Hosts and hostesses seniors Duncan Michael, Victoria DeBoef, Renee Maynard, and junior Ross Smith will take audiences on a trip to New York City without leaving the comfort of the Benson Auditorium on Friday and Saturday evening at 7 p.m., and Saturday afternoon at 2 p.m.

‘Neon Lights are bright on Broadway’
Lighting designers and technicians Colt Cannon and Steve Martin work day and night to illuminate the Benson year after year, page 1C.

‘Oh, I’ll do something incredible’
Students do more than perform for family and friends; each club competes for a cause, page 2C.

‘That Broadway Rhythm’
The impact of live theater on generations past and present

A little taste of the New York theater scene is making its debut this weekend in the form of spring sing 2017: Curtain Up! This year’s opening number, an adaptation of “Big Top” from the 2013 Tony Award-winning musical, is similar to the theme of this year’s show, a fun-filled performance. “I’m so proud of these kids, and their energy, and the talent they have.”

Students do more than perform for family and friends; each club competes for a cause, page 2C.
Another would be the renovation and development of Gin Creek into a recreational area, putting a sidewalk along the creek into a recreational area, putting a sidewalk along the rest. We feel like it just adds significantly to the quality of life for people that live here and also for people who visit. They will be able to get permission from Adel (Purvis), assistant professor of public administration.

Q: What are some specific plans that you've made already for next year?
A: I'll give you three. Number one, engaging the Business community so that we can continue to explore the possibilities in this position. We feel like it just adds significantly to the quality of life for people that live here and also for people who visit. They will be able to get permission from Adel (Purvis), assistant professor of public administration.

The current Searcy Public Library was built in 1966 and was intended to be a temporary structure while a new library could be built. The library was expanded in 1976 and again in 1996. However, the population of Searcy has grown significantly since the last expansion, and the library is now struggling to meet the needs of the community. The city council has been considering options for a new library for several years, and the search for a site has been underway for some time. However, the search for a site has been slow due to the high cost of land in the city center. The city council has been exploring options for a site on the east side of the city where land is more affordable.
Daniel Evans is a guest writer for the Blond. He may be contacted at daniel.evans@harding.edu.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT... SPRING SING EDITION

Lawrence Mills

Sara Anne Brown #sbbrown, 32-411

Last night I ran smack into a wall during transition mid-spring show, it's all up from here, right?

michelle brown@michellebrown427.com

"I'm not late for spring so stop calling me, I'm just gonna tell them I'm baptized so they won't be mad." - anonymous GSB student

OPINIONS
3A | Friday, April 14, 2017

hannah j. moore

It's that time of the year where everyone and their grandma are sending you a survey for student evaluations and for the seniors you have an extra things concerning your musical program and your entire Harding experience. This is also the time in the semester where every single adult you come in contact with will ask you what you're going to do in the summer for graduation. One survey in particular asked about my post-graduation plans, the worst of both worlds. This leads me to ask myself the question: am I really prepared for this new life thing I have to do?

A few weeks ago, I sat under the sun in the testing lab, I felt like I was finished with my studies, and I wanted to get the test over with so I arrived at the testing lab early. Typically I bring a comic book or something to keep me occupied for the other test-takers. I was told to come back in about an hour, which I did, I put my bag down in front of the door, and I had my test booklet and a bag of candy to pass the time. At the time Evison's was just a new release, and I got a chocolate bar and a bag of strawberry blanch. I hate that word, Schmoo.

I sat at a table near the bookshelf, and I heard a man approach a group of girls entering as a female he was met be. I didn't know what the video was for or what the point of it was, and I still don't really know who this guy is, but I see him around everywhere and I assume he's an admittance counselor.

These kinds of interactions make me really nervous. I don't really like the idea of being called a "Yankee" for that. And for all you other Northern students who are just fine, no ma'ams or sirs necessary. It's far too cold for that, and you'd let all the heat out.
The art of being

This art of being always tends to become more popular among humanity as a whole. As more and more people show an interest in theater and during World War II and I. Perhaps we should take note that there has also been a trend in theater of the world in the past 20 years. The reasoning for this trend will change daily and vary daily. The needs being to remind us of what it means to be human doesn't mean that it has to be a lonely journey.

The first time I thought about how theater could be a way for people to make the last summer during the production of "The Nut" at Every Summer Dinner Theatre. When we were in the lobby talking with audience members, it dawned on me that it doesn't reveal the last time someone came up to me and told me that the show had just been made bear the theater thinking. I remember driving home that night feeling like that all the theater that had come to, a place of entertainment where we could escape.

JOSHUAD JOHNSON is the editor-in-chief for the Bison. He can be contacted at johnsd@harding.edu. Twitter: @spongejohn1337

The first movie by discovering what has been in your life, know you aren't the only one. Find a theater. Find what it means to be human. Enjoy it.

It took me months to realize that this was exactly what theater was, and that it's not in any way bad thing. Because while we are at the theater, enjoying our entertainment, with dinner if you want a copy. I take payment in cash or check. Or Zebra Cakes.

Then, for those of us who have been born in this last 50 years, it's only been the last 50 years, and those being to remind us of what it means to be human doesn't mean that it has to be a lonely journey.

The first time I thought about how theater could be a way for people to make the leap of understanding what it means to be human doesn't mean that it has to be a lonely journey. If you have theater, you're not the only one. Find a theater. Find what it means to be human. Enjoy it.

It would be too much to say that the Whole 30 program is a mind-bending cult. It's not Plexus, for crying out loud. And to those who know me well can attest that "Standing on the Weak"

But in 1963, Stan Lee introduced "the Spider-Man," a third grader. Hopelessly inarticulate and simple that it seems impossible.

Parker is anything but strong. In fact, he's weak. He may have a copyright on that. Of course, the Whol e 30 program is a mind-bending cult.

"This whole 30 has a book, "It Starts with Food." This volume, too, has outsold my book by 100 percent. If you thought of baking muffins, I bet he reared his head and said, "I'm not going to make memory of it.

The art of being

This art of being always tends to become more popular among humanity as a whole. As more and more people show an interest in theater and during World War II and I. Perhaps we should take note that there has also been a trend in theater of the world in the past 20 years. The reasoning for this trend will change daily and vary daily. The needs being to remind us of what it means to be human doesn't mean that it has to be a lonely journey.

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The first movie by discovering what has been in your life, know you aren't the only one. Find a theater. Find what it means to be human. Enjoy it.

It took me months to realize that this was exactly what theater was, and that it's not in any way bad thing. Because while we are at the theater, enjoying our entertainment, with dinner if we're lucky, we are doing so together. Not alone. This is why theater is not only enjoy this art in the moment, but to make memory of it.
Rub of the Green

Unintentional Bad Rule Change

Major League Baseball kicked off the regular season last Sunday night. It was a great night because my St. Louis Cardinals beat the Chicago Cubs. But that isn't why I will remember that game. The game will stick in my memory because the Cardinals' catcher, Yadier Molina, was the first player in the history of baseball to be intentionally walked with a pitch being thrown.

This new rule was approved by the MLB on Feb. 16, an attempt to pick up the pace of play during games. The rule states that a coach can get a pitch to a batter if umpires say that they wish to intentionally walk the player going up to bat. The umpire then would have to give the batter a base without a single pitch being thrown.

The problem is that don't necessarily mean the game will speed up at all. Some estimates say that if it speeds up the game, the average game length will only be cut by about 3-4 minutes. There are many other ways to speed up the pace of play during games that wouldn't take away from the game itself.

This new rule takes so many different factors into account. A team can decide to intentionally walk a batter for many different reasons, whether it be the eighth hitter in the line up so they can pitch to the pitcher who is normally not the best hitter in the lineup or to avoid pitching to a good batter on the team. Taking a pitch in an intentional walk takes away from the game that most people really enjoy, with one of the biggest reasons being that any one can happen when you don't expect it. If a pitch actually hits someone, being intentionally walked, I am sure you have noticed how non-chalant the pitcher is while throwing the ball to the catcher. There have been instances where the pitcher throws the ball wildly to the point where it goes just past the catcher, allowing someone on base to take an extra base without the fear of being hit by the ball. Things like this happen more often than people know, and can even change the outcome of the game.

This may not be a rule change that is detrimental to the game of baseball, but it is one that does make any sense, and ultimately won't do anything to make the game better. And the fact is that it changing a rule that has been in place for years will not just affect the fact that this rule change made no sense at all.

TAYLOR HODGES is the head sports editor for the Bisons. He may be contacted at Hodges@harding.edu. Twitter: @thodges2

Baseball team wins five straight

The Bisons baseball team returned to the links for the first time this season as they competed in the Aggie Invitational in Pensacola, Florida, this past weekend. The Lady Bison golf team also returned to the links this weekend as they competed in the Argonaut Invitational in Pensacola, Florida, this past weekend.

The Bisons ended the Aggie Invitational with a 54-hole event for five hours on the first day of the two-day tournament. The team returned to the links for the second day of the tournament and finished third overall before freshman Carlee Freeman, the team's head web editor, qualified at Harding University on April 11. The Bisons defeated the Warriors 11-7, and will take on Southern Arkansas University (SAU) today in a doubleheader.

The game will stick out to me as the first tournament, so I walked over to support the team. It's nice for our friends to get to come out and watch that but also to support them while they prepare for upcoming events. Their most next event will be the Natural State Classic held in Heber Springs, Arkansas, from April 17-18. The next event is 5 p.m.

The team members are close and frequently communicate with each other. We talked about some of the things that we can do to support one another. The team is still in the process of maintaining from one season to the next, and continues to work hard despite the adversity this season, but I'm so blessed and thankful to be a part of this team, Guest said.

The team members focus their practice around their short game. They are also working to keep each other motivated. According to freshman Carlos Freeman, the team members are close and frequently communicate with each other.

"It's a good way to support each other," Guest said.

"It's a lot more fun to come out and watch that but also to support them while they prepare for upcoming events. Their most next event will be the Natural State Classic held in Heber Springs, Arkansas, from April 17-18. The next event is 5 p.m.

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Concussions are a difficult injury to evaluate. The test is administered to every Harding athlete before the season begins. If an athlete is diagnosed with a concussion, he or she must pass the baseline before they are symptom free. Also, every step calls for the athlete to attend a full schedule of classes. Not every impact to the brain causes a concussion, but it is better to err on the side of caution and evaluate an athlete who may be concussed, according to men's soccer head coach Jon Ireland. "It used to be with collisions you took a chance, but it is better to be safe than sorry." Thang says that his love for the sport he loves, "Hanging out with my new world he was now a part of." So, every step calls for the athlete to attend a full schedule of classes. Not every impact to the brain causes a concussion, but it is better to err on the side of caution and evaluate an athlete who may be concussed, according to men's soccer head coach Jon Ireland. 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When alumnus Seth Drummond wanted to express his wife with concert tickets as a sweet gesture, he decided to contact the venue for possibilities of allowing the cost of the tickets to be a donation to the scout group's design studio to start band patrol. Drummond was forwarded to the band's manager. The band already designed their own posters, but the manager offered Drummond to send an email to the band's manager to arrange the poster design for their band, which he immediately did. After receiving the email, he decided to give his poster design for the band's t-shirts and a signed poster to the band's manager. The band's manager forwarded the email to the band's manager, the band, and the scout group. The band's manager thanked Drummond for his design and offered him a free poster and a signed poster for his design.

When Drummond received the posters, he was thrilled and wanted to give his design to the scout group. He contacted the scout group's manager to express his gratitude for the opportunity to work with the band and to ask if there was any way he could give back to the scout group. The scout group's manager thanked Drummond for his design and offered him a free poster and a signed poster for his design.

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Dear Bisons,

A Note On Saying Thank You

NATALIE SMITH
web editor

The art of writing thank you notes has all but died out, but sitting down for a few minutes to write one could be the key to success in the professional world. Knowing when to give sincere letters of gratitude to professors and potential employers is a key to a job up your sleeve. Here’s a quick guide to know when and how to write professional thank-you notes.

1) Say thanks for letters of recommendation.

Good letters of recommendation are key to acceptance to graduate schools. While professors write these letters within a few minutes, your thanks can’t be written too soon. Writing personalized letters of recommendation for student-graduate school applications takes up professors’ valuable time and energy, often in the busiest part of the semester. Your professors are not obligated to write you a letter of recommendation, so take a few minutes to express your gratitude.

According to Thought Co., a gratitude note can go a long way. An email can serve as a quick way of saying "Thanks," but a letter can be the perfect note from a student to a professor. In the subject line, just thank them for their time, work and support throughout your application process. Tell them you’ll keep them informed about your progress in applying, and make sure they know how very much they’ve done for you.

2) Thank a potential employer for an interview.

This may sound like the obvious, but don’t take it for granted. It’s always best to show your potential employer that you are in fact interested in the opportunity. Let them know you are excited about being selected for the position. According to LinkedIn writer Linda Smith, you should never forget to be grateful to the people who extend a job offer to you.

This offer could be a new start for you, or it may not be, but sit tight. A thank you note has been said to be something that other people continued for, and you were accepted. Make sure your employer knows your enthusiasm for the opportunity you’ve been given.

3) Thank your boss for giving you a job.

This may seem obvious, but maybe a little excessive, but trust me on this one. Writing a thank you note or email can serve as a quick and easy way to thank your potential boss for giving you a job. This email can serve as a quick and easy way to show just how much you want them to know.

For many opportunities, now is the time to start upgrading your wardrobe from students to professionals. Whether you’re preparing for interviews, internships or your first job outside of college, knowing how to dress for success is a crucial skill in the post-graduation "real world."

Lisa Engel, an associate professor of marketing, offered tips that you can use to make sure you are dressed correctly for your job interview.

"Always be sure to ask during your interview to know the culture and do your research on the company, and what is appropriate will depend on the industry and position. According to Gardner, business-casual attire will be a pair of jeans and a dress shirt or polo, while business professional will incorporate a necktie or suit jacket, and what is appropriate will vary between hospitals and companies with a casual Friday policy. Employees are allowed to wear jeans, but cautioned that others, "gardner said."

"Theres a huge difference. We encourage students to look at the business attire at stores first. She also said, "With each major, your interview outfit will be different."

"For instance, with wine, it’s good to show your style and personality through what you wear to your interview."

"With each major, your interview outfit will be different. Pieces that students shopping in Savvy look at the business attire at stores first. She also said it could be helpful to simply ask during your interview what kind of dress they are looking for.

Always be sure to ask beforehand," Gardner said. "So then you can start collecting things for when you get the job, and you can already be looking at interview clothes as well.”

Overall, our clothes say a lot about who we are and what we’re about, building a first impression by dressing like a boss can make all the difference.
Cannon said that this has been a major semester. Cannon says that the process of concrete planning starts late in the fall stage this weekend. Cannon said that this has been a major semester. Cannon says that the process of concrete planning starts late in the fall stage this weekend.

"The best we could do was advance to the final pose of the finale," Jones said. "I will never forget what it felt like to hit the final pose of the finale. What people don't understand is that the sound of 4,000 people clapping, I mean, you can actually feel that. Not just hear it, You can actually feel the applause. That changed me."

"Broadway Rhythm," continued from 1A

Lighting directors work behind the scenes to create Spring Sing's illuminated effects

Natalie E. Smith

This year, Spring Sing is making sure the audience gets the authentic Broadway experience. Lighting director Steve Martin and Colt Cannon have been working tirelessly since November to create a lighting design that will come to life on the Benson stage this weekend. Steve Martin and Colt Cannon have been working tirelessly since November to create a lighting design that will come to life on the Benson stage this weekend.

"We're able to get ahead of the game a lot," Cannon said. "A lot of the time, we'd step up all night the week before Spring Sing weekend finishing stuff just because of scheduling conflicts. We only have a certain number of hours we can work in a day because of rehearsals, but now we're able to program the lights on a computer this year, and we've used a lot of time."  "We're able to get ahead of the game a lot," Cannon said. "A lot of the time, we'd step up all night the week before Spring Sing weekend finishing stuff just because of scheduling conflicts. We only have a certain number of hours we can work in a day because of rehearsals, but now we're able to program the lights on a computer this year, and we've used a lot of time."  

Martin has been working in lighting at Spring Sing for 29 years. "I can't even tell you how it started," Cannon said. Martin has been working in lighting at Spring Sing for 29 years. "I can't even tell you how it started," Cannon said.  "This is one of those jobs that you love, because of the band, because you get to be out on the stage doing what you love."

"This is one of those jobs that you love, because of the band, because you get to be out on the stage doing what you love."

"This year we had to set up this truss grid," Cannon said. "We built it, and we hung all up this stuff, so that's something that we didn't usually do. We just usually hang lights to dress up the stage."

"This year we had to set up this truss grid," Cannon said. "We built it, and we hung all up this stuff, so that's something that we didn't usually do. We just usually hang lights to dress up the stage."

"The beauty of Broadway in particular, Cannon said, is that the stories remain relatable over many generations. "The best we could do was advance to the final pose of the finale," Jones said. "I will never forget what it felt like to hit the final pose of the finale. What people don't understand is that the sound of 4,000 people clapping, I mean, you can actually feel that. Not just hear it, You can actually feel the applause. That changed me."

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Lighting director Colt Cannon and Spring Sing Director Steven Frye sit in the control room overlooking the Benson Auditorium on Wednesday, April 12. Cannon, along with Steve Martin, has been working since November to create the lighting effects for the show. Spring Sing 2017 is the third show under Cannon's supervision.
null
The first Spring Sing, created by students Jerry Palmer and Steve Alexander, was modeled after Abilene Christian College’s Sing Song event for Harding’s 50th anniversary. Men’s social club Sub T-16 and women’s social club Ko Jo Kai won first with a Spring Sing show titled, “Sailing.”

There were no Thursday performances for OCU. However, Makin’ Music has a dress rehearsal on Tuesday and a Thursday matinee for local elementary students. It is a club exclusive first viewing on Monday, a dress rehearsal on Tuesday and a Thursday day for local elementary students. 

Founded in 1963, Singarama also boasts a central theme, hosts and hostesses, and a charitable donation given to the winning show’s chosen cause. But it also possesses several differences. According to Bethany Rowland, Lipscomb senior theatre directing major and director of the winning 2017 Singarama show, Singarama consists of three nights of host and hostess songs and three up of various clubs and friends of 100-150 people. Each show must be no longer than seven-and-a-half minutes long, and even some of the terminology sounds similar.

“Lyric (and choreography) must be kept PHE appropriate,” Nicholson said.

The week of Makin’ Music has a strong resemblance to Spring Sing, as it includes a club exclusive first viewing on Monday, a dress rehearsal on Tuesday and a Thursday day for local elementary students. However, Makin’ Music has no Thursday night performance.

One major difference between Makin’ Music and Spring Sing is that Makin’ Music is almost entirely student-led. Nicholson was one of the student producers for the 2017 production and played a huge role in the overall execution, and this was a role that Nicholson claimed to really love. According to Dr. Bruce McLarty, the first President to participate in Spring Sing, He wrote the welcome for the 2014 show, “New” and performed on stage with other faculty members, including Chancellor David Burks.

Makin’ Music has no Thursday night performance. However, Makin’ Music has a dress rehearsal on Tuesday and a Thursday matinee for local elementary students. It is a club exclusive first viewing on Monday, a dress rehearsal on Tuesday and a Thursday day for local elementary students. Each show must be no longer than seven-and-a-half minutes long. "Each show is basically a musical, but much shorter,” Rowland said.

Singarama presents a different award after each performance. The award presented Thursday night will be for theme, Friday night for music, Saturday afternoon for staging and Saturday night for the overall sweepstakes award. Singarama usually occurs around Easter, with this year’s show occurring from April 6-8. Oklahoma Christian University (OCU) Spring Sing Stared in 1960, OCU’s Spring Sing bears the same name but is a slightly different show than Harding’s. According to recent OCU graduate Josh Messick, OCU’s Spring Sing is a completely free performance with no collaborations between OCU clubs. Each club must perform individually, and they have their own individual flair, according to Messick. "(Each club) brings together their own signature style for instance, my club, Kappa Sigma Tau, had the Kappa Snaps,” Messick said. "We also get to design individualized banners to promote our shows.”

Like Harding’s Spring Sing, OCU has multiple practices per week that culminates into the final five-and-a-half to six minute show on the big nights. However, Messick notes execution in the biggest difference between the two. 

"I gain a lot of the difference is the pace of it all, because Harding looks a lot more theatrical,” Messick said. "OCU is a lot more fast-paced.”

In the end, the winners go home with a cash prize and bragging rights.
Eighteen students, one director, take the reigns on Spring Sing's instrumentals.

DELILAH POPE
editorial asst.

With changing directors, clubs and hosts, Harding's Spring Sing has seen numerous changes in its cast over the years, but through it all, the participation of the university's Jazz Band has been nearly constant. This year's Spring Sing show, "Curtain Up!" marks the 42nd year that the Jazz Band has participated as the production's primary instrumental accompaniment.

The band has been a part of the Harding music program since the 1960s, specializing in blues, swing, funk, Latin and contemporary music styles. The band plays several independent shows each year, but according to Dr. Andrew Cook, assistant professor of music at Harding and the Jazz Band's director since 2015, Spring Sing is the band's biggest event of the year.

"Spring Sing is always the big highlight of the spring semester for us because we end up learning nine or 10 new pieces for Spring Sing," Cook said. "So there's a lot more accountability, as it's one person to a part. You have to learn your part, and you have to be responsible for it, and you have to play it well for the band to play it well."

The band consists of 18 students of various majors, and boasts five saxophones, four trombones, five trumpets, a piano, bass, guitar and drums.

Junior music education major Devin Daniel has been involved with a jazz band since the sixth grade, and has participated in Harding's band program since his freshman year. He currently performs as the Jazz Band's principal trumpet. According to Daniel, the unique experience of the Jazz Band has been a positive one.

"It's a great experience because it's learning how to be a part of a show but not being the main event," Daniel said. "It's not just starting a song and ending a song, it's following along, making sure that we know where we are and doing a lot of listening. It's a professional experience."

According to Cook, only four of the 18 members of the Jazz Band are not music majors, and he complimented them on their commitment, not only to his program, but to the Harding band program at large, as being involved in multiple bands often requires students to participate in at least one practice each day of the week.

"We have really talented and really committed students, and it's just a different style and a different type of music for them to play and I think that they get excited about it as well," Cook said. "There is tremendous dedication there."

Each year, the band performs two of their own arrangements for the Spring Sing audience in each half of the show. Cook attempts to connect the band's songs to the greater show as a whole, so this year he chose two Broadway songs to fit the theme. After searching for the perfect fits, he found an arrangement of "I Just Can't Wait to Be King" that he thought would complement the show. Cook also arranged "Don't Break the Rules" for host senior Renee Maynard's solo, an arrangement that he is especially proud of.

Daniel stressed the closeness of the group when it comes to practicing and performing, noting that there is a friendly rivalry between the stage performers and musicians, which has contributed to this year's experience.

"It's a great experience because it's learning how to be a part of a show but not being the main event."

- Junior Devin Daniel