

In his Photography class Sept. 26, Dr. Mike James, department chair of communication, teaches his students about pinhole cameras. "Dr. James is very good at explaining things and is concerned about his students, not only about their progress in school but also about their faith," senior Rebecca Jerkins, who had James for photography her sophomore year, said. •Chelsea Roberson





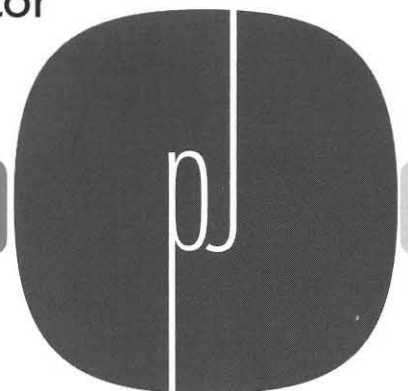
# CHASING AFTER leadership

their interest lies in God's work  
and serving Him in each step  
and decision as they inspire  
students to pursue God's will



rachel catrow  
leadership editor

During a Human Situations class Aug. 29, freshmen Zack Ward, Brice Priestly and Nathan Dullnig listen to Dr. Jeff Hopper, dean of the Honors College and International Programs, lecture while dressed as a clown. Hopper was participating in the Honors College's circus-themed picnic which took place later in the day.  
•Chelsea Roberson



# Looking back

## Board upholds 'core values' in policy issues

In a given school year, students generally saw members of the Board of Trustees twice: once at Homecoming and once during the Spring Sing weekend. The board regularly met to discuss issues of policy and direction for the university at these times. What students did not see, however, was what the responsibilities for the board throughout the year included.

Board member Danny Hawk of Richardson, Texas, spoke of board members as "representatives of goodwill for the school." Hawk said board members supported admissions and recruiting. One way they did this was by attending Harding-sponsored events that were held in their areas of residence and promoting the university through any means available to them.

Harry Risinger of Millington, Tenn., newly elected chairman for the Board of Trustees, said he viewed his job as a board member as an ambassador position.

"You're representing Harding wherever you go," Risinger said.

As chairman, Risinger was elected by the full board. Each elected chairman served a two-year term, with the possibility of being elected for another two years.

Although they met as a full board only twice a year, members held meetings at other times besides Homecoming and Spring Sing. Board members were organized into smaller committees for such categories as academics, spirituality and finance which met more often. These committees met, whether in person or by conference call, and reported back

to the full board at the two appointed times during the year.

Hawk said the latest item of interest to the board was the building of a facility for the pharmacy program and the nursing school. He estimated that the new facility would probably be on campus.

"Those facilities will more than likely be built in the next couple of years," Risinger said.

Another duty of the board was the selection of officers for the university. Risinger said this included extending the contract of President David Burks for the next six years.

No matter what the issue was at hand, however, board members saw their most important job as maintaining the Christian policies of the school.

"Part of the job is to ensure that the core values of the school are followed and maintained," Hawk said. "That's always before us. It's kind of like being an elder in the church. In my opinion, that's probably the most important job of the trustees."

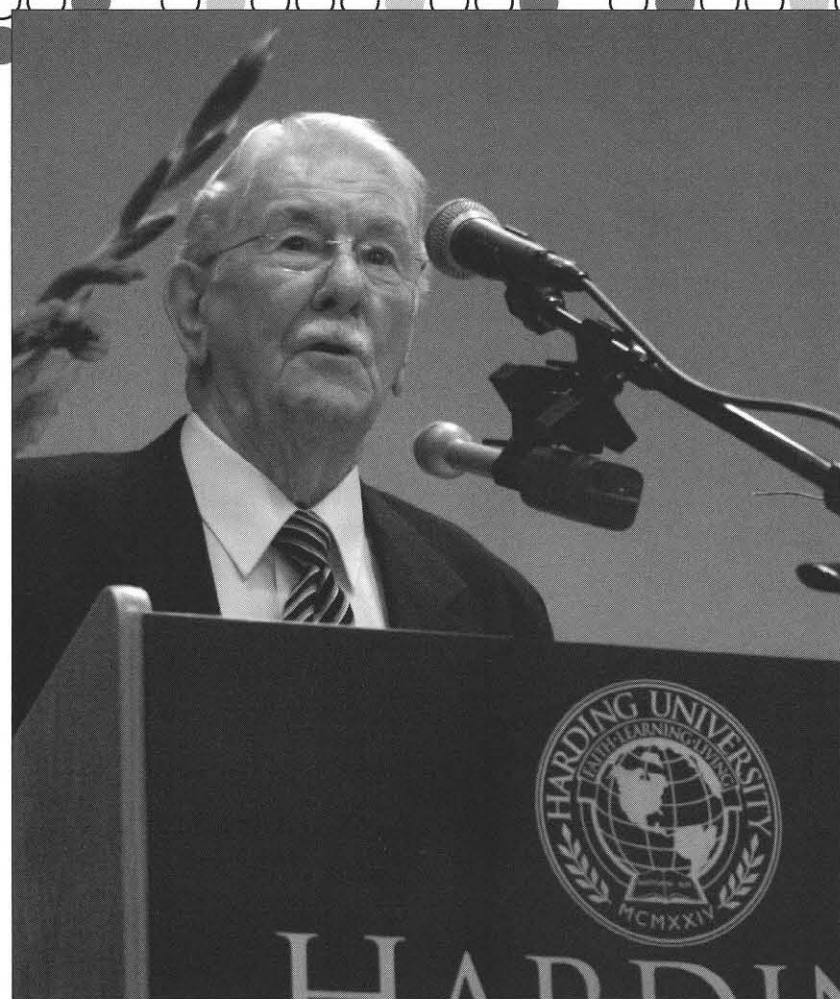
Risinger said he saw his duties in this same light. Even though the board followed its vision and purpose — to uphold the Christian ideals on which Harding was founded and maintain the policies which best represented these ideals — Risinger said he thought the work of the board had much larger implications.

"We help people develop themselves for the Lord's kingdom," Risinger said.

•Jennifer Merrill

**While honoring his crew,** board member Jimmy Cone is also honored and acknowledged Oct. 26 for his company's construction work that was done during the renovation of the Heritage. "Being the humble man that he is, Jimmy immediately motioned to some of the construction crew that was sitting towards the back of the room; he then asked them to stand up so they could be appreciated," Nate Copeland, administrative assistant to the president, said.  
•Jon Byron





**George Tipps, member of the President's Council,** speaks at the Black and Gold Banquet on Oct. 27. "It has been an honor for me to serve for more than three decades on the President's Council," Tipps said. •Amber Bazargani

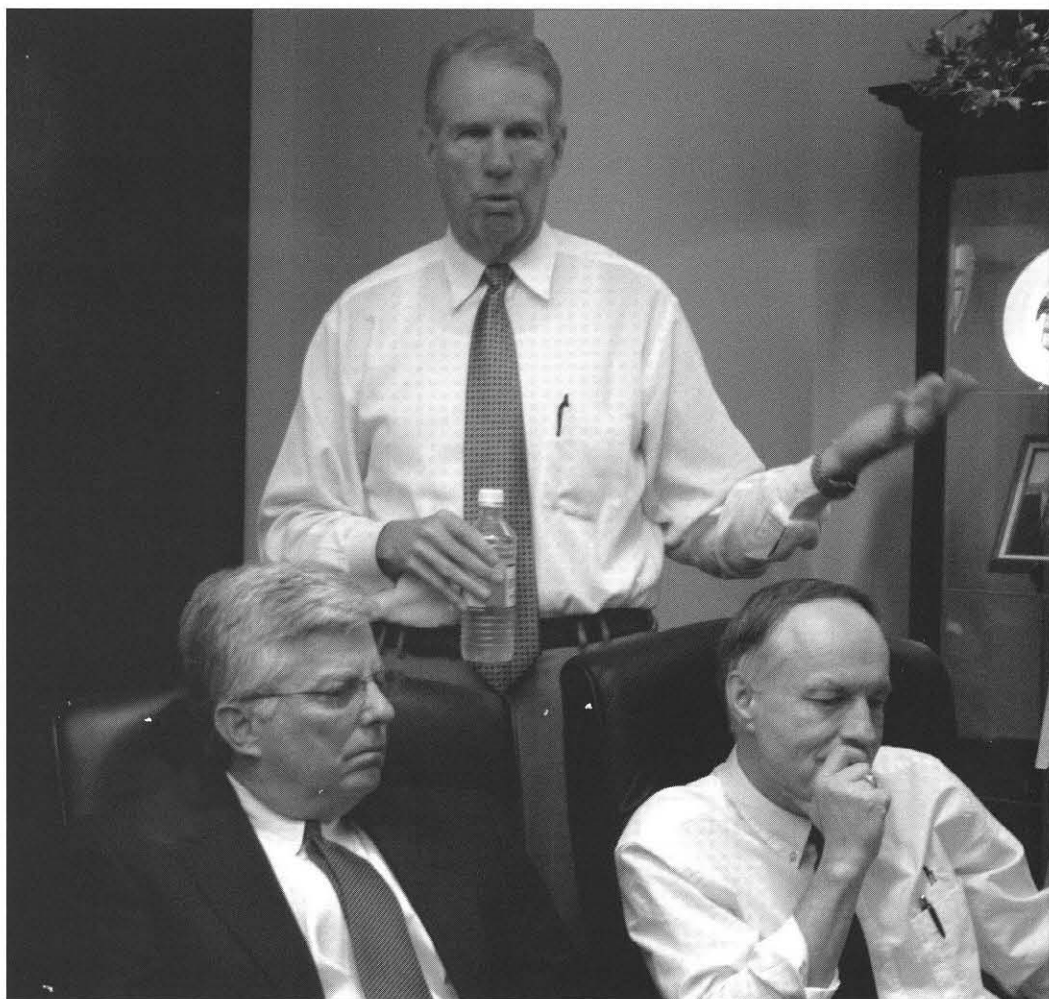
**2006-2007 Board of Trustees:** Row 1: Harrell Freeman, Metairie, La.; Rebecca Tubb, Sparta, Tenn.; Harold Redd, Memphis, Tenn.; Robert Brackett, Vero Beach, Fla.; Paul Carter (Treasurer), Bentonville, Ark. **Row 2:** Robert Diles, N. Little Rock, Ark.; Mark Wallis, Littleton, Colo.; Harry Risinger Jr. (Chairman), Millington, Texas; William Chism, Springfield, Mo. **Row 3:** Henry Farrar, Lebanon, Tenn.; Don Shores (Past Chairman), Cave Springs, Ark.; Steve Clary, Little Rock, Ark.; Jimmy Cone, Little Rock, Ark. **Row 4:** Pat Bell, Little Rock, Ark.; Roosevelt Harris, Jacksonville, Fla.; W. Melvin Gardner, Fort Worth, Texas. **Row 5:** Jeffrey Hearn, Harrison, Ark.; Danny Hawk, Richardson, Texas; Roy Sawyer (Senior Status), Sardis, Miss.; John Simmons (Vice Chairman), Columbia, Tenn. **Row 6:** Jim Holsombake, Panama City, Fla.; James Burcham (Senior Status), Kennett, Mo.; David Burks (Ex-Officio), Searcy. **Not pictured:** John Baldwin (Senior Status), Holyoke, Colo.; Jim Bill McInteer (Secretary), Nashville, Tenn.; Gerald Morgan Jr., Amarillo, Texas; Richard Gibson, Longview, Texas; Jim Bob Humphrey, Russellville, Ark.; Suzanne Waller, Arlington, Texas.





**President David Burks** takes a moment to greet Bonnie Cone Hooper at the dedication of the Heritage Chapel on Oct. 27. The chapel was named after Hooper and her late husband, James H. Cone Sr. •Jon Byron

**While gathering in the Board Room for an executive committee meeting Nov. 16,** Dr. Jim Carr, executive vice president, and Dr. Travis Thompson, dean of the college of sciences, listen as President David Burks opens the meeting. Burks discussed with the leaders Harding's three new commercials that focused on the student, parent and professor's point of view on college life. •Amber Bazargani



# Camaraderie

## Twenty-year tradition of fellowship continues

**A**fter 20 years of leadership, President David Burks continued to move forward and take on new challenges. Burks became Harding's fourth president in May of 1987. During his time as president, many people came to know him by one word: camaraderie.

According to Burks, Harding was introduced to the word through a publication that went out to business alumni while he was dean of the College of Business Administration.

"My reason for using it was to try to bridge the alumni and the current business student, and to me, it was a fellowship," Burks said. "My first or second year [as president], I decided to see if anyone could spell it, and, of course, no one could."

Burks said he used the definition "high-spirited fellowship" because of what he believed was special about Harding.

"I still think it's a good word to describe something that's really special at Harding," Burks said. "[It] is the kind of community and the kind of fellowship that indeed is very much the hallmark of what the Harding experience is about."

"Camaraderie chapel" had been conducted by Burks each year for the past 19 years, so there were thousands of people who would probably think

of him and their experience at Harding upon hearing the word.

"It's his trademark," Residence Life Coordinator Debra Nesbitt said. "It has grown even since I've been in school probably because of students going back home and telling siblings about it. Then the siblings get here and know the tradition."

A spirit of camaraderie, though, was only a part of the legacy Burks built over the last 20 years.

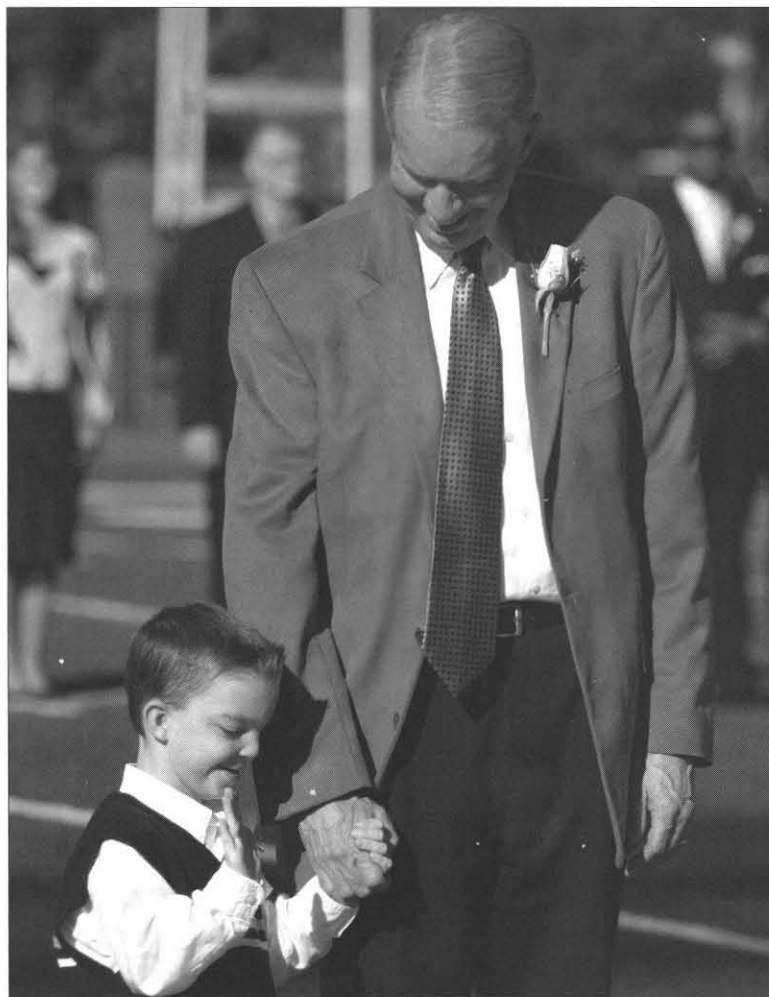
Nesbitt summed up Burks's leadership of Harding.

"He is leading the campus and it takes a bold person to do that," Nesbitt said. "It takes someone who has a strong relationship with God, a love for [Harding] and someone who's whole life is into it."

"You don't go to many colleges where the president is even known, much less visible," Nesbitt said. "This president hangs out in the student center, knows students by name and at least knows faces. He's so down-to-earth."

Burks became a member of the faculty in 1967. According to Harding's Web site, "Under his leadership, the University has experienced record growth in enrollment and giving and, more importantly, continues to place significant emphasis on Christian servanthood."

•Andrew Leeper



**President David Burks and grandson Caden Burks** walk across the field during halftime of the Homecoming football game Oct. 28 while Caden serves as an escort for the court. As president of the university, Burks had the honor of crowning the Homecoming queen each year. •Chelsea Roberson

# Educating America

## Administrator represents school in variety of ways

**D**r. Jim Carr, executive vice president, was recently given a new position to fill. In 2005, Carr was confirmed as a member of the National Security Education Board. Founded in 1991 as part of the National Security Education Act, the board sought to educate American citizens about foreign cultures and promote the economic competitiveness and national security of the United States.

Carr said the board was under the Department of Defense and consisted of seven cabinet-level members and seven nominees of the president of the United States. The board met on an as-needed basis discussing how to educate military and other protective services on different cultures and languages of the world.

Carr said most recently the board had been concerned with training people to learn the Arabic language since the United States/Iraq conflict began in 2003.

"When we went into Iraq, we didn't have a lot of people who spoke Arabic," Carr said. "We need to make sure we have people around the world who can understand [the Arabic] language."

Carr mentioned the high praise Harding received in Washington, D.C. from other members of the board.

"It's great to be a part of this board and represent Harding in a forum such as this," Carr said. "It is exciting to hear Harding spoken so well of in our nation's capital."

Carr's appointment to the board added another position to his already long list of responsibilities. He had served as chairman of the board for the

Searcy Chamber of Commerce and was a board member for First Arkansas Valley Bank, and a member for the Executive Committee Council for the Boy Scouts of Arkansas and for the Arkansas Forestry Commission.

In 2005 and 2006, Carr's vice presidential responsibilities took him to China as part of developing Harding's East Asia Studies Program.

"We have developed relationships with several Chinese colleges and universities," Carr said. "We have recruited students at the graduate and undergraduate level to attend Harding."

Carr said the East Asia Studies Program had grown since its inception four years ago, enrolling 83 students in the fall.

Despite all of his other roles, it was his duty as executive vice president that Carr said was most important to him.

Approaching his 20th year as executive vice president, Carr began working at Harding in 1987 after serving as vice president for Florida State University.

Carr said the people he worked with made his job easier, despite his having to juggle outside obligations with vice presidential responsibilities.

"I work with a lot of great people who are great leaders in their respective areas," Carr said. "It makes your job easier to work with able department heads; people with whom I enjoy working."

Carr said working at Harding still remained his No. 1 commitment. "Although I enjoy serving in other areas, Harding is still my principle commitment," Carr said.

•Jennifer Merrill

### Jim Carr, Ph.D.

Executive V.P.

19 years at Harding

"I have the opportunity to work with, support and encourage some of the most outstanding students in the world and be partners with a terrific faculty and an amazing staff."



### Larry R. Long, Ph.D.

V.P./Academic Affairs

31 years at Harding

"My job is to help develop and monitor quality academic programs and to staff them with effective faculty. I see my job as a ministry in which I serve all the students by helping them get the best education we can provide."

### Keith Cronk, M.A.

V.P./Information Technology Services

Eight years at Harding

"I have the overall responsibility for Information Technology Services, the Brackett Library, E-learning and Multimedia Development, and the Office of the Registrar."



### Bruce McLarty, M. Th.

V.P./Spiritual Life/Dean/College of Bible and Religion

Two years at Harding

"My vice president role gives me oversight of Harding's many programs involving Bible teaching, church support and evangelistic outreach while also challenging me to oversee the enhancement of Christian spirituality in all areas of campus life."

### Floyd Daniel, B.S.

Senior V.P.

42 years at Harding

"The heartbeat, the core of this work, is building and sustaining relationships with people who believe strongly in what we do. I love what I do."



### Mel Sansom, M.S.

V.P./Finance/Chief Financial Officer

Four years at Harding

"I enjoy leading Harding's operational division, including departments of finance, human resources, food services, Heritage Inn, public safety, post office, bookstore, maintenance, custodial services, Harding Press, Harding Place and Camp Tahkodah."

### Cliff Ganus, Ph.D.

Chancellor

60 years at Harding

"I'm grateful for the opportunity to continue supporting and helping advance the university in which I truly believe. I work with wonderful people who are dedicated to God, [to] their students, to alumni and to friends."



### Mike Williams, M.B.A.

V.P./Advancement

19 years at Harding

"I work with the offices of Advancement, Alumni and Parent Relations, and the Center for Charitable Estate Planning. We coordinate the fundraising activities of the university."



At the academic affairs meeting in the Freedom Room on Sept. 13, Dr. Larry Long, vice president for academic affairs, addresses concerns held by the faculty. The faculty discussed several topics, including raising the maximum hours available to students per semester from 18 to 20. •Jon Byron

Dr. Jim Carr, executive vice president, and sophomores Jeremy Daggett, Austin Bryan and Jacob Hawk meet together in Carr's conference room Sept. 19. Each week they discussed who would lead prayer, singing and the devotional talk for Carr's Wednesday night home Bible study. •Chelsea Roberson



Vickie Walton, manager of the Heritage Inn, spends the afternoon preparing for the 83rd Lectureship on Sept. 22. Lectureship guests who stayed in the Heritage Inn had the opportunity to be the first to enjoy the completed Heritage Lobby. •Amber Bazargani



Glenn Dillard, assistant vice president of enrollment management, leads a meeting Sept. 18 with Assistant Director of Admissions Mark Pruitt and Assistant Director of Admissions Marcus Thomas to discuss the upcoming Bison Daze weekend Sept. 28-30. Dillard was in charge of 16 full-time staff member and held weekly meetings with the nine admissions advisors, Admissions Marketing Coordinator Renee Lewis and Senior Staff Director for Admissions Carol Kell every Monday. •Chelsea Roberson



Harold Alexander, M.S.E. Director/Academic Advising Center  
Jim Baird, B.A. Director/Desktop Computing  
Mark Benton, M.Ed. Academy Headmaster  
Nicky Boyd, Ed.D. Director/Walton Scholars  
William Bridges, B.S. Manager/Bookstore  
Mike Chalenburg, B.S. Assistant V.P./Manager MIS

David Collins, Ed.D. Assistant V.P./Dean of Students  
David Crouch, B.S. Director/Public Relations  
Danny DeRamus, B.A. Director/Physical Resources  
Glenn Dillard, B.B.A. Assistant V.P./Enrollment Management  
Ann Dixon, M.L.S. Director/Brackett Library  
Lora Fleener, B.B.A. Director/Student Technology Services

Tammy Hall, M.B.A. Assistant V.P./Finance  
Greg Harnden, M.A. Director/Athletics  
Janice Hurd, M.B.A. Registrar  
Donald Kee, J.D. General Counsel  
Paula Kirby, B.S. Director/Academic Information Systems  
Keith Larey, M.A. Director/Human Resources

Scott Lloyd, M.S.E. Director/Multimedia Development  
Tobey Nickels Director/Postal Services  
John Nunnally, M.S. Manager/Network Operations  
Craig Russell, M.A. Director/Public Safety  
Marty Spears, Ph.D. Assistant V.P./Academic Affairs  
Vickie Walton Manager/Heritage Inn



# Expanding Duties

## Math professor takes on new administrative role

**B**eginning Aug. 1, there was a new face in the Office of Academic Affairs. Dr. Marty Spears, associate professor of mathematics, was promoted to assistant vice president for academic affairs.

"I am very excited and pleased to have Dr. Spears working closely with me," Dr. Larry Long, vice president for academic affairs, said. "He brings to the office lots of experience in academic leadership and a background in research and analysis that is invaluable."

Spears' background included compiling and filing government and accreditation reports; he also helped with the organization and advancement of Harding's assessment program.

"Dr. Spears is very adept at analyzing issues and identifying both the data needed to understand and solve the problem and the sources of that data," Long said. "He is very much a self-starter, a hard worker and a get-it-done guy."

Spears began his administrative work in 2002 when he took on the Institutional Research responsibilities. He described this position as the "university statistician," reporting official data for federal and state government agencies, graduation rates to the NCAA and filling out surveys for college review magazines for incoming students to read.

Even though Spears was a full-time administrator, he said he would teach one course in the math department every year.

"Marty represents the academic, professional and spiritual leadership that Harding University most wants to model," President David Burks said in an e-mail to the faculty. "He already has a great record of service to Harding, and I am confident that he will serve effectively in this new role and strengthen our academic leadership team."

Long also spoke highly of Spears' character.

"Dr. Spears is a very strong spiritual leader," Long said. "I have worked with him before and have traveled with him to professional meetings so I have seen him in a variety of circumstances. Always he has impressed me as a thoughtful, kind and prayerful person."

From his new office in room 104 of the Administration building, Spears said he would be able to aid students with their concerns. Spears said he would also use his knowledge of statistics to aid in several studies that Harding would be conducting on subjects such as faculty salary, grade inflation and grade distribution.

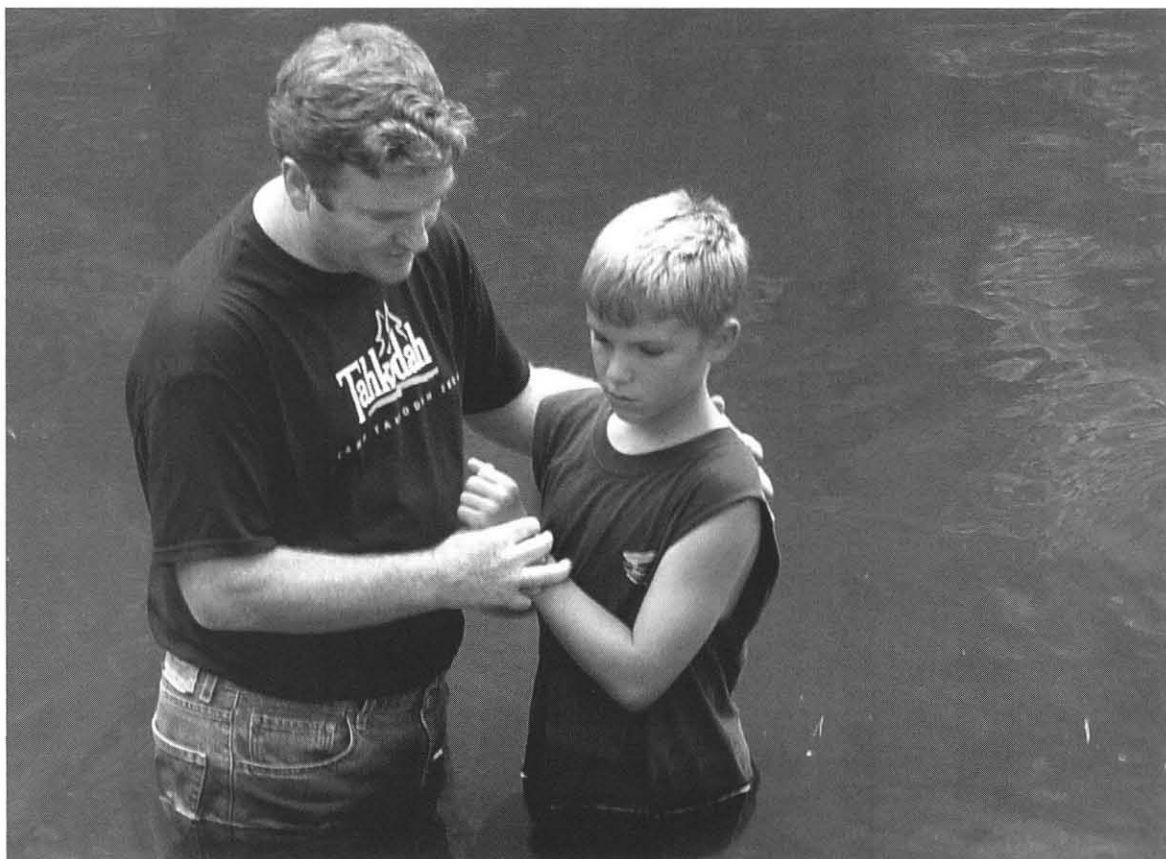
Long expressed his hopes concerning Spears' service as assistant vice president for academic affairs.

"I have high expectations for his ability to contribute to our work by improving our practices, adding leadership and supporting our mission," Long said.

•Andrew Leeper

**Dr. Marty Spears, assistant vice president for academic affairs, and his son, Caleb, get ready for Caleb's baptism June 18 at Camp Tahkodah. The Spears family typically spent the second session of camp as counselors or campers.**

•Photo courtesy of Marty Spears



# Honoring excellence

## Devoted dean brings success to nursing program

According to Dr. Cathleen Shultz, dean of the College of Nursing, much has changed in nursing education since she completed her nursing degree.

Shultz, who taught nursing classes for 30 years, was designated as a Certified Nurse Educator. The National League of Nursing honored Shultz with this distinction, which was given to teachers of nursing. Shultz was one of six Arkansas nurses who received the certification.

Shultz said she witnessed significant evolution in her field since becoming a nurse in the 1970s.

"The biggest changes are the increases in technology; the shortened time that a nurse has to work with patients and the treatments," Shultz said. "When I first entered nursing, women stayed in the hospital from five to 10 days after a normal baby delivery; many now go home the same day."

Shultz also saw changes in the diagnosis of health problems.

"[We used to accept] carte blanche a prescription for an illness; now we know that there are more ways to treat some diseases than with a prescription," she said.

Nursing had long been stereotyped as a profession for women, but numerous employment opportunities drew many students to the nursing program, including more males than ever.

"It is easier [for a man] to become a nurse now because the stereotype of

men being 'macho' has diminished," Shultz said. "Men can be caring and capable, too."

Senior nursing major Josh Lee said he became a nursing major because he believed Harding offered a program highly focused on Christian ethics.

"[Harding has] the best program there is," Lee said. "The teachers are high class and apply a Christian perspective to [our] lessons."

Lee said the stereotype against male nurses still existed, but it did not seem to bother him or his fellow nursing majors.

"The guys in my club gave me a hard time about it, but I really didn't care once I got here," Lee said. "I'll find a job right off the bat, and I can pick the place and get good benefits."

Lee also recognized Shultz's gift for teaching.

"She has a lot of knowledge of the nursing field and really prepares you to be a nurse," he said. "She leads the program with pride and dignity."

It was under Shultz's leadership that the College of Nursing became the first in Arkansas to use computers as a part of learning and initiated screening clinics in public schools without nursing personnel on site.

As an accomplished educator of nursing, Shultz said she most appreciated seeing her students mature as Christian nurses and valued the opportunity to integrate and share her profession and her faith.

•Molly Morris

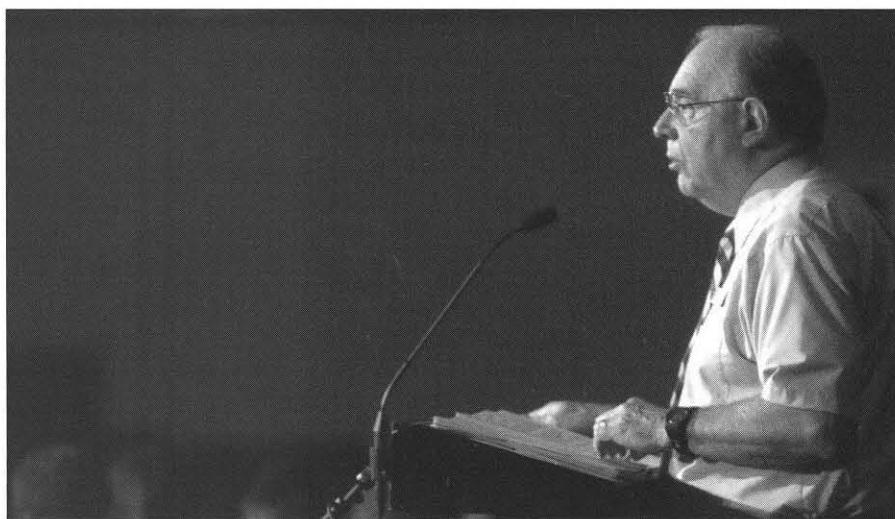
**Waiting in the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport on Aug. 11,** Bryan Burks, dean of the College of Business, and his children Emily, Carter and Weston, rest between flights. The Burks, along with others in transit between Aug. 10-12, experienced the increased security and delays caused by the terrorist scare at Heathrow Airport. •Courtesy of Bryan Burks





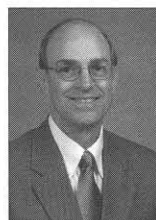
**Dr. Cathleen Shultz**, dean of the College of Nursing, addresses her Nursing Capstone Exposition class Sept. 18. Shultz informed her students about real-life nursing situations and prepared them for their student-to-professional nurse transition. •Amber Bazargani

**Dr. Bob Reely**, dean of lifelong learning and associate executive director of the American Studies Institute, speaks at the National Leadership Forum, a series for high school juniors and seniors about leadership and citizenship, June 12. The Forum, which was started by Dr. George Benson, celebrated its 50th anniversary in June of 2006. •Jeff Montgomery



**Bryan Burks, D.B.A., C.P.A.**  
Dean/College of Business Administration  
11 years at Harding

"My primary responsibility is to work with our faculty in our pursuit of preparing Christian business professionals for lives of service."



**Dennis Organ, Ph.D.**  
Dean/College of Arts and Humanities  
40 years at Harding

"My position requires that my first priority is to support my six departments — art, communication, English, foreign languages, history and music. ... I want to be a vigorous advocate for the value and importance of the liberal arts concept for all students."

**Tony Finley, Ed.D.**  
Dean/College of Education  
29 years at Harding

"[I] have the opportunity to work with the faculty and staff to train candidates to teach children in public and private school, which is the largest mission field we have in the world."



**Bob Reely, Ed.D.**  
Dean/Lifelong Learning  
Associate Executive Director of the American Studies Institute  
27 years at Harding

"[I am] responsible for the American Studies Institute and many of the non-traditional programs at Harding."

**Jeff Hopper, Ph.D.**  
Dean/Honors College & International Programs  
33 years at Harding

"It is my privilege to, for our students, help tie together many of the academic disciplines."



**Cathleen Shultz, Ph.D.**  
Dean/College of Nursing  
30 years at Harding

"We affiliate with 50-plus agencies for clinical experiences. In addition, I serve on numerous university committees and am the liaison officer for the Science and Nursing Advisory Council."

**Evertt Huffard, Ph.D.**  
V.P. & Dean/HUGSR  
19 years at Harding

"As vice president I am responsible for the operation of the Memphis campus, and as dean I am responsible for the academics. I also teach a couple of courses a year in missions or leadership."



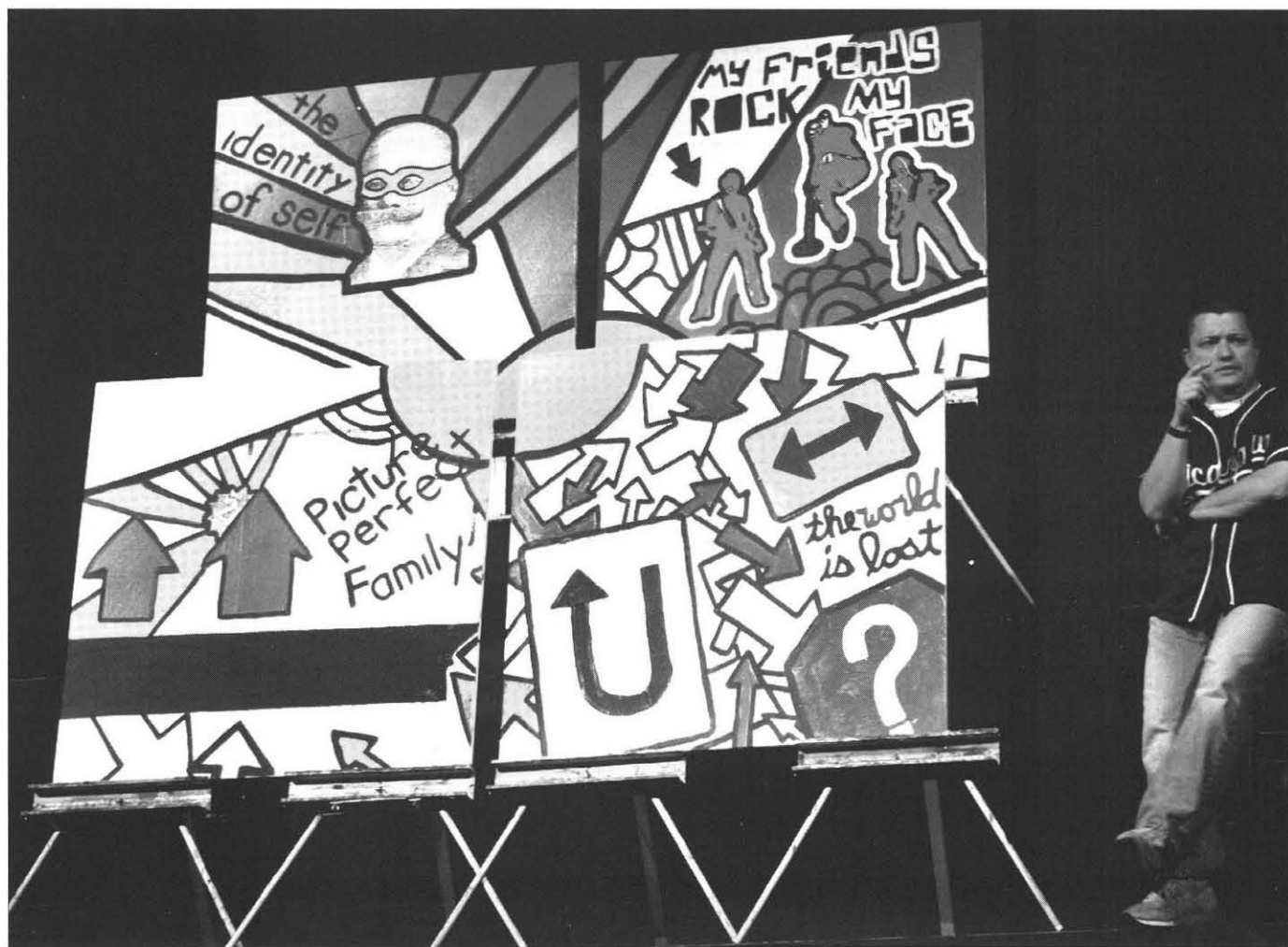
**Travis Thompson, Ph.D.**  
Dean/College of Sciences  
22 years at Harding

"I have [nine] departments in the College of Sciences with which to coordinate budgetary and academic interests across diverse areas."

Production manager Jackie Thrapp, managing editor Laura Kaiser, art editor Lauren Tish and senior editor Austin Light meet Sept. 21 to discuss layouts and design for TC Magazine. The new version of TC debuted in June 2006, and the first issue reached approximately 7,000 teenagers in all 50 states. •Amber Bazargani



While conducting the closing ceremony, Andrew Baker, director of the Institute for Church and Family, reflects on the camp's theme, Eternal Relationships, while standing on the Benson Auditorium stage July 5. The mural Baker stood next to, consisted of individual paintings that were created throughout Uplift with each painting focused on a different relationship. •Amber Bazargani



# Positive Publishing

## Teen magazine to strengthen faith in readers

With more than 1,000 subscribers, two issues under its belt and a third due in December of 2006, Harding's newly acquired teen publication TC magazine was fulfilling its goal of being a positive read focusing on faith for teenage Christians everywhere.

The Institute for Church and Family took ownership over TC magazine in the fall of 2005 and began working on the first issue, which came out in June of 2006. The staff consisted of two Harding alumni and two students.

Laura Kaiser, editor of TC, said she thought the magazine would be an effective way to reach out to teenagers while entertaining them as well.

"We hope that TC will be a relevant, faith-based magazine for teenagers of all ages and walks of life," Kaiser said.

The magazine consisted of many different sections of teen interest such as sports, style, quizzes, humor, entertainment, teen-written articles and feature articles. Many of the stories came from research done on teen trends and personal experiences the writers had in order to relate to the target reader.

"In each issue of TC, teens will find ways to reach out to others, show God in their everyday lives and express their faith in their own ways," Austin Light, senior editor of TC magazine, said.

TC magazine's second issue contained many articles showing teenagers how to live their lives for Christ in today's world. "21 Ways to Stay Out of the Backseat," a humorous piece that offered helpful dating suggestions for teen couples, was just one of the articles the editors hoped would engage the teen audience.

The staff members of TC were happy to see their goal of uplifting their mostly high school audience being accomplished.

"I love being able to work on a publication that can help people draw closer to Christ," senior Jackie Thrapp, production manager of TC, said. "[TC] is an evangelical tool; it's easier to hand a friend a copy of TC than a Bible."

Lauren Tish, layout editor of TC, was also excited to use her talents to help others. Being a junior graphic design major, Tish said it was hard for her to find an outlet for her abilities until she began her work with TC.

With a God-driven staff behind it, TC magazine was expected to be successful, but the greater result, the staff of TC felt, was the encouragement to teens.

"The people at TC want readers to gain confidence in their faith, useful information, insightful articles, stories from teens around the world and much more," Light said.

•Katie Ulliman and Sarah Cummings



**Rising to a new life**, Uplift participant Sydney Ruggerrio is baptized July 4 by her youth minister Kent Job in the summer's third session of Uplift. Over the course of three weeks, over 135 campers committed their lives to God and became baptized. •Amber Bazargani

# Defeating limitations

## Art adjunct overcomes cancer to achieves goals

According to the American Cancer Society, more than 1.2 million people were diagnosed with some form of cancer by 2000 (www.cancer.org). The ACS Web site listed many support groups and organizations for those struggling with different forms of cancer. Some groups, like the Wellness Community, had thousands of members who suffered from specific types of cancer. However, for Adjunct Art Professor Tim Cox, one of only 13 people in the world to be diagnosed with Gangliolioma, the support group was considerably smaller.

Cox was first diagnosed with spinal cancer when he was 12 years old. After a short remission, his cancer came back two years later as Gangliolioma and spread up his spinal column. Not only was he the 13th person to have this rare form of cancer, but he was also only the second to have it spread in the way it did.

Because of the severity of the disease and treatment, Cox's leg was eventually amputated and he was confined to a wheelchair in 1986.

Cox graduated from Harding in the late 80s and met his wife Erin there. Because his job as a government agency contractor allowed him to live anywhere in the country, Cox was able to move to Searcy years after graduating, where he and Erin became sponsors for the social clubs Knights and Chi Omega Pi.

"Tim is passionate about God, devoted to his wife and an awesome leader," senior Knights member Kyle Arthur said. "He genuinely cares about his students and friends."

In the fall, Cox and his wife adopted a little girl, Corban Lily Marie, and Cox said the students were a great help.

"Since I am a sponsor for Knights, she was nominated as a queen but is still a little young, but they gave her a really nice swing," Cox said. "Erin is a sponsor for [Chi Omega Pi] and they gave her a really nice baby shower."

When he was not fulfilling his sponsor duties, Cox worked as an adjunct professor for the art department and taught a graphic design class.

Senior Katherine Mitchell, who had Cox her sophomore year for computer graphics, said Cox was one of her favorite professors because of his positive outlook on life.

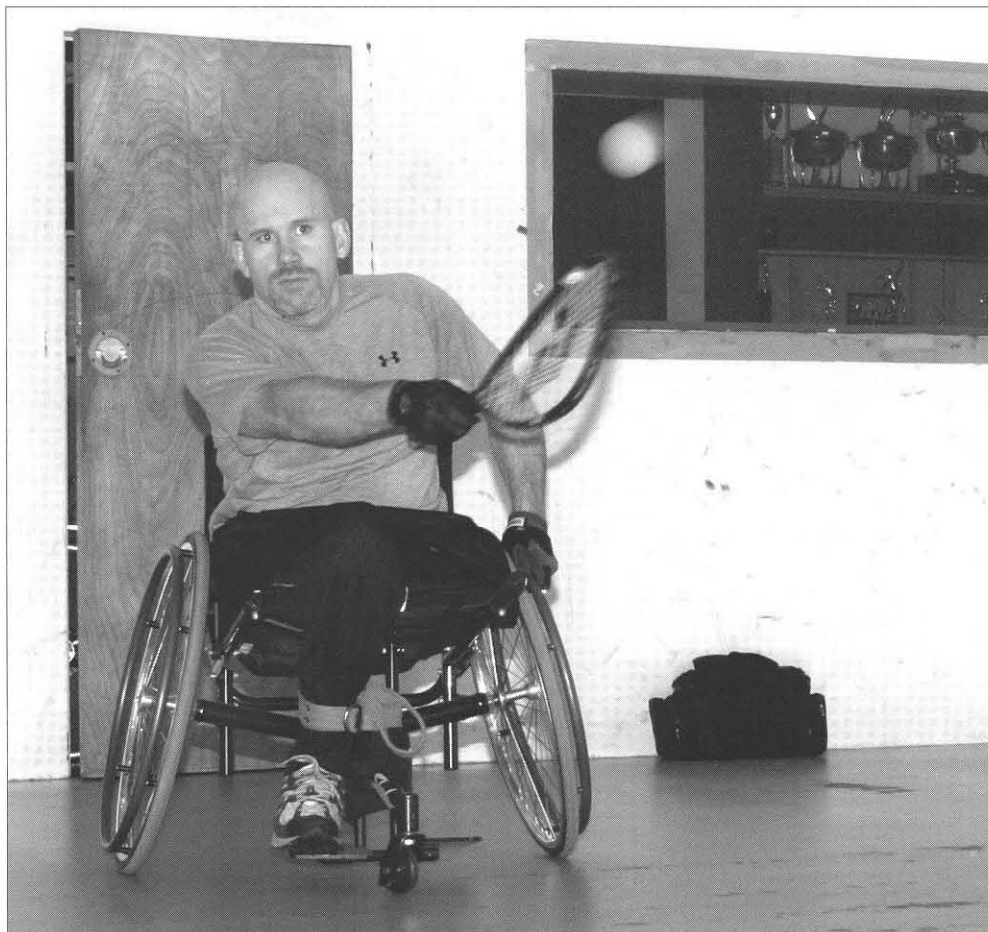
"He has a great sense of humor," Mitchell said. "The first day of class he told us his story about his cancer and then told the class that we could tell people whatever we wanted to about why he was in a wheelchair. He told us to just make the story more interesting, like that he got bit in the leg by a shark or something."

Though his rare form of cancer slowed him down, Cox said it has not kept him from achieving his goals, and he hoped those diagnosed with the same form of the disease in the future could be inspired and comforted by him.

"My battle with cancer and then the leg amputation and being in a wheelchair is what has made me the person I am today," Cox said. "Spiritually I had to take the reigns of my faith early on. I have a great family and an amazing wife that support me when I want it and push me forward when I need it. Physically I obviously can't walk, but the only limits I have found in my life are those put on me by someone else."

•Brooke Light

**Practicing in the Ganus Athletic Center Dec. 1,** Tim Cox, adjunct professor of art and sponsor for Knights social club, plays racquetball. Cox, who began playing racquetball when he was 19, said he tried to play once a week with several different partners. •Amber Bazargani





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# Sculpting Passion

## Instructor creates musical instrument from clay

**B**y carving, sawing and sculpting, Paul Pitt, professor of art, created works that reached back into Native American history. Pitt spent the last eight years of his life creating Native American flutes.

"I had been [making] more pottery than anything else for 30 years with a driving force passion," Pitt said. "But upon seeing and hearing the Native American flute 11 years ago, I knew that in addition to the pottery as well as drawings, paintings and sculpture I had been doing I also wanted to make this style of flute."

According to Pitt, it was the instrument's unique sound which first attracted him to it.

"I like them, personally, because of the sound. It's just a far off, exotic sound that they make," Pitt said.

For Pitt, making the flutes was a chance to not only make works of art, but to connect with the rich history of the instrument.

"If you go back before white men got here, there were 500 tribes or more that were making flutes," Pitt said. "The primary purpose for these flutes was courting."

Pitt said Native Americans were some of his biggest buyers for the flutes.

"People from all over the country see my work on [my] Web site [coyoteclayflutes.com](http://coyoteclayflutes.com), e-mail me, and commission a flute designed to fit what they want," Pitt said. "Many of my flute commissions are from Indians."

According to Pitt, the first flute came about when a young Native

American heard the whistling sound of wind moving through a cedar branch that had been hollowed out by termites. Pitt also used cedar in the creation of his flutes.

"Cedar finishes to a really nice and beautiful surface," Pitt said. "Also, it is a soft wood and easy on my tools and does not dull them quickly."

But Pitt's reasons for using cedar went beyond the practical.

"[Cedar] is important and you might say a sacred wood to the Indians because cedar trees rely on each other and help hold each other up," Pitt said. "Their roots spread out to each other and benefit each other; however the tap root does not go very deep, so when the trees grow close together the mutual help each gives the other is a good trait."

One appealing quality of these flutes was that they were easy to play. Pitt said one of his flutes was actually easier to play than a child's toy.

"One does not have to read music or be a musician to enjoy playing this instrument," Pitt said. "I mostly just make up tunes as I go. The made-up tunes can reflect a particular mind or a mood."

Pitt described his creations as "singing sculptures." He said engineering the actual working instrument was the hardest part of the creation process. However, he said the completion of a flute brought him great satisfaction as an artist.

"I just feel a great sense of satisfaction upon successful completion of a commissioned flute and enjoy the encouraging positive reaction from the flute collector and player."

•Jennifer Merrill and Andrew Leeper



**While in his office Dec. 11, Paul Pitt, professor of art, works on one of his flutes. Pitt had created Native American flutes for the past eight years after hearing its sound 11 years ago. •Chelsea Roberson**

# Lifetime Dedication

## Using her hands, instructor helps deaf community

**D**ebbie Woodroof, instructor of communication and an American Sign Language interpreter, dedicated her life to easing the struggles of the deaf.

Woodroof learned sign language while she was growing up so she could communicate with both of her parents, who were deaf. She said her parents always made sure she and her siblings had the noise of the TV or radio so they could learn to talk.

During college, Woodroof's friends called her to substitute for interpreters in their classes.

"I didn't know how to interpret, but I did my best even though I didn't want to do it," Woodroof said. "And then I [became] interested [in studying] sign language as a major."

Woodroof was certified nationally, which allowed her to interpret. She said to get the certification she had to do a national test that had a written section, as well as ethics and culture sections and finally a performance section.

Woodroof established her own private interpreting practice and helped in courtroom and medical cases and on cruises and land tours.

"Wherever a person goes and needs an interpreter, I do that," Woodroof said.

During 2006, Woodroof worked full time in Little Rock as an operator and interpreter, placing calls and interpreting them, at the Sourced and Video Relay Service. There, she used new technology and the Internet to eliminate

the communication barrier between the hearing and the deaf.

Woodroof said deaf people called to the center, and through a TV screen, she was able to see them and they were able to see her. Whatever they signed, she spoke it into a handset to the hearing person and she signed everything they said back to them.

"I never know who is going to pop on my screen; I order pizza, do legal translation or call grandmas," Woodroof said. "I do just whatever someone uses the phone for."

Woodroof said her children learned sign language when they were growing up. Her daughter Emily, a senior, took one of her classes.

Emily said she learned sign language when she was young so she could communicate with her grandmother.

Because every country's sign language was not the same and there was not a universal language, Woodroof said she was interested in learning the Italian sign language. She said she and her husband planned to accompany a campaign group to Italy in the summer of 2007 where she hoped to have the opportunity to hone her skills in the native sign language.

"Relying on what is learned in a classroom or from a CD is never optimum," Woodroof said. "Interacting with native speakers is always best."

Woodroof said sign language was one of her passions and she loved interpreting and teaching the language. She said she liked to see people excited about learning another language and culture.

•Martha Aguilar



Sitting in her office in the Reynolds building Dec. 5, Debbie Woodroof reads through one of her sign language lesson books. As well as being a part-time professor, Woodroof also worked in Little Rock as an interpreter at the Sourced and Video Relay Service. •Jon Byron



Debbie Woodroof, instructor of communication, teaches her American Sign Language II class how to sign "make" on Sept. 21. American Sign Language I, which Woodroof also taught, was a prerequisite for the only ASL II class offered in the fall. •Chelsea Roberson



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# Strength in Christ

## Dean rejoices, feels fortunate in life changing events

Growing up in rural Arkansas, Dr. Tony Finley, dean of the College of Education, said he had dreams of playing professional baseball. However, an unforeseen event caused him to alter his plans when he was 17 years old.

Finley said he was introduced to baseball at the age of 12 when a friend of his suggested that they join a local league.

"My good friend Larry Romine said we could get out of social studies class and go down and sign up for baseball," Finley said. "Of course I couldn't pass that up being a youngster. I made sure I got assigned to a team."

For five years he spent most of his free time in practice and preparing for the next big game, but said when he suddenly lost his arm in an accident, he quickly learned there were bigger things in life.

"I am a firm believer that a large part of your education comes from outside a school building," Finley said. "It's the so called 'life of hard knocks.' Probably the best thing that ever happened to me was what happened on July 19, 1960, when I lost my arm in an accident. I thought the only thing I wanted to do was to play professional baseball, but the accident showed me very quickly that was something very unimportant."

Finley said he spent his senior year in high school attending class in the mornings and going to the hospital in the afternoons. It was during that time he knew he needed to do something different with his life, so he decided to teach. Although his parents could not afford to send him to college, he said money from workman's compensation and jobs he had worked were just

enough to get him through school.

"I had a goal and I was driven to it," Finley said. "I had enough money to go to school for three years. I got with my advisers, mapped out my program, and was able to finish in six semesters and two summers."

Finley worked in education for more than four decades and said he had always loved teaching.

"This is my 43rd year of teaching," Finley said. "And I still come to school as excited as I did on my first day."

As dean of the College of Education, Finley said he believed a good educator must have a true concern for his or her students.

"Teachers need to have a caring personality, really caring for the students they teach," Finley said. "They need to be really concerned about their students' personal life, spiritual life and educational life."

In addition to teaching, he said he always tried to be involved in the local community: coaching baseball for nearly 29 years, serving as an elder for more than 13 and starting a construction company while raising a family.

Finley said despite his limitation, he received most of his motivation from Philippians 4:13 which read, "I can do everything through [Christ] who gives me strength." He said he was grateful for his life experiences.

"I feel like I have been extremely fortunate," Finley said. "Maybe as Lou Gehrig said in his farewell speech in Yankee Stadium, 'I feel like the luckiest man in the world.'"

•Brian Hall

**Tony Finley, dean of the College of Education, discusses the results of the recent Higher Learning Commission visit by the review team at the College of Education's meeting Oct. 17. One of the focuses of the HLC's visit was to approve a new education doctorate qualified to teach pre-kindergarten to doctorate level students. •Chelsea Roberson**





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# Refocused ministry

## Missionary expands international program

**A**fter serving 18 years with his wife, Terri, and three children in the mission fields of Florianopolis and Campinas, Brazil, Ken Graves, director of international campaigns, returned to Harding using his practical missionary skills to lead the revised Global Outreach Program. Formerly a part of the College Church of Christ's International Campaigns office, the new Global Outreach Program was placed under the direction of the Bible department.

A 1985 graduate of Harding, Graves said his experience and enthusiasm for the mission field prepared him for his new role directing short-term missions. Having received more than 20 different short-term missionary groups while in Brazil, he said he understood what the needs were in the mission field from visiting mission campaigns.

Dr. Monte Cox, director of the Center for World Missions and associate professor of Bible, said he believed Graves was a self-starter and was passionate about missions and a perfect fit to lead the program.

"He went from working in Brazil to working with the whole world," Cox said. "It takes a long-term missionary to know how to use short-term workers."

The biggest difference to the program would be a heavier focus on internships, Graves said. He also wanted the program to offer internship opportunities in more areas of the world.

"In the past, internships have leaned more heavily towards Africa," Graves said. "One hope I have is to keep more of a balance of where

students may intern such as Central and South America, Asia and more. This will provide a better opportunity for missions majors to choose and experience which part of the world they would like to be in."

Another change for the program Graves said he foresaw was making the short-term campaigns more concentrated. He said he planned to have a larger number of campaign groups with smaller numbers of students in each group. This would ease the burden of housing students for host families and create a more intimate, meaningful experience for campaigners.

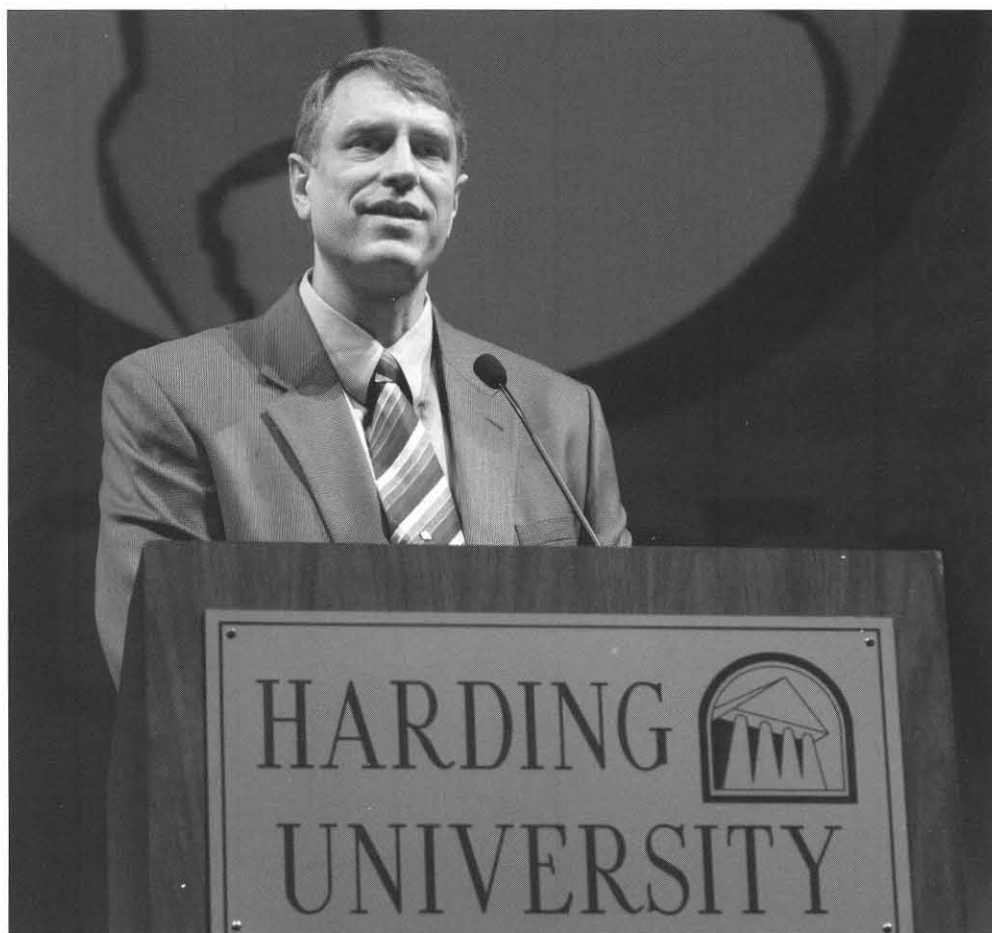
"Most people are not cut out to live in another culture or country for their lifetime," Graves said. "Going on a short-term mission, though, will help you figure out what gifts you have to help support those on the mission field."

Graves said more than 90 percent of missionaries had gone on a short-term campaign before making a long-term commitment to the mission field.

"It's important for as many people to travel internationally," Graves said. "Can you say that you've had a liberal arts education without traveling abroad? I have seen many students open up their worldview by giving and working overseas. It's a transforming experience, and it affects the students' views of Christ."

•Brian Hall

**Ken Graves, director of international campaigns,** introduces the changes and new focus of the Global Outreach Program during chapel Sept. 13. Graves encouraged students to become a part of campaigns and internships planned for countries such as Romania, Togo, Mozambique, Zambia, Tanzania, Uganda, the Czech Republic, Bolivia, Thailand, Papua New Guinea and China. •Chelsea Roberson





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# Ceremony of Light

## Wedding planner offers services pro-bono

When the romantic comedy "The Wedding Planner" premiered in 2001, it featured Jennifer Lopez as wedding planner Mary Fiore. The movie sported the tag line, "A romantic comedy about love, destiny and other events you just can't plan for." For many Harding students, planning a wedding while completing college proved incredibly stressful. When college classes and jobs were added into the equation, it was time to call Penny Light, executive assistant to the Institute for Church and Family and a certified bridal consultant and corporate events planner on campus.

Light provided her services to Harding couples in need of their own wedding planner at no cost.

Before working with college students, Light had her own wedding planning business in Virginia. When she and her husband moved to Searcy a year and a half ago, she brought many of her supplies with her. However, she was not interested in completely starting over with her business. Instead, she searched for new ways to use her planning talents.

"I had to find a mission to give back to God that would use the talents I already have, and with so many couples getting married so young it can be rough to figure out how to pay for a wedding," Light said.

A CNN survey found the average wedding to cost close to \$30,000. Light helped couples budget by having each of them choose one thing that would add uniqueness to their wedding.

"Weddings do have a standard processional to follow, but if you

have one thing that is unique to your wedding, people will remember it," Light said.

During the time Light had been at Harding, she had already helped five couples successfully plan their weddings. She assisted in providing flowers, catering, bakers and almost anything else she had connections with in Searcy. She also took advantage of the new chapel on campus.

Light told each couple she worked with there were two things to do that were crucial when planning a wedding.

"The first thing to do, no matter what, before you talk to your parents, is to sit down and make a plan," Light said. "The plan should be something that you're both going to agree on, because once the plan is set, everything else will go smoothly," Light said.

The second thing Light recommended for every couple was to try and resolve issues in their relationships before the wedding.

"If they can figure out how to settle those fights now, they will have a lot less trouble once they get married," Light said.

This year, Light had the privilege of teaching a class on campus entitled "The Frugal Bride." The class was geared toward engaged couples or people interested in the wedding planning business. Light taught cheap, inexpensive ways to make wedding favors and flowers and how to make the wedding day one of the happiest days in someone's life.

•Katie Dear



**Penny Light, executive assistant to the Institute for Church and Family, adjusts a candle arrangement at her home Sept. 17 in preparation for a wedding. "God blessed me with an ability to listen, counsel and mediate which is more the job of a wedding coordinator than most people think," Light said. •Courtesy of Brooke Light**