

# STUDEN

# NT LIFE

**WORDS** *Rachel VanCuren* // **SECTION** *Kendra Stevenson*

A student's life consisted of more than just going to class, staying up late to do homework or cramming for a test. Whether attending a concert, serving while abroad or performing in Spring Sing, students felt most connected to their community by living life together. Every smile and laugh brought students together, enabling a campus-wide community of love to grow even deeper.







# WINNER WINNER CHICKEN DINNER

DGR, OMEGA PHI AND FRIENDS WIN SPRING SING

WORDS *Alex Petty* // PHOTOS *Kazu Fujisawa*

**S**pring Sing 2017 was a historic year for men's and women's social clubs Omega Phi and Delta Gamma Rho (DGR) and their friends. The two clubs took home the John H. Ryan Sweepstakes Award for their show "Chicken Fillet: The Moo-sical," a satirical look at the origin story of Chick-fil-A. This marked the first overall win for the two clubs since they teamed up to perform together. It was also the first win for DGR in 20 years and the first win in club history for Omega Phi.

The show was a combined effort of directors alumna Kim Chambers, junior Kayla Meeler and seniors Caroline Nelson and Jackson Eldridge. The team worked for a year staging choreography, writing lyrics and crafting the story they wanted to tell with their parody of the popular fast food chain, which was met with enthusiasm from their clubs.

"Our clubs seemed pretty open to the idea," Meeler said. "DGR has never been a huge Spring Sing club, and freshmen are not required [to perform]. When they found out the theme was about Chick-fil-A, I think a lot of people got excited. It definitely persuaded older members to be involved."

Once rehearsals began in spring 2017, the directors began to piece together all of the odds and ends of the show they had cultivated in their heads for so long. With a cast who was willing to work hard and directors who were open to trying new things, the show began to come together.

"Like any good Spring Sing show, we tried to create a rehearsal atmosphere that was a blend of lighthearted fun, socializing and dedicated work," Eldridge said. "Because of my task-oriented nature, I pushed the performers every day to perfect their singing, dancing and character-work. As we hit milestones and accomplished our goals, there was a growing sense of momentum and anticipation because of the special show we knew we were creating."

The directors attributed the success of their show to their dedication to detail and practice. According to Nelson, the stress of hard practices proved worthwhile.

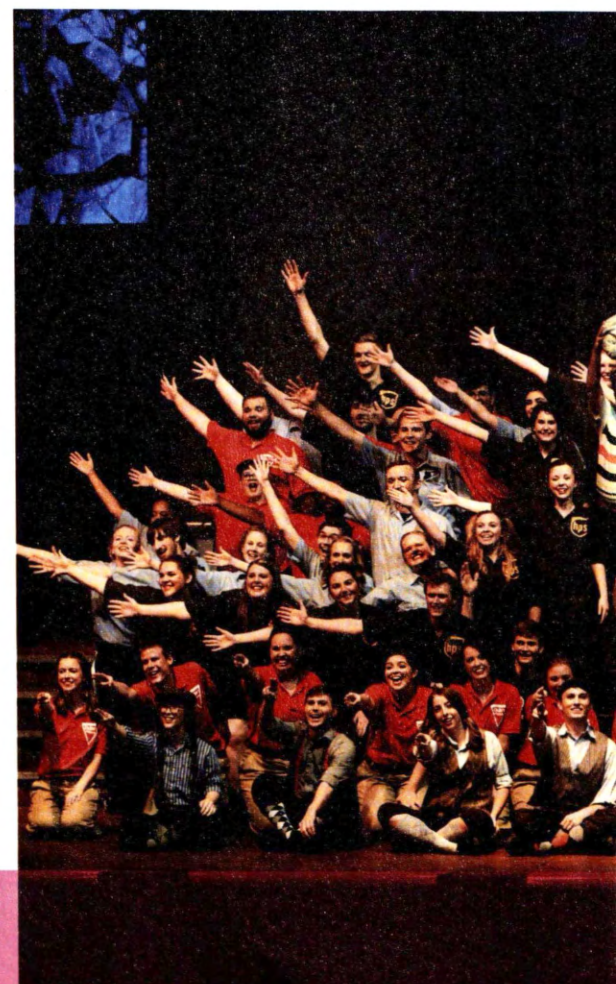
"We loved our idea, and we knew that it was clever," Nelson said. "We just wanted to make sure everything was in place to make it the best show that it could be."

At the end of Spring Sing, when the overall winner was announced, the directors and cast of the show realized that their hard work had paid off. The two clubs and friends scored their first win as a team and earned \$2,000 for their charity, Hope Cottage, whose mission was to decrease domestic violence.

"That moment when I took the John H. Ryan first-place trophy from [President] Bruce McLarty's hands, hoisted it above my head and celebrated with my fellow show members in front of a packed Benson Auditorium is my favorite Harding experience thus far," Eldridge said. "Winning together for the first time was an unforgettable joy and honor."

DGR, OPhi and friends' Spring Sing 2017 show, directed by seniors Jackson Eldridge and Caroline Nelson, explores the origins of Chick-fil-A from the perspective of cows and chickens. This was the first year DGR and Omega Phi won the John H. Ryan Sweepstakes award since they began performing together. // Photos by Kazu Fujisawa









# CURTAIN UP!

SPRING SING 2017  
HEADS TO BROADWAY

TNT, Zeta Rho and friends perform "Christmas With the Cousins," in the George S. Benson Auditorium at Spring Sing 2017 on April 16, 2017. The show told the story of North Pole elves and South Pole elves coming together to meet Santa's Christmas Eve deadline. // Photo by Jeff Montgomery

The opening number, "Bigger," of Spring Sing 2017, "Curtain Up," set the tone for many Broadway favorites performed throughout the show. Some favorites performed by hosts and ensemble included "There's No Business Like Show Business", "Run Freedom Run" and "Get On Your Feet". // Photo by Jeff Montgomery

Alumna Victoria DeBoef, seniors Duncan Michael, Renee Maynard and junior Ross Smith perform as hosts and hostesses at Spring Sing 2017. Hosts and hostesses performed before each club show with ensemble and individually. // Photo by Jeff Montgomery

Ju Go Ju, Ko Jo Kai, Sub T-16 and friends perform "Rock The Boat" at Spring Sing 2017. Telling the story of Noah's ark, "Rock The Boat" placed second overall. // Photo by Jeff Montgomery

Chi Sigma Alpha, Regina, Sigma Phi Mu and friends perform "The Ups and Downs of Delivery" at Spring Sing 2017. The show focused on the lives of delivery men and women from UPS to Pizza Hut and placed third overall. // Photo by Jeff Montgomery





# A DAY IN GOD'S WORD

STUDENT ASSOCIATION  
BLANKETS CAMPUS WITH SCRIPTURE

WORDS Kendra Stevenson // PHOTO Abigail Cooper



Give You Rest

declared, "I thank you,  
and earth, that you have  
in the wise and under-  
them to little children;  
was your gracious will.<sup>7</sup>  
handed over to me by  
e knows the Son except  
knows the Father except  
o whom the Son chooses  
e to me, all who labor and  
I will give you rest.<sup>28</sup> Take  
and learn from me, for I am  
and you will find rest

him, now

God's Chosen Servant

<sup>15</sup> Jesus, aware of this, with  
And many followed him, and  
all <sup>16</sup> and ordered them not to  
<sup>17</sup> This was to fulfill what v  
prophet Isaiah:

<sup>18</sup> "Behold, my servant w  
my beloved with w  
pleased.

I will put my Spirit u  
and he will procl  
Gentiles.

all not quarrel

**O**n April 10, 2017, the Student Association (SA) held "A Day in the Word" in front of the Benson Auditorium, an event which tied into the chapel theme for the year, "The Transforming Word of God."

Senior Dakota Ellis was the head of the SA chapel committee and played a large part in organizing the event.

Starting at 5 a.m. and continuing until 11 p.m., the event centered on reading the Bible, beginning with Genesis. There was a list of 50 to 60 people who read throughout the day; when one person finished reading, another would step in and pick up where they left off.

"We often talk about God's word and listen to podcasts," Ellis said. "But God spoke out [from] His Word, and I wanted the student body to hear it and read it for what it says."

Alumna Sarah Roe-Hall was excited about the idea. However, it came as a shock when she learned that women were unable to read from the Bible during the event. A town hall meeting was held in Cone Chapel on April 12 in part to address the issue for students who supported women reading in future events.

"Due to the decision to exclude women from reading, it was harder for me to pay attention to the real purpose of covering our campus in scripture," Roe-Hall said. "I think the decision to include women will be monumental for this event and for Harding, and there will be a more wholesome perspective on scripture as you hear it read through vessels

with varying perspective. Women will feel more empowered and able, which is always a wonderful thing."

Ellis was aware of the issue as it had come up days before the event. He believed the concern arose from a much larger part of the Harding community because women were allowed to read in Bible classes, but they were unable to at this event.

"To those who were aware of women being unable to read, it struck a [chord]," Ellis said. "My hope is that this event continues so we can focus on the fact that God's word is important."

Senior Zachary Cowdery was one of several readers lined up for the event and believed that having the Bible read all day on campus was a blessing.

"Sometimes reading is tiring, and it's beneficial to sit back and let those words be read to you," Cowdery said. "It was cool coming out of the Benson after chapel and hearing the word of God being spoken over campus."

Cowdery emphasized that reading the Bible raised hard questions, which some students were able to address at the town hall meeting.

"[When] the Bible addresses something and it convicts you, you know what needs to change to be better," Cowdery said. "We started the process of making this event better."

Ellis was eager to see the event continue in spring 2018 and add even more to the meaning of the "A Day in the Word" event.

"The Transforming Word of God" is the chapel theme for spring 2017. Senior Dakota Ellis was the head of the chapel committee and played a large role in organizing the "A Day in the Word" event held on April 10, 2017. // Photo by Abigail Cooper



# GROWING IN GHANA

DR. STEVEN MOORE AND STUDENTS TEACH IN AFRICA

WORDS *Paige Cushman* / / PHOTOS *Steven Moore*

**J**osiah Tilton, executive director of Ghana West Africa Missions (GWAM), made providing clean water, education and the gospel to the people of West Africa his mission since he first visited the region in 1977. In 2014, enthusiastic for the program and his fellowship at the West Side Church of Christ in Searcy, Tilton convinced Steven Moore, professor of biology, to visit and teach at the College of Science and Technology (COSTECH) in Ghana.

"These kids are smart as whips," Moore said. "They just need [an] opportunity."

After his first trip to Ghana, Moore came back to Harding and organized a mission through Global Outreach (GO) to work with seventh through ninth graders at COSTECH, teaching them science, literature and the Bible. Moore also worked with GWAM to provide clean water and clothing for children at the school.

"This is what Jesus would have us do," Tilton said. "It is a rich blessing to me, to see folks have clean water to drink, new clothes to put on and a better education than they might ordinarily have had."

Sophomore Elizabeth Reed, one of seven Harding students that went on the trip in summer 2017, was looking for a sense of direction when she walked into a GO meeting.

"I felt so spiritually [frustrated] that I didn't know what to do with myself," Reed said. "I went to a [GO] meeting to try and get some answers. I wouldn't say I found them, but I definitely had direction. There were bumps in the road, but

God provided me with strong friends at Harding and, on several occasions, random checks from people I didn't know. Needless to say, God definitely called me to go to Ghana this summer."

During the second week of their trip, Reed was chosen to lead their team into an unfamiliar village where they had to work their way through the "village hierarchy" and negotiate with the leaders about a possible well digging. Moore was impressed by all the progress that Reed and the team made last summer.

"They just took it and ran with it," Moore said. "They made the trip their own, and that's the beauty of it. You don't get that kind of experience every day."

The students at COSTECH, in a predominantly Muslim culture, welcomed Harding students and Christianity.

"[The Harding students] are eager about their faith and because of that a lot of [the COSTECH students] have become Christians," Moore said. "It's really a wonderful thing."

Tilton said that Harding's involvement was a blessing for GWAM and especially for the children attending COSTECH.

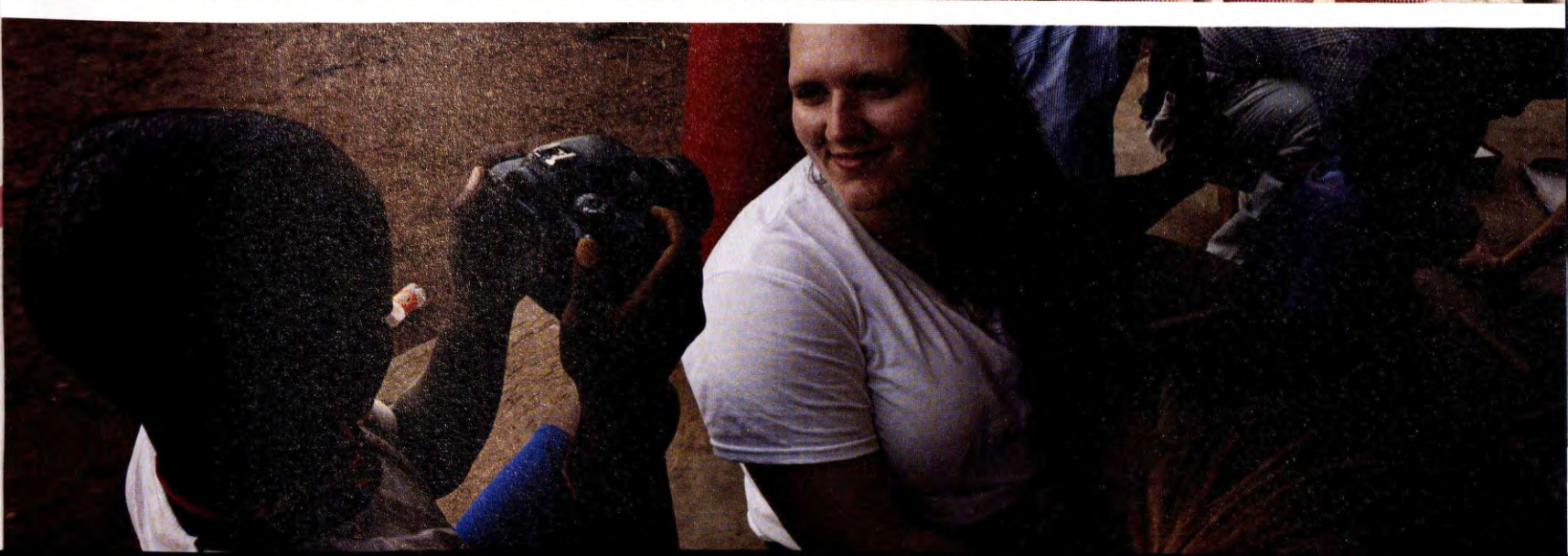
"The children weep when it's time for the [students] to leave," Tilton said. "They were all very spiritual and hard working. We had a lot of fun with them, and they [completed] a marvelous work. They make me look forward to seeing who might be able to go on our next trip."

Junior Rachel Moore helps with a science class at College of Science and technology (COSTECH) in Ghana on May 23, 2017. The local students welcomed the women and were saddened to see them leave at the end of the campaign, according to Moore. // Photo courtesy of Steven Moore

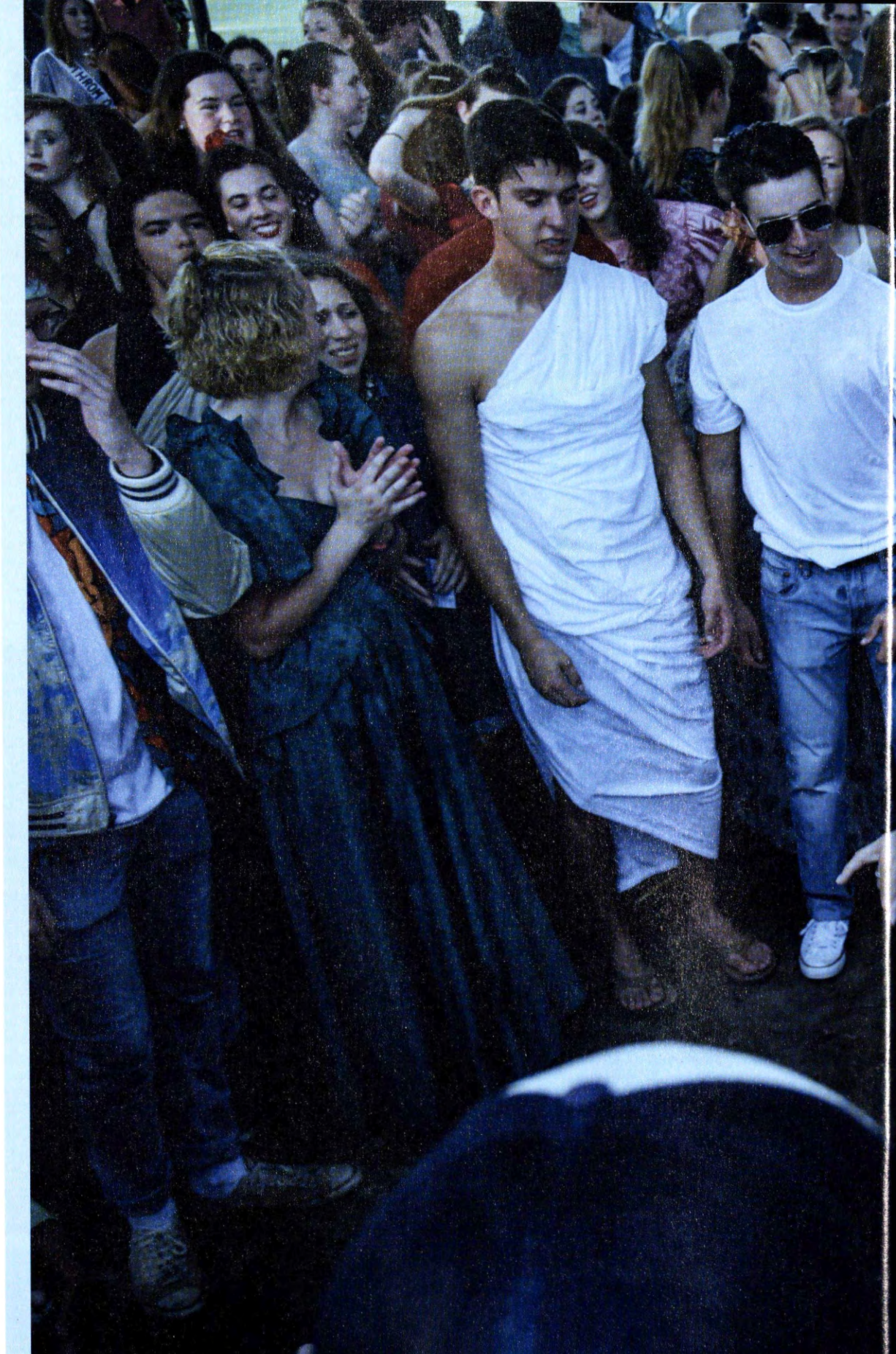
Sophomore Elizabeth Reed plays frisbee with students at COSTECH during the campaign in Ghana on May 24, 2017. Reed was one of seven Harding students that went on the summer campaign to Africa in 2017. // Photo courtesy of Steven Moore

Sophomore Jessica Piggot poses for one of the local children in Ghana to take her photo on June 2, 2017. The group worked and played with the children of Ghana during the Global Outreach campaign. // Photo courtesy of Steven Moore









Freshman Austin Varner dances at Throm, throwback prom, on Aug. 19, 2017 on the Front Lawn. Freshmen and transfer students attended Impact to transition into life at Harding a few days before school started on Aug. 21, 2017. Activities, meals and events allowed students to interact with one another and begin to feel comfortable in the Harding community as they began their freshman year. // Photo by Jeff Montgomery

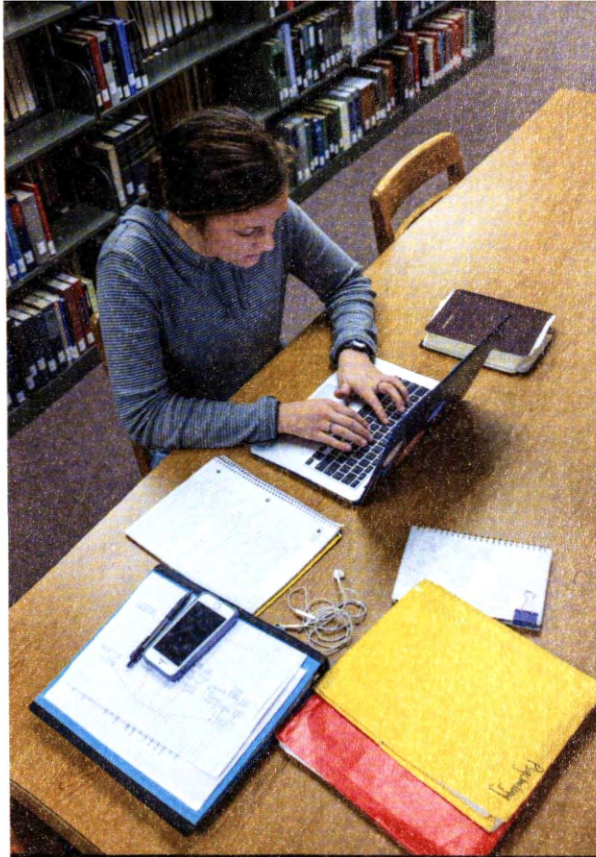




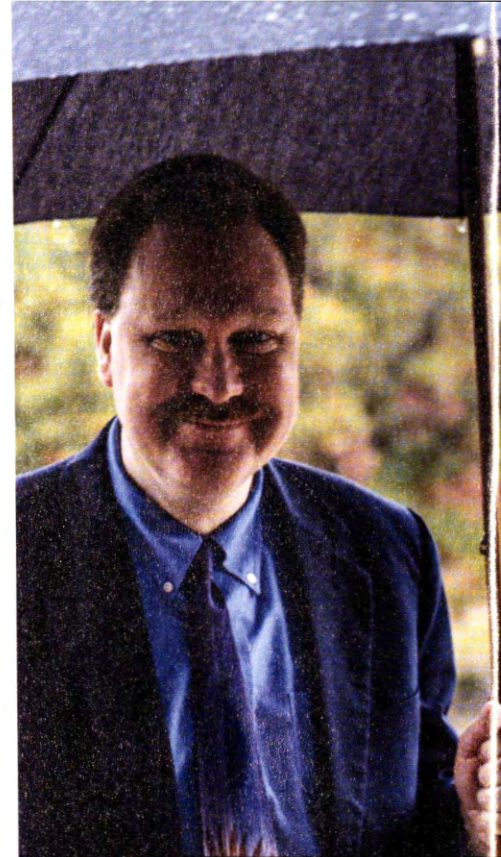




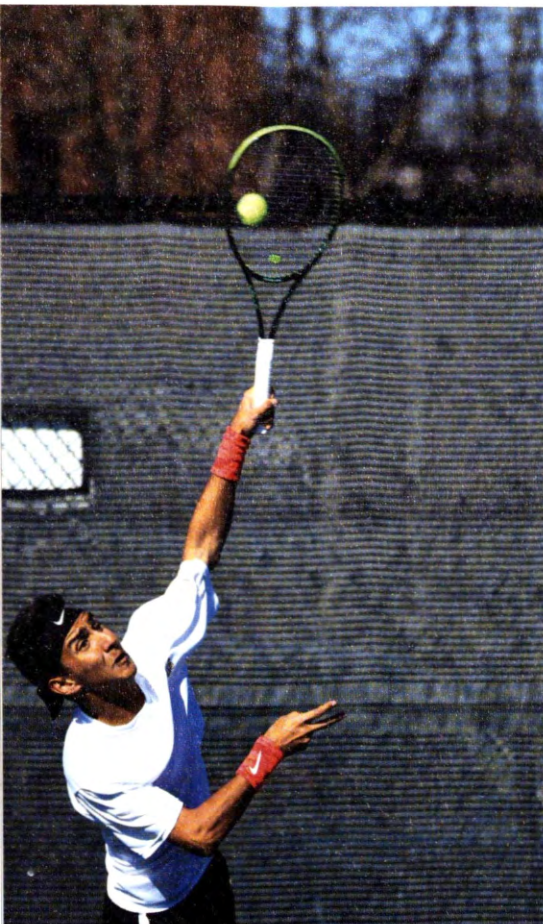
A COMMUNITY  
OF **MISSION**



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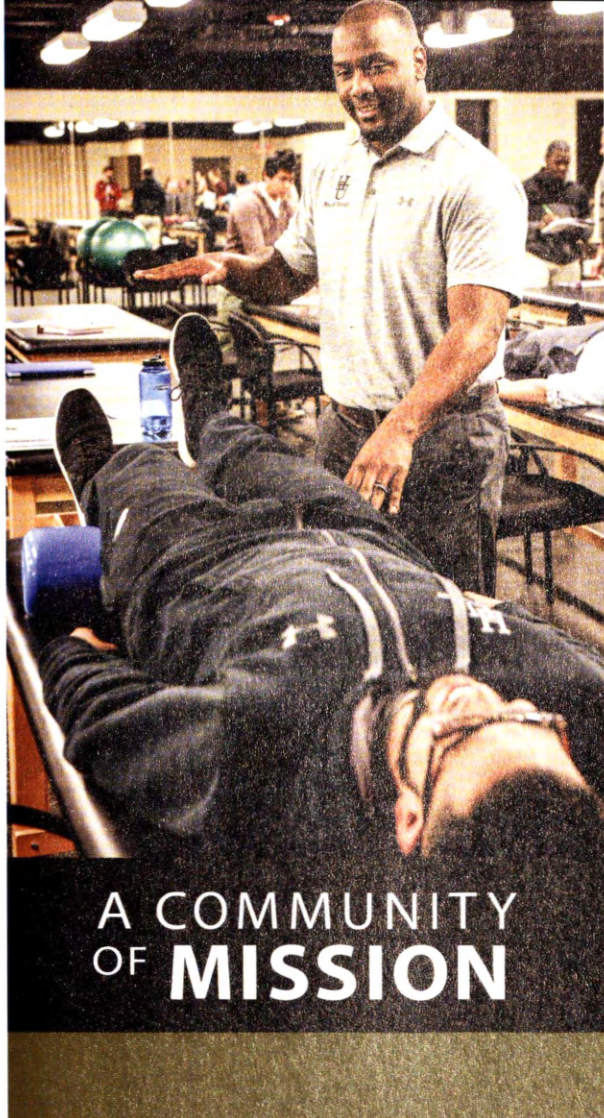


A COMMUNITY  
OF **MISSION**



**HU** HARDIN





A COMMUNITY  
OF **MISSION**



A COMMUNITY  
OF **MISSION**

# LIGHTPOLE FACELIFT

University Communications and Marketing (UCM) partnered with the physical resources department during the 2017-18 school year to replace the light post banners across campus. Jana Rucker, vice president for UCM, made the decision to update the banners—the first update since 2014—and enlisted the help of the UCM team to see project completion. // Banners courtesy of Candice Moore





# #TAILGATEHU

SATURDAYS ARE  
FOR THE BISONS

WORDS *Presley Nixon* // PHOTOS *Kazu Fujisawa*





**C**urrent students, alumni, family and friends joined together on Saturday, Oct. 21, 2017, for Harding's homecoming tailgate on the front lawn of the Ganus Athletic Center. The lawn displayed the tailgate tradition of tents, food, friends of old and new uniting, and Bison pride before the football game against Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

Men and women's social clubs, Student Publications, Generation HU, FIRST Robotics Alumni, African American Alumni for Harding and the President's Council were just a few of the groups that spent their afternoon tailgating.

According to senior Megan Page, tailgate director for women's social club Delta Nu, not only was the Delta Nu tailgate a success, but the day as a whole went extremely well.

"It seemed like the entire tailgate ran very smooth," Page said. "Everyone was reuniting with old friends, eating, laughing and having a great time."

Junior Hannah Foust organized the homecoming tailgate for women's social club Zeta Rho alongside junior Anna Carr. Zeta Rho decorated their tailgate tent with jerseys from years past and old club photo albums for current

students and alumni alike to flip through as they ate and mingled together.

"While we were eating and hanging out, we got to see alumni come and take pictures with our club letters and look through the photo albums, which was really fun to watch," Foust said.

While alumni looked back at old Harding memories, Foust looked forward to when she would be doing the same.

"It was special to see them getting excited and reliving fun memories," Foust said. "It was crazy to think that that will be me soon."

Carr loved homecoming weekend and tailgating because it was an opportunity for old members to come back and share their stories with the current members, including advice to not take college for granted.

"Every time someone said something like that to me it just reminded me of how blessed I am to be in this time of my life, and how I need to enjoy every second of being in this club with such like-minded girls," Carr said. "I really love being reminded of that during Homecoming weekend. It gives me a lot of thankfulness for what the club has given me, but also a lot of club pride."

Members of men's social club Sub T-16 and women's social club Ko Jo Kai play cornhole at the Homecoming tailgate on Oct. 21, 2017, in front of the Ganus Athletic Center. #TailgateHU was a campaign implemented by Harding University Communications and Marketing to engage with Harding students and alumni on social media during Homecoming weekend. // Photo by Kazu Fujisawa

Sophomore Toni Sharp, a member of women's social club Pi Theta Phi (PTP), considers food options as the PTP Homecoming tailgate prepares for the afternoon on Oct. 21, 2017, in front of the Ganus Athletic Center. Tailgating at Harding was about food, friends, fellowship and football. // Photo by Kazu Fujisawa







# HOMECOMING HEROES

## STUDENT DANCERS LEAD ALONG WITH PEERS

WORDS *Katie West* // PHOTOS *Evan Swearingen*

**D**ancing and singing were a huge part of growing up for sophomores Justice Laws and Ava Galyean, as both of them acquired those talents after years of practice.

Once the two came to Harding, they had different opportunities to showcase their talents on the George S. Benson auditorium stage.

Laws and Galyean were the dance captains for the 2017 homecoming musical, "Annie Get Your Gun." Britton Lynn, associate professor of theatre and director of the musical, along with other theatre faculty members, had watched Laws and Galyean for some time, noting how well they performed.

"It shows in the way they approach rehearsal, the way they perform choreography and the way they help coach other members of the ensemble," Lynn said.

As dance captains, Laws and Galyean assisted the choreographer, Penny McGlawn. McGlawn was the Harbin dorm mom and a mother, so when she had responsibilities that kept her from rehearsal, Laws and Galyean were there to teach choreography to the rest of the cast.

"I think it's awesome for them to have a choreographer and then two extra sets of hands and people to help," Galyean said. "It's made the process really smooth and really fun."

The pair also assisted McGlawn in planning choreography. Lynn said they were capable of having an entire section of choreography planned out in minutes by pacing, practicing and planning the routine.

"It's really incredible to watch them in this new role," Lynn said. "When they work with [McGlawn] they will slip into this sort of 'dance shorthand' that I've never seen before."

Laws trained in all different styles, such as jazz, hip hop, contemporary and ballet. It was something that he loved to do and relied on when he was overwhelmed.

"When I'm stressed, I lean towards dance," Laws said. "[It's] just something really fun I love to do."

Galyean had also been trained in ballet, tap and modern jazz. She grew up watching musicals and always loved them. "Annie Get Your Gun" was especially significant for Galyean, because it was one of the first musicals her mother showed her.

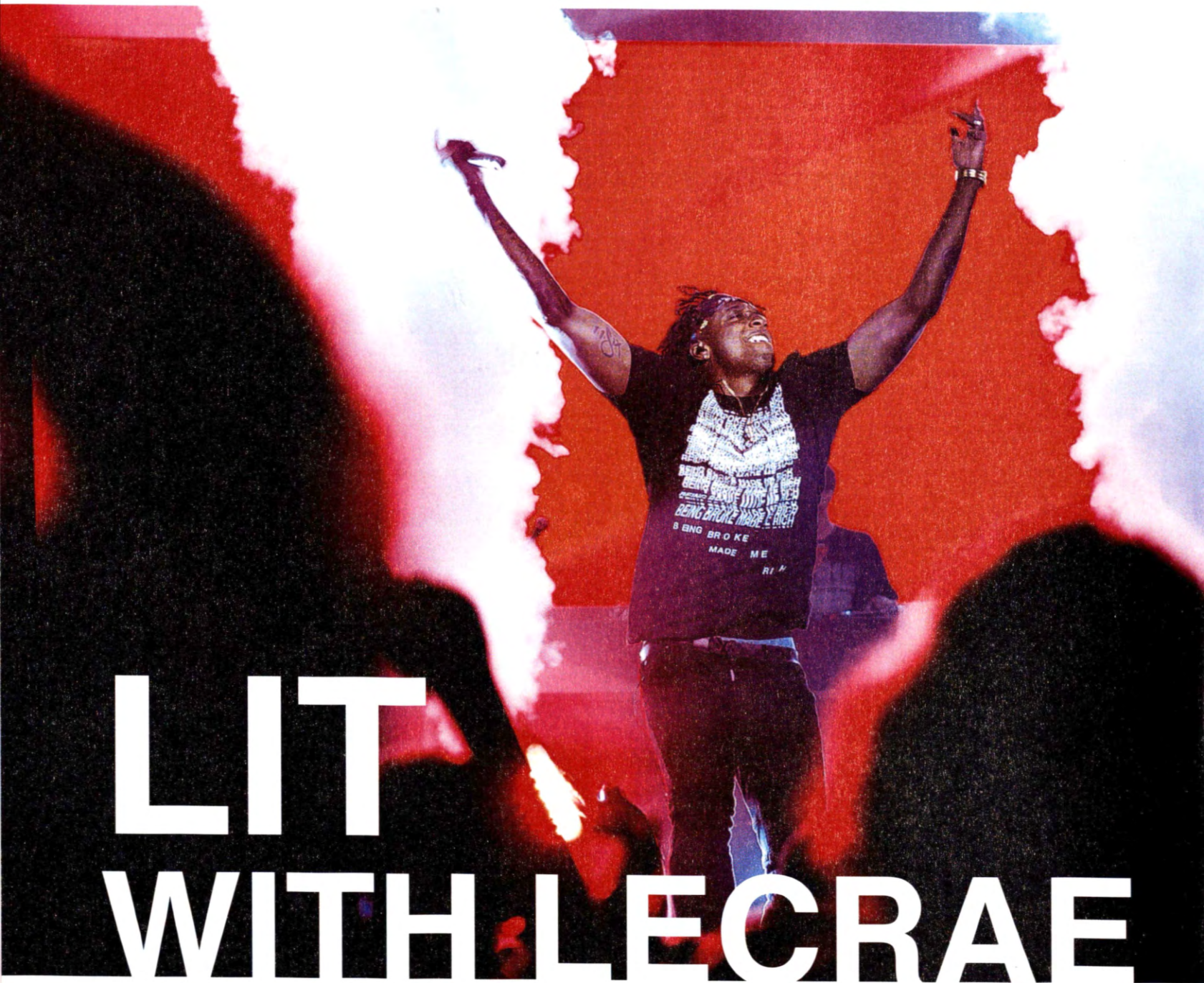
"I've been watching the show since I was in the first grade, so it [holds] a special place in my [heart]," Galyean said. "I'm so excited to finally be a part of it."

Lynn liked having Laws and Galyean on the team and also acknowledged the pairs talent on the stage.

"I've learned that when they are in the zone, I just have to sit back and enjoy watching them work," Lynn said.

Sophomores Ava Galyean and Justice Laws plan and teach choreography to the "Annie Get Your Gun" ensemble on Oct. 2, 2017. Both Galyean and Laws were also ensemble members in "Crazy For You," the fall 2016 Homecoming musical. // Photo by Evan Swearingen





# LIT WITH LECRAE

CAB BRINGS HIP-HOP TO THE BENSON

WORDS *Abby Kilgore* // PHOTOS *Taylor Howard*





**L**ecrae, a Grammy-winning Christian hip-hop artist, performed at Harding for the first time on Sept. 11, 2017. Alex Jamerison, director of diversity for church relations, said the concert was the first time he had seen an African-American hip-hop artist perform at Harding. He was excited to see Campus Activities Board (CAB) bring an artist like Lecrae to perform for the student body.

"The artists that we bring shout this concept of diversity to students," Jamerison said. "It says we are about more than just bringing students of diversity in, but when they get here they are in an environment that speaks to their culture, not just the majority's culture."

Jamerison watched students who had never participated in concerts at Harding before jump for joy because they felt filled by the music and included in Harding's community.

Senior Robert Stewart, CAB student worker, agreed with Jamerison and loved seeing an artist with such a unique style and purpose perform at Harding.

"Lecrae introduced the campus to a new genre," Stewart said. "Lecrae took back the genre of rap; he is being a Christian out loud."

According to Stewart, people loved Lecrae's music because he told relatable

stories. After meeting him, Stewart saw that Lecrae truly cared for people by the way he interacted with them and took the time to talk with them. Stewart could see that talent being incorporated in the stories in his music.

"Lecrae, more than being a musician, is someone who is a lover of story," Stewart said. "He changed people. He is not there to make an income; he is there to make an impact."

Senior Presley Nixon, CAB co-director, knew Lecrae's sound was perfect for the Harding community to experience and was different from anything they had done before. When Nixon saw how much people enjoyed the concert, she knew it was worth it.

"I think we sometimes go for artists that everyone knows, [artists] who are older or [up]-and-coming," Nixon said. "We haven't catered to a hip-hop sound yet. I think that it was a huge success."

Along with catering to a whole new community of music listeners, Jamerison believed that the concert showcased the positive attitude of diversity Harding pursued during the 2017-18 school year.

"It shows students that Harding is just as worried about me as the next student, faculty or staff member," Jamerison said. "Lecrae is a great image of the direction of diversity we are striving for at the university."

**L**ecrae performs for the cheering student body on the George S. Benson Auditorium stage on Sept. 11, 2017. Lecrae, an award-winning singer, songwriter, producer and actor, was famous for his 11 Christian hip-hop albums. // Photo courtesy of Taylor Howard



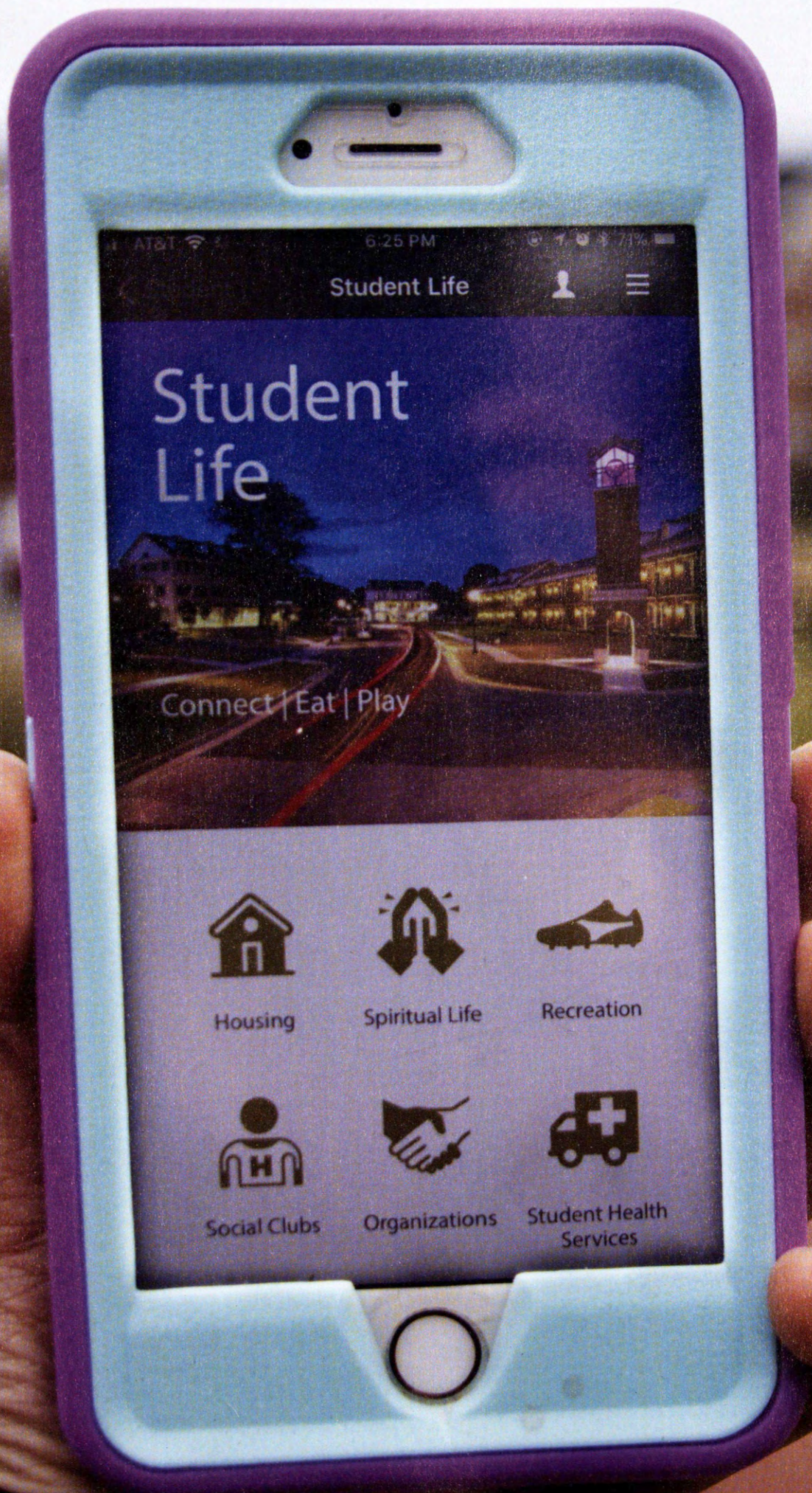


Judah & the Lion performs to a sold-out crowd of students in the Administration Auditorium on Dec. 2, 2017. As part of their fall concert line-up, Campus Activities Board brought the folk and alternative rock band to the Admin stage. In January 2017, Billboard magazine named Judah & the Lion their first "chartbreaker" artist, and the band's iconic song, "Suit and Jacket," which appeared in their latest album "Folk Hop 'N Roll Deluxe," peaked at No. 4 on the alternative radio charts. // Photo by Sterling McMichael









# Student Life

Connect | Eat | Play



Housing



Spiritual Life



Recreation



Social Clubs



Organizations



Student Health Services



# AT THE TOUCH OF A BUTTON

## THE HARDING APP IS A NEW PRESENCE ON CAMPUS

WORDS *Hannah Hitchcox* // PHOTOS *Abigail Cooper*

**A**cross Harding's campus during fall 2017, three departments collaborated to create the Harding App, which launched Monday, Nov. 27. Additionally, representatives from organizations like campus life, communications and marketing, information systems and technology, and the Center for Student Success made up the Harding App Team (HAT) that worked towards creating a functional app that would serve the needs of students, faculty and prospective students.

According to Mike Chalenburg, assistant vice president of information systems and technology, the team worked with Modo Labs, an application management company that gave HAT the software platform and direction needed to build the app.

"At that point, we started getting ideas together as far as the structure," Chalenburg said. "Academics, campus life, spiritual life, personal life — we put [all of] that together."

With a diverse team that brought different perspectives to each meeting, decisions had to be made about which features to include in the initial launch. According to Logan Light, director of campus life, the team was trying to determine what staples the app needed to have in order to be appealing in the initial release.

"We [were] fully aware that if we don't include some areas in the first roll out, students will be turned off from the first initial look," Light said.

Since HAT's inception, junior Kaleb Turner had also been involved in

the development process as a student representative. From his perspective, Turner had been able to help differentiate between vital and non-essential parts of the app for students.

"There are things people think that [all] websites, apps or social media campaigns need, [but] students just don't care," Turner said. "On the app development, I've been working [on] figuring out what content students specifically need and then helping to build that content."

Overall, the app was a hub for every need a student could have, including links to sign-out forms, grades, ticket sales and important campus phone numbers.

Beyond the initial launch, Chalenburg hoped that the app would expand to include features for parents, alumni, prospective students and friends of Harding.

"We would have a page for Homecoming, Spring Sing, Bible Lectureship or Stampede in the summer," Chalenburg said.

Because each member of HAT had a specialized background, the app combined both functionality and aesthetic appeal. According to Turner, representatives from Modo Labs commented on the positive collaboration between departments they witnessed through working with Harding.

"It has been great to know that there are people from all over campus working together to make this a reality and to make sure it is the best that it can be," Turner said.

**I** The new Harding App is a way for students to connect to all things Harding from the palm of their hands. It was created and launched by student, faculty and staff representatives from around campus in fall 2017. // Photo by Abigail Cooper