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HARDING
UNIVERSITY

September 6, 2013
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"I don't want anybody but the best watching out for Harding students." -Jeffrey Hopper

BRUCE TULLY IS WATCHING OUT FOR HARDING

Marine, Secret Service agent, Department of Diplomatic Security agent, head of D.C. security and now: **direct consultant for HU**

by Alexis Hosticka
 news editor

With seven international campuses and nearly 50 percent of students studying abroad at some point in their Harding career, international safety and security are vital to the success of these programs.

Dean of International Programs Jeffrey Hopper said he focuses about half of his time working to maintain the safety and security of international programs.

"I would say we work toward achieving with all students the very thing that applies no matter where you are, no matter when it is, and that's to be aware of your surroundings," Hopper said. "It's one of the most important things you can do whether you're in the military serving in a war zone or walking across campus in broad daylight

or walking across campus in the dark. You need to be aware of who's around you and what the environment is like."

Harding also works with Bruce Tully as a direct consultant to keep up to date with the safety of every international program in their exact location on a daily basis.

"Bruce Tully has been a state trooper, he's been a Marine, he's been a Secret Service agent protecting the president, he's been in the department of diplomatic security protecting secretaries of state, he was the agent in charge of security for Washington, D.C., for 12 years and now he's watching out for Harding," Hopper said.

After working with countless professionals and being a part of the safety and security industry for more than 40 years, Tully said Harding's international



GRAPHIC BY JEWELIA WILLIAMS | THE BISON

"I believe with Dr. Hopper's outreach to myself and my services and experience, which is worldwide and very vast ... that the programs that (Harding) has developed rank among the very top tier of universities."

-Bruce Tully, direct consultant

programs are some of the safest run by any school in the U.S.

Tully said that a surprising amount of colleges and universities have no sort of

security or safety program for the students and "let them get on an airplane and go study somewhere." Harding, however, is very different.

"I believe with Dr. Hopper's outreach to myself and my services and experience, which is worldwide and very vast, I believe that the programs that (Harding) has developed rank among the very top tier of universities," Tully said.

Tully's work for Harding has included professional U.S. embassy-style evaluations of the facilities where Harding students live while in Florence and Greece, and this fall he will be at the England campus to complete the same type of evaluation.

These evaluations make sure that the facilities are up to standards for safety, security and environmental situations. Tully looked at

all possible aspects of safety including threats, crime, burglar proofing, fire safety and even outdoor lighting.

In 2012, at the Villa where students stay in Florence, for example, Tully completed this inspection and found that the third floor bedrooms all had iron bars which did not open over the windows.

"(Tully) demanded that we ... fix those so that they will open outward and you can unlock them from the inside and open outward for escape," Hopper said. "That demand that he placed on me was especially significant because we had a fire at the Villa two years ago. The Villa was not occupied at the time, but if it had been, we well could have lost some students because we had not yet fixed the windows."

SEE TULLY, PAGE 2A

Situation in Syria leads to confusion among nations

by Michael Birchmore
 beat reporter

American intelligence recently reported the use of chemical weapons in Syria by President Bashar al-Assad. On Aug. 26, Secretary of State John Kerry called it "inexcusable" and "undeniable." Shortly thereafter, President Barack Obama prompted a national conversation regarding possible American military intervention.

Lawmakers on both sides of the aisle insisted that the president should seek congressional approval before taking military action. Rep. Kurt Schrader, D-Ore., said on Aug. 28: "Any commitment made by President Obama to use U.S. military force against the Syrian government first requires congressional authorization."

Supporters of Obama's unilateral military philosophy defended his ability to constitutionally involve the U.S. military with Syrian affairs by citing the War Powers Act. The War Powers Act allows the president, the commander-in-chief, to take limited military action without congressional approval if there is a threat to American security or a national interest in doing so.

A recent NBC poll shows that 80 percent of Americans want congressional approval on military action in Syria.

As reported by The Times of Israel, Iranian Chief of Staff General Hassan Firouzabadi warned that any U.S. intervention would trigger an immediate attack on the state of Israel.

In addition, the United Kingdom, once supportive of intervention, has since withdrawn support. According

to U.K. newspaper The Independent, British Parliament voted on military action and decided not to intervene, despite British prime minister David Cameron's support of military action.

Since, Obama has declared that he will in fact seek congressional approval before striking in Syria.

A state-owned Syrian newspaper, alleged that citizens in Syria are angry the U.S. has decided not to act immediately.

Presently, the legislative branch on Capitol Hill is engaging in debate over proper courses of action. On Wednesday, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee passed a resolution in favor of military action, including U.S. boots on Syrian soil that will allow for a vote from the full senate on Monday, the Daily Beast reported.

At Harding, some students are frustrated with the way the situation is being handled.

"I believe it was irresponsible for Obama to give an ultimatum in regard to chemical weapons because now he must follow through for credibility's sake," said Chloe Maxwell, a junior political science major.

Others are skeptical of any good resulting from a U.S. attack. Patrick Meredith, a senior, said: "Unless we are going to go in there and get rid of Assad then we need to stay out."

In the near future, Congress will continue to examine the situation and debate over the best course of action.

All information in this article was current at time of print. For updated information, check thelink.harding.edu.

Practicing 'Pirates'



GRANT SCHOL | THE BISON

Acting as pirates, freshman Dallas Herrmann and sophomore Caleb Gilmore pantomime peeping through a telescope during a "Pirates!?! A Pillaging of Gilbert and Sullivan" practice on Sunday, Sept. 1. The show premieres as a part of Homecoming week.

McLarty Q&A, continued

by Lyndsey Ruble Nuckols
 editor-in-chief

QUICK Q's

Q: What is your most embarrassing moment?

A: Mispronouncing Dr. Burks' father's name Basil at Dr. Burks' mother's funeral.

Q: What is your proudest moment?

A: Family blessing dinners for each of our daughters.

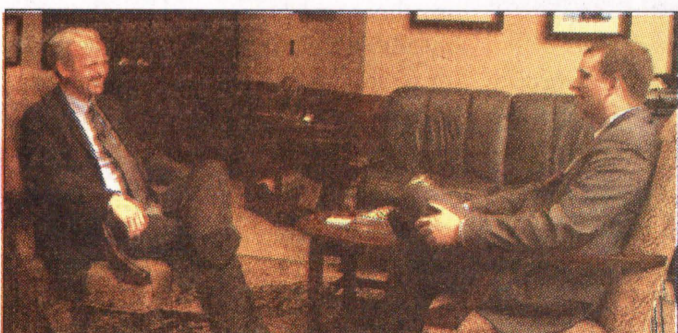
Q: What is the most rewarding part of your job?

A: I like people and getting to be with people, especially with students in this time in their life and all is just fun. ... To an old geezer sitting on this side of things, it's thrilling. I can't believe the possibilities that are out there. I do remember well enough that that is terrifying, but it is thrilling too. ... It's all out in front of y'all and I get to be a part of that. People actually care what I have to say about some of those things as they are working their way through those challenges.

Q: What's your main goal for this year as well as your main goal for the presidency?

A: To be thoroughly Christian as a school, to be academically excellent and to be affordable to everybody. ... When I look down the road, there is not a program in the horizon that is going to define me. It is much more a continued mission that will define me. Now, are there new and exciting ways to engage that mission? Yes, there are, but at the core of my presidency is what I call the core mission, which is that we are, at our core, a Christian university.

Check out the full Q&A online: thelink.harding.edu



EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

A look inside the life of the new president.

thelink.harding.edu

LESSONS FROM CHARLIE BROWN

We could all benefit from being a little more like Old Chuck. Learn how.

OPINIONS, 3A

HARDING'S FIRST LADY

A look at Ann McLarty: the woman behind the man.

FEATURES, 3B



Remembering 9/11 victims, heroes

by Henry Gonzalez
asst. photographer

With the cooperation of volunteers, the Harding campus will display 2,977 flags symbolizing each one of the casualties on Sept. 11 as well as hosting a special chapel on the anniversary of the attack.

"For our students, it is probably one of the most memorable historic events in their lifetimes because of the terrorist attack on U.S. soil," said Liz Howell, assistant to the president for alumni and parent relations. "Everyone usually remembers exactly where they were when they heard the news and how they tried to explain what had happened that day."

The impact of the 9/11 attacks impacted the Harding community as Judy Hart, an Aramark employee, lost her cousin on Sept. 11.

"One of the most important things we need to remember is that it was an attack against the

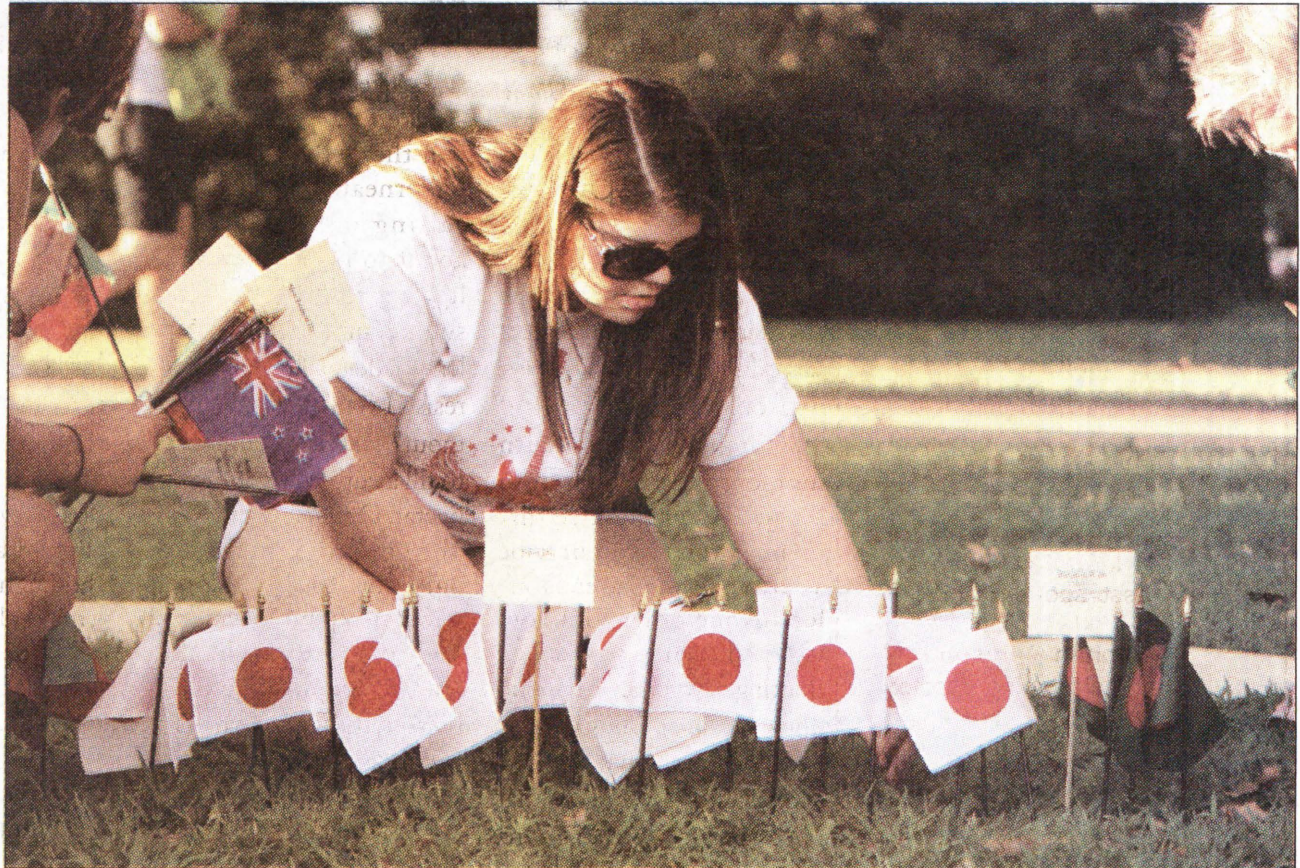
entire international community, not only against the United States," Mark Elrod, professor of political science, said.

Starting on Sept. 9, the American Studies Institute and Pi Sigma Alpha are planning to install flags on Harding's front lawn. It is an activity that has taken place on campus since 2002.

Honoring the people from other countries who also died during the attacks, Pi Sigma Alpha will be displaying the flag of each country that suffered casualties. On Wednesday, professors from the department of communications will be in charge of chapel and will discuss the topic "never forget."

According to Bob Reely, associate executive director of the ASI, lights are going to be installed on the front lawn to illuminate the flags as part of the improvements to honor the victims.

"It was a tragic day, a tragic event for so many people and we want to try



Senior Laneigh Pfalser helps set up the flags for last year's 9/11 ceremonies. This year students will be putting up flags on the front lawn again and adding lights to illuminate the flags at night.

HILLARY MILLER | BISON ARCHIVES

(to) make it as personal as possible to try (to) not let it distance ourselves from the actual events," said Jonathan Crews, president of the American Students Institute.

Elrod said he believes in the importance of having this event and the remembrance of a day that changed the United States. According to Elrod, it is even more important to remember that

out of this tragic event, the strong foundation of unity within the American people was expressed.

"This is kind of the Pearl Harbor of our generation," Elrod said. "You know, it's a

tragic event that happened that we need to remember, those who suffered and died, and help teach us how to be better Americans as a whole. That is something we don't want to forget."



ASHEL PARSONS | BISON ARCHIVES

2013 graduate Annalyse Faulk (left) and senior Sarah McMichael play with puppies as part of a Relay for Life fundraiser activity last year on Oct. 12.

Prepping for Relay for Life

by Rachel Weiss
class writer

Harding's annual Relay for Life is fast approaching and preparation is well underway to make this year's fundraising event even bigger than previous years.

Executive director of Relay junior Veronica Rodriguez and co-director junior Matthew Woodson said the committee has doubled their team goals and almost tripled their fundraising goal from last year.

"Our team goal is 35 teams and our fundraising goal is \$25,000 overall," Woodson said. "If we meet our fundraising goal we will be the top collegiate Relay for Life program in the state of Arkansas."

Rodriguez is confident in Relay's abilities. "We're very capable of doing it," Rodriguez said. "We're already on a roll sponsorship-wise and with getting teams involved."

Relay for Life, an organized, overnight fundraising walk for the American Cancer Society, raises money for cancer research and is an opportunity for people across the globe to honor cancer survivors and fight for every birthday threatened by cancer.

At Harding, Relay for Life is a 12-hour event hosted on the front lawn and allows the clubs on campus and the community of Searcy to come together for games, bands, food and a variety of other entertainment. Lisa Bryant, assistant professor of education and the faculty adviser for the Harding Relay for Life Committee, said she fights back in memory of her mother.

"I started 'relaying' after my mom died of cancer," Bryant said. "One of the American Cancer Society slogans is 'celebrate, remember, and fight back.' This is my way to honor my mom and fight back for her."

One of the many events that makes Relay for Life special is the Survivors' Lap that kicks off the night. Survivors of cancer and their caregivers are invited to take the first lap around the track, celebrating their life and their victory.

Woodson, whose grandfather is a five-time survivor of cancer and been involved in Relay for Life events for as long as he can remember, has always walked as a caregiver.

"The most chilling thing is when you see all the survivors walking together," Woodson said. "Everyone

else lines up around the track and just claps for them the whole time. It just brings you to tears."

Another special event is the luminaria ceremony that takes place after dark, when paper bags are filled with sand and a candle is placed inside. They are decorated in memory or in honor of a friend or loved one affected by cancer, and then they are placed around the track and lit.

"I'm really looking forward to the committee being able to see this," Rodriguez said. "A lot of the committee members have never done Relay for Life before. I'm looking forward to them seeing how much Relay means to the people we're trying to help."

The event will be Oct. 11-12 starting at 5 p.m. Friday and ending at 5 a.m. Saturday. Signups are still going on at relayforlife.org and people can register with a team or as an individual.

"I'm always impressed with how hard the students at Harding work," Bryant said. "I think it's very possible to do reach our goals and make Harding's college relay the biggest in the mid-south. It's a reflection of the commitment of the clubs and volunteers here."

TULLY, continued from 1A

Another safety measure that Harding implemented last year was to hire a security force of armed guards to patrol the 3,000-acre mission where students who study abroad in Zambia live. This addition has helped stop petty theft, which Hopper said is a "very common crime committed against students while they're overseas."

Hopper and Tully both said that when students are aware of their surroundings it dramatically reduces safety problems.

"People are vulnerable when they think 'it won't happen to me,' and all of that I wrap up in situational awareness," Tully said. "It is always consciously knowing where you are, what's going on around you, and if something happens, what you can do to protect yourself. Whether that be in London or Greece or Searcy, Ark., instead of just walking around with your head in your iPhone you should be looking around to see what's going on around (you)."

While students are overseas, Hopper said that communication among the university's security consultants, the U.S. Department of State, Harding's department of public safety and parents is important.

"When our students are in an area that might be perceived to be of elevated risk, but we believe it's not elevated risk, such as when HUG visits Israel, the director emails the families every day and in addition he files phone reports with me every day letting me know that everything is well," Hopper said.

Hopper said he treats the students studying abroad as if they were his children. Tully called his relationship with Harding personal rather than business, and said that students and staff "are like family."

In one incident, Hopper had a parent call to ask if he would send his own daughter to a particular location, and he replied with "my daughter is there right now, so yes."

Nobody can be sure of being safe. Ever. But we do everything that we know to do to create a safe learning and travel experience.

- Jeff Hopper, dean of international programs

"I would not send any student someplace I wouldn't have sent my children when they were the same age," Hopper said.

Despite all these security and safety measures, Hopper did point out that Harding cannot guarantee anyone's safety.

Senior Anna Pentecost attended HUF during summer 2012 and said she did not

have to worry about her safety on the trip.

"I felt very prepared for my time abroad," Pentecost said. "The villa in Florence was extremely safe and I never once questioned my security. The staff did a great job preparing us for things that could go wrong not only in Italy, but all over Europe. This helped greatly in (independent) travel because I knew what to do and not to do to avoid situations I did not want to be in."

To Hopper's knowledge, there has never been a student physically harmed by another person at any overseas campus.

"I don't want to be portrayed as saying 'we keep them safe,'" Hopper said. "We can't. But we 'take all prudent measures to keep them safe.' We can't do all measures or we'd have to lock them in a bomb shelter. Nobody can be sure of being safe. Ever. But we do everything that we know to do to create a safe learning and travel experience. And that's the reason we have Bruce Tully: I don't want anybody but the best watching out for Harding students. He watches out for bad guys on our behalf."

The department of public safety on campus plays a role in international security.

"I have personally met with each individual international program director about site-specific security for their individual programs," Director of Public Safety Craig Russell said. "My assistant director, Kevin Davis, and I traveled to our HUF and HUG campuses in the fall of 2011 and conducted on-site security surveys and met with local police and fire officials."

According to Russell, Hopper, the international program administrator Janis Ragsdale and himself all receive reports twice a day from the U.S. State Department's Overseas Advisory Council, which provides information about potential security threats around the world. They compare these reports to all the locations where students are traveling to keep up with security every day.

Senior Lindsey Sloan attended Harding University in Australia in fall 2011. She said there were many differences in Asian security compared to the U.S. Despite these differences, she said she still felt safe.

"When going through an airport in Asia, it blew me away that I was able to wear my shoes, watch, rings and belt through a metal detector, and that it wasn't necessary to remove my computer from my bag," Sloan said. "Things like this definitely made me a little apprehensive to fly on an Asian airline. I didn't feel that we were taken anywhere that would have put our safety in jeopardy. I felt very prepared to know what steps to take in order to not put myself in a dangerous situation."



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At the Bison, it is our goal to serve the Harding University student body with integrity, truth and open ears. However, we believe that meeting that goal is a two-way street between our staff and the public it serves.

We pledge to keep our eyes and ears open to what our community has to say and hope that, in return, that community will be an interactive audience, sharing its stories with us. We also pledge to do the basics: report accurate and relevant information, check our facts, and share them in a professional, timely manner.

If you have any story ideas, questions, comments or concerns for the Bison staff, please e-mail Lyndsey Ruble Nuckols, the editor-in-chief, at lruble@harding.edu

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Learning From LEMONADE



aaron west
guest space

It is a hard life for a freshman. Being new anywhere calls for painful goodbyes, difficult transitions and memorable foot-in-mouth moments. As you learn to adjust, I can guarantee that there will most certainly be a surplus of the latter. Don't let anyone older fool you; we've all been in your shoes. Starting new somewhere is no one's cup of tea, but it's one of those things that we have to do in life. Please know that it only gets better from here. Most importantly, please acknowledge that awkwardness is a part of humanity — everyone suffers from it, though some are better at hiding it than others. I have a theory that at certain times in our lives — no matter how old we are — the "awkward years" of our adolescence can manifest themselves randomly and reappear. A good example of this would be something that happened in my very own freshman year experience.

It was dinner time, last September, and I — being my usual hungry self — decided to indulge in Chick-fil-A. I went to the student center

and picked up a freshly made chicken sandwich. I could feel the delicious warmth underneath the wrapping, calling my name. I was about to leave when I saw it, glowing like a beacon of sweet liquid sunshine: the lemonade machine. I couldn't resist. I walked over to it, my mouth watering, and started to fill a cup with the fragrant nectar. Only, it wasn't filling. The nozzle was only letting out a tiny trickle. The tank, however, was full of lemonade — I could see it right there. I wasn't about to give up. I pressed the cup down a little harder, and finally the drink started flowing regularly. All was well, or so I thought. When I went to remove the full cup, the lemonade didn't stop pouring out. Being afraid to call attention to disaster, I only managed to make a frightened gasp that a nearby employee picked up on. Immediately, she ran over to the counter and started yelling at her coworkers to get a bucket — and I mean she yelled loudly. Of course, by now, the crowded student center was watching the spectacle with glee. The lemonade just kept on flowing, filling up the drain-tray and covering the countertops; making a pale yellow waterfall to the floor, which started to puddle fast.

The full tank was now halfway empty. The employee had run over beside me, yelling and trying to stop the torrent to no avail. As she was fidgeting with the nozzle, the floodgates burst forth, and the whole thing popped off—leaving a hole in the tank for the rest of the liquid to make its escape. All in a few moments, she was soaked, the place was a disaster zone and I had quietly slipped away to check out, thoroughly embarrassed with a now cold sandwich in hand. I promise that I'm not proud of this moment of cowardice. Freshmen, if you ever find yourself in a similar situation — don't panic. The pain will only last for a few brief moments, hopefully. I encourage anyone reading this (freshman or not) to simply relax and embrace the awkward moments in life. It's actually quite fun to look back on them. You might as well appreciate not taking things too seriously while you're still working out the kinks of the school year — and once that's done, you're free to sit back and enjoy. Good luck, and remember: Think twice before you go to fill up on lemonade in the student center.

AARON WEST is a guest contributor for the Bison. He may be contacted at awest3@harding.edu.

YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN:

Life Lessons We Can Learn From Schulz' #1 Man



melissa hite
guest space

If you have talked to me for any length of time, you have probably been exposed to my love for the sweet old comic strip, "Peanuts." "Peanuts" coaxes my inner child out of its hiding place. From Linus' deep theological orations to Lucy's larger-than-life spunk to Snoopy's ongoing battle with the Red Baron, Charles Schulz captured thousands of hearts over the last 62 years — especially mine. Among this veritable pantheon of pint-sized heroes, though, not one has shown me how to live life better than Charlie Brown himself. So here you go: a few short reasons why everybody should be like that lovable round-headed kid.

He is an optimist. So Charlie Brown is a little gloom and doom sometimes. The bleakness of life gets to us all occasionally. But despite this outward pessimism, the man tries to kick that stupid football

of Lucy's every single year. How many times has he fallen flat on his back? All of them. Does that stop him? No. Fully aware of Lucy's devious tendencies, he always gives her the benefit of the doubt and always hopes for the best.

He is persistent. In the same vein, Charlie Brown fails at pretty much everything, not just kicking that elusive football. He cannot fly a kite, he cannot win a baseball game and he cannot even spell the word "beagle." (Please note that he owns a beagle.)

Such insurmountable failure would be enough to send even the best packing, but not our leading man. Even as he bemoans his own lack of skill, he goes right on trucking. Under that façade of self-deprecation, there was enough confidence to keep him going for the last 62 years.

He is true to himself. Despite his lack of valentines, Christmas cards and Halloween party invitations, our hero never goes out of his way to try to fit in. He is 100 percent himself all the time. When Lucy demands a shiny aluminum tree at Christmas time, he proudly comes back with

his pathetically lovable little evergreen — not for the sake of defying the norm, but because he thinks it is the right thing to do. That little tree needs him, and doggone it, he is going to take care of it. While he wants people to like him, he is only willing to gain everyone's approval for his real and honest self. If he is unpopular, it is only because he refuses to compromise.

If you're at Harding this year expressly to get a degree, I'm afraid you'll find that not much outside the classroom will benefit you at all. You might as well stick to the books. However, I hope we are all looking at a new year not just as one step closer to a career, but as a chance to become better, wiser people. That kind of thinking will let us learn not only from books, but from everyone and everything we come in contact with — whether it's our Bible professor, a roommate or a round-headed kid kicking a football.

Keep at it, Chuck. I'll be your little red-haired girl anytime.

MELISSA HITE is a guest contributor for the Bison. She may be contacted at mhite@harding.edu.



bethany aspey
Needless to say...

Laziness is a Scapegoat

I would like to take this time to address a situation that affects the entire student body and the surrounding area/rest of the world. You guessed it — Smurfs 2. It doesn't seem like this would be a universally applicable subject, but hear me out — it's affecting a greater portion of the population, and we've got to take action.

It all began last week.

After a long day of classes, projects, assignments, I was ready to just chill out in my apartment. Low and behold, my suitemate was waiting to ambush me with her most current rant as soon as I walked in the door. When you don't even have time to set down your keys before your suitemate starts in about flaws in an animated movie, you start to tune out/reevaluate your living situation. You wouldn't think someone could have an entire rant about the movie of Smurfs 2, but she had gone so far as to narrow her rant to just the preview. Essentially her complaint was that creativity in America is clearly digressing because screenwriters use the word "Smurf" for every line, every joke and every idea rather than coming up with any compelling dialogue. This all seemed a bit ridiculous and over the top at the time, but in retrospect, I see she has a valid concern.

How often are we lazy and uncreative and just insert the word "Smurf" instead of putting in a little extra effort to make something worthwhile?

It's a "taking the road less traveled" approach, to quote Robert Frost, or even more dear to my heart, Kid President. There are times I just want to take the easy way out, to do the minimum amount of work to get the grade or to be able to say that whatever I'm working on is finally finished. If you can relate to this, then I'm sure you will understand what I mean when I say "Smurf" is our scapegoat.

It may seem like a good idea at the time, but soon you realize its your senior year and all you have to show for it are sub-par projects and work that got the grade, but isn't worth showing to anyone besides your roommate or your mom.

Recently I was called out in class to give the definition of the word "craftsmanship." After turning slightly red and mumbling something about "got some skills" or some equally awful response — I looked it up. Craftsmanship literally means "one who practices a craft with great skill." I'm not talking about crafts as in glue guns and popsicle sticks — although I am talking about Smurfs, so that could be a better alternative — I just mean that whatever you do — make it matter.

Countless teachers have stressed over the years the importance of making yourself "irreplaceable" in your field. While job security is a benefit to this practice, there's something more valuable than a paycheck when you can take pride in your work and your skills.

It's a biblical principle, really. So in lieu of all the assignments, projects, tests and whatever else is required of you this semester, give it your best and learn to take pride in you work. It's going to be easy to slack off, and those who are making decent grades are in just as much danger.

So, do your best, strive for quality and don't make a Smurf out of yourself this semester.

BETHANY ASPEY is the opinions editor for the Bison. She may be contacted at baspey@harding.edu. Twitter: @bethanyaspey

BYLINE POLICY: The Bison provides an opportunity for class writers to contribute work under the byline "guest writers." Due to this arrangement, staff writers may edit or rewrite a portion of the guest writers' stories as they deem necessary, while still identifying the work as the guest writers' own.



lyndsey ruble nuckols

The Lightbulb

Meditate to Innovate

Calm down. I know you probably saw the word “meditate” in the column title and are flipping out. Let me assure you that I am neither a Buddhist nor a hippie. So, you are going to have to get rid of your preconceptions and associations with any form of the word “meditate” before we proceed. Would it help if I told you that employees of Google, Facebook and Twitter are using meditation as a tool for productivity and creativity in the workplace? Before you write this column off as hippie-dippie (or write me off as a whacko), ask yourself: In a “who has life figured out” battle between a Google exec and you, who wins? If we are being honest with ourselves, we all have something to learn.

A recent article in *Wired* magazine explored the meditation trend in Silicon Valley. One of the main studies cited in the article came out of Boston University. Researchers found that after as little as three and a half hours of meditation training, subjects reacted less to emotionally charged images. It appears that meditation actually can help rewire how the brain reacts to stressors. In a study from a January 2011 issue of “*Psychiatry Research: Neuroimaging*,” a team led by Massachusetts General Hospital researchers found that after eight weeks of daily 30-minute meditation sessions, subjects had increased activity in their hippocampuses, associated with memory and learning, increased activity in structures related to self-awareness, compassion and introspection, and decreased activity in the amygdala, associated with stress and anxiety. Additionally, a 2012 study from “*Frontiers in Psychology*” showed a connection between open-monitoring meditation (meditation without focus on any single thought or object) and divergent thinking (generating new thoughts and ideas).

Several options and variations of meditation exist. Meditation has different purposes for different people, so a lot of people just make up their own way to do things. Some of the eastern variations to achieve enlightenment seemed pretty weird to me, so I will share a predominantly western meditation method.

You may want to use meditation to calm your mind and relax a little bit, or you may want to use it to focus on a specific goal or action. I know several athletes who use focused meditation, often called visualization, to reflect on and mentally practice certain movements of their sport.

For the purpose of this column, though, I will describe a method of general open-monitoring meditation.

Lie down on your back in a comfy spot, such as a bed or a couch. This area should be free from potential distractions, such as cell phones, TVs or other people.

Close your eyes and put one hand on your diaphragm, focusing on slow, big breaths. It may help you to count to five as you inhale and exhale.

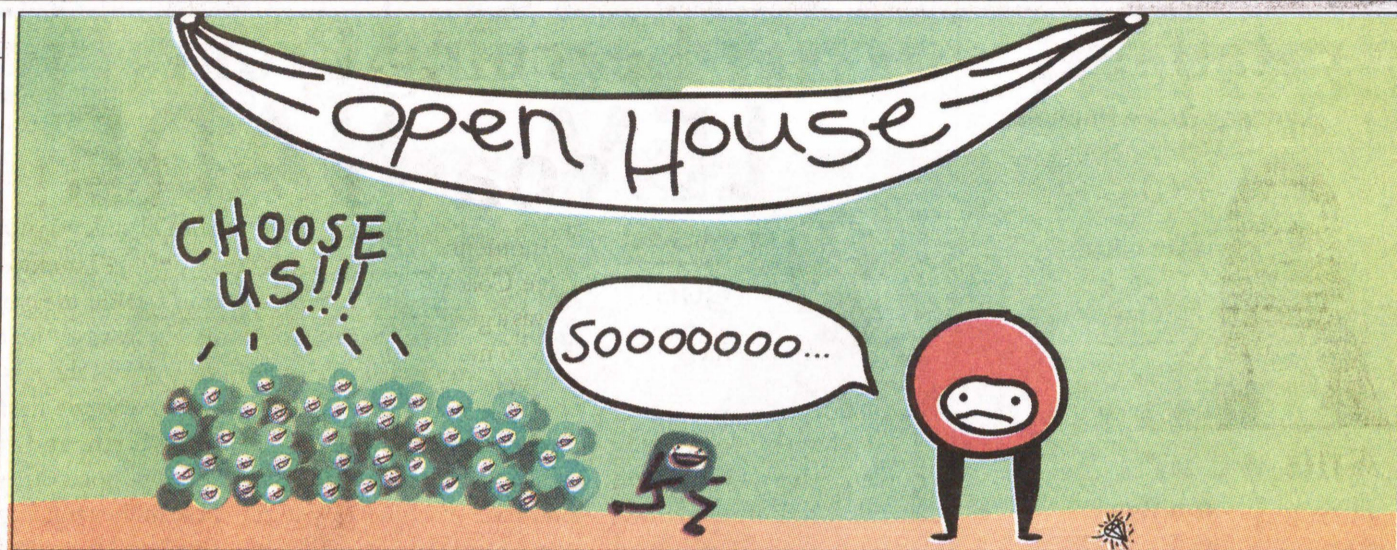
A lot of times, simply focusing on breathing for 10 or 20 minutes will produce the sort of relaxed state of mind we’re aiming for. If you would like other things to focus on, though, it might help to focus your breathing around a scene you can picture in your mind, perhaps of ocean tides rolling in and out, breeze blowing through trees, or dust floating in and out of a jar.

Focus on these things intently. You do not want your mind to wander or get distracted.

Usually, this whole process only lasts for 10 or 20 minutes. When you are finished, you will feel like you just woke up from a little nap.

You may feel a little strange about meditating at first, but with the observed benefits and potential gain it offers, I urge you to give it a shot.

LYNDESEY RUBLE NUCKOLS is the editor-in-chief for the Bison. She may be contacted at lruble@harding.edu. Twitter: @lnruble



A Blind Date with Poetry

ben whisenant

guest space



I once heard of a student who, when told his class was about to begin a section on poetry, quipped “I don’t like poetry because it’s like a joke that I don’t get.” I think his reaction would be similar to many people’s, and, honestly, it makes sense. A novice in basketball would not enjoy playing with LeBron; it’s no fun to perpetually lose. I am afraid that most students are only exposed to the poetry of dead white guys and their archaic forms and diction. Start with your layup (poetry written in contemporary English). Later, you can perfect your three-pointer (Shakespeare, Milton, Spenser).

Although poetry is a form of art and thus shares many qualities with other forms of artistic expression, it has several which make it uniquely pleasurable. Think of poetry as an espresso shot in the world of arts. Many poems, by both form and convention, are not overly lengthy and can be read in a single sitting, and, therefore, they specialize in packing a significant amount of energy in a small cup. For most of us, we do not have the time nor the ability to read a novel in an afternoon. However, we can easily

work through several potent poems in 30 minutes of reading, or even one or two in 10 minutes before class. We may not have the time to drink the venti coffee, but we can quickly take a shot of espresso.

Since poems are often constrained by their form to fit a certain number of syllables into a certain number of lines, each word must have a purpose. There are no meaningless words in a good poem; they follow your mom’s advice about tidying your room: “A place for everything and everything in its place.” This attention to detail provides several boons for the reader of poetry, and one of those is that poetry teaches your mind to pay attention.

How often do we go through a day giving no attention to the words we use and the way in which we use them? We live in a world of excess, and this frivolity can be seen in all spheres of life, including words. We use words as if they have no purpose; we use them as if they are a renewable resource. Poetry teaches us that words are like people: they matter both corporately and individually. Poetry holds out its hand at the crosswalk of life and lets the little words totter off to school as slowly and as deliberately as they desire. Poetry is precision, and we could all use a little more of that in our lives.

I would contend that reading poetry makes you more human. I understand that this sounds a bit dramatic at first, but stay with me. Poetry has the unique ability to awaken certain parts of your mind and spirit that other things do not.

If we have a holistic view of the human (if we disregard that Platonic dualism which floats around modern Christianity like so much pond scum), we will understand that the stimulation of these senses increases our capacity to be human. To be human is to create, and poetry fuels the creative engine of the mind: it fills up the gas tank of your soul. Poetry has the unique ability to stick with you, due in large part to it being written in forms that mimic the patterns of speech in our language.

On my drive back to Harding from Nashville, I always pass a little town named Augusta, and Seamus Heaney’s words rise to the top of my mind: “Call her Augusta/Because we arrived in August ... This month’s baled hay and blackberries and combines/Will spell Augusta’s bounty.” I have never been to Augusta, but I love that little town because it reminds me of Heaney’s sublime words. I wake up in the middle of the night, and T.S. Eliot’s words are on my lips “Here in death’s dream kingdom/The golden vision reappears.” I think this happens because I am a human being, not because I am an English major.

Words are the wild blood of life, and poetry is simply a way to arrange those words in an impactful form. So, take some advice from Billy Collins, and “waterski/ across the surface of a poem.”

BEN WHISENANT is a guest writer for the Bison. He may be contacted at bwhisena@harding.edu.

CLASSIC CLAX

A Soap Opera



michael claxton

A few weeks ago I listened to some of my friends talk about soap for what seemed a really, really long time. While I wouldn’t have expected soap to be so fertile a topic, it appears that this is yet another huge cultural phenomenon about which I am totally ignorant. It seems that today’s women, and possibly a few of today’s men, have gone crazy over soap. Specifically, the kind that comes from Bath & Body Works.

I suppose it would be more accurate to say “body wash products” than “soap” because there is, apparently, a big difference. Some of you may actually remember bars of soap, those rectangular chunks of lye that used to be sold in small cardboard boxes with names like Safeguard, Zest and Irish Spring. Commercials once claimed that “Safeguard is the smallest soap in the house” because every member of the family used it.

But now soap has changed along with everything else. No longer is there such a thing as a community bar of soap. Now, just as every member of family has his or her own car, television, cell phone and stock broker, every person in the family will also have his or her own soap. And it used to be that one

bar of soap would get every part of the body clean. How naive we were back then, and now heaven forbid you mess with those 48 bottles of Bath & Body Works products in a woman’s bathroom.

If you visit the Bath & Body Works store in the mall, you will immediately discover why Safeguard has gone the way of vinyl records, rotary-dial phones and small trucks. There are literally thousands of different soaps, lotions, creams, body scrubs, ointments, exfoliants, aromatherapies, moisturizers and other products available. Compared to the feel of “Green Clover and Aloe Body Lotion,” using Irish Spring is like bathing with a Brillo pad. And while a nice box of Zest will set you back about 75 cents, be prepared to fill out a credit application when you head to Bath & Body Works.

What makes this all so strange is that body wash is now considered a romantic gift for a wife or girlfriend. This cannot be right. It seems downright insulting. What a bottle of body scrub says to your beloved is, “Happy birthday, dear. You need a bath. Maybe some strongly scented soap will help.” It’s the equivalent of saying to a friend, “Would you like a mint?” (Translation: I just tripped over your breath).

I once really got in trouble in this regard. A few years ago my mother did my holiday shopping, and she got my sister-in-law a cosmetics gift set. On Christmas morning, when my sister-in-law opened her present

from me, the gift set contained a jar of “bust-firming cream.” Now that is not the kind of thing you want to give your sister-in-law. Or anybody, for that matter. I now do my own shopping.

And to make matters worse, these creams and soaps now come in about 800 different scents. Popular items this season include “Spicy Gingerbread Lip Gloss,” “Twisted Peppermint Lotion” and “Wickedly Hot Chocolate Body Scrub.” So let me get this straight — people are now using soap that smells like food. Stupid me; I always thought a person used soap to get rid of the smell of food. Now everything is backwards. In the past, a typical food-and-soap conversation might sound like this:

Guy One: “Aw, man . . . I just sat in potato salad.”

Guy Two: “Dude — you need a bath.”

But now, you are likely to overhear something like this:

Woman One: “Hey . . . you smell like potato salad.”

Woman Two: “I know. Isn’t it great? I just got out of the shower.”

Woman One: “Does it also come in a moisturizer?”

Every day this world gets a little more confusing. Calgon, please take me away. *Dr. Claxton is on sabbatical this semester. This column originally ran on Dec. 8, 2006.*

MICHAEL CLAXTON is a guest writer for the Bison. He may be contacted at mclaxto1@harding.edu.

Alex Ezell

110%



And we are down to 53

In the NFL, teams start training camp with a 90-man roster which drops to 75 and finally to 53. Last Saturday, Aug. 31, teams made cuts to finalize their 53-man roster for the 2013-2014 season.

If I am going to be honest with you, this is one area that I had little knowledge of until recently. There is a lot more that goes on behind the scenes and in the locker rooms of professional football than meets normal fans' eyes.

The Seattle Seahawks recently drafted Ty Powell, a 2013 Harding graduate. Powell played in three of four preseason games and had an impressive nine tackles, two of them being sacks.

The Seahawks released Powell on Aug. 31 when the team had to be cut down to 53. He was re-signed on Sept. 1 as a member of the Seahawks' practice squad. This means Powell will only get to practice with the team and hopefully continue to work his way up in the NFL ranks.

I was considering the circumstances surrounding the cuts and how stressful it can be for the players involved. Their careers are placed into the hands of coaches and owners in hopes they will be signed. If they are not, players are released and cross their fingers that another team will look their way.

Think about it: the players who were drafted before graduating college and are released have been hung out to dry while they wait for something else to come up. They could return to their respective schools to finish their degree, hope another team picks them up or choose another career path.

I think if I were in the player's shoes I would be a wreck, but it seems like every player keeps their cool in these high stress situations.

Basically, I am saying NFL players and prospects can be top notch. They are passionate about the sport they love and it shows through their play on the field and their attitudes off the field.

The cuts made for the 53-man active roster can be a time for the new kids to feel discouraged, but I think it gives the players the fire they need to really make something of themselves in the NFL.

ALEX EZELL is sports editor for the 2013-2014 Bison. She may be contacted at aezell@harding.edu Twitter: @AlexEzell

New head coach for tennis program

by Tin Nguyen
class writer

Marco Ruiz was hired to be the head coach of the men's and women's tennis teams by Harding Athletics Director Greg Harnden near the end of the spring 2013 semester.

"We knew Marco was ready to do a good job," said David Elliott, former head coach of the tennis teams for the past 39 seasons. "That made it easier for me to make the decision to retire, because I felt like (the program) was in great hands."

Ruiz, a native of Sao Paulo, Brazil, was four-time All-Gulf South Conference for Harding from 2007-2010. He had a 37-14 singles record and 36-27 doubles mark. Ruiz was a Harding graduate assistant beginning in 2010 until his appointment to head coach in 2013.

"I have always loved the Harding tennis team," Ruiz said. "I came to play for the team in '07 and I thought that the program was great. I had so much fun. I feel like I have learned so much here. I have improved as a tennis player and a person.

I just had great moments and memories here. Coach Elliott, of course, was a great mentor and coach to me."

Elliott has been preparing Ruiz for the position of head coach for the past three years. According to Elliott, during Ruiz's time as a graduate assistant, his responsibilities each year increased so that he would be ready to take over one day.

"I know it is going to be very challenging, but I feel like Coach Elliott has prepared me very well," Ruiz said. "He is the best mentor I could ask for. I am very excited. Harding is the place I want to be."

Along with the new coach, the Bison tennis team also added five new players to the men's side and four to the women's. Practices are underway as the team prepares for the upcoming season. The teams added two new tournaments to the fall schedule and are in the processes of adding more schools to compete against during the regular spring season.

According to Ruiz, this year's team has a deep reservoir of skills and talent which makes the overall team a



VIRGINIA "VIVI" VITALONE | THE BISON

New head tennis coach Marco Ruiz coaches freshman Lauren Doversola and talks to a parent during practice on Sept. 2.

good contender to take the conference title. The men's and women's tennis teams

first match this year will be at the Intercollegiate Tennis Association/United States

Tennis Association Regional Championships Sept. 20 in Springfield, Mo.

Galloway moves up to No. 1 right tackle position

by Shane Schock
beat reporter

Football is filled with uphill battles; whether it's fighting an injury, rehabbing from a surgery or clawing your way to the top of the depth chart.

In senior Mike Galloway's case, it was fighting his way to the top of the depth chart in 2013.

Galloway came to Harding in 2010, where he was a walk-on heading into his first camp as a Bison. He spent two years on the bench fighting to improve his status on the depth chart.

"It was a constant grind," Galloway said. "I had to maintain a positive mindset and continue pushing

forward in my progression as a football player."

Galloway said he had to go out to practice every day, compete to get better and hope that everything else would fall into place.

"It was hard at times, but I told myself not to give up," Galloway said. "I wanted to play college football and that was my goal."

Galloway said the progression toward becoming a better football player consisted of not only a mental aspect, but a physical one too.

"Over those two years I did my best to shape myself for this style of offense," Galloway said. "I came in overweight and too heavy to play in the triple option."



GRANT SCHOL | THE BISON
Junior Mike Galloway warms up during a run through practice on Sept. 3.

Offensive line coach Kevin Chism said he did not see much at first in Galloway, other than his hard-work mentality, but Chism said Galloway's progression in two short years was amazing.

"Mikey came in as a center, then guard, and now tackle," Chism said. "He is an invaluable piece to this offensive line."

Junior Bison lineman Michael Thompson said Galloway's improvement has been evident.

"He really came out of nowhere," Thompson said. "He is a hard working kid and what he turned into is an animal."

Thompson said Galloway is the most improved player he has witnessed go through Harding's program and is impressed with how far he has come since freshman year. Heading into the summer of 2012, Galloway earned a scholarship for his on-the-field development in spring training earlier that year.

Last season, Galloway was No. 2 on the depth chart behind senior LJ Tarrant, before an injury promoted Galloway to the No. 1 spot for the rest of the season.

"I think the biggest benefit of seeing playing time last year was the in-game experience," Galloway said. "I was able to get a feel for the speed and intensity it takes to run this offense."

From a doubted walk-on to a valuable piece of the offense, Galloway will start as the No. 1 right tackle for the 2013 football season.

THIS WEEK IN SPORTS

- 9/7: Women's volleyball tournament in San Bernardino, Calif.
- 9/8: Women's soccer vs Northeastern State University at home
- 9/9: Men's golf at GAC Preview hosted by Southern Nazarene University
- 9/10: Women's volleyball at Union University
- Men's golf at GAC Preview hosted by Southern Nazarene University
- Men's soccer vs. Lyon College at home
- 9/13: Women's volleyball tournament in Florence, Ala.
- Women's soccer at Texas A&M University-Commerce
- 9/14: Men's soccer vs. Texas Wesleyan University at home
- Women's volleyball in Florence, Ala.
- Football vs. Northwestern Oklahoma State University at home
- Men's and women's cross country at West Florida Invite

Sports in brief

Men's Golf Women's Golf

The Harding men's golf team has just completed their qualifying rounds for the GAC preview tournament hosted by Southern Nazarene University in Bethany, Okla., Sept. 9-10. They have also set their travel team for this season.

Every member of the team is returning from last season.

The Harding women's golf team will debut this season at the Northeastern State University Classic in Tulsa, Okla., Sept. 16-17. After completing their qualifying rounds the team is prepared and excited for their first tournament of the fall.

The Lady Bisons tied for fifth at the end of last season.



GRANT SCHOL | THE BISON
Senior Matt Calhoun scores during a game last season against Maryville University on Feb. 9.

Matt Calhoun receives summer league honors, Player of the Year

by **Charlie Briggs**
class writer

by **Alex Ezell**
sports editor

Searcy native Matt Calhoun spent his summer playing in a wood-bat league for the Slippery Rock Sliders in Slippery Rock, Penn. Calhoun has played the past three summers and this was his final year to compete in the league.

"I wanted to get better for my senior year of school ball," Calhoun said. "I wanted to stay in shape and get more reps for my final season as a Bison."

Calhoun was recently named the unanimous

winner of the Mike Schmidt Player of the Year Award in the Prospect League. Calhoun also received Year End All Star first baseman. He was one of several players selected for the honor. His competition included Division I athletes from across the country.

"Most of the league had guys coming out of junior college and Division 1 schools in Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia and Pennsylvania, also including players from the Dominican Republic and Cuba," Calhoun said. "My roommates were from the University of Kentucky and Virginia Commonwealth. So I loved all the competition from all over."

Calhoun played in 49 games for the Sliders this summer, hitting .358 with seven home runs and 58 RBIs. He scored 28 runs and had 18 extra-base hits. Calhoun was second in the league in batting average, fifth in hits (62) and third in home runs.

"It was a very humbling summer," Calhoun said. "Winning the home run derby and starting in the all-star game in front of my family was really awesome. It was quite an honor that the coaches and players thought I was the best on our side to start in the all-star game."

According to junior Shane Kinnear, Calhoun is a clutch player for the

Bisons and a team leader on and off the field.

"Matt is an offensive leader on our team," Kinnear said. "He's a guy we want up to bat when the game is on the line. The numbers and accolades he got this summer really do not surprise me at all."

In his three-year Harding career, Calhoun has a .276 batting average with 10 home runs and 72 RBIs in 129 games. He is the Bisons career leader in fielding percentage (.990).

Calhoun is the starting first baseman for the Bisons this upcoming season. His experience this summer will help him to improve the skills he already has for his final season at Harding.

Sweet tea, sportsmanship and football

Lucas Horn



guest space

As a guy who has played sports all my life, I definitely understand the importance of winning. It is a big deal. It does not matter if it is a balloon toss or a state championship, winning is important.

It is almost impossible to watch 30 minutes of ESPN without seeing Johnny Manziel's face plastered all over the big HD screen. I will be honest and say it was hard not to like him when he was beating up on the devil's team of Alabama, but after a summer documented with Instagram photos full of \$100 bills, alcohol and LeBron James, it is hard to smile when you hear his name. He now appears to be the leading poster boy for arrogance. I cannot help but imagine

the days of the 50s and 60s when people enjoyed life and sportsmanship and everyone drank sweet tea. It seems that as scarce as sweet tea is, sportsmanship, honor and kindness are even harder to find.

While I would love to claim that sweet tea is the link connecting the two, I have a pretty good feeling that greed and selfishness is a much more probable answer. Why would Texas A&M bench their Heisman Trophy winner who ups their odds of winning by more than a little bit? The coaches and administrators at Texas A&M obviously benefit from the success of the football team whether monetarily or by new coverage and popularity. It is an easy choice to play the Heisman winner despite his rather horrific antics on and off field.

The notion of winning in today's society is more important than loyalty, honor or friendship. Coaches and players must do everything in their

power to generate more income or get a bigger paycheck. As much as I would love to see a world full of Tim Tebows starting foundations for the betterment of children all over the world and realizing the higher importance of spreading God's kingdom over winning a game, there is no realization to that concept in our world today.

For every one Tebow in our world today, it seems there must be at least 73 Manziels.

We are all guilty of pride or selfishness. Many of us have put more importance on winning, whether it is in club sports or NCAA Division II sports. In the big picture, we can learn from Tebow the importance of things other than winning, and it is something we all need to learn for sure.

LUCAS HORN is a guest writer for the 2013-2014 Bison. He may be contacted at lhorn@harding.edu Twitter: @unclepucas

Cross-country prepares for first meet

by **Matt Chaffin**
asst. sports editor

Last season the men's and women's cross-country teams both finished their seasons in the top 15 of the central regional competition. The men finished 14th as junior Lajos Farkas led the Bisons finishing 39th in regional competition. The Lady Bisons finished just outside of the top 10 at the regional competition, which kept them just short of reaching the national competition as a team. Junior Ewa Zaborowska did reach the national championships as an individual, as she finished 16th nationally last season.

Head coach Steve Guymon said he is preparing his team for their second season in what is considered one of the toughest regions in the country.

"Nothing will be given to us and we have to work our hardest to prove that we can win."
- Dallis Bailey, junior cross country runner

"This year's team is more developed than last year's team," Guymon said. "We have a team that is larger than any team that I have had since I have been here. So I have goals for this group that are going to be much tougher and much steeper than last year."

According to junior Dallis Bailey, Guymon is not the only person who is

preparing to push this year's team to the limit.

Bailey said she is using last season's success to push even further this coming season.

"I definitely use it as a motivation," Bailey said. "Nothing will be given to us and we have to work our hardest to prove that we can win. Every other runner in the conference is working hard every day, but we just have to work harder. When we want to give up, we just have to give more."

According to Guymon, preparation for the different courses is what defines how the Harding teams train during both off-season and in-between races.

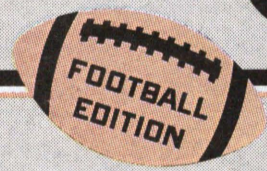
"As far as the courses themselves, I look and see how our conference course and region course are laid out," Guymon said. "I find out before the year starts how difficult is this or that course. If it is a relatively flat course with not many hills then our training is going to be more geared toward that throughout the year."

The team said they believe preparing on similar courses along with indoor training is a vital part of breeding success within the Harding program.

"To prepare to race on different courses we practice different courses," Bailey said. "We do workouts on gravel, the track, pavement and grass. Something we incorporated this year is a circuit in the weight room which will be very beneficial, I think. It is a good way to keep our bodies tuned and puts us at a good fitness level."

The cross-country teams run their first race on Sept. 14 in Pensacola, Fla.

LOCKER TALK



Our Athletes' Views on Pop Culture

questions

What is your most embarrassing moment?

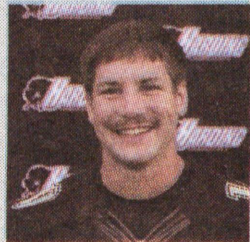
Any superstitious traditions before games?

Favorite sports memory?

What is your Fantasy Football team name?

What is your favorite sporting event you have been to or been a part of?

Keenan Kellett
(#10)



Walking into the girls bathroom on accident.

Listening to Christian music.

Throwing my first touchdown pass against UAM.

Corn on the Schaub.

Playoff game at Lambeau Field.

Romo Westbrook
(#8)



In second grade, I sneezed on my friend.

My left shoe has to go on before I can put on my right one.

Scoring the winning touchdown in my pee-wee championship.

I am not playing this year.

Being a part of the AutoZone Liberty Bowl All Star Game.

Ty Finley
(#17)



Slipping and falling on my back while getting off an escalator.

I wear the same two pair of socks every game.

Beating UNA in 2010.

I do not have one this year.

World Series game in Texas.

Erik Ragsdale
(#13)



5th year senior that still loves eating in the Caf.

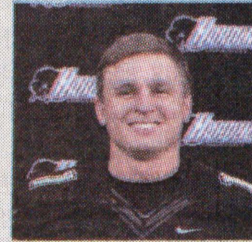
Listen to Master of Puppets by Metallica.

Nothing better than beating Tech.

The Joeckel Straps.

2011 World Series Game 7, #11 in 11, Go Cardinals!

Alex Finley
(#11)



Putting my arm around a woman who was not my mom in a store.

I always wear a helmet.

Making the playoffs for the first time last year.

Russell Wilson and the Funky Bunch.

I went to Game 5 of the 2010 World Series. Go Rangers.

First Lady Ann McLarty adjusts to new role

by **MATT RYAN**
features editor

Dr. Bruce McLarty recently stepped into the spotlight this June when he assumed the presidency and remains the center of much attention as his inauguration on Sept. 20 approaches. Yet behind the university's fifth president stands his wife, Harding's newest first lady, Ann McLarty, who said she has and will continue to support her husband as together they serve Harding's mission.

"When we were told that Bruce's name had been put in to be considered, we were together on this every step of the way," Ann McLarty said. "We talked about it, prayed about it and decided to go for it."

Ann McLarty first came to Harding as a student in 1976 without ever visiting the campus before she moved in. She was a member of OEGE women's social club and graduated in 1980 with a degree in

nursing. She said she remembers her time on campus as a student as both a memorable and important time in her life.

Mrs. Burks and Mrs. Ganus are wonderful mentors. They both have encouraged me to make the role my own. So I am in the process of doing just that.

-Ann McLarty

"I had a wonderful four years here and graduated in the fourth class of the nursing program," Ann McLarty said. "I was in the OEGE social club and King's Men was our brother club; we were a close knit group and had so much fun together. Those were very special people and very special years for me."

Ann McLarty said she met her husband during her time as a student. Although Bruce McLarty went to Memphis for

graduate school while she was still in the nursing program, the two were married in 1980, shortly after she graduated.

The young couple moved to Mississippi, where Ann McLarty was a nursing supervisor, but soon moved again, to Cookeville, Tenn. She said they initially planned to settle down there for the foreseeable future to raise their young daughters. Although Ann McLarty said her family did not initially plan to return to Searcy, they jumped on the opportunity when Bruce McLarty received a job offer from College Church of Christ in 1991.

"The College Church was where we attended as students and it had a huge impact on our faith during those years," Ann McLarty said. "I had only been out of college for 11 years when we came back and it took me a while to see myself as a peer instead of a student. My professors were so kind and treated me as a peer

immediately."

Although Bruce McLarty did not join Harding's faculty until 2005, Ann McLarty has worked as a nurse on campus with Student Health Services for the last 18 years.

Her nephew, junior Kaleb McLarty, said he has very high hopes for his aunt, who he said he believes will serve Harding well.

"I think Aunt Ann is going to be an incredible first lady," Kaleb McLarty said. "She is approachable and down to earth. When you are with her, you can't help but feel at ease."

As her role on campus changes, Ann McLarty said former first ladies taught her about how to settle in well.

"Mrs. Burks and Mrs. Ganus are wonderful mentors," Ann McLarty said. "They both have encouraged me to make the role my own. So I am in the process of doing just that."

Life outside of the classroom

A glance at faculty hobbies and pastimes

by **JARED DRYDEN**
asst. copy editor

Along with their day jobs in the classroom and office, many employees of the university also devote their time to interesting and rewarding hobbies.

Logan Light, director of campus life, runs his own art and design business, Ampersand Light. What initially was simply a hobby and creative release became a source of income when Light was asked to make chalkboards for a local business, Light said.

"I didn't think I would earn money for it, I started because I was asked by Mr. Postman to do the boards there," Light said. "As I experimented with different mediums, I got a better eye and chalkboard design and hand-lettering were coming into style then."

Light has been designing chalkboards for three years, and now does chalkboard designs on commission, including the boards at Mr. Postman and the menu at Midnight Oil. His work is made from materials that are "designed for wear" so they are durable and will not simply rub off.

Light said his artistic and creative abilities emerged at a young age.

"I've always had a good eye, been good with drawing, been able to copy things well," Light said. "My taste has developed, but the ability has always been there."

Light does much of the advertisement design for the Campus Activities Board, and enjoys doing that as well as his chalkboard designs and lettering. He said that much of the appeal of his work lies in its unique quality and his ability to customize his work based on the desires of the client.

Dr. Mark Elrod, professor of political science, has his own hobby, born more out of necessity than a creative urge. Since 2007, Elrod has been trapping and releasing raccoons from his property in Searcy. The first raccoon he trapped he named "Rocky," in reference to The Beatles' song "Rocky Raccoon." He has named them all "Rocky" since; Rocky the first through Rocky XXI. Elrod blames the oak trees on his property for the high number of raccoons, since racoons live in hardwood trees. In the more than six years he has been trapping them, he has caught 21 raccoons.

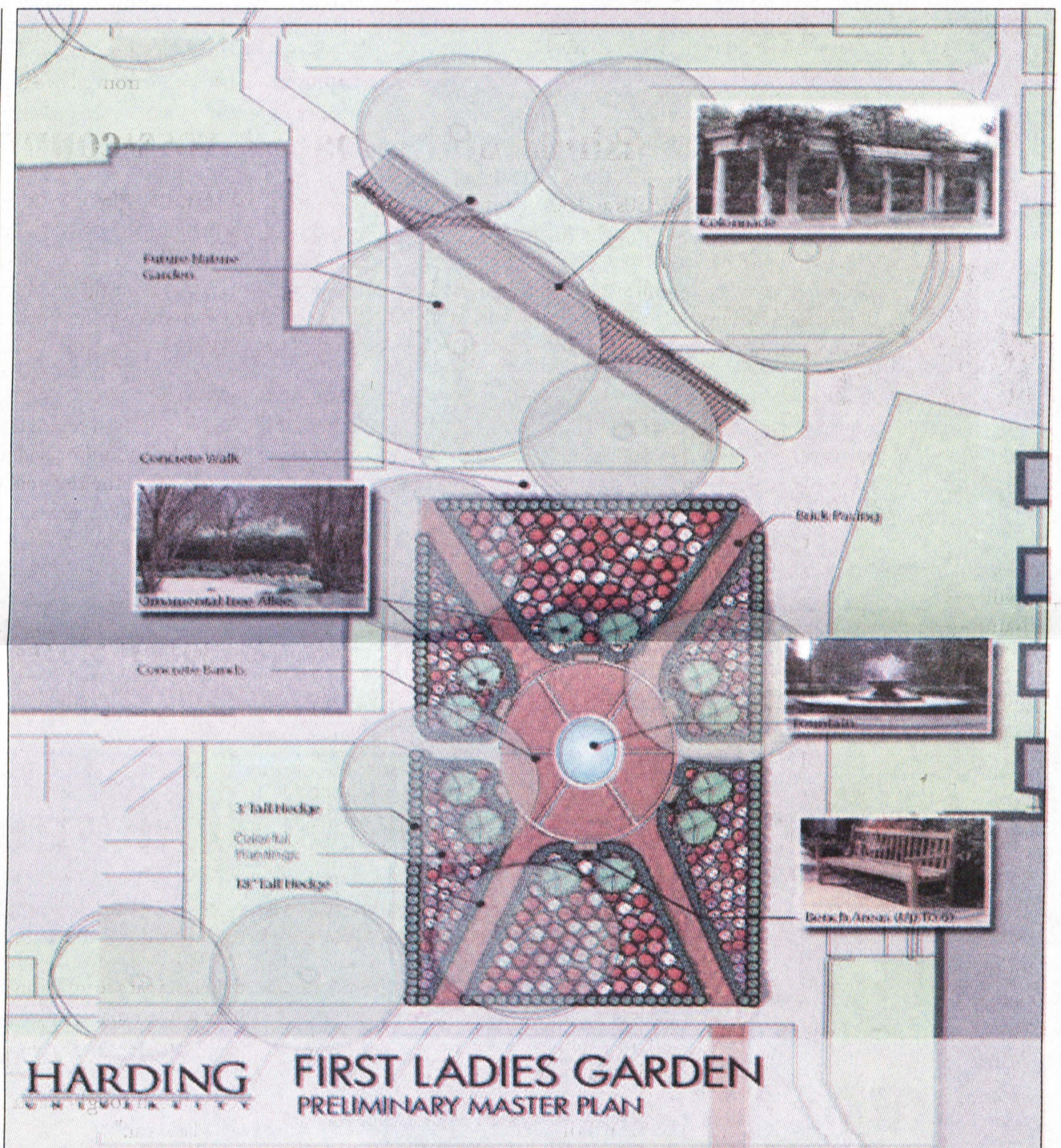
In 2008, Elrod came back from Greece to find that a raccoon had taken up shelter in his dormer, costing him \$500 in damage. Elrod said that is the day he "declared war on them." Since beginning to trap them, Elrod has researched raccoons and trapping methods quite a lot.

"I have a borderline obsession about it," Elrod said. Elrod described the raccoon as the "perfect urban animal" and pointed out many of the animal's unique characteristics, such as cognitive and problem-solving abilities, long memory span, near-opposable thumbs and a collapsible spine, which allows raccoons to fit into very tight spaces.

After Elrod caught Rocky IV, a friend remarked that it looked just like a raccoon Elrod had caught before. Since then, Elrod said, he has been tagging them with a small spot of blue spray paint. He said he has never caught a raccoon twice since he has been tagging them.

Multiple people have offered to take the animals for him, due to the value of their pelts, Elrod said. Instead, after trapping them, Elrod takes them to an undisclosed location in Searcy near water and food sources so they will hopefully not find their way back into residential areas.

"I wouldn't say I'm an animal rights activist," Elrod said. "But I don't like killing animals."



COURTESY OF LIZ HOWELL | ALUMNI RELATIONS

The Harding First Ladies Garden, conceptualized by Liz Howell, the director of Alumni Relations and a coordinator for the Associated Women for Harding, will be located on the north side of Park Avenue between Keller dorm and the Ezelle building. First presented as a gift to Leah Burks on April 26, Howell said the park will be built in honor of all five of Harding's first ladies. According to Howell, construction and planting should begin in the spring of 2014.

Students help grow new outdoors store

by **Jesse Hixson**
class writer

Students in the college of business administration are beginning to work with Beyond Boundaries, a new outdoors store in downtown Searcy.

According to its website, Beyond Boundaries, opened by Blake Norman and Chance Moore more than a month ago, was designed to be a "wholesome outdoor and adventure store" specifically targeting outdoor enthusiasts at Harding University and in the central Arkansas region.

The store contains a wide selection of items including camping gear, large name brands and niche clothing, running shoes and apparel, kayak rentals and novelties. Not only does the store sell items but they also provide several services, such as a weekly running group, rental items and guided hiking trips. Both Norman and Moore are experienced runners and outdoorsmen.

After hearing about the unique store, Rich Brown, a professor in the College of Business Administration,

approached Norman and Moore about having his promotional strategies class work to promote Beyond Boundaries as a project for which they will create an entire marketing plan for the small business by the end of this semester. The idea is for the students to take everything they learned in the class and apply it to the Beyond Boundaries final project.

Right now they have a very thorough business plan, but no marketing plan. We're hoping to really get the word out there about the store.

- Marianna Woodruff junior

Two students in the class, juniors Marianna Woodruff and Grant Schol, said the class has been divided into four groups comprising of five students, each given a different aspect of their business to focus on promoting.

"While one group might focus on the rental aspect, another may pay more attention to the running services or apparel offered," Schol

said. "We just want to promote the various sectors of their business."

While the class will not handle the actual purchase of advertisements and other promotional material, the students are hoping to create a full workable plan that Norman and Moore can use as a jumping point to set up a successful marketing strategy for the next several months.

"Right now they have a very thorough business plan, but no marketing plan," Woodruff said. "We're hoping to really get the word out there about the store."

Woodruff and Schol said the store was set up really well and offered everything that an amateur to experienced outdoorsman would need.

The store has already garnered more than 700 likes on its Facebook page and has partnered with other adventure-related stores in the community to help promote each other's businesses. Norman and Moore said they are also still in talks with several new brands to potentially add to Beyond Boundaries.



SOCIAL CLUB INDUCTION CALENDAR

Are you thinking about joining a social club but, don't know which one is a good fit for you? Club receptions are a good way to feel out each social group and decide where you belong. To apply for membership in a social club, submit an online application, which can be found under the student tab on Pipeline. The deadline for applications is Friday, Sept. 13. Each club will host two open receptions for all applicants to meet and get to know club members, then after second-round receptions each club will vote to determine which applicants will receive invitations to the third-round receptions. For more information, pick up a social club handbook in the Office of Student Life.

ROUND ONE RECEPTIONS

Monday Sept. 9

5-6:30 Delta Gamma Rho / Kyodai
6:30-8 GATA / Sigma Nu Epsilon
8-9:30 Zeta Pi Zeta / TNT
9:30-11 Shantih / King's Men

Tuesday, Sept. 10

5-6:30 Chi Kappa Rho / Knights
6:30-8 Ko Jo Kai / Sigma Phi Mu / Alpha Tau Epsilon
8-9:30 Regina / Delta Chi Delta
9:30-11 Iota Chi / Sub T-16

Wednesday, Sept. 11

5-6:30 Ju Go Ju / Chi Sigma Alpha
8:30-10 Pi Theta Phi / Titans

Thursday, Sept. 12

5-6:30 Zeta Rho / OEGE / Pi Kappa Epsilon
6:30-8 Chi Omega Pi / Beta Omega Chi
8-9:30 Omega Lambda Chi / Gamma Sigma Phi
9:30-11 Delta Nu / Omega Phi

ROUND TWO RECEPTIONS

Sunday, Sept. 15

6:30-8 Delta Nu / Regina / Titans
8-9:30 Sigma Phi Mu / Knights
9:30-11 Ju Go Ju / Alpha Tau Epsilon

Monday, Sept. 16

9:30-11 Chi Kappa Rho / Pi Kappa Epsilon
Tuesday, Sept. 17

5-6:30 Omega Lambda Chi / Omega Phi

6:30-8 Pi Theta Phi / Gamma Sigma Phi

8-9:30 OEGE / King's Men

9:30-11 Zeta Rho / Kyodai

Wednesday, Sept. 18

5-6:30 Iota Chi / TNT

8:30-10 GATA / Chi Omega Pi / Beta Omega Chi

Thursday, Sept. 19

5-6:30 Shantih / Sub T-16

6:30-8 Zeta Pi Zeta / Delta Chi Delta

8-9:30 Ko Jo Kai / Chi Sigma Alpha

9:30-11 Delta Gamma Rho / Sigma Nu Epsilon

ROUND THREE RECEPTIONS

(By Invitation)

Monday, Sept. 23

5-6:30 Chi Omega Pi / Delta Chi Delta
6:30-8 Iota Chi / Omega Lambda Chi / Omega Phi
8-9:30 Zeta Rho / Sub T-16

9:30-11 Pi Theta Phi / Gamma Sigma Phi

Tuesday, Sept. 24

5-6:30 Zeta Pi Zeta / Beta Omega Chi

6:30-8 Delta Gamma Rho / TNT

8-9:30 Shantih / Sigma Nu Epsilon

9:30-11 Delta Nu / Chi Sigma Alpha

Wednesday, Sept. 25

5-6:30 Ko Jo Kai / Alpha Tau Epsilon

8:30-10 Sigma Phi Mu / Pi Kappa Epsilon

Thursday, Sept. 26

5-6:30 GATA / Titans

6:30-8 OEGE / King's Men

8-9:30 Ju Go Ju / Chi Kappa Rho / Kyodai

9:30-11 Regina / Knights

Last day to rank clubs
Wednesday, Oct. 7

Visitation (By Invitation)
Oct. 21-25

Bid Delivery
Oct. 27

Induction Ceremonies
Oct. 27, 7 p.m. - curfew

STORY BY TORI SHEETS

GRAPHIC BY TYLER CARMICAL

Sassy Sweets opens new location with new food options

by Hazel Halliburton
copy editor

With their new location, menu and friendly staff, Sassy Sweets is sure to be a sweet treat for any college student.

Sassy Sweets recently moved to a new location on the Searcy downtown square. Formally located on N. Walnut Drive, the boutique bakery and cafe now offers more than just sweets for its customers with its new atmosphere and breakfast and lunch menu.

Many changes have been made to the store, including an area for customers to sit and enjoy their purchases.

With several tables and even a small seating area outside in the front of the store, this is the perfect location to relax and enjoy breakfast, lunch or an afternoon treat.

The area is also available for rent for

social club gatherings, bridal showers and small luncheons. Decorated in their Sassy Sweets blue and silver, the store seems to sparkle with glittering accents on the walls and tables, while the fireplace section offers a cozy and welcoming feel to the store.

The bakery is known for having delectable treats ranging from cookies to specialty cupcakes, so there was no surprise when their new items did not disappoint.

For lunch, customers can choose from three different salads and four different sandwiches. Sandwiches include: the "PBJ All Grown Up," which is an adult twist

on the classic peanut butter and jelly with peanut butter, raspberry jam and toasted coconut, and their "All American" with hickory ham and American cheese, both served on white bread.

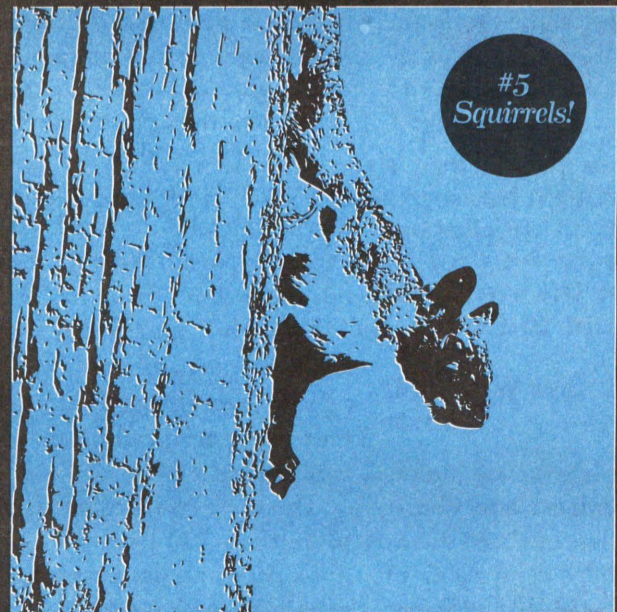
My favorite was the "Cheeky Chicken" though. This is not your typical chicken salad sandwich. With super fresh ingredients, including dried cranberries, pecans and bacon pieces, what's not to love? I also tried the "Turkey Club" sandwich. The best part of this sandwich was its in-house blueberry honey mustard. While at first I was leery of the combination of blueberry and turkey, it was truly perfection.

For the early risers, the store now opens at 7:30 a.m., offering breakfast items such as bagels, muffins, scones, cinnamon rolls and yogurt parfaits. While the store is not a coffee shop, they do serve plain coffee and have a K-Cup machine for special flavored coffees.

Do not forget about their cupcakes and cookies. Flavors change from week to week and season to season, but no matter when you visit, you're sure to enjoy.

With their new location, menu and friendly staff, Sassy Sweets is sure to be a sweet treat for any college student.

Sassy Sweets is located at 311 N. Spruce across from the county courthouse. Hours are Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Saturday 7:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.



#5 Squirrels!

STUFF HARDING PEOPLE LIKE.

AMERICAN STUDIES INSTITUTE LECTURE SERIES FALL PREVIEW

"Bringing lectures to the Harding campus, this program serves as an integral part of the American Studies Institute. A unique approach to citizenship education in contemporary national and international affairs, the Lecture Series offers insight into current trends in political and economical development affecting the American way of life"

-from <http://www.harding.edu/asi/events.html>



GEORGE WILL

Monday, Sept. 16, 2013 - Inauguration Week
7:30 p.m. Benson Auditorium
"Religion and Politics in the First Modern Nation"



CARL CAMDEN

Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2013
7:30 p.m. Benson Auditorium
"The New World of Work"

graphic by Tyler Carmical

