the conference standings going into the final game of the year, which happened to be in Searcy.

"Since we were one game behind them, we could've tied for the conference championship if we would've won," Morgan said. "That was one of the first times we had to turn away 700 or 800 people at the door."

Henderson State went on to win that game 77-74 to clinch the West Division title, leaving Harding with a second-place league finish; however, that wouldn't be the final meeting for the teams during that season.

Just seven days later, they met again in the conference tournament in Tupelo, Miss. Again, Henderson State was victorious by three points as they ended the Bisons' hopes for a conference title.

Things still weren't quite over.

Six days later, the two teams met again, this time in the NCAA II South Regional tournament's first round. The Bisons still couldn't find an answer for Henderson State, however, as the Reddies beat the Bisons for the fourth time that season and ended their NCAA tournament hopes.

"We were two of the better teams in the region that year," Morgan said. "It's a shame that we met in the first round of the tournament because I would've liked to have seen how far we could've advanced."

Since that action-packed season, the teams have met in

several other memorable games.

Two years ago, Harding and Henderson State met in the final game of the season again — this time, the winner would go to the conference tournament and the loser's season would be over. Harding won that game to advance on to the GSC tournament.

Another memorable game occurred on Feb. 28, 2004. In that meeting, Harding came in to the game with a nine-game losing streak to the Reddies. The Bisons notched a 78-66 victory to end the losing skid.

Last season they played each other three times, and each game was decided by five points or less, including a game where Matt Hall hit a 3-pointer at the buzzer to beat the Reddies in Arkadelphia to seal a berth in the conference tournament.

The close games have con-

see HSU page 4b

Probable Starters

Harding Bisons 14-9 (8-2)

Steven Barnett #22
5-10 • 170 • Guard

Trent Morgan #2
6-3 • 175 • Guard

Chris Dixon # 50
6-4 • 195 • Guard

Matt Hall #30
6-7 • 215 • Forward

Jacob Thies #42
6-8 • 230 • Center

HSU Reddies 3-20 (0-10)

Dontavis Jones #2
5-7 • 150 • Guard

Antoine Vinson #22
6-0 • 170 • Guard

James Williams #35
6-6 • 200 • Guard

Lucas Whisenhunt #33
6-5 • 205 • Forward

Jason London #45
6-2 • 205 • Forward

Records are as of Feb. 20

GENERAL ADMISSION
TKT. 1671

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Basketball

Harding Bisons
vs
Henderson State Reddies

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General Admission
TKT. 1671

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Saturday • February 23, 2008
11:00 am
TKT. 1671

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8:00 - 8:45 PM
rowdy madness

Rhodes Field House
Pep band, prizes, basketball contests, and much more! Win half-tuition with a half-court-shot (some exclusions apply). Come get your FREE wristband for the concert!

9:00 PM
the nobility and cheyenne medders concert

Administration Auditorium
FREE with Rowdy Wristband.

9:15 AM
before the game

Rhodes Field House
The Student Association will serve muffins to students waiting in line for the best seats for the game. Rhodes Rowdies will be on hand to paint faces. The Cheerleaders will have FREE Bison temporary tattoos.

10:00 AM
doors open

Rhodes Field House
Ticket Required.

11:00 AM
game begins

Rhodes Field House
The game will be televised to 28 million households! The half-time presentation will feature the '57 '58 Basketball Team, Dr. Burks, Dr. Ganus, and Greg Harden.



PHIL THORNTON | Press Photo

Sean William, alumnus Stephen Jerkins, and Brian Fuzell, all of the band The Nobility, enjoy a bike ride in Nashville, Tenn. The band's latest album, Mezzanine, debuted last year and includes the saxophonist Jim Hoke.

The Nobility, Medders Return To Campus

By CHRISTIE CRONK
Student Reporter

On Friday, Feb. 22, at 9 p.m. in the Administration Auditorium, The Nobility and Cheyenne Medders will kick off the weekend with an all-age concert. Hailing from Nashville, Tenn., The Nobility has been compared to bands such as The Kinks and Sloan.

"I have never seen either of them play before and I hear that they are really good so I am pretty excited to see them play this weekend," Sophomore Lindsay Nice said.

Formerly known as Jetpack, The Nobility will be returning to Harding's campus to perform. The Nobility had to change their name because another band already held a copyright on their original name.

The lead singer, songwriter and guitarist for The Nobility is Sean William. Stephen Jerkins plays

the piano and guitar and is the backing vocals; Brian Fuzzell is the drummer for the group. Right now, the bassist duties are being taken care of by whomever they can find, mainly friends.

Theory 8 Records is The Nobility's current label. Theory 8 Records is also home to De Novo Dahl (Roadrunner Records) and Forget Cassettes (One Little Indian Records).

On July 31, 2007, The Nobility released a new album called Mezzanine, which featured legendary saxophonist Jim Hoke. The recording sessions were documented on magnetic 2-inch tape with classic 1970s analog gear in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

A lot of touring went on behind the new Mezzanine album release that generated some good reviews in print and online. In just 2006, The Nobility managed to squeeze in four national tours, performing almost 80 concerts in schools, libraries and universities.

The Nobility's music can be found on music sources such as iTunes, Napster and Rhapsody.

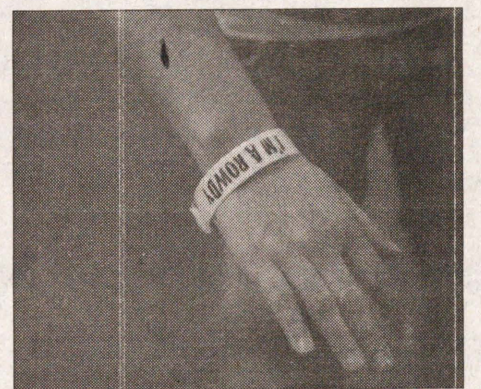
Also coming down from Nashville, Tenn. is former Harding student Cheyenne Medders. Medders has released two albums so far, Carry Us Away and Kiss With Busted Lips. Medders' music can also be found on iTunes.

Medders has returned to Searcy to perform on numerous occasions and has been well received. There are several composers who have begun the preproduction phase of Medders' third album with established producers such as Lij Shaw and Robin Eaton.

Music runs in the Medders family. Medders has two younger brothers, Will and Carson, who play in his band with him. Will is the drummer and Carson is the guitarist, and both are current Harding students who will be playing with Cheyenne on Friday.

"I'm a Rowdie" Wristband Facts

- First 1,000 individuals who attend either Pizza Wars or Rowdy Madness receive a wristband.
- Wearers of wristbands receive free breakfast on Saturday at 9:15 a.m. in the Rhodes Field House; they also obtain free admission to Saturday evening's concert.



Rowdies Asked To Stay Positive

By ZACH WELCH
Student Reporter

The Rhodes Rowdies have made quite a name for themselves. They paint their faces and clothe themselves in costumes before every game. They are on their feet for 40 minutes. They make signs and relentlessly yell chants.

While the Rowdies' enthusiasm rivals that of any college basketball scene, it is important for all fans keep in mind the rules of conduct and cheering when attending a Harding basketball game.

The Gulf South Conference has outlined in their operating manual a code of conduct to be followed

by fans when cheering. The manual says "derisive language directed at the opposing team or game officials is not permitted. The host institution must prevent any interference with the game and the officials." The manual also prohibits throwing objects of any kind onto the playing court.

There will be extra security at this weekend's game versus Henderson State in anticipation of a sold-out crowd. Chief of Harding Public Safety Craig Russell said his staff works closely with both officials and administration to make sure the event goes smoothly as possible. He said one of their

main concerns at games is to distance fans from officials and keep them off the court.

"The Rowdies understand our expectations and that they represent Harding," Russell said. "Very rarely have we had to ask someone to leave the game."

Coach Jeff Morgan said he has also been pleased with the conduct of fans in the past.

"You can't get too rowdy in terms of noise," Morgan said. "That's like asking, can you play too hard."

Morgan and Harding Public Safety said they encourage fans to cheer in a positive manor and to be safe when attending this weekend's game.

HARDING PRESS

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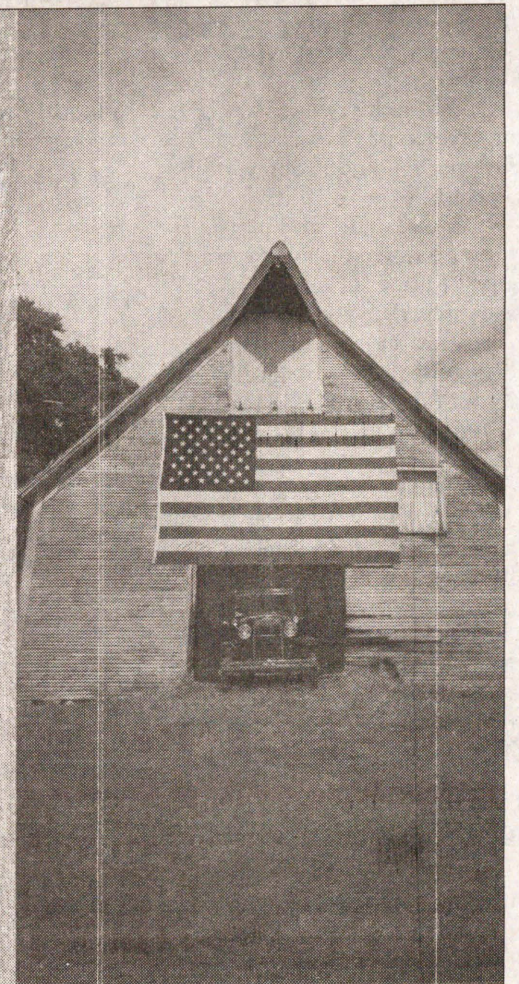
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Theater Faculty Adjusting Well To Ulrey Center

By ALLISON WEAVER
student reporter

Once the warehouse on Remington Street closed, Harding purchased the space to build the Ulrey Performing Arts Center. It was finished last semester and has been up and running since.

"Arsenic and Old Lace" was the first performance held in the new facility last October.

The theater department is pleased that they now have a facility under their direction so they can have continuity to their program. It allows their department to keep the ball rolling instead of having to stop and wait on an area to become available so they can work on their next project.

The professors now have a place to train their students and a place to teach in a professional atmosphere. Prior to having the facility, they had an area that they made functional but was not realistic. They had to carry sets up three or four flights of stairs in the administration building.

Now the new facility allows them to have their scene shops storage and theater on the same floor making it much easier to function.

The theater department has been looking at possibilities for years and now their dreams have come true.

Dr. Morris Ellis, professor of communication, is thrilled to have the new facility.

"We are so appreciative to the administration and donors who have made this facility a possibility," Ellis said. "This new facility not only benefits our program but also impacts IT; they get our vacated space, the administration offices, because they will no longer have

to put up with us working over their heads and making horrible noises.

"Also, the janitorial staff will no longer have to deal with our tracking paint and sawdust all over the Admin."

The new facility also makes it available to everyone without having to climb stairs or not being able to attend since there was no elevator to the second floor.

Ellis said there is a lot going on right now in the building. "Little Shop of Horrors" is scheduled to show over Spring Sing weekend.

The Searcy Summer Dinner Theater will also be utilizing this space. It will start its season in the new facility under the direction of Dr. Steve Frye.

"They too will benefit from having all their building, costumes, props and scenery materials in one location, which should ease their production schedule," Ellis said.

Not only will the theater department be using the new facility, it is also available to other group's productions such as Spring Sing. Frye, also the director of Spring Sing, said they have been using the facility for some of their pre-builds and it has been a great experience so far.

The new addition to Harding's campus has already benefited many people in a number of ways and will continue to in the future. There are theater performances continuing throughout the rest of the semester.

"We are ecstatic over the opportunities this new facility is going to give us including making the faculty staff rethink how we work in this new home," Ellis said.

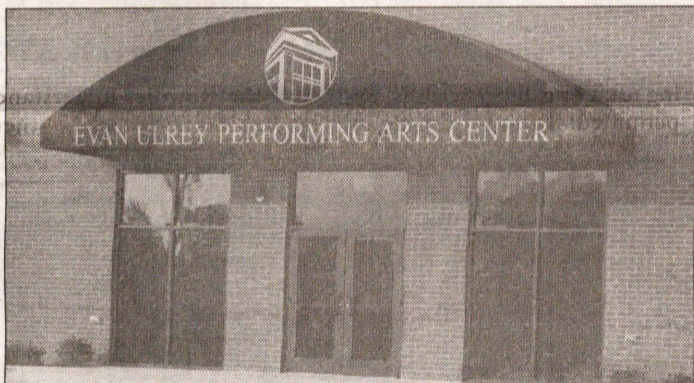
Students Lend Helping Hands In Clinton



Photos by JEFF MONTGOMERY | Public Relations

Students clean up the scattered remains of a house blown apart during a tornado that tore through Clinton, Ark., on Feb. 5. Harding students, faculty and staff joined in the disaster relief efforts Feb. 10. Tornadoes claimed 13 lives across the state.

See Full Story 1A
Read letter to students 7A



Photos by JEFF MONTGOMERY | Public Relations

The Evan Ulrey Performing Arts Center has been in use by the Department of Communication since October.

In nature we see reflections of our children.

- The tree is the strong one.
- The ocean, rambunctious and untamed.
- The sky, the absolute dreamer.

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CRAIG RAINBOLT | The Bison

Senior forward Kristen Donnell puts up a shot in the paint against Delta State. Donnell had nine points and eight rebounds in the Lady Bisons' 61-56 loss to the No. 1 Lady Statesmen.

Donnell Shows Discipline In Classroom, On Court

By ALEX GROVES
student reporter

For most people, graduating in four years after transferring schools twice, playing basketball and being academically driven would not be an easy task. Lady Bison senior transfer, Kristen Donnell, is not most people.

Donnell came to Harding in September 2007 from a Division I school and has met hardly any sign of difficulty on the court or in the classroom. She is this year's leading rebounder and shot blocker. She is also planning on graduating in four years despite her two scholastic transfers.

Donnell is very gifted in the classroom. She credits most of her academic success to her father, who instilled in her very early that doing well in school was just as important as playing basketball. Donnell took her father's advice and made sure that every class she took at Neosho County Community College would transfer.

This discipline in the classroom was enough to show women's basketball coach Tim Kirby just how much of a hard worker she really was. Kirby said what Kristen has done is "unheard of" and "for her to be able to do that academically

speaks highly of her and of her desire to get her degree." Donnell is majoring in Business Management which, according to Kirby, normally takes more work and time and completing it in four years speaks even higher of her academic discipline.

Donnell has also shown a lot of discipline on the basketball court. She started her collegiate career at Neosho County (Kan.) Community College, where she completed the maximum two years before transferring to Division I Wichita State University. While at Wichita State for only a year, Donnell got considerable playing time and found that Wichita State's style of play did not meet her needs as a player. Donnell said this style of play was the main reason why she left Wichita State for Division II Harding where, she said, she really likes that Harding pushes the ball and the players are free to create as well as have a structured style.

Donnell has flourished in this new environment by leading this year's Lady Bisons with 16 blocked shots and 166 rebounds. Kirby said Donnell's contributions on the court are huge for the team because "she just doesn't have that much time." Kirby said Donnell came in and provided a much-needed

"For her to be able to do that academically speaks highly of her and of her desire to get her degree."

Tim Kirby
women's head basketball coach

presence in the center position due to the absence of Lady Bisons' veteran Jacque Fredendall.

Besides coming into a new school and a new system of playing, Donnell had to adjust to her new teammates, something Donnell said she did very easily.

"[The girls] all kind of have the same attitude of wanting to work hard and do our best and win," Donnell said. "We all have a high level of respect for our coaches and want to do our best for them just as they do their best for us. So, coming into a program of girls that had a lot of desire, passion and respect was not very hard at all."

Donnell and the rest of the Lady Bisons will take on Henderson State tomorrow at the Rhodes Field House following the men's televised game. They hope to continue their trip to the Gulf South Conference tournament and then hopefully the NCAA tournament.

HSU: Rivals Clash On National Television

CONTINUED from page 1b
tined this season as well, as the Bisons beat the Reddies 60-57 on Jan. 26 at Henderson State.

With so many close games occurring lately, and with a

conference tournament berth, possible division title and potential NCAA tournament berth on the line for Harding, tomorrow's nationally-televised game is shaping up to be yet another installment in

what has become an annual GSC West showdown.

The game will start at 11 a.m., and the doors will open at 10. In order to be admitted, a ticket must be presented at the door.

DIXON: Senior Makes Final Stop In Searcy

CONTINUED from page 1b
Harding was longer than it is for most; however, it seemingly led to the right place for Dixon.

"Harding has a relaxed, laid back setting," Dixon said. "It's real family-oriented, which is

a good thing."

Dixon's actions on and off the court have made him quite popular with Bison fans around campus. He has become a fan favorite with the Rhodes Rowdies and even has his own cheering section

complete with signs.

The Rowdies aren't the only ones happy that Dixon is here at Harding, however.

"He's a great teammate and a hard-nosed competitor," Morgan said. "We're really glad he's here."

All-Time Meetings Between Harding And Henderson State

HSU Leads Series 70-30

12/14/57 L 53-79	12/9/69 L 66-94	2/23/81 L 74-86	1/23/93 W 89-71
2/27/58 L 65-85	1/30/70 L 64-92	1/28/82 L 66-73	2/22/93 W 86-77
12/3/58 W 70-62	1/12/71 L 70-82	2/22/82 L 85-87	12/11/93 W 74-67
1/24/59 L 64-76	2/19/71 L 77-89	1/10/83 L 59-74	11/25/95 W 68-54
1/5/60 W 88-81	1/17/72 L 57-66	2/7/83 L 60-67	12/7/95 W 75-61
2/5/60 L 64-75	2/24/72 W 76-72	1/9/84 W 89-82	1/9/97 L 68-84
1/10/61 L 60-73	12/7/72 L 50-99	2/6/84 L 62-64	2/6/97 W 102-72
2/14/61 W 76-74	2/5/73 L 71-90	1/10/85 L 69-84	1/11/01 L 58-67
12/12/61 L 51-79	1/12/73 L 67-90	2/4/85 W 66-48	2/5/01 L 63-74
2/24/62 W 73-70	1/14/74 L 70-74	1/16/86 L 65-67	1/10/02 L 83-88
12/7/62 W 84-57	2/14/74 L 87-99	2/17/86 W 61-57	2/4/02 L 64-72
2/1/63 L 71-80	1/13/75 L 70-71	1/15/87 L 83-84	2/1/03 L 75-84
12/10/63 W 83-67	2/13/75 L 59-75	2/16/87 W 75-74	3/1/03 L 74-77
2/1/64 W 101-83	1/8/76 L 64-67	2/26/87 W 85-76	3/8/03 L 47-50
12/8/64 L 72-73	2/9/76 L 60-65	11/28/87 W 70-69	3/14/03 L 59-67
12/29/64 W 67-53	1/13/77 L 77-78	2/1/88 L 59-83	1/31/04 L 68-72
1/29/65 L 72-76	2/14/77 L 65-80	2/27/88 L 64-76	2/28/04 W 78-66
12/1/65 L 63-87	1/19/78 L 78-80	1/30/89 L 68-87	1/29/05 W 71-62
1/14/66 L 73-84	2/20/78 L 69-83	2/25/89 W 93-84	2/26/05 W 86-67
1/3/67 L 73-79	12/4/78 L 64-87	1/25/90 W 67-64	1/28/06 L 55-68
2/13/67 W 77-67	1/29/79 L 75-80	2/24/90 L 73-86	2/25/06 L 68-77
1/5/68 W 87-73	3/3/79 L 80-96	1/28/91 L 82-83	1/20/07 L 58-60
2/13/68 L 62-64	12/3/79 L 67-84	2/23/91 L 76-87	2/17/07 W 58-55
12/9/68 L 64-83	1/28/80 L 59-71	1/27/92 L 66-78	3/3/07 L 71-76
1/30/69 L 79-91	1/22/81 L 67-70	2/24/92 L 85-94	1/26/08 W 60-57

Reddies Henderson and Harding History

First Harding win against Henderson

Largest Harding win over Henderson (102-72)

Matt Hall hits a game-winning 3-pointer to clinch conference tournament berth

1957

First meeting between Harding and Henderson

1958

1972

Largest Harding loss to Henderson (99-50)

1997

2004

Bisons snap nine-game losing streak to Henderson

2007

2008

Nationally-televised game to be aired on CSTV

Back In The Swing Of Things

CRAIG RAINBOLT | The Bison

Outfielder Aaron Roberts turns on in inside pitch during a Feb. 6 game against Northeastern State. The Bisons defeated the RiverHawks 3-0 in their season debut.

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