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## The Bison, December 12, 2008

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**HARDING**  
UNIVERSITY

# Bison *the*

VOL. 84, NO. 9

December 12, 2008

THEBISONNEWS.COM

**TIM TEBOW**  
Florida star Tim Tebow uses his position to spread God's word.  
Page 1B



## Fine Arts requirement to undergo makeover

Students will be able to choose between three classes

by **BLAKE MATHEWS**  
news editor

Harding's long-standing practice of requiring students to take both Music and Art Appreciation will change next fall, following a decision made by the new Liberal Arts Committee.

Music and Art Appreciation — Music 101 and Art 101, respectively — will each be worth three credit hours under next year's catalog. Currently, they are only worth two hours, and students must take both to satisfy Harding's four-hour fine arts requirement.

Under the new catalog, however, only three hours of fine arts will be required. Students will be

able to choose which appreciation course they wish to take to fulfill this requirement.

The changes are part of the Liberal Arts Committee's plan to reduce the number of required courses — commonly called "gen-eds" — that Harding students must take to graduate. Dr. Dennis Organ, chairman of the committee, said that many universities only require three hours of fine arts and often include areas of study besides music and art. The committee took these universities into account, as well as requests from faculty and students, when they proposed the creation of a Theater Appreciation course. The proposal was approved, and next fall students will be able

to take Music 101, Art 101 or Theater 101 to fulfill their fine arts requirement.

The Theater Appreciation course will be taught from a "broad-based humanities perspective," according to professor Robin Miller of the theater department. In addition to studying productions and scripts, students will learn about the historical environments they were created in.

"You cannot study a particular script without putting it in the world it was in — in its economic world, in its political world [and] in its spiritual world," Miller said. "The study of theater requires that you study society."

Miller said in studying the see CLASSES page 3a

## Papa Burks' story time

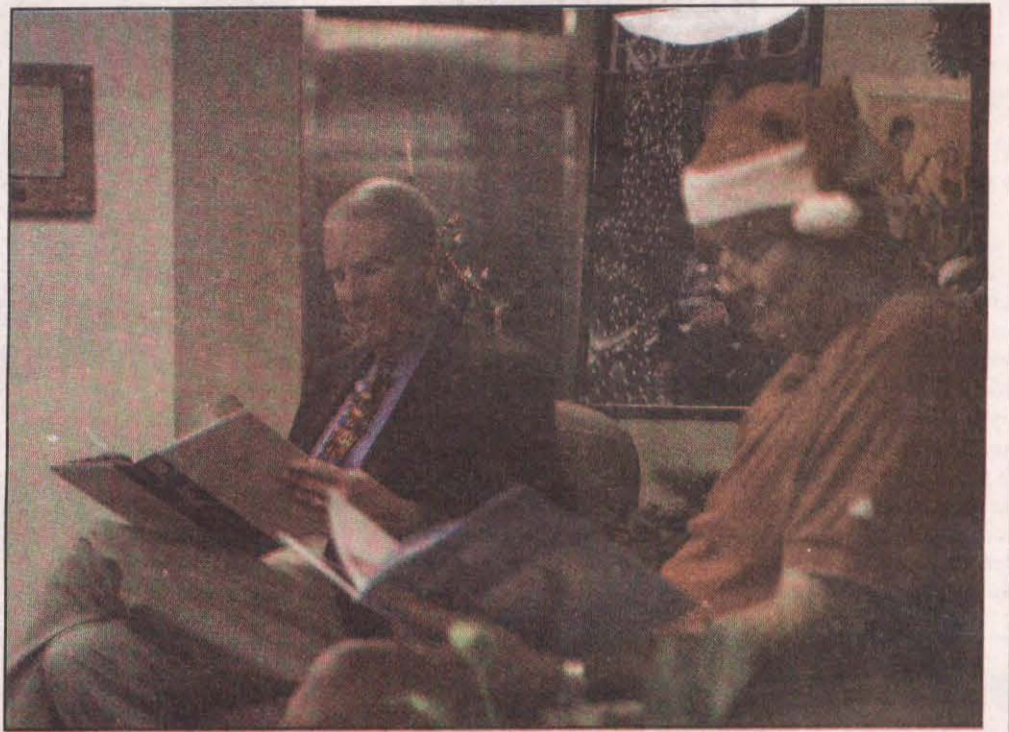


photo by TAYLOR DURHAM | the Bison

Harding President David Burks reads "Twas the Night Before Christmas" with Vice President of Information Technology Keith Cronk Thursday afternoon in the library.

## Student helps in DEA bust Walton scholar translates for drug suspect

by **KRISTEN COTTLE**  
student reporter

When Walton Scholar German Perez went to Alabama for Thanksgiving break, he expected to enjoy a relaxing holiday.

But instead, he helped put a drug dealer behind bars.

Perez, a junior majoring in international business and professional sales and a native of Honduras, traveled to Anniston, Ala., to spend Thanksgiving break with a friend, Andy Hunter. Hunter, an agent with the Drug Enforcement Agency in Alabama, brought Perez to work. Perez's fluency in Spanish wound up giving DEA agents an upper hand in a drug bust.

"I never knew what being a DEA agent was all about, and I was anxious to see," Perez said.

Perez said Hunter received a call about a suspicious package at a FedEx distribution center. Hunter and Perez, along with other DEA agents and drug dogs, later determined that the package contained 15 pounds of marijuana.

"I couldn't believe it," Perez said. "I have never seen anything like that before."

The DEA decided to deliver the package and then make an arrest for attempting to see DEA page 3a

## Hitting the books

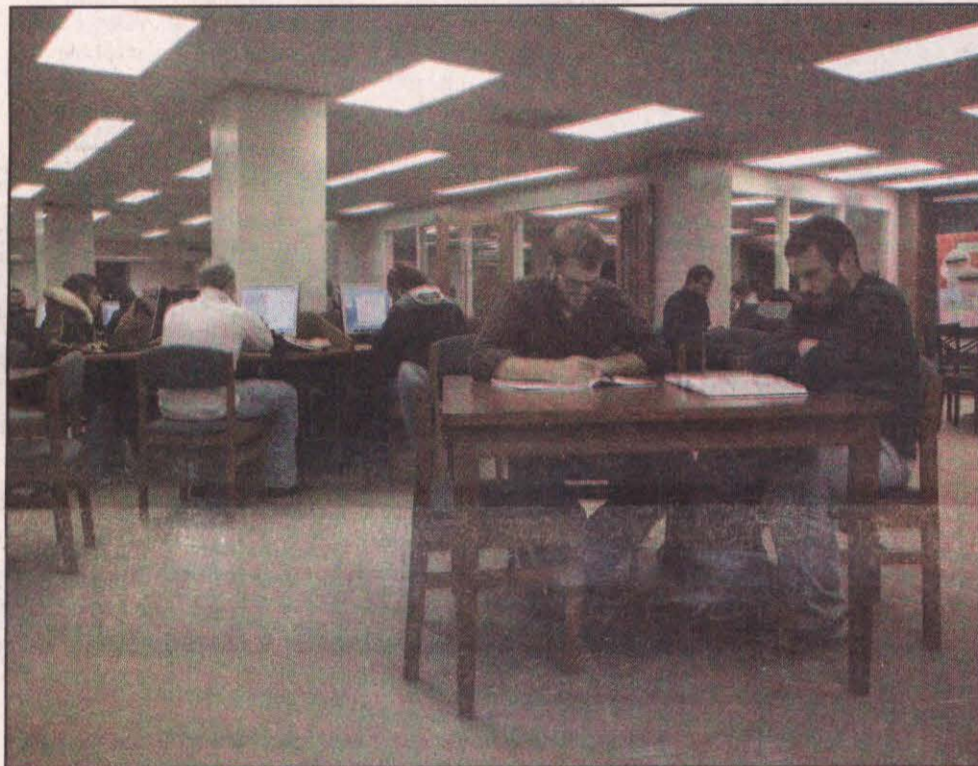


photo by TAYLOR DURHAM | the Bison

Graduate student Kevin Burr and senior Branson Bridges take time to study in the library. As finals approach, more students find themselves utilizing the library than during the rest of the year.

## Support group helps students deal with same-sex attraction

by **CARA GUGLIEMON**  
copy editor

"I'm Moses here," Harding senior Alyssa Baber said about her recent opportunity to share about herself with a group at Abilene Christian University — and about the other sharing opportunities that God may soon open up for her. Though she said she is not good at public speaking or with words, this semester Baber shared her story and struggle with a group of people she barely knew. And she'll do it again if God so

directs her.

Not only does speaking in front of people contradict what is natural for Baber, but it also entails vulnerability. What she shared at ACU is something that, up until recently, she has only shared with a select few.

Baber struggled with same-sex attraction. Now, having been rescued by Jesus from that struggle, she and Harding graduate Robert Channing — also one Jesus rescued from that struggle — are passionate about helping others with that struggle. They plan to do it through a support

group called Integrity Ministries, which will begin meeting weekly in the spring semester at an undisclosed location, for students struggling with same sex attraction.

"I personally know what it's like to not have people that you can go to," Baber said. "And not that you don't have friends — I have friends — but people that understand. There's something different when someone has gone through it. I've been there, I've gone through it — all of the above."

see SUPPORT page 3a

## 'Koobface' virus targets computers through Facebook

by **ASHTON REELY**  
student reporter

A virus is targeting Facebook, the social networking site with 120 million active users, using the network's messaging system to infect computers and collect sensitive information.

The virus, which has been named "Koobface," spreads by sending messages to the friends of the person whose computer has been infected, disguising the message as a legitimate wall post or message from that person. Taking the profile picture of the sending infected user, it sends a link to others with a clever subject line that says something to the effect of, "You look awesome in this video," or "I have this funny video of you."

When receivers click on the link, they are told to download the latest version of Adobe Flash Player in order to watch the video.

If they do, the virus then takes hold and attacks the computer. Symantec Corporation, the company that makes Norton AntiVirus, said Koobface either waits for you to buy something online and remembers the details that you type in on your keyboard or searches your computer for any cookies you might have from when you bought something in the past.

Because sites like Facebook require individuals to be members to log in, security experts say people are more vulnerable to viruses on these sites because they have a false sense of protection.

Senior Devon Newburn said

he began to notice something was wrong when his friends began to inquire on his wall about messages he had sent them.

"I, of course, had no idea what they were talking about," Newburn said. "Then one friend messaged me and said she had been spammed from my Facebook, and then it all made sense."

Though the virus did not harm his computer, Newburn said one of his friends clicked the link and said numerous windows continuously popped up on his screen until he finally shut down his computer.

"I definitely changed my password to a stronger password so that whoever was using my account can no longer do so," Newburn said.

Newburn said he then changed his Facebook status to let his friends know about the situation.

Facebook has advised members to delete contaminated e-mail immediately and has posted directions at [www.facebook.com/security](http://www.facebook.com/security) on how to clean infected computers. Guy Bunker from Symantec told the BBC that the virus is easy to get rid of.

"You can either just download some anti-virus software from the Web or you can do it yourself," he said. "Just go to your Windows directory and search for these two files: tmark2.dat and mstre6.exe. If you find either of them, delete them right away."

The perpetrators behind Koobface have not yet been identified. Because they are improving the malicious software behind the virus, users should be extra alert when opening messages.

## They still believe in Santa



photo by TAYLOR DURHAM | the Bison

Fourth through sixth graders in Harding Academy's chorus sing Christmas songs during chapel Thursday morning. Harding Academy students sing in chapel every year around Christmas.

## New journalism group receives workshop grant

by **JORDAN BAILEY**  
student reporter

A fledgling journalism group on campus received a government grant to conduct a workshop for high school students this spring.

Before this semester, Harding had not begun the process of establishing a chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, but with their early success in obtaining a grant, the group has high hopes for the future.

In recent history, Harding has neglected to have a chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. This organization has been in existence since 1909, and is the most broad-based journalism organization in the nation,

according to their Web site. Both students and professionals serve as resources to SPJ.

Early this semester, an interest meeting facilitated by professor of communication Dr. Jim Miller led to the official commencement of a Harding chapter on campus.

According to Miller, Harding is in the process of becoming an official chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists; the application is under review. This process involves submitting paperwork to the national chapter with information regarding faculty research, student interest and journalism curriculum.

Miller gauged student interest through Facebook and an interest meeting earlier this fall.

Ashton Reely, a senior majoring in journalism, said she received an invitation to join the Facebook group along with others in her field of study and attended the interest meeting along with approximately 40 other committed students.

That initial step led to an opportunity to elect officers, and Reely was elected treasurer along with president, Jeremy Watson, vice president, Blake Mathews, and secretary, Samantha Holsbach. Sponsors include Miller and fellow communication faculty members Jeremy Beauchamp and Dutch Hoggatt.

The officers met with Miller after he was contacted by the regional director,

see SPJ page 3a

TheNewsreel

Dogs rescued from W. Va. puppy mill

Over 1,000 dogs and puppies were rescued from a puppy mill last weekend, enlisting volunteers and workers from animal rights groups to find them permanent homes.

The Humane Society referred to The Whispering Oaks Kennel as a puppy mill, saying that the dogs, mostly pure-bred dachshunds, were bred and kept in cages and dilapidated sheds.



The animals were rarely handled by humans and were never let out. Many dogs stumbled when rescuers allowed them to walk on grass. Officials reported that there was no apparent abuse, but proper care of that many animals would be impossible.

Although charges of animal neglect were not brought against the owner, she agreed to never operate a dog breeding facility again.

The rescued dogs are now staying at a temporary shelter where they will be examined and evaluated before being released for adoption.

Child says farewell through letters

After being diagnosed with brain cancer and given 135 days to live, six-year-old Elena Deserich wrote letters to her family and hid them throughout the house. In a way to pass on the inspiration she left behind, her parents have published the letters in book form, which will go on sale this weekend.

Her parents said that she tucked the letters into bookcases, between dishes and under china. They would pull out a book or lift a dish, and find a letter from their ailing daughter.

Elena's father, Keith Deserich kept an online journal of the family's battle against cancer, which had a following of about 12,000 readers per day.

"Notes Left Behind, 135 Days with Elena," is a book that her family hopes will pass on their daughter's strength and courage. All proceeds of the book will go to cancer research.

Diamond auction earns world record

Christie's sold an extremely rare 17th century diamond for \$24.3 million at auction on Wednesday.

Laurence Graff, Bond Street jeweler, purchased the grey-blue 35.56-carat stone. This historic Wittelsbach diamond set a world record for its price—the highest paid for any piece of jewelry or diamond at auction. It broke the record of \$16.5 million paid for a 100-carat diamond sold in 1995 in Geneva.



Keith Penton, head of the Christie's jewelry department in London, reported that strong interest was expressed by jewelers and private collectors.

The diamond was part of the dowry for Infanta Margarita Teresa's engagement to Leopold I of Austria, and originated in an Indian diamond mine.

National Public Radio announces layoffs

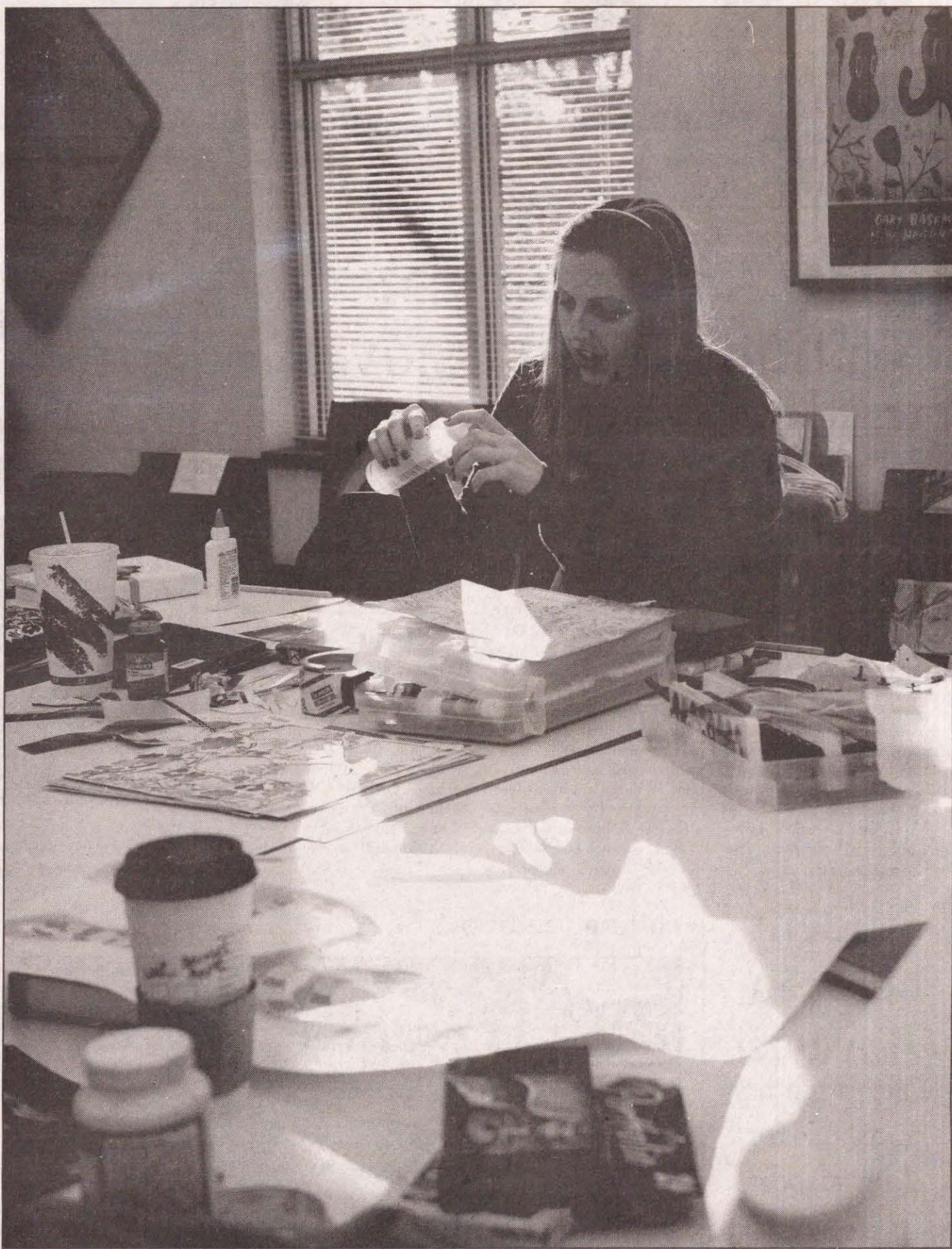
In the first downsize in 12 years, National Public Radio announced that 7 percent of staff members will be laid off.

Caused by a large decrease in corporate sponsorship, the layoffs affect 64 full-time staff members. Half of the 64 are from news and programming, while the rest operate in station services, engineering, information technology, communications, research, digital media and administration.

Along with layoffs, NPR is saving money by cutting down on travel and discretionary expenses, and canceling two shows, "Day to Day" and "News and Notes."

NPR reported that 26.4 million people tune in to its weekly programs, while their Web site is viewed by about eight million people each month.

TheWindow



Senior Lauren Roberts works on a project in Professor Schoen's Art 104 class. Students in the class spend six hours each week in lab, experimenting and creating with a variety of materials. photo by TAYLOR DURHAM | the Bison

TheWATERCOOLER

"While kissing is normally very safe, doctors advise people to proceed with caution."

— Dr. Li, Chinese ear specialist, following treatment to a woman who became partially deaf after a rather passionate kiss from her boyfriend.

"It's very simple: we want the government to fall. This boy's death was the last straw for us."

— Petros Constantinou, Socialist Workers Party organizer, on the march toward Athens' Parliament in protest of a teenager being fatally shot by police.

"The goat and the chicken have become part of the fabric of Christmas."

— Lindsey Boswell, Institute of Fundraising director, on charity Christmas presents.

"I don't care if you're sick or not. As long as you are sent by the township government, I'll treat you as a mental patient."

— Chinese doctor in Shandong province to Sun Fawu, who the Chinese government sent to a hospital, declaring Fawu mentally ill after Fawu sought compensation for losing land to a coal-mining operation.

"We have this phenomenal product, and it's worth nothing."

— Marco Lemmi, owner of cheese shop Caseificio la Maddonnina, on his cheese's declining value.

"I hope they stare us in the face and we stare back."

—Maureen Santora, mother to 9/11 victim, on seeing supposed 9/11 initiator Khalid Sheikh Mohammed at a hearing alongside four additional defendants, all of whom intend to plead guilty.

TheSCOOP

Final Exam Schedule

Classes meeting MWF, MW, and Daily Meet time, Exam Day and Time  
 7:30 or 8 AM Wednesday 8:00 AM  
 8:30 or 9 AM Monday 8:00 AM  
 10 AM Tuesday 1:30 PM  
 11 AM Thursday 10:30 AM  
 12 noon Friday 8:00 AM  
 1 PM Thursday 1:30 PM  
 2 PM Monday 1:30 PM  
 3 PM Wednesday 1:30 PM  
 4 PM and evening classes same day/time as class normally meets

Classes meeting Tuesday / Thursday Meet time, Exam Day and Time  
 7:30 or 8 AM Thursday 8:00 AM  
 8:30 or 9 AM Tuesday 8:00 AM  
 10 AM Monday 10:30 AM  
 11 or 11:30 AM Wednesday 10:30 AM  
 1 PM Friday 10:30  
 2 or 2:30 PM Tuesday 10:30 AM  
 3 PM Friday 1:30 PM  
 4 PM and evening classes same day/time as class normally meets

TheNUMBER

446

—the number of seniors graduating on Dec. 20

## CLASSES: New theater class to be choice for fine arts

**CONTINUED from page 1a**  
cultural context of theater, he hopes to illuminate the impact performers and playwrights have had on their societies. The class will also separate and analyze the theatrical and spiritual values within plays.

"You can have really good theater that is morally bankrupt, and you can have theater that is a sermon on wheels, but unfortunately is very lousy theater," Miller said.

Theater 101 will not be the only course stretching out academically. Organ said he hopes the Liberal Arts Committee will be able to broaden the scope of every course in the liberal arts curriculum. When students in Art 101 are studying the impressionist period, which he gave as an example, they should acknowledge the music and literature of that time as well.

"We recognize the value to our students in showing the interrelated nature of the humanities," Organ said.

This approach will be especially important when students are no longer required to take more than one apprecia-

tion course.  
"We are going to work toward a system where we can assure that, in each of those classes that a given student will take, they will have some exposure to the other fields as well," Organ said.

Naturally, not all aspects of the humanities can be connected to every liberal arts course. There will also be restrictions on how often courses like Theater 101 will be offered, given the limited number of theater professors. Organ estimated that two sections of the class will be offered per semester. For comparison, seven sections of Music Appreciation will be offered this spring.

Additionally, theater majors will be discouraged from taking Theater 101. As all of the course's material would be covered in later theater classes, Miller said theater majors will be required to take a music or art class instead.

Students wishing to take Theater 101 for fine arts credit will have to follow all the requirements — new and old — for the 2009-2010 academic catalog. Otherwise, the course can only be taken as an elective.

## DEA: Suspect arrested

**CONTINUED from page 1a**  
distribute. Agents disguised a white van to look like a FedEx delivery truck.

"We didn't know what to expect going into the bust," Perez said. "We didn't know if he would run or be carrying a weapon."

The suspect received the package and took off driving to the border of Alabama. The agents made the arrest at the border.

After discovering the suspect was from Mexico and spoke little English, Perez was called in as a translator. He had to wear a bulletproof vest and carry a taser gun.

The suspect admitted to knowing what was in the package, having six fake identification cards and attempting to sell. After Perez translated the suspect's rights to him, authorities took the suspect to jail.

"I think the whole adrenaline rush of it was not knowing what was going to happen," Perez said. "That was the fun part of it because being a DEA agent is the kind of job where you never know what is really going to happen. I can't wait for next Thanksgiving."

## SPJ: Students to hold journalism workshop

**CONTINUED from page 1a**

Sonny Albarado, an editor for the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, with information about an available grant. Within two days, freshman Shannon Cornett wrote the grant proposing a workshop for high school journalism students, the officers edited it, and it was submitted. Cornett had previous experience writing grants and volunteered to help.

Miller received an e-mail Nov. 24 informing him that the grant had been accepted, and the group has already received a check for \$500 and a letter containing expectations.

Reely said the officers chose to pursue a workshop because they wanted high school journalists to be "encouraged to write and express themselves."

The structure for the workshop will include a guest speaker, classes about print and broadcast journalism and an awards program honoring student work submitted in advance.

According to Reely, the members of SPJ plan to send invitations to local journalism teachers inviting them to bring their classes to the workshop.

Members of the Harding chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists will meet next week to begin planning the workshop, setting a date, choosing a speaker to pursue and dividing responsibilities.

"At first it was just ideas," Reely said. "Now we actually have to put something together."

Hosting an event for high school journalists could be one way to promote the future of journalism, and as an organization with a small budget that wants to be active in the community, grant money can provide invaluable support for journalistic ideas.

"Grants will really help us do the things we want to do," Reely said.

Miller said he set the establishment of the group as a goal because he believes Harding needed an inclusive society for journalists, especially print journalists, and he promotes the cause of freedom of the press as a vital aspect of democracy.

"We want everything that we do in our SPJ chapter to contribute to the national society's mission of advancing the ideals of journalism," Miller said.

## SUPPORT: Group to try to show love, friendship to others facing same struggle

**CONTINUED from page 1a**

Baber said though she had always known she wanted to work in a ministry in some capacity with individuals who struggle with this attraction, she didn't know how she would until Sally Gary spoke September in chapel about Center Peace, her similar support group.

"The whole point of the group [is] kind of a safe place where they can go to," Baber said. "It's just to make it — I feel like for so long this is something that no one talks about, so if this is your struggle, you kind of deal with it yourself."

As a to-be leader of the group, Baber has experienced God's healing.

"I think that I learned a lot about God and his faithfulness through humans, ... through my husband, ... seeing him show grace, ... but also just through friends," Baber said. "When I first came to Harding, very few people knew at all. In my years at Harding, on a one on one basis, I was able to tell more and more people, ... and I just think that even since my junior year, its been just like accelerated."

"For me it was very hard because I felt ... like I lived the life with my parents and my youth group and my friends, but at the same time I had this other life, and these questions and these issues that I really couldn't address with anyone. If you have such a split in your life, you're obviously going to be held back in some way. I hated it because I felt like I was fake. I definitely didn't want that struggle."

Channing, who will co-lead the group with Baber, experienced a struggle similar to Baber's.

"A lot of redemption has occurred in terms of sexual abuse for

me and rejection issues toward my Dad," Channing said. "So it's been a process for me to just embrace what the Lord says about me and how He defines me, and I think coming to grips with the Lord's grace has been transforming in my life. For the longest time I felt like my sin and my struggle disqualified me from the Lord's grace, because this particular struggle somehow gets viewed as a really big sin."

"And to really understand that there really is no hierarchy of sin in terms of the Lord was liberating for me. Just coming to understand that just because I'm predisposed to something doesn't mean I'm destined to live under any curse or any struggle, that the Lord brings freedom."

Channing said he doesn't believe people are biologically wired to be attracted to the same sex — and he has had to struggle through his attraction to the same sex.

"In retrospect, I've come to realize that there were a lot of reasons I felt that way," Channing said. "I felt very disconnected from ... relationship with my dad, and with my peers. I wasn't a typical guy; I didn't get into competitive sports, so that set me apart, and I just felt this longing to connect with other guys. And I was sexually abused as a boy and that brought [confusion]."

Channing also said God provided healing.

"I had a very, very tight close

group of guy friends at Harding and that group of guys really surrounded me and prayed over me," he said. "And once I was honest with them about what I was struggling with, their acceptance really refuted the conclusions I had come to for years ... that I would be rejected ... and their response enabled me to just accept myself, because they were loving me. They really showed Christ to me."

"Though Christian culture often does not know how to or want to deal with the struggle with same-sex attraction, Baber said, God and some of his fellow human servants are ready to be in this with people.

"God has a heart for those who are hurting and who are seeking him," she said. "And I don't think he would ever turn those people away. If Jesus were here I feel like he would be doing this. I feel like He would be doing other things too. This struggle is not so ambiguous that God will not be willing to get his hands dirty in this. This is a dirty messy thing [in our culture] that no one wants to touch. But so is leprosy."

From personal experience, Baber said the best way to love a friend struggling with this issue is to accept that friend and not to react in judgment.

"Encourage those people," she said. "It takes a huge amount of guts to tell someone that. Encour-

age them to maybe seek out the group or seek Channing and I out. I think that those people, they're not telling you because they want you to be okay with it — they know it's wrong. They're reaching out to you for love, because I feel like that's what they're seeking out in that lifestyle anyways: a false love, a false relationship. I think it's so critical and so important to remind yourself ... that your response can be the change that they need but it can also be the thing that pulls them further under."

Though the group will not use any workbook, and Baber said she is unsure what the meetings will be like, she also said that does not worry her because she trusts God.

"As far as specifics as far as what it's gonna look like, I honestly have no idea, ... and that doesn't worry me at all," she said. "I feel like God is really gonna take that over. There's not anything set."

"We as Christians have a lot of junk in our lives. It's okay to admit that we're weak. We're not in charge of fixing it. I can boast in my weakness because of the One who is greater than me who ... provides freedom."

To contact the group (and Baber and Channing) e-mail: integrityministries@gmail.com.

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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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LETTER POLICY

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

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.



How The Rise Of Technology Is Influencing Our Lives

During the Thanksgiving Break, I witnessed an older family member typing on the computer. It was somewhat pathetic. From my point of view, it looked like a bird pecking at pieces of crumbled bread on the ground. I thought to myself, "What a difference a generation makes." Being a part of the generation that has more or less grown up with computers and technology, I often take my computer literacy for granted. It seems that in a world that is becoming increasingly dependent on the use of computers and technology, there has become a new type of literacy: computer literacy. It is almost to the point where the lack of basic computer competency is contemptible. It is very likely that in only a few decades, computer illiteracy will be as inhibiting as illiteracy is now. The rise in demand for competency at the keyboard has had effects both good and bad.

One particularly good influence of computers is the amazing opportunity they provide for people to be exponentially more productive and efficient. For example, while writing a paper for a literature class last week, I wanted to incorporate a collection of quotes I had read throughout the novel that I was writing about. The old-fashioned method would have required me to spend countless hours searching through the text of the book to find the collection of quotes I was seeking after. This way of going about business is lethargic, inefficient and extremely time-consuming.

Instead of laboring manually through the text, I simply downloaded a digital copy of the book via a Web site called Scribd. This Web site contains numerous books available



STEVEN C. DENNEY

Guest Space

**"Being a part of the generation that has more or less grown up with computers and technology, I often take my computer literacy for granted."**

for download to the desktop. Using my electronic copy of the novel, I simply hit Ctrl+F and typed in the key words of the quotes I was looking for, and there I had it — all of the quotes I needed, found in less than 15 minutes. My computer literacy served me well. I saved myself a significant amount of time — time that was spent writing and editing instead of scanning through pages. In this case, technology was a major, arguably indispensable, asset.

Despite its positive aspects, the rise in the use of technology in everyday life can have some negative results. One of these downsides is noted by Nicholas Carr in one of his articles from *The Atlantic* entitled "Is Google Making Us Stupid?" In his article, Carr introduces the theory that our heavy use of technology, specifically computers and the Internet, has resulted in a re-wiring of the brain. A commonly held theory posits that the brain reaches full maturity near the time of adulthood, at which point the brain's mental "mental meshwork" becomes fixed.

According to Carr, this is incorrect.

Citing a professor of neuroscience from the Krasnow Institute at George Mason, Carr indicates that the brain "has the ability to reprogram itself on the fly, altering the way it functions" beyond the point of adulthood. Simply put, our brains are always changing the way we think.

So why is this so bad? Well, according to Carr, those who are a part of the information age are suffering the consequences of sensory overload. We, as a techno-savvy civilization, are no longer capable of meditating on one topic, one idea or one single thought. Our mental meshwork has reorganized itself around the methods of multi-tasking, quick-scans and e-mail-length summaries. "The effect of the net" has resulted in a society that is unable to sit down and read through a book cover-to-cover. Everything is abridged, shortened into memos or briefly summarized. I don't suspect Tolstoy's "War and Peace" is much of a best-seller anymore.

Along with the advantages of the rise in technology come many unintended effects. Despite the drawbacks, technology is here to stay. Being a computer competent-person will someday soon be an absolute necessity. What the ramifications of that will be, I'm not sure. Will books cease to be a part of school curriculum? I highly doubt it. People will simply need to learn how to balance technology and diligence. It is possible to read Gibbon and search Google. But not at the same time.

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Revisit Your Childhood Through A Book

Whether you like to read or not, I think it's fair to say that some stories influence your life in a very real, very strong way. It's interesting to think of the authors behind these stories: who they are and the lives that they lead. What gave them the ability to speak to our souls? I don't know the answer to this question. What I do know is that I got to meet one of my very favorite authors this past weekend. Her books were a major part of my childhood, providing an escape from the tediousness of my 10-year-old life. Even now her stories speak to the little girl in me.

This past weekend a group called Full Cast Audio visited our beloved Benson Auditorium. Full Cast Audio records unabridged children's books using a full cast instead of a single voice. Whenever possible, the author of the story serves as the narrator. This is significant because Tamora Pierce wrote a few of the pieces that Full Cast Audio has recorded, which means that I had the opportunity to meet her.

Pierce has written many books, but her very first series is called "The Song of the Lioness Quartet." As a fifth grader, I remember walking around the playground at recess talking with my best friend Beth about the characters found in the books, anxiously awaiting the release of the next in the series. In our fifth grade lives, these books were a big deal!

The first series is primarily about a



JACQUE BREUER

Guest Space

**"Yes, we're in college, and most of the time. But I want to remind you that it's OK to revert to a childlike state of excitement over stories. In fact, I think it's part of being a complete person."**

girl named Alanna who disguises herself as a boy so that she can become a knight. Now before you file these stories away next to the "Twilight" series, you need to understand that these books are so much more than fantasy to me. Alanna, as the heroine of the book, gave me a strong female character within my imagination to live through vicariously. Obviously, I will never train to become a knight, but through these books, I could and did.

In my advanced years, I have started reading a lot of nonfiction, but there is still something magical about picking up a storybook and being able to live someone else's life, even if just for a few hours. It's not necessarily about escaping, but rather about keeping our imaginations alive. As some people grow into maturity, they grow

out of their imagination. We seem to think this is necessary to grow up ... it's not.

At a time in my life when I was bogged down by the schoolwork and responsibilities that come with senior "about to graduate" status, having Tamora Pierce visit our campus reminded me that I'll never outgrow my imagination. Yes, I was sitting in an auditorium full of children under the age of 12, but I wouldn't have had it any other way. It would have been easy to feel out of place, but I didn't. I enjoyed the "children's stories" because I let go of my "mature" façade and let my imagination take over. It was liberating.

Hand in hand, five college girls raised the excitement level of that young crowd by at least 150 percent, and our imaginations received a much-needed tune up. Yes, we're in college, and yes, we have to be practical most of the time. But I want to remind you that it's OK to revert to a childlike state of excitement over stories. In fact, I think it's part of being a complete person.

Go read a book you haven't read since you were younger; see where it takes you. I dare say it might just be exactly what your practical, efficient, responsible college mind needs.

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JEREMY WATSON

Elementary, My Dear

Dying With An Audience

As social media — things like the Web sites Facebook and MySpace — grow more popular, more and more human interaction takes place on the Internet. From inviting friends to a party and sending quick messages back and forth throughout the day to sharing vacation experiences through pictures and film, people's lives are becoming digital.

Recently, however, this was taken a bit further: a teenager in Florida turned on his webcam, said goodbye and overdosed on pills, committing suicide live on Justin.tv, a San Francisco-based network of live webcams, as people looked on and, in some cases, encouraged him.

**It makes me question where social media is headed: will, one day, our entire lives, from birth to death, be chronicled in digital form on the Internet?**

This situation is disturbing in many ways, even apart from the obvious fact of up to 1,500 people watching a person die without calling the police for hours. It makes me question where social media is headed: will, one day, our entire lives, from birth to death, be chronicled in digital form on the Internet? Will all our formerly private moments be broadcast for the world to see in each person's own version of "The Truman Show"?

Such an idea may seem outlandish now, but a more recent event has me convinced we're not far off from something like that. Last Wednesday, Dec. 10, a man's assisted suicide was broadcast in Britain — where assisted suicide is banned — after being filmed for a documentary in Switzerland — where it is legal. I don't want to discuss the ethics of assisted suicide — frankly, I'm going to remain neutral until I get my own incredibly painful, financially and emotionally draining terminal illness to decide whether I think it is right or wrong — but I'm sure most people would agree that showing it on public television goes a step beyond normalcy, even for British television, which often has much more violence and sexuality than American TV.

Those in support of it, such as the man who committed suicide himself, a former computer scientist from Chicago who had been living in Britain, said keeping death private and closed doesn't let people face it and increases fear and anxiety about death. Many other groups, however, said it was just a callous ploy for ratings, playing to people's desire for "increasingly bizarre reality shows," according to Peter Saunders, the director of anti-euthanasia group Care Not Killing, which is aligned with the Roman Catholic Church.

In a way, I find myself agreeing a bit with both sides. I do think death is something that shouldn't necessarily be feared, but accepted as a natural part of life, and I think more exposure to it would help people cope with it when a loved one passes or when faced with their own terminal illness, but I also think death is not something that should be turned into a public spectacle. This broadcast, while very calm and subdued, makes me think of gladiatorial games or public executions, and I don't really know any reason people would watch that program other than a morbid curiosity, a pandering to their prurient interests.

Popular culture has had its share of stories that portray a society that craves excitement and entertainment so much it starts making those "bizarre reality shows," like the movie "The Condemned," in which death row prisoners are turned loose on an island with different weapons and told to fight and that the one who survives goes free (all of which is filmed for a television show), which was in turn based off the similar Japanese film, "Battle Royale." It's hard to imagine our society doing something like that, but it was also hard to imagine the amount of violence, language and sexuality in today's films and television programs even 50 years ago. Who knows what we'll be watching in 50 more?

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## THE QUOTE

"I think like most of the people of Illinois, I was appalled and disappointed by what was heard in these transcripts. I hope that the governor himself comes to the conclusion that he can no longer effectively serve and that he does resign."

— BARACK OBAMA, President-elect and former Illinois Senator on Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich's attempt to sell Obama's vacant Senate seat in what has been called a political corruption crime spree.

## Christmas: A Time For Classic Entertainment

As modern American consumers of entertainment, we expect certain things from television and movies these days.

We want pristine color displays and top-of-the-line, flat screen plasma televisions. To feel like we're really "there," we plug in dozens of conspicuous speakers around the living room. Forget DVD; we need to buy Blu-Ray in order to enjoy our favorite films now available in high definition.

When James Bond is squealing around hairpin turns in his brand-name sports car, we want the graphics and sound to be so accurate that we are practically in the passenger seat. When a Yankees slugger comes up to bat in the World Series, we might as well bring a ball glove with us to the Lay-Z-Boy, because the experience is so lifelike that there's a chance a home run could come sailing through the LCD screen.

Then comes Christmastime. Suddenly, the television world has reverted back to 1968. And somehow, we don't care.

Classic animated specials are constant mainstays of the major networks. It doesn't matter how old the shows get, we'll still watch them and never once wonder why "A Charlie Brown Christmas" doesn't have any



AMANDA PRUITT

### The Fish Wrap

**"We want pristine color displays and top-of-the-line, flatscreen plasma televisions. To feel like we're really 'there,' we plug in dozens of conspicuous speakers around the living room."**

3-D special effects or think that "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer" could have feasibly been produced by a couple high school students in their parents' garage.

It's doubtful that any television programs have lived so effectively well beyond the life of a normal television special like the Christmas holiday classics.

The networks still thrive on their ancient relics from Christmas past. "Rudolph" is the elder statesman of the classics, hitting television sets during the Christmas season in 1964 on NBC. This stop-motion animation staple is still so popular that it still

won its primetime time slot last week on CBS.

For the fans of Rudolph, the good news is that he appears several times throughout December because of multiple airings of the lesser-known sequels, "Rudolph's Shiny New Year" and "Rudolph and Frosty's Christmas in July" that debuted several years later.

Perhaps the most influential of the Christmas movies is the original "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" that first aired in 1996. Important how? Well, for starters, Dr. Seuss and his 1957 book of the same name created and popularized the word "grinch," a term now defined as a spoilsport. The television show certainly didn't hurt the word's popularity.

"A Charlie Brown Christmas" debuted Dec. 6, 1968. Now, 40 years later, people still muse over Charlie Brown's ragged, pint-sized Christmas tree. Sure, Charles Schulz's comic strip spawned specials for every possible holiday — including Easter, Valentine's Day and even Arbor Day — but it is the Christmas story that still resonates with audiences today.

Forget that the audio work sounds like a bunch of fourth-graders talking into Edison's phonograph. Charlie Brown's very first animated special

makes no secret of discouraging the materialistic nature of Christmas, and it is probably the only network show where a character (Linus) reads straight out of the Bible.

Those are classics, but the next few weeks will yield dozens of lesser-known cartoon flicks. Although the fat, orange cat is a decade removed from a daily television show, 1987's "A Garfield Christmas Special" warrants an annual showing. The acclaimed "A Claymation Christmas Celebration", also from 1987, features two dinosaur hosts who still muse over the meaning of wassailing (and the similarities of the word to "waffles").

Maybe the cartoons represent a certain stability that the viewers enjoy. Maybe it has something to do with a family tradition. It could be that the networks have secretly brainwashed everyone to tune in and think that, well, maybe the programming isn't so bad after all.

Perhaps the Christmas classics have discovered the secrets to immortality — of the television kind.

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SAMANTHA HOLSCHBACH

### Green Without Envy

## Appreciating Spirituality In Nature

**"W**hen through the woods and forest glades I wander, and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees; When I look down, from lofty mountain grandeur, and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze; Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee; How great Thou art, How great Thou art!"

As depicted in this portion of "How Great Thou Art," a number of hymns sung in church allude to soul-stirring images of natural beauty, and for good reason: God's fingerprint can be seen in that beauty. Whether in a sunset sky, mountain stream, or dancing display of fireflies, the human soul delights in the wonders of the natural world and, in the case of the Christian, thanks God for it.

Indeed, in addition to its resources, nature in its purest state soothes the soul, providing rest for weary minds and bodies accustomed to the tired repetition of school or work. For this reason, is it any wonder that many retreats and Christian camp sessions take place in a hidden wood? It is there, when surrounded by towering pines that dwarf any human, that an individual is almost forced to examine his or her heart in the solitude, marvel at the order and majesty within the tiniest butterfly wing or the largest eagle and perhaps grapple with life's big questions.

I attended Wisconsin Christian Youth Camp for several years when growing up, and the setting — a secluded span of pine forests surrounded by bluffs and the roaring Black River, separated from civilization — provided the perfect backdrop as I interacted with nurturing counselors who helped develop my faith. At times, the natural backdrop became the focal point: we campers would hike to campfire circles in distant locales to sing hymns under the stars or participate in prayer hikes, which entailed hiking and stopping at certain natural features to pray. The counselors, too, beseeched campers to value our surroundings as reflective of God's glory, to savor the sounds of birds and wind — refreshing when compared to the clatter of otherwise daily life. We were furnished with ample time to "be still, and know that [He is] God" (Psalm 46:10).

Currently, we are all aware of the troubling state of our planet: environmental laws are becoming lax, and wildlife habitats are disappearing along with their inhabitants, a broad gamut of rare and once-common creatures and plants. The human population continues to climb, depleting resources and space that was otherwise untouched. So, too, is global warming instigating a slew of problems of which only the tip of the (melting) iceberg has been felt. Nature as we know it is endangered, its undoing largely due to us. As its designated caretakers, as one can read in Genesis 1, we are failing miserably.

Amid the planet's dismal status, we have a great responsibility to uphold its integrity. Fulfilling this responsibility is enhanced upon realizing how beneficial nature is as a soother and strengthener of our spiritual lives. If you have come to realize such spiritual benefits in the outdoors or newly desire them, I encourage you to bask in all that the environment offers this Christmas break; take some time to ski on a secluded trail or hike a favorite trail. As you find your soul refreshed as a result, share your satisfaction with others at your home congregation so that they, too, can find enhanced solace outside. If you've experienced spiritual growth at a Christian camp or retreat that was located in the wilds, thank your camp leaders and counselors and let them know how the setting favorably enhanced that experience. In doing so, we will reveal to fellow Christians that spiritual growth can transpire as readily in a natural setting as in a church. Should they develop a deepened appreciation for God's creation, their newfound zeal would likely translate into "green" actions, refreshing their spirits and healing the earth.

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## A Call For Rowdie-ness

### Harding Tradition Dying Off With Each New Basketball Season

I distinctly remember my first Harding Bison basketball game. I was a Bison Daze visitor being escorted to the game by the Midwest representative with several other would-be Bisons. I was given a complimentary black basketball T-shirt, a tattoo of a Bison to put on my cheek and prime seating near the Rhodes Rowdies.

During that game, I witnessed grown men and boys chanting and yelling for their favorite players on the court and screaming at the referees when a bad call was made, all while wearing large amounts of black, white and gold face paint and parading around in less — than — flattering costumes.

To pressure the other team during foul shooting, Rowdies held up pizza boxes and noisemakers, and during the rest of the game, funny quips about the other team's players were



KATIE RAMIREZ

### Guest Space

**"As some get older and remain at Harding, they now move to the faculty/parent side of the court, still cheering on the team, but in a more dignified manner. New Rowdies have donned the face paint, inherited the referee shirt that has been passed down through the years and prepared their voices for an evening of yelling and general revelry."**

relayed to fans through an enormous white board. All in all, after Hard-

ing went on to win and the pep band played their traditional end of game tune, "Hey Baby," I was pretty much a shoe-in to become a Harding Bison.

Having attended most of the home games in the past five years that I have been at Harding, I have seen Rhodes Rowdies come and go. As some get older and remain at Harding, they now move to the faculty/parent side of the court, still cheering on the team, but in a more dignified manner. New Rowdies have donned the face paint, inherited the referee shirt that has been passed down through the years and prepared their voices for an evening of yelling and general revelry.

My call to all Rhodes Rowdies, both past and present, is to not let this well-known Harding tradition die. The past few games have not only been a little low on numbers overall, but low in Rowdie-ness. This is a call to all Harding Bison basketball fans:

paint-up, get your black and gold paraphernalia out of the closet and encourage the rest of the fans in your cheers. Collect those old pizza boxes in the dorm hallway, get the roster for the opposing team in next weeks game and get ready for someone to foul out.

A large part of the Bison sports scene is based on the dedication of the fans, and the Bison basketball team has renowned fans. So in the spring, when basketball season is in full swing, don't just let the cheerleaders be the ones leading the crowds. Get to the Rhodes Fieldhouse early to watch the Lady Bisons play, grab a seat in the student section and bring your keys for when we win. Because this year, Harding Bison basketball is kind of a big deal.

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## I Remember Quite Well A Graduate's Farewell To Harding

Well, the time has finally come for me to graduate. I have to admit: I do not feel like I will miss Harding very much, nor do I wish I could continue my studies here. Of course, I will miss certain people and routines that I have become accustomed to while living in Searcy, but please allow me to elaborate on these initial statements before going any further.

Upon arriving at Harding, one might say I was not completely used to living such a "rigid" lifestyle. By rigid, I mean my life before coming to Harding was a bit freer than the average high school student. So basically, ever since I got here, I have wanted to just hurry and graduate so I could leave. I had no past connections to Harding. I mean to say, my parents did not meet and get married here, I did not come to visit the campus every year of my life until I eventually came to school here and so on. Nonetheless, I have no intention to demean my Harding experience. On the contrary, I feel very grateful to have come to this university. Still, I am not one of these people who get all sentimental about leaving. In order to not sound like a harsh Harding hater though, let me highlight some of the aspects of the university that I have come to appreciate a great deal.

At first, I found myself very bored at Harding and contemplated transferring to another university almost each and every day of my freshman



JARED ABELSON

### Gone Phishin'

**"Basically, I started actually enjoying what I was studying in school, and to my surprise, my professors were eager to help me find a way to meld my personal interests with my studies."**

year. After awhile, I started spending less time being bored and devoted more time to my class work, taking up hobbies I had only thought about in the past. Before I knew it, I was starting to do better in my studies than I had ever done before, and I had started dabbling in writing and playing guitar to pass the time, which I had never done a great deal of in the past because I had "so much other stuff to do" at home. I also started meeting many different people from different cultural backgrounds and felt my worldview was being significantly broadened.

Now, a lot of students on campus feel like Harding, as a whole, can be very close-minded and paternalistic, if you will. However, I actually started feeling a bit liberated here. I started to realize

that even though Harding's campus is in some ways very homogenous, if one wished to find diversity on campus, all one had to do was seek out other cultures and viewpoints, and those cultures and viewpoints are just as abundant as, if not more so than most universities. Of course I do not agree with all of the rules students are asked to live by, but I feel that I am not so much being "told what to do" as I am just living in a very unique environment in a country devoid of very many similar institutions in this day and age. Besides, even though I often found myself in the minority because of my opinions, I always enjoyed being in opposition to the opinions held by the majority of the student body. It made things interesting in a place lacking much to do.

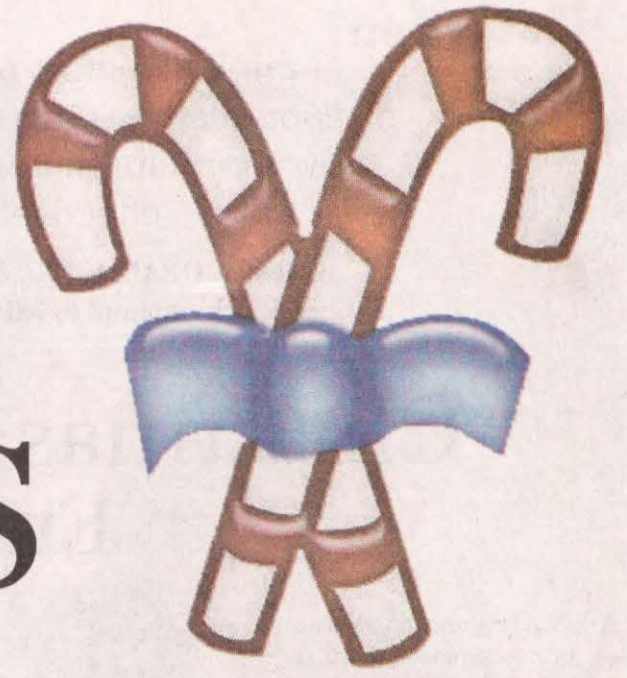
Anyway, I wound up changing my major four times and took some of my new-found hobbies into the classroom, where I was surprised I found a happy median between what I liked doing outside of school and what I studied. Basically, I started actually enjoying what I was studying in school, and to me surprise, my professors were eager to help me find a way to meld my personal interests with my studies. So I honestly feel I have been very fortunate to be taught by some very brilliant professors, and the lessons I have learned in the classroom here have compelled me to pursue my dreams and try to reach my newfound goals in life.

So, when I say I will not miss my time at Harding, maybe I should really say I am very ready to move on to the next stage of my life. Since coming to Harding, I have become close to a few of my professors and classmates, but for the most part I have stayed to myself while living here. I will not miss Harding because while I almost consider living here like a badge of honor, I would not want to live here forever. I will come back and visit just like I do to my hometown, but studying here has also showed me more of the world than I have seen before, and I have decided that Arkansas is not the place for me.

I am thankful that Harding has given me the necessities to live and study elsewhere though, and I have nothing bad to say about this university. It is a special place to many people for many reasons, and it is not perfect by any means, but if attending this university is as bad as so many make it out to be with their constant complaining, my only advice would be to pack those bags. Things will not be changing too much here for quite awhile, no matter how long you stay here. It took me awhile to understand this, but now I understand that this tension is just all part of the Harding experience, and I'm thankful I was able to partake.

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# Merry Christmas

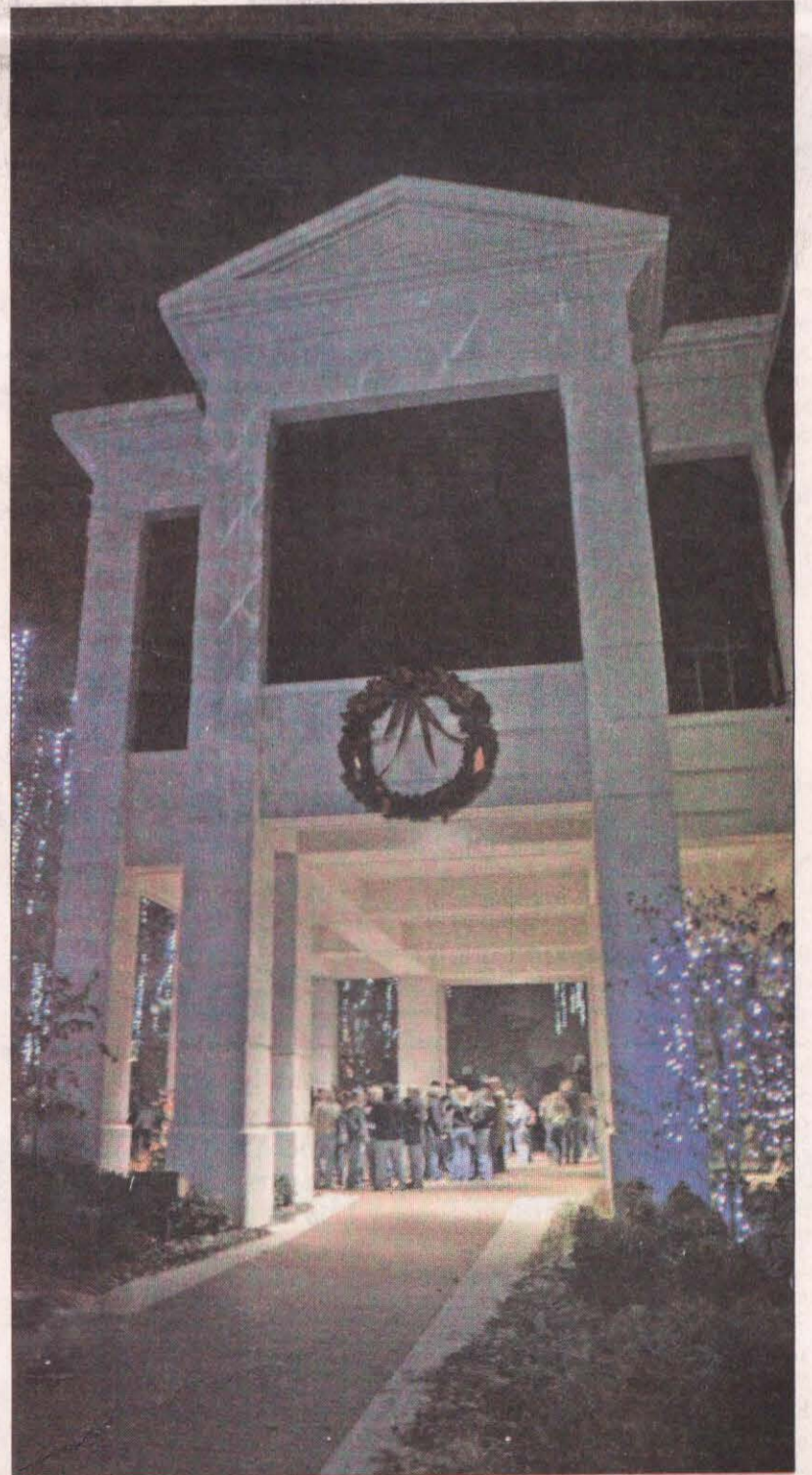


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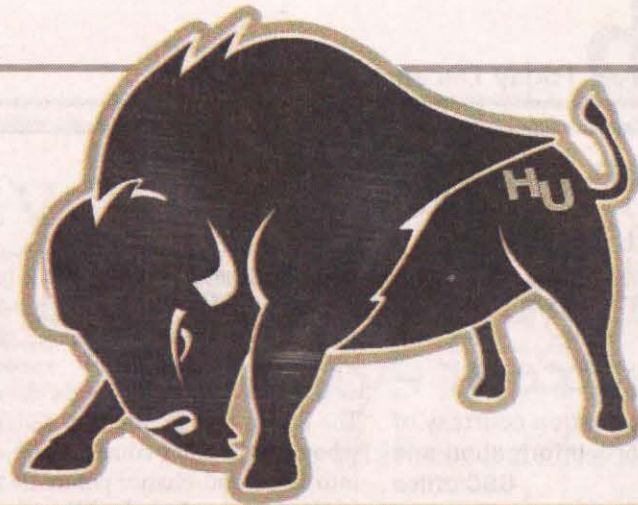


special to the Bison

*'Twas two weeks before Christmas*



*and all across campus...*



December 12, 2008



## Seizing opportunities

Junior quarterback uses star stature to fuel ministry

by CHRIS O'DELL  
student reporter

Florida quarterback Tim Tebow is a national champion in college football, the youngest player to win the Heisman Trophy and a top NFL prospect for next year's draft. However, when the Gators' leading man is away from the spotlight of Florida football on Saturdays, he steps into another comfort zone that means much more to him than the game of football.

"One day, people are going to forget about me," Tebow said. "One day, people are going to forget about the Heisman Trophy, the jump pass and the national championship. There are only four things that are going to last forever: God, his word, people and rewards."

Since Tebow became the first sophomore to win the Heisman Trophy, he has sought to spread his message of faith to everyone who will listen. Becoming one of the top players in college football has provided Tebow with a broader audience for this message.

His audience is no longer only tens of thousands of screaming Gator fans who watch his every move, but rather anyone who will listen to him as he spreads God's word.

"I can go into prisons and speak, and no one will say anything," Tebow said. "I can go into schools and speak, and they'll love to have me. I can go to all these different places because of who I am as a football player. That's a platform the Lord has given me, and I think it's my responsibility to take advantage of it."

Tebow may be more comfortable sharing his message of faith since he learned its importance from his parents. Tim's parents, Bob and Pam Tebow, helped start a campus Christian organization while attending Florida more than four decades ago.

After working as a pastor, Tebow's father founded The Bob Tebow Evangelistic Association, which established an orphanage overseas. Bob and Pam were serving as Christian missionaries in the Philippines at the

see TEBOW page 2b

Photos courtesy of Associated Press

Illustration by Leah Faust | The Bison

## College football bowl season fast approaching

BRANDON HIGGINS

### The Payoff Pitch

Do you smell that? It smells like college spirit, intensity, drama and excitement all rolled into one. Do you know what that means? College football bowl season.

In the spirit of the best annual stretch of time, I'd like to make some predictions as to who will win each of the bigger bowls. Let's get started.

**Poinsettia Bowl (TCU vs. Boise State)** — This is a great matchup that a lot of people might not know about. The Horned Frogs might just be the best team that nobody talks about. Their defense has been stellar, allowing 10.9 points per game. And it's not like they haven't played some good squads. They allowed

just seven points to a prolific BYU offense, and they surrendered 13 points to a stellar Utah offense. They also held Oklahoma to a season-low 35 points. Boise State won't be undefeated for much longer. I'll go with TCU in this one.

**Holiday Bowl (Oklahoma State vs. Oregon)** — Hello, offense. Both of these squads can put up points in a hurry, so this one will be fun to watch. They also both have great running games powered out of the spread attack. Oregon allows 28 points per game in a less-than-stellar Pac-10 conference, so I don't think they can match up with one of the most balanced offenses in the nation in Oklahoma State. The Cowboys can do it on the ground or through the air, and I think they'll prove too much in the end after a close first half. My pick is Oklahoma State.

**Cotton Bowl (Ole Miss vs. Texas Tech)** — This might be a better game than people

think because of the differences in the styles of play. Tech is a bit loose on defense, but they can score in a heartbeat. Ole Miss plays traditional SEC football with a sound defense and a methodical offense that won't wow you.

Ole Miss doesn't play much against the spread, but they did beat a Florida team that does run the spread. Tech runs a different kind of spread, however, and I don't think the Rebels can slow down Graham Harrell and Michael Crabtree. I'll take Texas Tech.

**Rose Bowl (Penn State vs. Southern Cal)** — This is a much better matchup than last year's Rose Bowl. These are similar teams with balanced offenses and very solid defenses.

USC has one of the better defenses in recent memory, giving up just 7.8 points per game. It's going to be very hard for the Nittany Lions to

get much going against such a powerful defense. This is a tough pick because USC has been so good lately, but I'm going with Penn State in a very physical, close game.

**Orange Bowl (Cincinnati vs. Virginia Tech)** — This could otherwise be known as the "Boring Bowl." This has the makings of a 10-7 ballgame. Cincinnati holds the advantage offensively, but that's not saying much considering that Virginia Tech averages a measly 292 yards of offense per game. This will be a really close game, but I expect Cincinnati to pull off the victory because they have a knack for winning close contests.

**Sugar Bowl (Utah vs. Alabama)** — I think this is one of the more intriguing matchups because Utah's undefeated season is on the line. This will prove whether they are for real, because Alabama is a very good football team from top to bottom. I'm just

not sold on Utah. Sure, they went undefeated, and I commend them for that, but they aren't really impressive to me. They haven't seen a defense like Alabama's, and I think the Tide will roll in the Sugar Bowl by a couple of scores. My pick is Alabama.

**Fiesta Bowl (Ohio State vs. Texas)** — I really like this matchup — two classic powers will go at it. There is, however, bad news for Ohio State: Texas is looking to make a big statement.

The Longhorns are the most battle-tested squad in the nation, and their only loss came in the final seconds of a hard-fought game that was inches away from being a victory. They have been on a rampage since their loss to Texas Tech, and I think they are going to be looking to show that they deserved the spot in the title game over Oklahoma. Ohio State is good, but they got a tough draw. I'll take Texas in a state-

ment game.

**FedEx National Championship (Oklahoma vs. Florida)** — What a matchup. No two teams in the country are hotter than these two. They have been absolutely unstoppable. Oklahoma has rattled off 60 points in five consecutive games, which is an NCAA record. They've also scored 702 points this season to set the NCAA single-season record for points.

On the flip side, Florida has weapons all over the place, and they've got unbelievable speed on defense. It's hard to pick against Oklahoma, but I'm going to have to. The defense just won't be able to hold up against Florida in the end, and Tim Tebow will live up to his billing as a playmaker. I'll take the Gators.

**BRANDON HIGGINS** serves as the sports editor for the 2008-2009 Bison. He may be contacted at bhiggins@harding.edu



**Bison Notes**

**Basketball enjoying success**

information courtesy of HU Sports Information and GSC office

**Men's Basketball**

When Harding met Missouri S&T in Rolla, Mo., for its season opener, the Bisons lost the rebounding battle and lost the game 93-80 in double overtime. Tuesday night at the Rhodes Field House, Harding dominated on the glass and redeemed the loss with an 84-62 victory over Missouri S&T. It was the sixth straight victory for the Bisons and the third straight

loss for the Miners. Harding (6-1), with the 6-foot-6 Brian Howard as its tallest player, had 44 rebounds and limited Missouri S&T, with three players 6-foot-7 or taller, to only 28 rebounds. The Bisons had 16 offensive rebounds that they converted into 17 second-chance points. In the first meeting, the Miners outrebounded the Bisons 54-41.

Despite the size disadvantage, Harding forced Missouri S&T (3-4) to take 16 three-point attempts. The Miners, who shot only 27 percent from 3-point range entering the game, made only four. The Bisons outscored the Miners 46-36 in the paint and forced 22 turnovers.

Junior guard Trent Morgan led Harding in scoring with 22 points on 8-of-14 shoot-

ing. It was his third straight game with 20 or more points and his fifth of the season. Sophomore Kevin Brown had his first double-double of the season with 16 points and a career-high tying 10 rebounds. Senior Brian Howard added 12 points and eight rebounds, Sam Brown had 11 points and Steven Barnett had 10.

**Lady Bisons Keep Streak Alive**

Sophomore Makala McNair scored a career-high 29 points to help the undefeated Harding Lady Bisons rally for a 91-87 overtime victory against the St. Edward's Hilltoppers at Rhodes Field House on Saturday night.

Harding (7-0) had trailed

by as many as 10 points in the second half but never fell out of contention. Catherine McMenemy tied the game 75-75 on a layup with 1:27 remaining, but Hilltopper Sara Head hit a pair of free throws to give her team a 77-75 lead with 1:09 left.

McMenemy pushed the ball ahead to McNair, who scored a left-handed fastbreak layup to tie the game 77-77 with 18 seconds remaining in regulation. Head missed a layup just before time expired as the game moved into overtime.

Senior Ashley Anderson scored a jumper in the lane to give the Lady Bisons an 83-81 lead, and Harding never trailed again. Anderson scored five of her seven points during overtime. McMenemy tallied 22 points in the contest.

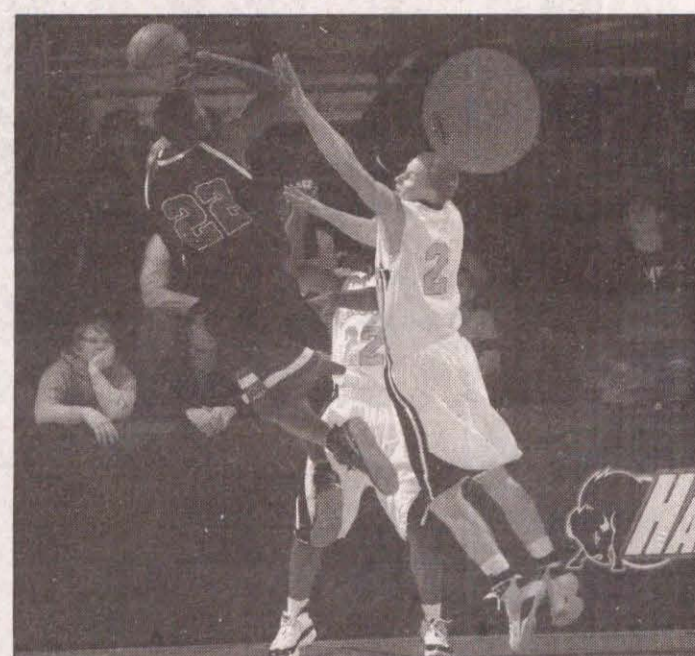
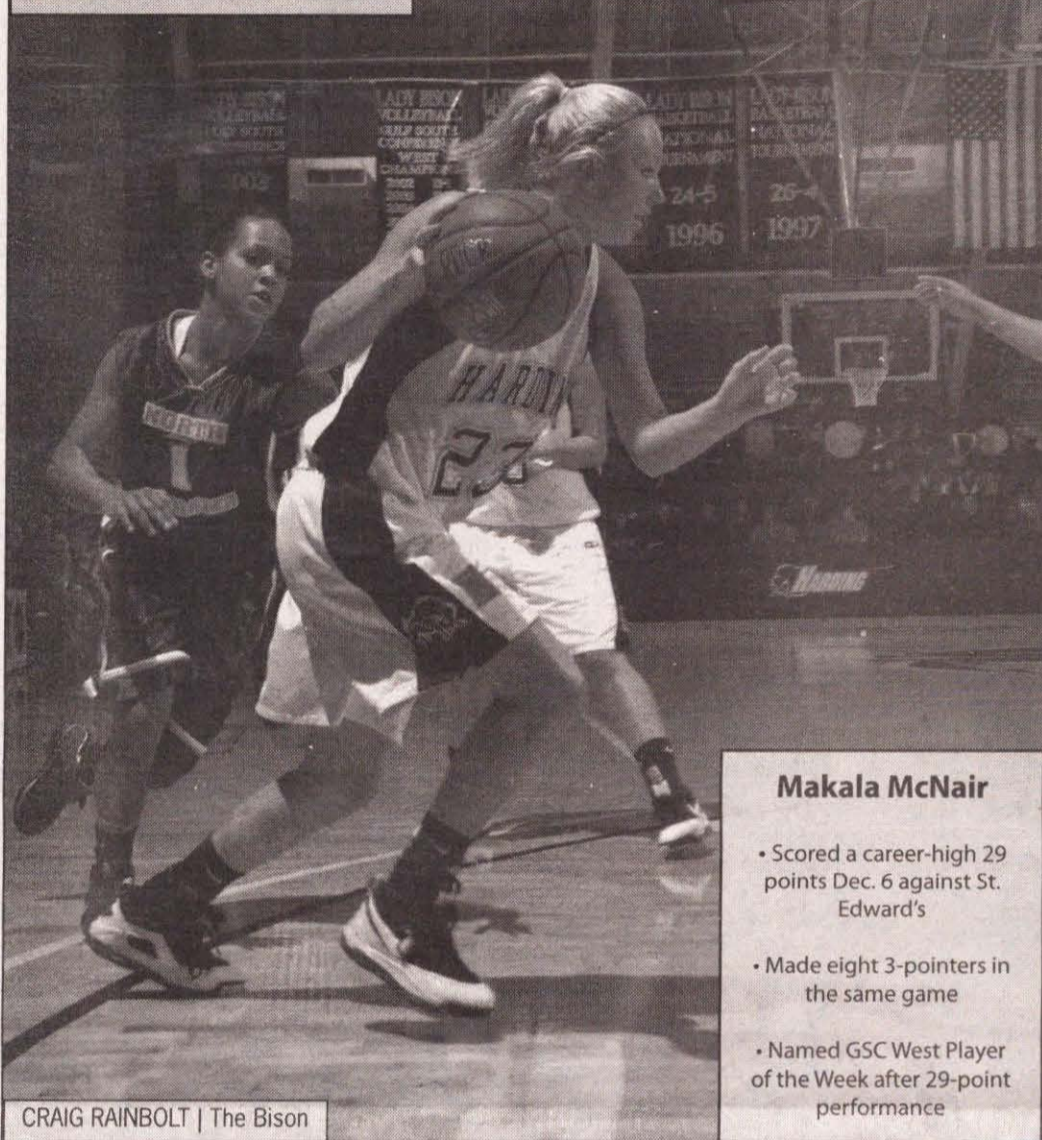


photo by CRAIG RAINBOLT | The Bison  
Junior guard Trent Morgan attempts to block a shot in a recent home game. Morgan leads the Bisons with 19.1 points per game.

**Athlete of the Week**



**Makala McNair**

- Scored a career-high 29 points Dec. 6 against St. Edward's
- Made eight 3-pointers in the same game
- Named GSC West Player of the Week after 29-point performance

CRAIG RAINBOLT | The Bison

**TEBOW: Quarterback leads by example on, off field**

**CONTINUED from page 1b**  
time of Tebow's birth, and lived there with their five children for some time during the 1980s and 1990s. Tebow said his birthplace means a great deal to him and could have a big part in his life after he is done with football.

"After football, I'd like to be involved again in that in some way," Tebow said. "The Philippines are pretty special to me, and every year in high school up until college I'd be part of a group my dad would take there. It is a great experience."

Tebow's family moved from the Philippines to Jacksonville, Fla., where he played high school football, despite being home-schooled. Tebow began playing at the local Trinity Christian Academy, where he played linebacker and tight end for one season. Tebow said he preferred the quarterback position, but Trinity's offense leaned heavily toward running the ball. After exploring other options, Tebow decided to play for Nease High School, which was known for having a passing offense. His performance on the field began to attract college scouts early in his high school career. As a junior for Nease, Tebow became one of the top quarterback prospects in the nation and was named Florida's Player of the Year after passing

for 95 touchdowns and rushing for 62 more in his three seasons with Nease.

After leading his team to a state title, winning two Player of the Year awards in Florida and earning All-State honors, Tebow decided to play for Urban Meyer's Florida Gators. Meyer said his quarterback has never failed to make a great impression with his peers.

"Nothing surprises me about Tim," Meyer said. "There's a skeptical side to all of us. We think, 'They talk the talk, but do they really walk the walk?' I can't say I've met many people that do, but Tim is definitely one of them."

As a Florida Gator, Tebow has become the first college football player to both rush and pass for 20 touchdowns in the same season and was the first sophomore to win the Heisman Trophy. He has also won the Davey O'Brien Award for the nation's best quarterback and the Maxwell Award for the nation's best all-around player. ESPN The Magazine has even named him to the Academic All-American football team for accomplishments in the classroom.

Tebow said these are all accomplishments that have helped him build a platform to spread

the word of God. He said God has given him athletic ability to help change the lives of less fortunate people.

"It's encouraging to me that the Lord is using me to change people's lives, and there's not many other people who are willing to go out there," Tebow said. "They don't do it because they're either scared or they're satisfied just sitting at their house and not doing much to change the world."

Tebow is currently leading the second-ranked Gators, who play Oklahoma for the BCS National Championship January 8 in Miami, Fla.

Off the field, Tebow holds a Bible study in his apartment every Sunday night for anyone on campus who wants to attend. Tebow said despite everything he has accomplished in his football career, he still sees himself as a regular guy.

"The message I always try to get across in speaking to various groups is that I am no different than anyone else in the room, despite what people may think because I am a Gator football player," Tebow said. "It is important for each person to sit down and be honest about making priorities and being true to themselves."

**Owens crucial to Lady Bisons' hot beginning**

by CHRIS O'DELL student reporter

The Harding Lady Bisons basketball team is currently enjoying an undefeated record this season. Junior forward Stacey Owens is a key factor in the Lady Bisons' success and is being rewarded for her play on the court.

Owens was recently named Gulf South Conference West Division Player of the Week. She said she owes the award to the play of her teammates.

"It was an honor to receive the award, but I couldn't have gotten it without the help of my teammates," Owens said. "We played great as a team, and it was huge getting two road wins to start the season."

Owens, a Russellville, Ark., native, started for three seasons at Russellville High School and earned all-conference and all-state honors. She became Russellville's second leading scorer and was a McDonald's All-America

nominee. Owens said the choice to come to Harding after high school wasn't easy, but she had help with her decision.

"God definitely brought me here," Owens said. "Yes, I considered other schools, but when I stepped foot on campus at Harding I knew this is where I needed to be."

Owens became a regular player for Head Coach Tim Kirby in her first year at Harding. The 5-foot-10 forward played in every game during her freshman season and averaged 6.4 points and 4.4 rebounds per game. She also managed a free throw percentage of 80.5 percent, the second best on the team.

Owens' production on the court increased during her sophomore season, during which she played in every game and started 10 games at small forward. After averaging 13.7 points and 6.9 rebounds per game, Owens was named to the Second-Team All Gulf South Conference team. She scored in double figures 18 times in her second season, including a

career-high 28 points in a game against Southern Arkansas.

Now in her junior season with the Lady Bisons, Owens is surrounded by a talented group of players who also have less experience than past Harding teams.

"The newcomers have adjusted very well," Owens said. "It was somewhat challenging at the beginning because most of the team was new this year, but the newcomers have definitely stepped in and adjusted very well."

Owens said the competition on the court has had a big impact on the person she is off the court.

"There have been some very hard and trying times with basketball, but I feel like I am a better person because of it," Owens said.

The Lady Bisons will meet Alabama-Huntsville Dec. 13. The game will be played at the Rhodes Field House in Searcy. The team will look to remain undefeated on the young season.

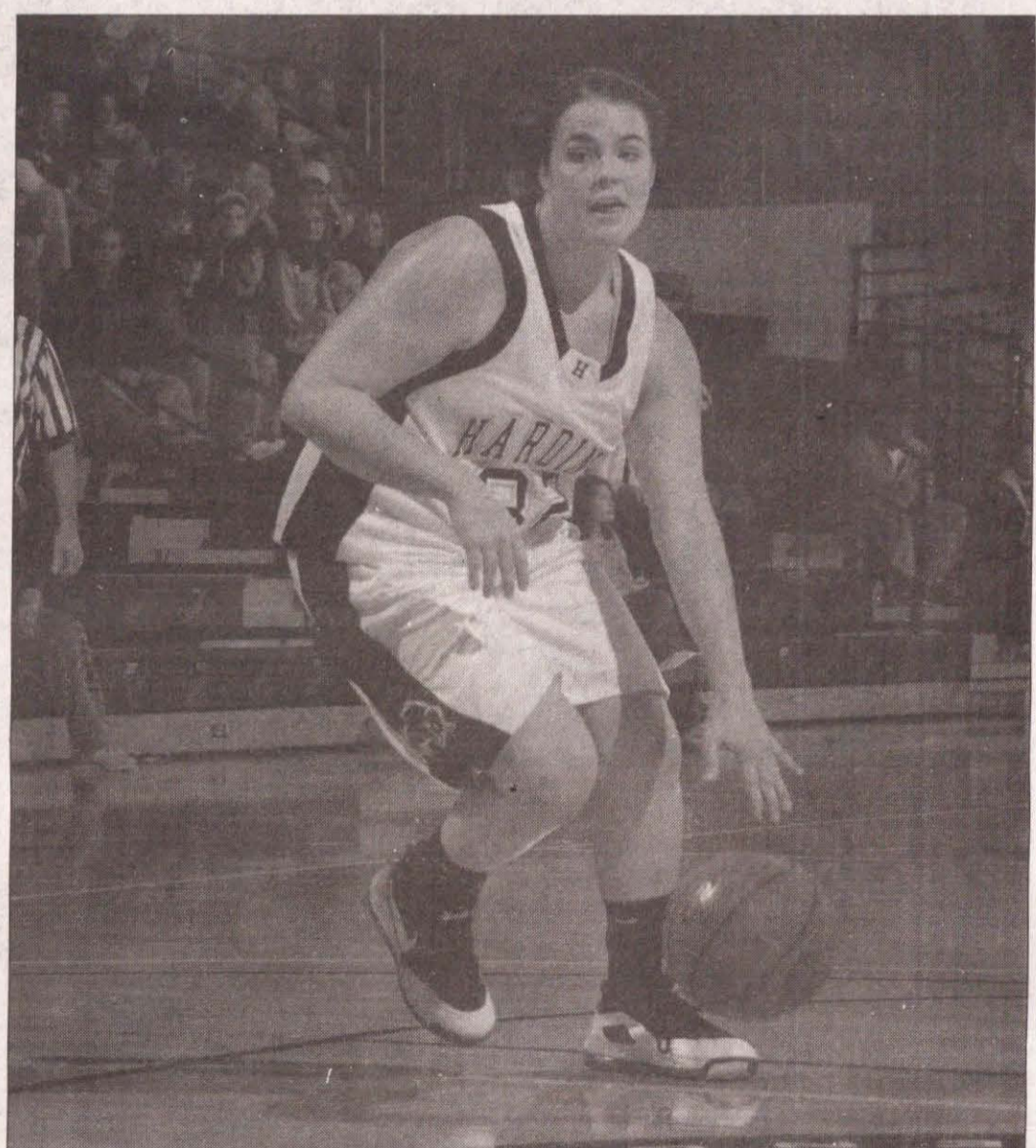


Photo by CRAIG RAINBOLT | The Bison  
Junior forward Stacey Owens drives to the basket during a recent home game at the Rhodes Field House. Owens leads the Lady Bisons with 15.3 points and 8.6 rebounds per game.

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# Students react to violence study

By JAMES KEE  
student reporter

A recent study found high levels of aggression in college students' dating relationships, surprising some Harding students.

In a study conducted by researchers at Purdue University's Department of Educational Studies and Department of Family Studies and published in the "Journal of Family Violence," 82 percent of college students were found to have engaged in verbally aggressive behavior in their dating relationships over the past year, and 21 percent of these students admitted to physical aggression during the same period. The study involved 395 college women and 177 college men who had engaged in dating relationships in the past year.

Sophomore Ryan Taylor said he thought the statistic seemed high.

"It seems a little odd," Taylor said, "but I definitely would think that it would be about 75 percent."

However, Taylor said he was more surprised when told about the statistic on physical aggression.

The study also found there is no difference between men and women in acts of verbal aggression, but women are significantly more likely to report being physically aggressive in their dating relationships.

However, at least one woman at Harding thinks this statistic might be skewed.

"Women might just be more likely to report violence to their partner because they won't get into

trouble like men would," sophomore Layne Collins said.

This study also found that both men and women who performed verbal aggression generally come from similar backgrounds. Both groups experienced aggression from a parent as a child and consumed alcohol within three hours before or after an argument with their partner.

"It doesn't surprise me at all that aggression is related to drinking," senior Lauren Roberts said. "It makes me feel better about Harding's rules about drinking, and that we are in a dry county."

However, just because this study did not involve Harding students, it does not mean the men at Harding are less likely to be aggressive to their dating partners, Roberts said.

Women who experienced parent-child violence and drank within three hours of an argument are also likely to conduct physical violence in their relationships. Men who witnessed violence between their parents were much more likely to be physically violent to their dating partners, with drinking patterns and parent-child violence also playing a significant role.

"That makes sense because we often subconsciously emulate the actions of our parents," Taylor said.

The study used a modified version of the Conflict Tactic Scale. According to Western Psychological Services, the Conflict Tactic Scale is used to measure psychological and physical attacks between married, cohabitating and dating partners.

# Foreign exchange students spend holidays in States

Distance makes it difficult to travel home during short breaks

by LAUREN DAVIS  
student reporter

Ruiz is "counting down the days" for our imminent Christmas break.

Its that time of year when we are all traveling long distances to go back to our loved ones, but what if our loved ones are countries, even oceans away?

Several students at Harding are foreign exchange students. Sophomore, Bradley Wolhuter, is from South Africa. When it comes time for Thanksgiving and Christmas break, Bradley resides in Jonesborough, Arkansas.

Wolhuter says "My host family is great, they have a big back yard and their son has become like my brother."

Jonesborough is only a few hours away and Bradley says he often visits his "host family" on the weekends.

Senior Marco Ruiz is from Sao Paulo, Brazil. Ruiz came here on a tennis scholarship; therefore he had no connections previous to arriving. Ruiz spent his first break, summer, as a tennis coach at a camp in Lee, Massachusetts. In more recent breaks, Ruiz spends his time at his girlfriend's house in Phoenix, Arizona.

Ruiz claims "I only get to go to Brazil once a year, during Christmas Break because that's when our summer is. I miss my family a lot, but it has given me the chance to see so much more than I ever thought I would."

There are other foreign exchange students who have been more fortunate. Freshman, Tony Rojas, has both a permanent home in Oklahoma as well as Argentina.

Tony came here on a soccer scholarship and he alternates vacation between his home in Argentina, with his mother, and Oklahoma with his father.

"I am not able to go back to Argentina as often, but I am really glad I have a place to stay in America when the break rolls around. Its scary to think that some people don't know where they are going to end up," states Rojas.

Many of the students here at Harding who have a home close by never have the thought of what they would do if they didn't have a home in America.

"The longer I've been at Harding, the more friends I've made who don't have a home in America. I feel bad because if I didn't have a place to call home, I don't think I would be as excited to leave," states Sophomore Danielle Bryant.

So the next time you are getting close to break and excited to go, remember, you could always invite someone else into your home, and you just might make their holiday.

# Debt awaits graduating seniors

By BROOKE IGLEHART  
student reporter

Graduation, for many Harding University students, is just around the corner, and many students are starting to wonder how to pay back all the money they have borrowed in student loans.

Approximately 90 percent of Harding students receive some form of financial assistance, and nearly \$60 million in financial aid was processed last year, according to the Financial Aid Office at Harding University. These funds come from federal, state and private sources. Even so, the primary responsibility for funding an education is placed on the borrower and his or her family.

Many of those students who are borrowing money are unaware that 83 of the student loan lenders have dropped out of the loan business completely.

This has not affected Harding University students yet, since all of the Harding lenders are still in business, but it could cause a problem in the near future.

John Roberts, director of Financial Aid Services, said graduating students should take advantage of the low interest rates and pay off loans quickly.

Choosing which type of loan to get can be difficult, but Roberts said the Stafford Loans are the best way to go.

"The best loans to get are always federal loans," Roberts said.

Senior Robby Carriger said he is one of the many students who is starting to worry about paying back his debt.

"I am going to try to pay it back before I graduate so I won't have as much interest," Carriger said.

Senior Robert Towns said he is starting to plan now so it will not be as difficult to pay everything

back after graduation.

"It's going to be hard the first couple of years," Towns said. "I am starting now to save up so I will have money to pay [the loan] back after I graduate."

However, it is not just the seniors who are starting to learn about the stress that student loans can bring. Junior Darryl Collins said he is also starting to realize what is in store for him after his loans start to build up.

"Loans are very helpful," Collins said. "But it is very discouraging to think about how long I have to pay them back after graduation."

A few of the lenders that are applied by Harding are the Federal Stafford Loans, Federal Perkins Loans and Non-Federal Private Loans.

The Federal Stafford Loans range from about \$3,500 to \$8,500.

According to the Harding

University Web site, the maximum Federal Perkins Loan at Harding is \$2,500 and is awarded to full-time undergraduates during their first two years of undergraduate study.

Non-federal loans are for credit-worthy applicants who may borrow up to the cost of education, minus any other financial aid. Interest rates for non-federal loans are generally much higher than for federal loans, the Web site explains, and usually include service or origination fees, so all federal funding options should be pursued before applying for a non-federal loan.

Even trying to get student loans can be confusing and stressful, but paying them back is even more stressful. Harding University students need to be aware of what they are getting themselves into before they start borrowing money and allow themselves to get into debt.

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# Student exhibits dress in show

## Harding fashion major interned under famous designer

By RACHEL CERVAS  
student reporter

A Harding fashion major was given the chance to display one of her original designs in the Oct. 9 fashion show "Red Carpet for Research" in Little Rock, Ark., after completing a summer internship and coursework with the lead designer.

Senior Jami Hefflin showed off her lavender evening dress in the fashion show after graduating from the advanced sewing course taught by famous designer Jamileh Kamran.

The show was at a Greek Orthodox Church, and Hefflin chose junior Jilliane Bowman as her model for the show. Bowman said it was amazing and that it looked like a huge banquet hall with a runway down the middle.

"I was really nervous at first, but after I was at the end of

the runway I felt confident and wanted to do it again," Bowman said.

The proceeds of the show went to the Children's Tumor Foundation, which fights the spread of Neurofibromatosis, a disease that causes tumors to grow anywhere on or in the body.

Kamran makes clothes for several Arkansas political authorities including Hillary Clinton, Rebecca Gwatney and Mike Huckabee. She makes everything from bridal gowns to hospital scrubs and is now devoting much of her time to her sewing students.

"Any student who graduated from [Jamileh's] advanced class could put one or two designs in the show so long as they were appropriate for the show and approved by Jamileh," Hefflin said. "I wanted to de-

sign something purple because it is a popular color for the fall, and so I chose to do something lavender and fun."

Hefflin was given the tip about Kamran's internship by Rebecca Moore, instructor in the Family and Consumer Sciences department. After landing the internship, she learned about Kamran's sewing courses, which she enrolled in the same summer.

There are three levels of classes — beginning, intermediate and advanced — and Hefflin completed all three within three months. Kamran has recently added two higher-level classes, Couture One and Two (fashion design), as well as a class for interiors.

"I probably won't do those because it's too time consuming to take those classes during school because of all the proj-

ects, and I want to move after I graduate [in May of 2009]," Hefflin said.

Hefflin started her collegiate career at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway as an Art History major.

"You know how it is when you are young and first starting school," Hefflin said. "I didn't really know what I wanted to do but interior design was in the same building as art so I made friends with those girls and then eventually changed over to that major."

Hefflin said that after taking some textile classes, she wanted to change to fashion but thought the job opportunities would be limited in design. Since UCA doesn't offer merchandising she transferred to Harding.

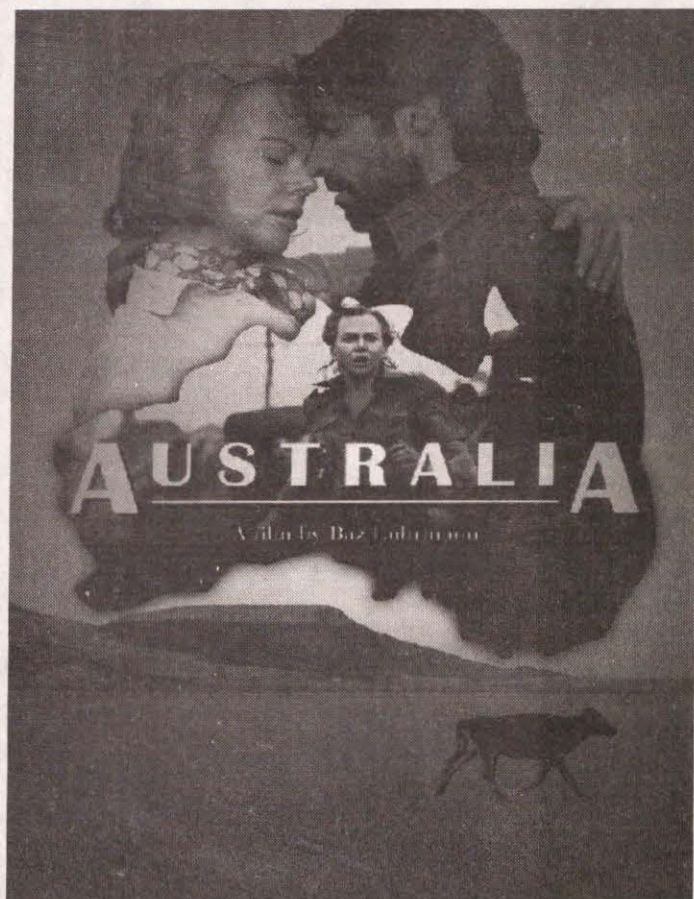
Hefflin said she likes the Christian atmosphere at Harding and is glad she made the change.

Hefflin said she has always wanted to work in fashion but wants to work for a big corporation as opposed to owning her own store like Kamran.

Kamran has asked Hefflin to make a design for the Delta Show in January, also located in Little Rock, and Hefflin has agreed. The Delta Show is one of the few well-known fashion shows in Little Rock and displays spring and summer clothing lines from various designers.

Hefflin said right now her ideas are just sketches, but she plans to do another cocktail dress for the show.

Hefflin said that although January may bring the end of Hefflin's professional relationship with Kamran, she has learned a great deal from her experiences and is excited to see what her future in fashion will hold.



# 'Australia' shows classic love story

By MEREDITH GRAVATTE  
student reporter

Australia is a paradigm of classic story telling, with elements of adventure, romance, and the historic suspense of World War II. The adventure is played out through man's original sin, rivaling with man's innate morale to fight for justice and freedom. This film portrays love in different circumstances, yet maintains a classy romance. There are no provocative scenes and the characters develop a relationship, not the cliché "love at first sight".

The main characters, played by Nicole Kidman and Hugh Jackman, meet in a

far away land and life happens. Though the film has its monumental peaks, it did take awhile for the rising action to develop and the climax was unexpected.

Yet, the elongated story is not bothersome, because of the engaging adventure and love. The cinematography captures Australia's beautiful outback and portrays a brief history of the Aboriginal people.

If you have time over Christmas break, go to the movies with friends or family and watch classic entertainment. None the less, this is an epic story that might make you laugh, cry, or maybe understand there is no place like home.



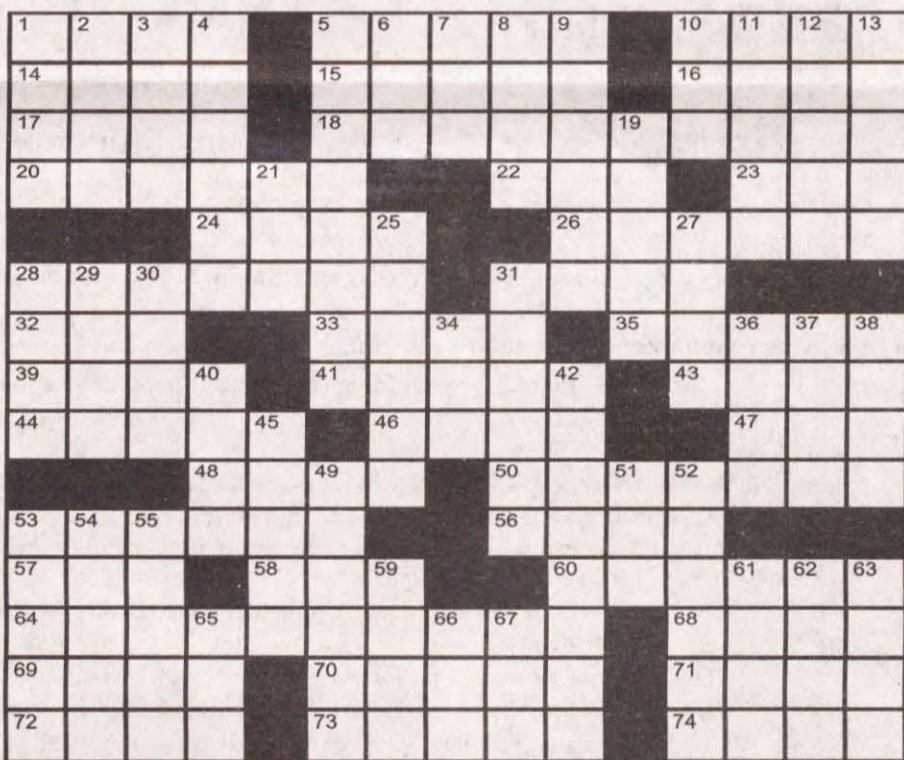
photo submitted by JAMI HEFFLIN

Junior Jilliane Bowman showcases senior Jami Hefflin's lavender dress in the Oct. 9 fashion show, "Red Carpet for Research" in Little Rock, Ark. The show's proceeds went to the Children's Tumor Foundation.

## The Bison Crossword

**Across**

- 1 Horsecart
- 5 Feline cries
- 10 Docile
- 14 Bit part
- 15 Move forward
- 16 Andy's sidekick
- 17 Grains
- 18 Fishy
- 20 On time
- 22 Beverage
- 23 Apply
- 24 Ventilates
- 26 Bowling scores
- 28 Fivesome
- 31 Molecule
- 32 Vase
- 33 Relative
- 35 Wanderer
- 39 Wife of Osiris
- 41 Willows
- 43 Cabbage
- 44 Crowns
- 46 College leader
- 47 Shelter
- 48 Orderly
- 50 Irony
- 53 Hydrocarbon
- 56 Resound
- 57 Exclaim
- 58 \_\_\_ mode
- 60 Eucalyptus eaters
- 64 Homeless crustacean?
- 68 It. city, in It.
- 69 Verse form
- 70 Fragrance
- 71 Thin
- 72 Repose
- 73 Sp. title



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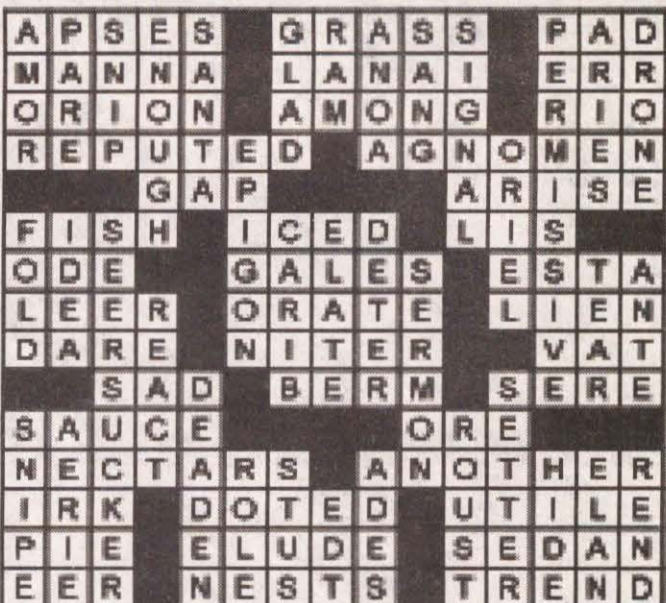
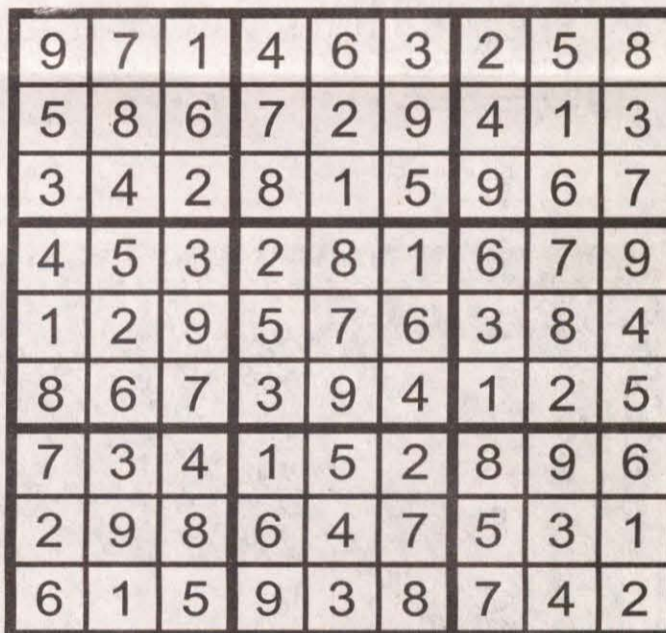
**Down**

- 1 Descend
- 2 Outcry
- 3 Countertenor
- 4 Obedient person
- 5 Abuse
- 6 Ratite bird
- 7 Saturn's wife
- 8 Blubbered
- 9 Most cunning
- 10 Siamese
- 11 Love (Fr.)
- 12 Hawk's target

- 13 Sharp curves
- 19 Chicken
- 21 Colliery
- 25 Stalwart
- 27 Berserk
- 28 Wisecrack
- 29 Bear dipper
- 30 Monogram (Abbr.)
- 31 Sergeant's words
- 34 Maiden name
- 36 Cheekbone
- 37 Porters
- 38 View as
- 40 Moss capsule

- 42 Commissary
- 45 Egypt. desert
- 49 River dividers
- 51 Gr. letter
- 52 Sandy
- 53 Yellow-orange
- 54 French pancake
- 55 Novices
- 59 Area unit
- 61 Bum around
- 62 Fr. friends
- 63 Equal
- 65 Time zone
- 66 Director Howard
- 67 I love (Lat.)

Below: Answers To Last Issue's Crossword And Sudoku Puzzles



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# Myriad gift ideas abound in Searcy for students

By SARAH KYLE  
student reporter

With the Christmas break starting a week later this year, students are presented with a new problem: "What am I going to do about Christmas presents?" No one wants to brave the week-of-Christmas-shopping madness.

Additionally, who wants to drive all the way to Little Rock right before finals week?

The solution: Go local! Searcy has a variety of little-known gift shops that have holiday selections for students in need.

Beth Davis Interiors, a

newly-opened lifestyle store, offers a uniquely green alternative for the Christmas-shopping season.

Available in-store is a selection of Rebagz, which are recycled rice and grain bags turned into purses and pouches. The bags come in three sizes — large, sport pouch and coin purse — and are handmade by women in the Philippines who are paid fair wages for their labor. Price check: \$16 to \$47.

Tired of the waste and buildup from plastic shopping sacks? Beth Davis Interiors also offers Envirosax, which are reusable water-proof shopping bags that come in a variety of prints

and colors. Price check: \$9.

For the candle-lover looking to unwind, the store hosts a variety of aromatherapy candles made from 100 percent pure beeswax and pure essential oils. April Fatula, store manager and Harding graduate, said she prefers these candles because they burn cleanly and efficiently than other brands. Price check: \$15.

Other gift ideas include clear cosmetic bags that are approved for air travel; stationary; an assortment of Belgian chocolates with names like "BOCHOX" and "girthControl"; melamine dishes, which are as attractive as china without the break-

ability; and a line of Toss bags, a favorite of Oprah Winfrey.

Beth Davis Interiors is located at 105 Claire Cove, down the strip from McAllister's Deli off Race Street.

Almost Anything Gifts also offers a variety of gift ideas, with all Christmas items 30 percent off.

For the children on your list, check out their Webkinz stuffed animals. They have a wide selection of animals: from frogs and bears to cats and dogs. Almost Anything Gifts also features limited time retired Webkinz, which are a must for the Webkinz collector. Price check: \$5-\$15.

For the cook in your family, the store features a variety of recipe books and easels, must haves for the holiday cooking season. Price check: around \$10.

Almost Anything Gifts boasts a variety of jewelry, including the "Make a Wish" collection — inspirational jewelry paired with scriptures or sayings. Price check: \$6.50.

Other items to look for are wall art, Willow Tree figurines, wallets, purses and other traditional gift items and stocking stuffers.

Almost Anything Gifts is located at 1215 E. Race St.

For the Vera Bradley fans out there, Heart & Soul Gift Store is a must.

The unique line of purses, wallets and travel bags, a favorite of many girls around campus, is currently featured at the store at a 25 percent off sales price.

The store also carries a variety of monogram mugs and coasters, Willow Tree figurines, picture frames, candles, jewelry, greeting cards and all your Razorback fan needs.

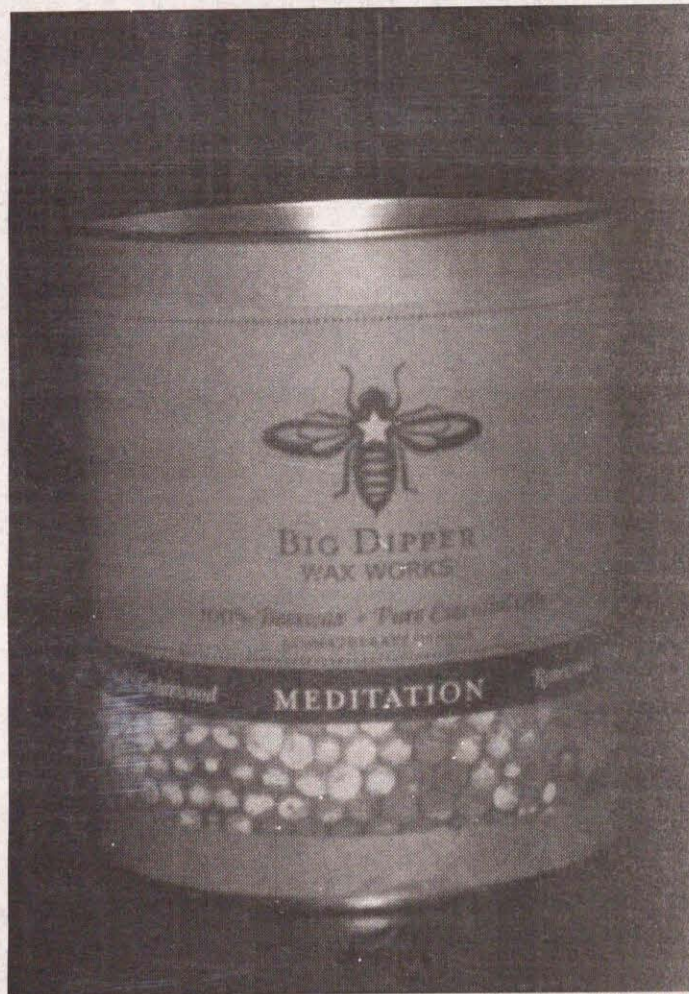


photo submitted by SARAH KYLE

This candle found at Beth Davis Interiors is made of 100 percent pure beeswax and essential oils. It burns cleanly and efficiently.

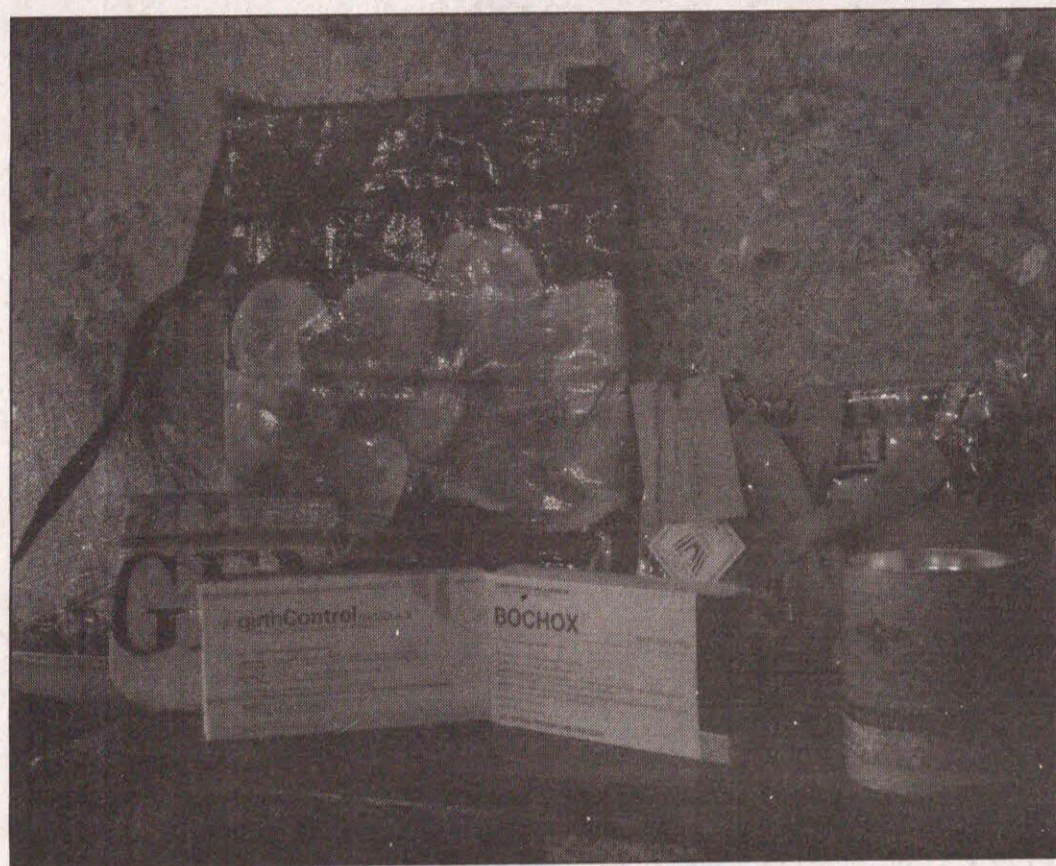


photo submitted by SARAH KYLE

Beth Davis Interiors, located at 105 Claire Cove in Searcy offers a number of "green" gifts and specialized items. Depicted here are boxes of chocolate with names like "BOCHOX" and "girthControl."

Heart & Soul Gift Store is located at 1627 E. Beebe Capps Expressway.

If you're looking for unique gift ideas for the women in your family, stop by Cosmetic Studio — just down the strip from Heart & Soul Gift Store.

Just in are "Feeling Smitten" bath cupcakes, which look real enough to eat. All you have to do is take off the paper wrapper, drop the cupcake into the bathwater and watch your water fizz. Price check: \$5 to \$12.

If you're looking to add

a little inspiration to your Christmas gift, take a look at their selection of Redhouse Ranch jewelry. These charm bracelets and earrings come with the story "Just Push" about a man learning to move past adversity and find strength in God. Price check: \$24-\$36.

Cosmetic Studio also features the Bare Minerals line of makeup, other cosmetics, bath towels, pajamas, purses and scarves.

Cosmetic Studio is located at 1625 E. Beebe Capps Expressway.

## Students study in diverse ways

By ROBERTO MCGOWAN  
student reporter

How many questions are on the test? Is it multiple choice? Will there be a study guide? May I take my test on an earlier date?

If these questions are familiar, then you are either a student — possibly the one who is asking — or the professor on the receiving end of these questions. Either way, these questions are a prelude to one thing: a test.

Whether it's quizzes, mid-terms or finals, most students don't like to take tests. Even more students dread the preparation for tests, better known as studying.

Many college students have

poor study habits, according to Dee Bost, coordinator of the academic resources center.

"Many students study hard but wrong because they don't know their learning style," Bost said.

Bost teaches seminars for students about nine learning styles. Students can take the C.I.T.E. Learning Styles Inventory, offered by the Academic Resources Center, to identify which of the nine styles suit their needs. In most cases, more than one style will apply to a student. Bost said that knowing one's learning style is an important factor in improving one's study skills.

"Memorizing is not learning," Bost said. "It is a tool for learning, but it's not learning."

Bost said she believes time management and knowing one's learning style are the biggest factors affecting student studying.

She also said a rule of thumb is that for every one hour spent in class, students should spend two hours studying. She said students hear this and freak out thinking, "I can't study for 30 hours." But when shown how to properly manage their time, they soon see it's feasible, she said.

Making a to-do list or a study schedule and setting priorities are great ways to achieve effective time management, according to Bost's seminars.

All hope is not lost for students studying for next week's finals. Some students have non-traditional ways to study.

Sophomore Nick Smelser said he listens to music when he studies.

"I study three to four hours per test," he said. "I just read over my notes and pray."

Sophomore Sarah Kyle said she has to make a hand-written study guide, then type and print the study guide.

"I study about three to four hours per test," she said.

Then there is always that unconventional student who claims he or she doesn't have to study. They claim they just keep their grades up during the semester so when mid terms and finals come, they're already prepared.

There are many different ways to study. As long as the one you choose is effective, stick to it.

### Music Notes & Movie Quotes

~CDs newly released~

-Maroon 5: "The Remix Album"

-Brandy: "Human"

-Carter Burwell: "Twilight: The Score"

-Aretha Franklin: "This Christmas"

-Musiq Soulchild: "On My Radio"

-Pavement: "Brighten the Corners: Nicene Creedence Edition"

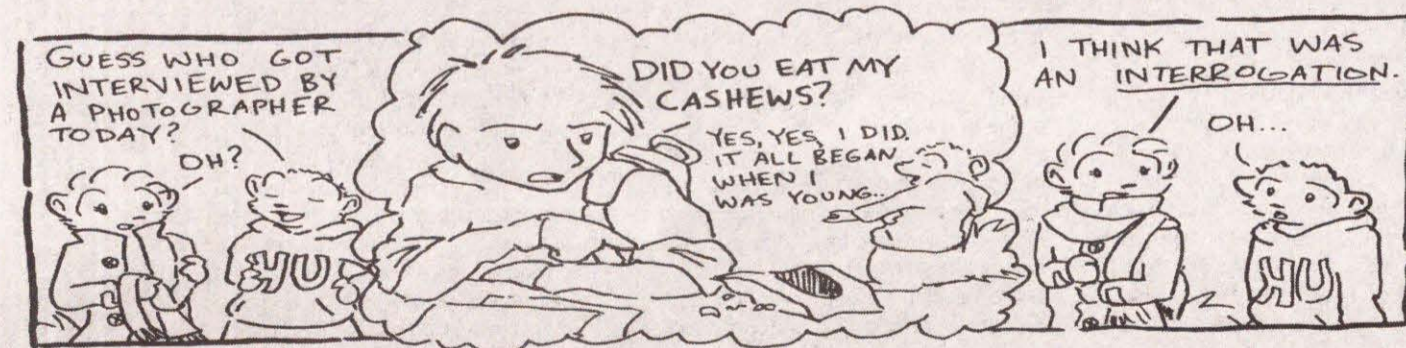
-Cat Power: "Dark End of the Street"

-Thrice: "Live at the House of Blues"

-Alice Russell: "Pot of Gold"

## Harding Squirrels

By AMANDA PRUITT



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

Lenny's sub shop  
Monday Night Meal Deal!!  
Purchase any Lenny's sub and two drinks and get a FREE REGULAR SUB!  
Offer valid on Monday nights from 6 p.m. to close

# Missionary instills hope within Mozambique

By Michael Brooker  
student reporter

Hope. For such a simple word, it evades many people. It's something that is hard to find in countries like Mozambique. Hope doesn't come easily to a place that has lived with an oppressive colonial ruler. It's hard to find in a country that has gone through a civil war funded by neighboring nations. For a nation of about 21 million people, hope is a rare commodity.

Kyle Holton, a missionary to Mozambique since 2003, strives to bring hope to Mozambique. Specifically, he works among the Yao in Nomba. With a variety of development projects, Holton is improving the quality of life for the Yao and being a representative of Christ.

To see Holton today, one doesn't have to travel to south Africa; he is serving as Harding's Missionary in Residence for this academic year. Although he is thousands of miles from Mozambique, his office has little reminders of life over there. A quote by St. Augustine is there to remind him of something else: "Hope has two lovely daughters, anger at the way things are and courage to change them."

The Missionary in Residence is a position filled each year by an active missionary. Chosen by faculty in the Center for World Missions, missionaries may be picked from any number of different places.

As part of Kyle Holton's job while in the states, he teaches two sections of Missionary Anthropology. He described it as "a class which examines world culture and how the Gospel can fit into that." Often, he draws upon his own experiences in the field to illustrate a lesson.

The experiences that he shares are part of what formed who he is today. Holton said his time in Mozambique has changed him from who he was when he left the states in 2003.

"I see it as a kind of deconstruction," Holton said. "I've been deconstructed down to one thing that is important. I went over there with lots of theories and ideas, but now I know the most important thing is to love God and your neighbor. That's the heart of it for me."

Holton also assists Mark Berryman in organizing student missions internships. These internships give students six to eight weeks of experience with a missionary, and Holton gives insight into culture issues as well as helps the students organize at their weekly meetings.

Harding is not unfamiliar territory for Holton, as he graduated from the university in 2000. He said even before graduating with a degree in Bible and missions, he was already looking into what opportunities there were in the world for missionaries.

"I knew I wanted to be an archeologist or do something cross-cultural," Holton said.

Holton said that as a freshman, he started interest meetings with friends in regard to mission work. The World Missions Workshop, hosted at Harding in 1996, was also influential — it revealed what opportunities were available. Holton said he and his friends began to seriously look into where they wanted to go.

"We had five different locations we

were looking at," Holton said. "Mozambique was one of them."

"A lot of us felt like it was an ignored field. Not a lot of work has been done there because [they speak Portuguese]. They were unreached. I wanted to go to a place where people hadn't quite gone yet."

And so Mozambique was decided upon. While still in school, Holton and the other members prepared by getting practical experience on development farms. After getting a masters in Interculture Studies at Wheaton College, Holton, his wife Ginger and five other families went to Lisbon, Portugal, to learn the language.

For nine months, the families were a part of an intensive language program. During the day they would learn in the classroom; during the afternoon they would walk the streets and practice.

Holton said once he and the others had a grip on the language, they traveled to Mozambique for a survey trip. They soon decided to live in Montepuez, a place that had been relatively stable since 1994.

"Little did we know we moved into a political hot-bed," Holton said. "It was an election year, and we were accused of being political spies. People used us as propaganda; ... they made us a part of their election promises."

Local officials gave Holton and the others a 24-hour notice to pack up and leave.

At this point, the group had to



start over. It was decided that it would be best to split into two groups. One group of two families would stay in Montepuez and try to gain access while the other four families would concentrate on the Yao in Nomba.

According to their legend, the Yao came from Mount Yao. There are about two million Yao in Mozambique, and most of them are Folk Muslim. In other words, they maintain many African traditions, but they go to the Mosque to pray.

"Like most African religions, they are mostly concerned with the control of the unseen powers around them," Holton said. "They still have witch doctors and a relationship with the ancestors; Islam is the veneer over that. They don't have a full understanding of the religion."

Mozambique is part of the developing world, and this can be seen among the Yao people. Though subsistence farmers, they are unable to grow enough food to curb malnutrition. Diseases such as malaria also plague the people.

In order to bring hope to these people, Holton and his teammates have created Malo Ga Kujilama ("Place of Reconciliation"). It is a resource center for the villages in the area.

Villagers can come to learn sustainable farming techniques or become educated in other areas. For example, one can learn how to make a rocket stove, a simple clay structure that redirects heat for more fuel efficiency as well as keeping the fire away from children.

Often, Holton will go into a village

and help them start a project.

"We go into a village or a community and ask 'What is it that you guys want to do?'" Holton said. "What do you need to make hope?"

Holton said he simply listens to the community leaders; he never tells them what they need.

"We don't know how to love them unless we listen to them," Holton said.

One of the biggest development projects taking place is the growth of

people," Holton said. "The Red Sea has not parted for us yet. It's a struggle, a constant struggle."

One man, whose son was suffering with a disease, said to Holton, "God does not speak Yao."

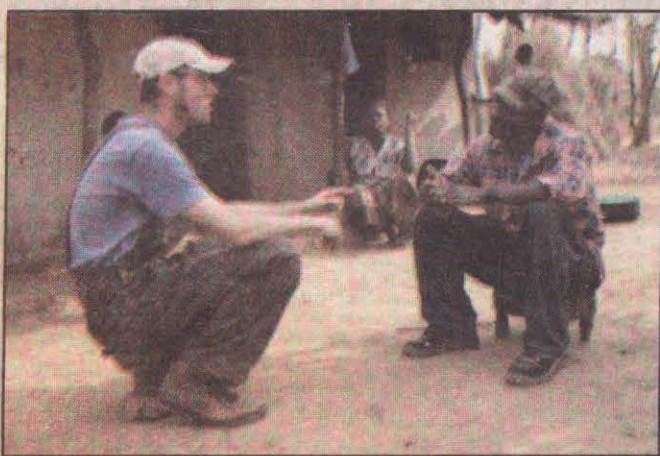
It is this fatalism about life that is hard to overcome in Mozambique.

"Living with people who suffer day in and day out is hard," Holton said.

"You learn to be comfortable with being mad at God. You just learn to lament ...

lament as Christians for those around us."

However, though the work is difficult, Holton and his team are dedicated to the work in Mozambique. Their goal is to empower the Yao to lead a better life and to start small communities of believers. In



artemisia, a plant that treats malaria. The resource center grows this plant and helps other people start a crop as well. Already, the Yao have benefited from this plant.

"There was one woman who had been suffering from malaria for a long time," Holton said. "She used the leaves and came back to me a week later. She was so excited about how good she felt."

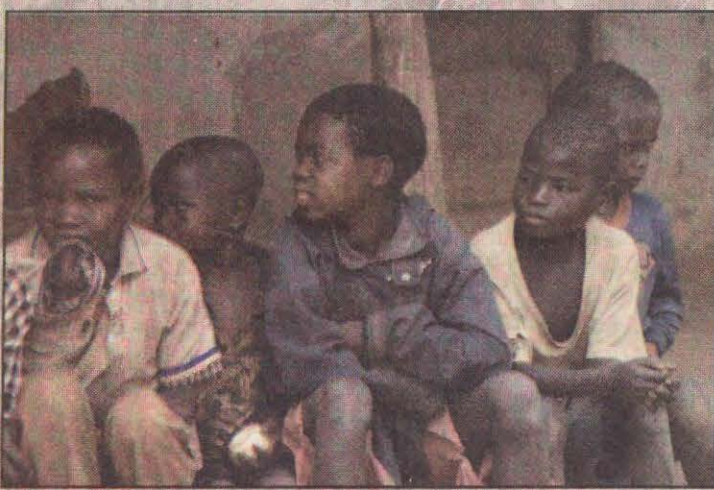
Malo Ga Kujilama has been recognized by the Mozambique government as a good work in the area. However, this resource center is not the only work Holton is doing in the area. Holton always emphasizes to the Yao the "three-legged stool." Without each leg, the stool would fall.

"First there is 'stewardship to the earth,' that's where Malo Ga Kujilama comes in," Holton said. "Then there's 'relationship to neighbor' and 'relationship to the Creator.'"

Holton is very active in engaging his neighbors in Nomba. Holton was invited to the Mosque by his language teacher, and so he was able to speak and teach the Yao there.

"It's not important to make a distinction because both are so superficial to the Yao," Holton said. "I just need to show them a way of life and the way Jesus has lived."

It is at these meetings that he has been able to connect and make rela-



Home is becoming more of a vague term to the Holton family, but they know what home feels like. They are familiar with the comforts and safety of a home. And that is why they are going back to the Yao. They are going back to

relationships with his neighbors. He said that while there, they are able to "find commonality."

"In Islam it is important to say 'God is one,'" Holton said. "However, others have come and told the Yao that they are a sub-race, and the Yao have internalized that idea. So for me to come in and say 'God is one' so 'we are one,' is changing."

Holton said even with thought-out plans and a successful resource center, struggles still exist.

"Life is really hard there for the

bring a hope for a home in paradise.

"The psalmist, David, talks about the pit," Holton said. "When you're in the pit you can only see the walls, you can't get out. Those in the pit need hope. If you don't have hope, you don't have energy, and suspicion and mistrust seeps into the basis of reality. Without hope you live in darkness. You can't think about a new world, you can't imagine a loving God."

"Luke says there will be those who bring the dawn. We hope we are the type of people that bring that dawn to the Yao."

