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HARDING
UNIVERSITY

Bison

A HARDING UNIVERSITY STUDENT PUBLICATION

the

VOL. 85. NO.6

October 30, 2009

THEBISON.HARDING.EDU

SPECIAL
Ghost stories through
the ages among the
bricks of Harding's
historical campus.
Page 6A



Clubs celebrate milestones

Luncheons, breakfasts hosted in honor of club anniversaries

by **JESSICA ARDREY**
student writer

This year, many Harding social clubs are celebrating anniversaries, and some are showing some impressive numbers.

Delta Gamma Rho and Chi Omega Pi are celebrating their 20th anniversaries.

Chios will meet Saturday in the Founders Room in the Heritage from 4 to 6 p.m. DGR members will meet in the Heritage Regions Room 206 from 10 a.m. to noon. There will be snacks, pictures and plenty of time to get reacquainted with old friends.

SubT-16 and Ko Jo Kai have been on the scene a little longer. Founded in 1939, both clubs are celebrating

their 70th anniversaries.

SubT will host an alumni breakfast in Cone Chapel from 7 to 9 a.m., while Kojies will meet from 10 to 11:30 a.m., also in Cone Chapel.

Kojies are marking the occasion with the Ko Jo Kai Cookbook. The second edition to go into print, the book includes almost 700 recipes
see **CLUBS** on page 3a

Science majors place in contest

by **CARLY KESTER**
student writer

The Arkansas INBRE (IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence) conference was held Oct. 23-24 in Fayetteville, Ark. Harding students Sky Vanderburg and Lori Wheeler got first place in the biology competition, and Greg Lyons received second place in the physics competition.

The conference featured seminars given by faculty members, oral presentations given by faculty and student researchers and poster competitions by undergraduate students. The three categories of research presented were biology, chemistry and biochemistry and physics.

The conference mainly consisted of universities from Arkansas, but a few outside of Arkansas attended as well. Some schools that participated in the competition were University of Arkansas, Arkansas State University, Philander Smith College, Arkansas Tech University and Ouachita Baptist University.

INBRE has been held in Arkansas since 2001 and is funded by the NCCR (National Center for Research Resources). According to Lyons, the conference mainly focuses on undergraduate research.

"The oral presentations and poster sessions are delivered by undergraduate students," Lyons said. "Graduate students may participate but do not compete."

Wheeler said the competition was for, "cold hard cash." The prize for first place in each category was \$300, second place was \$200 and third place was \$100.

Lyons, a physics major, placed second in the physics category for his poster on liquid crystals. "What I did was construct a module to blow bubbles of liquid crystal, and once I had a thin bubble I explained the phenomena that the bubble exhibited," Lyons said.

Biochemistry major Wheeler placed first in the biology category for her poster.

"I worked on the characterization and cloning of a plant mutant," Wheeler said.

Vanderburg, a molecular biology major, placed first in the biology category for his oral presentation.

"My project dealt with investigating the role of trichloroethylene, a common environmental toxicant, in the promotion of autoimmune disease in mice," Vanderburg said.

"I was really happy and excited to see Harding do that well," Lyons said.

A Jolly Good Time



photo by **NOAH DARNELL** | The Bison

Scrooge's nephew and friends warm his icy heart as they dance merrily and sing, "A Minister's Cat." Adorned in a wreath of holly, Father Christmas chuckled with joy at the festive scene. See the full feature story on page 6b.

Honors College brews program about coffee

by **SARAH SHABAN**
opinions editor

Part of the college experience is staying up late, studying with a pot of coffee nearby to keep you from falling asleep. While coffee is growing more and more to become a part of our culture, few people are aware of the history behind this dark beverage. Harding University's Honors College is providing Honors students with the opportunity to discover the depth of coffee through its new international program "A History of the World in One Cup" set for this summer.

Dr. Jeff Hopper and Dr. Pat Garner have created a curriculum in which students will study the historical, religious, political and cultural significance that coffee has carried throughout centuries in a 3-week, 8-credit hour course. The trip begins in Searcy with a cup of coffee and quickly takes off to Ethiopia, Oman and Istanbul before wrapping up in some of Europe's capital cities.

The program was inspired during a conversation between Dr. Hopper and Dr. Garner, who were looking to teach an Intersession course abroad. Dr. Garner, a lover of both books and coffee, suggested "The History of the World in One Cup," a cup filled with coffee. The idea was based on Tom Standages' book "A History of the World in 6 Glasses" featuring coffee, tea, and wine, among other drinks.

Dr. Garner said that he wanted this program, as well as others to come, "to be more than just vacations."

"Coffee is interesting... on an intellectual level; it's very, very deep." Dr. Garner went on to explain that coffee was

more than just a drink and that it challenged many sociopolitical ideas, including fundamentalist religion within Islam and Christianity. Some have suggested that the French Revolution began in coffee houses simply because they served as a place to discuss writing, artistic and political unrest.

Another interesting notion concerning the heavily caffeinated beverage is the large effect it had on Sufi Muslims in Yemen. Because these Muslims worshiped at night, it is only natural that they would become tired; therefore, coffee was served as a stimulant as opposed to alcohol, which Muslims are forbidden to partake in. These unique facts are only the beginning of what students will learn when diving into the relationship between coffee and the Middle East during their visits to Ethiopia and Oman.

Currently, the Honors College is working with students in Oman to develop an electronic interface with Harding students planning to attend this program. In the event that this communication takes place, Harding students may be given the opportunity to stay with Omani families when visiting the country in hopes of providing more open doors for Harding in the Middle East.

However, despite the efforts to advertise the new program during this year's Honor's Freshman Convocation, the sign-up list consists of two students. Why have attempts to attract honors students lacked results? The trip costs \$8,000, which, due to the recession, is a little more than some students are willing to pay for their Turkish coffee. Also, because the program isn't a semester long like the other programs Harding offers, many scholarships that students rely on will not transfer, which hinders many students' ability to participate.

One of the two students signed up for the program, junior Alan Elrod, thinks it is worth the \$8,000.

"I've seen the value of infusing culture with education," Elrod said. "I want to continue seeing the world, and this is a really unique lens to see it through. It's not just about coffee; it's about a common denominator explicating culture."

see **COFFEE** on page 3a



photo courtesy of Physical Resources

Rain complicates HU's Homecoming makeover

by **ABBY KELLETT**
student writer

Aramark, the SA, Physical Resources and many other organizations have been hard at work to make sure everything looks, tastes and flows perfectly this weekend. The changes Bison Daze and Homecoming are bringing to Harding's campus have hardly gone unnoticed.

Without any thanks to the 45 inches of rain Searcy received so far this year, Physical Resources has been reconstructing the landscaping around campus in order to make sure visitors will be impressed with what they see when they arrive. By Wednesday the Heritage flower bed was already completely redone, and large numbers of mums were scattered throughout different parts of the Harding

scenery in hopes that they would bloom and peak just in time for Homecoming.

The team is dedicated to making everything look as perfect as possible in hopes of promoting Harding and its positive image.

"It's just like when you have visitors come to your house," head of Physical Resources Danny DeRamus said. "Your momma or you or whoever are dusting and cleaning because you want your place to be at its best when people come to visit you. We have people coming from all parts of this country to visit; we want to put our best foot forward and look the best we can."

Different departments and hundreds of workers have been doing everything from checking ceiling tiles and making sure they are in

good shape, to making sure all the grounds are flawless, to washing all of Harding's windows.

The massive amounts of rain, however, are making what should have been simple tasks extremely difficult.

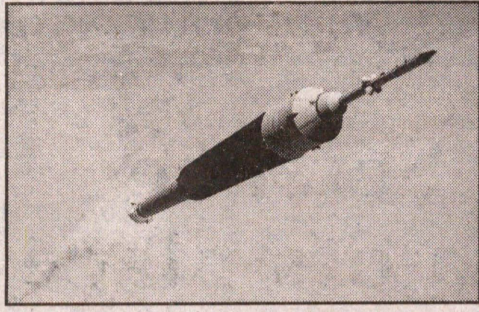
"We're going to have to revamp everything because of the flood and the rain that's coming this weekend," DeRamus said. "I've never seen this much water. What we're waiting on right now is the weather because we can't go out there and set it all up and have it washed away again. It's going to be a mad scramble this year right at the last minute."

The blowup games will be moved inside the gym off the lawn, and the pony rides will be on the pavement instead of the grass this weekend.

see **PREPARED** on page 3a

The Newsreel

NASA launches rocket as step in return-to-the-moon program



NASA launched the world's largest existing rocket Wednesday on a two-minute test flight to begin preparation for a return to the moon. The \$445 million launch did not send the 327-foot long Ares I-X rocket into orbit but

rather sent it on its brief flight with 700 sensors all over it to gauge the stress of lift-off. This launch was the first in almost 30 years at the Kennedy Space Center, with the last launch being the Columbia's maiden flight.

This launch actually occurred exactly 48 years and one day after an original Saturn rocket was launched as a precursor for the Apollo program's moon landing. The rocket is part of research that will be used to construct the Ares I, a shuttle that could take humans to the moon once again.

Experts agree that with enough time and money, the Ares I shuttle could be built.

"The question is, should NASA build the Ares I?" Edward Crawley, part of an expert panel NASA consulted, said. "Times have changed. The budgetary environment has become much tighter, and the understanding of the costs and schedule to develop the Ares I has matured."

Pilots' licenses revoked after overshooting runway

Two Northwest Airlines pilots overshot their destination by 150 miles because they were distracted by a cockpit discussion and a laptop, causing them to lose their licenses.

The pilots, Capt. Timothy B. Cheney, 53, and First Officer Richard I. Cole, 54, were flying from San Diego to Minneapolis. Cole was teaching Cheney how to use some new software on his laptop (a violation of airline policy) and ignored voices in the cockpit radio.

Regarding the pilots' revoked licenses, the FAA said in an emergency order that the crew had not been in touch with radio contact for 91 minutes.

The order said: "You operated Northwest 188 in a reckless manner that endangered the lives and property of others. You engaged in conduct that put your passengers and your crew in serious jeopardy. You have demonstrated your lack of regard for or inability to adhere to your responsibilities to exercise the highest standard of care, judgment, skill and responsibility."

Ice skating bear kills trainer

An ice skating bear mauled two trainers in Bishkek, the Russian capital of Kyrgyzstan, killing one and critically injuring another.

While rehearsing for their "Bears on Ice" performance, the bear attacked the circus administrator, Dmitry Potapov, and dragged him across the ice by his neck, almost severing his leg. Potapov was declared dead when the paramedics arrived at the scene. There was no apparent reason for the attack.

The 29-year-old animal trainer, Yevgeny Popov, attempted to save Potapov but was instead mauled himself and was severely injured, authorities reported.

"The victim has sustained serious injuries - deep scalp lacerations, bruising of the brain, lacerations on his body. His condition is considered critical," Dr. Gulnara Tashibekova told reporters in Russian news.

The bear was shot and killed at the scene. Russia is known for training bears to perform, such as riding bicycles and playing hockey. However, fatal attack are uncommon.

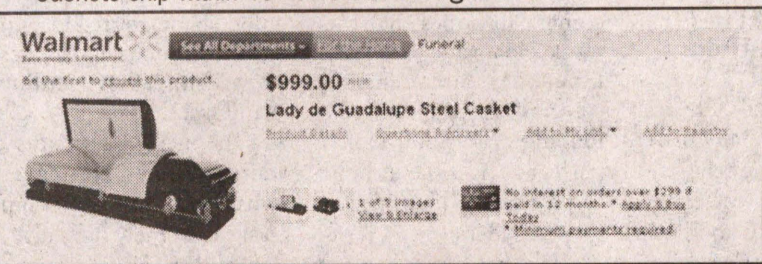
Wal-Mart buries the competition, customers

Now available from the Wal-Mart Web site: economically-priced caskets and urns.

About 15 caskets and dozens of urns have been added to the Wal-Mart Web site for purchase.

Offering caskets from \$999 steel options to \$3199 for a bronze choice, Wal-Mart has created a competitive alternative to funeral homes. Federal law requires funeral homes to accept caskets from other companies.

Caskets ship within 48 hours after being ordered.



The Window

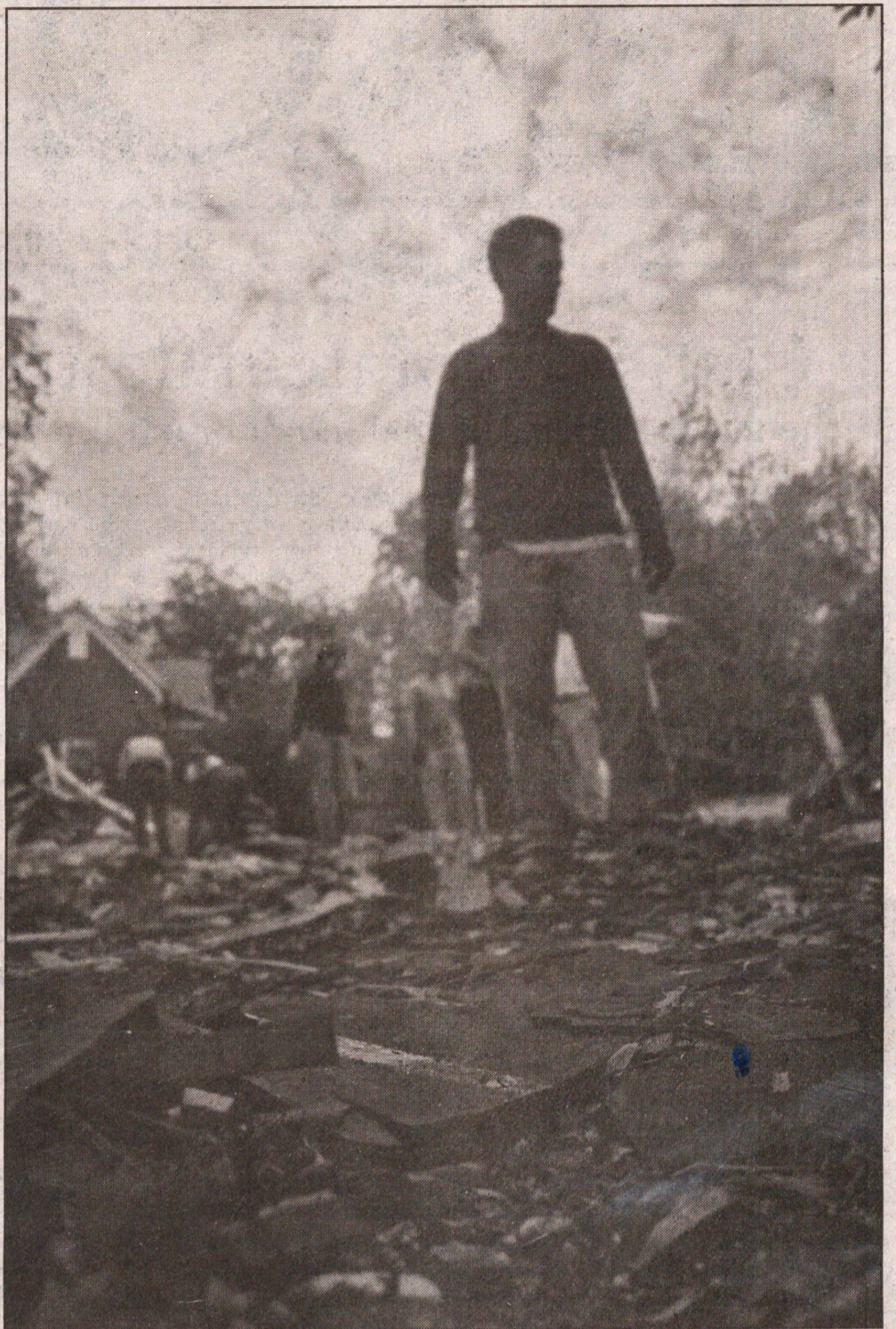


Photo by KYLIE AKINS | The Bison

Student Peter Bell looks out on the rubble of a burnt down house while working to clean up during Downtown Church of Christ's day of service, Outside the Walls.

The Inside Voice

Wisdom from the mouths of babes

"Love will find you, even if you are trying to hide from it. I have been trying to hide from it since I was five, but the girls keep finding me."

"On the first date, they just tell each other lies, and that usually gets them interested enough to go for a second date."

"It would be terrible if the Red Cross Bloodmobile got into an accident. No, wait. That would be good because if anyone needed it, the blood would be right there."

"You can listen to thunder after lightning and tell how close you came to getting hit. If you don't hear it, you got hit, so never mind."

"When people run around and around in circles we say they are crazy. When planets do it we say they are orbiting."

"Vacuums are nothings. We only mention them to let them know we know they're there."

"Clouds just keep circling the earth around and around. And around. There is not much else to do."

"The word trousers is an uncommon noun because it is singular at the top and plural at the bottom."

"Daddy, what happened to him?" a boy asked his father about a dead sea gull in the sand at a beach.

"He died and went to Heaven," the dad replied. The boy thought a moment and then replied, "Why did God throw him back?"

"When you get a bad grade in school, show it to your mom when she's on the phone."

The Watercooler

"He's got more guts than a Missouri mule."

— LIONEL TURNER, father of U.N. contractor Chris Turner, on his son defending a hotel holding U.N. workers when five workers were killed in a Taliban attack in Kabul, Afganistan

"Usually when a man sees his life flash before his eyes it's for a bad reason, but this is all right!"

— BILL COSBY, on being awarded the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor

"It's one of the most disturbing crimes in my 15 years as a police officer."

— MARK GAGAN, Police lieutenant, on a 15-year-old girl being gang raped and beaten as up to 20 people witnessed the act on school grounds at a homecoming dance but did not aid her

#MyBison



Each issue, this section will feature the Bison editorial staff's favorite Tweets from users on campus. To submit yours, just add #MyBison to your Twitter updates.

Missing college...didn't ever think I would say that. -Horton4Searcy

With all this sunshine I hoped I might go one day with dry jeans, but lo and behold, they're pressure-washing the sidewalk. Touche. - TheJessAndrey

Just did the chicken biscuit rush for the first time in a while. Mr. Pays-with-his-credit-card never fails to hold up the line -blakemath

Christmas spirit arrives in time for 'Scrooge'

by **ABBY KELLETT**
student writer

Scrooge may hate the yuletide spirit, but at Harding this year he's the reason for the Christmas glow. The Homecoming play, "Scrooge," will be performed in the Benson auditorium this weekend, and to help set the mood, some of the campus Christmas decorations have been put up a bit differently.

While Harding's traditional "blue" lights are not being put in the trees any earlier, the order the lights are being strung in is different this year. The lights are going up around the Benson first instead of around other, less noticed parts of campus.

The Harding lights have become a trademark of the university despite the fact that they have only been put up the past three years. Before that, the SA would string lights by the student center, and occasionally a couple strands would be put up at the top of the Administration building.

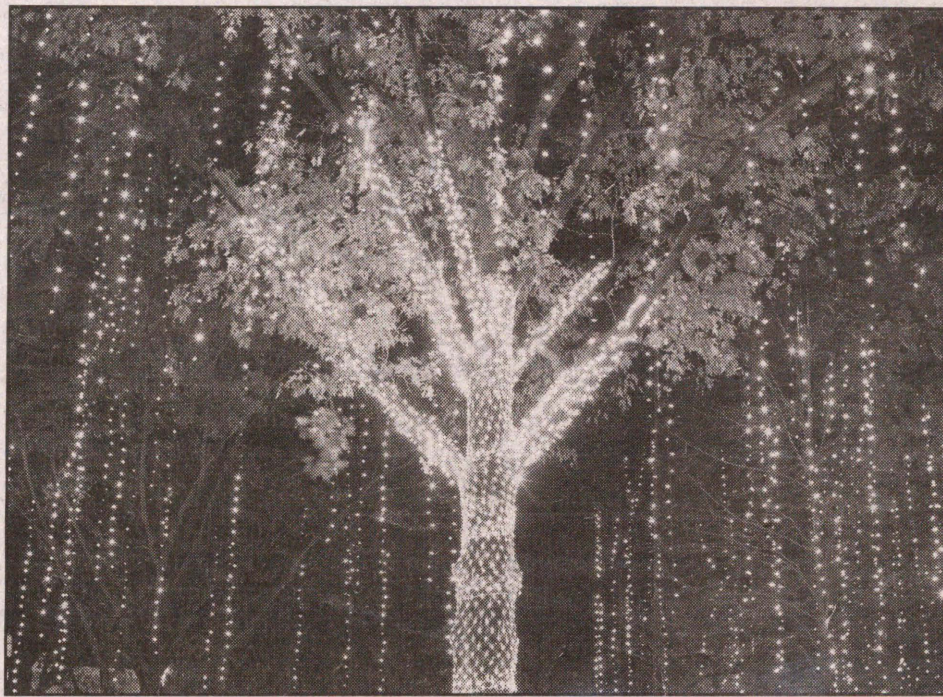
The lights are typically referred to as blue, but in fact they are white. When President David Burks sug-

gested to Physical Resources that 60,000 Christmas lights be put up, there was only one way to carry out the idea at the time.

"When we started talking about this we said we have to go LED lights," head of Physical Resources Danny DeRamus said. "If not, we'd have to have a ton of strings of power and have cords running everywhere. The power on the LED lights is next to nothing compared to incandescent lights. That's why the lights give off that blue-ish tint. It's called a white light, but since they're LED, it's more of an ice blue white."

A lot of work goes into turning the campus into a winter wonderland. Every tree is numbered, and every strand of light is packaged by its tree number at the end of the year. Not only that, but every bulb has to be checked and sometimes replaced before it can be put away for storage for the next winter season.

Putting the lights up is a weather-dependent process, and the rain has made the work a little more than difficult this semester. Physical Resources started putting up the lights



Bison file photo

Christmas preparations began early this year to coincide with the Homecoming musical, "Scrooge." Physical Resources began hanging the lights in late October.

last week, but the progression has been slow despite all the preparation.

Harding's administration wants the lights to be completely hung in the trees and turned on the day students arrive back from Thanksgiving recess and is planning on

keeping the trees glowing until Jan. 4.

The lights are not only for the students' enjoyment, but to attract people from the community to come on campus as well. The lights have also begun to serve as wedding decorations.

was getting married and really wanted them in the background at cone chapel, so we left them on just a little longer that year."

The idea for the lights was Burks', but the inspiration is originally from the Nashville's Opry Mill annual lights show. According to DeRamus, Burks feels that the lights serve not only as an excellent way to draw people to the campus, but also as a recruiting effort.

"He felt it is a way to get people to want to be a part of Harding and contribute and want to go to school here," DeRamus said. "It's a recruiting effort, not with just kids, but with the town, and we believe in this town, and they can believe in us. That's kind of why we were doing it, and its really paid dividends."

This will be the fourth year the university has strung the lights, and it now takes two lifting equipment trucks and about 90,000 strands of lights to illuminate the campus.

Weather permitting, Harding's scenery will once again be twinkling blue by the end of November.

PREPARED: Harding prepares for Homecoming guests

continued from page 1a

The hospitality tent will be on a hard surface as well. Not only that, but the bonfire has been completely canceled because the grounds are too wet with no hopes of drying in time for the event.

In addition to Homecoming, there is a Bison Daze this weekend. About 275 prospective students are attending, according to Glenn Dillard, assistant vice president for enrollment management.

Admissions schedules Bison Daze during Homecoming weekend not necessarily because of Homecoming itself, Dillard said, but because so much happens on campus. With the football game, musical, Belles and Beaux, Bison Stampede, Pied Pipers and other events, there are a lot of activities for prospective students who come to Harding.

Although Bison Daze was not scheduled specifically because of Homecoming, having a home football game played a key part in when it would take place.

"We want a weekend when we have a home football game because that's something that's somewhat unique to private Christian colleges," Dillard said. "Not every private Christian college has a football team, so we promote the football game."

The Bison Daze students will not just go to the activities. They will get the "whole gamut" of the Harding student experience, from the academic side by

attending classes to the residence life side by staying in the dorms and eating in the cafeteria, Dillard said.

The admissions staff will be on campus all weekend attending to the Bison Daze students. Since part of their job will involve making sure each event starts on time and has representatives present, there will not be many individual campus tours this weekend. Instead, there will be a large campus tour both Friday and Saturday mornings.

However, those are not the only changes being made to Harding this weekend. Between Homecoming and Bison Daze, there will be several adjustments in the cafeteria schedule.

Aramark's Classic Fare Catering is responsible Friday for Black and Gold, an awards dinner for alumni that faculty and staff also attend. About 700 people come each year to this meal, so it will be hosted in the cafeteria. Because of this, the cafeteria will be closed to students beginning at 2 p.m., and there will be a dinner buffet in the student center in the evening.

Food services makes a concerted effort not to keep students from eating in the cafeteria as usual, but Black and Gold is too big of an event to hold anywhere else.

"Dr. Burks has made a very strong commitment to not displacing students from the cafeteria any more than is absolutely necessary," catering director

Terrie Smith said.

Apart from a Bison Daze breakfast served Friday morning, the prospective students will eat in the cafeteria or other places designated this weekend for student meals, which means the cafeteria will open from 7 to 10 a.m. Saturday and from 7:30 to 10 a.m. Sunday.

There will also be a tailgate party Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the GAC, so the cafeteria will close for lunch. It will reopen at 4:30 p.m. for supper.

In addition to the cafeteria meals, there will be numerous catered events this weekend. Whereas Classic Fare Catering may do two or three events at once on most days, it will be working about 20 events just from 10 to 11:30 Saturday morning, according to Smith. Many of these events are receptions held by various social clubs and departments.

All changes for the weekend are hoped to impress everyone visiting on campus.

"We want to let them know that we are taking care of their assets as well as we can," DeRamus said. "When the place looks well and we're caring for it, in that regard people can put their trust in what we're doing and maybe send their kids here, or continue to go to school here, or help us with finances."

For more information on Homecoming, visit www.harding.edu/homecoming.

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CLUBS: Reuniting friends

continued from page 1a

from Kojies all over the U.S. With at least 400 preorders, 800 cookbooks went into print for the affair. The proceeds, after deducting printing costs, will go to Searcy's Sunshine School.

"It's really neat watching women from different pledge classes that didn't know each other come together with a common purpose to work on this reunion," Kojie sponsor Tish Elrod said.

Ko Jo Kai, which is Japanese for "small band of women," has been a keystone in the lives of former members Amy Cox and Lori Sloan.

"Those girls are life-long friends," said Sloan, who every year was in charge of

making the traditional Kojie key chains.

"Being in Kojies gave me so many opportunities to serve and to encourage," Cox said.

The Ko Jo Kai spirit also seems to run in the family. Senior Kojie Anna Meadows knows those ties too well. Both Meadows's mother and her aunt were members; her grandmother was a sponsor, and her uncle was a beau.

Although Meadows knew about the club through her family, it was the relationships that made the difference.

"I've made friends that I know, 30 years from now, will still be my best friends," Meadows said. "And if it weren't for Kojies, I never would have found them."

COFFEE: Program opens

continued from page 1a

This isn't the first international program that Elrod has travelled with. Last fall, Elrod went to HUF (Harding University in Florence). While Elrod enjoyed HUF, he said he is particularly excited about seeing how coffee plays into his everyday life.

"It's not just the typical college students going overseas," Elrod said.

While strong efforts to elongate the sign-up list have been made, the Honors College hasn't given up hope yet. At the beginning of the semester, an e-mail was sent out to all Honors College members promoting the program. However, recently, another e-mail was sent out to

all freshman, once again, promoting the program and informing them that at the conclusion of the semester, if their G.P.A is at least a 3.25, they will be able to join the Honors College in order to participate in the coffee program. Dr. Hopper plans to make a chapel presentation featuring the program later next month.

For more information, please e-mail:

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hopper@harding.edu

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Student positions are available for the Spring 2010 semester with The Bison newspaper.

Stop by the yearbook office in the student center to pick up an application. E-mail any questions to jdbeauchamp@harding.edu or Lfaust@harding.edu

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BISON

THE QUOTE

“One day it will be too late.”

— BERNARD KOUCHNER,

French Foreign Minister, on the prolonging of the U.N. nuclear deal with Iran that would outsource most of Iran’s uranium, reducing its capacity to produce a nuclear weapon



BLAKE MATHEWS
The Feedback Loop

The Real College Blues

First, the good news: we’re all just a little bit crazy. But you probably already knew that. The fact that you go to this school means you’re OK with being just a little different.

The bad news, however, is nothing to make light of. We’ve wisely thrown out the label “crazy” for the majority of the mentally ill, but we still have an image of what mental illness looks like. It’s the homeless man under the bridge, the mercurial artist and even the soldier returning from the war zone. But could the college student in the next dorm room be suffering, too? Statistically speaking, the poster children for depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder and a host of other mental health problems may look just like us.

Mental illnesses and disorders usually take root relatively early in life: 75 percent of cases manifest by age 24, one study said. Also, consider the unique situation college students find themselves in. Most of us are living away from home for the first time and learning to adapt in what might be the ultimate sink-or-swim scenario (aside from real life, of course). These factors make college campuses breeding grounds for depression and anxiety, and the numbers tell us that it’s getting worse. According to the Healthy Minds Study, 15 percent of students surveyed in 2007 said they had been diagnosed with depression before; that’s up from 10 percent in 2000. Study director Daniel Eisenberg also said that more than 90 percent of college counseling services saw “an increase in the number and severity of students with mental health problems.”

The statistics might lead you to believe that this generation of college kids is especially troubled. But a decade ago college would not have been an option for many with mental illnesses. Advances in medication are helping students control their disorders and giving them a chance at higher education. Also, counselors and psychiatrists are getting better at diagnosing mental illnesses. It’s not that more students are depressed; the students who used to be chronically “down in the dumps” are finally being looked at through the right lens.

Statistics aside, significant numbers of our peers are still living with depression or other disorders. Thankfully, Harding is especially well equipped to help afflicted students: The International Association of Counseling Services (ICACS) recommends that colleges employ one therapist for every 1,000 students. Harding has six licensed therapists in its counseling center, more than enough to satisfy the ICACS, but many other universities are struggling to keep up as shrinking budgets limit mental health services.

Even at Harding, people fall through the cracks. Illnesses go undiagnosed and untreated, or, worse, the mentally unhealthy get told to just “suck it up” by their peers. If we refuse to consider the people around us who aren’t just “going through a phase” or “acting out,” we run the risk of losing them to their disorders. In the absolute worst-case scenario, as Virginia Tech and recently UCLA experienced, we can lose much, much more. But the potential for violence shouldn’t be all that motivates us to reach out to the mentally ill. Assuming you came to college to make some kind of difference in the world, that student on your hall wrestling with depression should be one of your top assignments. After all, sometimes a friend can be more potent than a bottle of pills.

BLAKE MATHEWS serves as the editor-in-chief for the 2009-2010 Bison. He may be contacted at bmathews@harding.edu.

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ADVERTISING

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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Religious tenets spur conflict

Recent columns in The Bison have focused on the current clashes between Muslim and Christian worldviews, their political and military consequences and the proper response of Christians as ambassadors of Christ’s peace. While the debate will no doubt go on, I would like, as a student of Islamic history and a Christian, to add some background and commentary to the discussion.

Since the seventh century, conflict and bloodshed have most often characterized the relationship between the followers of Christ and the followers of Muhammad. This conflict has flared and abated from time to time but has never died completely down. Nor do I believe it will. The conflict cannot be extinguished so long as the followers of these two faiths genuinely subscribe to the central tenets of their religions expressed in their respective authoritative scriptures.

Historic orthodox Islam asserts that God is One, that all must submit to him, that Muhammad and his teachings are messages from God and that any other message to the contrary is a lie. Islam also asserts, quite unambiguously, that the defense of this truth is both required of all Muslims and, if necessary, maintained by force. Early efforts to establish these tenets, by both Muhammad and his immediate circle of followers, included the use of literally “the sword.”

Historic orthodox Christianity’s central tenets maintain that Jesus is divine, begotten by God and through his life, death and resurrection is mankind restored to relationship with God. Christian texts also clearly argue that any other claim of reconciliation with God is a lie. Christianity also asserts, quite unambiguously, that the defense of this truth is also required, but it need not be by force. Early efforts to establish Christianity, by both Jesus and his immediate circle of followers are often met with violence but do not include examples of their own use of “the sword.” Such action by Peter is actually condemned.

There have been many Christians and Muslims who have strayed from, reinterpreted, modified, ignored or failed to live by the tenets of their professed faiths since their founding periods in the first and seventh centuries. But the teachings and events of those founding periods are as well understood as anything in history. Both traditional historic Christianity, and traditional historic Islam were and are exclusive faiths with irreconcilable claims and mutually exclusive theologies. Even their separate calendars, both beginning with their faith’s establishment, confront us with a daily reminder of the cultural/religious distinction. (The Christian calendar begins with A.D. 1 [Latin for “year of our Lord”] the Islamic from the year of the “immigration/flight” of Muhammad in 1 A.H. [which corresponds to A.D. 622]).

In fact the daily prayers of observant Muslims testify to the great gulf separating these two “Abrahamic” faiths. Observant Muslims generally pray five times daily (salat) in a highly structured, repeating and choreographed fashion. Of the daily waajib (obligatory) prayers the first Rak’ah (portion of a prayer) is as follows:

Bismillaah’i-Rahmaan’i-Raheem
Qul-hu-wallaahu Aahad
Allaahus samad
Lam yalid walam yoolad
Wa lam Yakul-lahoo kufiwaan
Ahad.

“In the Name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate Say: ‘He is God, the One,

God the Eternal and Besought of all,



DR. KEVIN KLEIN

Guest Space

Neither begetting nor begotten (emphasis added), nor is there anything comparable to Him.”

Compare the Islamic theology above concerning the nature of God to the Christian text of I John 5:1-5 in the New King James Version: “Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him.” By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world — our faith. Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?”

The Muslim therefore prays daily his belief that God, by His very nature, could have no son, nor live in the flesh. The Christian must acknowledge that Jesus was the Son of God; God made flesh who lived among us.

Then there is the central claim as to the authority of the witnesses from whom you have received these two faiths. The daily prayer of Muslims contains the following in the second Rak’ah:

Ash hadu al laa ilaaha illallaahu
wahdahu laa
shareeka lah, wa ash hadu anna
Muhammadaan
‘abdubu wa Rasuluh
Al’laahumma salli ‘alaa
Muhammadin wa Aali
Muhamimad

“I bear witness that there is no god apart from Allah, He is unique and without partners.

I also bear witness that Muhammad is His servant and His Messenger.
O God, bless Muhammad and the progeny of Muhammad.”

This contrasts sharply with Christian texts represented well by I John 5:9-11 in the New King James Version: “If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of God which He has testified of His Son. He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son. And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.”

The Muslim and the Christian must choose which witness is telling the truth and which is a liar. To parse, divide and edit these competing and mutually exclusive claims in an effort to harmonize them into a convergent whole is theologically, historically and intellectually naïve or dishonest.

It is also insulting to both the traditional Christian and Muslim alike. Neither faith saw a complete agreement among those who professed to believe but both have clear, historic and mutually conflicting orthodoxies. Nor did they transmit their respective beliefs from one generation to another without division, and both contended with heresy, sometimes violently. But the degree of violence, and the acceptance of its use by early leaders, was radically different between the two movements. Yet in one regard they were very much the same. Both displayed a militant

zeal to maintain the unique, perfect, revealed, truth of their confessions undiluted by compromise with the world. This gives us both profound differences and similarities today.

When modern Christians are conflicted in defending their faith with the use of force, they find support for non violence in the actions and words of the founding generation of their faith. Muslims will find just the opposite example. When modern Christians, however, look to the founding generation of their faith for a gospel that will value all faiths equally and strive for reconciliation through mutual understanding- they will look in vain. The Muslim modernist will also fail to find such inclusive traits in the founding of Islam. When both groups look back to their founders they see uncompromising figures professing to speak the literal words of life from God. But while one also sees in Muhammad a man with a sword establishing God’s Kingdom by seizing political control, the other beholds “the man” Jesus self-sacrificed on a cross, rejecting the establishment of an earthly kingdom by sword. These distinctions are fundamental and consequential. This conflict did not arise because we fail to understand each other. It arose because we understand each other all too well.

Yet both sides share a common humanity, with all its promise and peril. Followers are not always good at understanding or imitating their leaders. Neither the Islamic East nor the Christian West is solely responsible for each bloody encounter in the sad annals of our shared history. We cannot escape the baggage of more than 1,000 years of man’s iniquity. The physical war between these faiths, however, is not the one certainly freighted with eternal consequence. We share in our mutual humanity a shared sinfulness and a shared doom apart from Christ. That is the spiritual war that matters most. As Christians, we must always strive to bring the same peace to the followers of Muhammad, each made in the image of God, which we now have in Christ. We too were enemies of God but are now reconciled. We cannot offer any other terms of peace in that spiritual war than those which God offered, and still offers, to all.

In Romans 5:9-11, the New King James Version reads, “Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

As such as Christians may want to reconcile all conflict in this world, we have neither the power nor the authority to change the rebellious nature of man, to be inclusive of the claims of Islam that are contrary to Scripture, nor to exclude tenets central to our faith which are offensive to those who are still enemies of God and subject to his wrath.

We are the ambassadors, not the King. We carry the message of the King (in jars of clay); we do not dictate the message. Now, as children and adopted sons of God, we are compelled to pray for and seek, even at the cost of our own lives, that the followers of the false hope of Islam are no longer deceived but are, through acknowledgement of His Son, embraced as God’s children and our brothers and sisters in Christ.

DR. KEVIN KLEIN is a guest contributor for The Bison. He may be contacted at kklein@harding.edu.



DENNIS MCCARTY

Guest Space

Holidays Kwai Le

Thank God for every day, and I'm not just saying every day is special in the milquetoast way that someone might say every crayon scribble your toddler does is special. Even though you're constantly worrying about missing the next bill, or filling yourself up with canned chili while considering that some kid in Bulgaria is filling himself up with nothing, or busily keeping up the façade of a wholesome individual while your parents visit, or watching anime, every day is an elaborately beautiful, thoroughly unappreciated, and tragically irretrievable treasure.

But never mind all that, because Halloween is tomorrow with all of its cheap plastic, gooey, tingling, macabre flashiness, and then Thanksgiving will come with its array of delicious piping hot or refreshingly cool turkeys, hams, occasional soy monstrosities, casseroles, gravies, sauces, pies and cakes glistening with melted butter or awash in sugar glaze or cream – and all on the good dishes – and then, finally, Christmas will come with its long break for students, and its party poopers complaining about the commercialism, and its people like me saying “tut tut” at the people complaining about commercialism, and its sparkling gold baubles and silver snowflakes and visits to the mysterious Christmas store at the mall to ogle at the traditional Santa Claus in his glowing Teutonic glory while listening to music boxes play “Coventry Carol” and wondering if you can find all the ancient, moth-eaten ornaments stashed away in the attic.

There's too much to say about these things, and I don't mean to give the impression that I'm obsessed, but for two years I've been without two things that make these days burst with the warmth and the fuzz in my black little heart: my family and the American communities that celebrate the holidays.

For two years, I enjoyed the delightfully complicated and engaging culture of Wuhan, a city of several million people in China's Hubei province, where I taught university English classes and toiled day by day explaining all of the West's idiosyncrasies, including its holiday culture. I lectured and helped organize parties for Halloween, held “white elephant” gift giving sessions in class, and taught my students Christmas songs until they began to wilt from the intensity of the Christmas spirit. One of my former students recently e-mailed me, saying everyone missed my craziness and wished that they could have more American teachers who would dress up as the Joker and scare the hot-dry noodles out of them.

I understand when I hear people groan about how the Christmas decorations seem to enter stores earlier every year, and even I begin to mentally retch when I hear Christmas songs played before Thanksgiving, but I've been craving the cornucopia of holiday hysteria for too long, spoiled as I am. China has its points of interest, and I also long to return someday, but for now I am willing and able to appreciate and soak up the rich delicacies of holiday Americana and family togetherness.

Apart from all that nonsense, I hope the Ghost of Christmas Present really lays into Scrooge tonight when he says, “If [Tiny Tim] is going to die, then he'd better do it, and decrease the surplus population!” I also hope Scrooge ad-libs a statement about swimming in his money bin at some point.

DENNIS MCCARTY is a guest contributor for The Bison and may be contacted at dnmccarty@harding.edu

Life Lessons in Right of Way

By CHRIS BINGHAM



Contest falsely mixes politics, religion

A disturbing post has recently appeared all over the Internet. The content takes the form of a direct challenge: Who can create the best video of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid burning in hell? The motivation: Harry Reid and Nancy Pelosi are expected to support a health care reform bill that might include pro-choice provisions.

Personally, I do not know if I believe what I am seeing. I do not want to believe that this post originated from someone who claims to be a Christian, though it seems to be the sad truth. Even if this press release is a sham put out by someone hoping to deface the religious right for political reasons, it is being taken seriously enough that it is quickly becoming the latest assault against what a true Christian agenda should be. Regardless of your feelings about the current administration and regardless of where you stand



DANIEL MORRISSEY

Guest Space

politically, as a human being this has to rub you wrong.

Someone out there is exploiting the faith I profess in order to make a political statement and effect political change. That's not OK with me.

I wish I could just let this go. I wish it didn't bother me so much. I wish it was something I could just laugh off, but the sad truth is more people are listening to the Christian equivalent of religious extremists than they are to those carrying a message of love. Religious extremists sell more papers and get more face time on the 5 o'clock news. But their message is inflammatory and hateful. Their message is “We're not happy with the political climate of our country because we didn't elect who is in

office. Let's condemn them to hell.” And that's not the worst of it. This same press release offers prizes to those who come up with the best video of our congressmen enduring eternal damnation. First prize is an all-expense paid trip to Washington D.C. to attend a pro-life training seminar as well as a travel stipend and a seminar series advocating the overturning of Roe v. Wade.

Before I go on, let me say that, as a Vocational Ministry major: in my studies here at Harding, I have never met a professor who advocated condemning individuals to hell on the basis of their political agenda. I have never read anything in the Bible that leads me to believe that it is our duty as Christians to win over the world by putting certain people in office. I don't care if it's George Bush or Barack Obama who sits at a desk in the Oval Office; spreading the gospel of Christ is not something included in the Oath of Office taken by each new president. It's not our

government's job to be an agent of Christianity. It's ours. As far as I know, some of the last words Jesus said before he went back up into heaven were spoken to his apostles: “Therefore go and make disciples of all nation” at the end of Matthew 28. Jesus is using the command form here while speaking directly to his disciples. Even though this passage was not written exclusively for us, as torchbearers of the Gospel, the principle still applies to us nearly 2,000 years later.

If there are any further doubts, I ask you to comb the New Testament and find one instance where someone was converted only after being overtly threatened with hellfire by those first pioneers who carried Christ's message across the Mediterranean. Let's not forget that our message is judgment, but love.

DANIEL MORRISSEY is a guest contributor for The Bison and may be contacted at dmorris@harding.edu

Hell House: A Christian Mission?

Halloween: one day of the year when adults have an excuse to either dress up. Children have the fantastic opportunity to dress up and get free candy! And some churches have the opportunity to scare people into faith. These churches have decided to recreate a hallow hell, hallow meaning to “sanctify,” thus the churches are sanctifying hell. The dressing up aspect applies because the churches use it to show human situations that are completely unforgivable sins, with the presence of demonic beings. These “hallow” hells are also known as hell houses and other disturbing names that apply to them. In a nutshell, they create a fiasco.

What happens is the bystanders are sectioned into groups, and there is a group leader. The leader is not a part of the show, but he or she leads the people throughout the house. The general idea is for the audience to witness some “horrific” act of sin, and then the sinner gets taken to



MEREDITH GRAVATTE

Guest Space

hell. Then the audience is chased by some demon or eerie person. After walking through hell, the group ends up at Satan's throne room and then has to make a choice: life or death. Thankfully, the choice of life is greeted with some religious pamphlet and a church member inviting the hell house survivor to “come on back to Sunday's worship and get baptized.”

Not to be rude, but for point of emphasis on how horrible these houses are the definition of a youth group is imperative. Youth groups are usually under the supervision of a church. They are called to love everyone and follow the life of Christ. Yet, it is the little Christ followers who are the “stars” of these hell houses. For example, the youth group

actors are re-creating scenes of abortions, personal discoveries of AIDS, suicides and other horrific dispositions of humanity. The sickening matter manifests itself by the portrayal of the situation, which makes them a mockery, robbing from it the reality and pain.

People pay money to experience this. People pay to watch suffering and scare themselves, which is not that much of a shocker. History clearly documents that people always find some kind of unexpressed entertainment in watching someone suffer or die, i.e. burning at the stake, beheading, electrocution, other public deaths. People are curious about death, thus, they look at it from afar. I suppose the fact that people pay to witness this would not be such a big deal if Christianity and the church were not affiliated with promoting this kind of exploitation of suffering.

How dare people take such

horrible situations and make them a folly or act of their choice, in order to strike fear into the eyes and heart of the observer. Even though this is a technical form of theater because people are in a space and making motions, the way of presenting the fear is dehumanizing.

Hell houses don't explain the situation, only the sin. They just show you how bad situations can get and then expect you to either choose life or death, heaven or hell, God or sin.

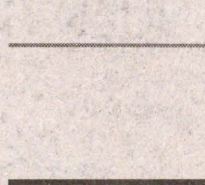
If their purpose is to scare, then they have succeeded in not only scaring people in the moment, but also scared people away from God. If a person, dressed as a demon was chasing you with a chain saw, would you pick God? What a great way to reach humanity: scare the living spirit out of them.

MEREDITH GRAVATTE is a guest contributor for The Bison and may be contacted at mgravatt@harding.edu

Homecoming on Halloween

Late after Scrooge rehearsals for the last few days, my friend and I have been intrigued by the many different stories about ghosts here on campus. The most famous one has been about Gertie, the girl who died back when Harding was still Galloway College, an all Girls school, and Godden Hall was still standing where Pattie Cobb is now. We've heard about her ghostly presence showing up in the Administration building, the Lee Academic Center and even on the roof of Pattie Cobb recently. I myself had a little experience with a Harding ghost in the Admin.

A lot of people might say to be careful and not get involved with the spirits from the other side and, to tell you the truth, I'd have to agree. But this time of



JOSHUA LITTLE

Guest Space

the year, it's fun to play around and learn more about the ghosts of the past and remember them. After all, that is why Halloween was started. 2000 years ago, the Celts and Druids used this time of year to remember those that passed on, and as time progressed, the Roman and then early Christian cultures turned this pagan ritual to a time to remember the Christian martyrs and saints that had passed. They had parades and wore costumes and fellowshiped together. Isn't it amazing that Harding's Homecoming weekend falls on

this exact date? This is a time to remember the history of Harding and be glad that we can all be here with the common bond of being brothers and sisters in Christ.

Between the football game and all the things going on this weekend, we have a lot to come together for and a lot to remember. Much like in the story of Scrooge, we must remember the ghosts and shadows of our past and all the stories that make it up, the good and the bad. Because J.N. Armstrong, Harding's first president, was part of bringing Harding to Searcy, Ark. where the ghost Gertie haunts, we have reason to go ghost hunting and freak ourselves out on a late night with our friends.

In addition to what has passed

we must see the present and learn to live in it and accept it and to take advantage of it, because our time here is short, and what we do now will affect what happens later on in our lives. We must look to the future. The future is inevitable, and if we don't learn to be joyful in our time now, the future will only look miserable and dark.

Homecoming and Halloween are about being together with those that we share a strong bond with. So, this Halloween let's remember where we came from and enjoy ourselves. And be on the look out for Gertie.

JOSHUA LITTLE is a guest contributor for The Bison and may be contacted at jlittle@harding.edu

2009 Homecoming Queen Finalists

JESSIE WILSON



Jessie Wilson, representative for Ju Go Ju social club, is a senior Professional Sales Major from Baldwin City, Kan. Wilson is the daughter of Jim and Melissa Sears.

MARY KYLE WALKER



Mary Kyle Walker, representative for Delta Gamma Rho social club, is a senior General Studies major from Decatur, Ala. Walker is the daughter of Bob and Beth Walker.

SAVANNAH ADAMS



Savannah Adams, representative for Zeta Rho social club, is a senior Youth and Family Ministry Major from Searcy, Ark. Adams is the daughter of Daniel and Meagan Adams.

One of these three women will become the 2009 Homecoming Queen. Results will be released and a queen crowned at halftime during the football game against Henderson State this Saturday.

GERTIE AT LARGE: The Harding Ghost Files

Do you believe in ghosts?

When you tell yourself "it's only a story," do you really believe it?

In the spirit of Halloween, The Bison editorial staff went digging through old newspapers in search of the original Harding ghost story. The following article appeared on the front page of The Bison on Nov. 4, 1950.

EERIE STORY OF GALLOWAY'S FEMALE GHOST UNFOLDED BY SCRIBE

by CHRIS ELLIOT

I am told, in hush-hush tones, a story that unfolded years ago in the creaky corners of Godden Hall that plunges my blood to icy depths and speeds my pulse to rapidity.

The epic began when Galloway College for girls was in full bloom, holding the position of one of the finest educational institutions in the south. The school was young and actively centered around a sweet dame called Gertrude — then one late November evening while most of the women were fast asleep, tragedy struck a bitter, terrifying blow.

Gertrude came in from a small party with some friends in town, said goodnight to her date, and climbed the stairs to her room. The white, frilly evening gown she wore swished merrily as she tip-toed down the long corridor. Suddenly she halted — listened for a moment as though she heard a sound — changed her course and began walking cautiously toward the now abandoned

three story elevator shaft. Her long platinum blonde hair rolled across a white neck as she cocked her head to listen again.

A blood-curdling scream rippled through the halls arousing the other girls from slumber, and chaos took command of the dorm. One young lady saw a huge, dark form hurdle by her and disappear down the flight of stairs. An hysterical house mother finally found wits enough to call the police and they found Gertrude at the bottom of the elevator shaft — dead!

The blow had a devastating effect on the students.

"Why, Gertie would never get old, much less die," they had said. "She would always be beautiful, young, and vibrant." And even in death, associates agreed that Gertrude still looked alive. They buried her in her white evening gown.

People began to say things about the college; parents withdrew their daughters; the school began to collapse and in the meantime police found

nothing of the supposed killer — finally the case was dropped under the caption "Accident."

Several years later, just before Galloway closed down, a freshman awoke at midnight and ambled down the hall for a drink. A harvest moon cut ribbons of light across the walkway. The freshman paused at the elevator and peered through the partly boarded area. She stifled a scream, somehow managed to make it back to her room and wakened her roommate. Just before she dropped into a dead faint she told her roomy, "I could see her in the moonlight, sitting there in a white evening gown, combing her platinum-blond hair!" Her buddy mustered enough nerve to go down the hall and look. The chick across the hall, brought out of slumber land by the commotion outside, found freshman number two standing speechless, wide-eyed against the opposite wall.

"She — she — walked right through the wall to the first floor," the terrorized freshman gasped.

Again the Dean of Women was called and they peered into the depths of the shaft.

"Why," she consoled them, "there's nothing down there, silly, except an old comb someone dropped."

Soon the school shut down, due to financial difficulties.

So now the story goes that Gertrude still walks the halls of Godden on full-moon nights, her frilly white gown rustling as she moves — and it is ridiculous of course.

It is told that she had said to her friends, "I love this place and never intend to leave it — never." But, what are ghostly Gertie's plans concerning the immediate housing shortage that goes into effect when Godden Hall is wrecked? Will she move to Patti Cobb? I doubt it. For, with the destruction of Godden, so goes the ghost story.

And in the meantime make the most of her, girls — a fourth for rook is hard to find late at night around these parts.

The bricks from old Godden Hall were used to build new buildings, and some say Gertie's spirit traveled with the bricks. In another half century students will still be telling her tale, but if any of those future storytellers are looking at this page right now, the 2009 Bison editorial staff has its own — somewhat apocryphal — ghost story to pass on.

IF THESE WALLS COULD BREATHE ...

by BLAKE MATHEWS
editor-in-chief

The Student Publications office above the Student Center has no bricks in common with old Godden Hall, but Gertie still has a kindred, restless spirit haunting these walls.

For those who have never seen it, the Student Publications office is divided into three segments: The Bison and Petit Jean offices, and the photography room in between them. Built onto the photo room is a darkroom where old film was developed before the adoption of digital photography. But the three offices and the darkroom are not packed together tightly; there is a little bit of space between their walls.

The year was 1973, and the second floor of the Student Center was finally taking shape. A young construction worker stood in what would become the darkroom, building up its walls with bricks and mortar. It had been a long day, and the worker was fighting to stay awake in the poorly lit space. He wanted nothing more than to lie down for a quick nap.

So the worker, too sleepy to continue, stepped over one of the darkroom's half-finished inside walls. There was just enough room between that wall and the finished wall of the Petit Jean office for him to lay his body down, and it was dark enough that no one would catch him napping on the job. The worker

quickly fell asleep.

But the worker slept for so long that everyone forgot he had even been in the darkroom. Another worker found the pile of bricks and the unfinished wall. He saw that it was almost quitting time and decided not to leave the job half-done. He stacked the bricks until the wall reached the ceiling.

The construction foreman fired the worker after he failed to show up for work the next morning. No one thought to look for him; they assumed he had just walked off the job. The crew moved on to a different part of the Student Center, and a whole week passed before anyone set foot in the Student Publications office again. By then, the walls had

gone silent.

Today, the darkroom sits idle while computers handle all the photo work. The few students who still spin the rotating door and step into the blackness never stay long; if they did, they might begin to hear the breathing. It is a faint, ragged noise, like the hoarse whispers of an abandoned man. It was the last noise the young worker ever made.

Maybe the construction worker still haunts the bricks that became his tomb. Maybe Gertie found herself a friend between the walls, and what we hear are their ghostly conversations. What a trapped construction worker and a ghost from an all-female college have to talk about, we mortals can only guess.

SECTION B

BISON

the



October 30, 2009

Cross-Country programs continue run of dominance

by CHRIS O'DELL
sports editor

The Harding cross-country program has been a dominant force throughout the decade for the Bison and Lady Bison teams. Head Coach Steve Guymon has helped turn the program into the most winning sports program at the university since becoming head coach of both the men's and women's teams.

Harding has won the men's cross-country championship every year it has been a member of the Gulf South Conference, except in 2007. Last season, the Bisons finished with a perfect score of 15 points, and newcomer Daniel Kirwa became the ninth straight Bison runner to win the individual title.

Saturday, the Bisons successfully defended the Gulf South Conference Men's Cross-Country Championship at Veteran's Park in Hoover, Ala. The win gave the men's team its ninth overall conference championship.

The Bisons finished the 11-team race with 31 points, beating out West Georgia, who finished second with 68 points. Harding had four runners place in the top six, led by sophomore Daniel Kirwa, who became the first runner since 2003 to repeat as the GSC Individual Medalist with a time of 25:47. Kirwa's teammate Philip Biwott finished second at 25:55, and Harding duo Manase Busienei and Reese Jackson ranked fifth and sixth respectively with times of 26:32 and 26:33.

Jackson, a sophomore from Tulsa, Okla., said winning the tournament is a testament to the team's training regimen.

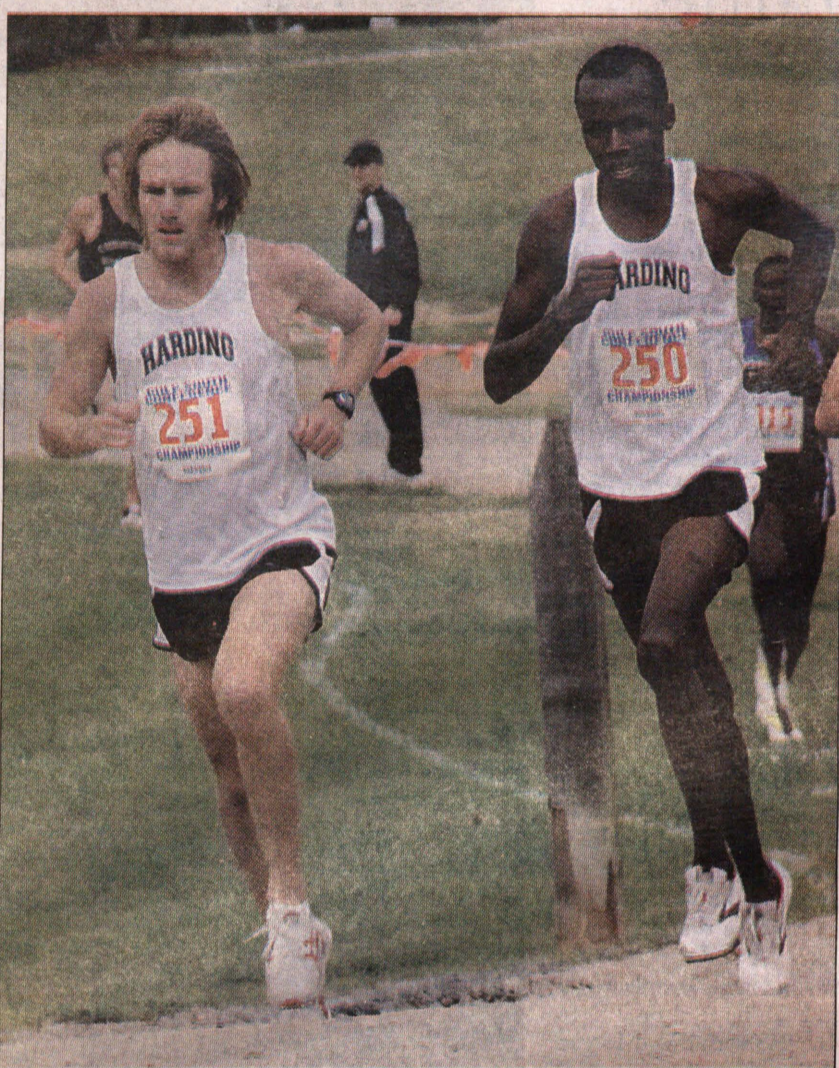
"We know we are consistently the best team in the GSC," Jackson said. "And the two years that I have experienced on this team have proven it to me. It really reminds us how rewarding hard work and consistency in training are, and how important a winning mindset is."

Jackson said he believes that mindset starts with the coach.

"I think the key to our success has been good coaching, starting from the beginning of the program all the way to today," Jackson said. "And having the momentum of previous champions to carry us and help us stay on top."

The Lady Bison cross-country program has also been the most consistent and dominant women's program in the conference this decade. The women's team has won five consecutive GSC championships, winning its fifth last weekend. The win was the Lady Bisons' seventh since joining the conference in 2000.

Last season, the women's team scored 22 points and placed five runners in the top 10. In this season's tournament, the



Photos by DAVID CROUCH | HU Public Relations

Sophomore Reese Jackson and freshman Manase Busienei run for the finish line during the GSC cross-country tournament.

team again scored 22 points, beating out second-place West Florida, who finished with 85 points.

The Lady Bison runners set the pace throughout the tournament and had five runners place in the top 10. Senior Katy Grant jumped from a seventh-place finish in last year's tournament, to first-place in 2009, earning GSC Individual Medalist honors with a time of 18:40. Harding also had third through fifth-place, with Esther Kosgei, Gladys Kimtai and Rysper Sirma rounding out the top five.

Sophomore Mary Samoei, freshman Naomi Landecker and junior Laura Lovett were also top-10 finishers for Harding.

Despite both cross-country teams dominating their way through the GSC in recent years, the program as a whole doesn't always get credit for how much success it has. Jackson said it might be due to a lack of understanding about the sport itself.

"I think that for how well most people understand the sport, it makes sense that we aren't always considered

athletic heroes or anything," he said. "People who know or take time to find out what cross-country is all about will appreciate it, and the better we do, the more people will want to find out."

It might be hard for either team to improve on their level of success. However, one area both teams are looking to improve is at the national championships. Last year the team came in with high expectations and finished lower than the team wanted to. A drastic change of weather from what Arkansas gives the runners might be one reason for its finish last year. Jackson said the Bison and Lady Bison teams won't be making any excuses though.

"I don't know what other teams are doing," Jackson said. "But I know how good we are, and if our team effort is a hundred percent or more, then I think we will do very well, even if we don't place as well as we like."

The Bisons and Lady Bisons will compete in the NCAA South Region Championships Nov. 7 in Tampa, Fla., The NCAA National Championships will be held two weeks later in Evansville, Ind.

Guzman ends successful soccer career

by CHRIS O'DELL
sports editor

Senior Minnie Guzman is one of three seniors on the Lady Bison soccer team. Guzman is also one of the rare Lady Bisons to begin her freshman season on the team and play all four years for the program. However, the Lewisville, Texas, native not only stayed true to her team, she also became the leader of the Lady Bison soccer program.

"These past four years on the team have really helped me realize how much God has blessed me with a talent and how he wants me to take it and do good with it," Guzman said.

Guzman said each year's freshman class for the Lady Bisons begins with a good number of girls. However, four years later there might only be four or five senior girls left on the team.

"These four to five girls are the ones who truly want to be there to help this program and to see it succeed even when they are gone," Guzman said.

The 5-foot-tall midfielder was a 2006 and 2007 first-team All-GSC selection, and received second-team All-GSC honors last season for the Lady Bisons.

"My junior year was the toughest," she said. "We had lost so many key players and did not gain enough talent to keep us on our feet. This year was definitely a step forward and not back. I learned a lot about how much can change in a short amount of time."

The Lady Bisons are currently 3-10-3 overall, with a 1-4-1 record in the Gulf South Conference. However, despite a .281 win percentage, Guzman said she believes the season was a successful one.

"We definitely improved from last year, but our record did not show how we really did," Guzman said. "We lost many games where we had the ball on their half of the field almost the whole game but could not score. So it was frustrating because we knew we should have beaten the other team."

With a young team this season and more experience next year, the Lady Bisons will look to finish off the close games in 2010. However, with Guzman graduating after this season, the team will have to replace perhaps the most valuable player on the team in recent years.

"The team is for sure in a rebuilding stage," Guzman said. "We only have two other seniors on the team, and we did not have any girls that were older than me for a couple of years."

Guzman was persuaded to come to Harding by her brother Odie, who also played soccer at Harding. She said she wanted to play soccer at a Division-I school, but after visiting Harding was sure this was the place for her.

"I have been blessed to work with some of the younger soccer players here in Searcy," Guzman said. "And being able to help them appreciate their talent has warmed my heart and helped me realize that I need to be a good example to those children."

Although Guzman's career as a Lady Bison soccer player is winding down, the senior leader knows the team is in good hands with head soccer coach Gregg Harris.

"Coach Harris is a totally different coach than any of the other coaches I have had in my entire soccer career," Guzman said. "He not only wants you to be a good soccer player, but he also wants you to be a strong Christian."

Harris might also have the players he needs to help the program get back to its winning ways.

"There is so much talent on this team and I have a lot of faith in them," Guzman said.

Lakers equipped to make run at infamous wins record

CHRIS O'DELL



The Leadoff

The Chicago Bulls' 72-win season has seemed like an unobtainable goal for more than a decade now. Since Michael Jordan and the Bulls accomplished the feat in 1995-96, no team has truly challenged the mark for most wins in a season.

In fact, since 1996, only three teams have reached 67 wins, and only one team has cracked 69 victories — that team was the 1996-97 Chicago Bulls team.

However, there is one team that might be equipped in such a way to make a run at the "unobtainable" wins record this season. That team is the Los Angeles Lakers.

Hollywood's favorite sports franchise won 65 games during the regular season last year, followed it up with their 15th NBA championship and then took part in a day-long celebration down-

town before scattering for three months during the offseason.

As the team began its championship defense last night against the Clippers, it became odd to me how similar these Lakers are to Jordan's 72-win Bulls. The parallels between the two teams are eerily recognizable.

Like the 1995-96 Bulls, the Lakers have the NBA's best and most complete player in Kobe Bryant, a dynamic No. 2 in Pau Gasol and a surplus of talented role players like Lamar Odom, Andrew Bynum and Derek Fisher.

They have the same "always calm and collected" head coach in Phil Jackson, who is a master at keeping egos in check. And like Chicago, the Lakers have a very talented but troubled young star, who is capable of making or breaking the Lakers' season. For the Bulls, it was Dennis Rodman; for the Lakers, it is Ron Artest.

Although Bryant might not publicly admit it, he knows he will always be compared to No. 23. He is already chasing Jordan's six NBA championships — he has four — and has mentioned the Bulls' 72-10 record as an

obtainable goal to some of his teammates.

Some might say it is wishful thinking to expect any team to get close to the almighty record. However, this Lakers team is no ordinary team — and neither were the Bulls.

Chicago led the league in scoring in 1995-96, averaging 105.2 points per game, and were third in defense, giving up only 92.9 points a game. They had an 18-game winning streak, lost only two home games and won 33 road games, another NBA record.

Last year's Lakers averaged 107 points per game and should easily obtain that goal again this season. In fact, I would be surprised if any other team in the league averaged more points than the Lakers this season.

And with newly acquired defensive specialist Ron Artest, the Lakers could also boast the league's best defense this season.

Teams already had to worry about the L.A. frontcourt of Gasol, Bynum and Odom. The size and length of those three players alone are enough to make any player think twice before penetrating the lane. And now

that the Lakers have the league's best defensive backcourt with Bryant and Artest, L.A. should force far more turnovers than in recent years.

Opposing teams will also have to get used to taking contested shots with the shot-clock winding down. Those things added together can make a recipe for disaster for opposing teams.

You also can't forget the 65-17 team from last season missed center Andrew Bynum for a 32-game stretch due to injuries. The same injury caused Bynum to have only a minor role in the postseason last year. Now in his fifth season, Bynum is primed for a breakout year if he can remain healthy.

In January the big man was playing the best basketball of his career, averaging 26.2 points, 14 rebounds and 3.2 blocked shots in his last five games before he was injured. In the fall, he was impressive again in preseason basketball, averaging more than 20 points per contest. Last night, Bynum scored 26 points and grabbed 13 rebounds during the Lakers' season-opening win over the Clippers. Bynum's dominant

performance could be a sign of things to come for the Lakers' young center.

It could also be a sign of things to come for the Lakers team as whole. Just like the Bulls had 14 seasons ago, the Lakers have a buzz around the team like no other in the league this year. Every basketball fan can see something special in this year's team. Bryant saw the same thing in Jordan's Bulls.

"Chicago had kind of like the perfect storm," he said. "They had the perfect team, terrific defensive players, and then they lived right in the middle of the country, so they got ample rest going from city to city. It worked out well for them."

The only question now is will it all work out well, if not better, for the Lakers this season? After all, the "unobtainable" goal of 72 wins has never looked so reachable for an NBA team.

CHRIS O'DELL serves as the sports editor for the 2009-2010 Bison. He may be contacted at codell@harding.edu

Bison Notes

Lady Bisons bring out the brooms

information courtesy of HU Sports Information

Volleyball sweeps

The Harding volleyball team completed the sweep of Christian

Brothers Tuesday 3-0 in Gulf South Conference action. The Lady Bisons improved to 24-6 on the season and 8-1 in the GSC West Division.

The Lady Bisons got a quick start out of the gate, taking an 11-2 lead in the first set. Harding won the set 25-19.

Harding fell behind early in the second set, trailing 5-1, but a Lady Bisons 10-2 run took the lead back. CBU pulled within two, but Harding quickly went on an 8-0 run and took the set 25-17.

The two teams battled for the

lead in the third set until Harding broke away on a 6-2 run going up 16-10. The Lady Bucs tried to mount a comeback, but the Lady Bisons offense put the match away on three straight points, taking the set 25-17.

Harding had 12 service aces in the match, tying a season high. Junior Emily Tate and senior Manuela Nesheva both contributed four aces for the Lady Bisons.

The Lady Bisons were led offensively by Nesheva who had 11 kills in the match. Tate led the defense with 16 digs.

Hanna Orendorff led the Lady Bucs with 10 kills.

Lady Bison soccer settles for tie

The Harding women's soccer team tied Bethel College Tuesday night in their final non-conference match of the season, 1-1. Harding moves to 3-10-3 on the season.

Harding controlled most of the first half taking six shots before Bethel got off a shot, but the first half belonged to the Lady

Wildcats. Bethel got on the board in the 32nd minute when Maryse Bearegard found the back of the net off a cross by Rachel Rathbone. Bethel took the 1-0 lead into halftime.

With three minutes left to play in the match, Harding scored the equalizer when Brianna Meek received a through pass from Kellie DeAtley. It was Meek's second goal of the season.

No overtime was played, so the match ended in a 1-1 tie. The Lady Bisons end the season Friday at Ouachita Baptist University.

Bison football to host Homecoming game

by CHRIS O'DELL sports editor

The Harding University football team will play its 51st Homecoming game Saturday. The Bisons will meet Henderson State at First Security Stadium and will be looking for its 33rd win in the 51 years of Homecoming at Harding. The Bisons are 32-16-2 all-time on Homecoming.

The game between the Bisons and Reddies will be the 45th meeting between the two programs and the 21st in Searcy. Henderson State leads the all-time series with a record of 27-16-1. However, Harding holds the edge at home against the Reddies with a 12-7-1 record in Searcy.

Harding, who has not lost to Henderson State at home since 1988, lost to H.S.U. last season on a game-winning touchdown with 18 seconds remaining for the Reddies.

The Bisons are hoping junior quarterback Josh Powell will be able to make his return under center after sustaining an injury against Southern Arkansas, which kept the transfer quarterback out of the lineup the last three games for the Bisons. Powell, a transfer from Long Beach City College, could give the Bisons an improved passing attack, which it has lacked the previous three weeks.

Last week, the Bisons started senior Zac Ross at quarterback. Ross leads the team in rushing and receiving; a feat accomplished only four times in program history. Playing

under center, Ross rushed for 54 yards and a touchdown, while also passing for 202 yards and a touchdown during the Bisons' 44-17 loss to Arkansas Monticello. If Ross gains just nine yards Saturday, the senior receiver will move into second place in career all-purpose yards at Harding.

On the defensive side of the ball, an improved Bison defense will look to stop a struggling Reddie offense that put up only 14 points last week against Arkansas Tech. The Reddies lost their Homecoming game by a score of 44-14 at Carpenter-Haygood Stadium. The loss dropped Henderson State to 3-5 overall and 3-3 in the Gulf South Conference.

Looking to shut down the Reddie passing attack will be senior defensive back Josh Jones. Jones leads the GSC and is tied for second nationally with eight interceptions. Jones needs only two interceptions to tie the GSC single-season record and move into the D-II career top 10.

Head Coach Ronnie Huckeba will look to improve on an 11-17 career record as head coach of the Bisons. Huckeba, who is in his third season as head coach, has already improved several areas on the Bison football team, including a defense that struggled mightily last season.

Kickoff for the game will take place at 2 p.m. tomorrow and can be seen on TV-16 or heard on KVHU 95.3 with Billy Morgan and Jerry Mote calling the action.

Athletes of the Week

Katy Grant & Daniel Kirwa

- Both runners earned GSC Individual Medalist honors in cross-country
- Led the Bison and Lady Bisons cross-country teams to another GSC championship

DAVID CROUCH | HU Public Relations

The World Series: A tale of two favorites

RYAN RUMMAGE

Guest Sports Column

We've all heard the expression "Money can't buy happiness."

Well, after spending more than \$420 million this past offseason, perhaps it does for the New York Yankees. Granted, the Yankees have the largest payroll in baseball for the umpteenth year in a row, including more than \$90 million more in 2009 than the Philadelphia Phillies, but something must be said for actually performing under the stress of the money in New York.

The story has been the same since the last time the Yankees won the World Series back in 2000: buy big-time players, make the playoffs, struggle and lose. How many World Series did Randy Johnson win with the Yankees? Zero. Jason Giambi? Zero. A-Rod? Zero ... until this year.

This year is different. With pitching that has been healthy and solid all year, an offense that produced the most runs in the MLB, and a never-say-die attitude resulting in 51 comeback wins, they're the obvious favorites to win their 27th World Series, right?

Not so fast. The National League champion Phillies

are the defending World champions. They took care of the Dodgers, the team with the best record in the N.L. with ease, but take a closer look, and you'll see that they and the Yankees are strikingly similar.

In the postseason they've each won nine games, gone 7-2 over that stretch, lost both games by one run each and have 14 homers. Both teams have relied heavily on pitching. Is any three-man rotation better than Sabathia, Burnett and Pettitte? Perhaps. They're named Lee, Martinez, and Hamels. Combined, Martinez and Lee have four starts and a 0.34 combined ERA. And how about the incredible Yankee offense that led the league in runs scored? In the regular season the Yankees had five starters hit over .280 while the Phillies only had two, yet through nine games this postseason, the Phillies are averaging almost a complete run more than the Yankees and have five guys hitting at least .280 to the Yankees' three. Shane Victorino and Ryan Howard are both hitting over .350. Thus, the Phillies are the hotter team and should be the favorites to win, right?

Again, not so fast. There is something different about this Yankees team than those that we've seen in the last four or five years. They seem

calm, laid-back, even as if they actually enjoy playing baseball again. New York is known to be a tough trial for players, but from the laid-back attitudes of Jeter and Sabathia to the pie throwing of A.J. Burnett, this team seems to have bonded better than any Yankee team since 2000.

They've stayed healthy throughout the end of the season, and the problem of injury-prone pitchers that has plagued the Yankees since 2000 is nonexistent.

However, probably the biggest factor in the Yankees' success in the postseason this year is that no one has heard anything from A-Rod since his admission to steroid use before the season began. The highest-paid player in the league is finally playing up to his paycheck; he's hitting .438 with five homers and not causing drama in the clubhouse. Surely all this is enough to be the favorites to win the World Series?

Two words to remember: defending champs. They did this last year. What is keeping them from doing it again this year?

Last year the Phillies won 92 games, beat the Dodgers in the NLCS in five games, and then beat the Rays in the World Series in five games. This season the Phillies won 93 games, beat the Dodgers in the NLCS in five games, and now we all see a pattern.

Sure, before last season the Phillies hadn't won the World Series since 1980, but they are primed to be the first back-to-back winners since the Yankees three-peat from 1998 to 2000.

To be fair, the only reason that the Phillies aren't actually expected to win is that the media gives so much attention to the performance and expectations of the Yankees. Just like last season, the Phillies are hitting better and overall playing better than in the regular season. They've been here before,

they're experienced and they're on an absolute roll; thus, they are clearly the favorites, right?

Wrong. While neither team is a pushover, and while neither team should technically be an underdog, at the end of the day, the Yankees are still the best team in baseball. Does that mean that they will win? Absolutely not. It's playoff baseball, and anything can happen from a four-game sweep to a seven-game thriller.

Now I certainly realize that by the time that you are

reading this, Games one and two have already been played, and I could be completely wrong. However, based on their performance in the regular season, their refusal to lose and the magic of the new Yankee stadium, the Yankees will win their first World Series in nine years. Yankees in seven.

RYAN RUMMAGE is a guest sports columnist for the 2009-2010 Bison. He may be contacted at rrummage@harding.edu

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HU provides safe Trick or Treating for Searcy kids

by **ABBY KELLETT**
student writer

Halloween, or as some refer to the holiday, "All Saints' Eve," will be celebrated on Harding's campus this year by university students, faculty and local churches, but not in a traditional manner. This year, the Student Association and College Church of Christ have joined forces to throw children in Searcy a "Trunk or Treat" festival.

College Church sponsored the festival in the past, but because Harding's Homecoming falls on the same day as Halloween, the SA plans to incorporate the holiday celebration with Homecoming festivities.

"We thought it would be a good idea for the SA to do it because alumni always bring their kids, but they typically don't have anything to do," Alumni Relations Chair Melissa Ritchie said. "It's Halloween, so we wanted to be able to give the kids something to do while their parents are here visiting campus."

The "Trunk or Treat" name is inspired from the original saying "Trick or Treat," used when children dress in costumes and go through their neighborhoods asking for candy.

Many parents, however, feel uncomfortable allowing their children to accept candy from strangers, and as a result many churches have started offering an alternative to Halloween "Trick or Treating."

"[The festival] is called Trunk or Treat because you decorate your car trunk, and then everyone gets their cars together and passes out candy in one spot," Ritchie said. "It's a safe environment, and we're actually incorporating College Church in with it and some of the other local churches so that the community can also have a safe place to go, and then the college kids can be involved with the community kids."

The SA's Trunk or Treat event will take place after the Homecoming game between

the Reynolds Communication building and the Ganus Athletic Center. The timing of Harding's Homecoming and the location of the festival may allow more opportunities to entertain and celebrate with alumni's children, but it also limits the number of volunteers.

"It's been difficult getting people to say that they'll come do it and, like, for sure having people's names down," Ritchie said. "Everyone is so busy. It's right after pledge week and then Homecoming, and there's so much going on with Homecoming already that it's not easy having people say that they will commit and come do it."

To help attract more volunteers, the SA is encouraging volunteers to get costumes, dress up and bring games and candy to help make the celebration even more enjoyable.

"We're encouraging everyone to dress up to show the little kids that college students still have a lot of fun, and so they can see that the big kids still have a good time with Halloween," Ritchie said.

The parking lot will be blocked off, and everyone is invited to bring a vehicle with trunk decorations and candy to distribute.

For those just wanting to dress up and be a part of the Halloween celebration, the SA will provide tables located in the parking lot for volunteers to use. Helpers are still needed and welcome to participate in the holiday festivities.

"We're trying to make it as fun as we can and enjoyable for everyone, not just the little kids, but the people working, too," Ritchie said. "But the most important and the best part is knowing these kids are going to be able to come have fun, and the parents won't have to worry about their kids not being safe."

To participate or for more information e-mail Melissa Ritchie at mritchie@harding.edu.

Caf's green initiative 'to go'

by **SARAH KYLE**
news editor

In its continued effort to "go green," Aramark will introduce Green Thread to-go containers to the cafeteria Wednesday, Nov. 4.

The containers are made of a number 5 plastic, similar to that used in plastic cups. All containers are dishwasher-safe and will be sanitized after each use.

"The way it's set up is you give a student a container for free, and they take it with them, use it, bring it back, and we give them a fresh [one]," George Strachan, director of Aramark, said. "They can go through the dishwashing machine to make sure they're sanitary and stuff before you give them out again."

The containers are said to last up to a year, and Strachan said this will help Harding do its part in conserving Styrofoam, which is not biodegradable.

"It's both for Harding and for Aramark, to help with sustainability and Humanity's group," Strachan said. "We do our part in helping and conserving especially Styrofoam."

Strachan said Aramark plans to track the use of the containers by having students write down their identification numbers and possibly eventually by using a scanning machine. By tracking how

many students are using the containers, Aramark will be able to track how much of a difference the containers are making on Harding's campus.

"We'll be able to track how much less we're using Styrofoam containers," Strachan said. "That's our key focus — hopefully seeing a reduction in Styrofoam containers."

While Strachan said Aramark is looking at options to replace the to-go cups and silverware with greener options, for now the only change will be the to-go containers. Until logistics are further worked out, Strachan said Aramark is not completely doing away with the Styrofoam containers.

"It's new, and we're still not sure of the logistics of people bringing it back or forgetting," Strachan said. "Hopefully once they get used to the new idea, they'll try to remember it and take it back and get a new one."

Green Thread was tried at five campuses last year, including Baylor University in Texas, University of Florida, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Peace College in North Carolina and Salem College in North Carolina. At Baylor University alone, usage of disposable containers was reduced by 40 percent.

Strachan said Aramark



photo by **NICK MICHAEL** | The Bison
Director of Aramark George Strachan displays the new eco-friendly Green Thread to-go containers. The containers are reusable and dishwasher safe, and they were brought in as part of Aramark's green initiative in an attempt to cut down the use of Styrofoam, which is not biodegradable. The program begins Nov. 4.

plans to release the containers at a kickoff in the cafeteria Wednesday.

"[It's a] little special deal in the cafeteria to promote

and get the word out," Strachan said. "We're not totally eliminating the Styrofoam yet. Eventually we'll reduce it as much as we can."

Clubs banned at Cone Chapel

by **JESSICA ARDREY**
student writer

College Church of Christ, LazerCade, Camp Wyldewood and Cone Chapel are all favorite spots for social clubs to hold functions. But one of these will not be anymore.

The administration has decided that Cone Chapel will no longer be available for the use of social clubs for functions.

"There were some instances that took place that we just can't let happen up there," Administrative Assistant Claudette Bratcher said. "And I just hate it because I love for the students to use it ... but some things just got out of hand."

Evidently, the state in which Cone Chapel was left after particular functions was unacceptable, so the university made the decision to pull the plug.

However, clubs will be allowed to use the room for formals and banquets in connection with Aramark

Classic Fare Catering, settings that are much more easily controlled.

Cone Chapel is still in constant demand, especially for weddings. Department dinners and various meetings also take place in the room, but they often must be scheduled around the weddings.

Couples scramble for the room, taking on any obstacles to use it. Bratcher recently booked Cone Chapel for a Sunday wedding, despite the fact that there can be no rehearsal (because of another wedding scheduled for the day before) and that they can't get in to decorate until 1 o'clock that afternoon.

Although Cone Chapel almost always has a full schedule, the absence of social clubs will leave a bit more extra space on the calendar; until formal season, that is. Until then, pack up your club mates and head over to LazerCade. Those function shirts will look better anyway.

HU authors share talent

by **JORDAN BAILEY**
copy editor

Fourteen published authors who are alumni or current students of Harding are returning to campus to sell and sign books during Homecoming Saturday, Oct. 31. This event will take place in the student center from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The book-signing event is in its second year, but this year the event has been moved from the GAC to the Student Center. The genres of books range from biographies to mysteries to nonfiction books about education.

"We try to kind of mix it up, so there's all different kinds of books that are available, so it's not that we just have all fiction books or all nonfiction books," Circulation Librarian Jean Waldrop said.

Waldrop said because the event is still new, there has not been a chance to compile a comprehensive list of Harding authors, but she hopes to complete such a list in the spring.

Several notable authors included in the signing are Christine Lynxwiler, Dr. Cheri Yecke, and students Pete Davidson and Sarah Kyle.

Author and alumnus Tamara Alexander, recipient of the 2009 Christy Award for Best Historical Romance, will sign copies of her novels inside the Harding University Bookstore beginning at 11 a.m. Saturday. Alexander also conducted a discussion and signed books at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 29, in the Heritage Auditorium.

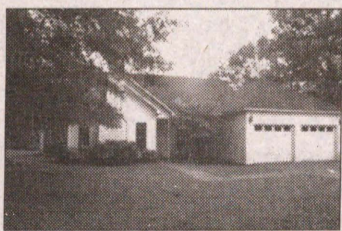
"As a librarian, I just think books are important, and I think it's neat that we have an opportunity to share what the alumni have done and to see some of their accomplishments," Waldrop said. "I know it encourages me to see what some of my classmates from way back when have done, and so hopefully, even as students, it will be an encouragement for you guys to publish in the future."

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Homecoming Schedule

Friday
Noon-12:50
Open Chorus Rehearsal
1 p.m.-4 p.m.
Harding History House
4:15
Good News Singers
5:30
Black and Gold
Banquet
8 p.m.
"Scrooge"
10:45
The Medders

Saturday
10 a.m.-1:45 p.m.
Inflatable Games and
Petting Zoo
10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Harding History House
11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Harding Authors Book
Signing
11 a.m.-11:45 a.m.
Pied Pipers
11 a.m.-1:45 p.m.
Family Picnic/Tailgate
2 p.m.
Harding Football

Post-Game
6-7:30 p.m.
Trunk or Treat
7 p.m.
Lacrosse Scrimmage
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Rainy day schedule. A complete schedule may be found at www.harding.edu

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Harding student expresses need for speed

Junior Jo Mosley wins national motorcycle competition at Road Atlanta

by **SAM HOLSCHBACH**
managing editor

Junior Jo Mosley prefers to live life in the fast lane — literally. As a competitive motorcycle racer, Mosley won his bike class at the Grand National Finals Oct. 10 to 11 in Atlanta, Ga.

"It was surreal," Mosley said of winning the race. "I can't really explain it, but it was one of the greatest feelings ever. I didn't expect to win heading to Atlanta, but when I put my helmet on, I knew I had to win."

Mosley won the Heavyweight Twins Superstock Expert race, which consists of 10 laps that take about 15 minutes to race. The class, Heavyweight Twins, is designed for bikes with unlimited engine displacement but only two cylinders. Mosley's bike, number 662, was "indexed into this class because it has three cylinders as opposed to the more traditional four-cylinder configuration," according to Mosley. Mid-race, Mosley discovered he was in the lead.

"I looked back and didn't see anyone behind me," Mosley said. "It was a big relief, but I couldn't really slow up because you never know who's making their way through the pack."

Mosley said most of his motorcycle races are concentrated in the South. He has competed at Road Atlanta, Barber Motorsports Park (Birmingham, Ala.),

Talladega Grand Prix (Anniston, Ala.) and Nashville Superspeedway (Murfreesboro, Tenn.). He has won other races but claims that winning the Grand National Finals ranks as his greatest victory.

"I've won some big races against some fast guys, but this is by far the biggest [win] for me," Mosley said. "My biggest races personally though are the really close ones, where I really have to fight myself, my bike and my competitors the hardest."

When training for races, Mosley does more than simply ride his motorcycle. Just like any other athlete, he strives to stay fit.

"I've learned most of the tracks I race at now, so my main task in between races is to stay in shape," Mosley said. "Being tired during a race can really affect lap times and even safety at those speeds. Being fit can really help keep your focus up where it needs to be at the end of a race, when it counts."

Mosley has driven his truck more than 10,000 miles within the past few months to and from race locations. However, he said racing does not interfere too much with his time at Harding, as he leaves Friday afternoon and races Saturday morning on race weekends. His dad and fiancée often accompany him.

"I could not do this without the help of my dad in the pits," Mosley said. "He changes my tires and helps make adjustments to

the suspension or gearing if it's needed."

Mosley's dad inspired him at an early age to pursue racing.

"He [Dad] stopped racing when I was about 4, so some of my earliest memories were watching him at the track," Mosley said.

Mosley started racing BMX bicycles at age 8, moved on to motocross racing at age 10 and started motorcycle racing at age 14. In his years of racing, Mosley has contended with many crashes and nine or 10 concussions. His worst accident occurred when he was at Daytona at age 16, when he had to pass a motorcycle going 160 mph. Though he was going only 90 mph, a motorcycle in front of him had an issue, causing Mosley to slam on his brakes.

"It was too late — I hit him and went over the front of him," Mosley said. "I was knocked out instantly and slid more than a football field. My left kneecap got ground down pretty far and is still pretty messed up. But other than that and a concussion, I was fine."

Whether through injuries or victories, Mosley said that though he's not part of a team, there's no way he could race alone.

"None of it would be possible without my dad, Michelin tires, GMD Computrack's support and the Big Guy Upstairs keeping me safe — most of the time," Mosley said.



photo courtesy of JO MOSLEY
Jo Mosley tightly hugs a curve while competing in a motorcycle race.

Answer to last issue's Sudoku and crossword

Y	A	M	S		A	V	I	S		E	D	A	M		
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8	4	7	9	3	2	1	5	6
9	5	2	7	6	1	8	3	4
4	8	6	3	1	5	2	7	9
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The Bison Crossword

Across

- 1 Sea eagles
- 5 Crash into
- 8 Journey
- 12 Debatable
- 13 Java canvas
- 14 Mayhem
- 16 Political second in command, at times
- 19 Bursts
- 20 Horse defect
- 22 Break out
- 25 Your (Fr.)
- 26 Surrealist Spanish painter
- 27 Have supper
- 28 Cover
- 29 Civet relative
- 30 Polluted precipitation
- 33 High rocky hill
- 34 Connected
- 35 Salzburg location
- 37 Brim
- 40 Flatboat
- 41 Sporting shoe
- 43 Egg-shaped
- 46 Genetic material
- 47 Always
- 48 Rave
- 49 Embrace
- 50 Lead off
- 51 Booked
- 53 Seal off
- 55 Responsibility words
- 60 Spoken
- 61 Moray
- 62 Redact
- 63 Yes votes
- 64 Action word

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					63					64					

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- 65 Turkey spice
- 18 Woodwind instrument
- 21 Outfit
- 22 Dutch cheese
- 23 Food grain
- 24 Building block
- 25 Changing a color
- 28 Fleur-de-
- 29 Gazelles
- 31 Uncommon
- 32 Diving bird
- 33 Finish line quandary
- 36 Music co. inits.
- 37 Volcanic rock
- 38 Roman road
- 39 Saucy
- 40 A slap on the back words
- 42 Teapots
- 43 Pay dirt
- 44 Letter-turner White
- 45 Afr. country
- 46 Washouts
- 49 Pays attention
- 50 Deli offering
- 52 Craft store item
- 53 Visionary
- 54 Golf aim
- 56 Body of water
- 57 Crete mountain
- 58 Lance
- 59 Fr. summer

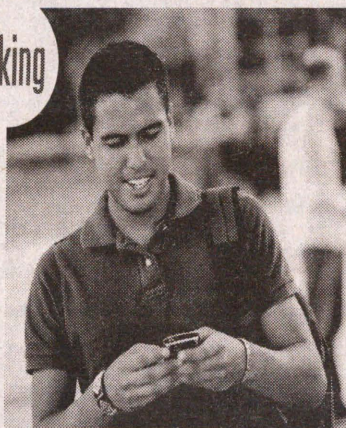
Down

- 1 Ostrich relative
- 2 Director Howard
- 3 Gesture of assent
- 4 Locomoted
- 5 Wood file
- 6 Fruit drinks
- 7 Raincoat, for short
- 8 Muscles
- 9 Grade
- 10 Boxer Holyfield
- 11 Altaic language
- 15 Periodic event
- 17 Decompose

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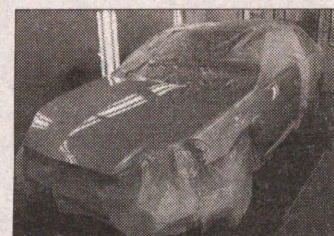


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You live green... why not drive green?

Child steps into spotlight Seven-year-old girl transforms into Tiny Tim for 'Scrooge'

by **KIM KOKERNOT**
features editor

Most little girls like to play dress-up. Silly hats, frilly dresses and oversized high heels are classic favorites, but not all girls are willing to cut off 8 inches of hair to achieve a new look.

Seven-year-old Emma Myhan did just that for her role as Tiny Tim in the Homecoming musical, "Scrooge," in which she dons short hair, brown trousers and a crutch to play the sick son of Bob Cratchit.

Though Emma originally hesitated about the possibility of cutting her blonde hair during the audition process, she embraced the idea after being named a title character in the musical.

"She was incredibly honored and didn't care that she had to lose her hair," Emma's mother, Rachel Myhan, said.

Cutting her hair was not the only change that she had to make: Emma had to learn to walk and act like a boy. She interviewed her friends about how to act and kept notes in a journal.

"She is a very girly girl," children's director Daisha Sheets said. "She would go home, and she would watch boys and mimic how they moved differently than her very girly little walk. She had the additional challenge of learning to walk on a crutch, along with first-time theater things. And she has done great with all of that."

Aside from memorizing lines and practicing her solo, "Beautiful Day," a new challenge developed Monday: an unexpected cold.

"In some ways it's OK because she's supposed to be sickly as Tiny Tim, but

it's really not OK if she can't sing her solo," Rachel said. "We just want her to be healthy so she can do her best. She's been on top of her game from the very beginning, and you don't want to drop the ball at the end of the game."

The cold has stirred her usually calm nerves as she tries to keep from coughing, but director Robin Miller said only her confidence and personality show through each performance.

"Emma's biggest strength is her charm," Miller said. "She's very charming and very engaging on stage."

Both Sheets and Rachel said that Emma's confident personality has helped her to be successful in the play, and though there have been challenges in the production, Miller said that Emma has "stepped up to the plate beautifully."

"She's quite dramatic with her words anyways, so it wasn't really that hard to get her to put emotion into them," Rachel said.

A natural performer, Emma began her singing career on her family's brick hearth at 18 months old, and she first asked her parents if she could try out for a play at age 4. When her grandparents, Jerry and Dianne Myhan, found out that children were needed for the "Scrooge" cast, Emma was given the chance to achieve a dream.

"When you spend that kind of time listening to your child sing day in and day out, and all of that time comes to fruition in something that they love to do, it's incredible," Rachel said. "You feel so joyous for them that they are able to do something that they



photo by **NOAH DARNELL** | The Bison
Seven-year-old Emma Myhan performs her solo, "Beautiful Day," for Wednesday's matinee show.

love."

Realizing that the final curtain will soon fall, Emma said she is sad that the play will end at the end of the week. But she hopes that

"Scrooge" is only the first of many plays in her future.

"Before I started acting, I wanted to be an art teacher," Emma said. "But now I want to be an actress."

'Law Abiding Citizen' impresses audience

by **BRYAN CLIFTON**
student writer

What do you do when a convicted criminal is behind bars, yet he is continuing to kill people from the inside? Not just kill them, but take them out in a systematic fashion that has an entire city on pins and needles? This is the premise of "Law Abiding Citizen."

The main character, Clyde Shelton (played by Gerard Butler), witnesses the brutal murder of his entire family. However, when not all of the killers are convicted in ways that satisfy Clyde, he decides to take the law system into his own hands and seek reconciliation for what has happened to him.

Justice is the bottom line of the movie. Clyde wants to make sure that justice is served to those who hurt him and took everything that he had in his life, that being his wife and young daughter. Clyde's experience with the legal system leaves him unsatisfied and starts him on a quest to seek revenge no matter what the cost. This quest is what makes the movie captivating.

Each man's view of justice

forces you to examine the true meaning of the word. One man sees it as the choice with the highest probability of indictment, but the other takes things into his own hands to deliver justice in full.

Most thriller movies have a plot that is fairly predictable after about 45 minutes. "Law Abiding Citizen" is far from the norm. Just when you think you have it figured out and know what is actually taking place, a twist comes in that turns the story upside down. These twists and turns throughout the plot line are the reason why you stay on the edge of your seat the entire time.

The unpredictable plot line and unexpected ending hit on the human nature and truly make the viewer think on what he or she would do if placed in the same situation. What action would you take, or would you do anything at all? This personal battle is what makes it relatable.

If you are debating about whether to see it or not, quit the debate and just go. It will be well worth your money and time. It may not be the best date movie, but I will leave that up to your own discretion.

Sudoku

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

Grad recalls life on campus in 1930s

by **KYLIE AKINS**
assistant news editor

Few are able to see their alma maters from their small beginnings to the flourishing future the founders of the institution could only envision.

Harding University came to Searcy, Ark., in 1934, and Dr. Joe Spaulding of the class of 1939 had the privilege of being in one of the first graduating classes on the new campus. Now, 70 years later, he is returning to Harding to celebrate his Diamond reunion anniversary as the first graduate to ever enter into this anniversary circle.

The Heritage Circle dinner is hosted annually during Homecoming to honor those who are celebrating their 50th reunion anniversary, whose members are included in the Golden Circle and upward, now including the 70th reunion Diamond Circle, which is in its first year to be represented.

"He's got a lot of history," Liz Howell, Director of Alumni and Parent Relations, said. "He got to see the early start of Harding and the dreams that people had for a Christian education, and then the ability to look at Harding today and see that probably none of them could have imagined what kind of place we have today. The facilities and the opportunities for young people are really outstanding."

Spaulding came to Harding in 1935 as a history major when tuition was barely \$400 a year. Holding hands was not allowed, and dress clothes were worn to class daily. Spaulding said he doesn't even remember a dress code

being printed.

"Back then, times were hard, and we didn't have much money," Spaulding said. "So we dressed pretty carefully and simply."

There was no problem with parking because there were only three or four cars on campus. On the weekends, it was normal for students to hitchhike to get to their destinations. Spaulding preached every weekend and would return on Monday, a class-free day created for the "preacher-boys," as Spaulding called himself, to have time to get back to school after preaching on Sunday.

Spaulding recalled his most cherished moments as a student and member of Sub-T 16.

"Daily chapel was my favorite," Spaulding said. "And Monday night meetings. Some of my favorite things I remember are Monday night meetings."

Some of the rules may have changed, but he said he considers Harding to have stayed committed to its purpose through the years.

"I had a great time," Spaulding said. "Those were the best years of my life. I'm proud of it. I'm glad to be a graduate of Harding."

He returned to Harding in 1957 to teach as a history professor for seven years. He then went on to teach at Abilene Christian University for 18 years until he retired in 1982. He now lives in Romance, Ark., with his wife, Donna, where he

continues his 74-year preaching career. He and his wife have two children, Joe Jr. and Francine, six grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Of the 16 surviving graduates of his class, he will be the only to attend the Heritage Circle dinner.

"We were real close," Spaulding said. "I would love to see them. But I realize that most of them are gone. And of course all of my teachers are gone, naturally. I loved all of them. I had a great feeling for all of them."

The dinner will be held on Thursday at Harding University, where Spaulding will be honored for entering into the Diamond Circle.



photo courtesy of 1938 Petit Jean
Dr. Joe Spaulding's sophomore portrait

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Harding Alumni Serving Harding Students

Two Ritchies, one stage for musical

by **BLAKE MATHEWS**
editor-in-chief

For senior Alex Ritchie, the Homecoming musical has become something of a full-time job. The hours are demanding, the work always follows him home, and his big performance review is scheduled for this weekend. Also, in Alex's case, every day is "Bring Your Dad to Work Day."

The Benson stage will feature two generations of the theatrical Ritchie family when "Scrooge" premieres this Homecoming weekend, with Alex playing the title character and his father Bob Ritchie supporting him as the ghostly Jacob Marley.

Bob Ritchie teaches broadcast journalism at Harding, but his roots are in technical theater. As a Harding student, the bulk of his experience with Homecoming musicals came from behind, below or high above the actual stage. After graduation he worked as the Benson's director of technical services for five years, and as a mass communication professor, he has continued to advise and assist technical crews for big productions.

But Bob knows how to be in the spotlight as well as he knows where to point one. As a junior in 1983 he was selected to play Tevye, the lead role in the musical "Fiddler on the Roof." Bob said

he had only played one small part in a Harding production before becoming a leading man. Ten years later, with Bob returning to Harding as a graduate student and "Fiddler on the Roof" returning to the Benson stage, he auditioned and landed the part of Tevye once again.

For the 1993 performance, Bob's family was in attendance, including his young son Alex.

"I guess I really didn't put it together then," Alex said. "I just went over to the Benson and there was my dad, but he was dressed differently."

Alex said the memory of watching his father perform that day is dear to him, but it was not responsible for his entry into theater. Rather, he was guided by his family's long-held passion for music, pressure from his friends and his mother's collection of "Peanuts" comic strips. Alex broke into acting as a seventh grader when he starred in Harding Academy's presentation of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown."

The experience convinced him that theater was something worth pursuing. Alex studied the art of acting through classes and delved into the Broadway classics. He involved himself in productions whenever possible, whether he was in the audience, behind the scenes or taking the stage.

"It's just been this crescendo of theatrical experience since the seventh grade," Alex said.

Now he finds himself in the shoes his father wore 16 years ago: a Ritchie with a leading role in the Homecoming musical. Bob said he initially had planned to leave this production to his son; his own schedule was too full for rehearsals, and he wanted to

watch his senior son perform from the audience for a change.

"My wife and son conspired against me," Bob said in explaining how he came to change his mind. "They said 'oh, well, you're not going to get another chance, so you better do it.'"

Director Robin Miller said he gave Bob the part of Jacob Marley because of his history as a lead actor, but also to take advantage of the natural chemistry between father and son.

While rehearsing a scene between Scrooge and Marley, Miller once pulled Bob aside and quietly gave him some additional motivation.

"Here is somebody that you need to reach with an incredibly important message," Miller said. "What are you willing to do to get through? Do it."

Alex said he could not hear what Miller said, but he definitely felt the results on the next run.

"This ghost that is supposed to be an imposing figure over Scrooge became my dad being an imposing figure over me in my mind," he said. "Just for the briefest moment, I was really terrified!"

Bob said that scene was the only instance where he "uncorked" his paternal instincts around Alex.

"I really haven't had it in my mind that he's my son. More like another actor," Bob said. "But when I leave the stage and I look back on stage, he is instantly my son."

As for Alex, having his father around does not add any pressure or affect his behavior, he said. The theatrical success his father

achieved was under different circumstances and through a very different play, so comparing one Ritchie to another is ultimately meaningless. In fact, Bob said, Alex has never been driven to compete with his father over their shared interest.

"Alex has always gone his own way, and we've always tried to give him the freedom to do that," he said. "It's kind of ironic that he's ended up in musical and theatrical pursuits anyway."

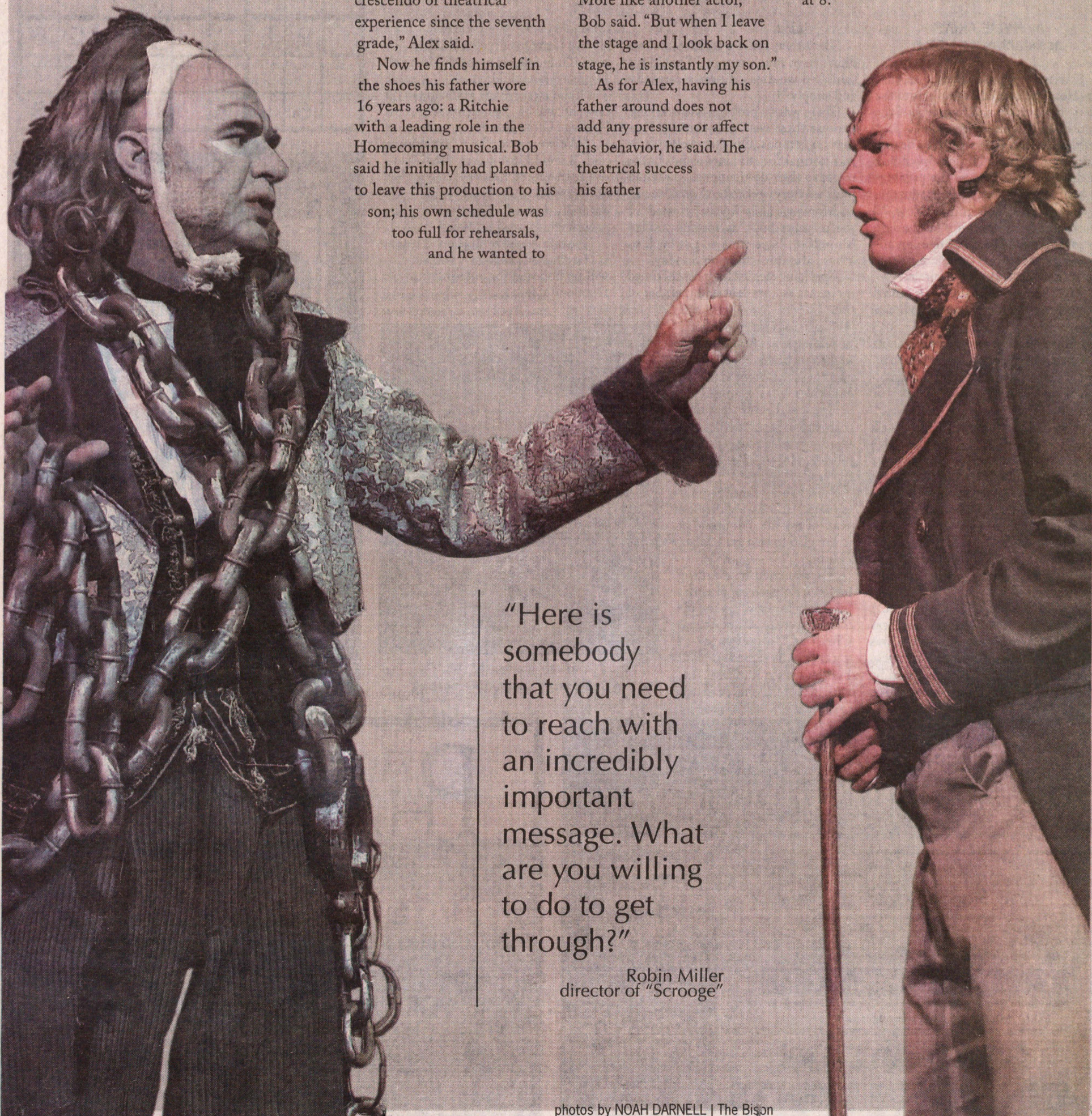
It might be a long time before two generations of Ritchies take the same stage again, but Alex said he plans to pass the appreciation of theater onto his own children someday.

"Learning to delve into the mind of someone other than yourself is very healthy," he said. "It's good for maturity, it's good for stretching your mind and opening your eyes to other people's lives."

Bob said he sees those qualities in his son now, and he could not be more proud of what Alex has accomplished since his days as Charlie Brown. When asked if he thought the son had finally surpassed the father, he simply laughed.

"Alex has surpassed me in his theatrical and musical abilities. He already knows it," Bob said. "He may not tell me, but he knows it."

"Scrooge" will be showing Friday and Saturday night at 8.



"Here is somebody that you need to reach with an incredibly important message. What are you willing to do to get through?"

Robin Miller
director of "Scrooge"