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Fighting the Flu

Seasonal epidemic hits Arkansas

YOVANI ARIMENDIZ
student writer
BISON STAFF

Junior Shelbi Bridges awoke Tuesday morning with fatigue, a cough and sore throat. As the day progressed her symptoms grew worse, and she was later diagnosed with a strain of the flu.

"I felt like I'd been hit by a bus," Bridges said. "It feels like someone is holding their hand on my forehead and pushing down on it so that it hurts, and I can't get up, and they're sucking all the energy out of me at the same time."

Bridges said her doctor ordered her to bed rest for five days. She said she felt like all she could do to feel better is to sleep.

This year's flu season is the most widespread on record, according to the Washington Post. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) recorded more than 28,000 known positive influenza tests and widespread activity. Flu deaths in Arkansas have nearly doubled in the last three weeks, according to a weekly influenza report from the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH).

Rhonda Davis, director of Student Health Services, said the flu starts suddenly and begins severely, and is usually associated with a fever of 101 degrees or higher, scratchy throat, dry cough and sneezing, along with a body ache and fatigue.

Davis said people should remember the flu is very contagious and is transmitted through direct contact. She said it is difficult to tell where a person contracted the virus and that cold temperatures play an important role in the flu's spread.

"When it is cold people tend to stay indoors and they stay together, which make things transmit more

easily," Davis said.

The CDC states that the flu vaccine is generally 40-60 percent effective, but less effective for this year's dominant and harshest strain, H3N2.

Davis said the flu is a virus, requiring a point of entry, which is typically through inhalation. If an infected person coughs or sneezes, people around them breathe in the virus. Davis recommended keeping distance from people who have the flu.

Davis said flu shots are a good way to prevent influenza. She said the best time to receive a flu shot is around October, when flu season begins. Flu season typically runs through March, usually peaking in February.

Dr. Jeanie Smith, director of Experiential Education, said vaccinations merely help prevent infection, but do not treat the virus.

"If you've got the flu, getting a flu shot will do nothing for you," Smith said.

According to Smith, infection is prevented by coughing into the elbow instead of hands and by keeping hands clean and away from the face. She said it is important to stay hydrated and that taking probiotics on a regular basis can help boost the immune system.

Dr. Julie Kissack, chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice, said a person needs to seek help immediately if feeling poorly. In order for medication to help flu, it is important to start medications soon after the symptoms start, Kissack said.

Student Health Services is located at 115 Jimmy Carr Drive in Legacy park and is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Since Oct. 1, 2017,
over 28,000 have
tested positive for
the flu.

Cases of the flu
have been reported
in every county.

As of last week, 8.85%
of public school students
in the state have missed
school from the flu.

This season, at least 70
flu-related deaths have
been reported.

Information from
Arkansas Department of Health
accumulated between
1/14/2018 - 1/20/2018

Graphic by SAWYER HITE

City of Searcy takes over management of Rialto

JACOB BROYLES
student writer

The city of Searcy has now taken over management responsibilities of the Rialto Theater, located in downtown Searcy. Known for its Art Deco style and neon marquee, the theater is expected to be restored to its former condition by Main Street Searcy.

The Rialto has undergone major renovations over the past two years. The building and property have been owned by the city of Searcy for several years and were managed by the recently retired Victor Weber, who spent 24 years of managing the Rialto.

Amy Burton, executive director of Main Street Searcy, believes the change in management will be a positive change for the city.

"It's a natural fit. With it being a city owned property, it's a natural progression for the Parks and Recreation Department to take on this project," Burton said. "They

can manage this building, like they do their other facilities. Whether it's the swimming pool, the Carmichael Center, or city parks, they already have that infrastructure in place to manage the property."

There will be plenty of renovations, but the city is hoping to keep the vintage and historical atmosphere, according to the Parks and Recreation Department. They believe this will attract more people to the theater, along with its budget-friendly prices.

Since it is a "second-run" theater, the city does not have to pay for recent movies. The Rialto shows movies months after their release date, which makes ticket prices very affordable.

Mike Parsons, department head of Searcy Parks and Recreation, said ticket prices will remain the same and they will offer \$1 movies on Tuesday nights and Saturday matinees. Parsons is looking to expand the variety of concessions, but would prefer to keep them at a reasonable price. The city wants to provide a service to the community,

rather than focusing on making a profit.

"The Parks and Recreation Department will be able to utilize the theater more for the children that take part in the city activities," Burton said. "It will be more of a multipurpose use, and having the flexibility with it being owned by the city will open it up to a lot more activities."

Harding students have benefited from the Rialto in recent years. Multiple social clubs, including women's social clubs Pi Theta Phi and Ju Go Ju have held functions at the theater within the past two months. Junior Parker Samuel attended the PTP function in early December and said the Rialto would be a great venue for future functions.

"It's local and so close to campus. With so many functions being 40 minutes away, it's a place you can drive and even walk to," Samuel said. "It's a cool venue, and I think if they do some minor updates, it will definitely be more attractive for function events."

There are still renovations to be made, but the Rialto is scheduled to start playing movies within the next few weeks.

Next Legacy phase expands Harding community

ANNA CARR
student writer
SAVANNA DISTEFANO
editor-in-chief

Since August 2016, campus has seen additions to residential housing in the Legacy Park Apartments in the form of Legacy Park Phase IV, which consists of lots to be purchased by members of the Harding community — alumni, students, faculty and staff — for construction of customized Legacy Homes.

Chancellor David Burks, who began the Legacy project as part of his final five-year plan for the university, said he has been looking forward to the new additions and believes that it will enhance relationships between students and faculty.

"The purpose was to build a community on the west side of campus where students and adults could live together," Burks said. "It's very similar to the idea of Harding Park. Harding Drive was designed for the same reason, but now it's 60 years old."

Burks said that many members of Harding's faculty and staff consider relationships with students to be an essential part of their Harding experience, and that many of the specially-designed homes will feature apartments for faculty to

rent to students.

Dr. David Kee, assistant professor of business, has moved into his new Legacy home and is renting an apartment to students.

"Living in Legacy has been fantastic," Kee said. "We live close to the students (and) fellow faculty members, and I get to walk to work. It's a life my wife and I have never had before."

Kee said that he and his wife enjoy the Harding community by hosting students in their homes, and emphasized that living in the new neighborhood brings more benefits than a short commute and more interactions with students. Members of the new Legacy community also enjoy free access to Harding's sports games and the Ganus Activities Complex.

Senior Jady Hix, resident of the Legacy Park Apartments, said she believes the new additions will improve the Harding community overall.

"With the students living so close to (this phase of) Legacy Park, this reinforces the idea that the faculty are not unreachable, but living alongside them and striving to build community and enhance the Harding experience for everyone," Hix said.

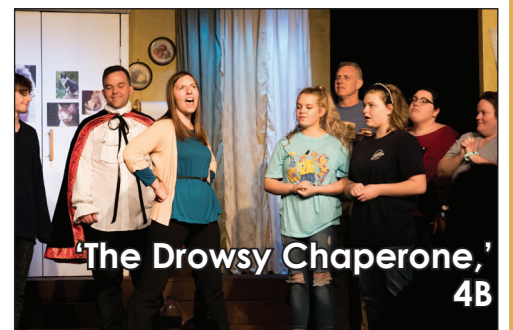
Legacy Park Phase V is expected to begin in the spring with 20 more lots available for purchase for members of the Harding community.



RYANN HEIM | The Bison

A construction worker helps build a home for Legacy Park Phase IV. Residential housing is intended to bring several generations from the Harding community together on campus.

In this issue



THE STATE OF THE UNION



Graphic by **DARIAN BAGGLEY**

President Donald Trump set to give his first State of the Union Address this year

SAVANNA DISTEFANO
editor-in-chief
CAITLIN DENTON
student writer

President Donald Trump will give his first State of the Union address on Tuesday, Jan. 30 at the U.S. Capitol. The address has been a tradition since George Washington in order to communicate current conditions of the country and policy proposals for the upcoming year.

“As a young citizen of the United States, I enjoy hearing Trump’s thoughts about America,” sophomore Will Crews said. “I am looking forward to seeing how he handles these pressing issues as the leader of our nation.”

Here are some issues to look out for in this year’s address:

1. Immigration

After a three-day government shutdown regarding a bipartisan on the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

(DACA), Trump said he was willing to discuss a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants brought to the U.S. as children, according to the New York Times. The Times also reported Trump stating he would request \$24 billion to build a wall on the Mexico border.

2. #MeToo

According to CNN, lawmakers were invited to wear black to the State of the Union address to support the #MeToo and #TimesUp movement against sexual assault and harassment that has forced several members out of government offices in the last several weeks.

3. Trade decisions

Politico reported that the Trump Administration is preparing to reveal a crackdown on trade in the coming weeks, including new tariffs countering China’s, as well as other unfair trade practices.

4. Healthcare

Since his election, Trump has battled the current Affordable Care Act (ACA), also known as Obamacare, set in place during the Obama era. The Washington Post

reported that the Trump administration is continuing discussions for a new healthcare plan that will excuse more people from the ACA.

5. Trump

Dr. Jared Dockery, associate professor of history, said he expects Trump’s speech to have continuity from previous years. He said he believes the formality of the address will benefit Trump because the mainstream media has lowered public expectations.

“I would expect President Trump’s speech to be more solid — if less colorful and controversial — than his tweets,” Dockery said. “He tends to be at his best when delivering formal speeches because he is much more likely to stick to a disciplined script rather than delivering inflammatory and tangential tweets.”

The 2018 State of the Union address will be delivered Tuesday, Jan. 30, at 7 p.m. CT. The address will be livestreamed via Youtube and NBCNews.com/SOTU. Follow HUSudentPubs on Twitter for live update throughout the event.

Nationally recognized educator comes to campus

American Studies Institute presents Ron Clark as the first speaker of semester

CAYLEIGH THOMAS
student writer



The upcoming ASI speaker Ron Clark will give a talk on “Creative Practices for Motivating Members of Your Team” on Tuesday, January 30 in the Benson Auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

Educator Ron Clark will be speaking as part of the American Studies Institute (ASI) Distinguished Lecture Series on Tuesday, Jan. 30 in the Benson Auditorium. He is also a motivational speaker and the founder of The Ron Clark Academy. He will be speaking on “Creative Practices for Motivating Members of Your Team.”

Clark has been called “America’s Educator” and was named Oprah Winfrey’s first “Phenomenal Man.” He travels around the country speaking about his experiences as a teacher in order to empower others and inspire them to find their calling and make it their mission.

According to the Premiere Speakers Bureau, Clark began teaching in Harlem, New York, after watching a documentary on low test scores in inner-city schools. Within a year, the scores of his students were the top of their grade.

In 2006, Clark teamed with Kim Bearden to create The Ron Clark Academy, a school in Atlanta, Georgia, which seeks to use transformative methods and techniques to teach students. That same year, “The Ron Clark Story” was released, starring Matthew Perry from “Friends” as Clark. The movie told the story of his transition teaching in an inner-city school and the success that followed.

“We watched his movie in one of my education classes ... freshman year,” senior Alyssa Durant said. “We also studied his 55 essential rules with Dr. (Allen) Henderson.”

Clark wrote his New York Times bestseller “The Essential 55” as a guideline for students, which includes a list of 55 expectations for themselves.

Senior education major and vice president of ASI Jon Ortiz said Clark’s rules apply to everyone, not only those studying education.

“I truly believe that if we followed those rules, our society would be in much better condition than what it is,” Ortiz said.

Director of ASI Kim Kirkman said the lecture is designed to reach all majors and fields.

“Attending the event will give practical things to making members of your team stronger,” Kirkman said. “Your team may be a classroom, a club, a class project group, advisory group — whatever it is, you can gain skills to strengthen your team.”

Kirkman hopes that the message will inspire and motivate the audience.

“Any major could learn something from him,” Durant said. “When you see someone who loves their profession so much and is willing to take it the extra mile — that can inspire anyone.”

As part of the event, the lecture will recognize teachers. Educators will be seated in the front of the auditorium and receive special recognition during the event, according to Ortiz.

The lecture will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Benson Auditorium and will conclude with a book signing to follow at 8:30 p.m.

Tenor of Our Times rings the call of history

Undergraduate journal seeks student involvement in creating and editing content

ZACH BISSELL
student writer

The Tenor of Our Times is an undergraduate journal containing articles full of historical research and analyses. The journal is now accepting submissions from students until the end of January. After a process of close review by student editors and faculty advisors, the journal is released at the end of the spring semester.

“We publish student work every spring, online and in print. For the past three years, we’ve won the Nash (History Journal) Prize for best undergraduate journal in print,” senior managing editor Sam Aly said. “Last year was our first year online, and we won best undergraduate journal

online. It was rewarding for us to see all the effort we put into the online section be honored in that way.”

Tenor, as the journal is commonly called, is overseen by Harding’s chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, an honors society for history majors. However, students do not have to be a member of the chapter to contribute. Both essay submission and review are open to all majors.

“Students who are interested can submit one of their academic papers to Tenor for publication,” senior student editor Nathan Harkey said. “Another way that they can become involved is to spread the word about Tenor and make people on campus more aware about this journal that means so much to the students and

faculty who contribute to it.”

For students interested in studying more in a different field of study, Tenor can give a unique outlet while offering an opportunity to create content for a portfolio.

“It is a great opportunity that allows you to be a published writer and looks great on graduate school applications and resumes,” Harkey said.

Editors receive multiple submissions to read and have around a month to edit them according to “The Chicago Manual of Style.” Edited essays are sent back to their authors for correction and suggestions in order to create a stronger entry. Upon proper revision, essays are published.

“Working with all the editors and reviewers of Tenor is such a fantastic opportunity,” senior print editor Mary Goode said. “If students work with Tenor as an editor or reviewer, they gain valuable writing and editing skills that are transferable to almost any career field. ... My favorite aspect of working with Tenor is the collaboration and fellowship with the other editors and reviewers, as well as reading the often well-crafted works of the students here at Harding.”

Tenor recommends choosing an intriguing historical topic and submit it to Tenor or complete an application to join the student board. To find out more information about how to be involved, go to scholarworks.harding.edu/tenor.

BEYOND
THE BUBBLE
NEWS FROM A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE



State | Flu Deaths Nearly Double

Arkansas flu deaths have nearly doubled in the past three weeks, according to the latest flu report from the Arkansas Department of Health. The report shows the cumulative flu season count, which began Oct. 1, at 70 flu deaths in the state. Of those, 69 were adults and one was a child.

National | School Shooting in Kentucky

A Kentucky community grapples with cause of school shooting wherein a 15-year-old shot and wounded 16 people, two of them fatally, this Tuesday morning at Marshall County High School, according to CNN News. Four others sustained various injuries.



International | Filipino Volcano Continues to Erupt

A volcano in the Philippines continues to erupt, thousands more evacuate, according to ABC News. Explosions on Monday caused more than 30,000 residents from Albay to evacuate. More than 56,000 villagers have evacuated to emergency shelters due to the risk of a full volcanic eruption.



Giving a voice to our mothers



guest
writer

emily shumaker

When my mom gave birth to my baby brother, I was a freshman in high school. I was old enough to remember every detail, from her pregnancy to the hospital stay. When my brother was born and I held him in the maternity ward, my mother was experiencing an adverse reaction to the anesthesia given to her. When she suddenly could not talk or move, the medical professionals around her did not comfort her by explaining the situation. They left her in painful ignorance about what was happening. It wasn't until the effects had worn off that she found out what had happened.

In another instance, when my mother requested that her nurse wake her in the middle of the night to give her pain medicine, the nurse argued with her and insisted it would be better if she slept. She was not woken up and instead experienced unnecessary pain. Recently, I found that my mom is not the only woman who has experienced a lack of attention during a hospital stay.

On Sept. 1, 2017 tennis champion Ser-

ena Williams gave birth to her daughter. Shortly after, Williams experienced difficulty breathing and recognized her symptoms as a pulmonary embolism. According to a New York Times article, she was prone to blood clots and immediately asked the nurse to get her a CT scan and blood thinners. The nurse suggested that the pain medicine had left her confused. Despite Williams' insistence, the doctor would not take her seriously, and it led to further complications.

Too often, medical professionals ignore their patients' concerns and assume they are just not aware of the effects of staying in the hospital longer. But patients are individuals, not just medical cases. Medical professionals must be careful to practice empathy when any concern is raised.

"Stop. Look. Listen!" is a maternal safety campaign which honors Tara Hansen, a woman who died in 2011, only six days after giving birth. Despite her insistence upon something feeling wrong, doctors did not take her seriously, and she died due to an undiagnosed infection. Her husband claimed that her complaints kept falling on deaf ears, according to the campaign's publication. The "Stop. Look. Listen!" campaign is dedicated to making the medical community aware that women's symptoms need to be acknowledged. It is committed to training medical personnel to stop, listen and pay serious attention to acknowledge

the slightest concerns of their patients. This campaign also hopes to empower women to speak up and voice their concerns.

Mothers need to be heard in the hospital, especially when they are giving birth. If something is wrong, the patient should be able to voice her concern and expect a solution, not a shrug or pat on the head. Medical professionals should take appropriate measures to take care of the patients, pay genuine attention to their concerns and treat their wishes respectfully.

The disheartening statistics about maternal medical errors should open our eyes to the importance of listening. We must not only listen to women, but also to children and those underrepresented in today's world. Despite our tendency to think of developing nations when we hear about mothers dying in childbirth, maternal mortality is on the rise in the U.S. according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about 700 women die every year as a result of pregnancy or delivery complications — that's two women every day.

Jan. 23 was Maternal Health Awareness Day. To readers or students practicing or studying a medical profession: stop, look and listen. It will make all the difference.

EMILY SHUMAKER is a guest writer for The Bison. She may be contacted at eshumaker@harding.edu.



BRAVER
THAN YOU
BELIEVE

jaisa hogue

@SelflessSpaghetti

A few months ago, my roommate Hollee and I talked about a joke we saw that suggested changing your Twitter handle to your biggest character flaw and favorite food. I asked her what she thought my biggest character flaw was, and I was a little bit surprised by her answer, but then she explained and we talked more about it. Ultimately, we came to the conclusion that my handle would be @SelflessSpaghetti.

I have a habit of focusing on others before myself. I don't mean this in a braggy way. I'm not saying that I'm selfless because I'm just that great of a person. I think it has always been easier for me to exhaust myself for other people than to reflect and deal with my own issues. I've written before about how hard it is to ask for help, but it's even harder to ask for help if you refuse to recognize the problem in the first place.

They say you have to love yourself before you can love someone else. I've always kind of wrestled with this idea because I think it's important to love and support other people, but I usually feel uncomfortable making my own happiness a priority. I've spent so much time trying to train myself to focus on others. Now, it feels wrong to focus on myself.

After Hollee pointed this out and explained that selflessness is actually my biggest flaw, I was able to realize how much this has affected my life, especially in the last few years. I know I don't always take care of myself like I should, and I prioritize my friends' needs before my own. I never really thought of that as a bad thing until Hollee said something. I mean, I low-key felt attacked, even though I asked for her complete honesty. She brought up specific times when I'd committed to more responsibility with the newspaper than I could handle, or said I'd help someone in one of my classes despite already having too much on my plate. She recalled watching me go without eating or sleeping a few times in order to get it all done.

"You've straight up neglected your basic needs before," she said. "There was even that one time that you fell asleep in your Eeyore onesie because you'd made yourself physically sick. Jaisa, stress and taking on too much at once can lower your immune system. You're basically begging for an illness all the time."

So, I essentially got a lecture from my roommate about how I really needed to start taking care of myself — "or else." But it wasn't all bad. She also said that she envied my selflessness, and that it was also my greatest strength. I just needed to find a balance between taking care of others and also taking care of myself.

I continued the conversation by turning the tables on her.

Long story short, her Twitter handle would be @AnxiousCheeseburger. It's hard for Hollee to make new friends because her anxiety keeps her from approaching people first. There are opportunities that she has missed out on because she was too anxious to take them. Her nervousness has also made her physically sick several times. When things are out of her control, she starts to shut down and back out of everything. She's so extremely smart, and I know she's capable of so much, but she is oftentimes too afraid to put herself out there or too afraid of failing.

I think it's important to have these kinds of conversations with your friends because real friends will tell you the truth, and they care enough to help you improve. The point is that everyone has some sort of weakness — an ultimate character flaw that keeps them from living their best life. There's always room to grow, and all you have to do is to find your Achilles' heel and own up to it. Or, as Hollee put it, "check yourself before you wreck yourself."

So, what's your new Twitter handle going to be?

JAISA HOGUE is the opinions editor for The Bison. She may be contacted at jhogue@harding.edu. Twitter: SelflessSpaghet

"IN CASE YOU WERE SLEEPING..."

Bryan Sampson @bsamp1918 · Jan 20
Sleeps for 11 hours straight* "Woo [sic] I feel really rested," *sleeps for 2 more hours

← ↺ ❤

Jerred Shepherd @ShepherdJerred · Jan 21
I started this semester off thinking I'd finally actually read my textbooks. I was so naive.

← ↺ ❤

Kamryn Burton @kamryn_burton · Jan 21
Hi. I'm looking to hire someone to act like me and take all of my classes and do all my work and socialize for me. Will (not) pay. Please apply in a reply

← ↺ ❤

The old hat lady



features
editor

raianne mason

In my years at college, I have discovered that I am a grandma. With this title comes a lot of jokes, particularly that I'm going to be a little old cat lady when I grow up. But I've decided that I'm going to be a little old hat lady instead. I came to this realization this summer when I counted my hat collection and found I owned over 25 vintage hats. That might not seem like too big of a collection except for the fact that I've only been collecting them for about a year.

Growing up, I never wore hats. This was not because I didn't like them, but because I have what the Mad Hatter would call "a pimple of a head." My whole life, I've had problems finding baseball caps that are tight enough, headbands that stay in place for longer than a minute and sun hats that don't cover my eyes. This was a problem even in athletics — my head was so small that, when I played softball, I had to wear a visor underneath my helmet to keep it in place.

I say all of that to show that I wasn't originally a hat girl. I became one when my great grandmother passed away and left me my choice of her old hats. I was shocked to find that not only did they fit my head, but they looked good, too. Luckily for me, ladies of the 40s and 50s had heads of a smaller circumference than the modern woman.

The following Sunday, I decided to debut one of my new hats at church, and I recieved a response I never imagined. People loved it. There were members of my congregation I'd worshipped with my whole life but never spoken to who came up and asked me about my hat. I made so many relationships that first Sunday that have continued to grow since.

The following Sunday, a lady at my church who I had never really spoken with came up to me holding a plastic bag with Spanish wording. She handed it to me and said it was a hat that she bought while in Spain. The next week when I walked into church, I looked around and two or three other women at my congregation were also wearing hats. In the months to follow, I accumulated more and more hats from friends and family.

There are more than 25 hats in my collection. I think I only bought five of them myself. The rest have been given to me. My collection contains hats from my grandma,

my great aunt, my best friends and various women at church.

What I love most about my hats is that they have history. Every Sunday morning when I decide which hat to wear, the question is not which color, but rather, which person. Who do I want to honor today? What memories do I want to recount when I'm asked about my hat?

One of my favorite things about wearing my hats is that they become conversation starters and opportunities to share stories.

For me, those stories and the relationships they develop are the best thing about wearing hats. My hats have bridged the gap between myself and the older members of the congregation. They've helped me make unlikely friends and have reminded me that everyone desires relationships — sometimes they just need something to start the conversation.

So yes, I'm that girl who is always wearing a hat at church, and when I grow up, I intend to be that old hat lady. Maybe one day I'll pass on my collection to my great granddaughters and they will learn just how special a couple of hats can be.

RAIANNE MASON is the features editor for The Bison. She may be contacted at rmason4@harding.edu.

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KEEP IT SAVVY

savanna distefano

‘Every rep makes you better’

I used to be an athlete, back in the day when Bruno Mars made his debut and UGG boots were still in style. I loved high school sports, and I dedicated all of my after-school time to preserving my muscle mass and dreaming of a six-pack. I even went through a phase of downing protein drinks after every practice and before each meet — never again.

My track career started in seventh grade and ended in the spring of my junior year of high school. I thought I was a pretty fast runner, especially for having nubs as legs. I ran a few sprints per meet, usually the 100-meter, 200-meter and occasionally the 400-meter when Coach Rob asked me to.

Of the several different track coaches I had, Coach Rob was by far my favorite, and I think some of my teammates would agree.

Coach Rob was young and enthusiastic. He enjoyed lifting weights alongside the students and pushing us until runners began to vomit, and sometimes even after that.

He was understanding yet tough, encouraging yet strict. One practice, he made our team run a lap for every person who had failed a class. I was very sore the next day.

Whenever we were close to giving up during a workout, he would chant, “Every rep makes you better” and have us repeat this over and over — and over. It was the concept of endurance — continuance despite the challenge. Needless to say, those words have been ingrained in my mind ever since, even eight years later.

Even though Coach Rob trained us very diligently, he was also very aware of our everyday stressors outside of track. One year, he sat us down before or after every practice to preach to us about a new life value, like faith or integrity. He was very passionate about our well-being and attitudes.

I think it is safe to say that we all admired him and were shocked upon hearing of his death by suicide on the last day of my sophomore year in 2012.

Our school was devastated by the unexpected loss. We held a candle lighting ceremony as a community to celebrate his life and find comfort in each other.

We also grew from it as individuals and as a community. I think I realized that you never know what’s under the surface. I was shocked and sad, but mostly I was confused. I think it made me realize how precious life was while I was so young.

The following year, our track team adjusted to a new coach and training style, but we persisted in following our favorite motto, “Every rep makes you better.”

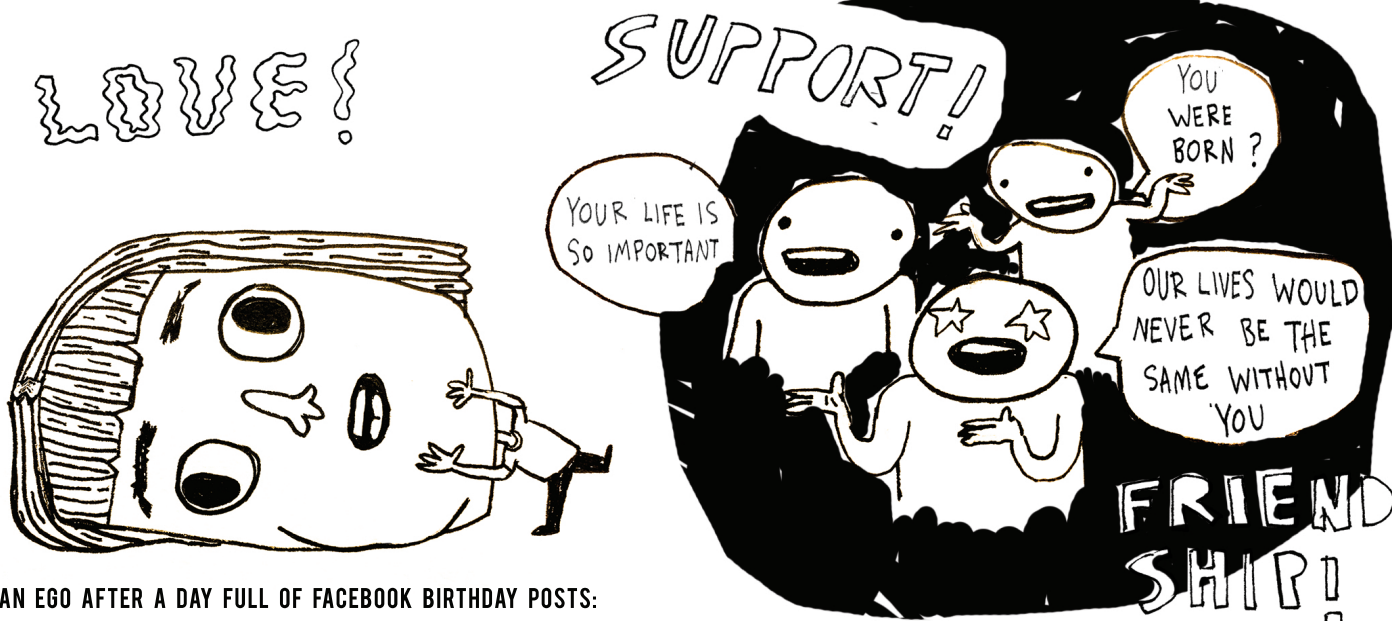
Though Coach Rob may no longer be with us physically, his spirit and inspiration continues to influence and carry on through my life as well as those whose lives have been affected by his.

I think God gives each of us a unique trait that allows us to keep each other’s memory alive after we leave this earth. Perhaps that is why he gives us the ability to inspire greatly and love deeply.

I am usually not one for New Years resolutions, but this year I have found myself naturally striving to keep alive the spark of those who have been part of my life in years prior. Whether I am attempting to relive my glory days as an athlete or am chasing a hard-hitting story, I can practice the art of continuing one step at a time.

After all, every rep makes you better.

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AN EGO AFTER A DAY FULL OF FACEBOOK BIRTHDAY POSTS:

Illustration by RACHEL GIBSON

Is America ready?



guest writer

claire maxwell

On January 22, a very long line formed in downtown Seattle as Amazon opened its very first convenience grocery store. Amazon Go is a system that involves no cash exchange, no checkout process and no cashiers.

When customers enter the store, they walk through subway-like turnstiles and are only able to enter if they have the Amazon Go app on their device. They can grab whatever groceries they need, including products unique to the Amazon-owned Whole Foods. When customers are ready to leave, they walk out the same way, and seconds later, Amazon sends them a receipt, charging them for the items they chose. Amazon calls it their “Just Walk Out” technology.

This concept is bound to be borrowed by other retailers as the technology popularizes, and Amazon will expand their chain if the Seattle store proves as successful as the hype.

This may cause one to wonder what effects this unique use of technology has on grocery stores and employees. Instead of cashiers, Amazon explains that they are simply chang-

ing their employees’ roles in stores. There are chefs that make cafe style grab-and-go foods, associates that restock shelves and help shoppers find what they are looking for, security guards, and even someone to check IDs in the liquor section of the store.

To make all of this possible, the ceilings in Amazon Go are covered with hundreds of cameras that are able to review customer purchases. Amazon claims the cameras do not have facial recognition software. They have been physically testing their system for a year. A shopper can pick up an item and put it back, which a camera reviews and adjusts in the shopper’s app. These cameras play a huge role in reducing theft and making sure customers are charged the correct amount. The downside to this is the constant surveillance of the customer — the cameras are able to track their every action. As technology continues to progress, traditional retail shopping will see much more of this, leaving consumers to decide if they will trade their privacy for a swifter and easier shopping experience. Scanning a phone on the way in is also another way for Amazon to track their customer’s interests and other accessible information.

Before looking into this grocery store, I was dubious. How can this be a good thing when there is no need for employees? How can this be accurate? Why must we continue to limit human interaction?

I believe I was wrong to make these as-

sumptions. After reading about the opening of the Seattle store, I am intrigued and leaning favorably toward the idea of semi-automated grocery stores. Even in this age of technology, it can be hard to fathom the amount of science and engineering that goes into this — yet, it is going to keep expanding.

There is definitely still a need for employees, although 3.5 million American cashiers may be a hard number to reach. The technology has the potential to be very accurate (as it should be, considering how long Amazon has tested it) and is the beginning of a new industry frontier. There will still be plenty of human interaction in stores, it simply subtracts the worst parts of grocery shopping: no clogged lines or waiting, no dreaded shopper with an entirely full cart that takes twice the time to check out. These kind of improvements in grocery shopping make the experience streamlined and efficient in comparison to the average grocery store. Grocery shoppers should be open-minded to this new concept in the coming years, but also must remember the impact it can have on their privacy and their wallet. All things considered, semi-automated stores show promise as powerful tools for saving time and creating efficiency for those who wish to shop.

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What’s Your Opinion?

Want to write an opinion for The Bison? Contact Jaisa Hogue at jhogue@harding.edu to voice your opinion through The Bison newspaper.

Just the Clax

My date with Roku



michael claxton

I’m sorry to say, it didn’t work out. It all started last December, when I took my Intel laptop in for repairs. Things weren’t working right: web pages weren’t loading, videos buffered and the whole operation seemed sluggish. I thought it must be time for a tuneup. And possibly an oil change.

But whatever the technician did made no difference at all, so I called my Internet service provider. He ran a remote test and determined that the problem was speed. It seems that my Internet was slow — extremely slow. In fact, the guy told me that his grandmother’s power chair was faster than my modem. So, he bumped me up a couple of “G’s” and sent a new router.

But it seems that was just the start of the changes coming to my world. When I told the man who delivered the equipment how much I paid for satellite TV, he referred me to a friend. Two days later, that guy came to my house to talk about streaming television.

I don’t often make major changes in life. I’ve eaten the same kind of sandwich every day for 15 years. But when I heard the phrase “save up to \$100 per month,” I decided that I might just have to break up with satellite. He said that even his 85-year-old grandfather switched. That clinched it for me.

The man signed me up for a brand-new service that cost about a fourth of what I was paying. All I had to do was change over to an Internet-based television provider. Since I already had a new wireless device, he said, this would be easy. So, I agreed to a trial run. But I didn’t cancel my old service. It doesn’t hurt to keep your options open.

That’s when the bad news started to

trickle in. My television was too old for this service. Yes, my TV is so old that on Mondays, I still get “The Ed Sullivan Show.” So, I would have to spend \$40 for something called a Roku before I could get started. It sounded like what I ordered last week at the Japanese steakhouse.

When I went to Walmart to buy this device and described my new streaming service, the salesperson wasn’t sure I needed a Roku. But then her associate said, “Oh, yeah. This is the latest thing in TV. Lots of people are switching.”

I thought, “Wow, if people in the Walmart electronics department don’t know about this deal, it must be cutting edge.” So, I took home the Roku and read the instructions. I untwisted the twist-ties around the cords. I plugged it in. I loaded batteries into the remote. I was breezing through the steps like a 6-year-old. That’s when I learned more bad news.

All my channels disappeared. I had to search for them one at a time, typing each channel name into a box. Then, to connect to, say, The History Channel, I had to go to the website and enter a passcode. To get the passcode, I had to download a new browser. To download a new browser, I had to go through more steps. Only to discover

that The History Channel is not part of my package and is only available for a monthly fee, which they would gladly charge to my credit card. And even then, I couldn’t watch it live. On my old TV, I just had to press “269,” and The History Channel appeared in nanoseconds.

As it turns out, much of what I like to watch is not included. As I looked through the available “free” channels, randomly clicking on anything I could find, I somehow ended up watching a soccer game in Farsi. Now I’m on the State Department’s terror watch list.

And to add insult to injury, they have the nerve to call this a “smart television.”

I’m a creature of habit. I like to look at the TV guide in the newspaper to see what’s on. I like to turn on the TV and find my favorite shows live. I don’t want to moonlight between a laptop and a TV monitor every time I watch a program. I love for network executives to tell me when to sit down for “Victoria” on PBS (Sundays at 8:00 p.m.). I have never binge-watched anything.

I spent less than an hour with Roku before we broke up. Then I ran back and wrapped my arms around my old TV, promising that I would never stray again. Yes, I missed my chance to be on the cutting edge of a new technology. As a friend pointed out, I almost plunged right into 2013. But for now, I’ll stick with my old service. After all, she’s quite a Dish.

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THE
GRAND
SLAM

emily
faulkner

Winter Olympics

If there is a time for everyone in the world to come together it is during the Olympics. From Feb. 9 to Feb. 25, the world will be watching this event which only comes around every four years and dates back to the ancient Greeks.

In order to respect the ancient origins of the Olympic games, according to olympic.org the four-year interval between the ancient games editions was named an “Olympiad.”

Nearly 1,503 years later, the modern era began in 1896. In 1894, Pierre de Coubertin launched his plan to revive the Olympic games, and in 1896 the first games of the modern era were held in Athens according to olympic.org. To put that in perspective, that was 94 years ago.

The ancient Greeks never had winter games neither did the modern era. One day, everything changed. January 25, 1924, was a long time coming. After years of controversy over allowing other countries to participate and showing a need to have a separate winter games, the winter Olympics finally came to fruition.

Originally known as the “international winter sports week,” the first winter Olympics were held in Chamonix, France, in the French Alps, says olympic.org. There were 12 events and six sports, but it was a success.

To me it is hard to imagine a life without the Olympics. It is a time for nearly two weeks where the world drops everything and comes together for the sake of sports. Not only that, but these athletes are the best in the world. And that, to me, is beautiful.

The list of events for the winter Olympics include: alpine skiing, biathlon, bobsleigh, cross country skiing, curling, figure skating, freestyle skiing, ice hockey, luge, Nordic combined, short track speed skating, skeleton, ski jumping, snowboard and speed skating.

Preparation for this year’s games started in 2009 when the International Olympic Committee (IOC) announced that three cities had applied to host the games: Munich, Germany; Annecy, France; and PyeongChang, South Korea cnn.com says. In 2011 the winning city, PyeongChang, in South Korea, was announced.

Naturally, there has been drama leading up to this year’s Olympics. Safety concerns for European countries specifically to go to South Korea have been surfacing, says cnn.com. In addition to this, the Russian team was disqualified due to a doping investigation. However, clean athletes will be allowed to participate under the generic Olympic flag.

The flame for the Olympic winter games PyeongChang 2018 was lit at a ceremony in Olympia in Greece, on Oct. 24, 2017, olympic.org says. The flame arrived in the republic of Korea, 100 days before the games were scheduled to begin, cnn.com says.

In the time of the original games within the boundaries of Olympia, the altar of the sanctuary dedicated to the goddess Hestia maintained a continuous flame. Additional fires were lit at Zeus’ temple in honor of his wife, Hera. Since then, the flame has come to symbolize “the light of spirit, knowledge, and life.” The torch relay was revived at the 1936 Berlin games, janecky.com says.

Wrapping up I want to share five things to watch for in the upcoming games, including U.S. athletes to watch:

5. The Nigerian bobsled team became both the first Nigerian team, and the first African women competitors to be represented at the winter Olympics, says cnn.com.

4. North Korea and South Korea agree to form a joint female ice hockey team and march together at the games, according to a joint statement from the countries released by the South Korea.

3. Mikaela Shiffrin, who is 22, has been called the best slalom skier in the world. She has a gold medal from Sochi and three slalom World Championships already in her trophy case, and has been called “the best technical skier of her generation”, says self.com.

2. Chloe Kim is competing in her first Olympics at just 17. Kim won three hold medals at the Winter X Games before she turned 16, making her the first athlete to do so. She met the criteria to qualify for the 2014 U.S. Olympic half pipe team in Sochi, but couldn’t participate because she was only 13, according to NBC Olympics.

1. Nathan Chen, 18 is one of the world’s best figure skaters. He is expected to break records, or at least medal, says self.com. Chen has already become the first male figure skater to ever land five quadruple jumps during a performance in 2018—which is one more rotation than the famous triple axel.

EMILY FAULKNER is the head sports editor for The Bison. She may be contacted at efaulkner@harding.edu.



STERLING MCMICHAEL | The Bison

Billy Morgan announces at the men’s and women’s home basketball games Monday, Jan. 15 against Arkansas Tech University. Morgan received the Sully award, named after Steve Sullivan, for being the best “play by play” voice of sports. This is the second time Morgan has won the award.

Billy Morgan wins Sully award

HALEY HOOD
student writer

Billy Morgan, the voice of the Harding Bisons won the 2017 Sully Award winner. The Sully Award is presented by the Little Rock Touchdown Club each year to Arkansas’ top broadcast play call during both high school and college football games for the season. Morgan was honored at the Little Rock Touchdown Club annual awards banquet. The event featured NFL Hall of Fame and Heisman Trophy winner Marcus Allen.

The award is named in honor of veteran KATV sports director Steve Sullivan. Sullivan has 30 years in Arkansas television including 14 years at KATV, according to katv.com. Sully has been named Arkansas Sportscaster of the year three times and has won the AP best sportscast award 13 times at KATV.

Morgan received this award for the second time in his career for having the best “play by play” voice, after receiving the honor for the 2014 season. Morgan has announced games for the Bisons’ football, men’s as well as women’s basketball games.

“I was surprised,” Morgan said. “I was not expecting the award, but was honored to be a finalist. I was actually on the road with the Harding basketball team when I learned the news.”

Morgan’s first season with Harding was in 2007. He has been broadcasting the games ever since. Morgan said he feels extremely blessed by God and thankful to his wife and two sons for helping him on this journey.

“I could not do my job without a supportive and understanding family at home,” Morgan said.



STERLING MCMICHAEL | The Bison

Sophomore pitcher Austin Allen throws the ball to freshman infielder Josh Thurman in practice on Tuesday, Jan. 23. The team’s first game is Saturday, Feb. 3, at home against Missouri Western State University.

Baseball prepares to take ‘next step’ together

NORA JOHNSON
student writer

A year ago, The Bison released an article headlining Harding’s “youthful” baseball team and this season, the team is ready to show the growth that has occurred since last season.

“Last year, we had one senior. We started four freshmen and had a freshman in our starting pitching rotation. We were very, very young,” head coach Patrick McGaha said.

According to McGaha, last year’s lineup offered both challenges and opportunities. Younger members of the team who may not have as many opportunities to play in other circumstances were able to gain more experience on the field.

“You can do everything right in practice, but until you’ve been in the pressure of a game situation, you don’t know how you’re going to handle it,” McGaha said.

McGaha added that the older players on the team have created a dedicated environment that he believes will propel the team to success.

“We have 10 seniors this year,” McGaha said. “They’ve done an outstanding job on really developing the culture and hard-working mentality that we want here.”

During training, the baseball has team focused on fundamentals and the strength of their defense. McGaha said that the team is ready to show their opponents that they have matured and are strong contenders.

After working at Arkansas State University for seven years, Morgan stopped broadcasting college games to be closer to his family. Harding being only 30 minutes from his home in Heber Springs, Arkansas, Morgan decided to get back into collegiate broadcasting when Harding asked him to announce for the Bisons.

The game, the fans and the Bisons are all very important in Morgan’s life. Morgan said he enjoys being surrounded by faculty and staff members who help him strive to be the best he can be everyday.

“I feel I get to work with a tremendous group of people at Harding, working with the athletic department and communication department,” Morgan said.

“Billy is deserving of this award because he does not try to become the focus of the game,” Scott Goode assistant athletic director for sports, said. “He tells what is happening in a way that makes listening to the game fun and enjoyable.”

Morgan’s colleagues enjoy working with him because he is professional in his work, according to Goode. Morgan is always prepared and wanting every broadcast to be done right and entertaining.

“Billy is a strong, Christian family man who loves the Lord and is very grateful and humble for the opportunity that he has to work with Harding University and its athletic teams,” Goode said.

Awards were given not only to broadcasters but the top Arkansas collegiate and high school players of 2017. Morgan has 20 more basketball games of the regular season that he will be announcing.



STERLING MCMICHAEL | The Bison

Sophomore infielder Briley Feringa participates in a team drill during practice on Nov. 16, 2017. The Lady Bisons are second in the preseason polls after making a deep run in the playoffs last year. Their season opens at the Division II Univeristy of Arkansas in Monticello Softball Challenge on Feb. 10 in Bentonville, Arkansas, with a four game slate.

Softball welcomes nine freshmen to roster in fourth season

MATTHEW KING
student writer

The Lady Bisons softball season begins Saturday, Feb. 10, in Bentonville, Arkansas. Head coach Phil Berry said that the team will rely on its veteran leadership early on.

“Every season kind of stands on its own,” Berry said. “We look forward to our returners building on the success that they had last year, learning from those experiences and then sharing that information with our newcomers.”

This is the program’s fourth year at Harding. Last year, in only their third season, the team made it far into the postseason.

“We outright won the regular season conference championship, the conference tournament championship and then we hosted and won a NCAA Division II regional,” sophomore pitcher Amanda Berry said. “Then we hosted the Super Regional, where we were beat by the team that

went on to win the whole thing.”

Last year, the semester ended and the summer began while the team was finishing their season. However, it did not stop the fans from coming out to support the team.

“We are just so blessed with both the student support and the community support for our softball program,” Phil Berry said. “As long as the weather is nice, we know we’re going to have good crowds and great support. Even when it’s cold, they’ll come out there and watch us play.”

Approximately 700 fans attended the Super Regionals sophomore catcher Katie Carney said. According to Carney, some fans were pulling over on the side of the road to watch the game.

“I feel like every single girl we have brought to the field is incredible on and off the field,” Carney said. “We have a lot of young talent. I think it’s going to be an incredible season.”

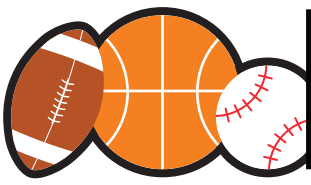
The Lady Bisons’ roster for this spring has 16 players with nine freshmen. They are second in the preseason polls.

“It’s always exciting, because freshmen bring new energy and new blood into the program,” Phil Berry said. “We’ve got a great group of nine freshmen this year and they have hit the ground running.”

The team gets along really well, according to freshman infielder Kayla Anderson. She said the team has great chemistry.

“They’re very eager to learn. We look forward to seeing what they can do once we start playing in a few weeks,” Phil Berry said. “It’s a very versatile roster, I’ve got several players that can play multiple positions.”






The Lady Bisons open their season against the Missouri Western State University Griffons at noon and the Emporia State University Hornets at 2 p.m. on Feb. 10 in the Division II UAM Softball Challenge in Bentonville, Arkansas. The two-day event concludes with matchups against the Northwest Missouri Bearcats and the University of Central Missouri Mules on Feb. 11 at noon and 2 p.m.



LOCKER TALK

HARDING ATHLETES' VIEWS ON

POP CULTURE

You are President Trump for one day, what do you do?	 <div>Zac Ward basketball</div>	 <div>Emily Garrett softball</div>	 <div>Braden Eggleston basketball</div>	 <div>Amanda Fields softball</div>	 <div>Luke Van Dover baseball</div>
What is your favorite rap song?	Mandate that a Chipotle be built in Searcy.	I would chill at the White House with all my bros.	Golf.	I would write a book called “A Day in the Brain of Donald.”	Make Grant Guest my vice president.
What is the last Redbox movie you have watched?	“Forever” by Drake.	I would probably have to go with “Save Dat Money” by Lil Dicky.	“Relationship” by Young Thug.	I do not listen to a lot but I like Nicki Minaj’s “Super Bass.”	“Blue Cheese” by 2 Chainz & Migos.
If you had a YouTube channel, what would be on it?	“Dunkirk” (good movie).	“The Proposal.”	“Anchorman 2.”	“Pirates of the Carribean: Dead Men Tell no Tales.”	“Lonesome Dove” (1989) back when people used Redbox.
	Sports talk podcast.	I would give tutorials on proper etiquette.	How to survive in the wilderness.	I would vlog or do stupid interviews of people.	KZone_TV.



CHOSEN

Adopting Internationally

The second installment of the ‘Chosen’ series about adoption in America

RAIANNE MASON
features editor

Born in China but raised in New York, senior Nikki Strittmatter, believes her adoption has given her a deeper appreciation of humanity.

“Living in America with the family I have has given me a world view that I wouldn’t have had otherwise,” Strittmatter said. “If I had grown up in China, I probably wouldn’t have come to know Christ in the same way. ... And I know I was from a small town (in China) and I don’t know a lot about the area, but I believe the opportunities would have been more limited. I love that the area (in New York) I grew up in is so diverse, and I feel like here, I have more opportunities to be a bridge than I might not have had there.”

Strittmatter was adopted from China when she was 10 months old. Four years later, her family adopted another little girl, Joy, from China. Because she was adopted internationally, Strittmatter said there were times people told her she was not a part of her family.

“When I asked my mom about that, she said, ‘God knew you were going to be a part of our family. If anyone has an issue with that, I’ll explain it to them. You were a part of our family

from the beginning and we’ve prayed for you from the start,’” Strittmatter said.

According to Strittmatter, it was her belief in God that helped her the most growing up.

“I think it helps to have the perspective of knowing that God is in control because I’m not always focusing and trying to rationalize why I was given up for adoption,” Strittmatter said. “That isn’t to say I’ve never wondered, but I think there might be more peace with that, too.”

According to alumna Renee Reithel, she and her husband Andy felt God played a role in their adoption story as well. The Reithels adopted their two sons Solomon and Malakai from Ethiopia in 2013 and 2015 respectively.

“When we decided to adopt, we seriously considered both domestic and international adoption,” Reithel said. “We did a lot of research, talked to a lot of knowledgeable people, and prayed quite a bit. ... Ultimately though, (it was) clear that God was telling us all children belonged to him and he was pointing us to Ethiopia.”

However, recent events within the Ethiopian government have stopped families like the Reithels from adopting other children from Ethiopia. According to The Bureau of Consular



Photo courtesy of JESSICA MOORE

Associate professor of kinesiology Jessica Moore poses with Caily (left) and Aiden (right) following their return to the United States in 2000. The two girls were born four days apart.

Affairs, on Jan. 9 Ethiopia passed legislation to ban all intercountry adoptions due to fear that the children weren’t safe in their new adoptive homes.

“(It’s) ideal, of course, to keep children in their own country,” Reithel said. “But many of us wonder what implementation plan they have to advance domestic adoptions. We (can) only hope that the orphan count (will) go down, fewer children (will) be abandoned

(and) first families (will) stay together. But for right now, this is a scary time for Ethiopia’s most vulnerable citizens.”

According to statistics from the Bureau of Consular Affairs, three of the top five countries of origin — Russia, Guatemala and now Ethiopia — have closed their doors to adoption from the U. S. The other two leading countries, China and South Korea, have also reduced the number of adoptions

by creating more complex requirements for potential parents.

According to chairman of the Department of Behavioral Science Terry Smith, the discovery of fraud, coercion and corruption in adoption organizations has led to the decline of all international adoptions.

“You (also) have to give some consideration to the reputation of the country,” Smith said. “There are some countries that just aren’t safe to travel to.”

Associate professor of kinesiology Jessica Moore understands this struggle personally, as political unrest almost stopped her from adopting her two daughters, Aiden and Caily, from Vietnam in 2000.

“We met the kids for the first time, and then, because of some political unrest in Vietnam, the government officials were kind of holding us all hostage,” Moore said. “There was a question once we got over there of whether the adoption would actually take place. That was for about a week. We were in limbo. ... Foreign countries and America use adoption as a means of handling political things.”

However, Moore believes the motivation behind international adoption is more important than the political problems it creates.

“I think it’s important

for us to open our homes to those in need,” Moore said. “God adopted us, and I think it’s very important for us to share what we have. We have been so blessed here in America. We just don’t realize how blessed we are until we go and visit other countries.”

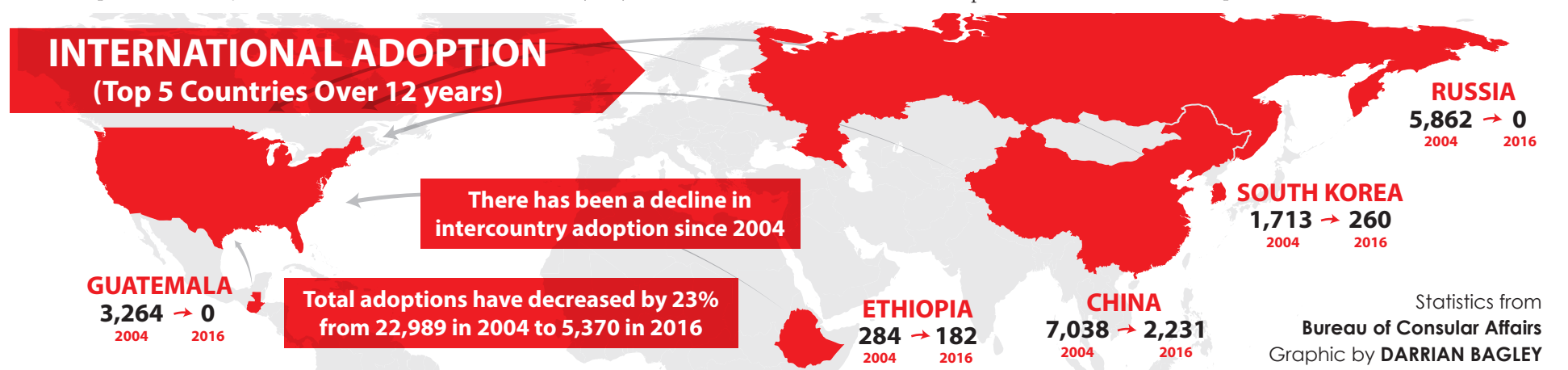
When Moore traveled to Vietnam, she said she finally understood this.

“People would come up to (my friend and I) and say ‘Here, take my child to America,’” Moore said. “Two times that happened to us while we were there. They’d say, ‘I want my child to go to America and have a good life,’ because they know that (their child) wouldn’t have as good of a life in Vietnam. They wouldn’t have the same chances as they would in America.”

Those opportunities are what Reithel believes make adoption essential.

“Adoption is important because we live in a broken world,” Reithel said. “First families (biological families) are broken due to disease, financial situations, geography, addiction, etc. Children need moms and dads to step up and raise them when their first family cannot.”

This is the second installment of the “Chosen” series. The final installment will appear in the next edition of The Bison, on stands, Feb. 2.



Book menders: Saving the library one book at a time

ZACH SHAPPLEY
student writer
RAIANNE MASON
features editor

The Brackett Library contains thousands of books. In her four years working at the library, senior Paige Cushman has mended over 1,200 of them.

Cushman began working in the library archives her freshman year alongside alumna Emily Peterson. Intrigued by Peterson’s job as book mender, Cushman asked if she could learn to repair books. By her sophomore year, Cushman found herself employed as the new book mender.

Two years later, Cushman is still cutting, taping and revitalizing books for the student body to use.

“It’s really gratifying to make a decrepit book functional and beautiful again,” Cushman said. “It gives me a reason to work with my hands and channel my creative energy into something productive.”

According to archives and special collection librarian Hannah Wood, book menders like Cushman provide great value to the library.

“Having book menders in-house extends the lives of many books that we might not be able to replace,” Wood said. “Some books are out of print. Finding a replacement may not be possible; therefore, we need to make the copy we have last as long as possible. A book that is one volume in a series may not be sold by itself. We would have to purchase the entire series to replace that one volume. That

is cost prohibitive. Some books cost hundreds of dollars (mending) it makes financial sense.”

Every week, Cushman mends about 30 books. Repairs range from taping torn pages to replacing spines. Cushman said in addition to the different X-Acto knives, glues and tapes she uses on a daily basis, she uses a small “book iron” to flatten the tops of old cloth books.

“Book mending, to me, is pretty much adult arts and crafts,” Cushman said. “I cut myself with scissors at least once a week; I get glue on everything; I get to play with power tools; I tear apart books daily; and I always leave with paper scraps stuck to me.”

For two years, Cushman was the only one on campus who knew how to do her job — until she taught junior Taylor Wilkins.

As a history major, Wilkins enjoyed the historical aspect of preserving books and feels the job has prepared her for work in other archives in the future.

“I like the aspect that each book is like a project, and it feels great to get it all fixed up and back into circulation,” Wilkins said. “It’s also really neat to be able to have this skill and be trusted with such old, special books.”

Wilkins said the oldest book she ever mended was an old hymn book from 1856, but the majority of books that need mending are anywhere from 20–60 years old. Wilkins said what keeps the job interesting is the uniqueness of every book she mends.

“No book is alike,” Wilkins said. “We learn different techniques, but you have to constantly adapt them to each book. Some books are too delicate, or too big or in such bad shape that



RYANN HEIM | The Bison

Senior Paige Cushman repairs a book with ripped pages on Jan. 9. Cushman has been a book mender for three years and repairs 30 books each week.

you really have to think through what you’re going to do in order to be able to put it back together and preserve it for future readers.”

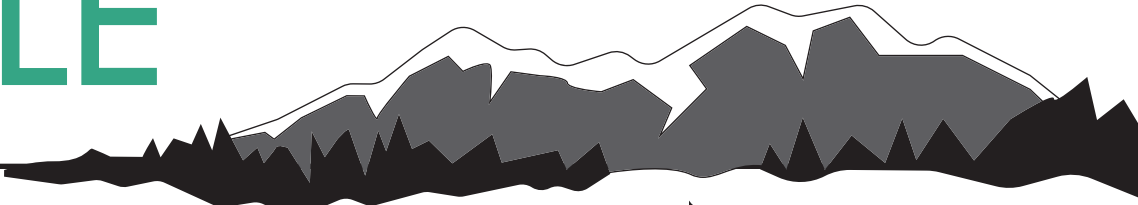
Wilkins said of all of the books she has mended, her favorite was one that had a particularly surprising topic.

“I had this tiny little book, only about 6 inches tall and it had the sweetest little flower design,” Wilkins said. “It was from the 1920s. I looked at the title to see what it was, thinking it was some little short stories book, but it was actually ‘A Short History of the Civil War.’ I loved it because that is one

of my favorite time periods to study, and the book was just too cute.”

According to Woods, book mending is not the only unique job offered by the library.

“I would say that about 40 percent of jobs performed by our student workers are jobs the average student isn’t aware of,” Wood said. “Library student workers are processing newly purchased books, searching for lost books, scanning photographs or papers like the Student Association minutes from the 1950s and 1960s and creating code for online databases like the Harding Remembers project.”



WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES

ERIN SLOMERS
student writer

The 2018 Winter Olympics are fast approaching; here is what to know to get ready for the games.

The Pyeongchang Games will be the 23rd Winter Games. The first were held in Chamonix, France, in 1924. This is the second Olympic Games to be held in South Korea. Seoul hosted the Summer Olympics in 1988. Also, this is the first year that viewers across all U.S. time zones will have access to live coverage.

The International Olympics Committee (IOC) approved athletes from North and South Korea to walk under a pro-unification flag during the Olympic opening ceremonies, according to the games' official website. There will also be a combined women's hockey team with members from both Korean nations.

According to CNN, North and South Korean skiers will spend several days training at a newly built resort in North Korea. In addition to North Korean athletes participating in the games, they will also be sending 230 supporters to cheer on their athletes.

Junior Sarah Diesing reflected on this year's importance of the Olympic Games.

"At a time where tensions are high, the Olympics are bringing the world together under one cause," Diesing said. "The Olympics is a time for us all to cheer for humanity and forget about all of our feuds."

According to TeamUSA.org, Team USA will be represented by 240 athletes during the games, along with four-time World Cup skier Lindsey Vonn and two-time Olympic halfpipe gold medalist, snowboarder, Shaun White. This year's games could be the last time the two decorated Olympians compete. The National Hockey League (NHL) announced that none of its players will be participating in this year's Olympic Games. Their recent decision will end the league's participation with the games. They have previously participated in the last five winter games.

Four new events have been added to the roster

this year: big air snowboarding, mass speed skating, freestyle skiing and mixed doubles curling.

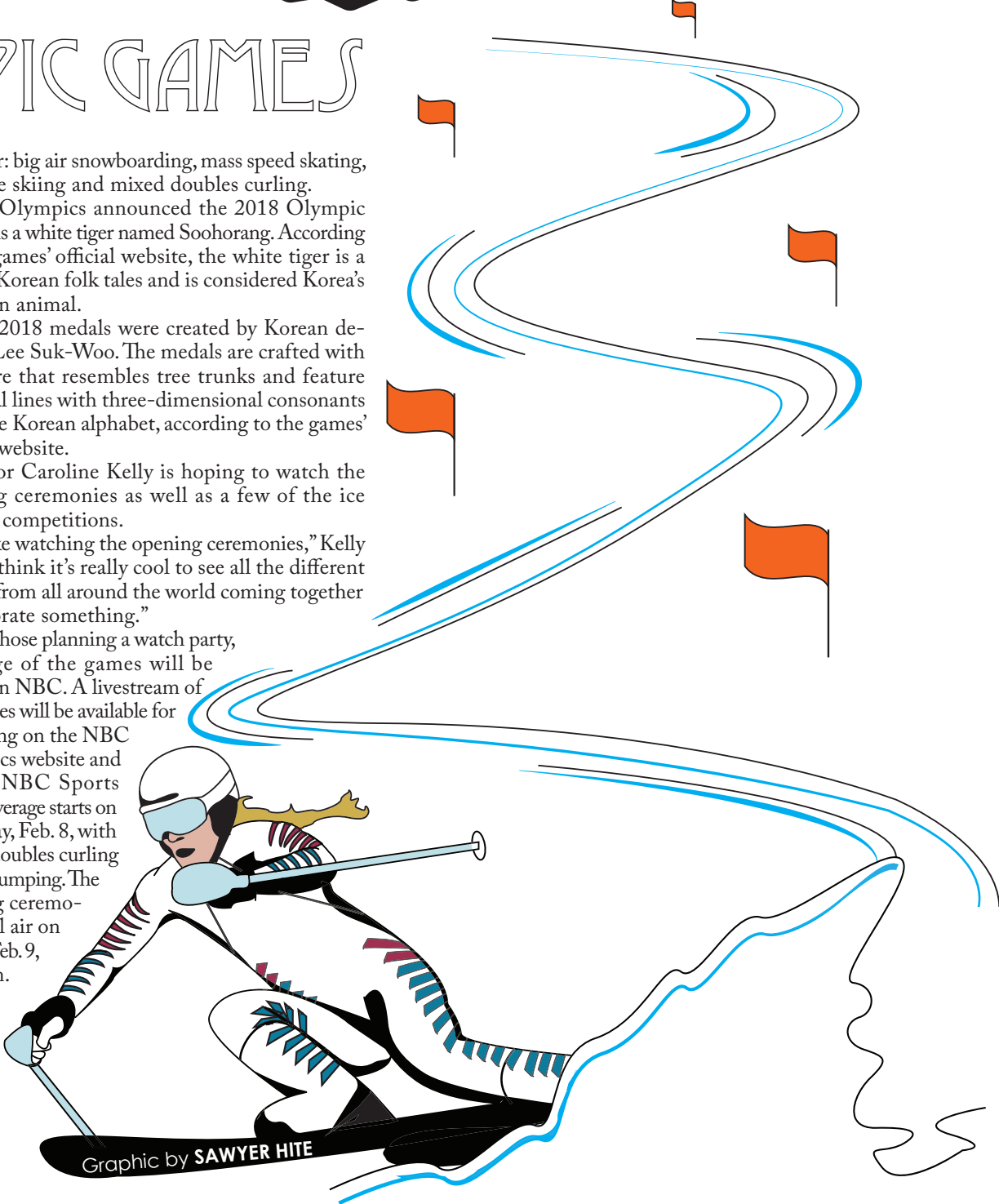
The Olympics announced the 2018 Olympic mascot is a white tiger named Soohorang. According to the games' official website, the white tiger is a part of Korean folk tales and is considered Korea's guardian animal.

The 2018 medals were created by Korean designer Lee Suk-Woo. The medals are crafted with a texture that resembles tree trunks and feature diagonal lines with three-dimensional consonants from the Korean alphabet, according to the games' official website.

Junior Caroline Kelly is hoping to watch the opening ceremonies as well as a few of the ice skating competitions.

"I like watching the opening ceremonies," Kelly said. "I think it's really cool to see all the different people from all around the world coming together to celebrate something."

For those planning a watch party, coverage of the games will be airing on NBC. A livestream of the games will be available for streaming on the NBC Olympics website and on the NBC Sports app. Coverage starts on Thursday, Feb. 8, with mixed doubles curling and ski jumping. The opening ceremonies will air on Friday, Feb. 9, at 6 a.m.



Read on: student body reflects on Bible reading plans

KATIE WEST
student writer

According to Forbes, the average adult reads between 200 and 300 words per minute. The average college football game lasts about three hours and 26 minutes, according to the Atlantic Journal Constitution. During the course of a college football game, the average adult could read Galatians, Ephesians, Colossians, First Thessalonians, Second Thessalonians, First Timothy, Second Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews, James, First Peter, Second Peter, First John, Second John, Third John, and Jude, and still have 35 minutes left. With those 35 minutes, one could read First Corinthians.

That is a total of 92 chapters in three and a half hours. Finding time to read our Bibles can be difficult, but it can be done. The key is finding a strategy for reading and staying on track with daily readings.

Dr. Anessa Westbrook, assistant professor of Bible and ministry, said she read through the Bible several different ways, sometimes reading the whole Bible and sometimes focusing on a section of the Bible.

"For strategies, sometimes I've chosen a theme," Westbrook said. "My favorite theme was looking at the face of God. I just wanted to know who he was."

Westbrook said she gave emphasis to sections about seeing the face of God and spent time focusing and reflecting on those passages.

Senior Kaitlyn Goin said she has tried to read through the Bible many times, but has never completed the task.

"I always start off really well, but then I get to Leviticus and I fall off track," Goin said. "Before I know it, I'm really far behind."

Goin said that her goal this year is to read two chapters of the Old Testament and two chapters in the New Testament at time.

"I'm hoping that by balancing the testaments, I won't get distracted and weighted down when I get to the law and the other difficult parts of the Old Testament," Goin said.

Junior Emory Rockwell said her goal this year is to read her Bible at least three times a week. She said, in hopes to read through the entire Bible, she has decided to start in Ezekiel.

"I'm hoping that by starting in Ezekiel, I will be more excited because, as much as I hate to admit it, I often lose focus and interest when reading my bible," Rockwell said. "I am using my hour break right after chapel to spend time in God's Word and have a good start to my day."

Westbrook also suggested trying different strategies and finding one that works.

"I wonder if all the past years people not making it through or getting discouraged affect the way we read the text," she said. "Anything that can make it more natural and make it become an 'I want to' rather than an 'I have to' is good, I think."

For more reading plans, download the You Version Bible app — available in the App Store or Google Play.



EMILY GRIFFIN | The Bison

A student plans to implement a Bible reading plan for the new year. Reading plans for all students can be found online or in the App Store of Google Play.

Center on the Square presents ‘The Drowsy Chaperone’

MATY BAIN
student writer

The comedy musical, "The Drowsy Chaperone," will be performed next month at Center on the Square. The director of the production, Carla Fuller, has been involved with Center on the Square since 2007, and believes their cast is one of the most talented they have had due to how each cast member compliments the others on stage.

Fuller described "The Drowsy Chaperone" as a show within a show about a sad, lonely and agoraphobic man, "the man in the chair," who listens to a soundtrack of his favorite musical and creates imaginary characters in his own apartment.

"The set of the show is in the man's head, so the setting is his apartment, where we act out the entire show," senior Ronnie Clements said.

Clements plays one of the lead characters, Robert. Searcy local, Ellen Jones, plays another lead character, the drowsy chaperone. Jones graduated from Harding in 1997 with a Bachelor of Arts in theater. She has performed in

several productions with Center on the Square, having played the lead role of Nancy in "Oliver" and Mary in "The Women." Jones described the show as a fun time and a great chance to support the local arts.

"I think anyone who comes will have a great night because of how funny and sweet (the story) is," Clements said. "It will tug on your heart strings, but it'll also make you laugh."

Fuller said the soundtrack is more than just music, as it represents a role in the play as well.

"(The soundtrack's) whole purpose is to lift (the man in the chair's) mood, and in showing that (the audience's) mood is lifted too," Fuller said.

The show was selected in June and rehearsals have been underway for several weeks. The cast is currently working on the second act of the play, and in the upcoming weeks, they will begin rehearsals of the entire show until opening weekend.

"When people come to see the show, I don't want them to see the work that was put into it," Fuller said. "I want them to feel like it's all happening naturally."

Opening weekend for the show is Friday, Feb. 2, with continued performances every weekend until Sunday, Feb. 18. The Friday and Saturday shows will begin at 7:30 p.m., and the Sunday show will begin at 1:30 p.m. Ticket prices are \$18 for general admission, \$16.50 for students, and can be purchased on Center on the Square's website, www.centeronthesquare.org.

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