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Courtesy of THE OFFICE OF GOV. ASA HUTCHINSON

Participants in the 39th annual March For Life show their support for the right to life movement on Jan. 22 in Little Rock. Around 2,000 people took part in the event at the Capitol Building, according to participant and event speaker junior Luke Helms.

Arkansas marches for 'right to live well'

JOSHUA JOHNSON
editor-in-chief

On Sunday, Jan. 22, the 39th annual March For Life was held in metropolitan locations across the nation, including Little Rock.

According to junior Luke Helms, the Little Rock March For Life began and ended at the Capitol Building, and the event was followed by a ceremony on the front steps where Governor Asa Hutchinson, Senator Cecile Bledsoe and others spoke to the crowd.

Helms said he was given the opportunity to speak to the crowd as well, by invitation from the Arkansas Right to Life director Rose Mimms.

"I talked about how each one of us has a personal responsibility to be a light in a dark place," Helms said.

Helms said he met Mimms at the Right To Life Academy in Washington D.C., where he interned for five weeks. Mimms said Helms is a "rising star" in the right to life movement.

"I start planning our next march in Little Rock the day after it's over," Mimms said. "We march every single year to remember and keep it in front of people that this Roe v. Wade decision is wrong, and that unborn children pay the ultimate cost."

Vice President for University Communication and Marketing Jana Rucker said that respectful protest is a valid way to create awareness of issues.

"As women, we have come a very long way in terms of rights and our place in society, and I think we should stand up for ourselves in a respectful, informed and persuasive way," Rucker said. "Speaking from my personal views,

I believe the Bible teaches that all human life is sacred. Our responsibility as Christians is to be pleasing to God, and that's what I think we need to consider as we decide how to live and which side of issues we are on."

The event was held the day after the Women's March, a peaceful protest that also took place in cities across the nation, primarily in Washington D.C. where more than 470,000 people participated, according to the New York Times. Helms said that he does not see the March For Life as being any type of protest against the Women's March.

"I don't think they have to conflict, because within the March For Life, you have many women that are seeking the same rights as the women at the Women's March," Helms said. "The main difference lies with the people at the March For Life saying, 'We want to

extend these same rights to the people inside the mother's womb. They deserve to be heard."

Junior Katelyn Perrett said she attended the March For Life for the first time this year and was proud to come together with like-minded individuals.

"There was so much passion in the atmosphere, and you could really see that this issue is on so many people's hearts," Perrett said.

Helms said that one of the goals of the March For Life is to change the perception of what the "right to life" means.

"It's not just for women to have babies," Helms said. "It's for people to have life, and for people to have the right to live well. Regardless of how many lives we think will change, or how many people are listening, we are going to go at it our hardest no matter what. That is the root of this movement."

CAB breaks hearts with Top 40 nostalgia

LIBBIE TURNER
asst. pr/marketing

February is a tough month to be a college student. Christmas Break feels like a distant memory, and Spring Break is just beyond reach. Harding Campus Activities Board director Logan Light and the rest of the CAB crew are doing what they can to shake up the semester. On Saturday, Feb. 18 at 8 p.m., CAB will reach into the Top 40 list from 2008 to bring Jesse McCartney to the Administration Auditorium.

Past CAB concerts have featured artists such as Tori Kelly, Andy Grammer, NEED-TOBREATHE, Mat Kearney and Pentatonix, and Light said he expects McCartney's show to be a lot of fun as McCartney will be featuring both his new and classic hits.

"To his credit, McCartney knows exactly why he's in vogue with the college-aged crowds right now," Light said. "He's still making new music, but he's playing the songs that people know and want to hear."

Light said that with CAB's budget and content restrictions, hunting for musicians can be a difficult task, and often leads to introducing the student body to new music. Easy access to a wide variety of artists and

the portability of music also makes finding a popular artist difficult, according to Light.

"Now that you can carry your music around with you, your favorite bands can be ones that no one has ever heard of and that makes it hard to find a performer that everyone knows about," Light said. "When Jesse was really big, people listened to the radio. Top 40 was a big deal. Everyone knew Top 40 songs."

Many people remember listening to McCartney's songs during their childhood years, including CAB co-director Presley Nixon, who said she cannot wait to meet him.

"I had such a huge crush on Jesse McCartney when I was 8 years old. I had his CDs and posters, so when Logan brought up his name, I was so excited," Nixon said. "College students don't have much to be nostalgic about, but I think every girl on this campus will be feeling very nostalgic of our 7 to 10 year-old days at this concert. I'm going to have to practice playing it cool."

Nixon is not the only person who has fond memories of McCartney's music. CAB co-director Keslee Dunavin expressed strong emotions when CAB first began looking at McCartney as an option, even calling him her "long lost love."

"I started crying when I first heard about



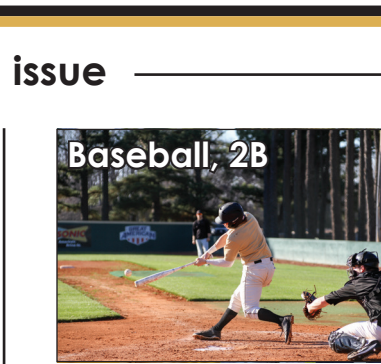
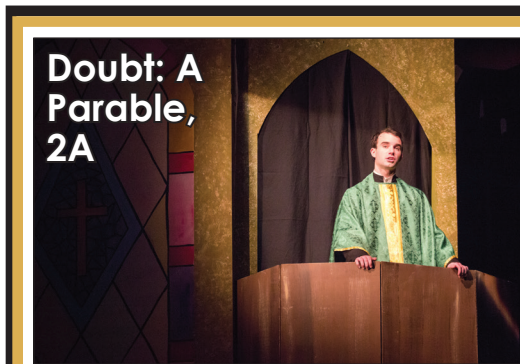
Courtesy of CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BOARD

CAB announced on Jan. 25 that Top 40 performer Jesse McCartney will be performing in the Administration Auditorium on Feb. 18 at 8 p.m.

Jesse possibly coming," Dunavin said. "I'm really looking forward to so many people's dreams coming true. It's going to be awesome."

Tickets to see Jesse McCartney go on sale

Feb. 1 and are \$10 or \$5 with a CAB pass. They can be purchased online or in the CAB office. Sales will open to the community on Friday, Feb. 3.



In this issue



RYANN HEIM | The Bison

Seniors Penny Turpin and Hannah Reimert play their roles as two Catholic nuns Sister Aloysius and Sister James during a dress rehearsal for the play "Doubt: A Parable" on Jan. 25. The show will be performed from Thursday, Jan. 26 until Saturday, Jan. 28.

Performance to challenge audiences

Harding University Department of Theatre to explore the relationship between faith and doubt in upcoming production, "Doubt: A Parable"

PARKER SAMUEL
student writer
JAISA HOGUE
news editor

Set in a time of progressivism for the Catholic Church of the 1960s, "Doubt: A Parable" tells the story of a controversy in which the principal of St. Nicholas Catholic School accuses a popular, progressive priest of having inappropriate relations with a young altar boy.

"The play explores how the accusation of that inappropriate relationship plays out and how people behave after that accusation has been made," theatre professor and director Britton Lynn said.

There are only four cast members in the production. The members include senior theatre major Adam Leasure as Father Flynn, senior theatre major Penny Turpin as Sister Aloysius, senior theatre major Hannah Reimert as Sister James, and freshman Shelby Beasley as Mrs. Miller. Reimert's character is a young nun who teaches at St. Nicholas and gets caught in between the two sides of the conflict.

"She reflects what the audience feels while

watching the show," Reimert said. "She doesn't really know what to believe. She wants to see the good in everybody, but Sister Aloysius tries to convince her that she's right while Father Flynn tries to convince her that he's innocent."

While Sister James' faith gets shaken up a bit throughout the play, Reimert said that she finally finds a way to be secure in who she is and what she believes towards the end of the play, regardless of the events that did or did not occur.

Lynn said the show deals with some adult themes but believes it is important for a Christian audience to evaluate and discuss. He also said this kind of story is beneficial for the students that participate in the play because they encounter work that directly ties to their Christian world view.

"A hugely important part of our service to the university is that we put material out there for the university community to discuss," Lynn said. "How we engage in meaningful dialogue with someone that does not have our worldview is something that we need to constantly be evaluating."

Leasure plays Father Flynn, the priest under accusation. He said his character is one that will be analyzed by the audience and it is a role unlike

others he has played in the past.

"There are these things that are being said about (my character), and he has to figure out how to react to that," Leasure said. "With this one, you see a lot of (my character), and it's very vulnerable."

Leasure said he has been involved in the theatre department with Reimert and Turpin since his start at Harding in 2013. He said the characters portrayed by he and Turpin are at odds with each other throughout the course of the play.

"It's not every day that you get the opportunity to yell at some of your best friends," Leasure said.

The Harding Department of Theatre is performing "Doubt: A Parable," on Thursday, Jan. 26, through Saturday, 28, at 7 p.m. in the Administration Auditorium.

"I think this play is important because it asks (about), most importantly, the relationship between doubt and faith," Reimert said. "And how you continue to hold a belief when you have questions or when you're unsure ... (It says) it's okay to have doubts because it's sometimes, in those moments, when you find the answers that really make your faith stronger."

The show is \$10 or free with a CAB pass.

Martial arts school relocates in Searcy

SAVANNA DISTEFANO
features editor

Impact 360, a nonprofit martial arts ministry, purchased its first building and plans to transform it into a training and community center.

Impact 360 is an organization founded in 2004 that provides martial arts classes, tutoring, youth mentoring and financial and life skills classes to adults. Approximately 150 to 200 students are currently enrolled in the school, and scholarships are offered for children who are unable to afford classes.

Impact 360 moved to its new location at 201 W. Woodruff from Complete in Christ Church on Highway 36. Dr. Scot Crenshaw, president and executive director of Impact 360, said board members and master instructors chose the new central location to bring together people of varying backgrounds and gain more foot traffic.

"The idea is to mix local kids with kids who are Christian and with Harding students who want to come and have an opportunity to be with unchurched people," Crenshaw said. "I think back, and I got in a lot of trouble when I was a kid, and didn't really have that type of mentoring. Now, I think of a teacher, a coach, someone who took an interest in me who didn't have to, and I really believe that is the way to go, so I want this to be just a hub where that happens where we can facilitate it."

According to Crenshaw, the community center will be equipped with a TV and gaming tables, including



RYANN HEIM | The Bison

Master instructor Jordan Crenshaw teaches students at the new location for Impact 360, a martial arts school in Searcy, Arkansas. Impact 360 doubles as a ministry to the surrounding community.

air hockey and ping pong. He said local city officials, clergy, doctors, counselors and the nearby Maple House Ministry is partnering with the organization to reach out to the surrounding community.

Michelle Coizman, assistant professor of foreign language and international studies, began practicing Krav Maga at the school when she enrolled her son in Taekwondo classes in August 2016. She said the school exposes children to positive role models and implicates discipline.

"(Martial arts) requires discipline and respect, and it is a positive way to use some energy," Coizman said. "The new location is great, and there is plenty of room to grow and reach more kids ... If home is not a safe and

fun place, Impact 360 is an option."

Senior Ryan Whitman has been taking martial arts classes at Impact 360 for more than a year. He said he has developed relationships with several children who attend the school.

"After being there for a year and a half, I have been able to see how much they can do with the kids and the adults in the surrounding area," Whitman said. "I know Impact 360 is different than a lot of other martial arts places, and that's what makes it so special."

Whitman said he plans to earn his black belt and later open a branch of Impact 360 after he graduates in May.

"I'm hoping that wherever I go,

I can open up a branch and be able to have the same effect on the kids and the community around me," Whitman said. "It's something that I hope to be able to be a starting point in which the community can be brought together."

According to Crenshaw, a grand opening for the new building is expected to take place on June 1. A kick-a-thon fundraiser to remodel the building is being planned for February. To become involved in Impact 360, contact Crenshaw at screnshaw@harding.edu.

"What we do off the mat is just as big as what we do on the mat," Crenshaw said. "We want to be a hub of mentoring and spiritual influence."

Ruby Bridges

Civil rights activist to speak at ASI Lectureship

SAVANNA DISTEFANO
features editor

The American Studies Institute will conclude its distinguished lecture series with Ruby Bridges, author and civil rights activist, Thursday, Feb. 2 at 7:30 p.m. in the Benson Auditorium. Bridges was the first black child to integrate into an elementary school in the South.

"ASI is honored to bring Ruby Bridges to our campus," ASI president senior Emily Mylhausen said. "Our country is still hurting from racial tensions, as we often forget that the Civil Rights Movement is not as far back in our country's history as we would like to think. Bridges' message will surely remind us for our country's history and will shed light on such injustice and inequality."

Bridges was 6 years old when she was escorted by federal marshals into William Frantz Elementary School on Nov. 14, 1960. The event inspired the Disney Movie "Ruby Bridges," Norman Rockwell's painting, "The Problem We All Live With," and the book, "The Story of Ruby Bridges" by Robert Cole. Bridges published her story in a children's book, "Through My Eyes" in 1999.

In her book, Bridges depicts the scene of a shouting crowd while she entered the elementary school for the first time. She was ostracized by white families who refused to send their children to school while Bridges attended, and she often encountered a mob on the way to school.

Bridges continued learning in an empty classroom for months before two boys joined the school. She graduated from high school and in 1999 formed the Ruby Bridges Foundation.

Mylhausen said she watched the movie "Ruby Bridges" as a child and remembered her story.

"From the first time I found out that Ruby Bridges would be an ASI lecture speaker, I have been eagerly awaiting her visit to campus," Mylhausen said. "I have always been amazed at her courage and bravery, and I am truly excited to listen to her story."

Bridges is on the board of directors for the Norman Rockwell Museum, an honorary federal U.S. marshal, and she is the recipient of the Presidential Citizens Medal, presented to her by President Bill Clinton.

Senior Luke Dalton, vice president of activities for ASI, said his father attended Little Rock Central High School soon after the Little Rock Nine integrated into the school. Dalton said his father told him stories about racism at the high school. He said these stories helped him better understand Bridges' story.

"The American Studies Institute offers a stage to individuals who have driven change in today's world," Dalton said. "Ruby Bridges' story surely qualifies as one of change. Bridges' story goes to show how much racial relations have improved in such a short time, and reminds us to follow closely the command 'love thy neighbor.'"

hannah j. moore

Hope for the future

luke theisen



guest
writer

Never grow up. All of your childhood you hear it, yet all of your childhood is spent in ignorant anticipation of doing just that. Reaching double digits on your 10th birthday, becoming a teenager, getting your driver's license, being the "big bad high school senior," going to college and one day having a job and a family and reaching the top-tier status of adult. All of these lifetime achievements are exciting to think about as a kid, but then it all happens. Before you know it, you're sitting in your dorm room, one year from graduating college, and you realize that all those events have long passed, and the next step is the culmination of your childhood daydreams: adulthood. All of a sudden, the day you simply could not wait for as a child is here, but it is not as spectacular as you had imagined. The

dream now seems more like a nightmare. You need to get a house and pay for it all by yourself. You need to eat and pay for it all by yourself. If a spouse and kids were part of your plan, you need to somehow find the love of your life if you haven't already, marry them and get your family started. And speaking of family, remember the one back home that you grew up with your entire life and love so much? Well good luck ever seeing them again. Everything you have ever known comes crashing down, and you can't help but think of that age-old advice you so foolishly ignored and ask, "Why did I ever grow up?" Okay, that may be a little dramatic, but the idea of entering into a brand new time of your life can be daunting. I know I've spent many a night lying awake freaking out about leaving home, and my cat, forever. But I've recently made a step that has helped me calm down. This semester I am living off campus, and I am loving it. Sure, it's only been a few weeks. Sure, I'm renting a place with my brother. Sure, I don't have the stresses of a career and family. But that's okay. This step, as small as it may seem, has already helped me realize that maybe it's not so scary after all. Finding a nice,

inexpensive place to live wasn't that hard; paying rent and bills aren't that scary; getting furniture wasn't that expensive and grocery shopping was actually pretty fun (especially since I got to pick what I bought). Making the move out of a place that has been paid for, whether it's my dad's house or a dorm room, and into a place that is my responsibility to pay for and take care of has eliminated one of the mysteries that makes that jump into adulthood so intimidating. I know that renting an apartment in college is not what life is going to be like once I graduate, but if I can rent and furnish an apartment and go grocery shopping, then maybe I can do all of those other things too. Next time you're lying in bed hyper-ventilating because you aren't ready to move on, just remember: you've made it this far and you've passed all those other milestones, what's one more? Keep on forging ahead in life, and try to be excited about it, like when you were a kid who couldn't wait to reach double digits. **LUKE THEISEN is a guest writer for the Bison. He may be contacted at ltheisen@harding.edu.**



it's
complicated

Alternative title

I started writing this column last week, thinking that it would just be about fake news. Fake news is way too easy to create and spread. Take, for example, the case of Cameron Harris. On Sept. 30, the 23-year-old, desperate for money, bought an abandoned web address for \$5, wrote a fabricated story about fraudulent Hillary Clinton ballots in fifteen minutes and within days had secured himself \$5,000. But then things got exponentially worse over the period of just a few days. What's happening right now isn't just about fake news anymore. This is about the new presidential administration leading an all out assault on the media. On Jan. 21, one day after the presidential inauguration, Donald Trump gave a speech at the CIA Headquarters in Langley, Virginia. "As you know, I have a running war with the media," Trump said. "They are among the most dishonest human beings on Earth." On the same day, press secretary Sean Spicer, simply put, lied about the size of the crowd at Trump's inauguration. Trump's advisor Kellyanne Conway appeared on Meet the Press the next day and defended Spicer. "If we're going to keep referring to our press secretary in those types of terms, I think that we're going to have to rethink our relationship here," Conway said. "Sean Spicer, our press secretary, gave alternative facts to that." On Jan. 24, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of the Interior were given several restrictions. Employees of these agencies are currently banned from posting on their official social media accounts or speaking with members of the press or Congress. The same day, Trump tweeted praise for Fox News and called CNN fake news for the second time. "Congratulations to @FoxNews for being number one in inauguration ratings. They were many times higher than FAKE NEWS @CNN — public is smart!" On Jan. 25, reports surfaced that at least six journalists had been arrested for attempting to cover inauguration protests. They were charged with felony rioting and could face up to 10 years in prison and a \$25,000 fine. George Orwell in his political dystopian novel "1984" warns: "The party told you to reject the evidence of your eyes and ears. It was their final, most essential command." The fake news epidemic led to a dangerous distrust of the media by the president and administration. In retaliation, they censored their employees, sponsored a highly biased news source and arrested journalists for daring to do their jobs. Falsehoods, under the guise of "alternative facts" are being promoted, uttered and defended by some of the most powerful people in our country. These will blend in with the postmodern culture we live in, which already rejects the notion of an objective reality. This is not a partisan issue. This is dangerous. This is something everyone, regardless of their political leanings, needs to be afraid of. There's a reason that the media is called the fourth estate, the other three being the three branches of the government. Its purpose is to inform the people and to ensure the transparency of those in power. These actions taken by the Trump administration are threatening the integrity of the first amendment guarantees of free speech and free press. In the Reynolds building, we proudly display this amendment on the blue wall next to the Student Publications office. These liberties are essential to a functioning society and democracy, and they are being taken away from us bit by bit. I'd like to assure you that these rights will not be easily forfeited. Mainstream news media is still credible, regardless of the views of the president or his cronies. Journalists are incredibly resilient people and they will strive to uncover the truth no matter the circumstances. Orwell continues: "There was truth and there was untruth, and if you clung to the truth even against the whole world, you were not mad." **HANNAH J. MOORE is the opinions editor for the Bison. She may be contacted at hmoore@harding.edu. Twitter: @hannah_j_moore**



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT... JESSE McCARTNEY EDITION



Haley Fortson @hayley_fortson-1/25/17
struggle is real seeing other Harding girls as sisters in Christ instead of competitors for a limited number of Jesse McCartney tickets.

← ↻ ❤



Melissa K. Hite @rockymtnhite-1/25/17
First poster I ever had was of Jesse McCartney. I was 11, it was from Tiger Beat and I covered his eyes when I changed.

← ↻ ❤



Drew Sullivan @drewsullyg3-1/25/17
If your girlfriend didn't break up with you for James Taylor, she will when Jesse McCartney comes to town.

← ↻ ❤

Graphic by **SAM SHEPHERD**

'Venti caramel frappuccino for Adolf'

natalie e. smith



asst. web
editor

The strangest experience I've ever had at work was July 14, 2015. I was working the best job in the world as a barista in the Barnes and Noble Café in North Little Rock. We opened the doors unreasonably early that day for the release of Harper Lee's "Go Set A Watchman," and my opening duties were performed in a drowsy haze. We expected a huge crowd and were all sorely disappointed when only three people showed up for the book release. One of these people was a man dressed in a tie-dyed shirt, torn blue jeans tucked into black leather combat boots and the most jewelry I've ever seen on any one person, much less on a grown man with a long gray ponytail tied back under a do-rag embellished with hot-rod flames. Among the jewelry were several cuff bracelets, pendants bearing the Hindu "Om" symbol, a red bandanna tied above the elbow and, most jarring, a lanyard bearing a six inch tall minion. This man was wearing a yellow, overalled, goggled

Minion around his neck. I was intrigued and slightly horrified by this person approaching my counter. He walked up to me and ordered a frappuccino, and when I asked for his name, he responded, "Adolf," without missing a beat. And it clicked. All the symbols made sense. I was horrified. I was staring in the face of a Neo-Nazi. I told him his total, and when he reached out to swipe his card, I saw what was engraved on his bracelets, swastikas — dozens of tiny swastikas. I handed him his receipt and turned to make his drink and tried to process what I'd just experienced. When I'd finished his order, I set it on the counter, locked eyes with the man and nodded to him. I couldn't bring myself to call out "venti caramel frappuccino with extra caramel for Adolf." I was all but paralyzed by the absurdity of it all. He left with three copies of "Go Set A Watchman" and his drink, happy as a clam. I was shaken to my core. I'd heard of Neo-Nazis before, but they seemed like a group of people who couldn't exist in North Little Rock, Arkansas, such a quiet and boring place. Yet here was a man with a Minion around his neck and views from the 1940s coming into my cafe to order a sugar high. I was not scared of him because I didn't have to be. But every day after that, I asked myself what would've happened if another of my coworkers had been

working that day — someone who did have to be afraid of him. What would he have said to them? Would he have said anything at all? Would they feel safe? In the last weeks, friends of mine have had to face this experience first-hand. Friends of mine back in Little Rock and North Little Rock have encountered Neo-Nazis in their places of work, and some of them are scared for their lives. They've been made to fear their workplace — made to fear their daily routines. Richard Spencer and the Alt-Right movement are giving people with white nationalist and Neo-Nazi views the notion that what they believe is valid and acceptable in this country. These parties are telling Nazis that they don't have to be afraid to voice their opinions anymore, that they can come out into the open and tell the people serving them at restaurants that their days are numbered because of the color of their skin or the religion they practice. This is unacceptable in a fair and free America. No person should be afraid to enter their place of work because of who they are. No person should be afraid to go through his or her daily routine due to outdated ideologies held by insensitive people — even if they do just have to make that person a venti frappuccino. **NATALIE E. SMITH is the asst. web editor for the Bison. She may be contacted at nsmith12@harding.edu.**

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joshua johnson



same song,
second verse

Do you know the Mullet Man?

I haven't paid for a haircut in almost four years.

Yes, I have actually had my hair cut in the past four years. No, I am not sporting a "business in the front, party in the back" '80s-esque mullet, although someone used this disturbing collection of adjectives to describe me over the holiday, and I was not amused.

Irrelevant. I digress.

The reason I have received four years of free haircuts is because I come from a small town in the Appalachians of Pennsylvania. Let me paint you a word picture: My hometown is called Indian Head and consists of a snack bar restaurant (recently reopened), Resh's General Store (recently closed but with apartments for rent upstairs), Hall's Service Station, a post office and about two thousand people.

Oh, and Pat's Hair Care & Salon, conveniently located across the street from where I grew up.

My neighbor Pat has been cutting my hair since I was 5 years old. She will gladly tell you about the decade and a half of buzz cuts, bowl cuts and braids that my hair has seen or attempted to see over the years. And when I left for college in the summer of 2013, Pat decided she was not going to charge me the usual \$5 fee again until I after graduate, so that every penny I have can go toward my education.

So for the last four years, when I go home for spring break, summer vacation, Thanksgiving and Christmas, I have always made sure to jog across the street and cash in my complimentary trim. Not only do I receive free service, but Pat Tinkey is the hotline for the Indian Head buzz — even as a student of mass media, I never feel caught up on local coverage until Pat gives me the scoop. She often has to raise her voice a notch so the ladies under the hair dryers in the back can be part of the conversation as well.

In many ways, my hometown is not unlike the fictional town of Mayberry from "The Andy Griffith Show." Everybody knows everybody, and when things change, people talk about it. While some might view this as an antiquated and hidebound way of life, I think there is something to be said for small-town culture.

One issue I heard about while I was home for the holidays was a dilemma in the local church. While I expected the issue to be about finding a new preacher or somebody stealing from the offering plate, I was surprised to hear that it was simply about the Doxology. Apparently, the classic version of the Doxology (which I learned from "The Secret Garden" as a kid) was discarded from the weekly service in favor of a new-fangled, more upbeat version.

"That's it? That's the issue causing strife in the church?" I asked incredulously. However, upon further contemplation, I realized the significance of what I was hearing.

You see, in Indian Head, people care. The citizens who enjoy a small-town lifestyle care about each other; they care about traditions; they care about sacredness and sacrilege; they care about lunch specials that cost the same every week.

I admire the people of my hometown because they enjoy a lifestyle of peaceful ritualism that others may never understand. In fact, I think the reason "The Andy Griffith Show" is still so popular is because it offers a glimpse into a culture similar to the one in which I grew up. While many see Mayberry as a comically backwards little town, it is impossible to deny the contented nature of Andy and Co. My parents enjoy that same lifestyle. The members of the local church enjoy that lifestyle. And when I am home for the holidays, I enjoy that lifestyle too.

I also enjoy the free haircuts from my beloved neighbor. Thanks, Pat. I'll see you in May, and we might need to get out your big clippers. Just a head's up.

JOSHUA JOHNSON is the editor-in-chief for the Bison. He may be contacted at jjohnson4@harding.edu. Twitter: @joshjohnson146

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 email Joshua Johnson, the editor-in-chief, at jjohnson4@harding.edu. "The Bison" (USPS 577-660) is published weekly (except vacations, exams and summer sessions), 20 issues per year, by Harding University. Periodicals postage paid at Searcy, Arkansas 72143. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Bison*, Harding University 11192, SEARCY, AR 72149-0001." 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 rewrite a portion of the guest writers' stories as they deem necessary, while still identifying the work as the guest writers' own.



Illustration by RACHEL GIBSON

The eternal importance of dad jokes

robert mcpherson



guest
writer

"Hello, Hungry; I'm Dad."

We've all heard this one before, likely from a father figure, and we've all probably groaned at it too. It's that groaning I want to talk about — the cry of complaint let loose when someone becomes the victim of a "dad joke." It seems like no one wants to hear a dad joke, and I know plenty of people who would love to see them wiped from our culture altogether. Whether it's a real father teasing his child or a witty old Bible professor throwing out a Noah's ark pun, dad jokes usually garner a less-than-appreciative response. I, for one, tell dad jokes daily. However, while I laugh, my friends scowl with disapproval.

In case you haven't been exposed to the dad joke phenomenon, here's a prime example of what we're dealing with: I burnt

my Hawaiian pizza last night ... I should've put it on aloha setting.

OK, before you stop reading this, hear me out. Dad jokes are an integral part of our society. Think back to when you were a child and your father was having a bad day. So, as a loving child, you said, "Hey, Dad, are you alright?" and he quickly responded, "Nope, I'm half left," and walked away grinning. Just like the rotation of the earth, I bet you made his day. What about when your dad would say, "Man, it smells like 'scone on' in here," and before you realized what he'd said you had already asked, "What's scone on?"

Dad jokes are important, and I wish everyone could love them like I do. While I'm no father, my friends would argue that I might as well be. I'm the oldest member of my friend "squad," I apparently dress like a dad, and I crack dad jokes like an old person's back. I write this because my friends are starting to become aware of the fact that these clever remarks are contagious. They find themselves saying them and for some strange reason are disappointed with what they have become. They shouldn't worry though.

Fathers are an under-appreciated breed. Being a dad is a full-time job, and I'm sure

it can be as stressful as it is rewarding. So don't be afraid to laugh at a dad joke, even if the comedian in question isn't a parent. Dad jokes are a fundamental form of humor that will persist as long as there are fathers in the world. They teach us a great lesson courtesy of goofy dads everywhere — that humor has the power to make people happy, even when it seems like nothing else can. Dad jokes are reminders of people who will be with us through it all; they're not something to be shunned.

That being said, I encourage you to call your dad and tell him a bad joke that will put a smile on his face. And hey, while you're at it, why not tell him you appreciate what he does? Not everyone has a father. I myself fall into that category, but I do have a father figure who goes without recognition too often. Go ahead and give those dads a call. Sure, it's nowhere near Father's Day, but any day is a good day to make someone happy.

Finally, I feel an appropriate farewell is in order, so, as any good buffalo would say to his son ... Bison.

ROBERT MCPHERSON is a guest writer for the Bison. He may be contacted at rmcpherson1@harding.edu.

Interested in writing a guest column?
Contact Hannah J. Moore at hmoore@harding.edu.

Just the Clax



michael
claxton

My English 211 students have spent the last two weeks reading a book called "Reclaiming Conversation: The Power of Talk in the Digital Age." The author is Sherry Turkle, a media scholar from MIT who has spent over thirty years studying the relationship between people and technology. Based on interviews with hundreds of teens and adults, her 2015 book makes the case that no matter our age, we are all increasingly vulnerable to a technology that distracts us both from the benefits of solitude and from the journey of conversation.

At the dinner table, in the classroom, at the office, and even in courtship, Turkle argues, we are letting our phones draw us away from things like eye contact, empathy, deep attention, and conversations that matter. She explains all this in a mere 360 pages. My students might tell you it's been a long two weeks.

Full disclosure. I don't own a smart phone and use a flip phone only for traveling. So my vulnerabilities are different from yours. I'm more tempted to be an isolationist, reading only things that confirm my fears about the price we pay for technology, and believing myself above the sometimes bizarre behavior that has become the new normal in exactly one decade. I do not know the pull of a buzzing phone when I'm trying to concentrate on something — or someone — so I realize I'm working from a major deficit of empathy with pretty much everyone.

Ringside Transcripts

But I see and read things that bother me. Couples out to eat and not talking, or sharing only what is on their phones. Small kids trying to talk to their parents, who are distracted and thus only half present. People of all ages anxious to escape solitude and boredom — two essential ingredients for creativity, deep thought, and self-understanding. I feel my own temptation to mistake knowledge for the ability to look up things only when I need them.

Among other topics, Turkle discusses the new phenomenon of arguing by text. Married and dating couples are discovering that those inevitable fights that come in any relationship can either be conducted the old-fashioned way—with words exchanged by two people who are in the same room—or the new way. This way involves retreating to separate corners to hashtag things out via text messages. Some couples even keep a "fight archive" of their disagreements.

Before you laugh, hear them out. Face-to-face arguments, they insist, can get ugly. In the heat of the moment, tempers flare, and people say things they regret. Removed from the explosive boxing ring, however, they can edit what they plan to say and carefully lay out their side of the argument. The wrong things won't be said. The messiness of the disagreement can be smoothed over. A more scripted and civilized debate will get the problem solved without the volatility of spontaneous talk. Refereed by technology, relationships will be easier.

OK. Now you can laugh. Of course, wise counselors have always advised couples to "fight fair" — to avoid insults, to separate the current argument from other issues, to leaven our speech with phrases like "What I hear you saying is ..." For that matter, the entire country could

use a lesson on how to disagree without belittling or demonizing our opponents. But those discussions require empathy and tone of voice and body language. They require a commitment to be honest, to control tempers and to really hear each other. For that, we need our eyes and ears more than our thumbs.

The fairy tale of digital arguing teaches exactly the wrong message — that there is a clean, tension-free way to be in a relationship. And the idea of a "fight archive" is downright charming. Couples used to make photo albums. Now I can picture them celebrating their anniversaries, phones out, fondly replaying the battles of the previous year:

HIM: Oh, look, dear! There's the day I asked you what was wrong and you got mad that I didn't already know what was wrong. Those were good times.

HER: I know! You still have no idea, do you?

And thanks to the "fight archive," every word is there forever. Which is sure easier than hiring a court stenographer to come over with one of those little typewriters anytime someone says, "What was THAT look for?"

All this sounds like Festus, the "Seinfeld" holiday where Frank Costanza gathered his family around so he could, as he put it, "tell them all the ways they have disappointed you over the past year." In the digital world, "the airing of grievances" is now only a swipe away.

Scripture famously says that love keeps no record of wrongs. Welcome to Love 2.0.

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



Rub
of the
Green

The stage is set

It's here. Super Bowl 51. It is the biggest sporting event of the entire year. The AFC powerhouse New England Patriots will take on the Atlanta Falcons, who finished with the top offense in the NFL, on Sunday, Feb. 5.

This is the NFL-record seventh Super Bowl appearance for Patriots head coach Bill Belichick and his future hall-of-fame quarterback Tom Brady. They are obviously no strangers to the big stage, and they can pretty much seal the deal as the best coach/quarterback duo in the history of the game with a win.

The Falcons are in the Super Bowl for only the second time in franchise history, the first coming in 1998 when they lost to the Denver Broncos 34-19. Their quarterback Matt Ryan, who will probably win the league MVP, and his NFL-leading offense hope to bring the first championship to Atlanta since 1995 when the Braves won the World Series.

The Patriots opened as three-point favorites after this past Sunday night's beatdown on the Pittsburgh Steelers, and that might be a bit generous. It is safe to give them the edge over the inexperienced Falcons when you have guys like Brady, Julian Eddleman and LaGarrett Blount who have done this before. But don't be surprised if the Patriots' top scoring defense is exposed by this high-power offense of the Falcons. They haven't seen an offense this explosive all season.

If you like to cheer for the underdog (if you can even consider the Falcons an underdog) and you love to see a lot of points scored, this is the perfect Super Bowl to watch. The Falcons offense was second in the league in passing yards per game (295.3) and was first in points per game (40), and was second in the league to their NFC South counterparts, the New Orleans Saints, in total yards per game (415.8). While their offense has been virtually unstoppable all season, their inexperience could be their downfall.

When it comes to the New England Patriots, you either love them or hate them, but you have to respect their success. They have been to the conference championship game each of the last seven years, and been to two Super Bowls, defeating the Seattle Seahawks in 2014. No matter the circumstances, it is always safe to pick New England as the favorite.

As much as I hate to do it, I will have to choose experience over explosiveness. While I think Ryan will put his Falcons in a position to win and keep the game close, I don't see them overcoming the brilliance of Belichick and Brady. It will be a shootout, but Brady will have the ball in his hands last and lead his team to a second Super Bowl win in four years.

TAYLOR HODGES is the head sports editor for the Bison. He may be contacted at thodges@harding.edu. Twitter: @thodges_2

'Sticking to the process'



EVAN SWEARINGEN | The Bison

Senior third baseman Amanda Berdon makes a throw to first base in practice on Jan. 23. The Lady Bisons softball team was picked to finish third in the GAC, and their first game is a doubleheader on Saturday, Feb. 4 against Missouri S&T.

EMILY WHEELLESS
student writer

As the 2017 season begins, the only thing on the minds of the Lady Bisons softball team is sticking to the process. The Lady Bisons were picked third in the conference overall, and head coach Phil Berry said they are focusing on one game at a time, starting on Feb. 4, instead of worrying about the ending outcome.

"Sticking to the process means if you get tied up into outcomes, in a game where you fail a lot, then it is very hard to handle this game," Berry said. "We feel like if we add a whole lot of processes together, and that every day is just a little bit better, outcomes tend to take care of themselves. So I think you will find from our players that they understand that we have to stick to the process and if we do, the outcome will be okay whatever it is."

The Lady Bisons starting lineup for this coming season are all returning players from the past year, with the exception of graduate Kinsey Beck at second base. With the help of the coaching staff which includes new assistant coach, Chanin Naudin, the team has shown that their preseason work ethic and determination is something they are proud of.

"Chanin has been a great addition to our staff, from graduate assistant in the 2016 season to assistant coach this year," Berry said. "She brings a lot of energy every day and a high-level of collegiate experience from the University of Kansas as well as international experience to our roster, and I think our players respect that."

With the addition of seven new players this past fall, the Lady Bisons

have already shown the unity on and off the field, spending time together outside of practice. The whole team has been involved with various community service projects as well as taking a group trip to Baton Rouge, Louisiana to help tear down houses that had been destroyed by flooding. Berry emphasizes the growth of each player in the sport as well as in their personal lives.

"Coach Berry keeps us on track and our mindset on things that we should be focusing on like how important that it is for us to put God first," sophomore pitcher Kelly Beth Earnest said. "He implements that into everything we do like practices, games, or even conversations as a team."

With an overall record of 37 wins and 24 losses in the 2016 season, the Lady Bisons will try and surpass the projected finish that has been set for them in the 2017 season.

"We want to be better every year, and that is already a better projection than last year," Naudin said. "Last year we just missed post season and the teams ahead of us we just lost to, so it makes perfect sense that we are placed third."

The season begins with the Lady Bisons playing against Missouri University of Science and Technology, on Feb. 4.

"Everyone on the team has a different value," sophomore outfielder Peyton Mills said. "Junior Kimmy Hendricks is a really great catcher and vocal leader while senior Hannah Johnston is a great pitcher, but leads by example. Then you have other members of the team who are good hitters and work hard. Everyone has a different value and everyone shows each other how to work together as a unit."



AMANDA FLOYD | The Bison

Workers place the pictures of this year's Harding Athletics' Hall of Fame induction class in the Rhodes-Reaves Field House on Jan 26. The induction ceremony will take place in the Heritage Center Founders Room at 6:30 p.m.

11th Hall of Fame class to be inducted

TAYLOR HODGES
head sports editor

On Friday, Feb. 3, 16 former Harding athletes and coaches will be inducted into the Harding Athletics Hall of Fame.

The athletics department inducts former Harding coaches and players every five years. A committee of 10 people nominates and votes on who could potentially be Harding athletics history. Each person on the committee is a member of the Hall of Fame. The committee members range from Harold Valentine, a member of the booster club and the chairman of the committee, to Chancellor Emeritus Dr. Clifton Ganus, Sr., who has played a role

in Harding athletics for many years. "We do this every five years, so it's pretty exclusive," Harding Athletic Director Greg Harnden said. "We try to have from 12 to 20 inductees every five years."

The booster club, which is behind the entire process, formulated criteria that potential inductees must meet to be considered for the Hall of Fame, such as being a part of an All-Conference team and being out of Harding for five years. Scott Goode, assistant athletic director for Sports Information, sits down and compiles a list of past athletes and coaches that meet the criteria so the booster club can vote.

"Because of these requirements, it makes it a little more difficult for

people to get in," Harnden said. "An All-American from two years ago wouldn't be eligible for this period, but would be for the next time. Then the committee goes sport by sport to decide who should be considered."

This year's class features players and coaches from many different sports such as basketball, golf and football. The very first soccer player will be inducted into the Hall of Fame.

"I was shocked when I received the letter informing me I was being inducted into the Hall of Fame," former Harding soccer player Kendyl (Washburn) Bryan said. "I am extremely honored, especially knowing I will be the first soccer player inducted. The thought of winning an honor such as this wasn't

even on my mind."

Goode said he enjoys reflecting on the time these people spent at Harding and their contribution to athletics.

"I have been lucky enough to follow at least half of these inductees from the time they started here at Harding until the time they graduated," Goode said. "Now they are in the Hall of Fame. So it is a lot of fun to remember all of the accomplishments they had and to celebrate their achievements with them as they go into the Hall of Fame."

The induction ceremony will take place on Friday, Feb. 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the Heritage Center Founders Room. Tickets are \$10.



RYANN HEIM | The Bison

Lady Bisons huddle to prepare to play Northwestern Oklahoma University on Nov. 17, 2016. The Lady Bisons are undefeated in conference and ranked 21 in the nation.

Team rises to top while overcoming trial

EMILY FAULKNER
asst. sports editor

The Lady Bisons basketball team has a long history of successfully overcoming obstacles, and this season is no different. After sophomore forward Caroline Hogue's sister, Kennedy Hogue, passed over the break, the team grew even closer through the tragedy.

Currently ranked 21 in the Women's Basketball Coaches Association poll, and 16 in the NCAA power rankings, Lady Bisons basketball is a force to be reckoned with. This is the first time the Lady Bisons have been in the top 25 since the 2014-2015 season.

The team has a 14-2 record, 7-0 at home. Their only losses are from 18 ranked Drury University and Christian Brothers University.

Seven straight wins puts the team at 10-0 in the conference, which is equal to their second-best Great American Conference (GAC) start in six seasons. The Lady Bisons lead Arkansas Tech University by two games.

"Most teams just have teammates but these girls are my sisters," Hogue said. "They are my family, and I think we have something special that not many teams have."

One of the most exciting games was against Southeastern Oklahoma State University (SOSU) on Nov. 19. This was the second game back after break for the team and they rose to the occasion once again. They won 72-69 over the Savage Storm.

"Weezy (my sister) loved watching us play basketball, and I know she was watching us play that night; she was there, and she was the extra push we needed to win that game," Hogue said. "That game was so much more than just a game. It was a team coming together who had something to fight for."

This year's team has faced much additional adversity, from referees not showing up at the beginning of the year to having a bus breakdown to other health issues.

"I think it was good for us to realize even though there is competition on the floor, there is way more things in life than basketball," senior guard Andi Haney said. "It really

gives you perspective."

Anyone who has been to a game this season can attest to their togetherness. The sense of community within the team can be seen on and off the court.

"The Lady Bisons aren't just 12 girls," junior forward Sydney Layrock said. "It's us and our entire family as one group."

Getting to know others is also a goal that many of the women share, when walking between classes or going somewhere across campus, the Lady Bisons, individually, make an effort to talk to you if they know you at all.

"When I transferred here, I did not know how well I would like it, but the Harding community has taken me in and treated me like I have been here all along," Hogue said. "I love Harding, and I love being a part of such a great community."

The end goal for the season is winning the GAC and making a run in the NCAA tournament.

"We have so much talent on the team that it has been great to see it come together," Haney said. "We still have things to work on, but I'm excited to see where that goes."

Youthful baseball team looks to be 'uncommon'

RAIANNE MASON
student writer

This year's Harding baseball team headlines 12 freshmen, not including those that will be redshirting. Several of these new additions will be making their debuts at home, Feb. 5, against Delta State University.

This many freshmen is uncommon, according to head coach Patrick McGaha, who in his 12 years as head coach has never had such a young team.

"It's fun in a lot of ways," McGaha said. "There's a lot of energy. It's a good group and I look forward to seeing these guys come through the program in the next couple years."

McGaha added that his older players have done a really good job of showing the freshmen the in's and out's of the way they do things on and off the field.

Sophomore outfielder Jack Thomas agreed that this team is dedicated to getting better each day.

"We have a culture where everybody leads," Thomas said. "You look around, and Brooks (Pitaniello) is always watching video, and Chris (Taylor) and Grant (Guest) are always lifting, and (Zach) Beasley is always getting

extra reps in. Everybody has bought into this standard.

Freshman catcher J. Paul Fullerton spoke of the importance of having those upperclassmen as leaders.

"It'd be harder if I was going up there by myself every day, but going up there, being with those guys and having them in the ring with me is what makes it better," Fullerton said.

Age is not the only uncommon characteristic of the team. The players all strive to be what they call "uncommon men."

"We really want our guys to be uncommon men in how they go about their business," McGaha said. "We want them to be uncommon in their churches and be leaders. We want them to be uncommon employees and employers, to do things differently than the majority of the people around them."

According to Thomas, striving to be uncommon transcends the baseball field.

"To be uncommon is to be ridiculously attentive to detail, to walk through each day with extreme amounts of passion, extreme amounts of joy, being happy to do what you do," Thomas said.



EVAN SWEARINGEN | The Bison

Pitcher Chris Taylor warms up during practice on Jan. 23. The Bisons have their first game against Delta State as a doubleheader on Saturday, Feb. 4.

This desire to be uncommon bonds the team regardless of age.

"We do everything together and everybody is looking out for each other," Thomas said. "We've got incredible team chemistry. I think our chemistry alone will help us to win three or four games we might not win otherwise."

LOCKER TALK

Our Athletes' Views on the Super Bowl

questions

Reed Roberts
Baseball



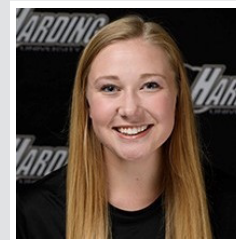
Courtney Derrick
Softball



Cameron Murry
Golf



Brittany Smyser
Tennis



Will Francis
Basketball



Do you watch the game or just the commercials?

"The game."

"Both."

"I watch the game, but I find the commercials hilarious."

"Mainly the commercials."

"The game."

Patriots or Falcons?

"Patriots."

"Patriots."

"I'm saying Patriots because of Brady."

"Patriots."

"Patriots."

Score prediction?

"31-24."

"28-7."

"24-17."

"42-30."

"31-14."

Who do you think will be MVP?

"Tom Brady. He's the best ever."

"Tom Brady."

"Tom Brady."

"Tom Brady."

"Tom Brady."



AMANDA FLOYD | The Bison

Ann McLarty, wife of President Bruce McLarty, and head copy editor Sarah Dixon have tea in the First Ladies Garden on Jan. 24. Ann McLarty graduated from Harding in 1980 and became first lady in 2013.

SARAH DIXON
head copy editor

When she graduated from Harding's nursing program in 1980, Ann McLarty never dreamed she would be back at Harding, let alone as first lady of the university.

According to Ann McLarty, she first came to Harding from Ohio in the fall of 1976, having never visited the campus before. She joined women's social club OEGE, which at the time was sister club to King's Men. It was at a King's Men banquet during her freshman year that she first noticed her future husband and current president of Harding, Bruce McLarty.

"We started dating in December of my sophomore year," Ann McLarty said. "Then we married after I graduated in '80."

The young couple moved to Mississippi before settling in Cookeville, Tennessee, Ann McLarty said. The two joked about the possibility of returning to College Church of Christ in Searcy but never thought it would be a reality just 11 years after leaving Harding. Ann McLarty said the possibility

of returning to Harding later in their careers never crossed their minds.

"When we were students, we just blended in," Ann McLarty said. "We were not student leaders; we were not popular ... We really weren't on the radar."

However, when Bruce McLarty was inaugurated as president of the university in 2013, both of their lives changed completely. Ann McLarty said she turned to the advice of former first ladies Leah Burks and Louise Ganus before she stepped into the role herself.

"They gave me the best thing they probably could," Ann McLarty said. "They gave me their support, and they gave their encouragement to be my own first lady."

Now in her fourth year of serving as first lady, Ann McLarty said that she has definitely settled in and made it her own. After a few years of learning all that encompasses the titles of president and first lady, she said that life feels much more normal. And what comes with these titles, according to Ann McLarty, is quite a lot.

Being first lady of Harding University not only involves supporting the president,

but also hosting and attending more dinners, receptions and conferences than one can count, Ann McLarty said. One of her favorite parts of the role is getting to travel not only in the United States but internationally. The couple has visited some of Harding's international programs in the past four years and hopes to travel to Harding University in Zambia this summer.

"That is such a perk," Ann McLarty said. "I love to see the students in their context over there and how their eyes are opened to the culture around them."

However, according to Ann McLarty, the first lady's greatest role is serving others.

"My first responsibility for me to make this my very own is to be an ambassador of good will," Ann McLarty said. "I want part of my legacy to be, 'You know she treated everybody kindly, she loved everybody and she deeply cared.' And that trumps pretty much everything else that I do."

Ann McLarty said that she has not only embraced Bruce McLarty's statement of "A Community of Mission" here at Harding but also in the duration of their marriage.

"When we first married, we moved to a little, tiny town in Marks, Mississippi, population like 5,000; the church was 36 members," Ann McLarty said. "We still felt like that was an incredible community of mission. That's followed us everywhere we've gone from a 36 member congregation to a now over 6,000 student body ... Don't let the community of mission stop here at Harding. I hope (students) take it from here to wherever they are."

In her time as first lady, Ann McLarty said the greatest blessing has been getting to know the amazing people that make Harding University unique, and she looks forward to that for the years to come.

"(Harding is) full of incredible, wonderful people, wonderful students that we get to meet, to be with," Ann McLarty said. "We get to watch them grow; we get to watch them launch into life. I look forward to that every year. It's a continuation of what has already been these last four years. I think it will just get better and better."

For a full multimedia interview with Ann McLarty, visit thelink.harding.edu.

Climbing from Kibo, series continued

The second installment in a sequence about Kibo Group International working in Uganda

SAVANNA DISTEFANO
features editor

An Ascent Ahead

Alumna Danny Cagnet was finishing her bachelor's degree at Harding when her marketing professor gave her an article regarding early ideas of "doing well by doing good" and positively influencing others through business. Her professor proceeded to invite her and two other business majors to accompany a church planting team for a 6-8 week internship in Jinja, Uganda, to experience and learn about business in another part of the world while working with Ugandan missionaries.

"My initial reaction (to Uganda) was, 'Man, this is different — different than what I've ever seen before,'" Cagnet said. "I was processing, 'How do you help when you know you can't do it all, when you can't help everyone?' And that little bit of feeling overwhelmed in that, but also realizing that there might be some little good that can happen, and trying to be a little participant in what God wants to happen there ... I learned to appreciate many of those differences to say that our way is not necessarily the better way, it's just a different way."

After her internship, Cagnet finished her master's at Harding and returned to Uganda upon invitation. What was intended to be a year-long trip turned into two. Cagnet helped run general operations at the Source Café and worked with women at the church in the city. She participated in weekly Bible studies and helped encourage women.

"It's much more important to get to the peak together than to get there separately and fast."

-Dr. Deron Smith

"Being part of a team of people who had a common goal and a common interest planting churches, making the world a better place and sustainable development — so much growth happened," Cagnet said. "I would say it was two years of learning, but two years of loving, too. There was no doubt some sweet, sweet friendships were built in those two years and have grown over the years."

Cagnet witnessed the birth of Kibo. She signed the initial registration papers and is a member of the board. During her time living in Jinja, the original mission to plant churches evolved into Kibo Group International, a sustainable development organization, and it was designed to partner with East Africans to pursue local solutions for poverty and injustice and help communities flourish.

The goal of Kibo is to find solutions to problems using local resources in the community. Kibo teams with communities in the Busoga region of Uganda and mediates their working together. The all-Ugandan Kibo staff teaches hygiene and health skills, economic skills and well-maintaining skills in order for the communities to teach others and remain

sustainable.

"There is a tendency in American mission to want to go fast," Kibo board member Deron Smith said. "We want to see results, we want to see them fast, and if they don't come fast, then we are moving, and I think that knowing that you are going together, which takes time, is a valuable lesson learned. It's much more important to get to the peak together than to get there separately and fast."

The Trek

Kibo is currently fighting poverty and injustice in over 40 villages in the Busoga region of Uganda. It has three main projects, including the Mvule Program, Community Empowerment and the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene project.

When a village begins in the Mvule Program, they are given mvule tree seedlings to plant and nurture. The tree yields timber and is threatened by habitat loss, and the seedlings are used to combat deforestation as well as develop income.

The Mvule Program is designed for economic development and provides motivation for the next stage of the project, which includes earning goats after showing responsibility from one year of growing the trees. In the village of Kigalama, the people planted 300 seedlings and earned 74 goats. The offspring of the goats provides capital for the village as they continue with the development of its economy.

According to Larry Norman, executive director of Kibo, The Mvule Project benefits a community holistically.

"The beauty of this is we have Ugandans working with Ugandans, this is not Western people telling them, 'This is what you have to do,' this is Ugandan people asking, 'What can we do to make our own country better,'" Norman said. "In that processes of getting and caring for trees, getting goats and managing the offspring, they grow economically by selling offspring and developing their own ideas."

Community Empowerment focuses on healthy relationships, health education, life skills and healthy kitchens. Healthy relationships reduce conflict and encourage compassionate responses to the needs of others. Bible lessons play a role in the building of healthy relationships. They focus on developing communication skills and trust within families and neighbors.

Health education may include healthcare lessons to improve general well-being of the community. Lessons equip people to respond to illnesses that may come about in their families or village. The life skills training involves an approach for comprehensive behavior change through lessons on topics like decision making, relationships, resisting peer-pressure and self-esteem.

Healthy kitchens encompass general health and safety. In the village of Butamoga, women cooked on traditional open fires. However, open fires often cause burns, smoke inhalation and deforestation from the rapid burning of the wood. In addition, children often fall into the open fires.

Kibo staff taught the women how to build safer and more efficient stoves using materials found just outside the home such as ant hill mud, banana leaves and grass. After women learn how to



build these stoves, they are able to share with their friends, which in turn helps families in other villages as well.

The stoves often improve home life for the women as well, since food is cooked faster and ready for husbands when they return home from work. It is not uncommon for men to beat their wives when their meals are not hot and ready when they expect them to be, and these stoves help keep women safe.

Freshman Mark Sekimpi, a Uganda native, has grown up watching his mother, a Kibo staff member, work in the community empowerment aspect of the organization. Sekimpi said he has seen a change in the behavior of Ugandans from the work of Kibo.

"Here in America, it is not a rare thing having a man standing in the kitchen with his wife, but back in some parts of Uganda, that is not going to happen," Sekimpi said. "A man going into the kitchen, helping a woman to cook — no way. But with (my mother's) effort and hard work and love for the people, she has been able to at least make some changes and improvements for people and some men now sit in the kitchen, cook with their wives, help them out, do housework and other things, so there is success."

According to a 2012 Kibo report, approximately 50,000 wells in Africa are no longer working, a \$360,000,000 investment no longer giving a return. Kibo argues this is due to several factors, including a shortage of resources in local communities to repair wells and lack of maintenance training from nonprofit organizations who dig the wells.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene requires Ugandan participation if a village requests a well to be maintained after it is dug. Communities are required to raise a portion of the funds for well repair and organize a committee to fund maintenance and repair the well if it breaks. All communities are also required to undergo sanitation and hygiene training before the establishment of the well in order for the water to remain clean and useful.

This is the second installment of the "Climbing from Kibo" series. The final installment will be in the next issue of *The Bison*, on stands Feb. 10.

'Hidden Figures' breaks down societal barriers



Courtesy of 20TH CENTURY FOX

AUBRIE LARKINS
guest writer

The new movie "Hidden Figures" is one of the top five movies in America right now, according to Box Office Mojo. It beautifully depicts the untold story of three African-American women who each played a huge role in one of the greatest space operations in history. During the early 1960s, there were many African-American women working at the West Area Computers division of the Langley Research Center. However, among all of them, Katherine G. Johnson, Dorothy Vaughn and Mary Jackson stuck out from the rest and helped make history. During this time, the country was in a tight Space Race against the Soviets, and when the Russians beat the U.S. into orbit in 1961, the country needed to renew its hope for better days to come.

I'll admit when I first heard about this movie coming out, I didn't have much interest in seeing it because I simply didn't understand the significance about the true story that was about to hit theaters across the country. It was the day after the movie had been released, Jan. 7, that a friend and I decided to go see it, after eating at Mi Pueblito, of course.

Once the movie started, I couldn't help but keep my eyes glued to the screen. It was like I had been sent back in time into a world that I, luckily, never had to live in. One specific part of the movie will stick with me forever. It was the scene when Katherine Johnson, played by Taraji P. Henson, ran half a mile across the campus to use the colored bathroom in the pouring rain. When she returned, she was questioned by her head supervisor on where she went every day for such a long time. She responded in such a way that I suppose appeared brave at the time, but nowadays would seem like common sense. All I could do was try to hold back tears during this scene but they came pouring out. I sat there in the theater and could not imagine living in a time where anyone had to inconvenience themselves just use the bathroom. Like never before, I realized that society back then was repulsive in what they believed to be just and equal.

Once the movie ended, I sat in my seat and tried to gather all that I had watched. There is no doubt that the movie was one of the best ones I had seen in a while, but I was baffled on why it took so long for the stories of these three brilliant women to be told. They contributed so

much of their time and effort into launching the first American into space and successfully orbit around the Earth.

Up until seeing the first trailer for the movie, I had never heard of Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughn or Mary Jackson before. I believe that speaks volumes on how far we still need to progress as a country. Don't misunderstand me; I am very thankful for the rights that I have today, rights that others literally fought for me to enjoy. However, there is a difference between being thankful and being content. I strongly believe there is still so much to be done for gender and race.

Today, I am forced to wonder about other "hidden figures" that helped break down barriers in society. I wonder about how things could be different today if these women had their stories told when I was a little girl with an unlimited imagination. If I've said it once, I'll say it again, I'm all about girl power and seeing women of every race know that they can be and do anything they put their minds to. All in all, the movie "Hidden Figures" is a shocking and inspiring movie that reminded me to never forget that I am able to do anything and to make sure no else does either.

Resolute the New Year with Bruce McLarty

DELLAH POPE
editorial assistant

For many people, the start of a new year brings much more than just the change of a digit or two, as it inspires many to take initiative, set goals and look to the future with a hope in the potential for significant lifestyle changes.

For students in particular, that hope often comes in the form of the clean slate of a new semester, bringing a chance for better classes and grades, and better sleep schedules and eating habits. On the Harding campus, students are not the only ones setting goals for improvement. President Bruce McLarty is no stranger to new year's resolutions.

"I love them, and I find them incredibly helpful," Bruce McLarty said.

Last year, Bruce McLarty resolved to strengthen family ties by eating breakfast once a week with his younger brother Karl McLarty, professor of Bible.

"We could go three weeks and not see each other. And I thought 'this has got to

change,' and so I just made the plan and made the resolution," Bruce McLarty said. "He was on board with it, and so we meet at seven o'clock every Friday morning."

Bruce McLarty said that his time spent reconnecting with his brother in a local Searcy restaurant has been a particularly valuable experience, and one that will affect his life going forward.

"It was a wonderfully concrete resolution that was successful this year, and it's just a part of the rhythm of my life now, and it's just rolled over into this year," Bruce McLarty said. "It's not a resolution anymore, it's just a habit. It's a lifestyle and a habit and it's been incredibly rewarding."

In past years, Bruce McLarty and his wife have read through the Bible together using a one year Bible the couple purchased in 1988. For Bruce McLarty, that Bible in particular has been a physical symbol of achieved goals.

"One of my favorite things is that each year that we've read that copy, we've written in there that we've read through that one," Bruce McLarty said. "I think this was the

fifth time that we've used that copy since '88."

For this new year, Bruce McLarty will again include Bible reading in his resolutions, but will focus on reading a single New Testament chapter a day. In addition to a lifestyle of familial connectedness and spiritual vitality, Bruce McLarty has resolved to implement habits of physical vitality into his routine as well.

"They need to be reasonable goals. We can become discouraged very easily along the way."

-President Bruce McLarty

"My primary goals this year are physical. When we got back from the New Year's break, they were very concrete: no desserts, no sodas and no eating after supper," Bruce McLarty said. "Those are my big three. My Achilles' heel is eating after supper. And my wife and I resolved that we're going to walk 30 minutes five nights a week."

Bruce McLarty is aware of the diffi-

culties associated with staying focused and motivated to keep resolutions, and emphasized the importance of accountability and specificity in setting goals that lead to lasting change.

"They need to be reasonable goals. We can become discouraged very easily along the way," Bruce McLarty said. "Breakfast with my brother was such a specific, concrete goal. I don't know that it was easy in the beginning, because it was getting up a little early and making sure something is in my calendar, but it was a meaningful goal. That was not painful in any way. It's something that I have looked forward to all this past year. But it was concrete. It wasn't just 'eat breakfast with your brother more often' it was 'eat breakfast with your brother on Friday morning.'"

This new year, you will be able to quiz President Bruce McLarty on his New Testament knowledge, spot him at a local restaurant with his brother, offer him encouragement as he walks the track in the GAC, or, if you're feeling aspirational, you can follow his lead with a goal of your own.

U.S. Mint unveils Racially Diverse Gold Coin Series

New gold coin series to depict broader cultural inclusion in America

JESSIE SMITH
student writer

On Jan. 12, the U.S. Mint unveiled the design for the 2017 American Liberty 225th Anniversary Gold Coin, the first in a series of gold coin designs that will depict the ethnic diversity of the U.S.

"The coin represents so much more than its precious weight in value," Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew said on Treasury.gov.

The 2017 American Liberty 225th Anniversary Gold Coin shows the profile of an African-American woman with a crown of stars on her head and the word 'Liberty' across the top of the coin. The phrase 'In God We Trust' borders the bottom. According

to USA Today, the \$100 coin is almost one ounce of 24-karat gold.

As Lew recounted during his speech at the unveiling ceremony, the U.S. Congress passed the Coinage Act of 1792 to standardize the nation's currency, but the act also declared that all U.S. coins must have an image symbolic of liberty on one side.

"From the very beginning, the nation's currency and coinage was telling a very important story about who we were and the shared experience we were seeking," Lew said.

According to Dr. Kevin Klein, history professor at Harding University, the use of non-Anglo-Saxon or non-Northern-European imagery is not new.

"This, however, is an effort to do things

that are new — include other groups — but it's not really new to American coin culture to look for representations that aren't designed necessarily to be perfect reflections of whatever the dominant group is," Klein said. "They're designed to be reflections of ideals."

According to the U.S. Mint, the coin series celebrates the 225th anniversary of the department, and the series will also depict the symbol of liberty as Asian-American, Latino-American, Indian-American and others "to reflect the cultural and ethnic diversity of the United States."

"Remembering our past and embracing our future," Mint Chief of Staff Elisa Basnight said reciting the theme and tagline of the 2017 celebration in the Washington

Post. "This phrase acknowledges the 225 years that the Mint has been a vital part of our nation's economy ... Our coins are the metallic footprints of our nation's history."

The 225th Anniversary Gold Coin will be released on Apr. 6, and the following coins in the series will be released every two years.

"I think it's awesome," sophomore Jasmine Binford said about the coin series. "Just getting away from the idea of categorizing people by their skin color. It's not necessary. We're all Americans. It doesn't matter if you're white or black or Asian-American or Native American. You are an American, and I think there's going to be a shift soon toward that."

Netflix's 'A Series of Unfortunate Events' triumphs

GARRETT HOWARD
lifestyle editor

Dear reader, before embarking upon this somber summary of a sorrowful series, I must implore you to reconsider your decision. This review recounts the terrible tale of three orphans relentlessly pursued by a man so atrocious at acting that his acts of pure evil seem tame in comparison. Please, there are plenty of other wholesome and uplifting articles to read in this paper. In fact I believe there's a wonderfully written story about Mrs. McLarty on 3B. But if you find yourself determined to read my sad review of this tale, consider yourself warned.

This is not the first time the story of Violet, Klaus and Sunny Baudelaire (charmingly portrayed by

Malina Weissman, Louis Hynes and Presley Smith, respectively) has been told. Series author and narrator Lemony Snicket (here expertly characterized by Patrick Warburton) first turned the tale into a 13 book children's series in 1999. A feature film followed in 2004, where Jim Carrey mastered the role of the villainous Count Olaf for an entire generation, so how does Netflix's new series compare to — not just the fan favorite film, but — the original children's novels? Luckily, with the series' author penning most of the episodes, Netflix delivers a deliciously faithful (and more thoroughly fleshed out) adaptation of the Baudelaire orphans' depressing tale.

As previously mentioned, the three orphans are wonderfully portrayed

by their respective actors, and manage to capture the world-weary determination and charisma exuded by their novelized counterparts. As the only sane characters in this bleak world, the orphans are offset by a refreshingly diverse cast of supporting characters, from the absentminded Mr. Poe to the analytical Uncle Monty. While each performer is quite memorable in his or her impactful (if not brief) role, the real show-stealer is the man after the Baudelaire's enormous fortune: Neil Patrick Harris as Count Olaf.

Where Carrey brought a fantastically over-the-top performance to the film adaptation, Harris brings the Count back to his drier, more sinister presence from the books while still retaining Olaf's

outlandish demeanor. Harris clearly pours passion into the character, exquisitely capturing the subtle (and not so subtle) nuances of the Count about whom many children grew up reading.

Despite being a children's series, "A Series of Unfortunate Events" (as one might assume) is not a cheerful series. It takes place in a dark and depressing world, filled with obliviously neglectful adults, incredibly dangerous scenarios and evil actors intent on stealing children's inheritances. As such, tone is a difficult but vital element to establish, and the Netflix series effectively captures the spirit of the novels. The unorthodox approach of this dark comedy might seem conflicting to some. Not every joke lands and certain scenes sacrifice their

emotional punch, but the show mostly knows when to slow down for character moments and when to pick back up with a dry fourth-wall break.

The Netflix series adapts the first four books onscreen: "The Bad Beginning," "The Reptile Room," "The Wide Window" and "The Miserable Mill" for an eight-episode season, with every two episodes covering one book. Each episode runs for 50 minutes, essentially crafting four 100-minute movies for viewers to digest at their convenience. The time length is perfect for introducing new characters, expanding upon returning arcs, and continuing story beats without excessive filler. "A Series of Unfortunate Events" is streaming on Netflix now.

