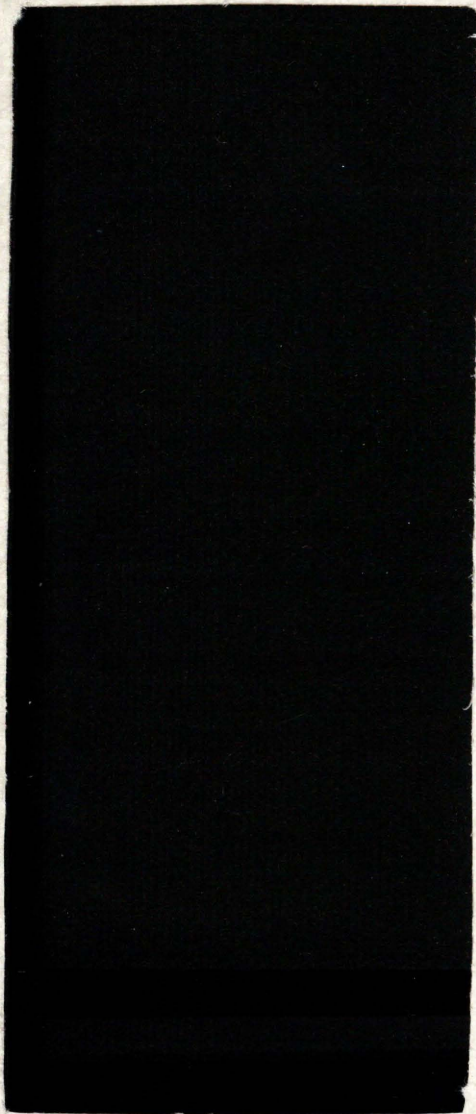




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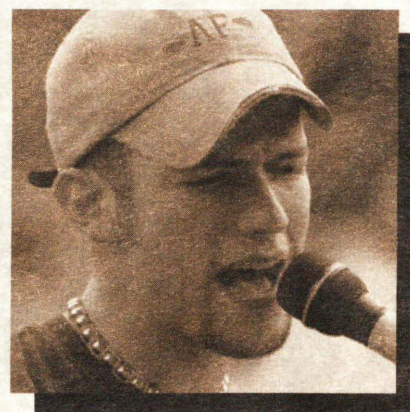
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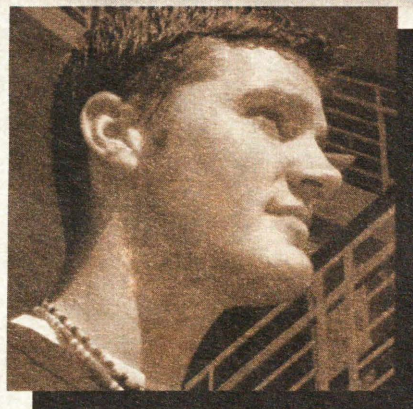
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Freshman Cristen Murphy bows her head in prayer with friends after her August baptism in the fountain outside the McInteer building.



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Photo by Daniel Dubois

Reflecting on the weekend, junior Jenny Sims participates in the candlelight ceremony held Monday night of Student Impact. The devotional ended the orientation weekend on an uplifting note for all students, faculty and staff involved.

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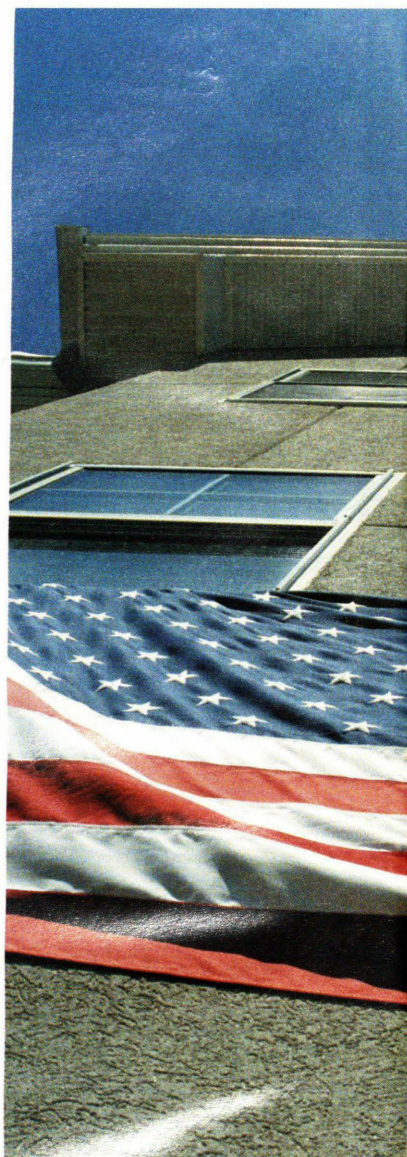
faces of growth

American flags wave in a display of patriotism outside the third floor of Cone Hall. After the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on New York City and Washington, D.C., many students displayed flags and ribbons in support of the United States.

Playing with fire, senior B.J. Bailey assists in a demonstration of hybrid rocket fuel research during chemistry professor Dr. Ed Wilson's Sept. 19 chapel presentation. Wilson summarized his research for several organizations, including the Jet Propulsion Lab.



Photo by Daniel Dubois



Harding is growing—we've seen evidence of expansion every day this year, in construction and renovation around campus. But the real signs of growth are seen in the faces of the students, staff and faculty. Another record freshman class arrived on campus this fall, ready to grow in spirit and in knowledge. Faculty members expanded in number and expanded their minds, continuing their own learning experiences with research and study as they shared their knowledge with students.

People are what make Harding what it is, as we are often reminded, and in her people we can best see her growth.

Relaxing in the student center, fall gospel meeting speaker Mike Tanaro talks with Harding faculty and staff members before his next session. Tanaro, a minister from Paducah, Ky., was invited to speak about "God's Survival Kit" at the annual event sponsored by the College church.



Photo by Daniel Dubois

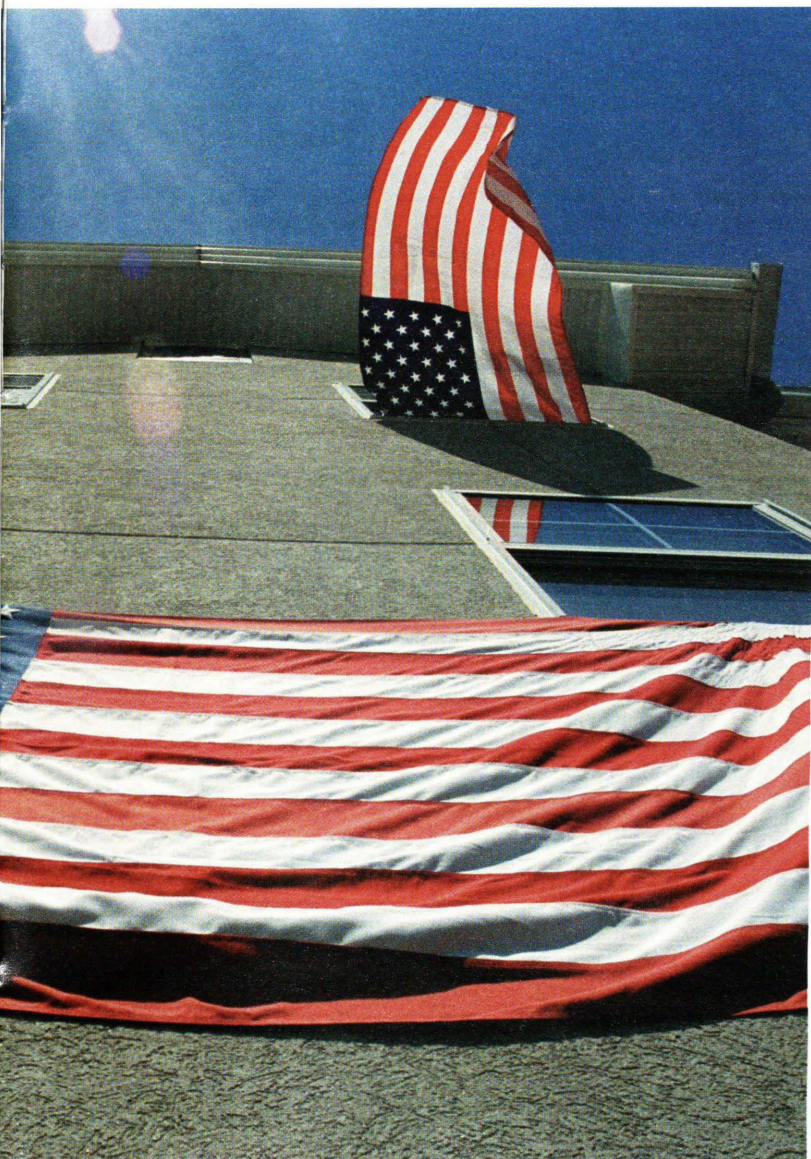


Photo by Daniel Dubois

Dr. Delores Carson, assistant vice president for Student Services, chats with a student as she works at fall registration. Carson and the Student Services office worked during the year to provide a friendly and open environment for students, leading to changes to chapel attendance and dorm visitation policies.



Photo by Daniel Dubois

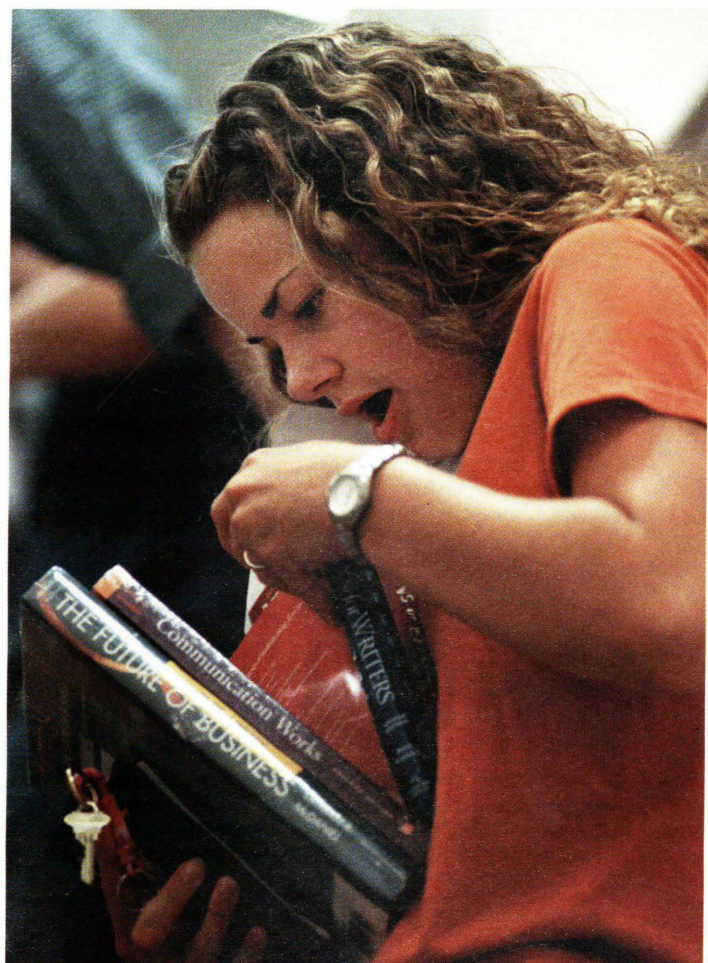


Photo by Daniel Dubois

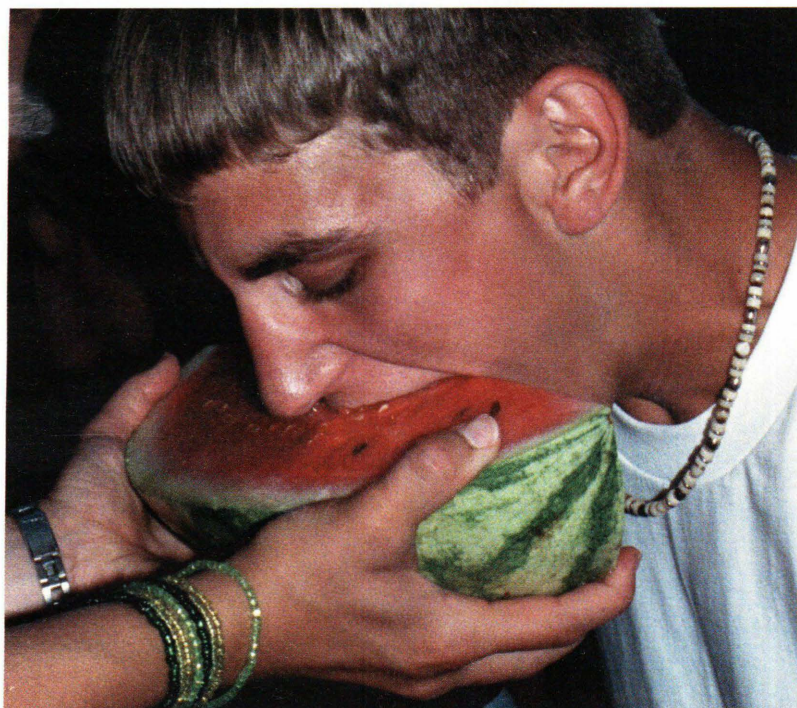


Photo by Andrea Waters

Enjoying a warm summer evening, freshman Bryan Bradshaw devours a slice of watermelon at the Student Association Watermelon Mixer. The annual event, held the first Wednesday of the fall semester, gave students a chance to meet, mingle and catch up after a long summer break.

Freshman Jessie Metcalf prepares to purchase a pile of textbooks. Buying books was a necessary chore for students in preparation for each semester.

faces of growth

It has been a year of growth not only physically, but spiritually and emotionally as well. Opportunities afforded by a Christian campus helped students grow spiritually, drawing our focus more to God than to ourselves. The student body united in spirit and in action as terrorist attacks on New York City and Washington, D.C. made the nation wonder what would come next—and made us remember what is truly important.

Through this year, we have grown as a university. We saw it in the dirt and concrete around campus, but more clearly in our faces of growth.

Jennifer Thompson
Editor



Photo by Daniel Dubois



Photo by Daniel Dubois

Senior Brett Ockerman pays his bills at registration. Registration day was a time to settle business, then relax before the semester began.

Pounding out the beat, senior Jesse Cox plays as part of a campus drum circle. The group performed throughout the state to spread the gospel.



Photo by Andrea Waters



Tugging with all their might, Student Impact participants struggle to stay out of the mud during Silly Olympics. Impact introduced freshmen and transfers to Harding life during the weekend before fall classes began.

Seniors Shaun Dutile, Jeremy Picker and Steve Cloer and junior **Brandon Thomas** pray for the nation on the front lawn just a few weeks after the Sept. 11 attacks. The four students were members of a prayer group that met once a week throughout the year.



Photo by Daniel Dubois

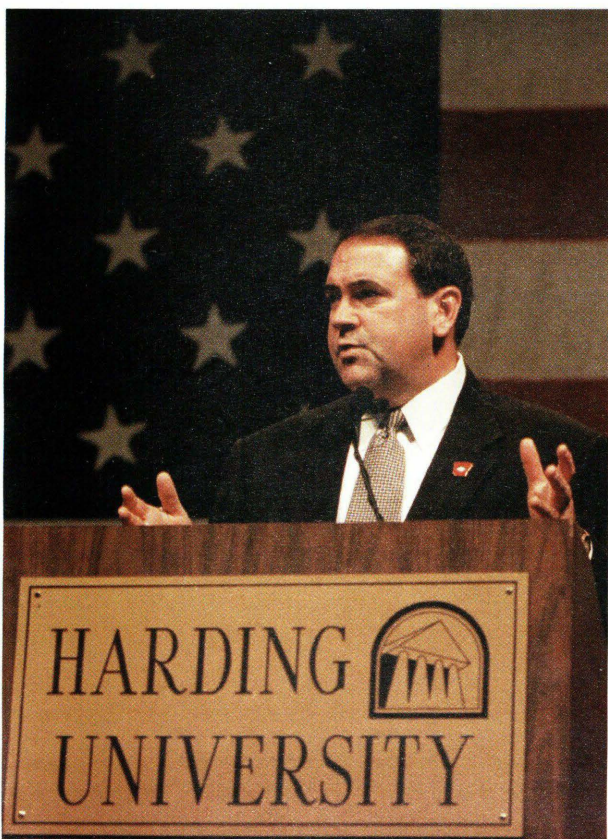


Photo by Daniel Dubois



Photo by Daniel Dubois

Waiting for their entrance, Dr. Marty Spears, mathematics professor, and Dr. Andy Olree, political science professor, talk before convocation. The annual ceremony marked the first day of the fall semester.

Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee addresses the chapel audience Sept. 13. Huckabee spoke of patriotism and justice two days after the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, D.C.

face of dedication

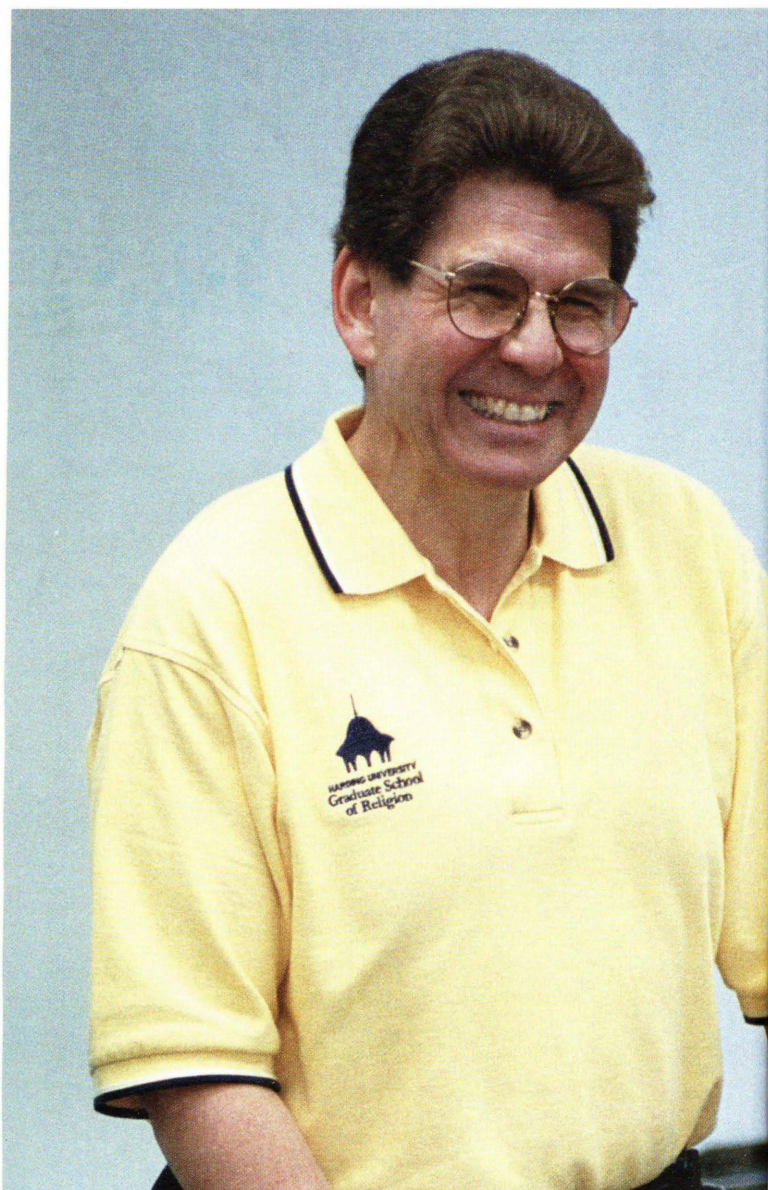
Well known to students and faculty as an extremely well-read and educated scholar, Dr. John Fortner, associate professor of Hebrew and the ancient Near East, earned the dedication of the 2002 *Petit Jean* with his exuberant teaching style and down-to-earth manner as well as his brilliant mind.

"Dr. Fortner has this incredible ability to make you forget how intelligent he really is and make you feel completely comfortable in his presence," said senior Kim Campbell, who worked for Fortner. "He makes me laugh every day when I come to work and is never condescending. I think that Harding hit the jackpot when they got Dr. Fortner."

A graduate of the Hebrew Union Theological Seminary, Fortner displayed his knowledge in the classroom—but in a non-intimidating way. "We sit in class and stare at him as he shoots off more information than we can process. It seems impossible to learn it all," said senior Gretchen Warmath, a student in Fortner's archaeology class. "Then he flashes that grin, and we all relax because we know it's going to be okay."

Dr. Fortner made a lasting impact on some students even before their arrival on campus through his work with Harding's Honors Symposium program, lending his knowledge of Old Testament history to the students' tabernacle-building project. "You get to see a whole new side of John Fortner when he acts out this fantasy of being a Levitical priest," said senior Clay Johnson, a Symposium counselor.

Because of his never-ending study and excitement for what he teaches, as well as his comforting and at-ease manner, this year's senior class chose to dedicate the 2002 *Petit Jean* to Dr. John Fortner.



Leading worship at Downtown Church of Christ's 8:30 p.m. communion service, Dr. John Fortner prepares to speak to students and church members. In addition to his academic work at the university, Fortner was active in the Downtown congregation.

Photo by Daniel Dubois

Dr. John Fortner, associate professor of Hebrew and the ancient Near East, expounds on the Bible's wisdom literature during one of his upper-level classes. Fortner taught textual Old Testament classes as well as a class on Near Eastern archaeology.

Dressed in Levitical garb, Drs. John Fortner, Mark Elrod and Jeff Hopper stand outside a newly created replica of the Israelites' tabernacle. Each summer, Fortner assists with the tabernacle's construction at three sessions of Honors Symposium, a program for high school seniors held on the Harding campus.



Photo by Daniel Dubois

Photo by Daniel Dubois



Taking a moment to relax, Dr. John Fortner and his wife, Jan Fortner, assistant professor of history, study together at Midnight Oil, just off the Harding campus. The Fortners enjoyed studying topics in history and languages as well as spending time with their son, Josh.

Photo by Jeff Montgomery