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October 11, 2013
 Vol. 89, No. 5

States, programs scramble after shutdown

by Lyndsey Ruble Nuckols
 editor-in-chief

Last Monday, Sept. 30, Congress failed to pass a spending bill to fund the government, causing a shutdown of all nonessential government offices and departments as a new fiscal year began on Oct. 1.

According to CNN, more than 800,000 government employees are furloughed, and Gov. Mike Beebe of Arkansas said as many as 2,000 of Arkansas' state workers are furloughed.

The Huffington Post, in an article published on Oct. 3, broke down the effects of the shutdown on each state. The following items were listed for Arkansas: more than 85,000 meals for Arkansas children dependent on WIC or SNAP programs are at risk for being ended, the Clinton Presidential Center

closed permanent exhibits to walk-in visitors and federal workers earning \$11,000-a-year to work at a shelter in Little Rock were forced to work without pay.

Former President Bill Clinton, who also served as the 42nd governor of Arkansas, spoke about the shutdown last Thursday, Oct. 3 at the 50th anniversary celebration of the dedication of Greers Ferry Dam in Heber Springs, Ark.

"This is normal," Clinton said. "This

is what has always shaped America. But what makes a democracy work is if there are some things that people decide they won't do, even though they can, because it compromises the future of our children and the character of our country."

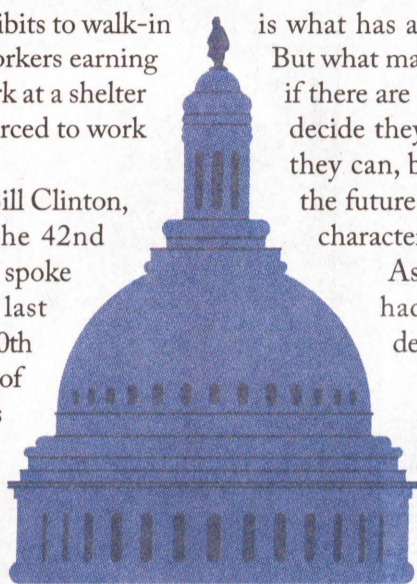
As of press time, Congress had still failed to reach a decision on a spending bill.

Lori Klein, assistant professor of political science and a former state employee for Florida, said state governments receive

most of their funding from block and categorical grants. With the shutdown continuing into week two, states will have to shift and figure out what they can afford to fund. Klein said this uncertainty trickles down to local governments and parks as well.

Forcing the state to fund programs, such as the nutrition program in Arkansas, will mean that the federal government owes the states more money at the end of the year, Klein said. After recent state-level economic downturn and budgets cuts, states are not in a good position to carry out the role of the federal government, Klein said.

Continuing the shutdown through a third week would likely result in a significant increase in the number of government employees furloughed.



STUDENT'S GUIDE GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

SEE SHUTDOWN, PAGE 2A

Agencies affected by the federal government's shutdown

Services ceased:

1. **Food services** for senior citizens and children may not have sufficient funds.
2. All American **national parks and monuments** are closed.
3. **Research** into life-threatening diseases will halt. So will acceptance of new patients for **clinical trials**.
4. Employees that work to **prevent terrorist attacks, defend borders and inspect food** will work without pay.
5. New applications for small business **loans and loan guarantees** will stop.

Services continued:

1. **Social Security** beneficiaries will continue receiving checks.
2. The Post Office will continue delivering **mail**.
3. Active **military** will continue to serve.
4. **Air traffic** controllers, **prison guards** and **border patrol agents** will continue working.
5. NASA will continue supporting astronauts serving on the **Space Station**.

Information from usa.gov/shutdown, graphic by Lyndsey Ruble Nuckols

Affordable Care Act: How reform will affect students

Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act

Graphic by Tyler Carmical
 Research by Bradley Cain

- Expansion of access to coverage.
- More affordable.
- Does not replace Medicare, Medicaid or private insurance.
- For those on Medicare:
 - No out-of-pocket cost for preventative care (ex. screenings for cancer, diabetes, and high cholesterol, an annual wellness check, as well as vaccines for the flu and pneumonia).
 - The law targets Medicare fraud and overpayments.
- Phases out denial of insurance based on pre-existing condition by 2017.
- Prevents insurance companies from writing a specific coverage (one more expensive) for people with pre-existing conditions.
- The insured have a right to appeal when a health-care plan denies a claim for service or treatment.
- Children can continue coverage on their parent's plan until they turn age 26 (formerly age 19).
- Lifetime benefit limits have been removed for all health plans.
- Those under 400 percent of the Federal Poverty Threshold (for a family of four that is \$94,200) may qualify for assistance (subsidies).
- Per individual, the tax penalty for not having health insurance is \$95 or 1 percent of Adjusted Gross Income (whichever is greater). This gradually increases to the greater of \$695 or 2.5 percent of AGI by 2016.
- Employers with 50 or more full-time employees must provide health insurance coverage to all employees beginning in 2014 or pay a penalty. The penalty is \$2,000 per employee after an exemption for the first 30 employees.

by Tori Sheets
 student writer

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act went into effect on Oct. 1. For many Americans this means they must now purchase health care or face a penalty by Jan. 1, 2014. Under the new bill, all Americans are required by law to be covered under an approved health care plan or pay a fine when filing for 2014 federal income taxes.

Although the health care bill states that all Americans must have health insurance by Jan 1., college students with little to no income still have options. The Affordable Care Act, passed in 2010, states children are able to stay on their parent's healthcare plan until the age of 26.

One stipulation of the Affordable Care Act is that the fee does not apply to households or individuals whose total

yearly income is less than the minimum amount required to file a tax return.

For individuals, this minimum is \$10,000 for 2013, and for a family it is \$20,000 for 2013, according to the Washington Post. Another exemption is if the lowest priced health care option available costs more than 8 percent of an individual's total income. Many college students have little to no income annually and will not face fines for failing to purchase health care, but they also may qualify for free health care through Medicaid.

For individuals making more than \$10,000 annually and failing to purchase insurance, the fine for 2014 will be \$95 or 1 percent of the total income, whichever is higher, according to healthcare.gov.

Another option for students is to purchase health care

from the online marketplace at healthcare.gov. On the marketplace shoppers can create an account, enter personal information regarding income and house size, compare plans and enroll in the most suitable option. The enrollment period for the online marketplace is between Oct. 1 and March 1, if a plan is not purchased within this time frame, it cannot be purchased until the next enrollment period.

In 2015 the fine for being uninsured will be \$325 or 2 percent of total income, and rising to \$695 or 2.5 percent of total income in 2016. After 2016 the fee will rise annually based on the cost of living.

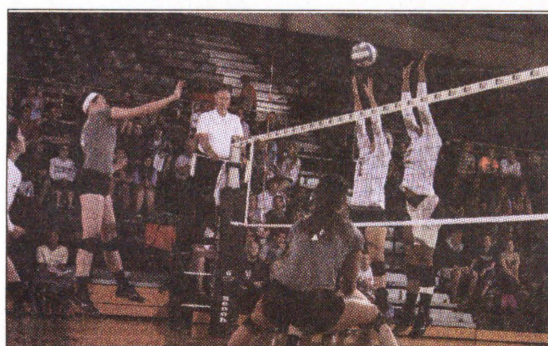
Harding offers health care coverage for students enrolled in six or more credit hours. The plan is offered through Arkansas Student Health Insurance, a National Union Fire Insurance Company based out of Pittsburgh, Pa. The plan will cost individual students \$300 a semester, or \$600 for a 10-month term.

Harding's College Republicans held a meeting last Thursday, Oct. 3 to discuss healthcare reform. Mary Kate Collins, the chair of Harding's chapter of College Republicans, said she recognizes that the Affordable Care Act will affect each and every citizen of the United States.

"This is the first time as a breathing individual that you have a minimum requirement, and you have to buy this," Collins said.

One more option for Harding students, and an exemption to purchasing health care recognized by the IRS, is to join a health care sharing ministry called Medi-Share. According to their website, Medi-Share is "a health care sharing program where Christians share financial resources to pay each other's medical expenses." Laneigh Pfalser, vice chair of the College Republicans, said she agrees with Medi-Share's mission and said it is a Christian's responsibility to insure people's health.

"It is our Christian duty to take care of people, not the government's," Pfalser said. "It's easier for the government to have all these systems, but it's not the right thing to do. The right thing to do is for us to get out of our comfort zones and spend the time and effort that it takes to give to individuals in need and care for those people not only through healthcare but also at the same time by sharing with them the love of Christ."



BISON VOLLEYBALL
 Lady Bisons volleyball continues strong season with 15-5 record.

SPORTS, 1B

SOCIAL CLUBS BY THE NUMBERS
 Stats and information about new members for 2013 club week.

NEWS, 2A

HU HAUNTS: GERTIE

Legends and a firsthand account of Gertie, HU's resident ghost

FEATURES, 3B



Laughs at open mic night



Sophomore McKenna Futrell performs at the open mic night at Starbucks on Oct. 3. Futrell performed comedic poetry and fan fiction and had the crowd laughing by the end of her performance.



BEYOND THE BUBBLE

D.C. — On Oct. 17, The Treasury Department will deplete its borrowing authority, reaching a fiscal limit of \$17.6 trillion known as the debt ceiling. The majority of Democrats are in favor of passing legislation to increase the debt ceiling limit while most Republicans do not favor the increase. According to CNN, President Barack Obama said that he would be willing to negotiate a long term spending policy if Congress agrees to a short term increase in the debt ceiling.

EGYPT — The U.S. will withhold hundreds of millions of dollars in aid to Egypt, according to "Time" magazine. The U.S. provides up to \$1.5 billion in aid annually to the nation and will withhold delivery of certain large-scale military systems and cash assistance.

PHILADELPHIA — A 4-year-old preschooler brought eight bags of cocaine and \$173 in cash to school, causing some students to be evacuated from their classes. According to Time.com, the student was showing off his finds to his teacher on the morning of Oct. 8 when they discovered what he had. The child was brought to the emergency room and released without complications.

U.S. — In test results released on Oct. 8, American adults scored below the international average in math, reading and problem-solving using technology. According to an article from Al Jazeera America, parents' level of education affected the results. The U.S. only scored higher than six out of the 24 countries that participated in testing, which was done by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

SOUTH KOREA — Scientists have produced gasoline using genetically engineered E.coli. According to ibtimes.com, the gasoline could be used to fuel vehicles because it has the same chemical properties as conventional petroleum.

Fairy-tale theme attracts students to Relay for Life

by Megan Smith
student writer

A fairytale-themed Relay for Life is helping raise money to fight cancer as well as take time to honor those who have battled it. Relay begins tonight at 5 p.m. and goes until 5 a.m. Saturday. This year, the event will take place on the front lawn. If there is bad weather, however, it will be moved to the GAC.

According to treasurer of Relay junior Nathan Wilson, one of the goals this year was to have the event be bigger and have more people involved.

Executive director of Relay, junior Veronica Rodriguez, said she plans on obtaining student body involvement during the event.

"This year it is a lot more student-led, and we have students that are not involved in a social club but are still trying to get involved," Rodriguez said. "Our biggest thing is making people aware of cancer and how it is affecting people's lives."

According to Rodriguez, this year's Relay for Life will include several people whose lives were directly affected by cancer. Rodriguez said they wanted to

get perspective from people dealing with cancer as well as people who cared for someone who had cancer.

"There is Ann Read, a mother of a student at Harding, who is a cancer survivor that had her last radiation a couple weeks ago. She will be one of our main speakers talking about her story," Rodriguez said. "There will also be a family that will give the caregiver point of view, having just lost their grandparent a week before this fall semester."

Rodriguez was on the committee for Relay last year and said she planned for a new approach this year.

"Last year the carnival theme was fun, but I feel like for college students, fairy tales are always a go-to," Rodriguez said. "It brings out the happiness in people, and it is a common ground for everyone."

According to Wilson, the committee got more people involved because they started planning for this event last spring. Wilson said there are a lot of different groups other than social clubs that wanted to participate.

"Since we got started so early this year we really wanted to try for a different approach and get more

people involved," Wilson said. "We got more sports teams and some dorms to participate."

According to Rodriguez, the participating groups have some creative ideas in the works. Different groups are doing their own version of the overall fairy tale theme by using Disney movies.

"ChiO and Omega Phi are getting together and doing a Lion King theme," Rodriguez said. "They will have kittens as their little lions and they will be decorating their booth with an African theme."

According to Wilson, the event is going to involve an

Our biggest thing is making people aware of cancer and how it is affecting people's lives.

- Veronica Rodriguez, Relay for Life executive director

inflatable slide and bounce house as well as several live performances. There will be food available for students to buy including Whistle Stop Barbecue.

The performances during the event are the Fable and the Fury, Keith Symanowitz from Keef and Co, Four West, Belles and Beaux and the Harding Jazz Band.

SHUTDOWN, continued from 1A

"The overall health of the economy is dependent on a reputation of a government that works, pays its debts and (is) predictable," Klein said. "People aren't going to make jobs, (they will) hold on to resources because things keep getting worse and worse."

An article in the Washington Post said a prolonged government shutdown could also mean delayed payments for students receiving Pell Grants and Direct Student Loans.

Jay Simpson, the associate director of the Office for Financial Aid Services at Harding, said their offices have not experienced any delay because of the shutdown so far.

However, he said a prolonged shutdown could indeed delay the delivery of federal student aid to Harding students.

"We have to remember that, sooner or later, we have to make a decision as a people that is good for our common future, and

We have to remember that, sooner or later, we have to make a decision as a people that is good for our common future and get the show on the road.

- Bill Clinton, former U.S. president

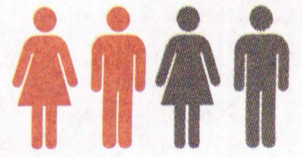
get the show on the road," Clinton said.

In the days leading up to the end of the fiscal year, House Republicans insisted any new spending bill include provisions to either "defund, derail or otherwise chip away at" the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, according to CNN.

Senate Democrats, however, insisted the Affordable Care Act remain intact and free of provisions. The Affordable Care Act, dubbed "Obamacare" by 2012 presidential nominee Mitt Romney, went into effect on Oct. 1 with the launch of healthcare.gov, an online marketplace to shop for healthcare plans.



SOCIAL CLUBS BY THE NUMBERS



TOTAL MALE APPLICANTS: 476

MALE APPLICANTS VOTED IN: 408

TOTAL FEMALE APPLICANTS: 662

FEMALE APPLICANTS VOTED IN: 528

86% OF MALES WERE VOTED IN

80% OF FEMALES WERE VOTED IN

DUES RANGE \$0-\$60 PER SEMESTER

FUNCTION PRICES CANNOT EXCEED \$30 PER PERSON (\$60 PER COUPLE)

BUT AVERAGE \$30 - \$45



GRAPHIC BY TYLER CARMICAL
RESEARCH BY ALEXIS HOSTICKA

Although many of the students who applied to be in social clubs were not voted in, it's not up to the clubs to decide how many new members they accept. According to Asst. Dean of Students Kara Abston, the size of each club's induction class is determined by number of active members in a club, number of students who applied for the club process, history of club membership and number of graduated seniors. Students will receive their invitations for visitation before fall break begins.



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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, editor-in-chief, at lruble@harding.edu

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Sharing is Caring

kalie morgan



guest space

Growing up, most of us were encouraged to share. Whether it was our Polly Pockets or a seat on the school bus, sharing has always been a universally acknowledged gesture demonstrating that you care. But as we are now relatively grown-up, sharing is important for other reasons. When we were kids, sharing was about being generous instead of selfish, and learning to care about others before yourself. It's a similar situation today, just less about material things. We're not sharing Polly Pockets and seats on the school bus anymore. We're sharing our thoughts, opinions and ideas. Saying exactly what you think and exactly how you feel shouldn't be embarrassing or degrading, because keeping your thoughts to yourself is selfish and doesn't benefit anyone.

Recently, I drove past Starbucks and saw my brother walking in for a coffee. Naturally, I yelled "Brother" repeatedly and obnoxiously in an attempt to get his attention. He did not turn around and squeal back "Sister" like I had imagined. In fact, he ignored what might be considered a loud buffoon driving by. Alas — as I rolled up the car window I was not dismayed nor was I embarrassed. I would do it

again if I got the chance. If yelling obnoxiously is what it takes to show someone that you care — just to say hello or to embarrass them — it was worth it.

Being strange and ridiculous around my brother is no big deal. It is a fundamental part of being siblings. There are a few friends I have this relationship with, whom I can also be completely myself around. I can tell them when they are wrong (always) and they can tell me when I'm an idiot (never). We are comfortable around each other. Sometimes we embarrass each other, we make fun of each other more often than not, and we can be openly angry with each other from time to time. These are the relationships I can truly value.

All this to say that I care. I would never want to hurt or ruin any of these wonderful relationships. Yet, we are all constantly pushing the limits in what we say to one another. I don't tip-toe around their feelings nor do they with mine. So I propose the saying "sharing is caring" as a general life philosophy. It is not just about sharing our Polly Pockets anymore, people. It is about giving away something that is dear to us. I believe sharing our feelings, thoughts and ideas with another person is how to show we truly care. Holding back is a selfish scape-goat in any relationship.

It's easy to use the excuse of not wanting to offend anyone.

We don't want to offend our friends or roommates or

classmates because regardless of how fabulously sassy you are, offending someone feels rude. However, holding back your opinion or feelings in a situation makes them none-the-wiser and avoiding any sort of confrontation does nothing for the emotions you've been bottling up.

If you respectfully bring up that they need to take a shower more than once a week, who knows, they just might thank you someday because people sit near them now. My best friends are the ones who tell me I have spinach in my teeth. (Yes, I eat spinach after my role model Popeye.) The point is, the less honest people are, the more distant their bond is.

Pushing the limits of your friendship can challenge you, and while you do not want to be completely open with every single person in your life, it's important to make honesty a priority. Keep in mind that holding back is just another boundary. It is a wall, and while some walls are good, start working on the ones you want to come tumbling down (no "Wrecking Ball" references, please and thank you). It will only make room for you to grow. Be honest with someone and show them who you really are. Chances are you are probably somewhat cool with a hint of weird — which any sensible friend translates as awesome. Show them you care.

KALIE MORGAN is a guest writer for the Bison. She may be contacted at kmorgan3@harding.edu.

Look for Local Treasures

jesse hixson



guest space

I've been at Harding for a year and a half and it didn't take me long to discover that everyone has their complaints about Searcy. "It's too small," people say. "There's nothing to do here."

Yes, I will admit I too was once a skeptic, believing nothing really existed outside of Race Street and Beebe Capps. However, I recently discovered Searcy is an epicenter. "Of what?" you scream incredulously, not believing for a second anything good could come from this small Arkansas town. Well my reader, I ask you to hold on to your metaphorical hats as I say, Searcy is an epicenter for treasure hunting.

Last weekend my friends and I embarked on this treasure hunt more commonly known as geocaching, which involves looking for small objects, boxes or prizes that anyone can hide anywhere in the world. People then provide locations and clues to lead curious hunters to discover their cleverly disguised trinkets, where you can often contribute your

name or your own objects for posterity.

When we started our adventure, I was skeptical if we would find any or not, but I was shocked to discover Searcy is littered with these little gems. Under fire hydrants, magnetized to street signs, buried in the ground, disguised as small animals, the geocaches are all around us just waiting to be uncovered.

Now why do I find this to be such an interesting phenomenon here in Searcy? Geocaching happens all over the world, and isn't really a new activity. However, before this, my Searcy knowledge and experience was incredibly limited. Of course I had seen all the typical sites but never before had I ventured into the depths of this compelling little town. In one evening I gained an incredible respect for the city I had never thought possible in myself. We found new trails, roads and sights we didn't even know existed. On one gravel road we even found a small, family-owned restaurant that we decided to go back and try.

It seems to me that because we spend so much of our time on campus, we forget to go explore the very city we claim as our home for four years. Yes, I

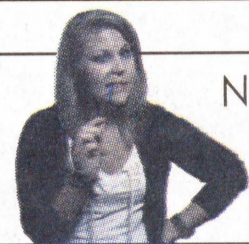
will concede that we do not live in a bustling metropolis full of the newest art and entertainment, but I did find through geocaching that there's quite a bit that we may be missing about this unassuming town. Searcy has very unique and valuable pieces of culture that are sometimes even more fascinating than those that can be found in a place such as New York City.

So think about it. It's a normal, lazy Saturday and you're looking for something exciting to do: Go treasure hunting. Not only will you enjoy finding real treasures in some of the oddest, most obscure places, but you will also find yourself stumbling across the treasures of Searcy itself. I promise that after spending a day winding through the maze of back roads with friends, finding yourself in a restaurant you have never heard of and laughing with Searcy natives as you scour their backyards for geocaches, you too may agree that geocaching may just be one of the best things to have happened to Searcy. Happy hunting.

JESSE HIXSON is a guest writer for the Bison. He may be contacted at jhixson@harding.edu.

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.

bethany aspey



Needless to say...

Debunk Your Bad Days

The words "Midterms were here" are stated clearly in tired eyes, represented by sweatpants and evident in drained coffee cups. Stress is upon us; slackers are upon us; shortcomings are upon us. I'm counting down the seconds to fall break, and I would venture to say that you are too. It's around this time in the semester when I know I'm too far along in my classes to give up and pursue my dreams of owning a tiki shack on a beach somewhere. I realize this is probably not the most suitable career choice and overall direction for my future (no disrespect to seashell souvenir entrepreneurs) and will therefore press on.

It's difficult to cope when assignments are piling up, chapel excuses are running low and there doesn't seem to be an end in sight for your to-do list.

While I have no short cuts or solutions, I'm offering a reminder that these times are probably more important than they feel. It might feel like there's a lot of busy work and pointless stress, but take a small amount of comfort in knowing that some of the most stressful times in your life have also been some of the most defining times in your life.

One of the most stressful experiences of my high school career fortunately turned out to be one that I can be proud of (and can probably use as an amusing anecdote at business meetings). Due to a family emergency, our regular public relations director for our school production had to leave, and I was given her responsibilities. While attendance to school productions was good for our aspiring actors' self-esteem, it was also fiscally beneficial as it was one of the biggest fundraisers of the year. It was a lot of pressure for an introverted 15-year-old. There were three consecutive weeks of waking up and telling myself "the show must go on — and people need to come to it, so I have a lot of work to do." As I am now a public relations major, you can probably gather that it went over pretty well, and I am thankful to have been a part of it.

But I think we all need to be thankful that life isn't always a smooth ride. In fact, I would go so far as to recommend capitalizing on how terrible things seem, as does any decent storyteller or songwriter. Without conflict and trying times, life is monotonous and uninteresting and no one would care about anything you have to say. Poor Taylor Swift would probably be singing about how she's looking forward to her fifth wedding anniversary. Try singing along to Daniel Powter's "Mediocre Day," dramatically and with angst in your voice — not easy. You get the idea. When times get tough, these are the defining moments. These times make our lives interesting, give us a story to tell and ultimately can make us better. In words that should be sewn onto a throw pillow: a smooth sea never made for a skillful sailor.

No one gains any credibility because they don't deal well with bad days. It's because they had terrible days when they slept through chapel, forgot to study for a quiz and yet still managed to press on. There's a reason you're asked in job interviews to give an example about how you've dealt with conflict. This isn't because employers are interested in your life story and just want to give you an opportunity to vent. It's because it provides an insight to your character and demonstrates how you let an experience shape you into the person you are today.

So on this last day of midterms, I encourage you to press on, to do well, and to write a dramatic song or write a compelling story about it later if you get the chance. Thank me for the fame later.

Coming soon: Out of Chapel Skips: A Memoir by Bethany Aspey.

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



lyndsey ruble nuckols

The Lightbulb

Dream Big

Each one of us is inching toward graduation. We are inching toward the next semester, the next year and the next phase of our life. If you're like me at all, that makes you both terrified and excited. Whether you are looking for a job, an opportunity overseas or a grad school, we're all in a similar boat.

Here's the terrifying part: You might not find something. You might not get the job or school or job opportunity to want. Your life is on the edge of a huge change and all you can do is sit and wait.

Knowing that can do weird things to your psyche. You may be confident in your abilities, in your education, in your future, but you may have a voice in the back of your head asking "What if?" That voice tells you to get real, to stop even considering the job, opportunity or school you truly want. Why? Because you have a chance of being rejected. You have a chance of failing on something that really matters and you know how awful that could feel. So you stop dreaming big.

"Inc.," a business magazine, published an interview with business professor and author Vijay Govindarajan about innovation after the publication of his book "The Other Side of Innovation: Solving the Execution Challenge." When asked what a leader should do to facilitate innovation, he gave one piece of advice: Dream big.

To dream big means to accept failure as a part of the process. It means to define your own meaning of excellence and stop comparing yourself to everyone else around you. It means to stop making excuses and start doing what scares you.

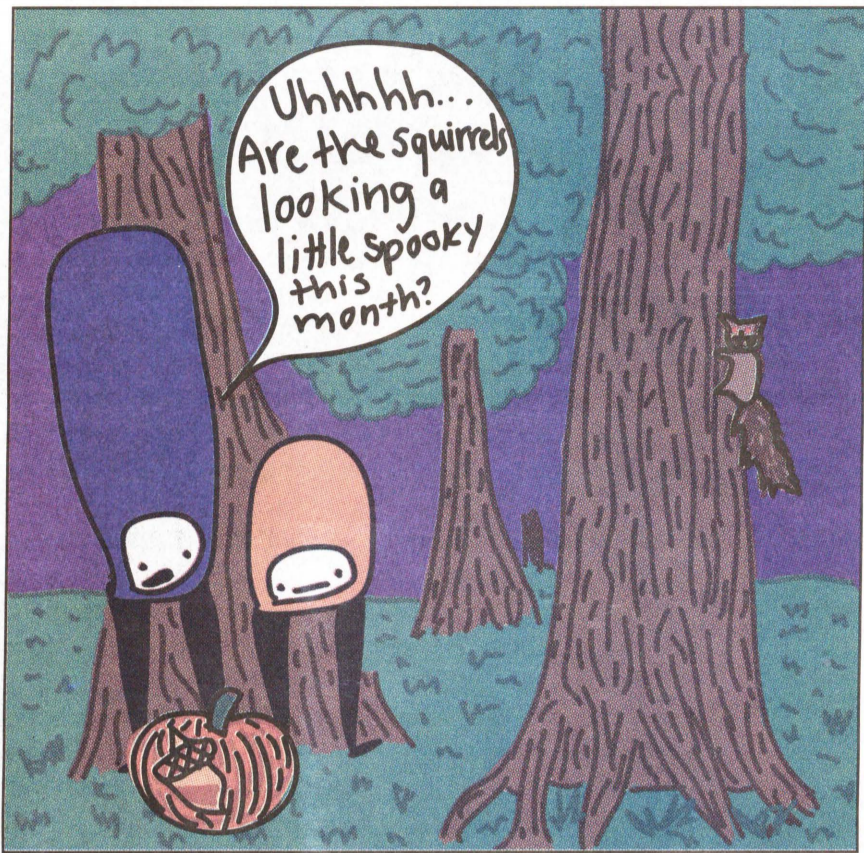
That's all easy to say, isn't it? It's easy to see the benefit and the beauty, but it can be really difficult to actually do.

Let's start with the discussion of a goal. We'll say you have dreamt up a big goal or a big project. You're excited, you're passionate, you're scared and you may be a bit neurotic. It seems like a big task, and you don't want to screw everything up, so you spend your time thinking and planning and obsessing instead of actually doing. So start small. Big projects overwhelm everyone. But start tinkering and eventually what seemed like a series of small, insignificant tasks will add up and give you the boost and motivation needed to power through the rest.

What about jobs? What about the threat of the future? I think you know, deep down, how to get to work on this one. You silence that stupid, pessimistic voice in the back of your head, and apply for that job, internship or grad school. Stop being afraid to wholly commit yourself to something you want and just go do it. Stop putting arbitrary limits on yourself and what you can accomplish. Work for it, and put in the time, but know that someone will always be more qualified than you. Know that you may fail, but that's OK and something else will come along.

In order to be innovative and creative and someone who can change the world, you first need to believe that you are capable of changing the game, of being your own competition and of shifting the paradigm.

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



Introducing Flashcard Friday

hannah robison



guest writer

They come in a variety of shapes and sizes. They can be lined, hole-punched, colorful or blank. They can hold hundreds of words or a couple of sentences. They can contain all the information you need, a love note or a simple reminder. Regardless of their purpose or plan, flashcards can make the grade and a memory.

I came to Harding as a pretty serious student, and I only slipped further into my nerdism when I began studying for my first exams. I had tried a few different approaches: listening to myself read notes aloud, reading PowerPoint slides from my computer screen and even recording myself reciting the first amendment and playing it back so that I could write it verbatim for my first mass communication test. As I mentioned — bona fide nerd, right here. However, the one approach to studying

that never fails me is the handy-dandy flashcard. Whether it be a Bible, biology or theater appreciation exam, flashcards have never let me down. Though it takes a great deal of time to compile all of the information I could potentially be tested over, physically writing out each card helps me to remember and to recall material during that 50-minute test time-warp that holds me back from my weekend.

It is true that flashcards have helped me academically, but looking back through each year, I now have a glimpse of where my mind and body were at the time that each set of flashcards were made. Adding to my nerdiness, I am also pretty sentimental and therefore save everything. If you need a napkin from my 12th birthday party — I probably have it stashed away in a box in my closet. Flashcards are a tangible flashback to courses and the company that I have had each year during my time at Harding. There could be a shake stain left on my introduction to public relations principles cards, left from the old times of The Underground, or a drop of coffee from trying to carry too many things in my arms to my car, as I drive to class from Midnight Oil, or

there could even be illegible words from where I began to fall asleep at my cubicle in the library.

There could be a verse written by an anonymous fellow student, sent through campus mail for everyone during finals week. There could be encouraging notes from friends, grocery lists or even function date offers. Whether something is scribbled on tiny 3x5s or the humongous 5x8s, a flashcard can be a piece of memorization and reflection. Though they may not always get me the greatest grade, as I look back on the past few semesters of life and I look forward to what is ahead, I realize the connotation of the term "flash."

As James writes in James 4:14, "You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away." I encourage you to embrace your time at this university and make time for studying and memories.

Look for Hannah's next article in her blog series "Senior Moments" on The Link.

HANNAH ROBISON is a guest writer for the Bison. She may be contacted at hrobison@harding.edu.

CLASSIC CLAX

The Cost of Parenthood

The statistics are staggering. For children born in 2013, the average four-year public college tuition in 2031 will cost a phenomenal \$300,900. If you want a private school, plan to put aside \$592,400, and you might as well start now buying dorm furniture. Heaven help you if your child also wants a big truck.

But parents can't even begin to think about that now. If a couple has a baby in today's world, college is the last expense on their minds. Nor can they begin stressing yet over the price of prom outfits, car insurance or video games. I'm not even talking about the cost of an 18-year supply of Fruity Pebbles.

First they need baby equipment. Tons and tons of insanely expensive equipment. Yes, I mean the massive arsenal of transportation apparatus, rubber-tipped accessories and powder-blue gear without which an infant cannot hope to survive past the croup. You know — the stuff they sell at Babies "R" Us.

Before going any further, I realize that those of us without children are seldom encouraged to make observations about child-raising. In fact, comments about parenting from nonparents are one of the few forms of speech not protected by the Constitution. In the 1997 case of "Clueless versus Tired Parents of Oshkosh," the Supreme Court ruled 9-0 that a childless man overheard giving suggestions to parents could be pelted with loaded sippy cups while police look on approvingly. So I realize that I am on thin ice here.



michael claxton

But somebody has to say it. The amount of baby equipment being forced upon poor parents these days is out of control. Here's a true story. When my mother was born in Carlsbad, NM in 1934, her parents had very little money. So instead of sleeping in a crib, my mother spent her first months in a bureau drawer. The drawer was lined with a blanket and small pillow and, as best Mom can recall, was rather cozy. That is all her folks could manage during the Depression. I told this story to the cashier at Babies "R" Us one day, and not surprisingly, the poor woman had palpitations and had to sit down. Within minutes, two other clerks were fanning her with organic baby bibs.

I'm still not sure what upset her more — the cruel deprivation my poor mother suffered, or the idea of all that lost revenue because my grandparents couldn't have afforded a canopied, expandable, padded crib equipped with surround-sound and one of those rotating mobiles that plays "It's a Small World After All." At this point, I didn't have the heart to tell the lady that my mother also made it to 1935 without a bottle tote, training cup, monogrammed diaper bag, rubber pants, rubber changing pad, rubber table-corner guards, tear-proof books, cabinet locks,

climate-controlled stroller, Elmo DVDs, Eddie Bauer high chair, portable swing, combo car-seat and carry-all or even a state-of-the-art monitor that can detect sound, movement and the smallest hint of a stinky.

Have you been to Babies "R" Us lately? I used to think Home Depot was intimidating, but the baby superstore makes that hardware giant look like a Quik Trip. No longer do expectant mothers register at Babies "R" Us; they now register at just one aisle of the store, hoping to rack up on plastic bibs and those rubber spoons you can attach to squeezable packets of applesauce.

You may have noticed that shower invitations now generally say "Gifts Early Please." That's because by the time most people get in and out of the monstrous Babies "R" Us store, the shower is long over and the child is already comparing iPhones with his preschool buddies.

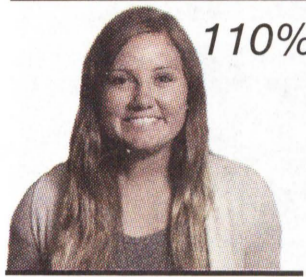
What are impoverished future parents to do? I might humbly suggest that they go ahead and clear out the sock drawer for a makeshift crib, but then I don't want to be hit with a jar of Gerber's chicken and gravy the next time I'm near the nursery.

Dr. Claxton is on sabbatical this semester. This column originally ran on Sept. 15, 2006.

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

Alex Ezell

110%



Too many sports, too little time

This might just be me, but recently I have been overwhelmed by SportsCenter and the amount of professional sports taking place at one time. The MLB, NHL, NFL and WNBA (I will get the cold shoulder for saying that one) are all competing for the attention of sports fans across the globe.

These last few weeks my Twitter feed, radio and TV have been consumed by the sports world. Try as I might, I just cannot see it all. I rely on tweets and SportsCenter to keep me up to date. Sometimes even that is not enough. So, let's have a little recap.

We are entering the sixth week in the NFL. Most teams are starting to get into the swing of things, yet we still have the Jacksonville Jaguars who cannot get anything to go their way. There is still a battle at the top of the standings with three undefeated teams: the Denver Broncos, New Orleans Saints and Kansas City Chiefs.

MLB post-season play is wrapping up the league division series this week. With plenty of drama for every team involved, I am happy to see most of the better teams, like the Cardinals (I cannot believe I am admitting that), ended up on top. It would not be October baseball if it were not for nail-biting endings to close games.

For all the hockey fans out there, do not worry, I have not forgotten you. The NHL is back on the ice this week with the beginning of regular season play. According to NHL.com, the overall favorite to contend for the Stanley Cup in 2014 is the Boston Bruins. I guess we will just have to sit back and wait to see about that one.

Last and definitely least, the WNBA is wrapping up their season this week. Yes, that is right: The WNBA Finals were last night, people. I apologize to those of you who are die-hard fans, but really find another sport. Please.

Basically what I am saying is there might be too many sports going on at one time, but you can find a way to stay in the know about them all. Trust me, you do not want to miss any of the action that will be occurring in the upcoming weeks and months.

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

Volleyball victory streak continues

Lady Bisons push through conference play to extend this season's win streak to seven games, overall conference streak reaches 23 consecutive games

Matt Chaffin
asst. sports editor

The Harding volleyball team is currently on a seven-game winning streak that has included six different matches in which the Lady Bisons have swept their opponents in three straight sets.

Ever since dropping their match against an 11th ranked Washburn University team in Fort Smith, Ark. last month, Harding has been playing motivated volleyball under second year coach Meredith Fear.

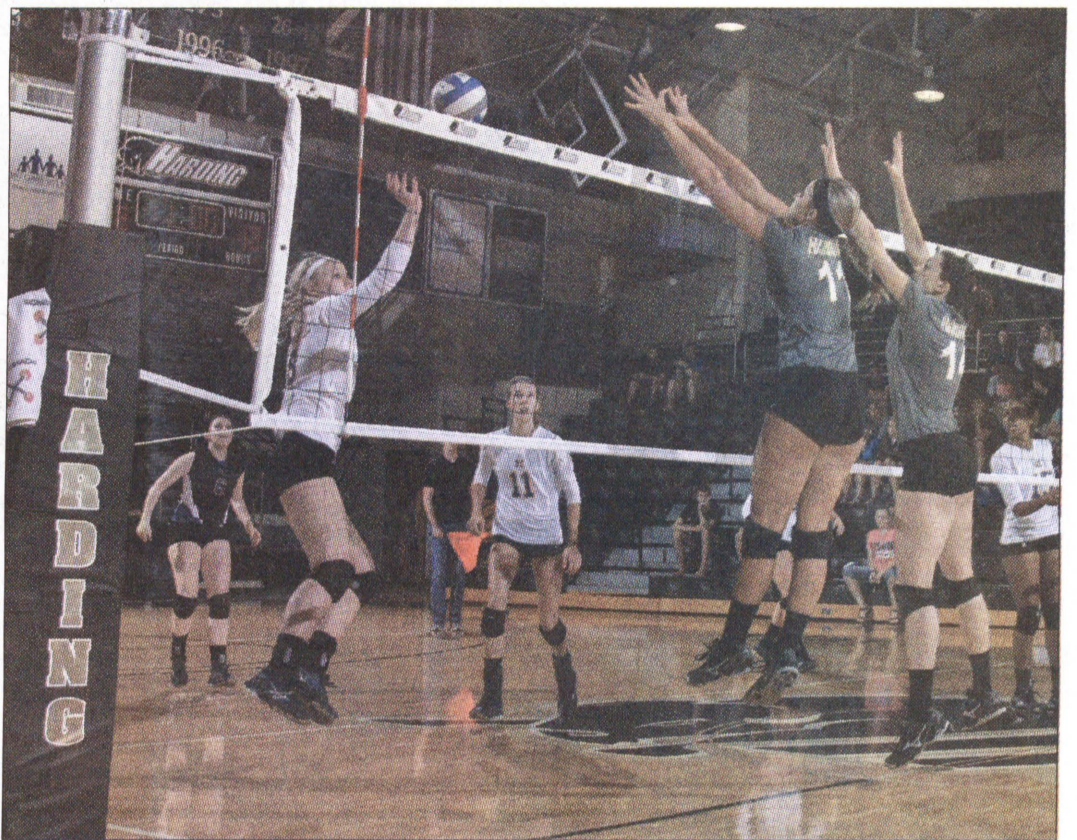
"You gotta have some adversity in there somewhere," Fear said.

The Lady Bisons have extended the two winning streaks that were already active for Harding.

Currently the Lady Bisons have a conference winning streak of 23 consecutive wins that stretches all the way back to two seasons ago when they fell short in the Great American Conference tournament championship game to Arkansas Tech University. Harding has racked up 21 consecutive wins in home matches, a streak that dates back to two seasons ago as well after a loss to Arkansas Tech.

"I'm very impressed about how well we are performing, especially at home," junior Liv Savage said. "I want to just keep increasing the streak and never let anything get to us."

Senior Mollie Arnold has had 300 kills in the season so far, and senior Alyssa Short has had 51 blocks. Setter Taryn Eubank has earned



GRANT SCHOL | THE BISON

Seniors Mollie Arnold, No. 11, and Alyssa Short, No. 14, go in for the block against Southeastern Oklahoma State University on Oct. 5. The Lady Bisons won 3-1.

GAC setter of the week honors twice in the past three weeks including this past week, as announced on Wednesday.

The team will spend this weekend on the road at the Missouri Southern Tournament in Joplin, Mo. Their first game is against Southwestern

Baptist University today at 12 p.m. and then will face off against Emporia State at 4 p.m. They will wrap up the tournament tomorrow as they will play Northwest Missouri State University at 11 a.m. and then the University of Central Missouri at 1 p.m.

PLAYER PROFILE

"What made you decide to come to Harding?"

"My parents went here and my family has all gone here. I have basically been like 'Oh, I am going to Harding' since I was born."

"What made you decide to play softball once you were already here as a rising junior?"

"Well, I have played since I was like five. So, after high school I thought that was my last game. The coach called me and said we were going to have tryouts. I missed the sport, and I decided to play."

"What are you most looking forward to this softball season?"

"Getting to know everybody and being back on a team. Once you are on a team it is like you are family. It is a lot of fun."

"What do you like to do in your free time?"

"When do we have free time? I guess hang out with people and

KINSEY BECK
SOFTBALL
JUNIOR



MATT DOBSON | PETIT JEAN

NO. 27
INFIELDER
HUNTSVILLE, ALA.

chill. I like to watch movies." "Who would you say has been the biggest influence on you from the coaching staff this far?" "Mollie Mitchell is our assistant coach. She is so happy and motivational. Everything she says just makes sense. She did a devotional the other day on the bus and I think it hit all of us pretty hard. It was her life story and what she has been through the past few years. It was awesome. She is always

energetic and going hard. When she is positive it makes us have a positive attitude as well."

"Being one of the older players on the new team, does that affect your leadership role?"

"I feel like coach expects me to be more of a leader since I am older. We did practice in the spring, so I know how he coaches, the drills and what he wants. He talks to me and tells me stuff to tell the team. Plus, I am older and I have been

through more college than the rest of the girls. So, I know how to deal with homework, classes and everything else. I can help them sort out things."

"What is your major and what do you want to do with it after college?"

"Social work. I do not know exactly where I want to go with it. I have thought about going international by doing some mission work. I also like to counsel people. I might like to work at a school and be a counselor. Adoption agencies are another option I am interested in. I would really like to go overseas and help out. I went to Honduras on spring break and it was the best week of my life. It really changed my outlook on pretty much everything. We have so much and are extremely blessed. They hardly have a house to live in, much less food to eat."

Story by Alex Ezell
Graphic by Tyler Carmical

Fighting for the ball



VIRGINIA "VIVI" VITALONE | THE BISON

Sophomore midfielder Josiah Ireland, No. 10, fights off a Ouachita Baptist University defender on Monday, Oct. 7, when the Bisons defeated the Tigers 1-0. The Bisons are 3-4-2 so far this season. Their next game is Oct. 17 at home against Southwest Baptist University at 7 p.m.

Midnight Madness rowdiness to kick off 2013-2014 season

Harding men's and women's basketball teams will begin practice Oct. 14

Henry Gonzalez
photographer

On Monday, Oct. 14, basketball fans, students and visitors are going to reunite and welcome the 2013-2014 basketball season at Midnight Madness in the Rhodes Field House.

Midnight Madness starts at 10:30 p.m. and ends after midnight. More than 2,000 participants are expected to be in attendance. Curfew will be extended to give students enough time to return to their dorms.

During the celebration fans will enjoy contests such as "Dash for Cash," "Dizzy Bat Layup," and a three-point competition as well as giveaways.

"I expect for a great crowd to show up and everyone to have a great time and the atmosphere to be a typical Rhodes Field's atmosphere," junior guard Montana Lewis said. "My favorite part is just seeing everyone come out and supporting the men's and women's basketball teams."

The Rhodes Field House was the 2013 Best Road Trip Destination in college basketball presented by Enterprise Rent-A-Car. Midnight Madness is held in the Rhodes and will be the first time the 2013-2014 Bisons and Lady Bisons are introduced to the fans.

"There's always been a great connection between what's going on in the stands and what is (happening) on the floor," Jeff Morgan, head men's basketball coach, said. "Basketball is such an intimate sport because there is no bad seat. Everybody is close to the action; it's a fast pace, up-and-down the floor game."

My favorite part is just seeing everyone come out and supporting the men's and women's basketball teams.
- Montana Lewis, women's basketball

The Bisons and Lady Bisons' first games are at the Rhodes on Nov. 14 against Christian Brothers University.

"We are just really excited about everybody coming out and enjoying this year's team," said Tim Kirby, head women's basketball coach. "We have everybody returning from last year plus added a few new ones. It is always exciting to see that new team on the floor."

In recent years, some of the highlights of the night have included basketball players jumping over Chancellor David Burks and contests for paid half tuitions. Students should not miss this event. Come show your support for the basketball teams.

THIS WEEK IN SPORTS

- Volleyball won against Henderson State University, 3-0, Oct. 8.
- Midnight Madness is Monday, Oct. 14 in the Rhodes.
- Ty Powell, recent Harding graduate, was picked up by the Buffalo Bills and added to the active roster.
- Football will play the University of Arkansas at Monticello tomorrow at 2 p.m. at home.
- Men's soccer defeated Ouachita Baptist University 1-0 on Oct. 7.
- Junior Romo Westbrook was named GAC offensive player of the week.
- Men's and women's cross-country placed sixth at Chile Pepper Festival on Oct. 5.
- Junior Brittany Marquez (golf) placed second at the University of Central Oklahoma's Bronco Classic on Oct. 8.
- Lady Bison soccer defeated Northwestern Oklahoma University 3-0 on Oct. 6.

Cardinals pride emerges during MLB playoff season

Weston Woodruff



guest
space

October: The time has come for the weather to start cooling off and the trees to start changing colors. The shorts and sandals are moving to the back of the closet as the boots and flannels have started to pop up all over campus. The season of football, bonfires and haunted houses has come upon us, but before we fully enjoy this time that has been anticipated by many, we must first appreciate October for its true purpose: the Major League Baseball playoffs.

As a St. Louis Cardinals fan, I have been looking forward to the playoffs since this time last year after a loss to the World Series champions, the San Francisco Giants. I've been looking forward to this even more since opening day in early April when the new season began and professor Devin Swindle taught our New Testament class wearing a vintage Ozzie Smith jersey.

Since then our beloved Cardinals have played 162 games over a period of 180 days. The season definitely had its ups and downs through wins, losses, trades and injuries, but the Cardinals managed to finish with a record of 97-65: the best record in baseball, clinching the National League Central Division Title.

The time has come to determine a world champion and there are only eight teams remaining. It's win or go home and each team is thirsty for a championship, each fan thinks it is their team's year and each baseball enthusiast is looking forward to the competitive atmosphere and quality baseball.

Since I am a fan who is heavily biased toward St. Louis, I can't help but think of the playoff magic the Cardinals have produced in the last few years. In 2011, the Cards came back from a 10.5 game deficit to earn a record worthy of clinching the National League Wild Card on the last day of the season.

As their late playoff berth commenced, a stray squirrel appeared on the field during a home game versus the Philadelphia Phillies and

again during the very next game in Philadelphia. The Cards won both of these games, causing all of Cardinal nation to rally behind the battle cry "Rally Squirrel." The Cards continued to rally and when we came one strike away from losing the world series, twice, David Freese found his inner rally squirrel and hit a walk off home run to force a game seven, which couldn't be lost after the rolling momentum created by that single home run. This infamous home run and when we won our 11th World Series championship in 2011 made me, a high school senior, become as giddy as a little boy at his first game ever, screaming at the top of my lungs and high fiving everyone in sight.

This incredible accomplishment

stirred up even more personal hype than when I was a 12-year-old watching the 2006 Cardinals win the World Series or even when my family and I gathered in our living room to watch Mark McGwire break the single season home run record in 1998. The tradition of supporting Cardinal baseball is something that has been passed down from my grandfather to me, and when we don't have anything else to talk about, we can always talk about who's pitching, who's been hitting well or who needs to be traded.

So the time of year has come when Cardinals fans shamelessly support our boys attempting to make history, and whatever the outcome, I am proud to be a Cardinal.

LOCKER TALK

Our Athletes' Views on Pop Culture

questions

What song describes your work ethic?

Pick two celebrities to be your parents. Why?

What is your favorite Disney movie?

If you could coach a team for a year, who would it be?

Describe yourself in three words.

Rachel Roberts
(Cross-Country)



"Work Hard, Play Hard"
by Wiz Khalifa.

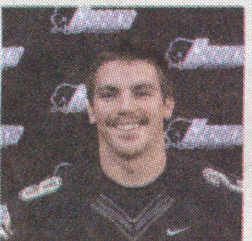
Beyoncé and Jay-Z, who wouldn't want Beyoncé as their mom?

"The Little Mermaid."

Oklahoma City Thunder.

Outgoing, perfectionist, adventurous.

Christian Pletta
(Football)



"Don't Stop Believing"
by Journey.

Russell Crowe, its Russell Crowe. Miss Kay Robertson, for her cooking made with love.

"The Lion King." Hakuna Matata all day, everyday.

The Detroit Lions. Yes, the Detroit Lions.

Goofy, dedicated, northerner.

Bren Grymes
(Cheerleading)



"(What Doesn't Kill You Makes You) Stronger"
by Kelly Clarkson.

Tim McGraw and Faith Hill, they would be fun to go on country music tours with.

"The Princess and the Frog."

Dallas Cowboys Cheerleading.

Silly, easy-going, positive.

Curtis Hunt
(Soccer)



"Hungry Like the Wolf"
by Duran Duran.

Peyton Manning, he's a beast. Betty White, she's hilarious.

"Mulan."

Washington Redskins.

Fun, goofy, passionate.

Kyle Evans
(Golf)



"Hustlin"
by Rick Ross

Brad Pitt, have you ever seen Fight Club? Katy Perry, genetics, and she could sing me to sleep.

"Peter Pan," easily.

FC Bayern Munich.

Mustache, movies, music. (And alliteration.)



VIRGINIA "VIVI" VITALONE | THE BISON

Senior Lucas Horn has an early breakfast with new friends at Maddie's Cafe on the Square. Since meeting the group of local Searcy men, Horn continues to meet them for breakfast at 5 a.m. every Friday.

Good food and new friends at Maddie's Cafe on the Square

by Julie Anne White
editorial assistant

After a late night of studying, senior Lucas Horn strolled in to Maddie's Cafe in downtown Searcy looking for a much-needed study break and some good-old fashioned breakfast food. What he found was a set of unexpected new friends.

One might assume a restaurant to be pretty vacant at 5 a.m. on a Friday, but Maddie's is a hub for many of Searcy's early-risers to meet before they head off to work. As Horn slid into a booth, he said he could not help but notice the restaurant was buzzing with commotion. Within a few minutes, a group of elderly gentlemen invited him to join them.

"I met all the guys, and then I sat down drinking coffee and talking for an hour and a half," Horn said. Horn said he enjoyed their

company so much that he decided to go back, and he has not stopped going since.

"I figured I would come here rather than sleeping in every morning," Horn said.

The group Horn eats breakfast with every week has met together at Maddie's to catch up and tell stories for approximately 25 years. Each of them comes from a very different role within the Searcy community.

Allen King, a construction worker for Harding University, said he has known Deputy Sheriff Jeff Langley and Razorback Auto salesman Don Evans along with several of the other gentlemen since high school. Their friendship has stood the test of time, lasting for around 50 years. Michelle Blanchett, who has worked at Maddie's since 1990, has also known the group since they first started eating breakfast at the

cafe early each morning.

King said he goes to Maddie's for the company.

"I come here to visit," King said. "The food here is good and Michelle is good to us. You can have a lot of fun in here before you go to work."

Horn said the atmosphere was plenty of fun, and the wisdom and experience his new friends have to offer surpasses anything that can be taught in a traditional classroom setting.

"It's fun just getting to hear these guys tell stories," Horn said. "I figure listening to them, I will learn more than I ever will going to class."

Horn said he plans to continue to eat breakfast with the group every Friday for the rest of his time at Harding, because his new friends "have learned a lot in their 50 plus years of living and their wisdom will be helpful to living life."

Harding History House reopens and reveals new exhibits

by Jess Boyd
web editor

Eighty-nine years of Harding history, complete from Morrilton to Searcy, are displayed in the History House, located next to Almost Anything on Lott Tucker Drive. The museum has been closed for the past year, but has opened again and will feature new exhibits every few months.

Debbie Howard took on the role of curator in August and said she has several ideas to make the History House more accessible and inviting to the Harding community.

"The History House is here for all of us to learn about Harding's rich heritage, what it was and what it is going to be," Howard said. "Every day there will be a different video playing that showcases a part of Harding's history. Everyone is welcome to bring their lunch or grab a cup of coffee and come in to watch and browse the exhibits."

The History House currently features an exhibit that focuses on the five first ladies of Harding. Howard said she contacted the families of Sally Benson, Louise Ganus, Leah Burks and Ann McLarty and asked them to share their family stories and photos, which she said would give the exhibit a more personal touch.

"My goal was to have more than just the dry facts," Howard said. "I enjoyed doing research on all five first ladies and interviewing each of them and their families."

Special items in the exhibit include the dress Ganus wore to the 1955 inauguration, the Bible

she received from Armstrong at graduation and a dress Benson bought back from when she was doing mission work in China. The first ladies' exhibit will be on display until December.

In addition to sharing Harding's history, Howard plans to also feature distinguished alumni. The first will be Joe Aaron, who created the cartoon series "Doug." The exhibit will include a signed copy of the first "Doug" script and a video of the first episode.

Howard said she is currently working on an international programs exhibit for the spring as well. She is collecting photos and stories from alumni about their time abroad and what international programs mean to them. If anyone has photos from their study abroad program, they can email them to historyhouse@harding.edu.

The History House is maintained by the Associated Women for Harding and its members volunteer to keep the house open. Sue Hixson, a member of AWH and a volunteer for the History House, said another plan AWH has for the History House is to put a paved patio in the backyard that has the original gates from Galloway College when Harding bought the campus in 1934. Hixson said the patio would be a great place for history classes to meet and for alumni groups to host reunions.

The History House is open on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. You can find them on Facebook at Harding University History House and can follow them on Twitter @HUHistoryHouse.

GETTING TO KNOW GERTIE

by Bethany Aspey
opinions editor

We all love a good ghost story, but brace yourself for a chilling tale of Harding's very own ghost and legend. Introducing: Galloway Gertie. Various accounts of the Galloway Ghost litter haunted histories and supernatural stories of the south.

If you have never heard the tale of Gertie, here is a basic description commonly believed to be true. Legend has it that Gertie, a student at Harding (which at the time was still Galloway College) tragically fell down a dorm elevator shaft to her death. While the dorm has since been torn down, the same bricks were used to build the old music building, which is currently the Lee building. It is rumored that she still haunts these halls. Our very own Jim Johnson, director of student support services, tells his account of his own introduction to Gertie.

"In 2004 I accepted this job and they put me in the Lee building. I did not believe any of this initially. Having just moved in, I had no furniture in my office at the time, but my phone was hooked up, and out of the blue, my phone went crazy. It was a brand new phone, and then the speaker part came on. I did not touch it. I just walked in and there was this rasping sound and then my name. It was like Stephen King. My name went

across the screen - hundreds of times - and I couldn't get it to turn off. So I unplugged it and plugged it back in, and it did it again. So I just unplugged it and left the office. I called the phone company, Harding's phone service, and they told me 'Oh, it's gotta be Gertie, she tends to mess with things.' And I said, 'I don't need this today. My new boss in Washington D.C. is supposed to call today,' and so I said 'if you guys have done this on purpose, you will pay. God will find you. You're gonna pay for that.' But I really didn't think much about it anymore. About two months later, my wife and I and a student were repainting the hallways and the building was locked up, and we ran out of paint. The student and I had not had supper, so my wife said 'you just go on and get more paint and come back.' When I got back, she was locked in my office, in a different part of the building, and I when I got to where she was, I said 'What's going on?' She said, 'the doors were opening and closing upstairs. I could hear somebody in the building. I hollered, but no one would come down.' We finished painting the hallways, but I heard similar stories from other people after that.

Another time, when I came in the front door, the light, the fluorescent light right over where the hallways come across would

flash, hundreds of times, very quickly. When I would step out from under it, it would all stop. So I called someone who used to work in the building years ago and I told her about the light. She said 'oh, that's just Gertie.' And I said, 'no,' and she said 'Jim, is she only doing that for you? No one else has complained about the light flickering?' I said 'No, it's just me.' And she said, 'Have they tried to repair it?' and I said 'yeah,' and she said 'it won't matter.' And I'm like, 'sure.' So I walk in the next morning, after the guy had fixed it and it did it again. And it only did it when I went under that light.

Then, once when I was in the old band room on that side, (I was a club sponsor back then and we were all gathered together in that room) and everyone left, and I'm putting equipment in the old closet in the back, and I hear music. I hear the run of the piano and it's this woman's beautiful voice. All I thought was, 'man, that is so pretty,' but then I remembered that there are no more pianos in the building, and I was alone. And I did hear it. And it didn't really scare me, but I definitely thought, 'it's time to go home.' There were other things too...but those are some of my stories of Gertie. And it's the truth. Now, how you explain it away, I don't know. I think she liked us because we repainted and got new carpet."



Look for video about Thackerland on thelink.harding.edu.

BRADEN NIBLOCK | THE BISON

Exploring Thackerland

by Rachel Weiss
student writer

Thackerland, located in Judsonia, is a flea market about 10 minutes away from Harding. Founded in 1987 by Gary Thacker, Thackerland started out as a one shed antique shop and has grown over the years to become the flea market it is today.

Featuring more than 200 different vendors and booths, Thackerland offers a variety of items and services in both indoor and outdoor spaces. With its unique setup that includes seven buildings and 54 mini-storage units for items to be displayed in, you can't miss it. Whether you're interested in buying hunting or fishing gear, looking to get

your phone or computer fixed or just searching for great antiques, Thackerland has you covered.

For Harding students wanting to save their pennies, Thackerland is the perfect place to find great deals on clothes, books, movies, vinyl records, artwork, random knickknacks and much more. Several students have even returned from Thackerland with a new mode of transportation: a bike to ride around campus.

Thackerland is open Saturdays and Sundays year round from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., and is located on Highway 367 in Judsonia.

Gary Thacker says no matter what you're looking for, chances are Thackerland's got it.

Area offers much to those staying in Searcy for break

by Alexis Hosticka
news editor

Just because you're staying in Searcy for fall break doesn't mean it has to be a lazy weekend. Check out some fun stuff going on close to Harding.

1. The Little Rock Zoo

If you're not going home to see your dogs and cats over break, you can go visit a whole bunch of creatures at the Little Rock Zoo. The zoo is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day of fall break and admission is \$10. On Oct. 18 and 19 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., the zoo is hosting Boo at the Zoo, a trick-or-treating event with a hay maze, carnival rides, concessions, a haunted house and hay ride, costume contest and more. Tickets for this event cost \$8.

2. Magic Springs

Even though it's a little too chilly to use the water park, the roller coasters and carnival rides are still open at Magic Springs theme park. On Oct. 19 from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. and Oct. 20 from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m., Magic Springs is hosting Magic Screams, their annual Halloween event. The park will have three haunted houses, a trick-or-treat trail and costume contests in addition to the usual theme park rides. The park is about an hour and a half away in Hot Springs, Ark. Admission is \$29.99.

3. Concerts: Bon Jovi and Luke Bryan

Whether you like country or rock, you can choose between a Luke Bryan and Bon Jovi concert at the Verizon Arena in Little Rock. On Oct. 17, Thompson Square and Florida Georgia Line will open for Luke Bryan starting at 7:30 p.m. Tickets start at \$40. Bon Jovi performs Oct. 18 starting at 7:30 p.m. and tickets start at \$34.

4. Professional Bull Riders

If you're looking for a wild and entertaining evening, the Professional Bull Riders: Touring Pro Division will be at the Barton Coliseum in Little Rock on Oct. 18 and 19 at 7:30 p.m. The PBR is not a rodeo, but according to their website, it is "bull riding, and the first rule is just to stay alive ... It's America's original extreme sport." Tickets are \$10-\$25.

5. Outdoors

If you're looking to save money, fall weather and changing colors on the trees are a perfect combination for spending your long weekend outdoors. Greers Ferry Lake, Searcy City Lake and Barnett Lake are great for fishing. If you would rather do something active, and touching slimy fish isn't your thing, Sugarloaf and Pinnacle Mountain are beautiful hikes and are not too far away.

Vine Etiquette

1. No one wants to see you working out.
2. Nothing along the lines of "cats be like, and dogs be like."
3. Don't overuse hashtags. Use no more than three.
4. "Selfie Vines." The subject of your Vine shouldn't be you all the time. If all of your Vines are of you talking the whole time, please just stop.
5. Don't scream at your phone. Loud Vines equal annoying Vines.
6. Leave your phone on a scene long enough for me to figure out what is going on. Don't switch between scenes so quickly.
7. Background music is great.
8. Please limit your re-Vines of animals.
9. Have an appropriate ratio of original Vines to re-Vines. You should have more originals than reposts.
10. Stop dropping that "thun thun thun."
11. No more Miley.
12. Stop motion is amazing.

story by Tin Nguyen
designed by Jewelya Williams

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