

Princess number 12, senior Heidi Springston, deals with pressure from Queen Aggravin. The Homecoming musical, "Once Upon a Mattress," appeared in the Benson Oct. 25 and 26. (Photo by Lindsey Taliaferro)





# **Life** *experiences develop around* **CAMPUS**

Student life encompassed the cherished memories of the college experience.

This year's Harding experience was initiated by Student Impact, a time of transition for incoming freshmen and new students.

Once the semester began, activities to enhance spiritual life were available, including daily chapel programs, home Bible studies and prayer groups.

Campus movies, talent shows, musical groups and other performances granted students the chance to relax and take a break from the stress of academics.

Even with all of these activities on campus, student life was also found around the world. Campaigns gave students the privilege of sharing God's word with people in nearby cities and faraway countries. International programs gave students the opportunity to learn from other cultures.

The college experience culminated with graduation, a transition that led one step closer to the world of adulthood. From here, students branched out across the world and began new careers and new lives.

—Michelle Scobba  
*Student Life Editor*



# Point of Impact

Five-day program aids new students in transition to college life and helps to begin their new spiritual journeys

Butch Gardner, director of minority student services, assumed the added role of director of First Year Experience this fall. This was his first year to direct the new office, which was responsible for organizing all orientation programs, including Student Impact.

"This was basically a learning experience for me, to relearn what was going on with the program," said Gardner, who had worked with the program more than 10 years ago when he worked in the Office of Student Services.

The overall goal of Student Impact was to help new students in their transition from high school to college. It also aimed at helping transfer students adjust to the new phase of their lives.

"It helped me to see some familiar faces when classes started," freshman Kari Kiser said. "I still see those people around a lot. One of them is my really good friend, so that's cool."

Luke 9:23 provided the theme for

Impact 2002, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."

During the five-day introduction to Harding life, a record number of 911 new students were challenged to deny themselves and follow Christ.

Incoming students participated in a full schedule of activities, including Silly Olympics, a luau with inflatable games and an 80's theme dinner.

A variety of entertainment acts appeared during the program, including acoustic comedians Bean and Bailey and hypnotist Bruce McDonald.

Various service projects enabled students to serve the community. Participants collected canned goods for the Arkansas State Food Bank and visited widows, single-parent families and residents of area nursing homes.

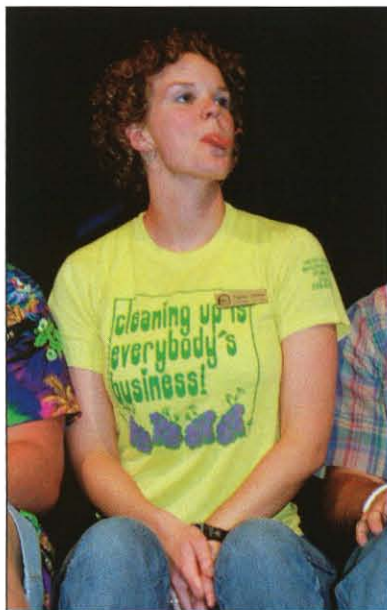
Returning students led energy groups and helped acquaint new students with the campus and Searcy area.

"Our energy groups helped us get to know more people and gave us a base of friends to talk to about being new and stuff," freshman Leigh Ann Haynes said. "They also helped us out getting to know places."

Guest speakers presented devotionals during the general assemblies and in the evenings, providing an avenue for spiritual growth. Impact closed with a candlelight devotion led by Kevin Klein, associate professor of History, and singing on the Benson steps.

"It was a really good way to get the year started and let students know what Harding is all about, which is finding and nurturing your own relationship with the Lord away from home," senior Taylor Davis, Impact co-director, said. "The week was intended to provide an opportunity to begin that spiritual journey and follow Him."

- Christy Canady



**Hypnotized to believe she is in a kindergarten class,** senior Taylor Davis sticks out her tongue at the hypnotist. Davis, co-director of Student Impact, worked many hours throughout the summer to ensure the new students' transition to college would run smoothly. (Photo by April Clem)



**Freshman Chance Snider, covered with mud and soap suds,** glides across the slip 'n' slide at the Silly Olympics Aug. 18. Incoming freshmen and transfer students enjoyed this opportunity to meet new people while getting messy and playing games. (Photo by Chrissy Ingram)





**Jackson Bailey entertains students during a performance at Student Impact Aug. 16.** Bean and Bailey were a comedy duo skilled in humorous musical compositions, such as their original song "Wal-Mart Greeter." (Photo by Russ Phillips)

**Junior transfer student Jeremy Layden plays hackey sack at the Student Impact luau in President David Burks' backyard Aug. 16.** Transfer energy groups were designed to help students deal with the transition from another university. (Photo by April Clem)



## acloserlook

### hypnotist



**Junior Larry Holliman, Student Impact co-director, laughs hysterically and makes faces at the "teacher" while on stage at the hypnotist's show.**

"The highlight of the hypnotist was when we all thought we were members of N'Sync," Holliman said. "I actually thought that I was Justin Timberlake. It was such a great opportunity to show off our moves. I'll never forget that night. I got to be Justin Timberlake for a night. Not many guys can say that." (Photo by April Clem)





# a closer look



## church

With a smile of thanks, senior Heather Golightly grabs a donut before the Sunday morning college class at the Downtown Church of Christ. Many local churches provided coffee or breakfast items before classes began.

"I was at the Sunday night service at Wyldewood that Covenant Fellowship holds once a month," senior Leslie Hollingsworth said. "We always have a potluck before worship. This particular time there were only around 20 people there. However, there was enough breaded fish to feed the 5,000. Jesus would've been proud." (Photo by Renee Lewis)

**Seniors Misti Jones and Hope Huckeba** pray together in their living room. Roommates and suitemates scheduled time to share requests and pray together regularly. (Photo by April Clem)







**A group of students pack Shores Hall lobby for a Wednesday night devotional.** Students met each week to sing, pray and encourage one another. (Photo by Renee Lewis)

**Lifting his hands in praise, junior Tim Davis leads a prayer at the All-School Retreat Aug. 23.** The retreat began the semester with a spiritual focus. (Photo by Russ Phillips)



# Finding a Church to Call Home

Abundance  
of local  
churches,  
both small  
and large,  
provides  
students  
with many  
opportunities  
to worship

Despite the close proximity of many Searcy churches, senior Matt Wilson didn't mind the 20-minute drive to Pineview Church of Christ near Pangburn, Ark.

Wilson attended the rural church after visiting with his roommate. Wilson said his first experience at Pineview proved to be a positive one.

"A couple at the church invited us to lunch at their house the second time we visited and we've been over there a few times since then," Wilson said. "When people ask how I am doing, it's not just small talk. They genuinely care about what's going on in my life. They notice when I miss a Sunday and they even sent me a birthday card. It gives me more of a sense of belonging instead of being just a number."

Besides close fellowship with church members, the chance for involvement was another incentive for

attending a smaller congregation.

When senior Dannie Rio, Bible and missions major, was introduced to the Des Arc Church of Christ, the church didn't have a regular preacher. Rio's interest in the congregation led to a preaching opportunity in Des Arc, 25 miles east of Searcy.

Prior to working with the church, which regularly had less than 20 people in attendance on Sunday morning, Rio said he had never attended such a small congregation.

"Each individual member has more of a chance to serve and no one is left out since it's so close and personal," Rio said.

Those who preferred larger congregations felt the same sense of belonging. At least three area churches averaged 1,000 attendees on a typical Sunday morning.

Although he sometimes felt lost in the crowd at such a large congre-

gation, senior Doug Wood decided to make the College Church of Christ his church home because of the quality of leadership.

"College [Church] has a sound eldership as well as great teachers," Wood said. "I think it was mainly the teachers that influenced my decision to attend there."

Junior Amber Smith attended the Downtown Church of Christ because of its similarity to her church at home.

"Being around so many people is encouraging," Smith said. "There are ways for just about anyone and everyone to get involved. And the singing is absolutely amazing, with so many people who have come together in one room to worship."

No matter what size congregation an individual sought, Searcy and the surrounding areas offered a number of unique congregations to call home.

—Christy Canady





# the Memories in Tuscan hills

Students  
in Florence  
spend the  
semester  
receiving an  
education and  
exploring the  
countryside  
of Europe

Each semester, students attending Harding University in Florence spent the semester in the heart of the Tuscan hills in a villa called Il Palazzaccio. Forty students played and fought like brothers and sisters in one giant family for three months.

"My favorite part of HUF is getting to know people on a more personal level," junior Matt Fecteau said. "While living with 39 others, one is given the opportunity to form meaningful friendships."

Along with the new friendships that HUF offered, students were also given the chance to see Italy and many other European countries through free travel. Several times during the semester the students spent four to six days out of class, traveling and exploring the sights of Europe.

"One of my most interesting days was when I went skiing for the very first time down a mountain in Switzerland where the Swiss Olympic team practices," sophomore Grant Jackson said.

HUF students, or "huffers," roamed around Europe, visiting Paris, Barcelona, Munich, Prague, London, Amsterdam, wherever wandering hearts desired. A few even ventured into less familiar areas such as Ljubljana, Slovenia.

"I picked Slovenia because my best friend's parents are missionaries there," junior Sharon Hall said. "It's a beautiful country and not many people go there for free travel."

The students saw a lot of Italy and learned about Italian art and architecture through guided tours. Famous works they saw included

Michelangelo's David, the Sistine Chapel and the Colosseum in Rome.

Every semester at HUF was different because of the people. Each group had 40 different faces interacting with each other and growing together.

"I think what made the fall 2002 semester of HUF unique was our senses of humor," junior Danielle Rousseau said. "We all had an odd love for the marble that is known as carrara, the symbol of the rich and powerful Medici family and the non-conventional musical compositions of several of the students."

The HUF group made their own memories and shared laughter they remembered long after they left Italian soil.

—Sarah West



Junior Jennifer Riley holds a baby belonging to Sylvia, one of the staff members at HUF. Students at HUF in the summer of 2002 not only grew closer to each other, they also formed friendships with the teachers and staff. (Photo courtesy of HUF Program)

Juniors Brian Walton, Neika Noble, Jana Baber, Alyson Kilgore and Brian Johns show off their Carnavale gear. Carnavale was a parade held in February 2002 in celebration of Florence's culture. (Photo courtesy of Dr. Jeff Hopper)







**Juniors Laurie Kirkland and Elizabeth Reding enjoy scoops of gelato while soaking up the culture in Florence in the fall of 2002.** Gelato, Italian ice cream, was a staple of the members' diets, with flavors ranging from nutella to cantaloupe. (Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Reding)

**Junior Alyson Kilgore reflects on a day of traveling in the spring of 2002.** Kilgore said her time spent at HUF was amazing and that she would love to go back someday. (Photo courtesy of Dr. Jeff Hopper)



# acloserlook

## florence



**Using the power of illusion, senior Cherise Sanford pretends to topple over the Leaning Tower of Pisa onto junior Carolyn Crim.**

"We took a lot of funny pictures all around the Leaning Tower of Pisa," Sanford said. "We thought it would be funny to make it look like one of us was pushing the tower on top of the other one." (Photo courtesy of Cherise Sanford)





# a closer look



## greece

While in Istanbul, Turkey, junior Rob Conn, senior Leah Eddy, and juniors Jared Culbertson and Kyleen Rogers examine the outside of the Blue Mosque before venturing into the interior. The trip to Turkey, a tradition among HUG groups, included visits to the Seven Churches of Asia Minor.

"One time in Turkey, we stopped to eat and when we got off the bus there was a giant real turkey running around. It was a Turkish turkey," junior Sarah Johnson said. "I was going to eat turkey in Turkey!" (Photo courtesy of Leah Eddy)

Sophomore Russell Keck, juniors David Wilkins and Bob Turner, and senior Josh Harriman pose in front of the ancient ruins of the library at Ephesus. Fall HUG students were able to witness firsthand the artifacts and remnants of civilizations thousands of years old. (Photo by Curtis Seright)

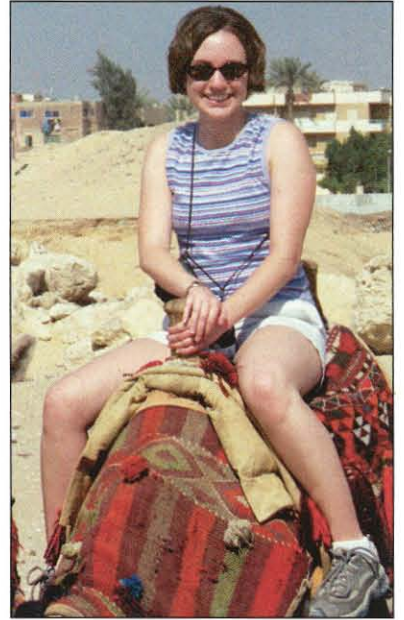






**Surrounded by dozens of pigeons,** junior Lindsey Harriman, senior Josh Harriman and sophomore Kathryn Cherry sit still so they don't disturb the birds. Pigeons were a common sight for students at HUG and could be found at almost every major monument in Europe. (Photo by Curtis Seright)

**Waiting anxiously on her camel,** junior Alicia Roberson prepares to experience a new mode of transportation. While abroad, summer HUG students learned to step out of their comfort zones. (Photo courtesy of Becky Kelly)



# It's All Greek to Them

HUG program immerses students in Greek culture, allowing them to explore ancient civilizations and experience a different way of life

Greek culture was a dichotomy: modernism met ancient Athens just down the road from the Harding University in Greece Fall 2002 students.

Athens did not have the only population of evolving peoples. The students in a suburb of Athens also experienced challenges and growth.

As soon as students arrived at their new home in Porto Rafti, Dr. Terry Edwards, director of HUG, knew this group was different. Feeling like the Brady Bunch, the group adopted six new parents, 26 sisters and 12 brothers.

"It's like having 25 sisters all living together for a semester," sophomore Kathryn Cherry said. "We call Dr. Edwards 'Daddy E' because he is just like a father to us."

Setting the tone for the semester, the first chapel services were about creating goals and expectations.

"To grow spiritually as an individual was top priority for me," senior

Jessica Rutledge said. "I really feel that this group as a whole shares this expectation."

Students sang at many of the ancient theaters scattered throughout Turkey and Greece. Checking out the acoustics in the theaters proved to be a highlight for many students.

"I didn't realize how much emotion could come out in our singing in Ephesus," junior Melissa Ziegler said. "And the fact that bystanders, who didn't speak English, asked for an encore made it that much more meaningful."

Students heard the saying, "Greeks are either the best drivers in the world or the worst, there is no in-between." They soon realized this statement's truth after being zipped around Athens. Construction, traffic, guards and mobs of people defined the future home of the 2004 Olympic Games.

"Right now it is a hassle being caught up in the frantic preparation

for the Games, but when it comes time to light the Olympic torch in the stadium, it will all be worth it," junior Lindsey Harriman said.

Students packed their suitcases for exotic civilizations such as Mesopotamia, Egypt and Mycanae. The tour guides colored the ruins with their unique perspectives, ranging from wholehearted belief in mythology to practicing holistic healing.

Besides the archaeological aspect of the excursions, souvenir shopping was important. Edwards said this group was "the shopping-est group" he had ever seen.

Students sometimes got a little carried away in their purchases.

"It seemed like everyone was buying Turkish prayer rugs and I thought to myself 'Hey, could this catch on at Harding?'" senior Jonathan Stormont said.

—Katie Cornett and Mitch Wiggains



# Breaking New Ground

Twenty-eight students pioneer the new foreign studies program, located in Vina del Mar, Chile

When the 28 students studying at Harding University in Latin America stepped off the plane, none of them knew what to expect for the semester.

They were the first to attend Harding's newest foreign studies program, located in Chile.

Dr. Jeff Hopper, dean of international studies, said that Latin America was chosen because President David Burks wanted a Spanish-speaking program.

After research, Chile was chosen because of its stable economy. Since this was the first year for the program, students didn't have the luxury of stories from previous HULA students like the other programs did. They were the first, the experiment, the group to set the standard.

Some students were more prepared than others, and some even spoke Spanish.

"It's frustrating not being able to

communicate," sophomore Daniel Penick said. "Once I ordered little green Jewish women for dinner instead of green beans."

The first impressions of Roca Blanca, where the group stayed, amazed many of the students with its apartments overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

"The accommodations are amazing," sophomore Emily Safley said. "I have never lived in such a nice atmosphere. We can see the sunset over the ocean every night from our living room."

The faculty planned numerous trips so the HULA students could see and experience the sights and culture of Chile.

"This program seems to be more athletically centered," senior Dannie Rio said. "We've already been skiing in the Andes, hiking in the desert and soon we'll be white water rafting."

The first trip, which was a week of skiing at Portillo, a world-class ski resort, set the tone for the rest of the semester by uniting the group.

The second trip was to the Atacama Desert, where HULA students saw geysers, salt flats, sand dunes and more.

On their free day, students who weren't horseback riding or sandboarding browsed in artisan markets.

Life was not just exciting trips at HULA. The group also managed to fit in classes.

"I thought our academics would be a blow off, but I was surprised to find otherwise," sophomore Jo Ellis said. "If you like to slack off, I'd avoid a foreign studies program."

Overall, students and professors agreed the first semester of the HULA program ran smoothly.

—Amie Stratton



Juniors Feydra Gorsline and Erin Bailey, missionary Tom Hook and senior Jonathan Reynolds concentrate on spotting sea monkeys at Salt Flats in the Atacama Desert in Chile. The sea monkeys were the favored cuisine of the flamingos that roamed the area. (Photo by Melissa Wilson)

Sophomores Jo Ellis, Jael Beamon, Amie Stratton and Holly Russell, juniors Craig Bettenhausen and Mary Reynolds, sophomore Natalie Williams and juniors Daniel Penick and Melissa Wilson take a lunch break on top of a mountain at the World Class Ski Resort in Portillo, Chile. Students took trips that involved athletic activity. (Photo courtesy of Melissa Wilson)







Junior Megan Bills, sophomore Matt Pruitt, juniors Melissa Wilson and Cody Norton and sophomores Holly Russell and Natalie Williams stand in front of a waterfall at the Vicente Perez Rosales national park in Chile. The students in the Chile program were given the opportunity to visit the scenery of the country. (Photo courtesy of Dr. Jeff Hopper)

Junior Shara Martin pets a koala bear at a park in Australia. The program in Australia was held in the spring of 2002. (Photo courtesy of Ben Wilkins)



# acloserlook

## australia

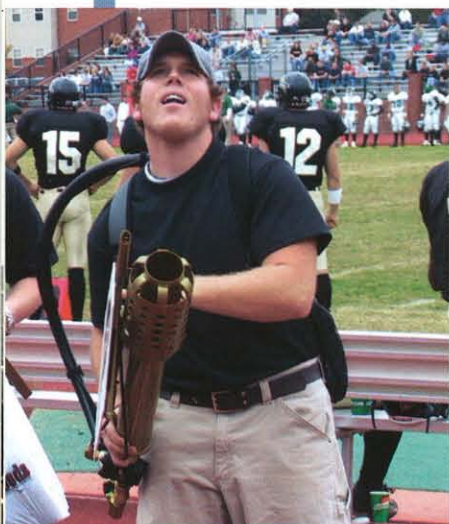


Sophomore Rees Jones, junior Matt Price and sophomore Patrick Cone get a taste of Olympic glory while impersonating Charlie's Angels at the Olympic Stadium in Sydney, Australia.

"I have always said that HUA is Harding's best-kept secret," Cone said. "HUA isn't really talked about as much as the big two, HUF and HUG. You get everything that both of these groups get. You're constantly traveling. You get to do a lot of outdoors stuff that the other two don't get to."



# a closer look



## tee torpedo

**Aiming at the crowd of screaming fans,** junior Shane Brockwell prepares to launch a t-shirt via the "Tee Torpedo" during the Homecoming football game Oct. 26.

"I was at the Homecoming football game and, all of the sudden, I heard a sound I had never heard before. I looked over and I saw t-shirts flying out of a strange contraption," junior Jonathan Porter said. "One flew my way and I caught it, but one of my friends grabbed it out of my hands. I've been bitter about it ever since." (Photo by Renee Lewis)

**Senior Jimmie Douglass** assumes the role of Prince Dauntless in "Once Upon A Mattress," the Homecoming musical. The musical, an adaptation of "The Princess and the Pea," was one of the highlights of Homecoming weekend. (Photo by Lindsey Taliaferro)

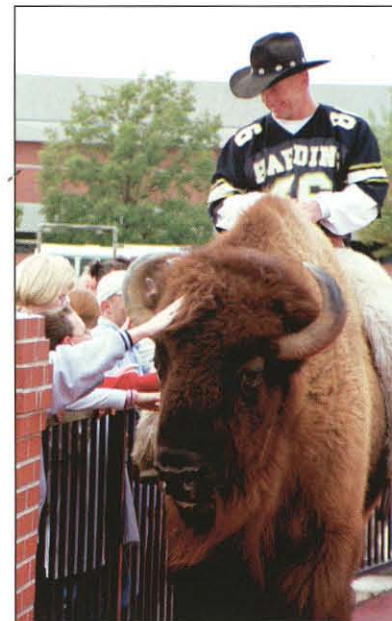






**Newly elected Homecoming queen,** Lindsey Eason, senior, accepts a congratulatory bouquet from President David Burks' granddaughter, Callie. Eason was crowned during half-time of the Oct. 26 football game against the University of Arkansas, Monticello. (Photo by Renee Lewis)

**Trainer T.C. Thorstenson and his bison,** Harvey Wallbanger Jr., mingle with the fans during the Homecoming football game Oct. 26. The pair also made an appearance at the pep rally Friday, where they awed the crowd with tricks, such as jumping through a ring of fire. (Photo by Renee Lewis)



# a Time to Laugh

Homecoming reunites old friends, recruits new students and celebrates the school's progress

Alumni returned to their alma mater Oct. 25-27 for a busy and eventful Homecoming weekend.

Many events were scheduled throughout the weekend for students, alumni, parents, friends and prospective students.

The weekend offered activities such as the musical, "Once Upon a Mattress," the Bison Booster golf tournament at the Searcy Country Club, a Good News Singers performance, a pep rally and a bonfire. Making a return was Harvey Wallbanger Jr., a bison from the Buffalo Express Western Show, and his trainer T.C. Thorstenson.

Saturday, there was a social club fair in the Ganus Athletic Center. Belles and Beaux, a musical group, performed along with the children's theater group, Pied Pipers in the Administration Auditorium.

Along with giving groups on campus a chance to perform, Homecoming served as a recruitment weekend for prospective students.

"It proved to be a successful weekend," Mike Williams, assistant vice president for admissions and student financial services, said. "We had over 200 students register for Bison Daze and they were able to get a taste of classes and weekend events, like the musical and the football game."

Although the numbers were up again at the admissions office, the alumni office reported a decrease in registered participants for Homecoming 2002.

The Bison football team felt the spirit of Homecoming with their victory over the University of Arkansas, Monticello, which improved their season record to 7-1.

"I think the point of Homecom-

ing is to boost the morale of the team and get the student body involved in the game," senior Lindsey Eason, 2002 Homecoming queen, said. "I think it's a really encouraging time for the team. The student body seemed really excited about another victory and they had so many people coming back to support them."

One alumnus, Alice Ann Kellar, came back to campus for her 50-year class reunion.

"We were all so happy to be together again. During my time we all depended on each other so much. It was fun to talk about our best memories and just to reconnect," Kellar said. "Overall it was an enjoyable weekend. We enjoyed seeing the progress and development of the school, but most of all, we enjoyed being together."

—Kerri Dutille



# the Benson Overflows

Another  
chapel service  
is added  
in order to  
accommodate  
the needs of  
a growing  
student body

For the first time in decades, students could choose to attend one of two chapel services.

As a result of increased enrollment, the entire student body and faculty could not fit in the Benson Auditorium. The chapel committee decided to create a simultaneous service in the Administration Auditorium.

Daniel Cherry, administrative assistant to the President, said last spring more than 50 students were asked to be core members of the new chapel service.

"We knew that we would have to make it something that was going to be a priority and the quality would have to be as good as the Benson," Cherry said. "We didn't want the people in the Administration Auditorium to feel like they were second rate, so we assembled that group to give us some ideas."

Students were able to sign up for

the Administration Auditorium chapel service before the school year ended. This fall, 790 students participated in the new chapel service.

"I like it a lot," sophomore Jennifer Holt said. "It seems more personal since it's smaller and I don't feel like it's really separate from the Benson. I still feel like it's the whole student body coming together for chapel."

Many students who attended the smaller chapel felt they hadn't missed anything. The new chapel had the same announcements and similar speakers, just on different days or later in the chapel service.

Some students felt differently.

"I like the Benson," sophomore Dave Pritchett said. "There are more people in there and you get the sense of being with people. But I like the Administration [Auditorium] chapel because I think it's more intimate and I like the acoustics better."

The chapel split also affected the 1,200 incoming freshmen. In the past, choosing seats on the lower level of the Benson was a privilege reserved for upperclassmen. This year, however, freshmen were allowed to sit anywhere in the Benson, a big change for the returning students.

"I like the idea of different classifications being mixed together during chapel," senior Candi Stewart said. "But I also feel that the freshmen should have more focus in the Administration [Auditorium] chapel and move up to sitting on the Benson floor, like we did."

Although there were many different opinions about the chapel split, most agreed that praising God was the most important thing. In the spring, the chapels were combined and the student body met together again in the Benson.

-Heidi Walden

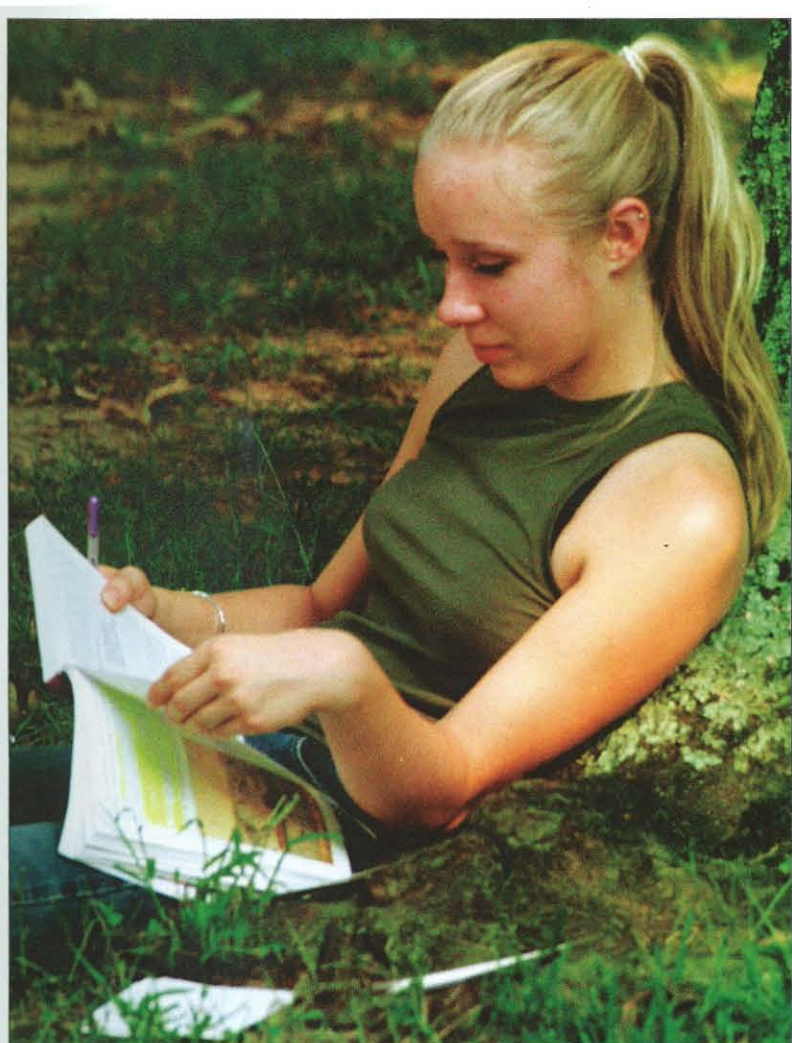


Sophomore Colby Blaisdell challenges his opponent for the disc during an Ultimate frisbee game. Ultimate frisbee was a popular front lawn activity and impromptu matches sprang up often. (Photo by April Clem)

Sophomores Bryan Bradshaw and Stephanie Ramsey chat with senior Greg Goodale over dinner at Mi Ranchito. The restaurant was a favorite of students who enjoyed tasty, yet inexpensive, Mexican cuisine. (Photo by April Clem)

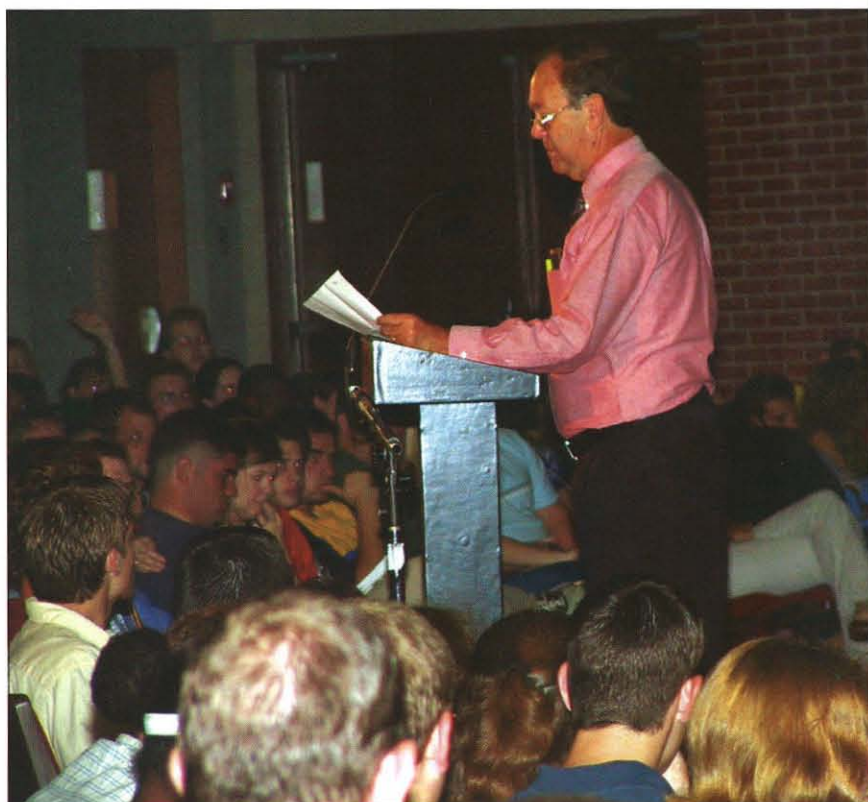






Taking advantage of the weather, freshman Sarah Fritts studies under the shade of a tree on the front lawn. Many students found studying outside to be a favorable alternative to studying in the library or dorm lounges. (Photo by Lindsey Taliaferro)

Dr. Dean Priest, vice president for academic affairs, reads the announcements to the Benson auditorium chapel. Because of increased enrollment, the university offered two simultaneous chapel services in the Benson and Administration Auditoriums fall semester. (Photo by Chrissy Ingram)



## acloserlook



### front lawn

**Junior Justin Watts stops to talk with junior Mandy Warren on his way to class.**

"One day, my friend Shelby Kempf and I were walking to chapel," senior Marilee Sutherlin said. "The heel of her boot snagged on one of the old chain fences as she crossed over, and she kissed the pavement. I would have tried to help her up, but I was too busy laughing. She looked around to see if anyone else was watching, then we hurried to chapel." (Photo by Lindsey Taliaferro)





# a closer look



## karaoke

**Belting out one of her favorite tunes,** junior Toni Edwards takes part in the Karaoke Night sponsored by the Student Activities Committee Sept. 20. Karaoke Night gave each participant the opportunity to showcase his or her vocal ability and stage presence.

"My friend Sarah Surgent and I have sung karaoke together a couple of times. Every time we do the same song, Britney Spears' 'Hit Me Baby One More Time,'" senior Taylor Davis said. "We try to really pump ourselves up, because we realize that we will look sillier if we are not into it and acting crazy, and college students love to see each other looking stupid."

(Photo by Renee Lewis)

**Sinbad jokes with the audience in the** Benson Auditorium during his Nov. 15 performance. The Student Activities Committee hosted the event which drew in more than 2,500 guests. (Photo by Lindsey Taliaferro)

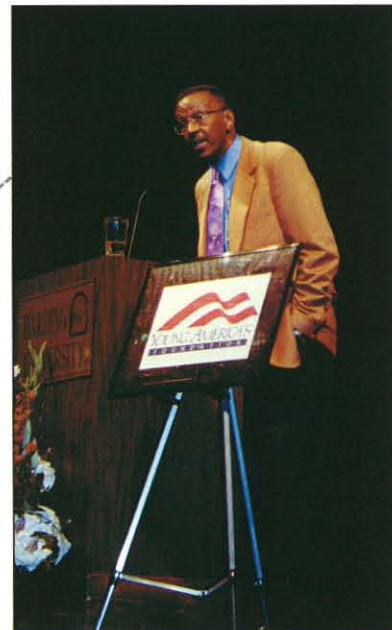






**Senior Jeremy Anderson drums at the Jennings Osborne barbecue during Family Weekend Oct. 4-6. Family Weekend brought in entertainment for more than 200 families. (Photo by Amy Beene)**

**Walter Williams, professor of economics at George Mason University, lectures as part of the American Studies Institute lecture series Sept. 12. ASI also brought in Dinesh D'Souza Nov. 14, Khalil Jahshan March 6 and William Bennett April 3. (Photo by Lindsey Taliaferro)**



# a Weekend to Remember

Family Weekend draws a large number of families and friends, treats guests to a wide range of activities

Family, fun, football and food marked Family Weekend, Oct. 4-6.

Family and friends were invited to attend classes, chapel and events such as a golf tournament, an illusion show, the football game and the Jennings Osborne barbecue.

"It was fun to go to the barbecue and get all the food and listen to the entertainment," senior Sara Rabon said. "Even though my family wasn't here, I was able to join up with my friends and their families and we all had a good time."

The Jennings Osborne barbecue held strong as a highlight of the weekend for visiting families and students on campus. It became part of Family Weekend four years ago.

"When the American Studies Institute asked us if the barbecue could be part of Family Weekend, we were very excited about it," Liz Howell, director of alumni and parent relations, said. "The event has become a

real positive part of the weekend. This year we had over 3,000 people attend the barbecue. Each year the process is becoming smoother and more people are able to enjoy it."

Family Weekend grew in attendance from previous years. In past years, about 100 families attended. In 2001, attendance jumped to 200 families. The number continued to grow this year, with 230 families registered.

Howell hoped the reason for these numbers was due to efforts to target parents of upperclassmen as well as those of freshmen.

"We are trying to market towards the parents of all the students, not just the freshmen," Howell said. "We hope that parents will start coming when their student is in their first year and keep returning each year after that."

The organizers of Family Weekend tried to plan activities for everyone. Entertainment included various groups, such as the Belles and Beaux

and Generation Gap. Pre-football game entertainment included inflatable games, face painting and appearances by cheerleaders and Bobby the Bison.

"Sometimes when my family is in town, it can be hard to find things to do in Searcy," senior Emily Hoggard said. "But with Family Weekend it makes it a lot easier. There are activities planned all day. We really enjoyed the barbecue and the football game, especially since the team is doing so well this year."

The football team won their fifth consecutive victory on Family Weekend.

"It was really great to have our fifth victory on such a big weekend," senior Nate Dutile, fullback for the Bisons, said. "We get so much energy knowing that everyone's families are in the stands watching. It makes it fun to go out there and play."

—Kerri Dutile



# Touching Lives, One At a Time

Campaigners  
travel to  
every corner  
of the earth  
to show  
people the  
love of Christ

Daniel Cherry, director of spring break campaigns, said the goal of campaigns was to encourage local congregations, reach out to local communities and develop Christian servants.

Most campaigners remembered the lives they touched and the people they had the opportunity to help.

"You think you're going to go on a campaign and change tons of lives," junior Lauren Cantrell said. "People always think of New York City, or the nursing homes or the shelters.

"But if you ask a campaigner what impact they had, they'll always tell you a story of one person they touched; for us it was an elderly couple living in a shack in Griffin, Ga. Twenty of us were crowded in their three room apartment and as we sang 'Amazing Grace' the eld-

erly lady started to bawl."

Cherry said the best part about campaigns was the week after everyone returned, praising God for the work He did through them.

One such case was with Jon Singleton, who led two consecutive spring break campaigns to Liverpool, N.Y.

"I've learned so much on my campaigns," Jon Singleton, English adjunct, said. "The campaigners definitely get more out of it than the people."

Singleton told a story about a Liverpool teenager, Dan, who was known for being rebellious, bisexual, a drug addict and car thief.

Through the course of the campaign, team members and youth group members from Liverpool spent time with Dan and his friends, initiating calm, caring conversations and discussions about Jesus.

Although their time with Dan was short, Liverpool campaigners were excited about the seed that had been planted in Dan's life.

"I hope that someday Dan will remember the things that we talked about with him," junior Melanie Grady, campaign member, said. "I hope that he will pull out that piece of his memory and act upon it."

Cherry was excited about the enthusiasm college students brought to struggling churches and communities.

"The college generation brought vitality, excitement and idealism which is healthy. Churches need a vision like that," Cherry said.

"College is typically the 'me' stage of life. Spring break is an opportunity to show that there are good college kids who care to serve."

-Erin Kathleen Healy



While on a scavenger hunt in Toowoomba, Australia, junior Kevin Buchnam looks on as Australian Matt Dusza pretends to be a King. Due to decreased participation in summer international campaigns, only one group traveled to Australia last summer. (Photo by Jim Miller)

Junior Lindsey Harriman designs a poster to portray David and Goliath for Vacation Bible School. Harriman was a part of the Fall River, Mass. spring break campaign that door-knocked, conducted a youth rally and performed skits at Bristol Community College. (Photo by Renee Lewis)







**Senior Nathan McIntyre mingles with school children in Peterhead, Scotland.** McIntyre was on a campaign that went to several schools, teaching children about God. (Photo by Chrissy Ingram)

**Junior Natalie Faught shows David Owens, preacher at the Wetzel Road Church of Christ, and a teenager from Liverpool, N.Y., the "huh" game.** Every day the spring break campaign team in Liverpool held activities for the children and teenagers in the community after school let out. (Photo courtesy of Melanie Grady)



## acloserlook

### vbs

**Sophomores Jacob Metcalf and Ty Gentry, junior Kelley Cook and sophomore Gretchen Winter act out a scene depicting Daniel in the lions' den during their campaign to Fall River, Mass.**

"[One night] the featured Bible character was brought to modern day times through a time machine and sent back after the story was told," sophomore Gretchen Winter said. "On the night the Joseph story was told, little Elyssa started crying because she didn't think that Mark [who played Joseph] was going to come back from the time machine after the skit was over. She demanded that Melissa [who operated the time machine] bring him back in time." (Photo by Renee Lewis)





# a closer look

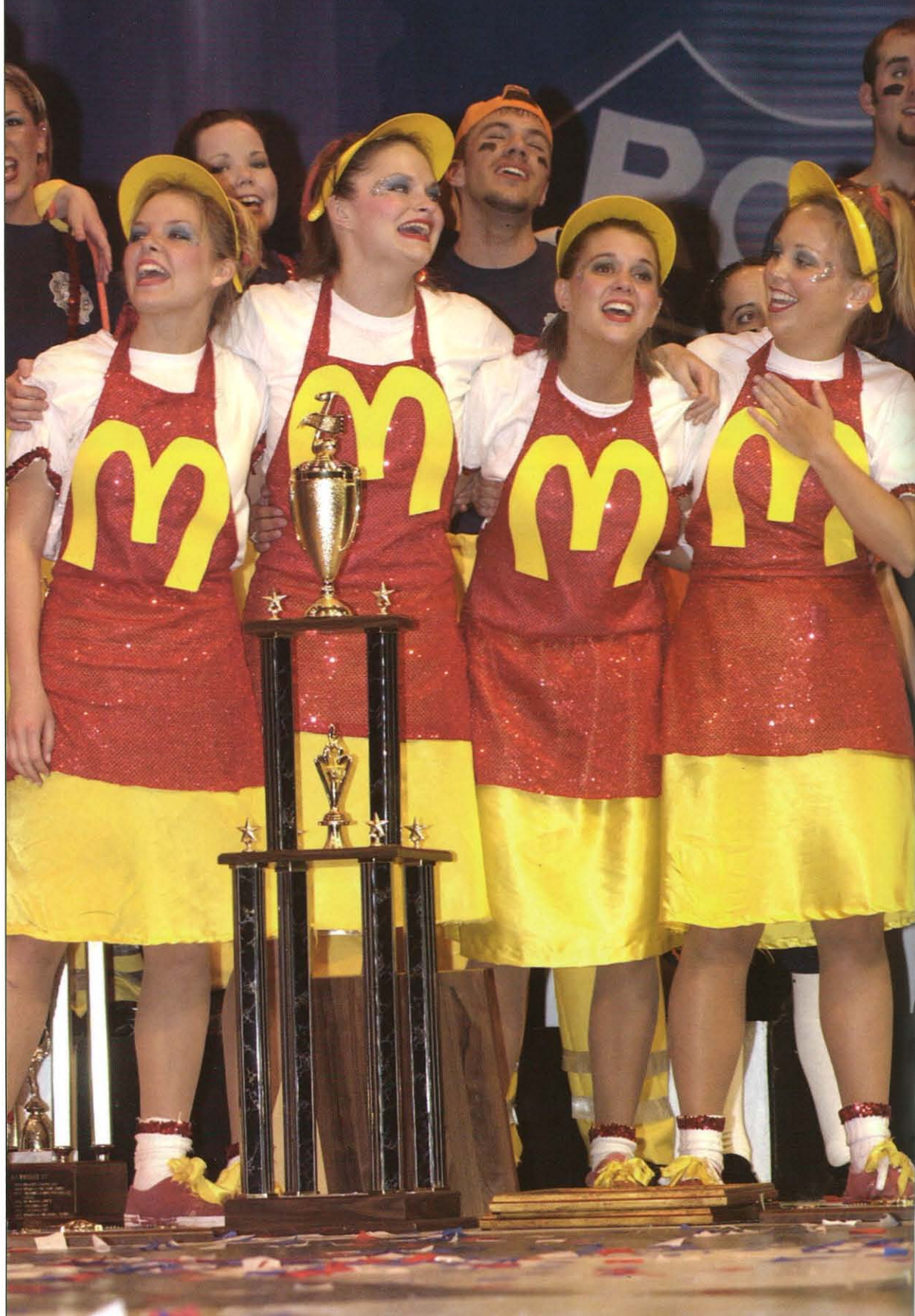
Juniors Morgan Setzler and Sarah Selman, sophomore April Goodwin and senior Martha McInteer, directors of "Did Somebody Say McDonald's?," sing triumphantly after receiving the John H. Ryan Sweepstakes award. Ju Go Ju, Ko Jo Kai and friends won the Sweepstakes for the second year in a row, taking first place in three categories, originality, costume and choreography. (Photo by Jeff Montgomery)



## baseball

Imitating an angry baseball player, sophomore Jennifer Keene yells with heartfelt emotion in Shantih and friends' show, "Away With the Dishes, Let's Step Up to the Plate!"

"There were a bunch of girls in our show who were dressed up as guys," senior Allison Alexander said. "After the show, a lady asked me which show I was in. I told her I was one of the girls who was a boy [baseball player] in the Shantih show. She was so surprised. She had no idea that any of the guys were actually girls, even when we were walking around after the show." (Photo by Daniel Dubois)







Senior Julie Dennis and junior Megan Bills, ensemble members, and senior Cindy Collins, Spring Sing hostess, perform "These Boots Are Made For Walkin'." The ensemble entertained audiences with several songs in between the clubs' shows. (Photo by Daniel Dubois)

Freshman Clint Wallis choreographs his way to the front of the stage in TNT, Zeta Rho and friends' show, "We're Not that 'Snort' of Nerds." The show was the second runner-up in the John H. Ryan Sweepstakes Award. (Photo by Daniel Dubois)



# Driving Along Route 66

Spring Sing  
takes on a  
patriotic  
theme,  
remembers  
America's  
favorites  
and pays  
tribute to  
Sept. 11

Although Spring Sing has taken place each year since 1974, the 2002 show struck a different chord with the events of Sept. 11 still weighing on the hearts of Americans.

Dr. Steve Frye, director of Spring Sing, chose the theme "Route 66, Journeys Across America," right before Spring Sing 2001.

"When we originally chose 'Route 66' we wanted to show America's love for the automobile," Frye said. "But the theme morphed into more of an Americana and patriotism theme."

"The show as a whole took on a more serious note, which is unusual. However, this seemed to be just what the audience needed because their response was phenomenal."

Many of the students agreed that Route 66 was a terrific show.

"When they started the finale and everyone from all the different

shows stood up there and held hands and sang their hearts out, it gave all 5,000 people sitting in the audience hope that the future might just be okay," senior Morgan Kimbrough said.

Although the whole show was not a tribute to Sept. 11, various social club acts recognized the events of that day and its aftermath.

Delta Gamma Rho, Delta Chi Delta, Kappa Gamma Epsilon, Gamma Sigma Phi and friends performed their show, "Courage Under Fire," as a portrayal of the firemen of America.

"The directors of our show wanted our performance to be meaningful to the audience," junior Shannon Gifford said. "They worked hard to give fire fighters recognition for their work during and after Sept. 11."

Other performances also de-

picted ideas uniquely American, like baseball, McDonald's and the role of American women during World War II.

Even though the tone of the show drifted from the original idea, the vintage automobiles that were brought on stage were still a big hit.

Cars from different eras represented America's love of the automobile.

"These automobiles traveled on Route 66, the original 'Main Street' of America," Frye said. "The road was designed to meet the demands of a changing country. It represents the diversity and unity of a free people who stand for what's right."

In this transition time for the United States, a look back on her history and a hope for her future seemed to be the key to success for Spring Sing 2002.

-Kerri Dutille





# Not Just <sup>your</sup> Average Students

Non-traditional students deal with the unique challenges of raising a family while going to school full-time

Charles and Kathy Hickmon were the quintessential non-traditional students.

The couple met while serving in the Air Force and have been married for 16 years. They are the parents of three children: John, 15, Caitlin, 13, and Emily, 12.

Living in Bradford, the Hickmons made a 20-mile commute every day.

Charles Hickmon, a secondary education physical science major, enrolled in the fall of 2000.

He decided to cash in on his G.I. bill and go back to school. He considered attending Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, but a meeting with Dr. Jim Carr, executive vice-president, changed his mind.

"I met with Dr. Carr to talk about Boy Scouts and I mentioned I was going back to school," Charles Hickmon said. "By the end of the

afternoon I was enrolled at Harding."

Charles Hickmon came to Harding because he was treated well by the faculty members.

Also, the campus was close to Bald Knob, where his children attended school.

Kathy Hickmon, who worked for a travel agency, decided to go to Harding as a pre-nursing major after response to the attacks of Sept. 11 hit the industry hard.

"Harding has a good nursing program," Kathy Hickmon said. "It's close to home and people here are extremely helpful."

The couple appreciated the friendly atmosphere of the school. Right off the bat, they noticed the family atmosphere.

"You don't find many schools where the professors really have an open door policy," Charles Hickmon

said. "Professors are really great about taking time out to talk to you."

As full-time students, they had more time to devote to their family.

"Going to school shows the kids that if we can handle college, they will be able to also," Charles Hickmon said.

Their children didn't seem to mind the change, either.

"It's interesting because it gives us a chance to do homework together," Kathy Hickmon said. "The kids think it's cool."

Both were able to go to school full time without working because of their military service.

Charles Hickmon said that, as an older student, he often was confused for a faculty member.

"I am asked what department I work in all the time," he said. "I've even been called doctor."

-Cody Usher



**Harding School of Biblical Studies** student Esteban Gonzalez studies for a major exam. HSBS, an accelerated program in Bible and ministry for students 21 and older, was located on the third floor of the McInteer building. (Photo by Michelle Scobba)

**Juniors Santiago and Raquel Collins** swing with their daughters. It was not uncommon for parents to bring their children to campus to show them around — and show them off. (Photo by April Clem)







**Freshman Leo Bratcher sings during the Harding School of Biblical Studies chapel held daily at 9:45 a.m. in Shores Chapel. The HSBS program met the needs of many non-traditional students pursuing Biblical training. (Photo by Rachel Miller)**

**Charles and Kathy Hickmon take advantage of a moment of free time to study together in the student center. The Hickmons, both full-time students, balanced their time between courses and family. (Photo by Chrissy Ingram)**



## acloserlook

### parenthood

**Freshman Jessica Oliver comforts her son, Brady, as she waits for chapel to begin in the Benson.**

"It's pretty embarrassing when my baby starts talking when I'm in class," senior Tiffany Brown said. "It's not like I can just get up and leave the classroom. Sometimes she even throws stuffed animals at the teacher." (Photo by Michelle Scobba)





# a closer look



## international

**Senior Dennis Van Erp relaxes after a day at work.** From Holland, Van Erp was a shift leader for Aramark in the student center.

"I used to tell people that I dated the Princess of Holland," Van Erp said. "I also told them that yellow was an offensive color, so they wouldn't eat bananas or wear yellow shirts in front of me. I also used to tell people that everyone in Holland lived in windmills and wore wooden shoes. And they believed it." (Photo by Russ Phillips)

**Junior Jacob Rotich talks with a friend between classes.** Despite the increased difficulty in obtaining student visas, most international students were glad to be able to study abroad. (Photo by April Clem)







During his shift as lab operator in the Ezell building, Endri Baduni, a senior from Albania, works with Jason Balota, a junior from Singapore. Some international students held jobs on campus to help offset the cost of studying abroad. (Photo by April Clem)

Senior Anibal Tamacas, a computer science major from South America, plays his guitar at the Jennings Osborne barbecue Oct. 5. Easing the transition to a foreign country, international students involved themselves in familiar activities. (Photo by Amy Beene)



# the Struggles of Studying Abroad

Events of  
September 11  
complicate  
the process of  
applying for  
student visas

After the attacks of Sept. 11, there were a number of effects on the student body.

One was an increased difficulty for international students coming to the United States and enrolling in school.

During the fall of 2001, 225 international students attended Harding. This fall, only 211 enrolled.

"We found that even the kids that did come this year had a lot more difficulty in getting their visas," Nicky Boyd, director of Walton Scholars said.

"I think it has been a lot harder for those that want to come. And I think there is a perception internationally that it's harder to come to the U.S. and study."

Many international students had already experienced difficulties

coming to the United States.

Senior Ilir Skendaj had to stay home in Albania for an entire semester in 2000 before he was allowed to return to the United States.

"It is common to run into trouble getting a visa in Eastern European countries," Skendaj said.

"The process of applying is completely subjective, even if you have all the required information, they can still reject you."

Nandish Dayal, a sophomore from Fiji, said the U.S. Embassy in Fiji had always been stringent on giving out visas.

The day he went to apply for his visa, Dayal was the only one of 46 who received a traveling permit.

"I haven't had any trouble getting home and back," Dayal said. "Although even before Sept. 11, get-

ting my visa was not easy."

The Walton Scholarship Program brought 13 new students to the campus to make 60 total Walton Scholars from Mexico and Central America.

According to Daniel Velasco, graduate student working as an assistant to Boyd, international students were allowed to obtain visas approved through the length of their scholarship, instead of having to renew visas every year.

Even with the longer visas, getting the visa initially was a complicated process.

"Students have to provide more proof that they are coming to study here in the states," Velasco said. "The process of getting a visa has become much more involved."

-Ryan Saul



# Students play part in **Intramurals**

In intramural competition, men and women of varied ability levels participated in a variety of sports including basketball, football, softball, volleyball, racquetball and tennis.

"Our goals for this year were similar to the goals of every year," Jim Gowen, director of men's intramurals, said. "We encourage participation from as many students as possible in both intramurals and club sports, we try to avoid injuries and improve the program in some way every year."

Gowen and the intramural assistants were dedicated to providing students with fun recreation through sport competition. Matt Seats and Sean Hudkins served as graduate assistants. Intramural assistants were seniors

Jimmy Allen, Josh Reinstein, Justin Smith and Kenny Simpson, junior Marshall Conner and sophomore Cade Smith. Jessica Moore, associate professor kinesiology, served as the women's intramural director.

"We invite any student to participate," Gowen said. "We set the requirements low so that more will have the opportunity. Freshmen have just as much of a chance to play as upperclassmen."

Through intramurals, students involved with clubs and not involved with clubs were given the opportunity to participate.

"Intramurals gave me the chance to play sports even though I was not a member of a social club or a school team," senior Elizabeth Hendrix said.

Students were not required to

be full time to participate in intramurals. In order to play, undergraduate students were required to take six hours while graduate students took a minimum of three hours.

Freshman Andrew Coubrough said he enjoyed the opportunity to play intramural football and basketball.

"You can go out and have competition against other people and have fun doing it," Coubrough said.

Basketball, volleyball, racquetball, badminton, swimming and table tennis were offered in the Ganus Athletic Center.

"We were able to upgrade the quality of the volleyball equipment in the Ganus this year," Gowen said.

Intramural teams also took advantage of outdoor facilities, including four fields each for softball and

flag football and soccer. The tennis courts were also utilized for individual matches.

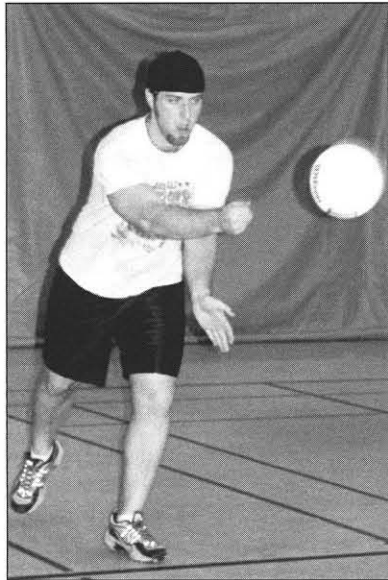
"We spent a lot of time improving the grass on the football fields and the infields of the softball facilities," Gowen said.

Along with team competition, individuals competed in events such as the football pass and softball throw.

Students attempting to earn letter jackets or blankets were required to compete in a certain number of both team and individual competitions. This introduced students to sports they might not otherwise play.

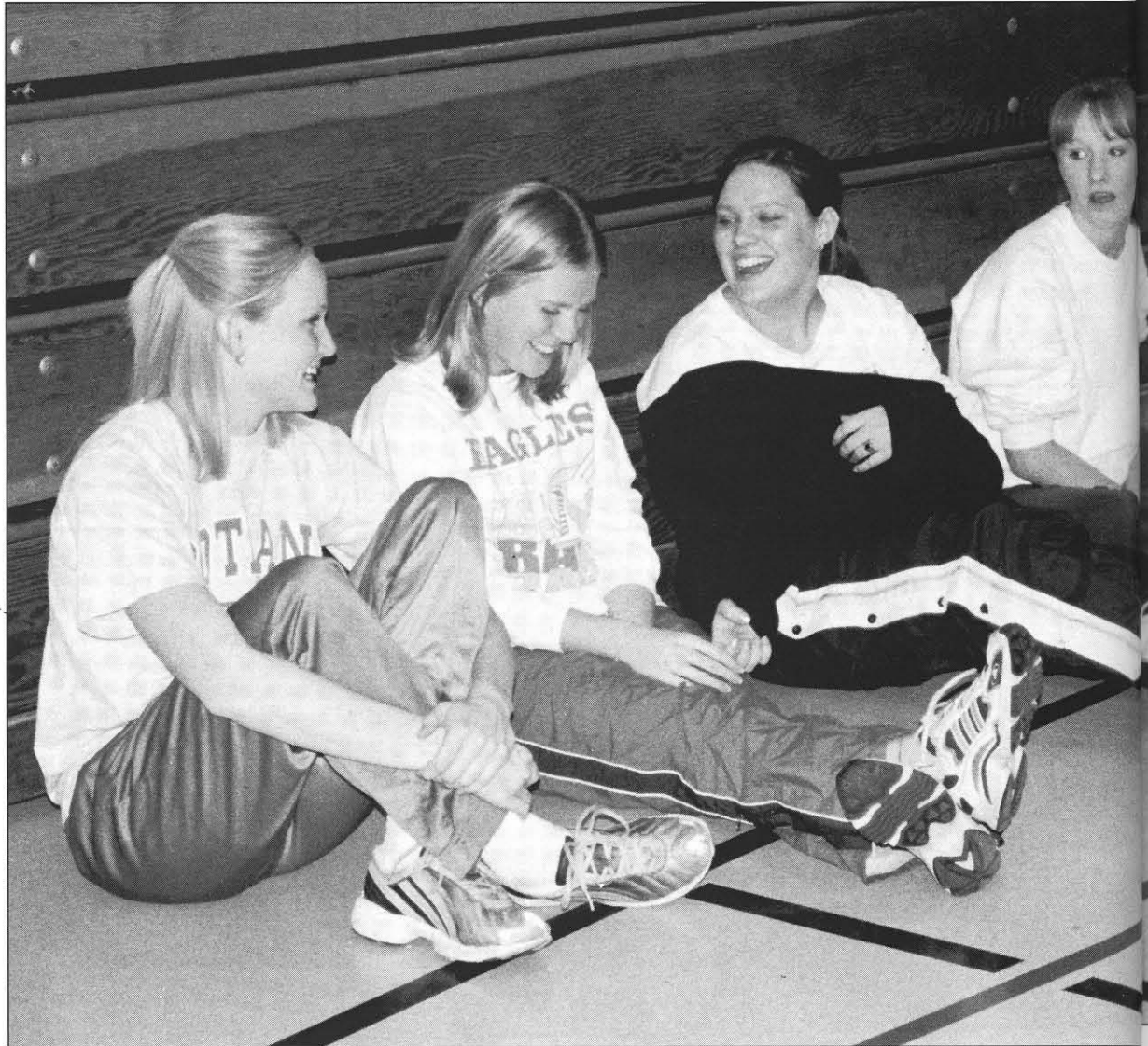
"Students have the opportunity to play sports that they really enjoy and some that they do not like as much to earn a jacket or other awards," Gowen said.

—Sara Rabon



**Freshman Matt Eastridge** delivers a serve to the opposing team. Friendly competition often developed among members of rival teams. (Photo by Lindsey Taliaferro)

**Senior Crystal Smith** and freshman Amy Avery laugh as the watch intramural volleyball teams compete in the Ganus Athletic Center. Although participants enjoyed the intramural games, spectators also appreciated the time spent visiting with friends. (Photo by Lindsey Taliaferro)







Stretching inches above his opponent, freshman Scott Simpson tips the ball over the net in an attempt to capture a victory. Displays of athleticism were commonly seen during intramural play as students strove to win. (Photo by Lindsey Taliaferro)

Taking advantage of a lull in the action, members of an intramural team pause for a breather during a flag football game. The intense pace of the competition often demanded that players stay in top physical form. (Photo by April Clem)



## acloserlook

### softball

**Junior Sean Lybarger** warms up his arm before an intramural softball game. Most of the intramural sports had one cycle during the school year; however, softball made its appearance in both the fall and spring semesters.

"During one of the intramural softball games, someone hit a fly ball right toward second base," junior Mandy Warren said. "I started running for it, but so did another girl on my team. Neither of us noticed the other because we were so intently focusing on the ball. I was running, she was running, we were staring up at the sky, and then, smack, we ran into each other and fell to the ground. After all that effort, we didn't even catch the ball." (Photo by Lindsey Taliaferro)





# a closer look



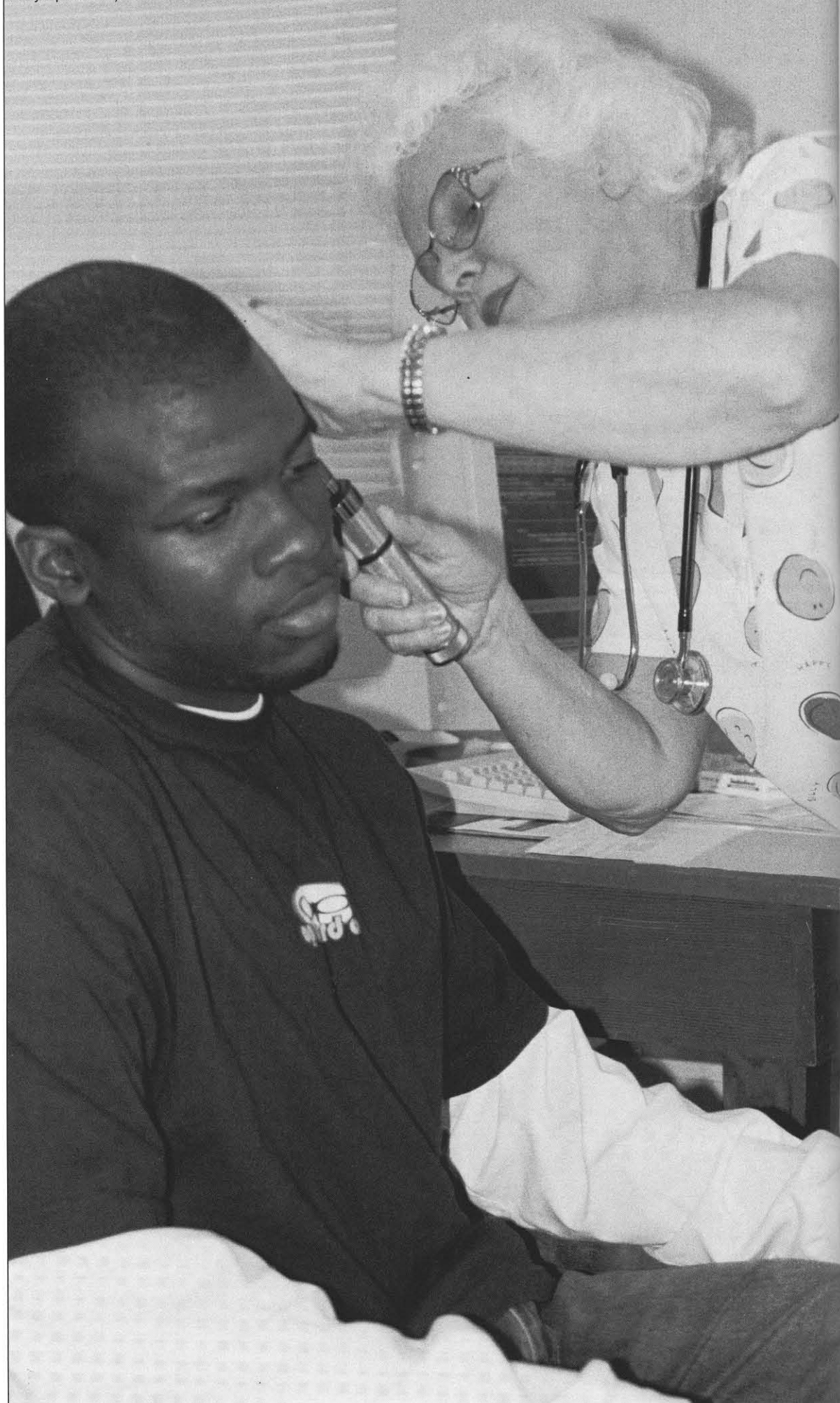
## deans

**Peggy Huckeba, assistant dean of students,** assists a student on registration day Aug. 19.

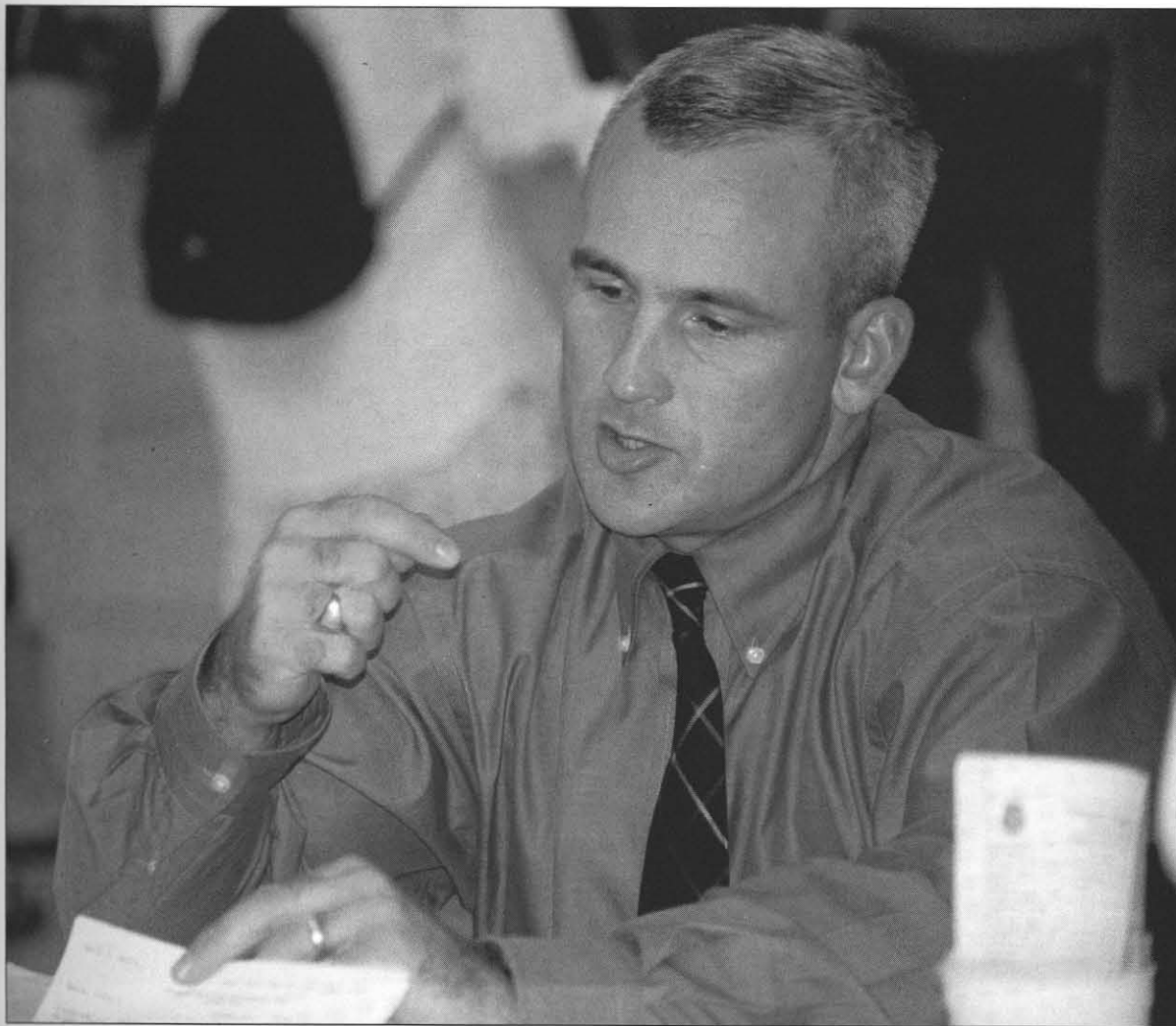
"Frequently, students confuse me with Mrs. Rebecca Teague, who directs the Career Center and teaches classes," Huckeba said. "It is a common occurrence for students to come up to me and ask me a question about their resume or an interview, or just pass me in the hall and say, Hi, Mrs. Teague!"

"Also, it is not unusual for students to speak to her about their chapel absences or a club question, or to call her Dean Huckeba. She and I laugh about it a lot, and we have an understanding that we both better always do the right thing to protect each other's reputation!" (Photo by April Clem)

**Freshman LaRon Young sits patiently** as Pat Rice, director of student health services, examines his ear. If a student was ill, the nurses did their best to make him or her well as soon as possible. (Photo by April Clem)

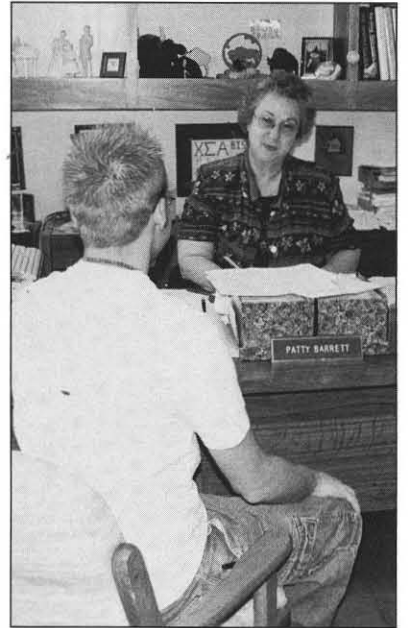






**Roddy Mote, assistant dean of students,** explains part of the registration process to a student Aug. 19. The deans played a vital role in campus life, making sure everything ran smoothly. (Photo by April Clem)

**Patty Barrett, director of Residence Life,** works with a student on his housing assignment. Barrett handled countless details, such as roommate and dorm preferences, to insure that each student's living conditions would be as pleasant as possible. (Photo by April Clem)



# Building a Campus of Character

Nine traits  
are chosen  
to encourage  
character  
development  
among the  
student body

Although there had never been a curriculum at Harding designed to teach positive character traits, Peggy Huckeba, assistant dean of students, wanted a way to teach character development to the student body.

In July, through the city of Searcy, Huckeba learned of Character First, a program developed by the Oklahoma City organization, Cities of Character.

"I have been interested in character development for the past year and a half," Huckeba said. "And when I heard about Character First, I brought it to the other deans as a program that we could incorporate into the new year. At the time, no theme had yet been chosen for the new school year and the Character First program seemed like the perfect theme for this year."

The student services' office ac-

cepted the idea of taking on the Character First curriculum as the theme for the upcoming academic year.

The nine characteristics included in the curriculum were forgiveness, truthfulness, sincerity, generosity, orderliness, gratefulness, obedience, attentiveness and virtue.

Dr. Delores Carson, assistant vice president for student services, thought the program was a great idea.

"I love this program because it teaches the Christian values in another venue," Carson said. "This curriculum personally helps me in making my decisions regarding students and reminds me of the values of my Christianity."

Roddy Mote, assistant dean of students, said Harding had already been incorporating the traits expressed in

the Character First program.

"I think it's something we already do," he said. "This program is a tool in order to recognize individuals and create awareness."

Mote coined the phrase, "Campus of Character" during a meeting with the deans. They discussed the nine traits that would be chosen as the focus.

Students first heard about the program when resident life coordinators and resident assistants went through character training, along with their regular resident hall training in August.

Senior Rachael Rinehart liked the idea of Character First.

"I was glad to hear about the program because I think it gives us, as Christians, something that we can strive to do," Rinehart said.

-Jaime Fahs





# Satisfying the Sweet Tooth

**Krispy Kreme delivers fresh donuts straight from Memphis to the student center every morning during fall semester**

Students were able to enjoy Krispy Kreme donuts right on campus this fall.

Last spring, many students suggested that Aramark provide Krispy Kreme donuts. Aramark had already been looking for a donut provider for the fall and took the suggestion into consideration.

Everett Enterprises, the Krispy Kreme provider to eastern Arkansas, approached Harding about providing Krispy Kreme donuts to the students. The owner, Tom Everett, wanted to expand his new business.

On Aug. 1 Aramark decided Krispy Kreme would definitely move to campus.

Steve Ritter, director of food services for Aramark, looked at different candidates for donut providers. Ritter found the brand name

of Krispy Kreme made students think of freshness and quality in a donut.

"The Krispy Kreme donut appeals to several different types of people," Ritter said. "Most everyone, especially out of state, recognizes Krispy Kreme as a reputable donut. We chose Krispy Kreme because we thought that it would work well on campus."

Some students had never heard of Krispy Kreme donuts or preferred a different brand of donut.

"We don't have Krispy Kremes in the north," junior Kristen Stumpf said. "They just came to the Pittsburgh area last year. Dunkin' Donuts are definitely better. No question. Boston Kreme Dunkin' Donuts are the ultimate in donuts."

At the beginning of the semester, Krispy Kremes became avail-

able in Java City and in the main part of the student center.

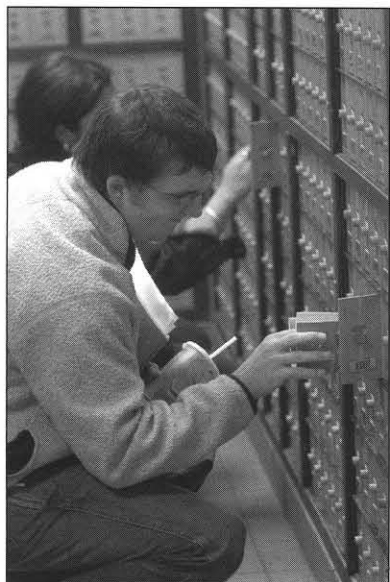
"I was excited to hear that we were having something different in the student center," senior Donald Randle said. "The only difference with Krispy Kremes here is that the donuts are not as hot and fresh as in the actual store."

Monday through Friday this fall Everett Enterprises brought fresh donuts to the campus straight from Memphis, Tenn. at 7 a.m. Most students' responses were positive about the placement of Krispy Kreme.

"I like the freshness of Krispy Kremes in the morning," senior Rae Holden said. "I'm glad that the best donut has finally moved to Searcy."

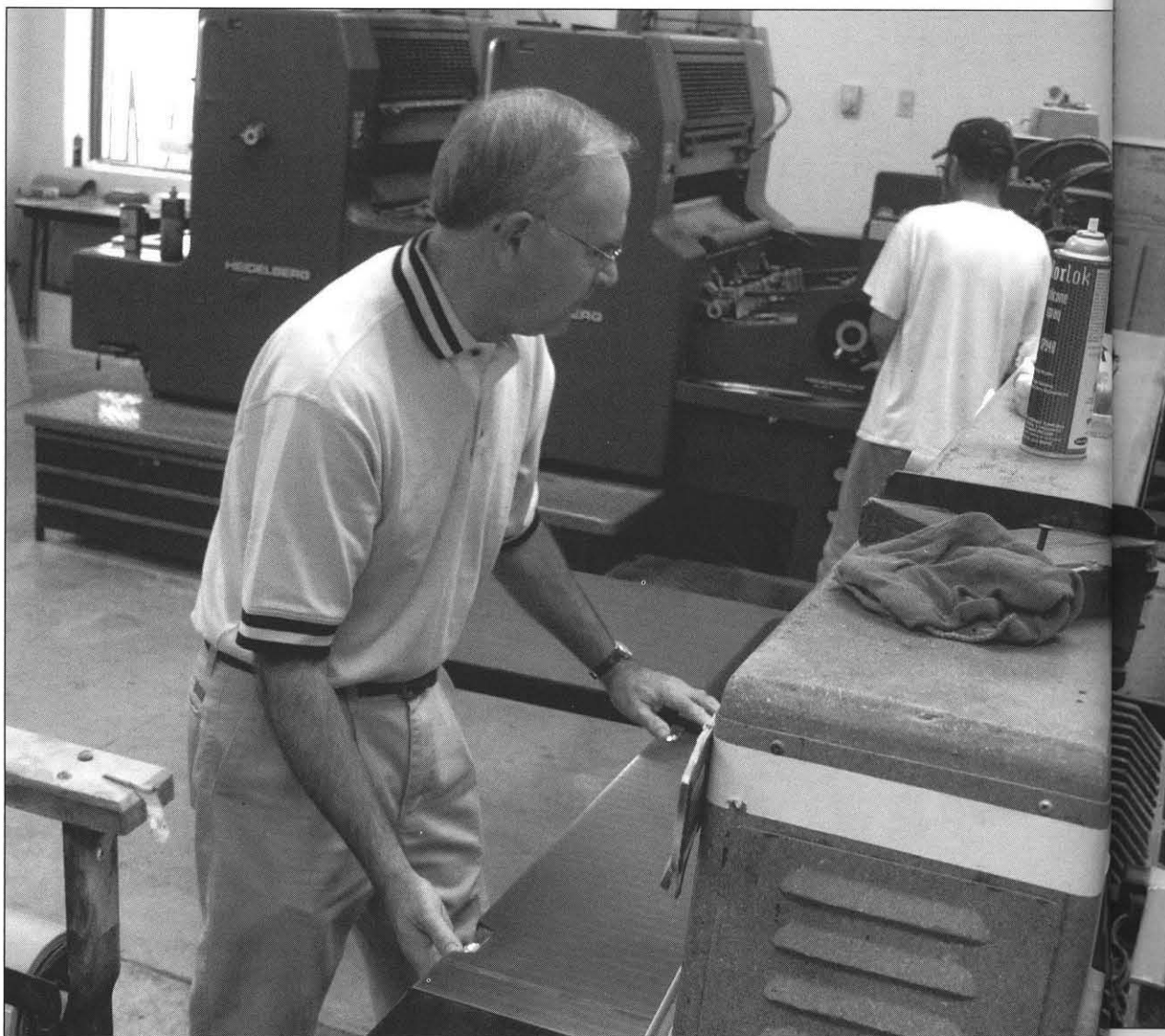
If there were any leftover donuts they were sold as day old donuts or Everett Enterprises picked them up

-Heidi Walden



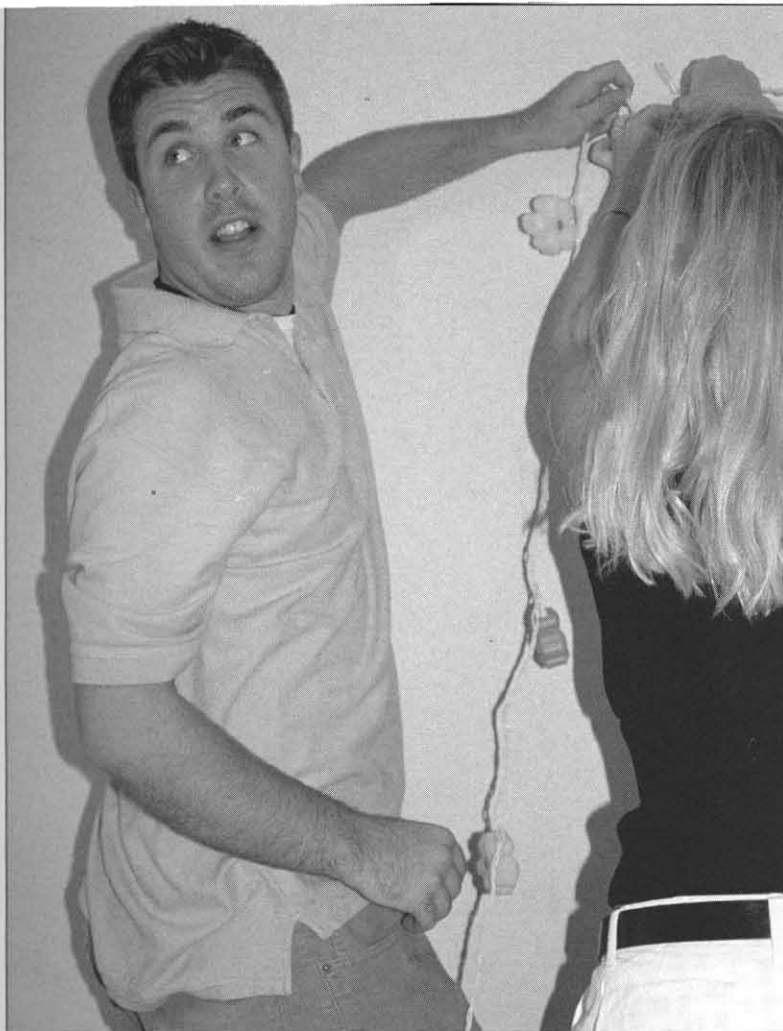
**Students check their mailboxes** after chapel Nov. 14. The post office, located in the student center, provided the Harding community an on-campus site to drop off and pick up both federal and campus mail. (Photo by Jeff Montgomery)

**Lavern Richey, Harding Press manager,** works with printing equipment Sept. 3. The press printed many students' wedding and graduation invitations this year. (Photo by Jeff Montgomery)





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**Chad Tappe, assistant director of admissions, helps a student decorate her new dorm room during Student Impact. Admissions officers often traveled around the nation, recruiting the next class of Harding hopefuls. (Photo by Lindsey Taliaferro)**

**Dr. Jeff Hopper, dean of International programs and the Honors College, livens up the Harding University Bookstore with music on registration day Aug. 19. HUB officials said this year that students may be able to order their textbooks online in the near future. (Photo by Jeff Montgomery)**



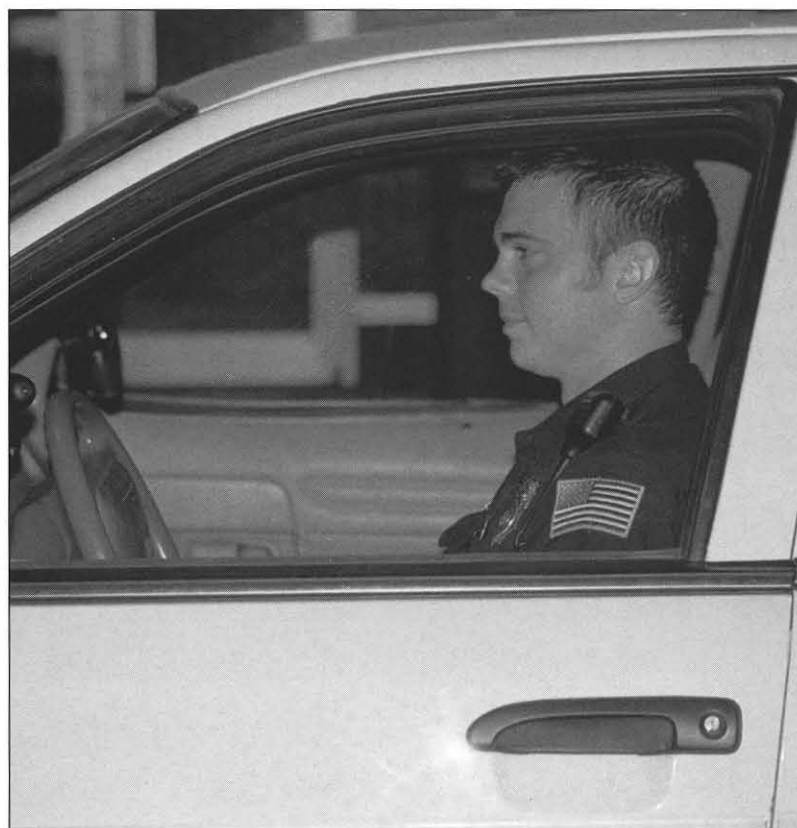
# acloserlook

## security

**Security officer Chris Fassett** patrols the area surrounding the student center. Officers worked day and night to ensure that the campus remained safe and secure.

"The funniest thing I remember happening was when an ostrich escaped from a farm and ran loose around town," Craig Russell, chief of security, said.

"I remember sitting in College Church on a Sunday morning, looking over at the window and seeing an ostrich, followed by a campus security car, followed by a Searcy police car," he said. "I did a double take and thought to myself, 'what in the world?' The ostrich continued to flee, apparently trying to distance itself from the meat processing plant. After the chase, the ostrich was finally apprehended and returned to the owner."





# a closer look



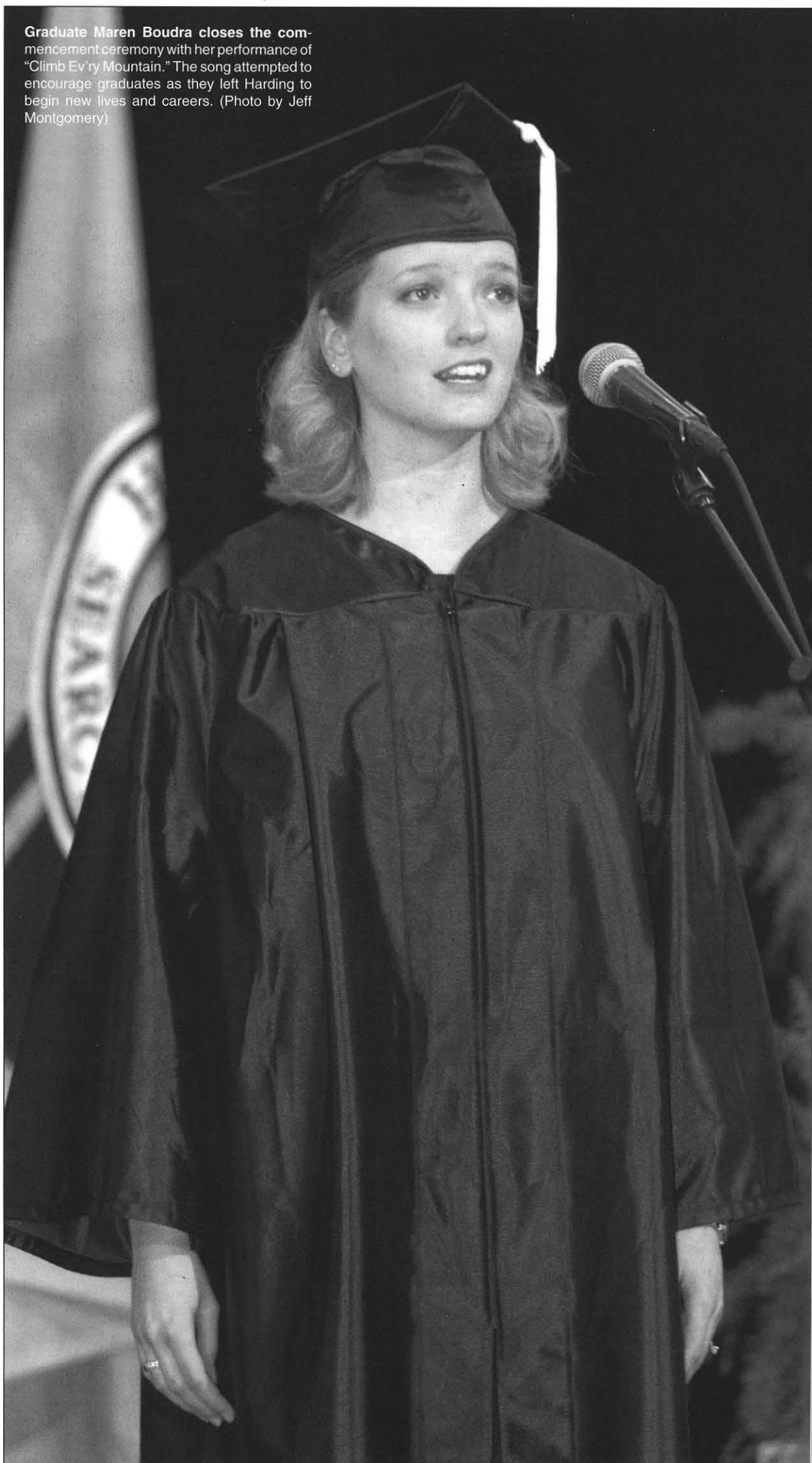
## ceremony

**A graduating student proudly displays her gratitude and patriotism on her mortarboard.**

"I saw some guys who were graduating that turned their lighters on during 'Climb Ev'ry Mountain,' and waved their arms side to side like during a ballad at a rock concert," senior Jeremy Beauchamp said. "One of them was a friend of mine, so I shouldn't name names. It was something I didn't expect to see at graduation."

(Photo by Jeff Montgomery)

Graduate Maren Boudra closes the commencement ceremony with her performance of "Climb Ev'ry Mountain." The song attempted to encourage graduates as they left Harding to begin new lives and careers. (Photo by Jeff Montgomery)

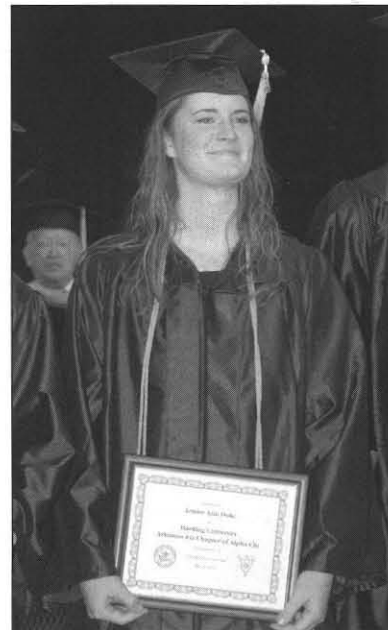






Members of the class of 2002 listen attentively during the graduation address given by Dr. Neale Pryor, distinguished professor of Bible. The class of 2002 was the largest graduating class in Harding's history. (Photo by Jeff Montgomery)

Graduate Louisa Duke proudly displays her Alpha Chi certificate during the commencement ceremony. Students graduating with a 4.0 GPA were recognized in the ceremony. (Photo by Jeff Montgomery)



# Going forth into the World

Dr. Neale Pryor  
sends forth  
graduates,  
encouraging  
students as  
they entered  
new phases of  
their lives

On May 11, 2002, in front of the largest graduating class in Harding's history, President David Burks announced that the new women's dorm would be named after Dr. Neale Pryor, distinguished professor of Bible, and his wife, Treva.

Pryor, who also gave the graduation address, was surprised.

"I had no idea in the world. It was just out of the blue. We were delighted of course," Pryor said. "I thought maybe after I was dead and gone they would maybe name something after me, but never before."

Pryor had been a professor of Bible since 1962 and had received the Distinguished Teacher Award three times. Burks also took the

opportunity to present Pryor with an honorary doctoral degree of laws.

Pryor, who had never before spoken at a Harding graduation, worked on his speech for a month before graduation.

In his address, Pryor asked the graduates three questions: "What are you leaving behind," "What are you taking with you" and "What are you going to do with what you are taking?"

He reminded graduates that there will be few places like Harding where, "doing right is the rule and wrong is the exception."

Pryor also challenged the graduates to use what they had learned at Harding to better the world.

He encouraged graduates to be

a blessing by being strong leaders in their churches and communities.

"I was proud to be graduating because not many people graduate where I am from," graduate Michad Holliday said. "I felt very blessed to receive my diploma, and ready to face the world."

Graduate Maren Boudra brought the ceremony to a close with a rendition of "Climb Ev'ry Mountain."

After the ceremony, graduates shared their thoughts about this milestone event.

"I will miss the fellowship of the Harding campus and being able to see my friends," graduate Heather Gray said. "Now we are all moving to different places and growing up to be successful in the real world."

-Heidi Walden