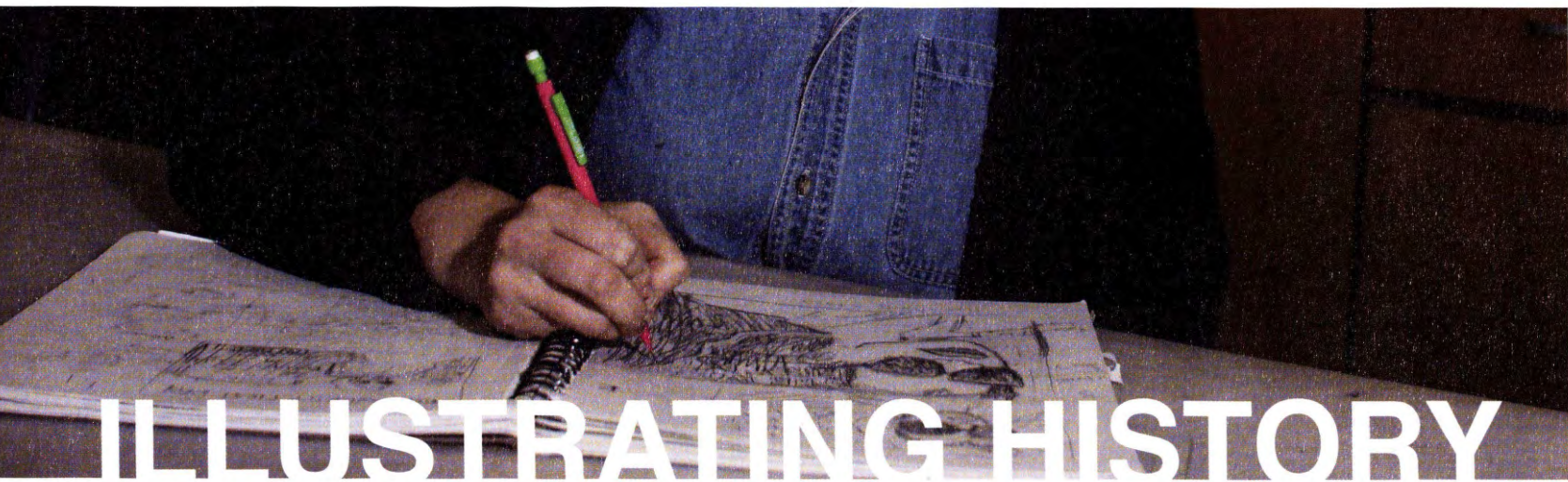


PEO

PLEASE

WORDS & SECTION *by Caleb Mejia*

Looking back on life, we will see that all the things that truly mattered will be the people we cared about the most. As these people taught us how to become a better version of ourselves, we were able to see God through their words, thoughts and actions. When the day of our departure from Harding arrived, we were no longer the same. We had become a mosaic of the people with whom we spent our time.



ILLUSTRATING HISTORY

SENIOR CREATES ILLUSTRATION FOR CHILDREN'S BOOK

WORDS *Madison Edwards* // PHOTOS *Kazu Fujisawa*

Senior graphic design major Rachel Gibson had the opportunity to illustrate a book called “Worst First Day: Desegregation of Central High” in fall 2017. The book centered around the story of Little Rock Nine member Elizabeth Eckford’s experience of being one of the first African-American students to attend Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1957.

Rachel first thought about illustrating Eckford’s book after meeting her at the American Studies Institute Distinguished Lecture Series event on Feb. 2, 2017, where Ruby Bridges, a civil right activist, spoke. Rachel emailed Eckford an illustration and months later worked with current Central High School students on a project to showcase their school’s history. After participating in this project, Rachel was then contacted in order to illustrate Eckford’s book.

“It has been a very humbling experience to even sit at the feet of these spirited people who are very passionate about what they are trying to do,” Rachel said.

Rachel had the opportunity to be in the room when Eckford read the book out loud for Central High students and gave personal backstories on events that took place.

“It was incredible to hear Eckford read the book in the Central High library to students,” Rachel said. “Just seeing how far she’s come to even be able to walk into that room and talk to people was just very incredible. Just hearing her tell her story of the hate... I can’t even imagine what she had to go through. Now she is spreading

awareness that racism [still] exists in our society. If you have the power to change it, it’s standing up for other people and stopping it.”

Rachel illustrated the book with a stark monochromatic sketch theme to portray the different emotions of Eckford’s story.

“An edgy black and white sketch look is what I first showed them, just because I personally wanted to study and understand it,” Rachel said. “[It’s] what I’ve been pursuing. The style, lines and textures included create different emotions and can symbolize hate.”

Daniel Adams, chair of the department of art and design, was confident Gibson and her talents would be a nice fit for the book.

“Rachel is a proactive thinker,” Adams said. “I’ve always found her to be creatively engaged in understanding the culture surrounding her in a thoughtful, considered way. She is very talented, especially in her ability to capture character in a whimsical pen and ink style.”

Stacy Gibson, associate professor of art and design, had Rachel in various classes throughout Rachel’s time at Harding and was excited to see how her illustrations were used in the book.

“Rachel is a talented visual storyteller, and I know her collaboration with this project will be a blessing to [her] and for the readers of this special book,” Stacy said.



Senior Rachel Gibson draws an illustration for a children's book on Nov. 16, 2017. After working with students from Central High School on a project showcasing the school's history, the author of a book called "Worst First Day: Desegregation of Central High," a book about the experience of Elizabeth Eckford as one of the first African-American students to attend the school, contacted Gibson about illustrating the book. // Photos by Kazu Fujisawa



SERVICE ON WHEELS

SENIOR STARTS SEARCY TRANSPORTATION NONPROFIT

WORDS *Luke Theisen* // PHOTO *Kazu Fujisawa*

Despite his self-proclaimed lack of qualification, senior social work major Hayden Gadberry knew that his purpose was to create Vessel. “I was in class. We were talking about the necessity of transportation, especially in rural counties, and I had this idea,” Gadberry said. “What if we do something like Uber, [but] with a purpose?”

Vessel, a nonprofit ride-booking service, worked with different organizations in White County to give their clients rides to places like doctor appointments, job interviews, parole officer meetings and work. The organization’s mission declared Vessel wanted to “[create] opportunities for self-sustaining lifestyles with free transportation.”

In May 2017, Gadberry put the plan in motion and within the first two weeks of operation Vessel was already giving an average of one ride a day.

After hearing more about Vessel, senior social work major Morgan Spillan jumped on board to be a part of the nonprofit.

“He approached a group of our friends on a weekend trip and then brought [Vessel] up kind of casually,” Spillan said. “He asked us if somebody wanted to help write terms of service [policy]. I volunteered.”

Initially, Spillan thought she would only help start Vessel, but she continued

to contribute working with the nonprofit for as long as she could.

“I think Vessel is an answer to a much larger problem than just transportation in rural communities,” Spillan said. “It’s an answer to just people needing help and seeing people as [stereotypes]. Working with Vessel, you see someone as they are, as Christ made them.”

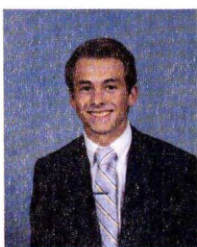
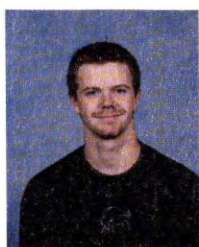
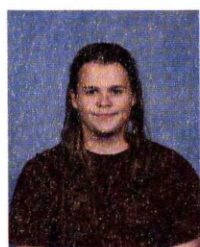
Carla Sumner, alumna and women’s social club Iota Chi sponsor, asked Gadberry if she could be a part of Vessel after seeing his posts about it on social media.

“It’s a personal thing for me,” Sumner said. “I know that a lot of these people have their children in foster care [and] can’t keep down jobs and get their children back. It’s an issue that doesn’t affect just one person, it affects their family, their extended family. I just think that if they can stop that cycle for one family and then it’s going to have a ripple effect.”

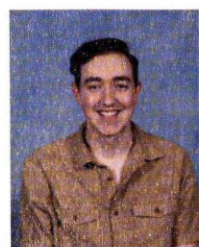
According to Gadberry, the overall goal was to provide a way of showing Christ’s message through service to others.

“We show Christ’s love through showing these people mercy,” Gadberry said. “Something they don’t get a whole lot of. We treat them like normal people, and that gives them a lot of hope.”

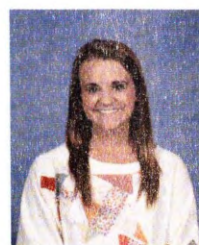
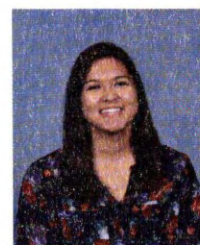
Senior Hayden Gadberry is giving back to the Searcy community by offering free rides through his nonprofit organization, Vessel, to people who do not have a mode of transportation around the area. Gadberry started providing rides in May 2017 to doctor’s appointments, job interviews, parole officer’s meetings and work. // By Kazu Fujisawa



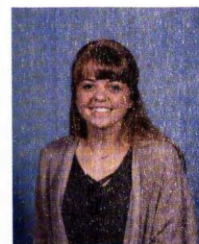
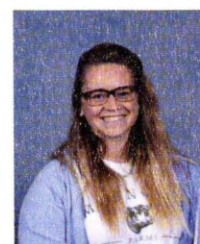
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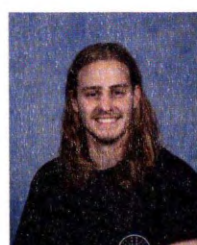
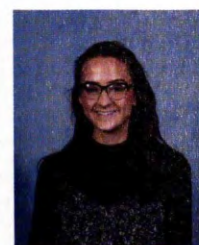
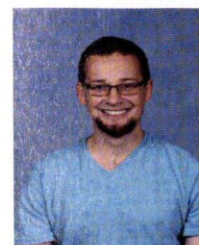
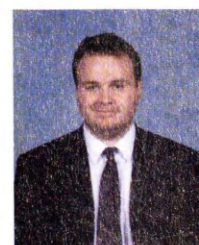
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Heather Anderson
Jacob Ardrey
Ashlynn Armstrong



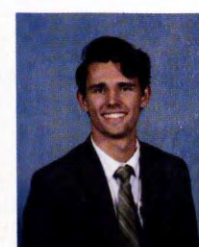
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AnnMae Aufrance
Faith Bailey
Mikayla Baker



Mikayla Ballard
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Matthew Bentley

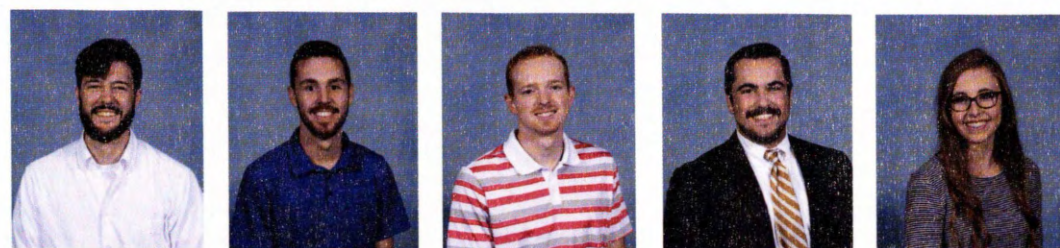


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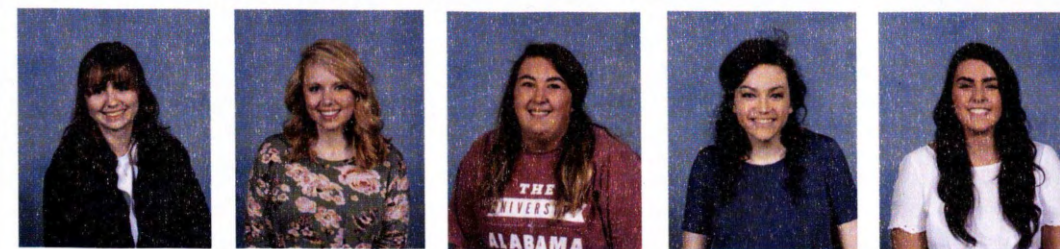
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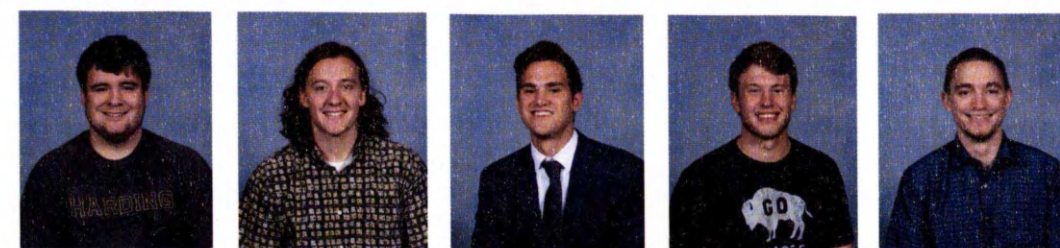
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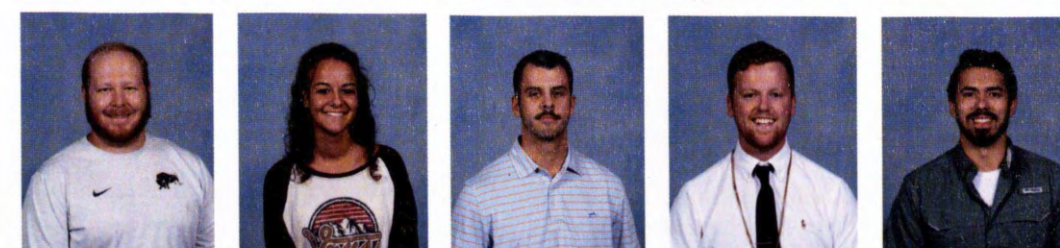
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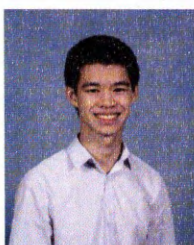


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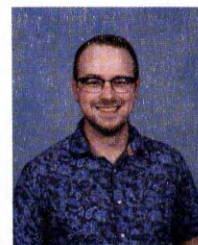
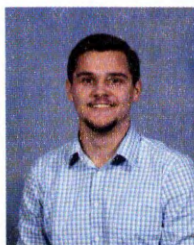
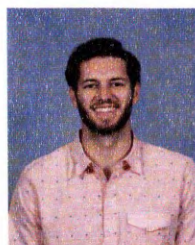
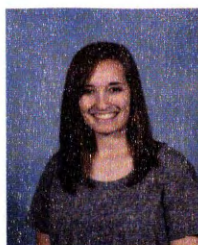




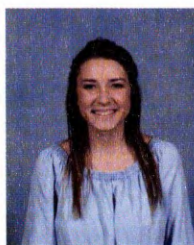
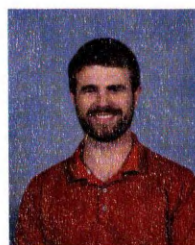
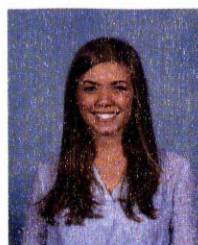
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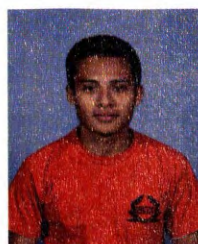
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Michael Cogan
Rachel Coleman
Abigail Cooper



Kacie Crutsinger
Michael Cruz
Annie Davis
Emily Dawsey
Kevin DeHoff



Jenny Delgado
Katharine Dennison
Caitlin Denton
Savanna Di Stefano
Jessica Difani



HELPING HOUSTON

STUDENTS SERVE VICTIMS
AFTER HURRICANE HITS TEXAS

WORDS *Cassidy Colbert* // PHOTOS *Caleb Mejia*

Senior Robert Stewart, along with 16 other Harding students, left Searcy, Arkansas, for Houston, Texas, to serve as relief workers during the weekend following Hurricane Harvey on Sept. 1-3. The group connected with Robert Heyen, a Houston local who worked with Memorial Church of Christ as well as Olympic Reconstruction, a company that worked on remodeling and building homes in the area, in efforts to help with the clean-up in the community.

Once the group was there, Heyen shared that their task was to work on two houses within a Jewish community.

"On Saturday we went [to work] in a Jewish community, since they cannot work on Saturdays," Stewart said. "We were able to work [on] the houses and were able to sing to the couple who own the home. The man who [lives] there told us how big of a blessing we were. It was awesome to be a part of."

While working on one of the houses, the team had to wear white suits and gloves with masks as they crawled under a 3,200-square-foot crawl space. In another home, they removed two feet of drywall, installation, trim and flooring on the first floor.

After Hurricane Harvey, many came to help with the clean-up of neighborhoods and communities. Red Cross and other groups soon began to turn people away because there was nowhere for them to stay.

Sophomore Emelia Thomas, who also went on the trip, felt God prepared the way for the group as they traveled and worked in Houston.

"[In] less than 24 hours, we all were able to connect with a church, had a place to stay and food," Thomas said. "It was made clear that God was at work and was providing."

Heyen and his wife provided food for the group as well as a place for them to stay. The couple shared stories of people in the area losing their homes and everything they owned.

"We have about 40 families within our church that have lost their homes, jobs or cars," Heyen said. "The connections we have made through all of this has been amazing. Some are believers and some not but we are able to help and walk through this with them."

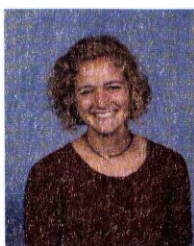
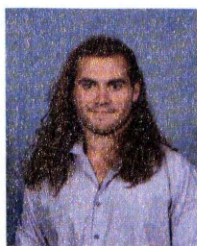
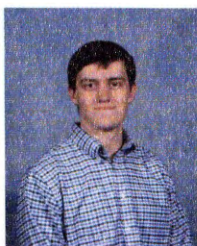
Stewart agreed with Thomas about God providing a way for them to go serve the Houston community.

"If you choose to go, God will make it possible and he will provide," Stewart said. "God can and will use anyone."

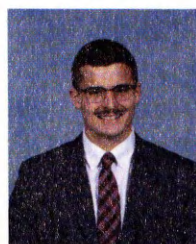
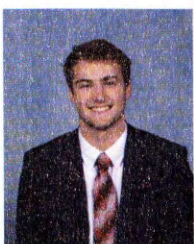
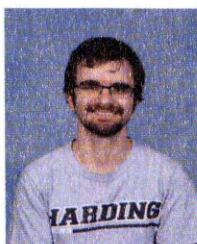
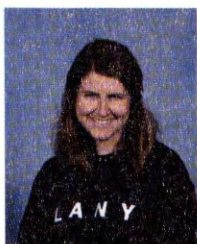
Both Stewart and Thomas shared that they took more away from the trip than they were expecting, and it was something that they would want to do again.

"God is on the move still, and going [to Houston] made [me] realize that no matter how deep a pit we are in, he is still with us," Stewart said.

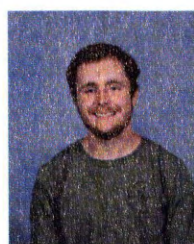
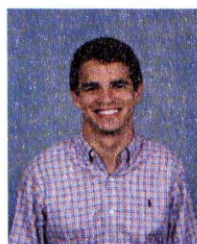
On Friday, Sept. 1, 2017 senior Robert Stewart gives the last details of the mission trip to the group before leaving for Texas. A group of Harding students, under the leadership of Stewart, decided to head out to Houston, Texas, and help people whose homes were destroyed during Hurricane Harvey. // Photo courtesy of Caleb Mejia



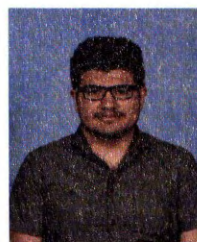
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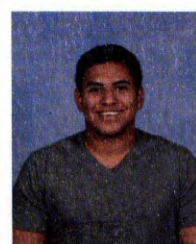
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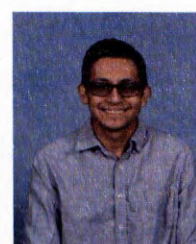
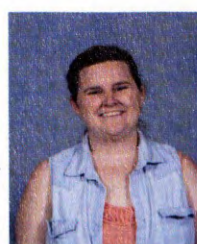
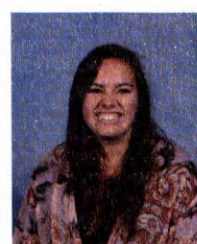
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Emily Faulkner



Melissa Feltner
Kristen Flesner
Kaycie Fletcher
Taylor Flewellen
Andres Flores



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Matthew Garner

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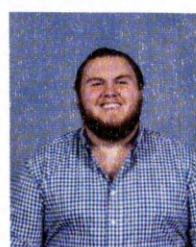
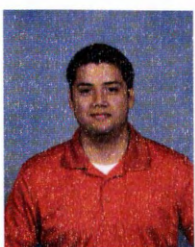
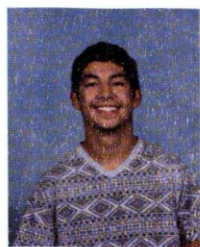
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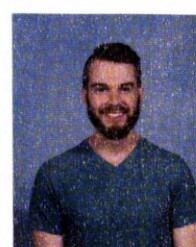
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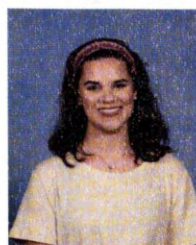
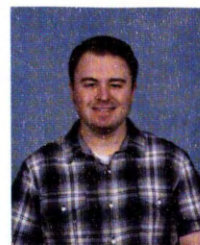
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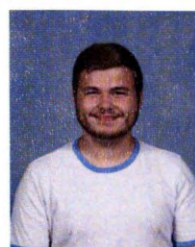
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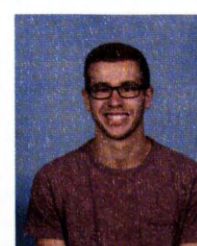
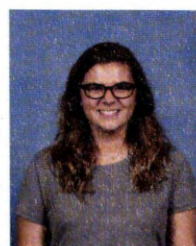
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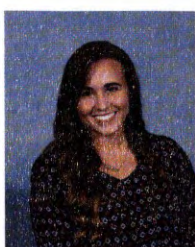
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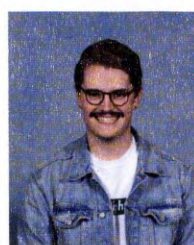
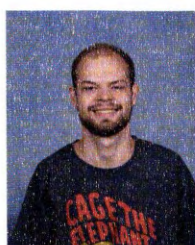
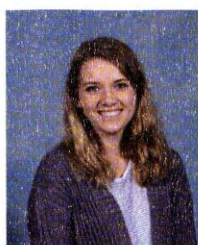
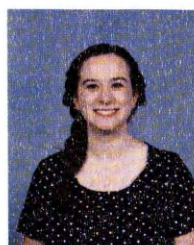
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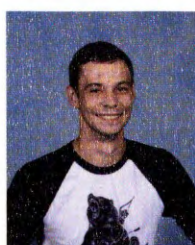
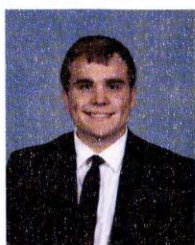
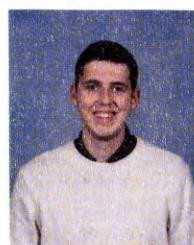




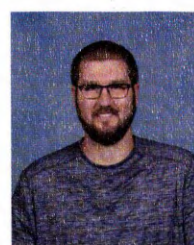
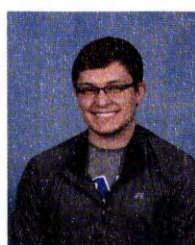
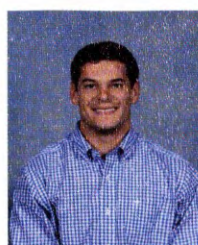
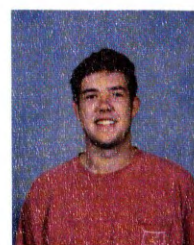
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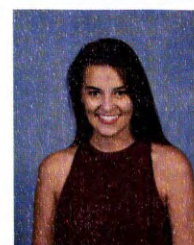
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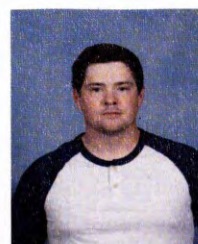
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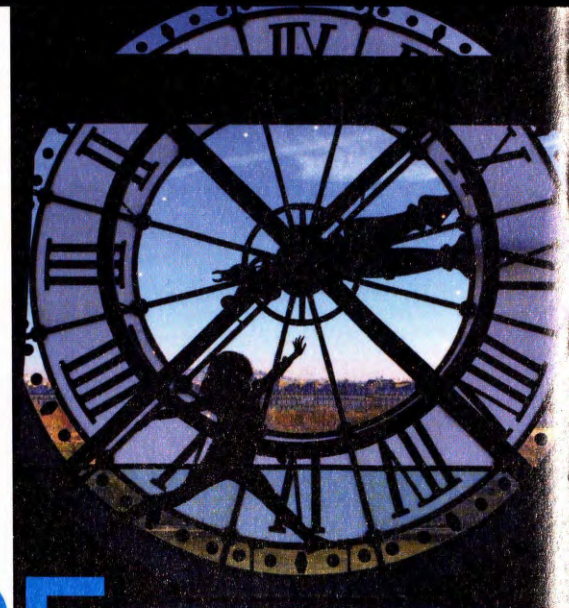
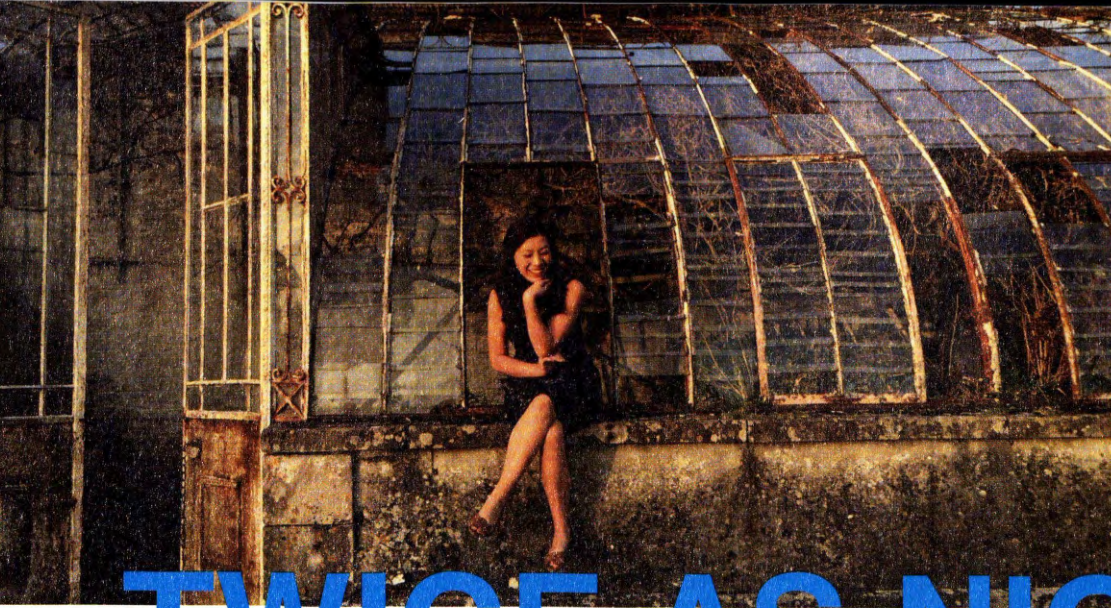
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Katie Johnson



Keely Johnson
Luke Johnson
Nora Johnson
Rebecca Johnson
Chelsie Jones



TWICE AS NICE

JULIE WHITE DISCOVERS NEW CULTURES
IN TWO STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

WORDS *Audra Shumaker* // PHOTOS *Julie White*

Many students at Harding were able to experience a study abroad program but very few were able to say they had experienced two. Senior Julie White had the opportunity to spend one semester at Harding University in Paris (HIP) in spring 2017, and another semester at Harding University in Florence (HUF) in summer 2017.

Before deciding to study abroad, White deliberated on whether or not to study through the College of Business Administration (COBA) program in Europe, but decided against it.

"I originally wanted to do the COBA London program through the business department and graduate early, but none of the classes would correlate with [doing that]," White said. "So I had to figure out a way to pull [out] the classes I needed together to graduate early."

Dr. Allen Frazier, dean of the college of business, was hugely instrumental in helping White accomplish her goal. White arranged her independent studies with Frazier, and he gave her permission to do an internship with the international programs office while she was in HUF. For her internship, White kept a blog of her experiences, took photos and helped promote the program on social media.

Audra Pleasant, international programs logistics administrator, was impressed by White's dedication.

"Julie had to work really hard to make this happen for her," Pleasant said. "She had to do almost all independent studies to make it possible."

White was humbled by the support she received, saying that was the only reason she could live out her dreams.

"I worked ahead and tried to get all of my independent studies done as soon as possible so that I could work just on my internship and enjoy Italy," White said. "I felt so blessed by all of the things and people that worked together to give me the chance to study abroad twice."

Junior Gracie Olderman also studied abroad with White at HUF. Olderman thought White was an excellent leader because of White's traveling background.

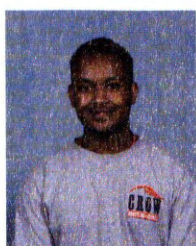
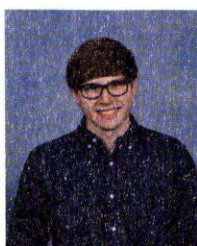
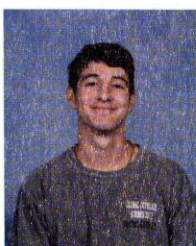
"I think Julie was able to be a leader on the HUF trip because of her previous travel experiences," Olderman said. "She helped me plan independent travel, packing and simple abroad trips I would not have [been prepared for] without her."

Olderman also commented on White's internship, mentioning that White worked hard to stay in touch with life in Searcy.

"She was a significant bridge between the aboard campus and the Harding campus as well," Olderman said. "Julie was able to give the abroad program feedback directly from HUF."

Traveling is a passion of senior Julie White, and she is grateful for the privilege of studying abroad twice with International Programs. White's first trip was to Harding in Paris (HIP) in spring 2016 and her second trip was to Harding in Florence (HUF) in summer 2017. // Photos courtesy of Julie White





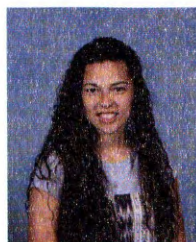
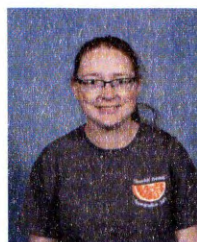
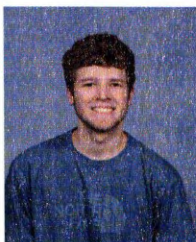
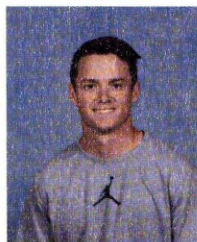
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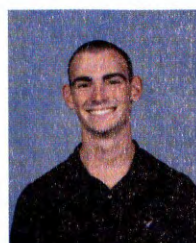
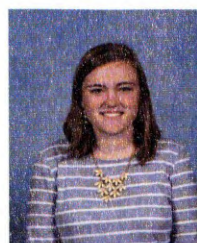
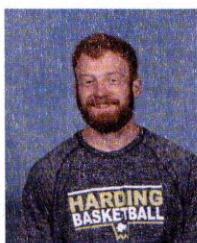
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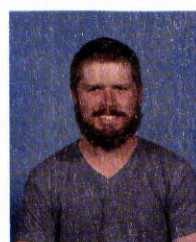
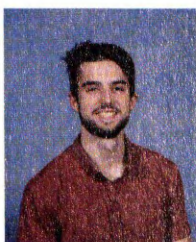
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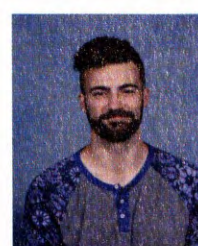
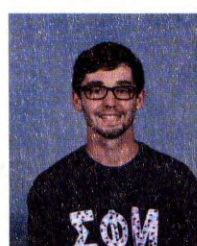
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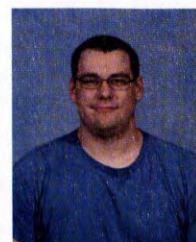
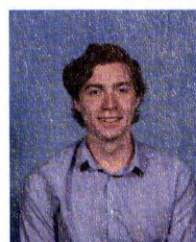
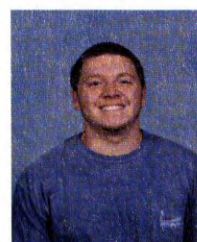
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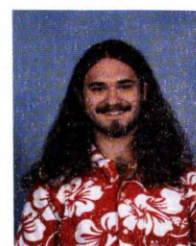
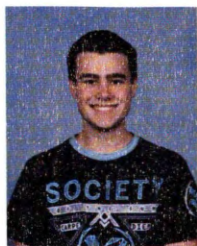
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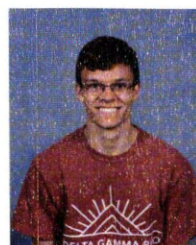
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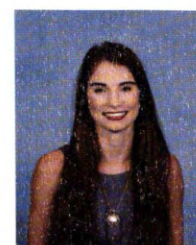
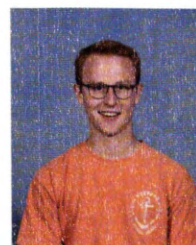
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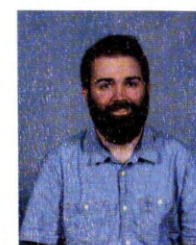
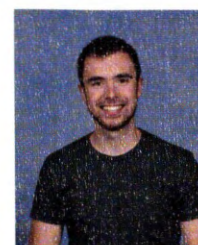
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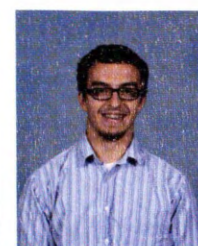
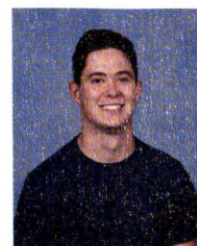
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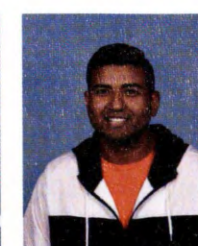
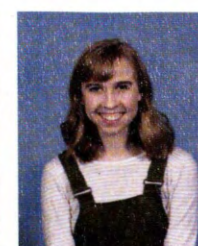
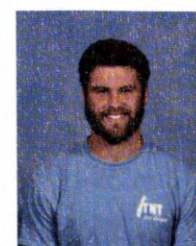
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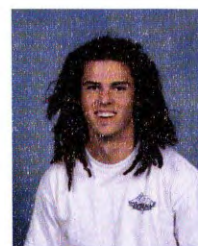
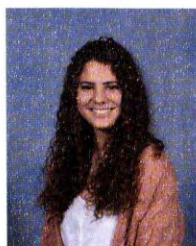
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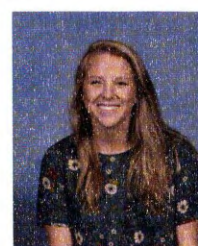
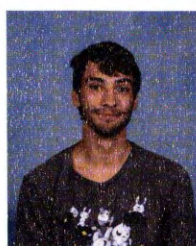
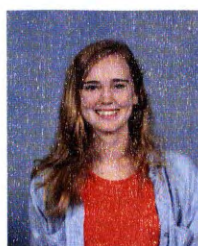
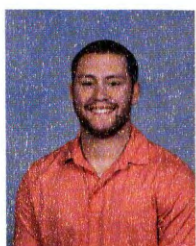
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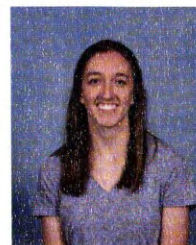
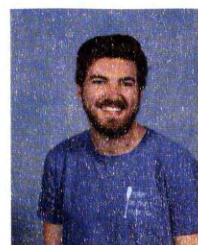




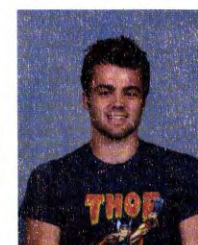
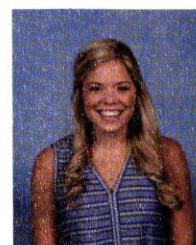
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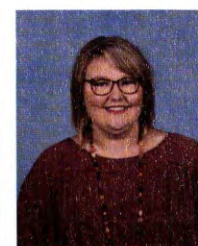
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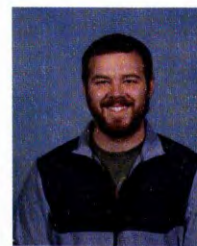
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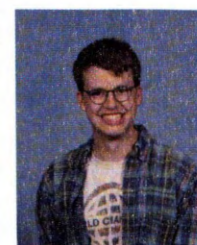
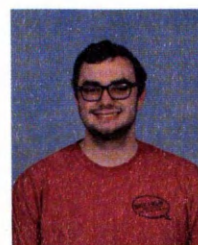
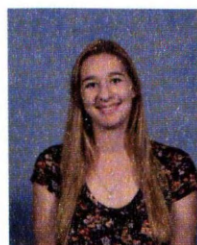
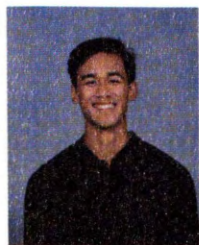
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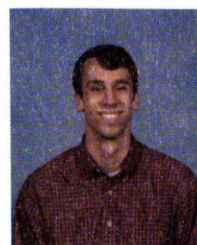
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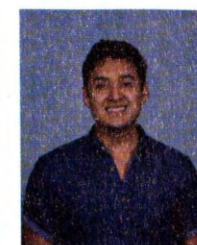
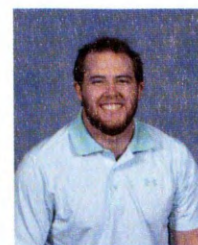
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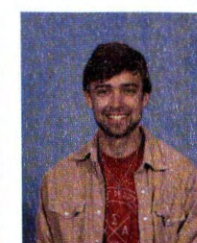
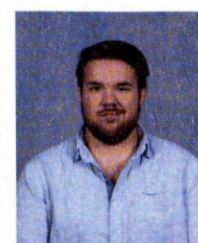
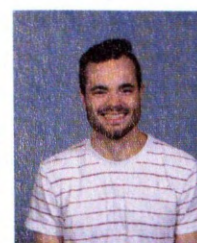
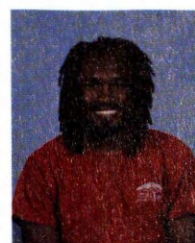
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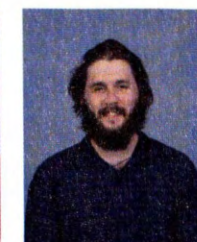
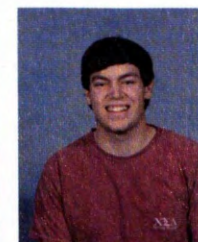
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Kyle Spillan



Morgan Spillan

Audra Staley

Kassie Stanfield

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Kendra Stevenson



YES, WE VAN!

SENIOR SEEKS ADVENTURE IN VAN LIFE

WORDS *Alex Petty* // PHOTOS *Macy Pate*



Following her graduation in December 2017, senior Macy Pate embarked on a dream adventure: traveling across the U.S. in a van with her childhood best friend, Emily Breedlove.

With the duo's graduations approaching, they decided to look into an epic journey through the West that included a stop in many national parks. They began researching and created their six-month traveling schedule.

"We had both been following the stories of several couples who lived in vans full time, and we always talked about how road tripping for a large chunk of time really could be a dream that we brought to life," Pate said. "At the end of the conversation, we somehow reached the conclusion that there was no time like the present."

The next step in their plan was to find the most essential component of their trip: a van. Pate approached her boss at the pizza shop she worked at back home in Nashville about the van he and his wife traveled in while vacationing, and asked about the process of finding a van that could be converted.

"He kept saying he didn't believe we were serious enough to take further steps, which was fair," Pate said. "We knew absolutely nothing and didn't have enough combined money to even buy half a van. When we finally convinced him this was a real plan, he immediately sat down with us in his office and started searching Craigslist."

By the end of the night, Pate and Breedlove contacted the owner of a baby blue '95 Chevrolet van. Soon afterwards, they were in possession of their new traveling home, which they dubbed "Lil' Ma." Aside from the financial difficulties of purchasing the van, Pate and Breedlove also had to tackle the task of converting the van into a livable space.

"As far as actual conversion, getting the solar power set up correctly has definitely been the biggest struggle," Breedlove said. "Neither of us know anything about working with electricity, let alone solar power, so we had a to seek out a lot of help."

Friends and family encouraged Pate and Breedlove from the beginning of their adventure, and they credit their success in their journey to the support they received.

Senior Megan Page, Pate's suitemate, was excited to see Pate and Breedlove take on such an interesting expedition.

"I was super excited for Macy and Emily when I found out [about the trip]," Page said. "I've seen a lot of people on Instagram who have lived or are living out of a van, and I always thought that would be such a cool thing to do."



Emily Breedlove drives across the U.S. with senior Macy Pate after graduating from Harding in December 2017. Before graduation, Pate decided to embark on a six-month journey through the West, visiting several national parks along the way. // Photo courtesy of Macy Pate

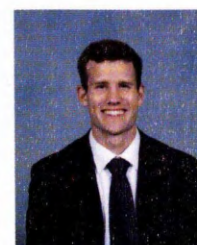
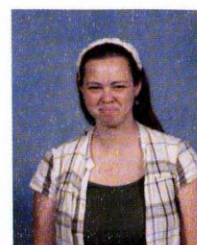
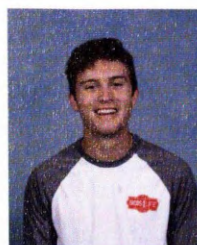
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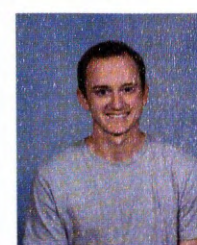
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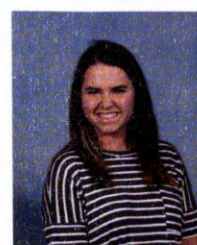
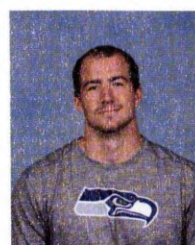
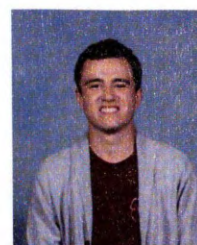
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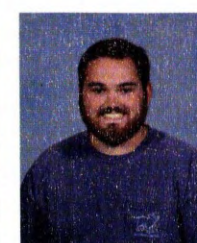
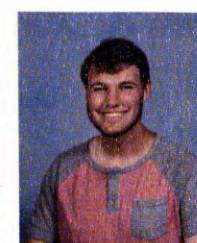
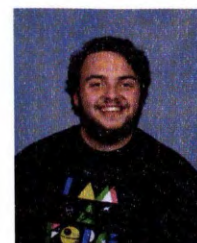
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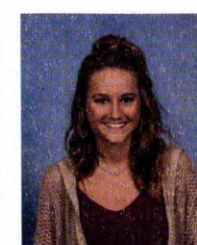
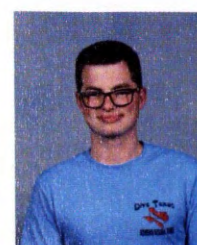
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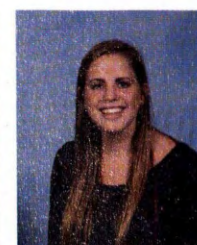
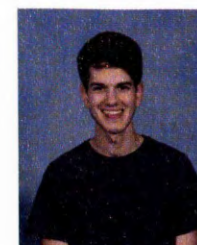
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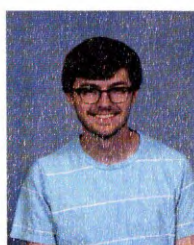
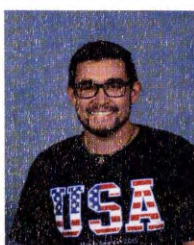
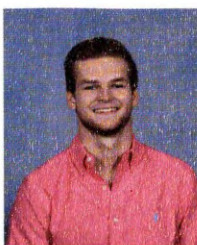
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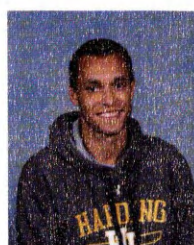
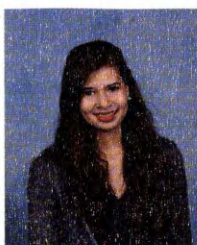
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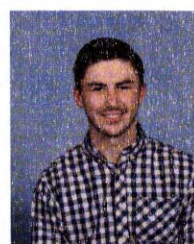
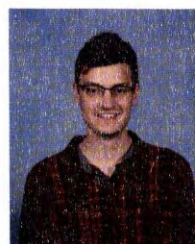
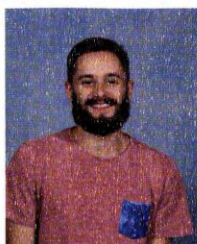
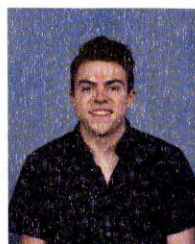
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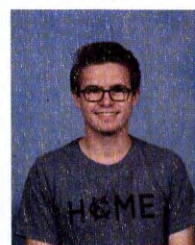
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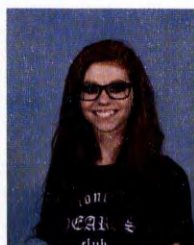
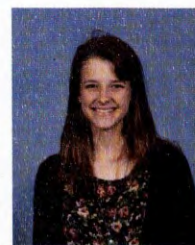
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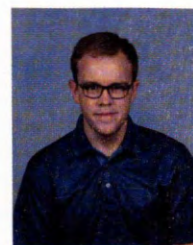
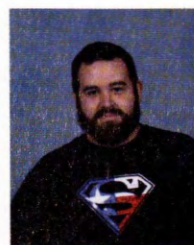
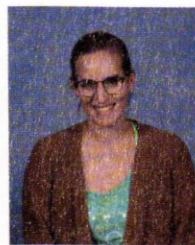
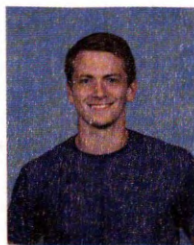
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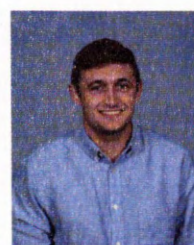
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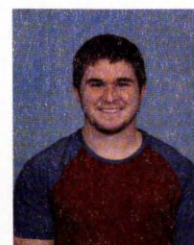
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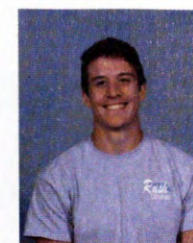
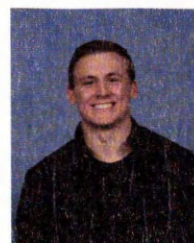
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Christian Witt



Blakely Wood
Elizabeth Woodruff
Max Woody
Kayla Wooland



Sara Wright
Alyse Yates
Teiah Zaringue





BIKING WITH A PURPOSE

SENIOR BIKES ACROSS US TO RAISE FUNDS

WORDS *Garrett White & Rachel VanCuren* // PHOTOS *Kazu Fujisawa*

For some students, riding bikes was a way to forget the pressures of school and get away for an hour or two at a time. For one student, getting away meant trekking long-distance trails on his bike. Senior Davis Nossaman completed rides with his father across Arkansas and Mississippi.

"I've loved biking with my dad," Nossaman said. "I think it's certainly has helped our relationship grow."

Nossaman said the trek on the Tanglefoot Trail in Mississippi, a 100-mile journey, helped him and his father bond.

"We camped out after a long day of biking and had a conversation around the fire about my future after college," Nossaman said. "In that conversation my dad talked a lot about his life after graduation. It was very special to hear his stories and his advice, and I have our bike trip to thank for that."

After biking with his father, Nossaman wanted to continue his pastime, but with his friend, senior Connor Botes. Instead of just biking for a small stretch of time, the two planned to bike across the entire country after they graduated.

The reason for the journey, besides their love of biking, was to help raise funds for 4KForCancer, an organization that fundraised money for cancer treatment. Nossaman and Connor planned to start the trek on June 2, 2018.

"Our dream is to put a bike tire in the Pacific and then put our bike tire in the Atlantic," Botes said. "And we would try to hit as many national parks and major cities along the way and just take time to appreciate where we are and what we're doing."

Senior Josiah Abney met Botes and Nossaman during their freshman year. He loved brainstorming with them and hearing them talk about their dream.


"It's just been cool to watch them go through the planning process," Abney said. "I'm really excited that it's becoming a reality for them, and I know that it's going to be an important trip for them."

Though the trip would be fun, Botes explained that it would also be the transition toward the next stage of their lives.

"This would mean the end of my college days and a transition into adulthood," Botes said. "You go off to college and gain independence, and then, once you leave college, you're actually an adult, so this would solidify that for me. We're both really excited to get it started."

Senior Davis Nossaman bikes with his dad as a means for bonding and building their relationship. Nossaman decided to bike across the nation with senior Connor Botes to help raise funds for 4KForCancer, a journey that began on June 2, 2018. // Photo by Kazu Fujisawa





PERFORMING FOR A CAUSE

HARDING STUDENTS PERFORM ZION CLIMBING CENTER BENEFIT CONCERT

WORDS *Audra Shumaker* // PHOTOS *Abby Tran*

In spring 2017, junior Sawyer Jones and sophomores Jon Mark Brasher and Harper Wagner came together to play music, calling their band Sawyer's Mill. The band met over the summer and recorded a few original songs. During the fall semester, Sawyer's Mill played a benefit concert at Zion Climbing Center on Sept. 22, 2017. All the proceeds went to a church in Texas after the effects of Hurricane Harvey, which hit Texas on Aug. 25-29, 2017.

"It wasn't our original plan to have a benefit concert, but after seeing the damage of hurricanes, we felt like that was a great way to help some people out and also help us get our music out," Jones said. "We didn't raise a ton of money, but every little bit counts and we had a whole lot of fun doing it."

The band was blown away by the amount of people that came to the show and the support from the community. According to Jones, they were all very nervous before the show and had no idea what to expect.

"I told myself that if 50 people showed up it would be a success, I wasn't going to have any expectations because I didn't want to let myself down," Brasher said.

Over 200 people attended the concert. According to Wagner, the turnout exceeded their expectations and made the experience much better both for the band and for the crowd.

Senior Mackenzie Peters, a volunteer at Zion, commented on the concert, calling it a way to connect Zion to Searcy.

"Community is Zion's biggest [focus]," Peters said. "We're always trying to build and encourage the community around us to thrive. We strive to be a place to be a place where ideas can be shared, friendships can be made and God can be glorified."

Peters also praised the band members of Sawyer's Mill for donating the proceeds to the hurricane relief.

"The fact that they put all of the proceeds toward the hurricane relief effort was so inspiring and is exactly the kind of love and support we hope to cultivate through our avenue," Peters said.

Over the course of the year, the band also played at other local events like Searcy Beats and Eats, Relay for Life and social club functions. The band looked forward to playing more throughout their time at Harding and becoming more comfortable performing.

The band Sawyer's Mill, comprised of freshman Tanner Chessman, sophomore Harper Wagner, sophomore Jon Mark Brasher and junior Sawyer Jones, perform at Zion Climbing Center on Dec. 15, 2017. Sawyer's Mill decided to perform at Zion Climbing Center to help aid Texas communities that were impacted by Hurricane Harvey in August 2017 // Photo courtesy of Abby Tran



SHADOWING THE SENATOR

JUNIOR FINDS PASSION IN WASHINGTON D.C. INTERNSHIP

WORDS Taryn Brown // PHOTOS Hall Frost

For many students, moving to Washington D.C. to intern for a senator for a semester would be a dream. Junior accounting major Hall Frost made that dream a reality in fall 2017 by becoming an intern for Arkansas Sen. John Boozman.

Frost, originally from Clarksville, Arkansas, first heard about the internship program when Sen. Boozman visited his high school. He applied online and was one of three fall interns who made it through the long interview process.

Frost loved history and hoped to go to law school or pursue politics after college graduation.

"This internship has showed me [that] this is something I'm interested in, and that Christians can and need to write legislation," Frost said.

Dr. Philip Brown, chair of the accounting and finance department and Frost's academic adviser, always knew Frost was meant for Washington.

"From [our] initial conversation, and most every conversation with him since that time, Hall continually expressed a strong interest in both business and becoming a part of the political process," Brown said.

Frost was not the only student from Harding to serve as an intern for Sen. Boozman. Senior Paul Pearson was an intern the summer after his sophomore year. Although the acceptance process for the internship was difficult, Pearson was grateful for the opportunity. He was able to make many connections, like meeting Arkansas Sen. Tom Cotton, and learned more than he expected.

"I personally took away a deeper understanding of what it means to be an elected official and a servant to the people," Pearson said. "Representing an entire state of three million plus people is no small order, and Sens. Cotton and Boozman do an excellent job at ensuring that they both answer to the people of Arkansas first and Congress second."

Both Frost and Pearson's main responsibility was to answer phone calls. Frost received calls regarding Sen. Boozman's stance on healthcare, as well as other issues.

"For a lot of people, this is their only interaction with Sen. Boozman because he is in D.C. and they are in Arkansas," Frost said. "My job was to represent his office and answer those phone calls or direct them to staff members."

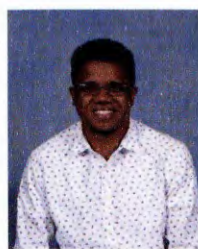
Frost also trained to give Capitol tours, watched the Senate when in session, gave tours of the senator's office, attended committee hearings and job shadowed Sen. Boozman for a day.

"Job shadowing Sen. Boozman was what I was most looking forward to during my internship," Frost said. "I loved exploring the Capitol and going into that building whenever I wanted, but spending an entire day with Sen. Boozman was a great experience."

Both Frost and Pearson were not sure if they wanted politics to be their career, but they agreed that the impact that can be made by having people of faith in Washington was enormous.

"Dream big, God-size dreams," Frost said. "If there is something you want to do but it's big, God can do it."

I Junior Hall Frost interns in Washington D.C. during the fall semester for Arkansas Sen. John Boozman. Frost's work included answering phone calls, giving tours around the Capitol to visitors and shadowing the senator. // Photo courtesy of Hall Frost



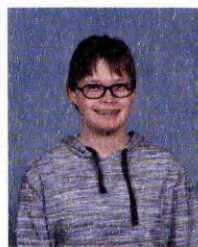
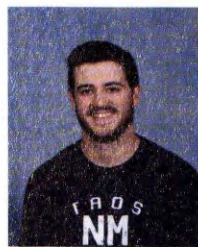
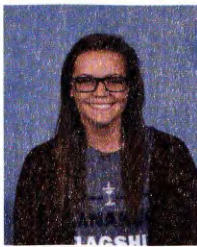
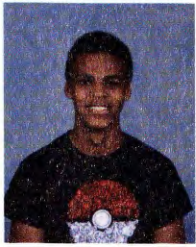
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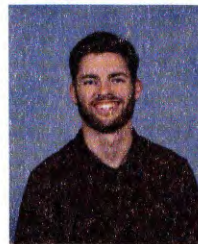
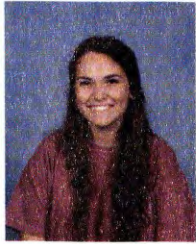
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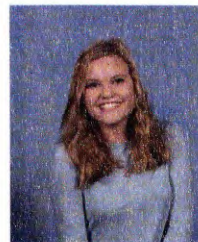
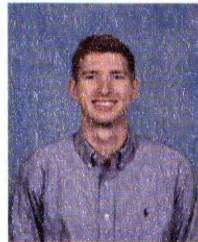
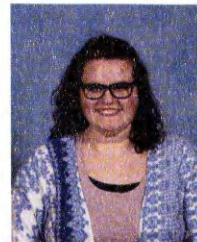
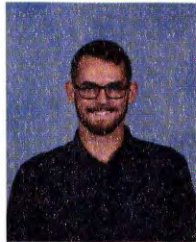
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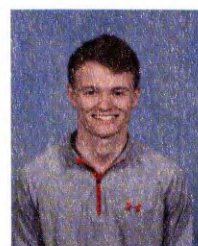
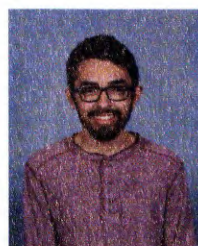
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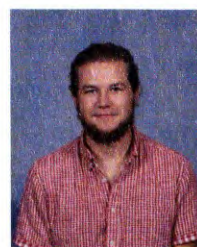
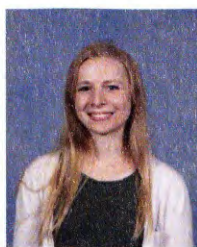
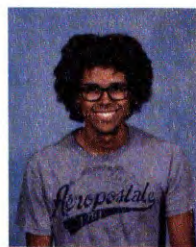
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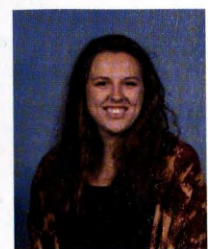
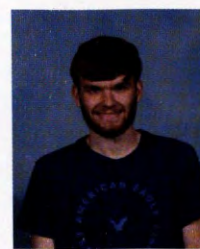
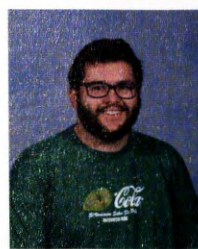
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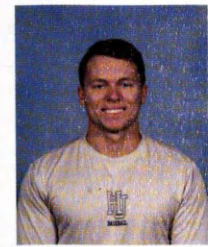
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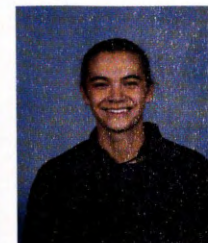
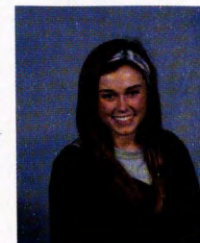
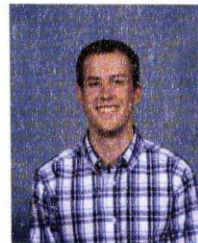
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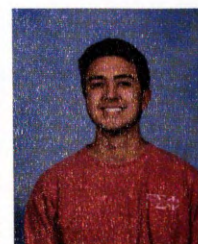
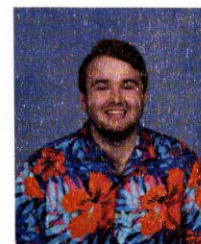
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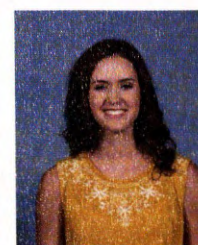
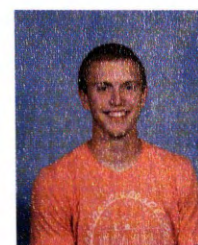
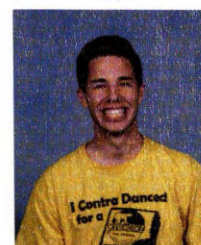
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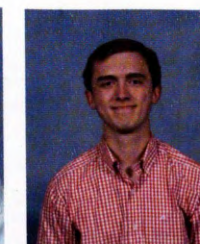
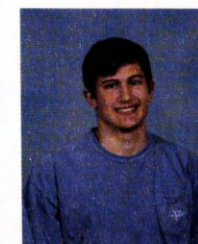
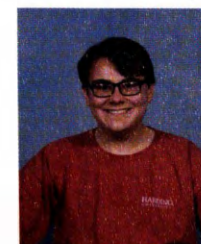
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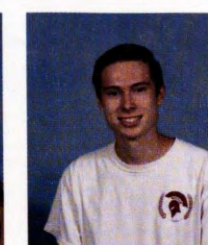
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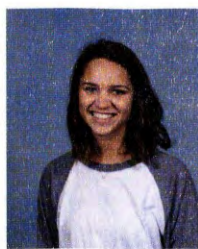
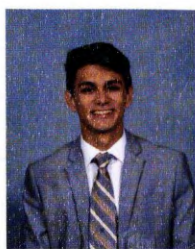


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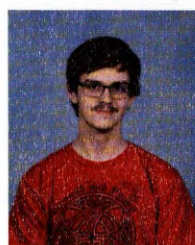
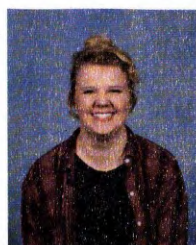
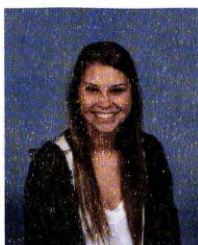
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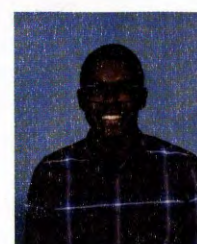
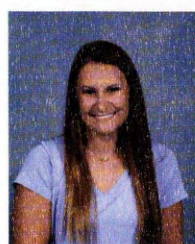
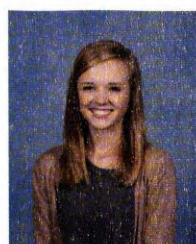
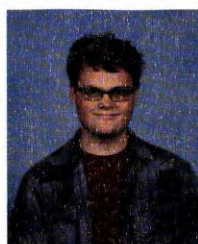
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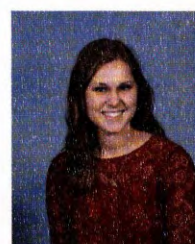
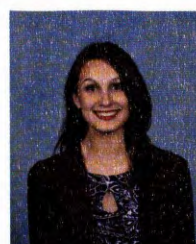
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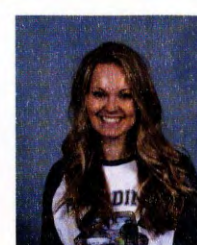
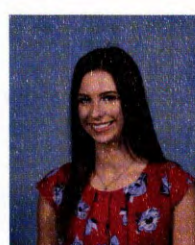
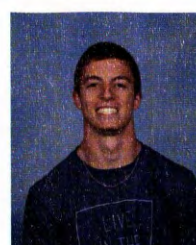
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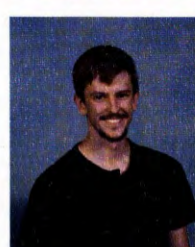
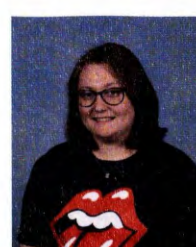
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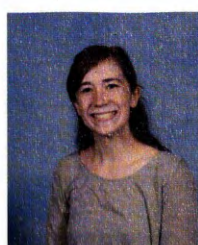
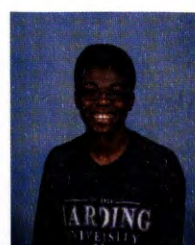
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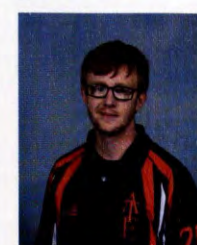
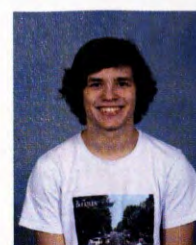
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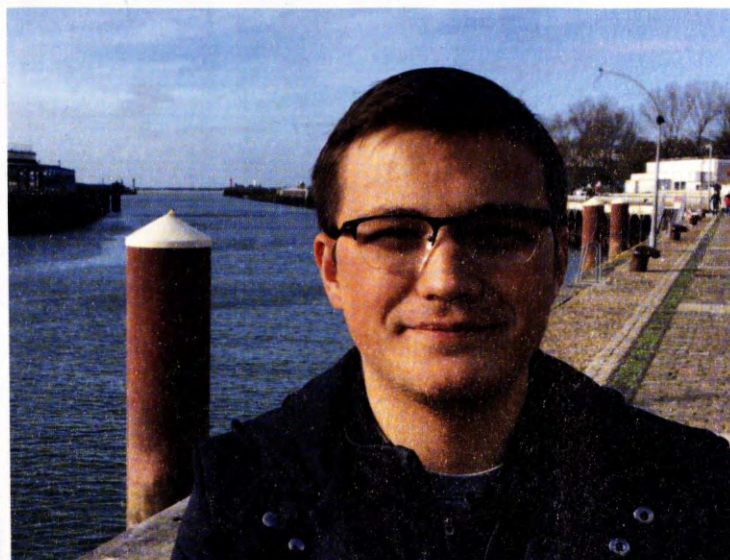
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Grant Hull

Jordan Huntley

Kevin Huot



REPORTING FROM ABROAD

STUDENT CREATES NEWS PACKAGES FROM ENGLAND FOR HU16

WORDS *Emily W'beeless* // PHOTOS *Aaron Alexander*

In fall 2017, junior journalism major Aaron Alexander did not allow distance to come between him and his work. He assembled news packages for HU16, Harding's student-run news station, while traveling overseas at the Harding University in England (HUE) study abroad program. Dr. Jim Miller, chair of the department of communication, accompanied Alexander and the other students on the HUE trip. According to Miller, Alexander worked hard to achieve his task.

"Aaron is a great addition to our group at HUE," Miller said. "I am proud of him for taking initiative to pursue these stories for HU16's Live at Five newscast."

While in Iceland, Alexander thought of an idea for a story after seeing how the locals interacted with him and the others on the trip so happily, including their tour guide, Jóhannes Logason. When he started collecting all the data, the story fell into place and he shared the idea with the HU16 team.

"The story just came together," Alexander said. "I interviewed our tour guide, Jóhannes, who was [amazing]. I thought I could make a really cool story on this, plus it would look awesome because Iceland is very photogenic."

After completing the Iceland story, HU16 contacted Alexander to do a story over the London terrorist attacks that took place on Sept. 15, 2017.

"As a journalism student, I like to tell stories so when that opportunity presents itself I jump on it, whether that's in Searcy, London or Iceland," Alexander said.

Dr. Ginger Blackstone, news director at HU16, commented on Alexander's enthusiasm for his field.

"Aaron is passionate about reporting," Blackstone said. "He is always pitching stories and putting them together. His love is sports, but he'll work on news stories, too. It's great to have him involved with our program."

Through his time at HUE, Alexander not only experienced every aspect of the trip, but was also able to bring back information to those in Searcy. By incorporating all of his passions, Alexander felt confident in his career path.

"Documenting my trips in a news format was pretty cool," Alexander said. "I really felt like this is what I could be doing for a job once I graduate, and it affirmed my choice [in my major]."

Junior Aaron Alexander is a broadcast journalism major and prepares packages for HU16. While he was abroad at Harding University in England, Alexander covered several important news pieces in England in fall 2017 and sent them to HU16 for the live newscast. // Photo courtesy of Aaron Alexander

Alexander interviews Lauren Knight, Harding University in England director, during his time abroad in England. Alexander prepared several packages for HU16 including a story on the terror attacks in London on Sept. 15, 2017. // Photo courtesy of Aaron Alexander



Haley Hutson
Mary Jackson
Hannah Jadwin
Sarah Jett
Bowman Johnson

Emma-Leigh Johnson
Janessa Johnson
Leah Johnson
Cassie Jones
Sawyer Jones

Krista Keeley
Carly Keilholtz
Claire Keisling
Taylor Kemp
Melody Kendall

Raeanne Kiihnl
Hannah Knight
Jeremy Koel
Anna Kretzmer
Trace Laffoon

Melissa Lapaglia
Annette Law
Andres Leday
Nicholas Lee
Emily Legg

Kent Lester
Morgan Lewis
Kaulyn Loe
Madison Maguffee
Jenny Martin

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Samantha Matsch

Audrey Mayes
Jacob Mayo
Mariah McClellan
Macy McClung
Miranda McClung

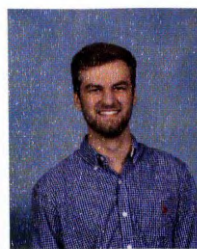
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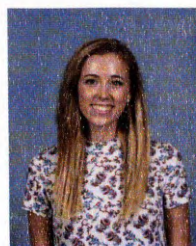
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Moriah Moore



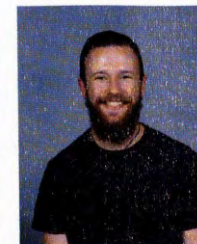
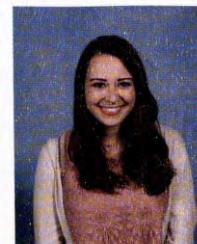
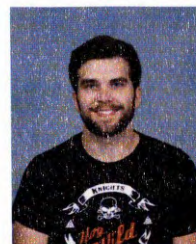
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Daniel Norwood



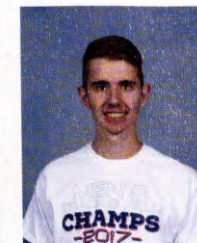
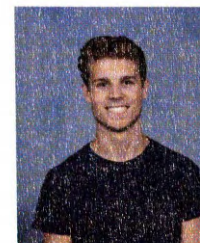
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Curtis Palmore

Emily Parker

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Katie Peoples

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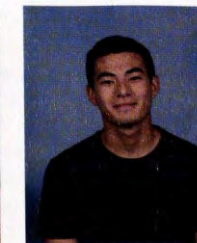
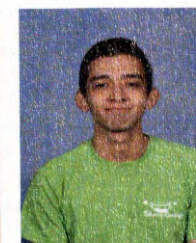
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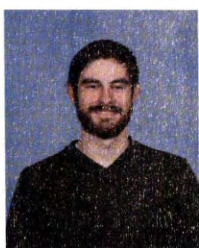
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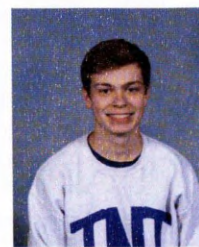
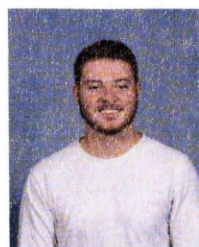
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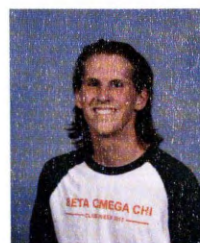




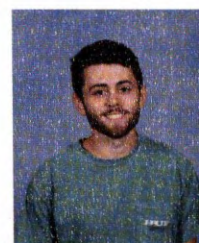
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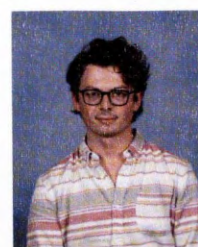
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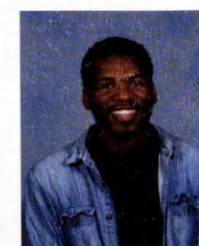
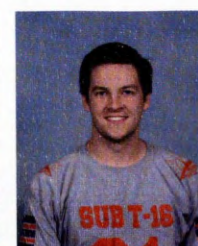
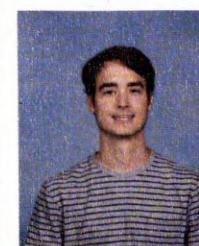
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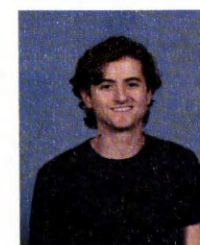
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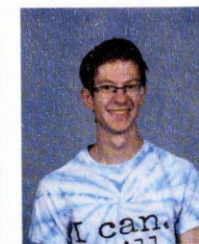
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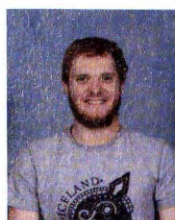
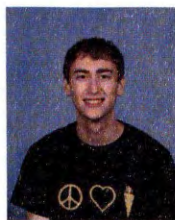


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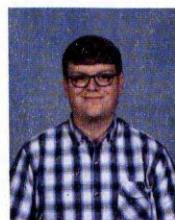


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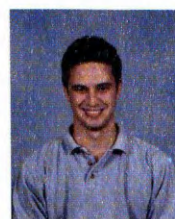
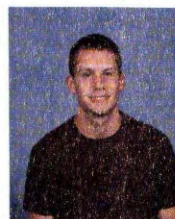
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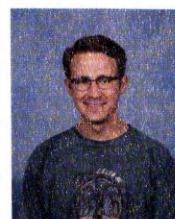
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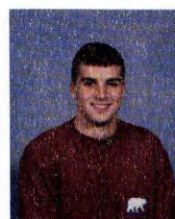
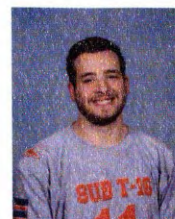
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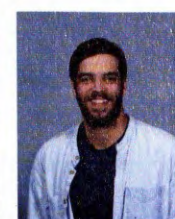
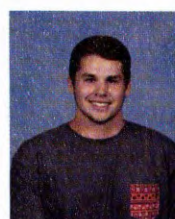
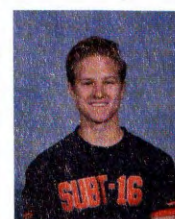
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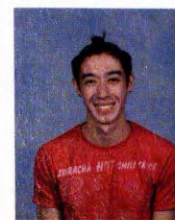
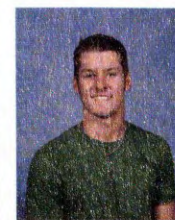
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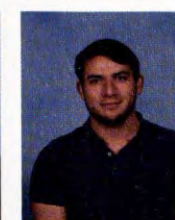
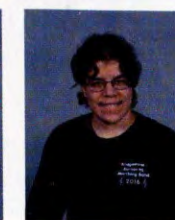
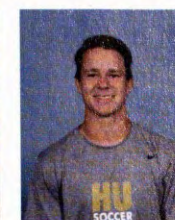
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Evan Wolfenbarger
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Matthew Womble
Patrick Wright



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Bryant Young
Melanie Young
Naomi Zebro
Jhoel Zuniga



5 + 5 = STUDENT10

SENIOR CREATES APP TO HELP STUDENTS WITH HOMEWORK

WORDS *Cayleigh Thomas* // PHOTOS *Abigail Cooper*

When senior Adria Abella Villafranca, originally from Lleida, Spain, came to Harding to play on the tennis team, he had an idea that he hoped would reach many.

Villafranca, along with his father, created a computer application called Student10. Villafranca and his dad made the plans, designs and goals for the app when they were in Spain, and Villafranca used his time at Harding to expand on his dream.

Student10 was designed to help with homework problems. It cost around \$20 a month and allowed a user to upload 20 problems, or more with extra purchases, to receive help on unsolvable problems.

"For [some] problems to be solved, a guardian had to ask the question," Villafranca said. "We designed it like this so that a student wouldn't do [their] entire homework."

Villafranca planned to hire tutors at the beginning of the app's development to solve the problems that people presented.

"Later down the road, we planned to have the community answer the questions," Villafranca said. "The app would give rewards to people who were able to correctly solve a problem, so when a person approved the answer as correct then the person who responded would get [monetary] compensation."

Villafranca's plan for the app was to be used to help non-native English speaker students learn English, according to senior Juan Prieto, a friend of Villafranca.

"He came up with the idea before he moved to the U.S. and learned how to improve his plan," Prieto said.

Villafranca decided to build Student10 for business and the greater student community as a whole.

"The app also had a space where people could solve problems for free," Villafranca said. "That way the app would be more like school at someone's house but for a much lower cost."

Villafranca pitched the idea to investors, prepared a business plan for the app and created a budget while he attended Harding.

Senior Thelma Garcia Martinez, another friend of Villafranca, spoke highly of his work ethic.

"Since Adria came to Harding, he's shown passion for doing new things," Martinez said. "He puts a lot of effort in what he does."

Villafranca used his time at Harding to continue developing the app and was excited to see where his plans took him.

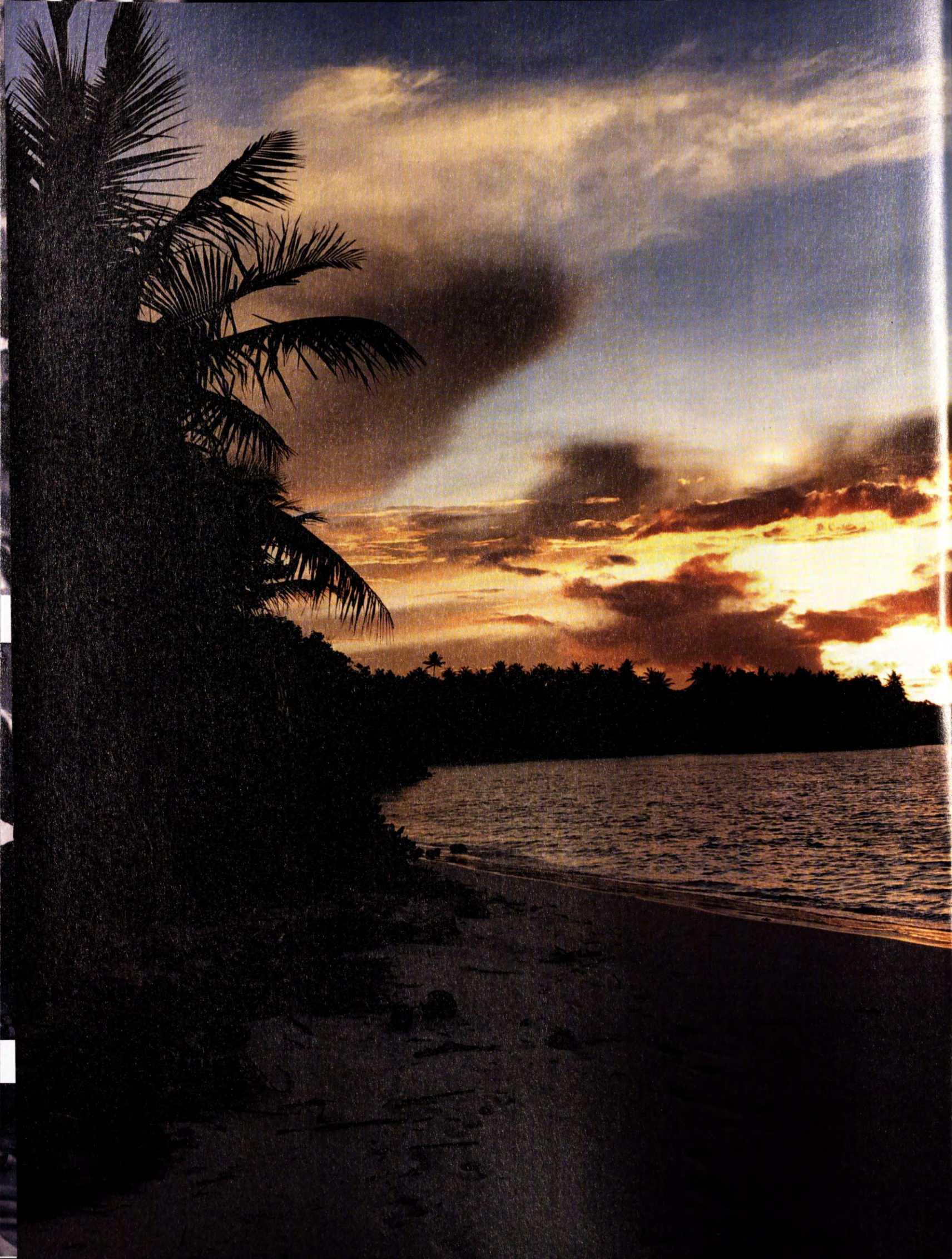
"To create a business [takes] a lot of time and effort," Villafranca said. "I had to fully dedicate my time in my idea to believe in it, to sleep with it, to eat with it and live with it."

Senior Adria Villafranca codes the last details of his app in fall 2017. Villafranca developed an application called Student10, which was created to help students problem solve and learn English. // Photo by Abigail Cooper











SUMMER WITH SELLERS

SOPHOMORE SPENDS SUMMER ON REMOTE PACIFIC ISLAND

WORDS *Audra Shumaker* // PHOTOS *Josh Sellers*

In summer 2017, junior Josh sellers embarked on a 22-hour journey to the middle of the Pacific ocean to a remote island called Kwajalein. The small and roughly three-mile wide island was owned and run by the U.S. making it a private island with no tourists. the only people allowed to visit the island were costumers and workers' relatives, which allowed Sellers to visit his mother, Donna Simpson, and step-father. This was the only second time Sellers had been able to visit in the past two years his mother worked on the island, because the process of gaining access to the island was not easy.

"Any visitor has to be sponsored," Simpson said. "Forms are submitted, and they are given a short background check for any criminal record before being approved to be on the island."

Once Sellers was cleared to go, he made his journey to Kwajalein, where he spent six weeks exploring the island.

"The sea life was incredibly abundant," Sellers said. "Anytime you scuba or snorkel you will see a ton of fish, sharks [and] manta rays. It's different everytime you go."

According to Sellers, the most impactful part of the island's natural environment was the ocean. While on the island, Sellers received his advanced scuba diving license, which allowed him to go 130 feet under the water. This led Sellers to be captivated by the aquatic prospect on the island seen more.

"There are specific scuba diving areas where you can see clam shells that reach four to five feet in length," Sellers said.

According to Sellers, the island was surrounded by sunken Wold War II ships that scuba divers explored. While diving, Sellers saw a 700-foot German boat called Prinz Eugen.

"It was so cool to be able to dive and know that you were seeing something that was a big part of history," Sellers said.

Sophomore TK Geter, a friend of Sellers, commented on Seller's personality. saying his adventurous spirit endured when Sellers returned back to Harding in the fall.

"Josh is the kind of guy who pulls people together for and adventure, never leaving anyone out," Geter said. "His personality is just awesome as the things he gets involved in."

Sophomore Josh Sellers relaxes on a boat and admires the beauty of the island of Kwajalein in summer 2017. Sellers lived part of his summer on an island protected by the U.S. government where few visitors were allowed; after gaining clearance, Sellers was able to spend time with his family and enjoy the amazing island of Kwajalein. // Photo courtesy of Josh Sellers



SPLIT NATIONALITY

LAURA WALDRON FINDS HOME IN MISSIONS ABROAD

WORDS *Cassidy Colbert & Rachel VanCuren* // PHOTOS *Evan Swearingen*

For many Harding students, moving to Searcy was their first big step away from their hometown. However, leaving home was nothing new to sophomore Laura Waldron.

Although she was born in the United States, Laura spent the majority of her childhood in Honduras and Mexico. Her mother and father were missionaries and the founders of Mission Upreach, a nonprofit organization centered on spreading the gospel in Honduras. One of the many memories Laura had about growing up in Honduras was when her family shared the Bible with people who had never experienced it before.

"A family told us about [their loved] ones who have never heard [about] God," Laura said. "So, we packed up our backpacks, hiked into the valley where their village was and shared the gospel with them."

According to Laura, growing up in a missionary family was a very unique experience.

"We did a lot of medical missions where we delivered babies, helped in minor surgeries and other things that typical teenagers my age were not doing," Laura said.

Donna Waldron, Laura's mother, agreed, adding that having Laura and her brother, alumnus Harrison Waldron, grow up in a mission field strengthened their relationships with God.

"Our children became leaders in ministry and had service opportunities unlike anything they would have had in the [U.S.]," Donna said.

According to Donna, becoming a missionary family also helped keep their family close-knit, especially between Laura and Harrison. The family's closeness was tested when Harrison was in a near-fatal accident, causing him to be hospitalized.

"When Harrison had his accident in August 2015, there was never a question in anyone's mind that Laura [wouldn't] remain by his side until he transitioned home," Donna said.

While strengthening her relationship with Harrison, Laura also grew closer with alumna Hayley Waldron, Harrison's wife.

"[Laura] was already close to Hayley, but the five months they spent side by side, hoping and praying over Harrison bonded them into sisterhood," Donna said.

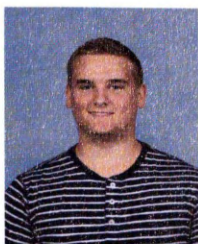
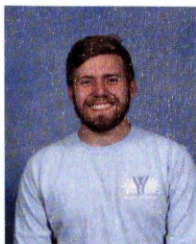
According to Hayley, although the accident was difficult for their family and they at times struggled with their relationships with one another, working together was the most important thing to do.

"It would be a lie if I told you it's been rainbows and butterflies, but every tough time has brought new healing and stronger relationships amongst us all," Hayley said.

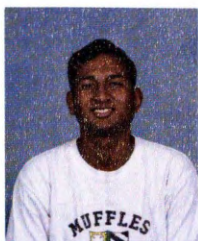
Through the Waldron's missionary work and Harrison's accident, Laura, Hayley and their family learned the best ways to remain close.

"Love will overcome," Hayley said. "[The] Waldron family is a testament to that truth."

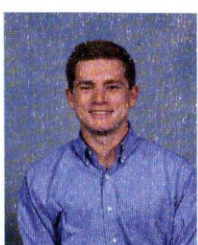
Harding's mission mindset is nothing new for sophomore Laura Waldron. Growing up in three different countries with her family as missionaries, Waldron became comfortable in multiple setting and culture. // Photo by Evan Swearingen



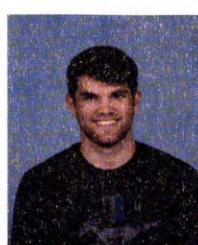
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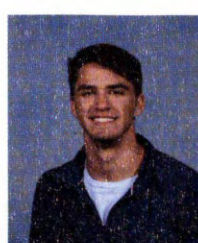
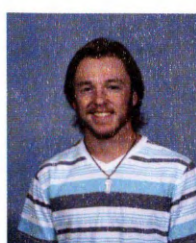
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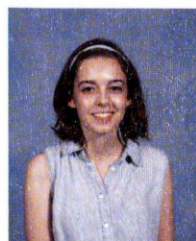
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Coral Brantley
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 Samantha Brooks



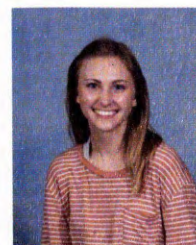
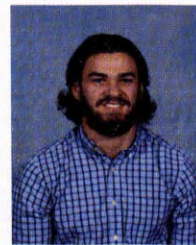
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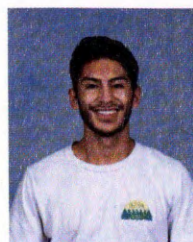


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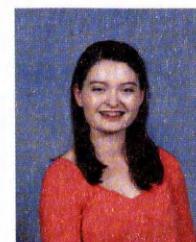
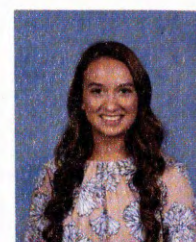
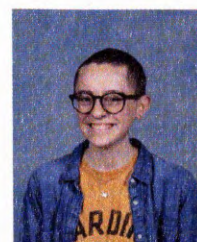
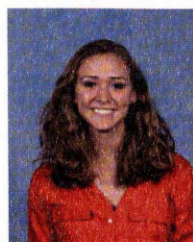


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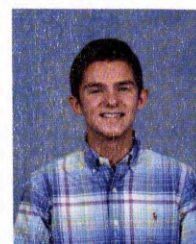


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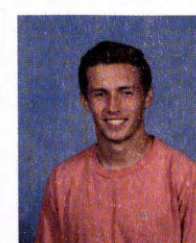
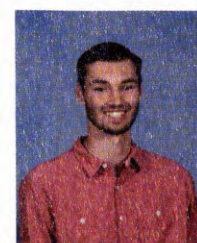


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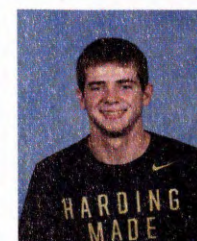


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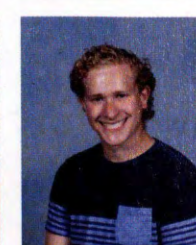


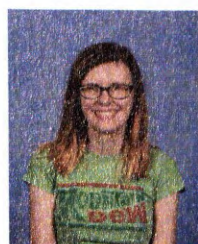
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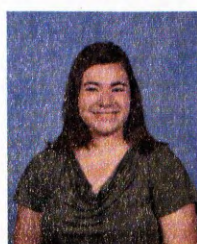
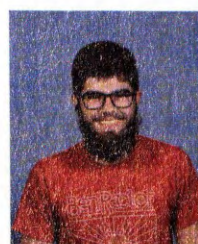
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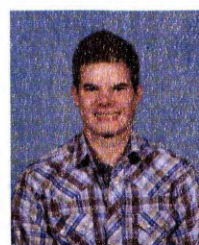
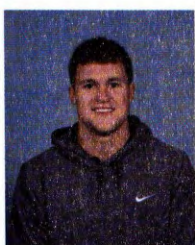




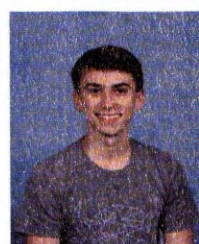
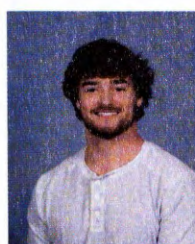
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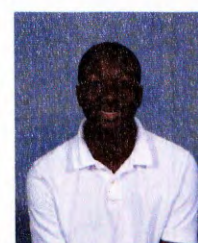
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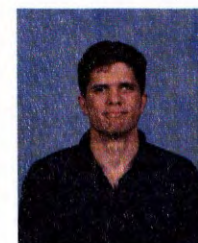
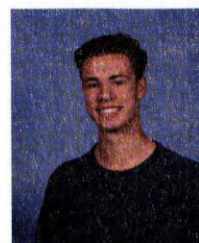
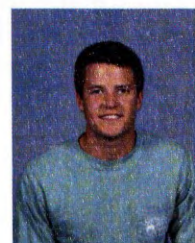
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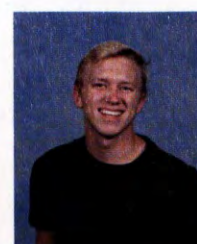
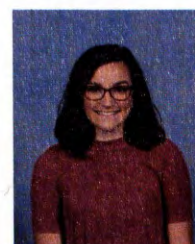
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Amy Erwin



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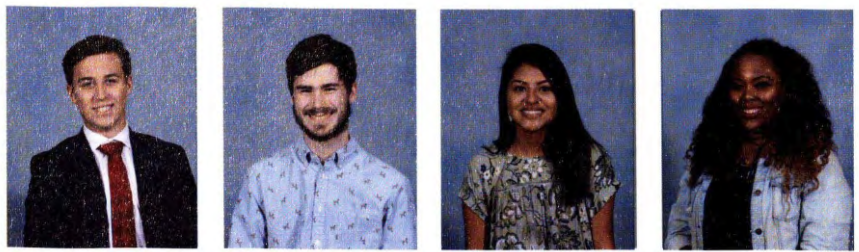


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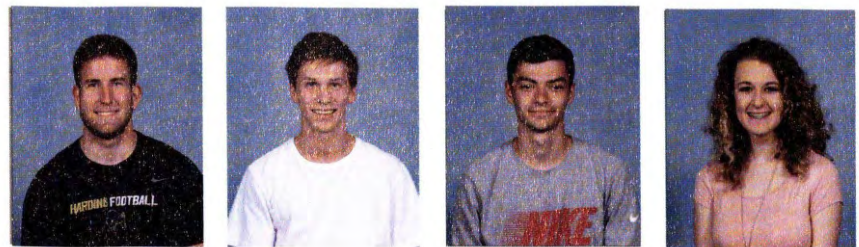
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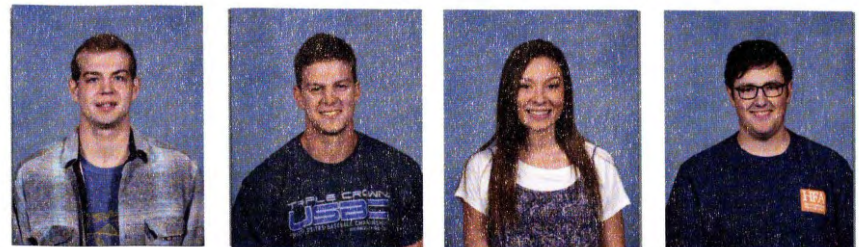
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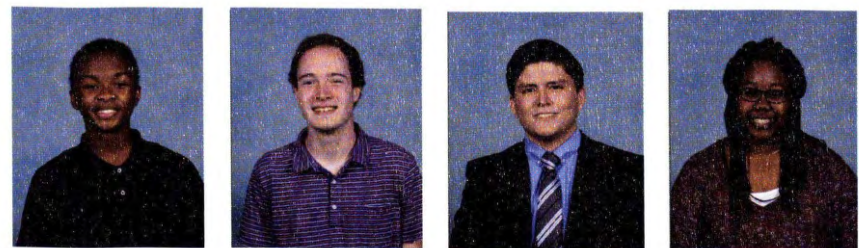
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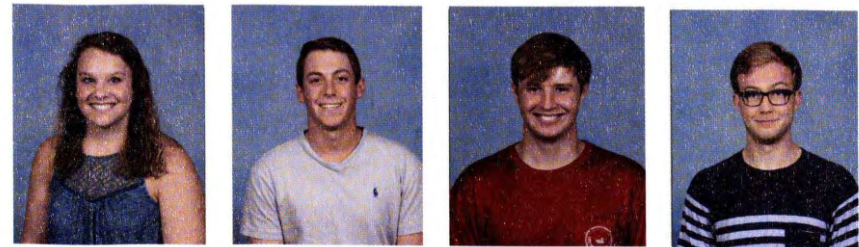
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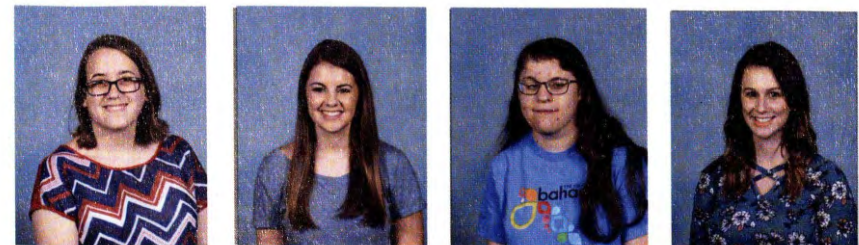
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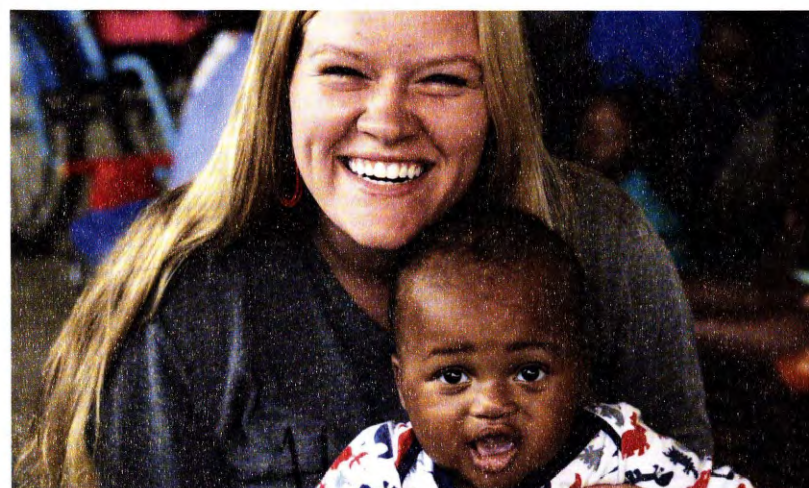
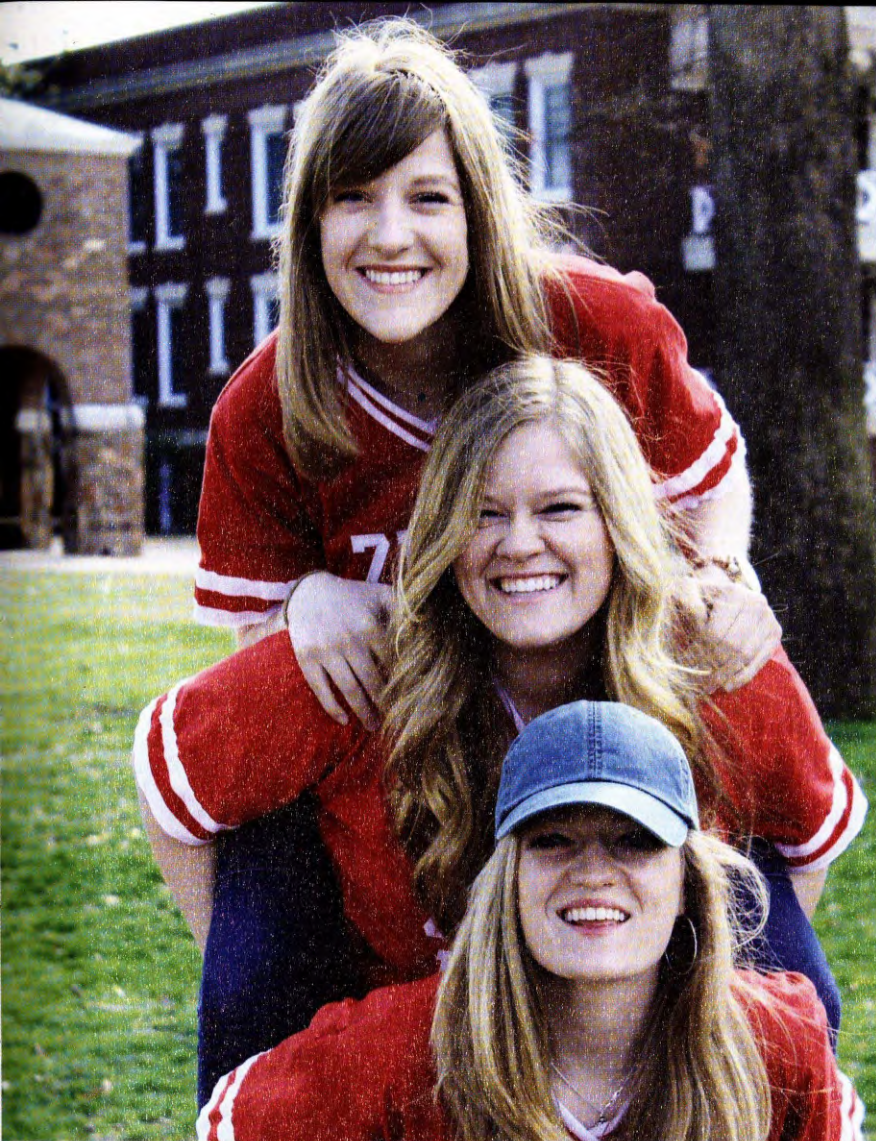


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Braden Jamagin
Trevor Jarrett
Andrew Jayne



Abbey Jenkins
Alana Johnson
Sara Johnson
Alexie Johnston





THREE SISTERS, THREE CONTINENTS

TRIPLETS SEPARATED BY DISTANCE DURING FALL SEMESTER

WORDS *Anna Holland* // PHOTOS *Bethany, Hannah & Makensie Cobb*

Triplets sisters Hannah, Bethany and Makensie Cobb spent parts of their sophomore year studying in different parts of the world. Hannah, Bethany and Makensie were nursing majors who each had a passion for mission work. Even though they had similar visions, they gravitated toward different programs. Makensie chose to study at Harding in Zambia (HIZ) in fall 2017.

"I am very passionate about missions, and it is what I hope to do with my life as soon as I am done with school," Makensie said. "Even though [HIZ] is only a short trip, it would give me my longest exposure to being in this type of culture, and that was something that really interested me and ultimately made my decision about which program to attend."

Similar to how Makensie chose her program, Hannah decided to study with Harding University in Latin America (HULA) during spring 2018 because she could see herself working in the future in Latin America. Bethany, however, took a different approach. Instead of looking at a specific place, she chose a program based on adventure. She felt Harding University in Australasia (HUA), where she studied in fall 2017, was the best opportunity for her to experience new things like skydiving, backpacking and learning more about many different cultures.

"I loved the aspect of adventure and knew I would have the opportunity to experience things like skydiving and bungee jumping which have been on my bucket list," Bethany said. "Another big reason was because I saw it as an area that I could not as easily travel to or ever have the opportunity in my life to go again. I want to be able to surround myself in a culture and become a part of it while I am there. I want to take in every experience, and let the Lord mold me into who he wants me to be."

Traveling was not a new experience for the Cobb sisters, as they had previously visited nations such as England, Israel, Haiti, Belize and Brazil. The sisters found a love for traveling and helping others from these trips.

"We went on our first international mission trip in seventh grade, and that [sold] us," Hannah said.

Even though the sisters were miles apart, with spotty Wi-Fi and drastically different time zones, the Cobb family felt close.

"My parents have always encouraged our travelling, and while they miss us and are sad that we are gone, they are happy with the experiences we are having," Makensie said. "They know the importance of getting into other cultures and seeing the world from a different perspective."

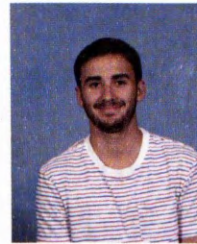
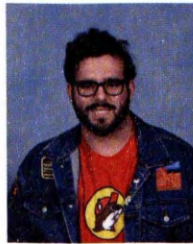
Being separated may be hard for triplets Bethany, Hannah and Makensie Cobb, but that is not stopping them from fulfilling their dreams of traveling the world. In fall 2017, Bethany was abroad in Australia, and Makensie was abroad in Zambia; Hannah studied abroad in Latin America in spring 2018. // Photo courtesy of Makensie Cobb

Brent Johnston

Tanner Johnston

Kylie Jones

Makayla Jones

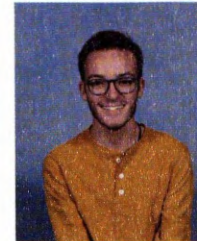


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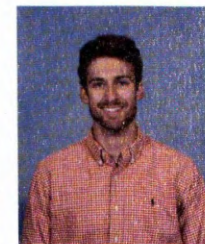
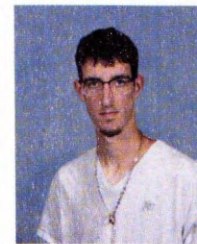


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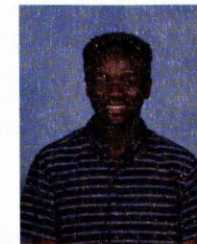


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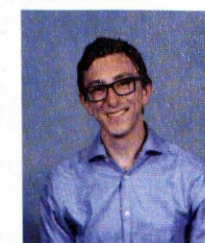


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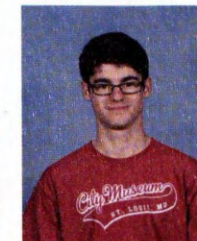
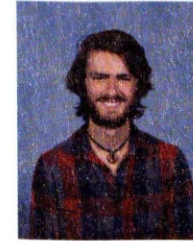


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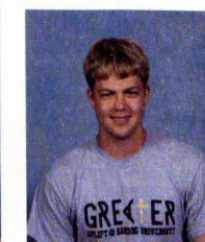
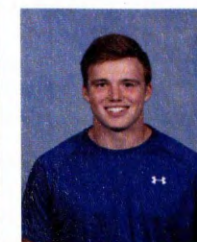


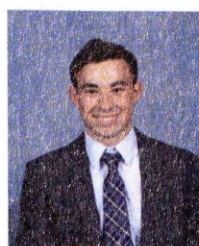
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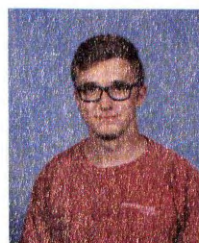
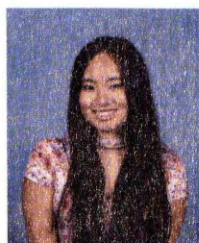
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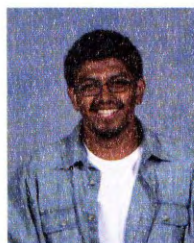




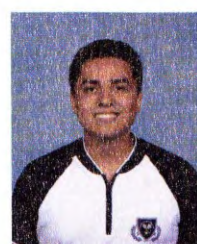
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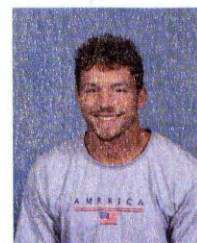
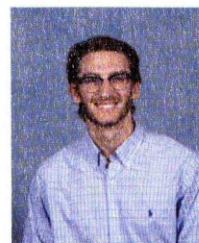
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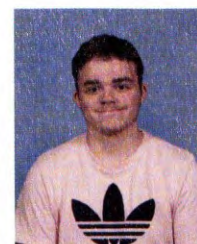
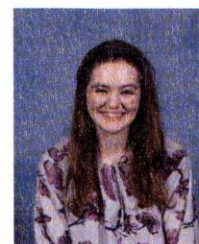
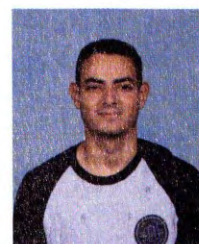
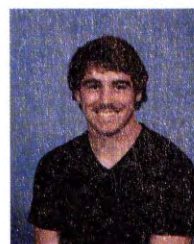
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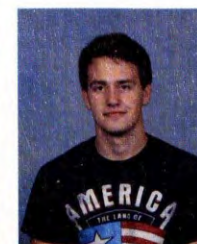
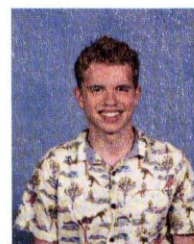
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Abigail Mullins
Matthew Musslewhite
Allie Myers
Jed Myers



Noah Myers
Edgar Navas
Rebekah Neal
Tyler Newsom



Cayde Newton
Aidan Nichols
Kaylee O' Dell
Skyler Oakley



SHINING THROUGH BEAUTY

WORDS *Madison Edwards* // PHOTOS *Adrian Rutter*

HARDING STUDENT BECOMES MISS WHITE COUNTY

Sophomore Adrian Rutter became Miss White County Sept. 11, 2017. Rutter was actively involved in pageants while growing up, but took a break around 5th grade to pursue athletics. In her junior year of high school, she decided to jump back in.

"When I was in high [school], I was not very confident in myself," Rutter said. "I was confident in my personality, but sometimes I wasn't the best at showing it. When I got back into pageants, it really helped me see that I am just fine in my own skin. Being able to get up in front of people and have them stare at you for a solid amount of time is pretty scary, but the important thing is realizing I can be confident."

After winning the White County crown, Rutter competed in the Arkansas State Pageant. Although the White County pageant was smaller and less competitive, she thought it really helped prepare her for state, which included women from many counties. The first round took place on Oct. 18, 2017, and the finals on Oct. 21.

One of the best parts of the pageant process was the people, according to Rutter.

"I [love] getting to meet all the girls," Rutter said. "[It's] been a long time since I've seen [some of] them but we're still good friends."

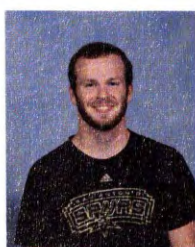
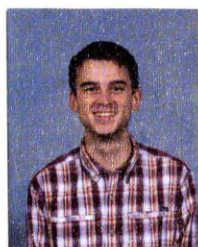
Junior Miss White County, Morgan Feltrop, junior at Searcy High School enjoyed growing closer to Rutter throughout the process.

"I have enjoyed getting to know Adrian," Feltrop said. "I appreciate how sweet she is and look forward to getting to know her even better this year."

Pam Son, Rutter's pageant director, enjoyed working with Rutter's leading example.

"[The] thing I admire most about Adrian is that she lets God shine through her," Son said. "All you have to do is look at her and her inner beauty shines through."

Sophomore Adrian Rutter participates in the beauty pageants to become Miss White County. On Oct. 21, 2017, Rutter became Miss White County in a beauty pageant that took a set of two rounds, in which the last one she became winner. // Photo courtesy of Adrian Rutter



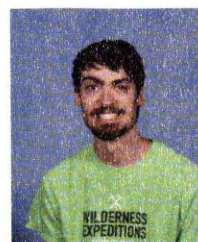
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John Overbey



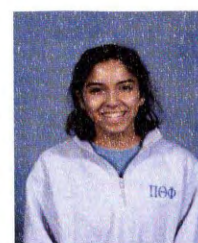
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Caroline Parker



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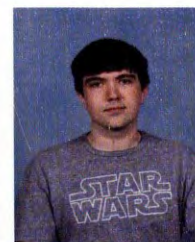
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Harlie Ray



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Rebecca Reed
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Griffin Ritter

Autumn Rivera

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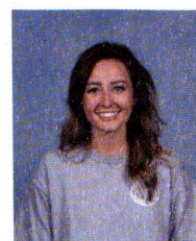


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Corbin Roth

Haley Roth

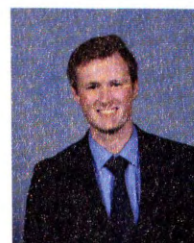
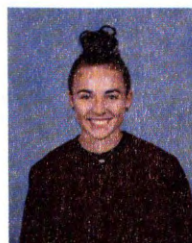


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Shannon Saffle

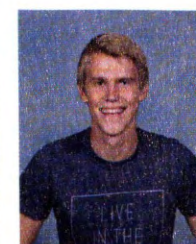
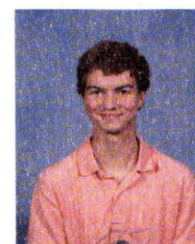
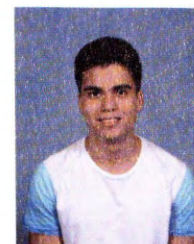
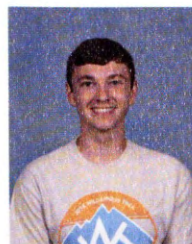


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Joshua Sellers

Keaton Shearin



Elizabeth Shores

Emily Shumaker

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Kaitlyn Sullivan



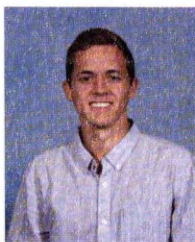


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Estela Taylor



Jacob Taylor

Ethan Terral

Robert Thompson

Sarah Thompson

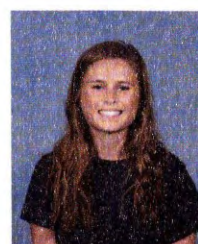
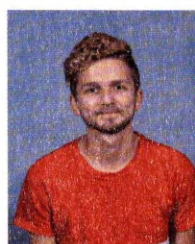


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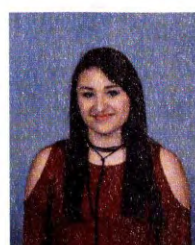
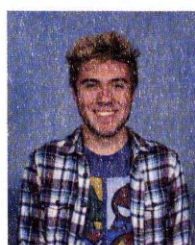


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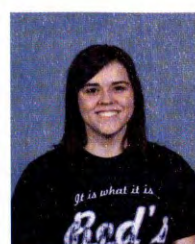
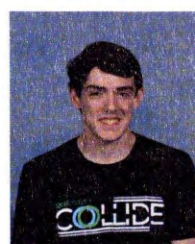


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Amber Wagster



Reagan Waldron

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Brenna Waters



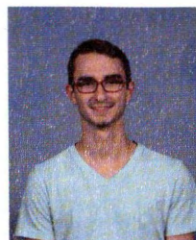
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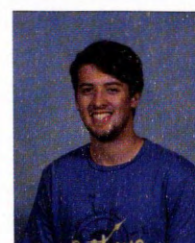
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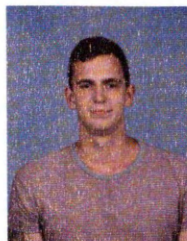
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Tiffany Wong
Kayley Wright
Savannah Wright



Luke Yates
Javan Yeager
Derek Yingling
Erin Young



Daniel Yount
Marisa Yowell





TRANSFERRING TO THE STAGE

FIRST-YEAR TRANSFER
BECOMES SPRING SING HOST

WORDS *Taryn Brown* // PHOTOS *Abigail Cooper*

Sophomore Brooks Bennett was no stranger to the stage.

In fall 2017, Bennett was a transfer student from Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee. When he transferred to Harding, his friends encouraged him to get involved and audition for something musically based. After completing the audition process, Bennett was selected as a 2018 Spring Sing host.

Bennett grew up with junior and fellow Spring Sing hostess, Caroline Ritchie, who encouraged him to try out.

"I [missed] performing, and auditions are a small performance, [so] I thought [I should] just go for it," Bennett said.

When Ritchie found out that Bennett had earned the role, she was ecstatic for her long-time friend.

"I was so proud when I saw that he got cast because I was so excited for him to come to Harding this year," Ritchie said. "[I] am so excited for what he is going to do [this year] in Spring Sing and the rest of his [time] here."

Sophomore Ava Galyean, another 2018 Spring Sing hostess, recognized Bennett's talent when she first heard him at the audition.

"I was absolutely blown [away]," Galyean said. "He is so talented, and I'm glad he is getting the recognition he deserves."

When talking to Bennett about singing and performing, his love for the stage showed on his face and through his words.

"I always enjoy the moment right before going on stage," Bennett said. "[When you] immerse yourself in that world and character, you get to give people something at that point. I get to use a gift that [makes] people laugh, entertain them or move people. [I] enjoy making people feel something and telling a story, whether on stage or behind the scenes."

Sophomore Brooks Bennett becomes part of the Spring Sing line-up after being named a host in fall 2017. Bennett was a transfer student from Belmont University who auditioned to become a host of the Spring Sing musical during his first year at Harding. // Photo by Abigail Cooper

A HEART FILLED WITH MUSIC

FRESHMAN OPENS CONCERT FOR LECRAE

WORDS *Emily Wheelless* // PHOTOS *Kaley Burks*

Freshman Austin Varner shared his gift of music with the community during the fall 2017 semester. Varner performed all over Searcy and expanded his performance skills while attending school at Harding.

Nine years ago, Varner began learning how to play the guitar from Chuck Hicks, assistant professor of music, who noted the value of Varner's hard-working attitude.

"No doubt [Austin] has talent, but he also has persistence," Hicks said. "The persistence will be the character trait that will bring him success, regardless of the path he chooses."

Since being at Harding, Varner opened for Lecrae on Sept. 11, and also performed at KIBO Midnight Oil on Oct. 22. Varner grew up in Searcy, before moving to Jackson, Tennessee, which made the thought of performing at Midnight Oil special.

"I have many memories of being 12 or 13 years old and seeing packed concerts on the porch and inside and thinking that the musicians performing had 'made

it,'" Varner said. "So being able to perform for the first time just recently as a full band playing my own music was a great feeling looking back on the memories leading up to the performance."

Varner released a seven-song album titled "Reasons," in summer 2017 on Spotify, with the help of fellow performers like drummer Clayton Wallace.

"Austin is one of the best musicians I have had the privilege of playing with," Wallace said. "Being in the same room with him just creates an artistic flow you cannot find with just anyone. He is one of the best around."

Though Varner loved music and performing, he was not sure where the future would lead him.

"I think my central goal for music is that it serves its purpose in my life as inspiration, entertainment and a way to connect with other people," Varner said. "If that means a short-lived or life-long career in music that would be awesome, but if not music is still going to play an important role in my life and relationships."

Freshman Austin Varner performs in KIBO Midnight Oil on Oct. 27, 2017. Varner started performing for small audiences in KIBO Midnight Oil as well for big audiences like opening the concert for Lecrae on the George S. Benson Auditorium. // Photo by Kaley Burks



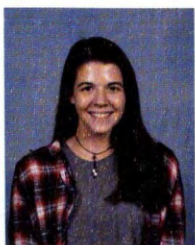
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Sharon Ah Ping

Cassandra Ahlrichs

Lauren Ahlrichs



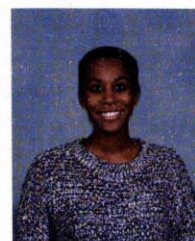
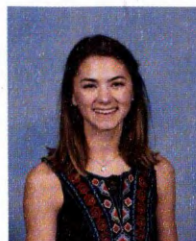
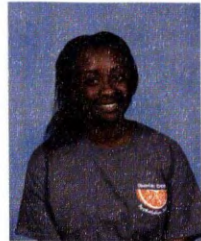
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Mariana Andrews



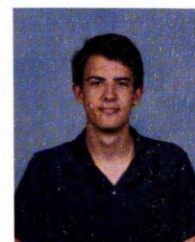
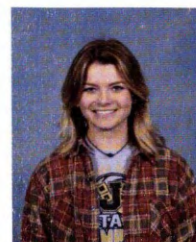
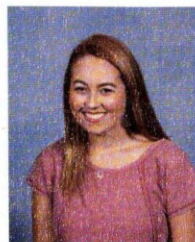
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Max Aubel

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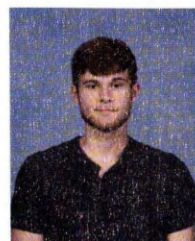
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Julea Bartch



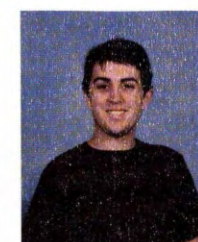
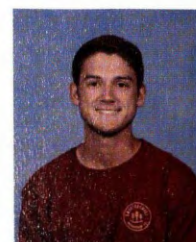
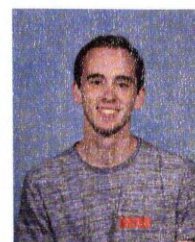
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Anna Beaver

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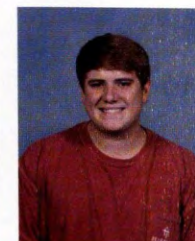
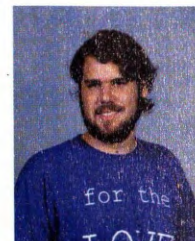
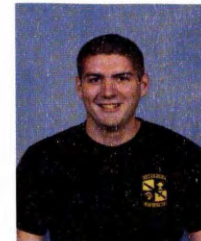
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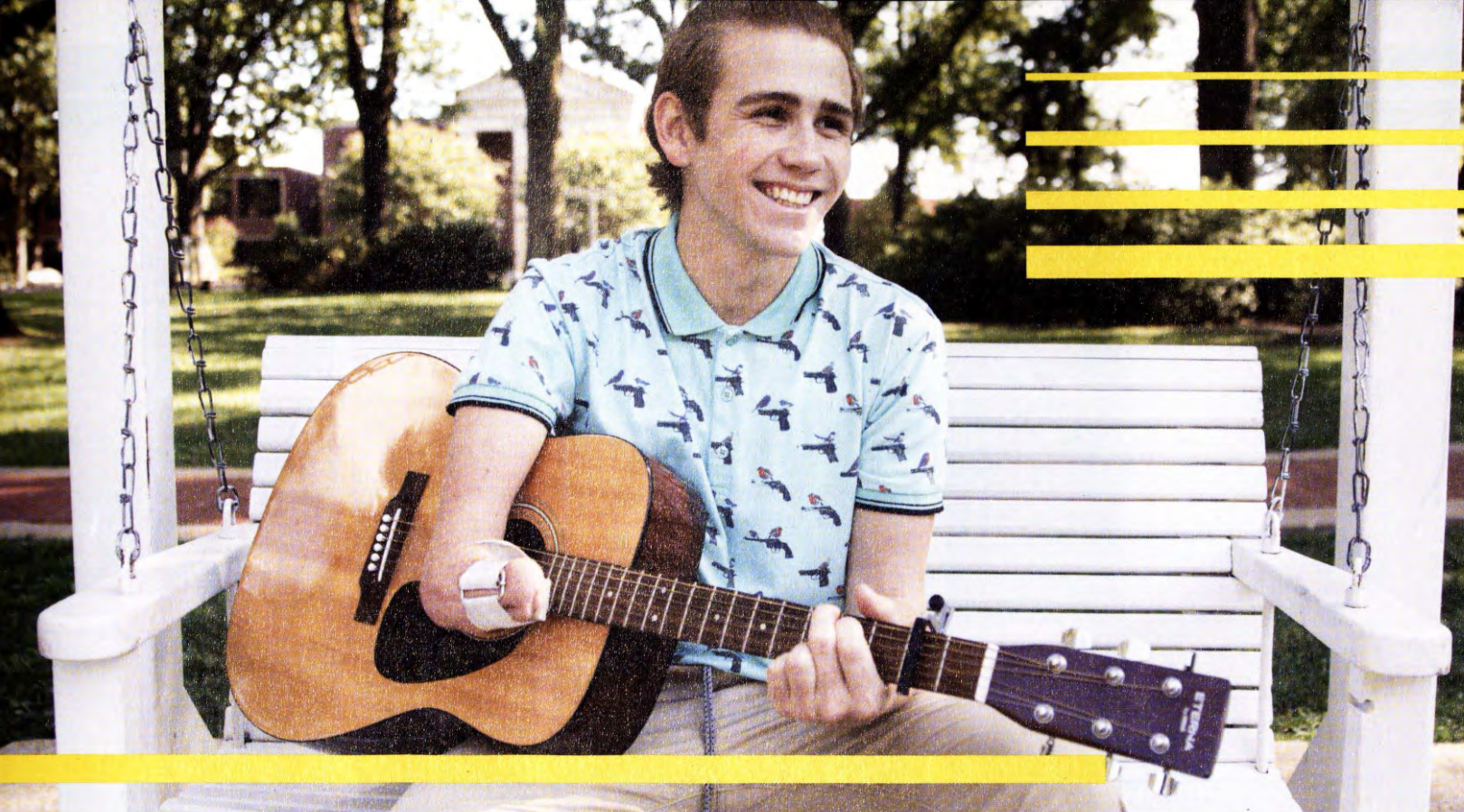
Joshua Bennett

Yaremi Bernal

Bronson Berryman

Anna Bingham





PLUCKING HEART STRINGS

BYRON CARRANZA OVERCOMES ADVERSITY THROUGH FAITH

WORDS *Abby Kilgore* // PHOTOS *Kazu Fujisawa*

Byron Carranza, a freshman Walton Scholar from Costa Rica, grew up listening to his mother tell him that he could do anything by the grace of God.

"The most important thing I have learned is that dreams can be done," Carranza said. "God says, 'With me you can do anything.' There is nothing we cannot do with God. It does not matter what you are or what you have."

Carranza had a better reason than most not to believe this statement. He was born without a right hand, but he never let this stop him.

Despite this, Carranza played the guitar, drums, basketball and volleyball. When he saw something done that required two hands, it motivated him to try it, because he knew that it would test him.

Carranza attended a science school in Costa Rica which prepared him for the rigorous curriculum at Harding. He successfully helped a teacher create a prosthetic hand, which was sold on the open market.

"I always try to do everything in the [best] way I can," Carranza said. "I think everyone should try to be the best version of who they are."

Carranza embraced this statement, making it a part of his life. Over 1,600 people applied to be a Walton Scholar in his home country of Costa Rica in 2016. Carranza said he knew there were other deserving students, but that this was God's purpose for him.

Carranza majored in mechanical engineering and electrical engineering,

saying he was fascinated with science and mathematics from a young age. His dream was to work at NASA, and at Harding he was closer to his dream than he had ever been before.

Carranza's humble personality was a character trait that stood out to Nicky Boyd, director the Walton Scholar program.

"[Carranza] has a calm self-confidence that I really like," Boyd said. "He does not try to tell you how smart he is. He shows you."

For years, Carranza defied the odds and showed people how it was possible to overcome limitations.

Freshman Denis Marroquin, a friend of Carranza's, noted that he and his friends offered to help Carranza with everything. They would offer to hold his plates in the cafeteria and try to help him when they played sports. Then, Marroquin said he watched Carranza play volleyball and could not believe his eyes. He never doubted his abilities again.

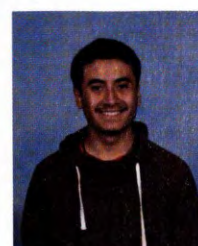
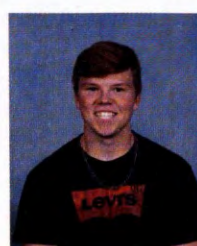
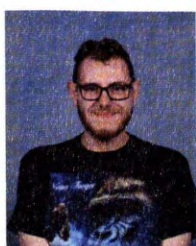
"I do not think he has any limitations," Marroquin said. "He can do everything."

Carranza knew he could do anything he put his mind to because of his mother's influence.

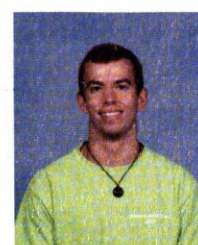
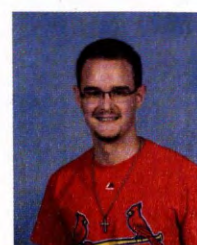
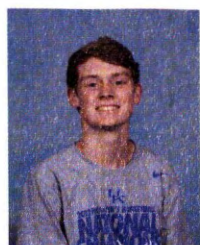
"[My mother] said do not tell yourself you cannot do it," Carranza said. "She said, 'You can do anything. You are perfect the way you are.' I have always seen myself as being just like everyone else."

Freshman Byron Carranza strums the guitar on the Front Lawn on Sept. 14, 2017. In fall 2017, Carranza came to Harding as a mechanical and electrical engineering major and decided to show his friends that obstacles can always be overcome. // Photo by Kazu Fujisawa

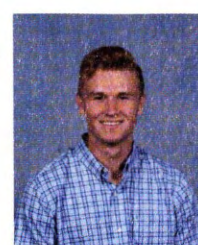
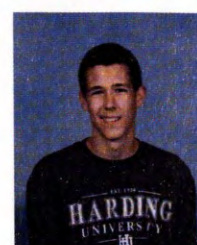
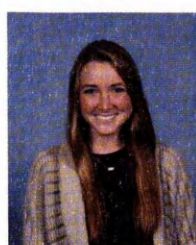
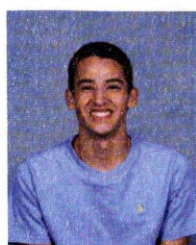
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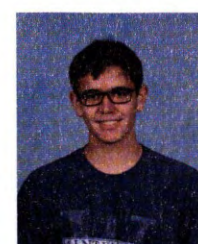
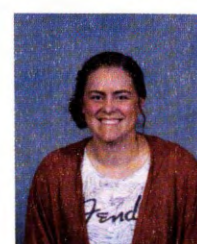
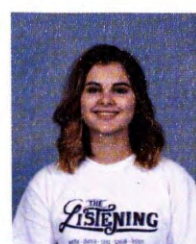
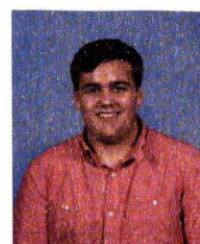
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 Chase Branum
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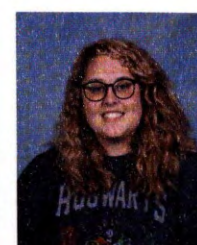
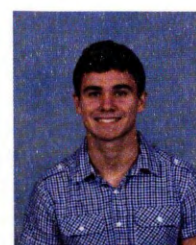
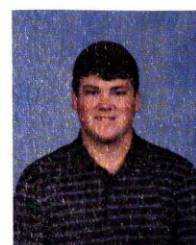
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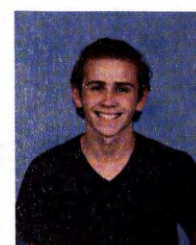
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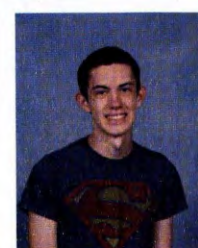
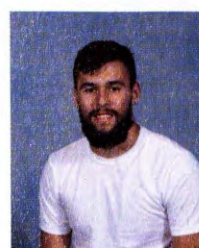
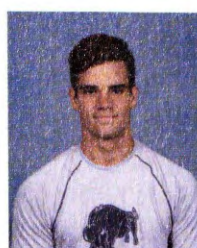
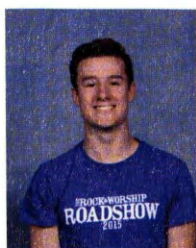


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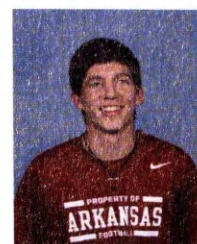


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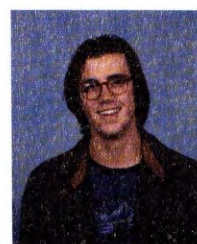
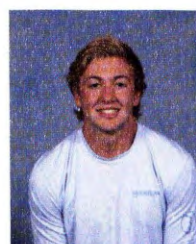




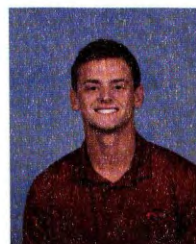
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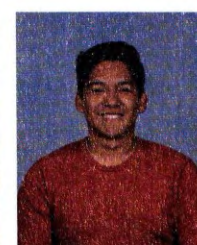
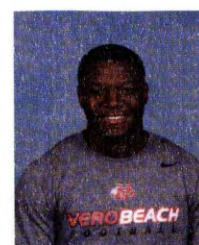
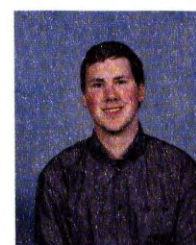
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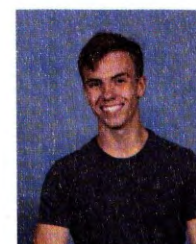
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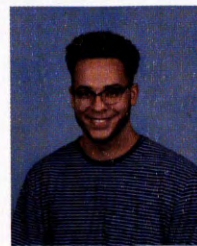
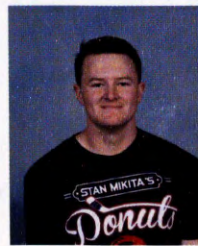
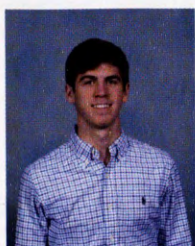
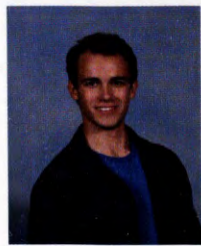
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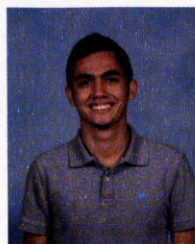
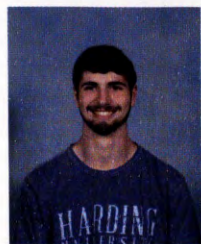
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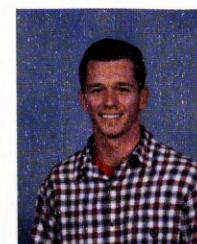
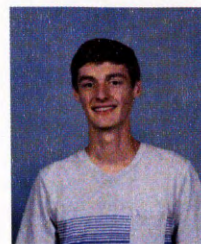
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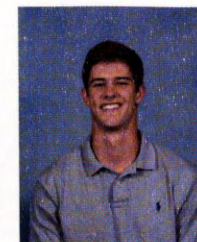
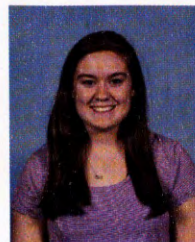
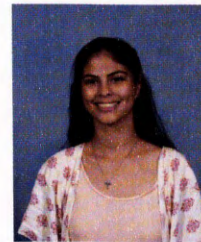
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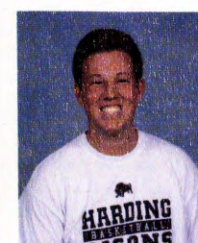
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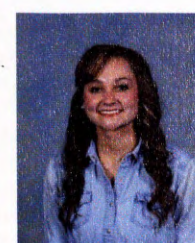
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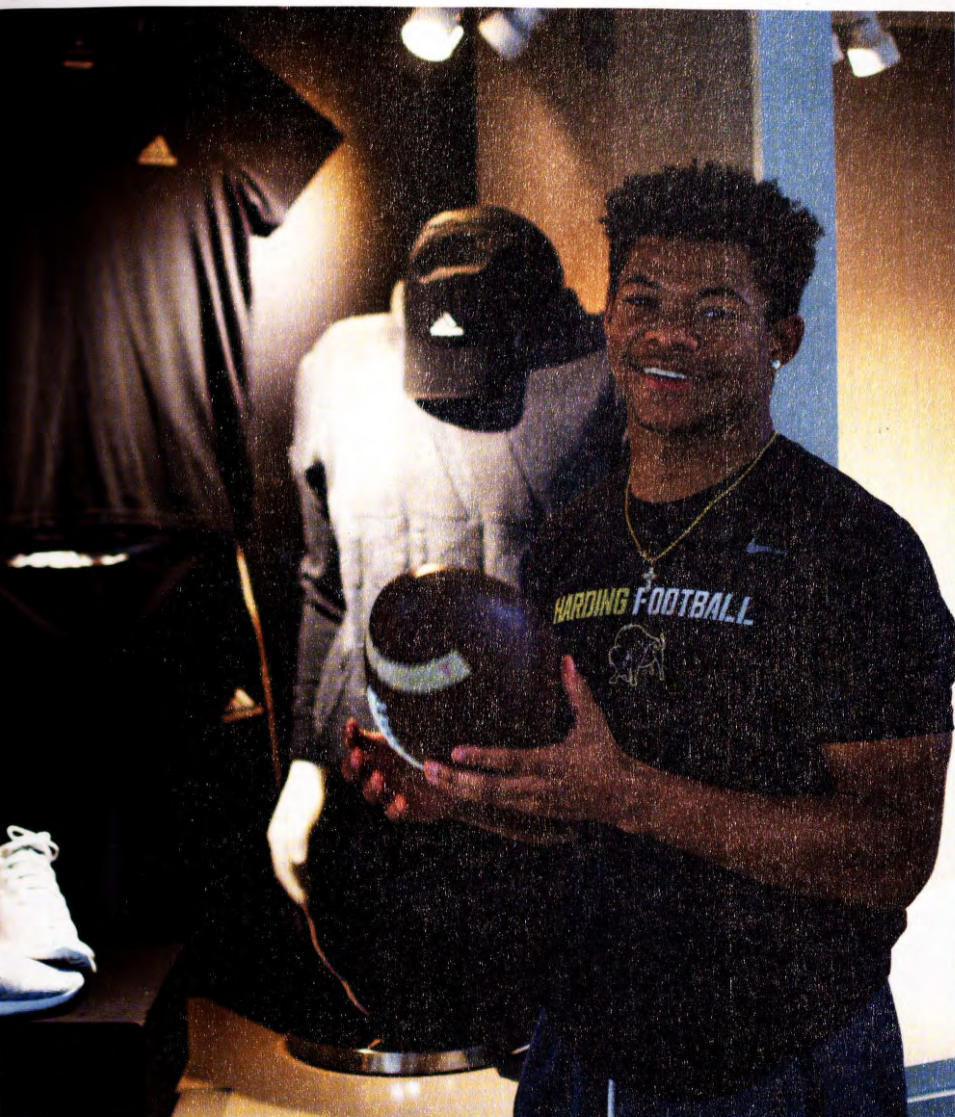
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Helen Fulks

Shannon Fuller





PLAYING WITH STYLE

FRESHMAN DEFENSIVE BACK BREAKS STEREOTYPES

WORDS *Maggie McDowell* // PHOTOS *Evan Swearingen*

When most people heard about fashion merchandising as a major, they pictured runways and expensive designers. What did not immediately come to mind, however, was football. But for freshman Kishawn Matthews (Keke), this was his normal. Matthews, a redshirted defensive back, was also a fashion merchandising major.

"I really enjoy working on clothes and just dressing nice, and [it's] just something I fell in love with," Matthews said. "It's something I want to do, a job I want to do to have fun with."

According to Matthews, he was part of a growing movement that combined the world of sports with fashion, something that people were starting to take note of, even without a fashion background. Senior wide receiver Lane Rodgers agreed.

"I think, actually, sports and fashion is becoming more of a thing," Rodgers said. "There's a lot of football players that will show up before games and the cameras will be on them because they're really big athletes, and they will look very fashionable, not just in a suit."

The concept of merging these two worlds opened new job opportunities for people like Matthews who were interested in both playing and styling sports.

"I want to be the one that designs the gear for football teams, and I also want to design my own clothes," Matthews said. "I think that maybe one day

I can have my own brand of clothes."

Professors took notice of this growing trend of male fashion. Rebecca Boaz, professor of family and consumer sciences, taught fashion merchandising major classes including history of fashion.

"Throughout the years, men's clothing, especially starting in the 1800s, was just pretty basic and boring," Boaz said. "But now it's more acceptable for a man to wear really cool colorful socks or fun shoes, and I think that it should be that way. They should be able to express themselves and their personality and what they wear just like women do."

Boaz also spoke on the waning stigma against men caring about fashion, which used to be an anomaly.

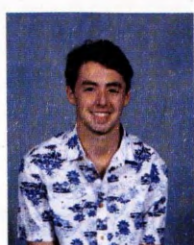
"I think that, especially in the last 10 years or so, more men have become interested in fashion," Boaz said. "I think that it's becoming more mainstream and more acceptable for guys to be concerned about fashion or interested in fashion, and why not?"

Matthews also had the added pressure of balancing practices and games with the various projects required for fashion merchandising, but insisted he has made time for both his major and football.

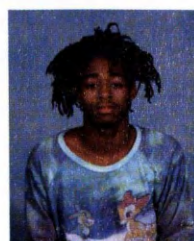
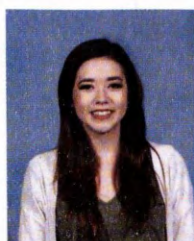
"I think I'll do fine [balancing the two] because when you are passionate about something, you always make time for it," Matthews said.

Freshman defensive back Keke Matthews demonstrates his skills not only in football, but also in clothing design. Matthews came to Harding as a freshman in fall 2017 and demonstrated that stereotypes were meant to be broken by showing his design skills to his friends and football teammates. // Photo by Evan Swearingen

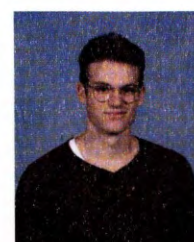
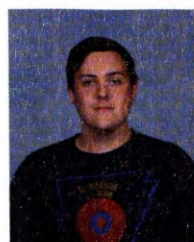
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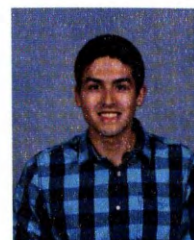
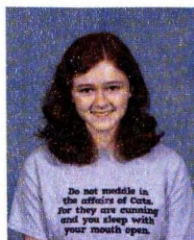
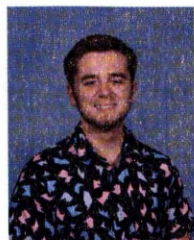
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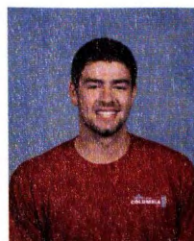
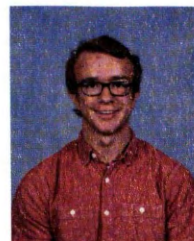
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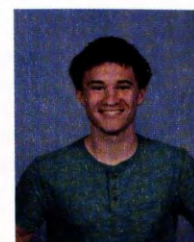
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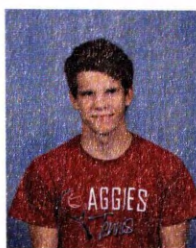
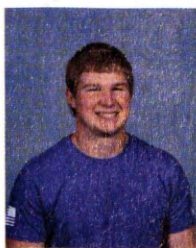
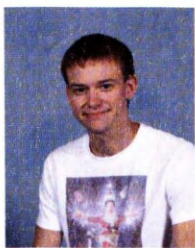


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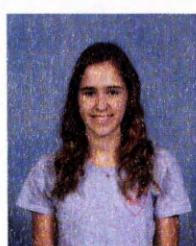
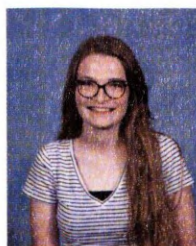
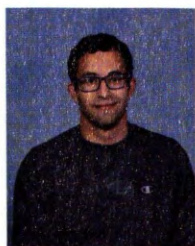


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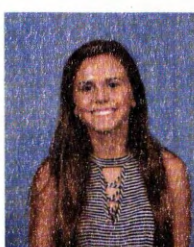
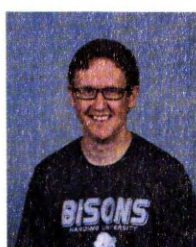
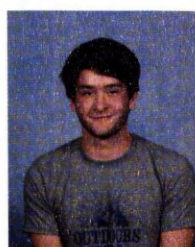




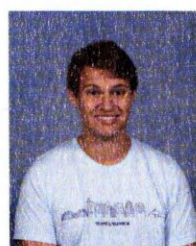
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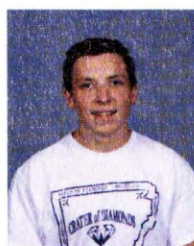
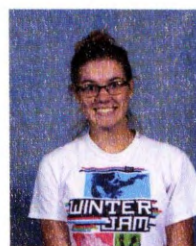
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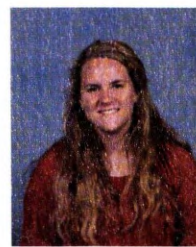
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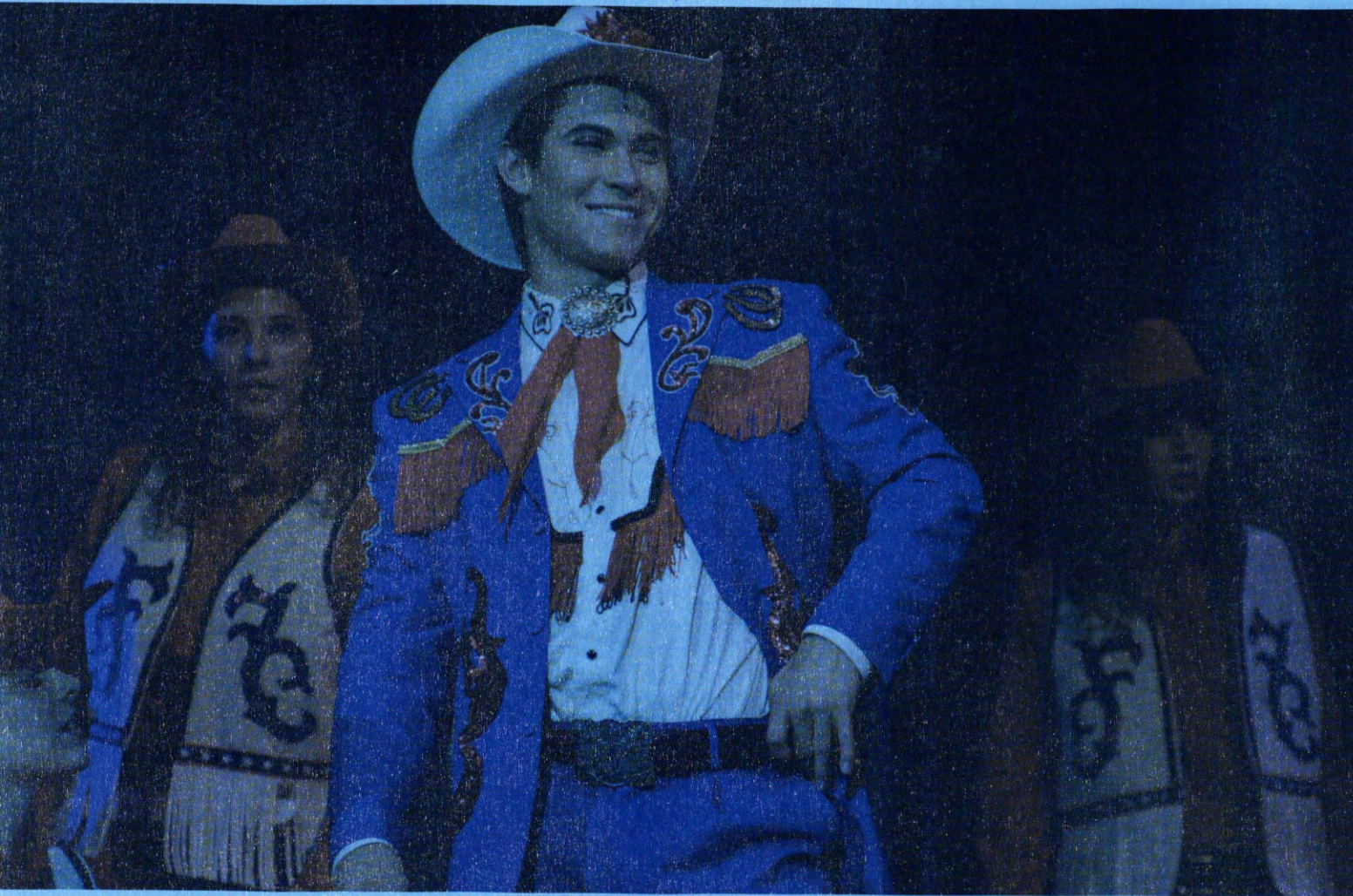
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Audrey Jackson
Katelyn Jewett
Emily Johnson
Hayle Johnson
Katelyn Johnson



FRESHMAN OUT FRONT

ROSS SHINES IN HOMECOMING MUSICAL AND SPRING SING 2018

WORDS *Presley Nixon* // PHOTOS *Abigail Cooper*

When freshman theatre major Maxwell Ross arrived to Harding, he was no stranger to the spotlight. He not only played the lead role in the Homecoming musical “Annie Get Your Gun,” but he was also a 2018 Spring Sing host.

“I have been performing for as long as I can remember,” Ross said.

Ross discovered his love of performance in the third grade when his class took a trip to see “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow.”

“I can still remember sitting in the audience and watching everyone perform on stage and thinking, ‘my goodness, this is something I have to do,’” Ross said.

Before coming to Harding, Ross auditioned for Producer of Theatre Cindee Stockstill and Professor of Theatre and Musical Director Britt Lynn for Harding’s Theatre Scholarship, which he later received. A few months later he was contacted by Lynn to audition for the role of Frank Butler in the musical.

“When we met him and auditioned him for the theatre scholarship, we realized what a great fit he was for the role,” Stockstill said.

According to Stockstill, there was some hesitation in casting a freshman as the lead, but they could not help but choose him.

“He was the look, he was the sound, he was the energy of that character that we wanted for the show,” Stockstill said.

Earning these roles as a freshman had been a blessing in many ways, according to Ross.

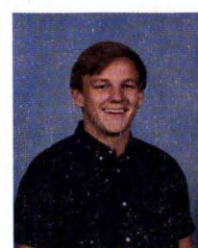
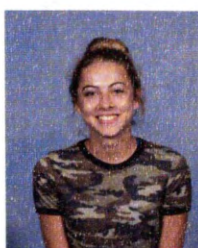
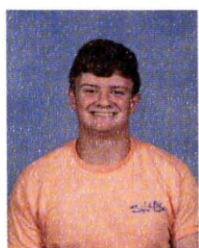
“The theatre program has brought me into a family,” Ross said. “[I’m] 12 hours from home, and moving from a big family to nothing, it made the move a lot easier and more fluid.”

Ross auditioned to be a Spring Sing host in September 2017 and was shocked when he received the role.

Steve Frye, chairman of the theatre department, was impressed with Ross and was excited to see what the future would hold.

“He is a talented young man,” Frye said. “He is a genuine young man. He has a great heart for performance. We’re going to be encouraging that and developing those skills and let him pursue that as much as he wants to.”

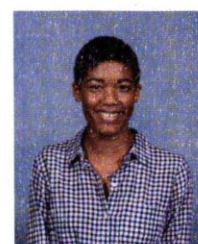
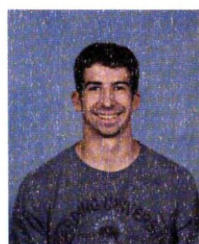
Sophomore Emma Thurman, freshman Maxwell Ross and senior Anna Waldrum perform in “Annie Get Your Gun” on Oct. 20-21 2017, in the George S. Benson Auditorium during Homecoming weekend. The play was a production of Irvin Berlin and consisted of the fictionalization of the sharpshooter Annie Oakley played by freshman Allie Scott. // Photo by Abigail Cooper



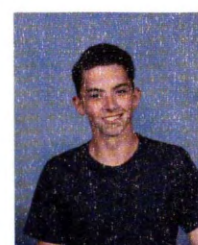
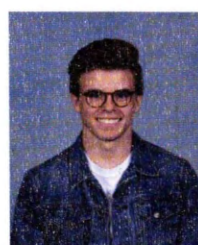
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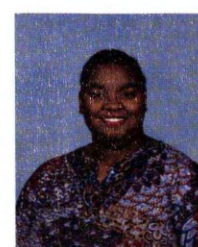
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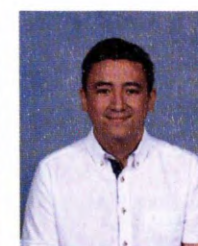
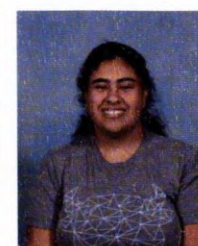
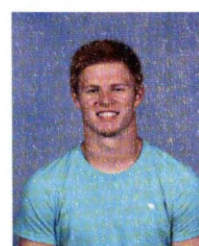
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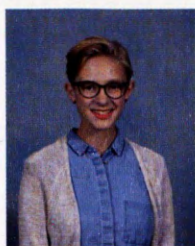


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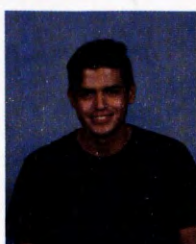


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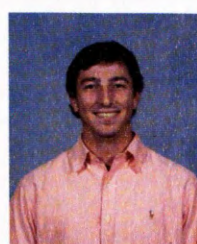
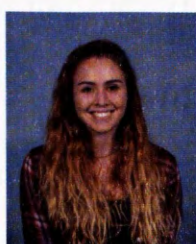
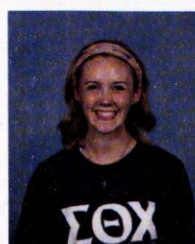
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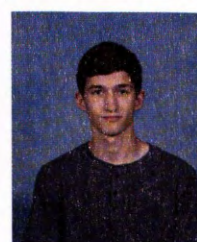
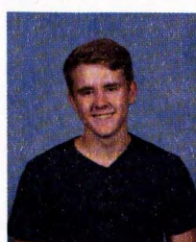
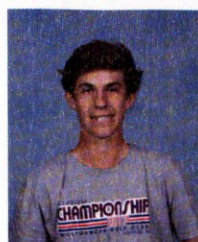
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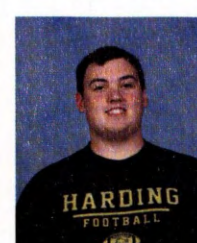
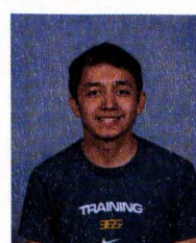
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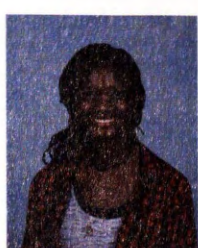
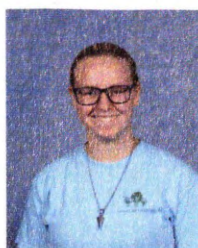
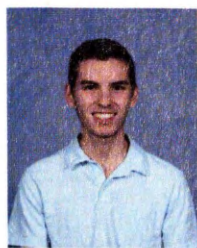


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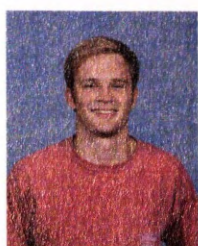
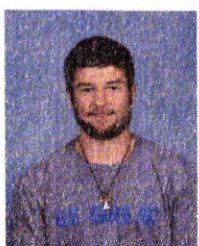
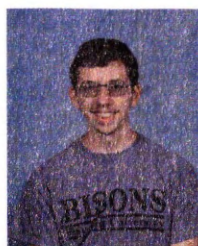


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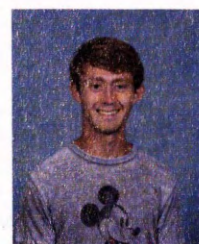
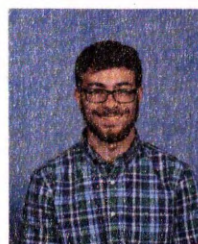




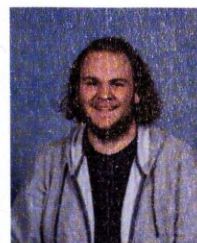
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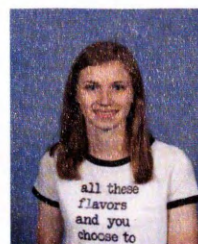
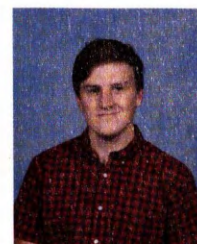
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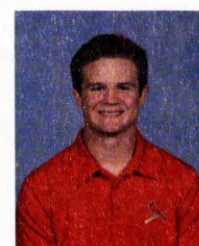
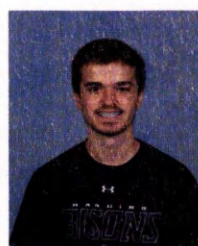
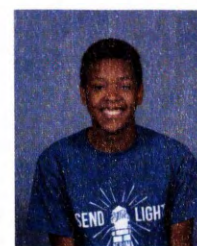
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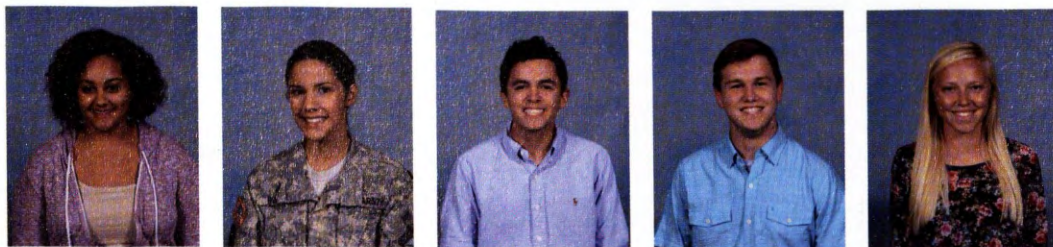


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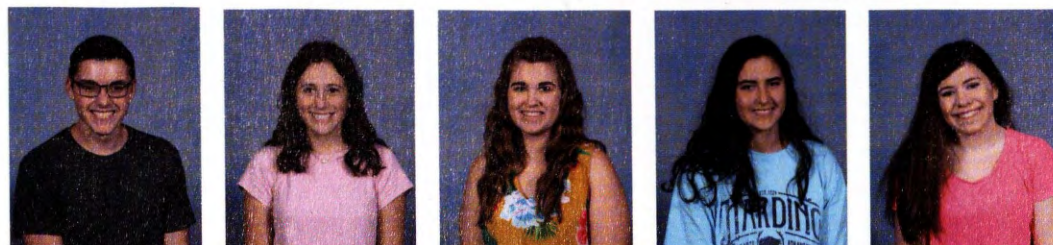


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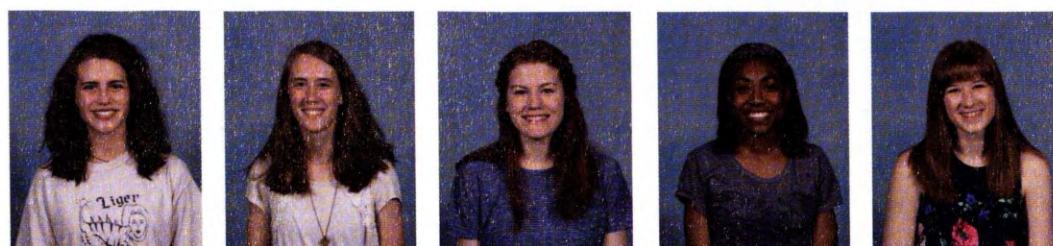
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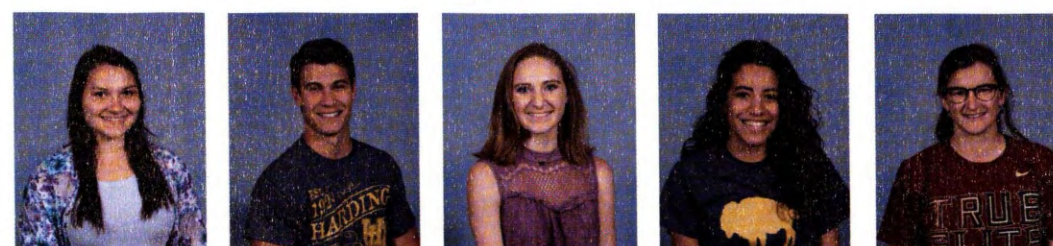
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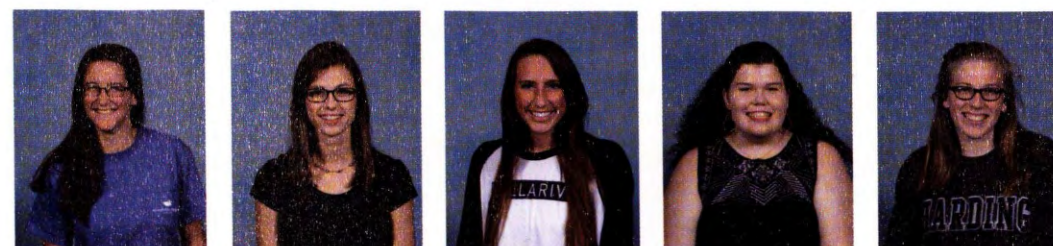
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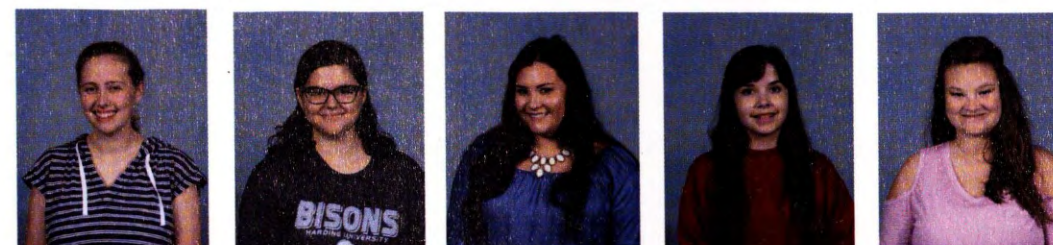
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 Rebecca Scott
 Madelynn Seay
 Hannah Shaffer
 Katie Shannon



DO YOU EVEN LIFT, SIS?

FRESHMAN BREAKS BEAUTY STEREOTYPES WITH POWERLIFTING

WORDS *Cayleigh Thomas* // PHOTOS *Kazu Fujisawa*

As a freshman, Abi Hartman began her studies in nursing while balancing a unique favorite pastime: powerlifting. “When I first started weight lifting at 14 years old, I struggled with an eating disorder based mostly upon anorexia nervosa and bulimia,” Hartman said. “About two years into body building, I started to grow tired of what seemed like an endless task for beauty, which didn’t seem achievable for my stocky build.”

Through powerlifting, Hartman found a healthy passion, which she shared with others. In addition to training for two hours a day, Hartman introduced some of her friends to her passion for lifting. Two of the people she taught were freshmen Jessica Houts and Ilse Ghent.

“Several days into the workouts, I did my first max day,” Houts said. “I surprised Abi and myself with how much I could lift. It was empowering, and it encouraged me to keep going. I may not have the same goals as Abi, but she’s been a great coach.”

Ghent was excited to learn from Hartman when she suggested the idea to her.

“I never had any false ideas that lifting was an easy thing to learn,” Ghent said. “After being exposed [to it], I learned even the simplest motion takes a lot of time and effort to learn.”

Hartman had to adjust her normal powerlifting schedule to fit the busy lifestyle of a college student.

“I lift as often as I am able while maintaining good grades and mental health,” Hartman said. “I came to Harding for my education not for lifting, although it is my favorite pastime. I continue to train as often as I see beneficial for my mind, body and education.”

Houts said Hartman chose to put school over powerlifting as a healthy approach to being a freshman in college.

“No one can create a concrete plan for these things,” Houts said. “She goes to the gym whenever she gets the chance and when she thinks it would benefit her mental health.”

Throughout the years, Hartman trained with a variety of coaches who helped her improve holistically.

“From working with Olympic athletes to driven coaches, I have mentally and physically grown more in these past few years than I have in the earlier part in my life,” Hartman said. “I am very grateful for my body, the ability I have to train and compete, and the support system God has blessed me with.”

Hartman planned to use the skills she learned from training and her coaches for her future career.

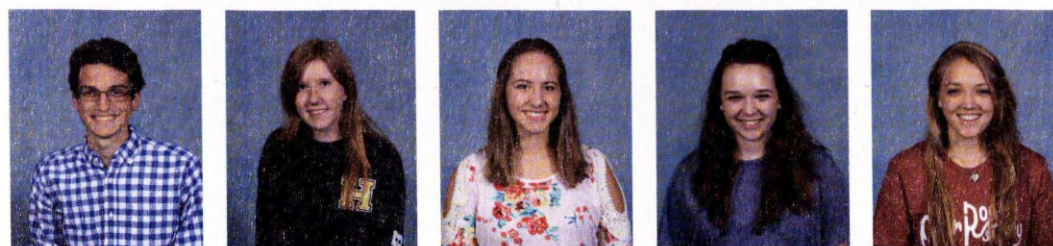
“I aspire to be a nutritionist as well as grow as a lifting coach and competitive athlete,” Hartman said. “I love teaching others how to train their bodies to take on the adventures life throws at them. Our bodies are temples, and one of the most important lessons is learning to care for and use our bodies to glorify our creator.”

Freshman Abi Hartman performs a deadlift at Searcy Crossfit on Jan. 25, 2018. Hartman started weightlifting at the age of 14 and shared her passion and healthy lifestyle tips with others around her. // Photo by Kazu Fujisawa

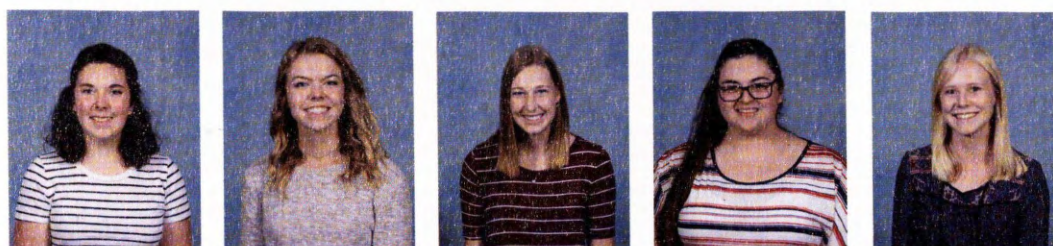
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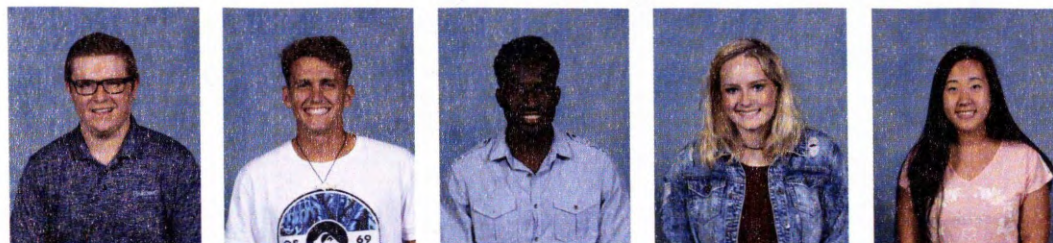
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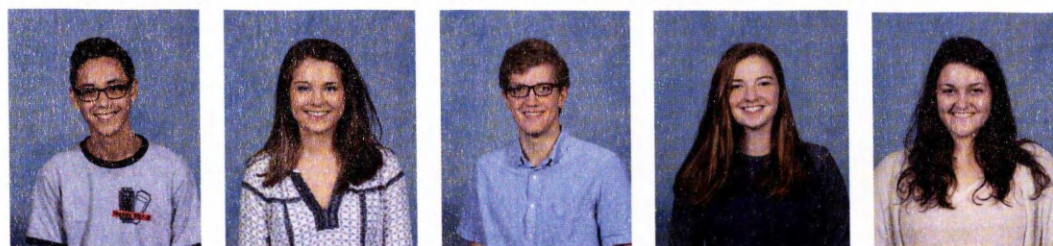
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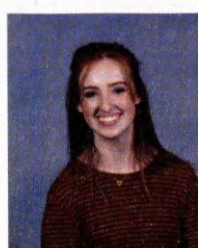
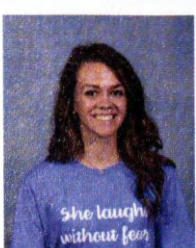
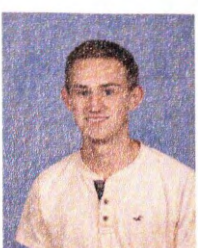


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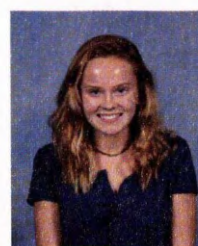
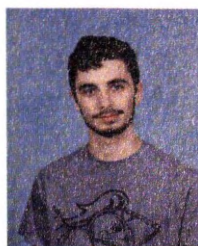
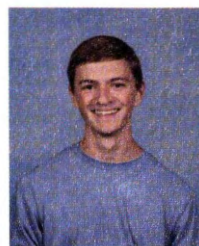


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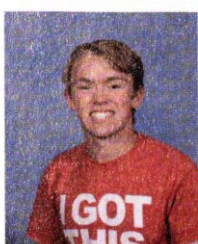
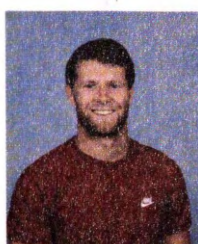




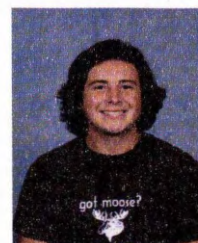
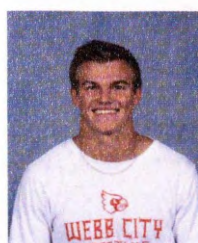
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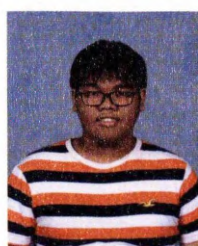
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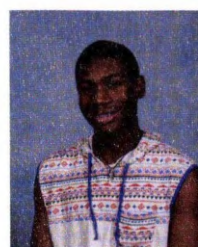
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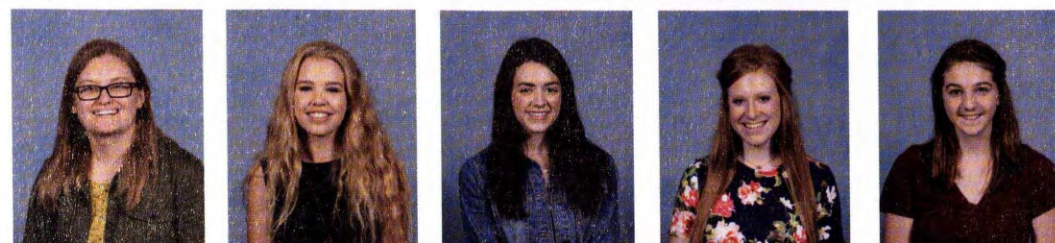
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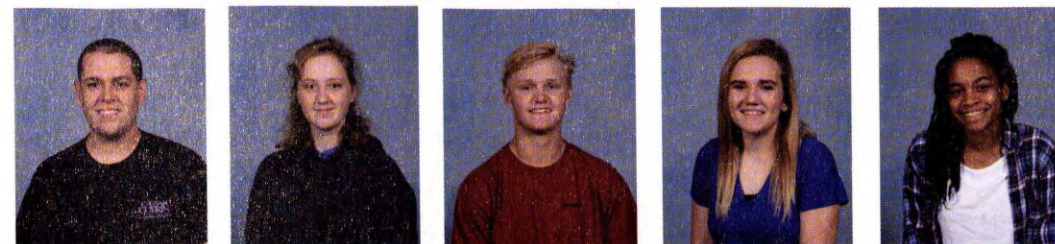
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 Courtney Woolery
 Danielle Wooten



Ian Wright
 McKenna Wright
 Charity Wyatt
 Violet Wyckoff
 Jeremy Young



Mary Yukich



"A SON'S JOURNEY"

FRESHMAN MEETS BIOLOGICAL FATHER AND 17 HALF-SIBLINGS

WORDS *Alex Petty* // PHOTOS *Nathan Mayes*

When freshman Nathan Mayes was a senior in high school, he set out on a journey to do something he never thought possible: meet his biological father.

Mayes' mother, Laura Hutchison, and Mayes' father were unable to conceive naturally, so Hutchison turned to artificial insemination via a sperm donor. Hutchison used a cryobank in California to conceive both Mayes and his sister. The cryobank told her that the documents and files regarding their biological father would be sealed, and the children would never know who the donor was.

However, during his senior year of high school, Mayes decided to attempt to find his donor. Mayes began his search by reaching out to the cryobank in California, but hit a wall when the cryobank refused to cooperate with his search.

"I called the cryobank over and over again, and there was no answer," Mayes said. "They were just very hard to reach. Finally, a woman at the cryobank contacted me back weeks later and said that [the donor] wanted to be anonymous, which wasn't true."

Eventually, Mayes was able to convince the cryobank to pass on a letter he had written to his donor, and that was when he was finally able to meet his biological father, Michael Rubino.

"I was particularly moved by Nathan's letter to me," Rubino said. "In it, he described his faith, his love of travel and football, but I was particularly intrigued by his declared passion for art, as I am, myself, an artist by trade. A sense of strong connection was immediate."

Mayes was encouraged by his mother to go out to California to meet Rubino, noting that she felt this relationship was something that Mayes needed.

"I was nervous and thrilled for Nathan," Hutchison said. "Nathan had a deep desire to know where he came from. His artwork continued to show the longing and need to know the missing link to his life."

And so, over the summer before his freshman year, Mayes flew out to California to meet Rubino, as well as his 17 half-siblings that had also been conceived via artificial insemination. The meeting of the siblings and Rubino was documented by *People Magazine* and *Inside Edition*, and, although Mayes said that he was worried about the outcome of the meeting, he felt incredibly blessed to know all of the people to which he felt such a strong connection.

"I was kind of dreading it, just because I didn't know these kids," Mayes said. "I was worried they would be so different than me, but then we met and realized there were a lot of similarities. They're just a lot of very, very good kids from all over the States."

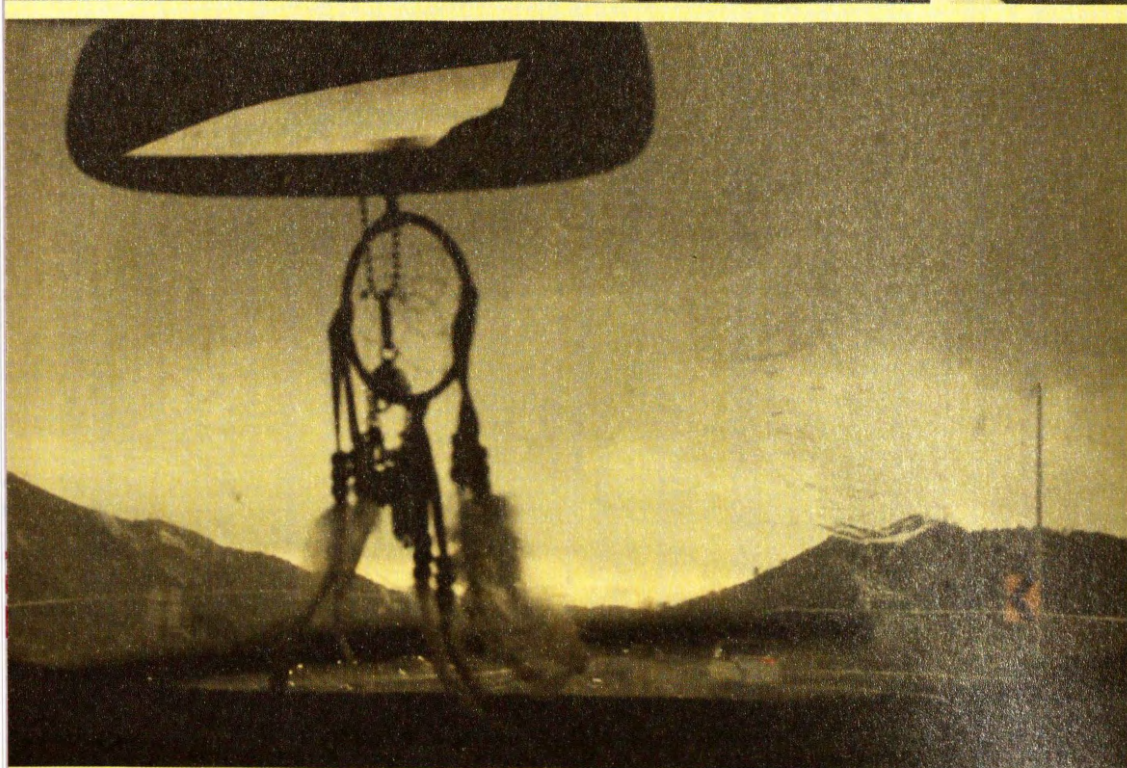
Since meeting over the summer, Mayes and Rubino formed a strong bond, despite living very different lifestyles.

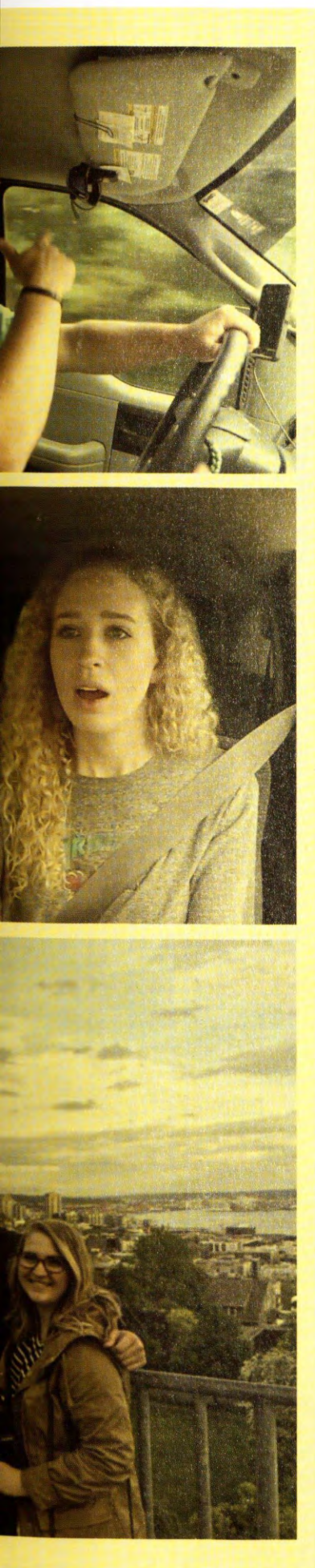
"In some ways, we could not be more different," Rubino said. "His religious and political views are polar opposites to my own. Yet, in ways that I am still trying to figure out, he is the piece of a puzzle that I didn't realize I'd been missing. He is an unusually kind and considerate kid, and I could not be more proud of a son."

Freshman Nathan Mayes, seventh from the left on the back row, meets his biological father and 17 half-siblings for the first time in California on July 30, 2017. Mayes' biological father Michael Rubino was a sperm donor who invited Mayes to visit him in California in summer 2017. // Photo courtesy of Nathan Mayes

Mayes shows his art work called "A Son's Journey" on Jan 26, 2018. Mayes created this piece to describe his experience of finding his biological father. // Photo by Kazu Fujisawa







FROM MIAMI TO SEATTLE

STUDENTS DISCOVER THE GREATER
COMMUNITY OF FAITH

WORDS *Caitlin Denton* // PHOTOS *Ben Hansen & Jacob McCall*

The theme for Uplift, a summer camp for seventh to 12th graders from across the country, was “Greater,” because Dr. Andrew Baker, assistant professor of Bible and director of Uplift, wanted a way to show the campers that a community of faith existed across the country that would support and believe in them. He called it “The Greater Community.”

To illustrate this idea of “the greater community” Baker asked Ben Hansen, a 2015 graduate, who was an Uplift staff member, to travel from Miami to Seattle with no money and no transportation of their own, relying solely on the community of faith. Hansen knew that alumnus Jacob McCall was familiar with filming and asked him to join him on the trip. Hansen and McCall did not know each other well, but they were excited to set out together and see what they could learn about the greater community.

“I was confident they would get [to Seattle],” Baker said. “I was more intrigued in the story they would tell by the process of getting there.”

Hansen and McCall flew to Miami, Florida, on May 10, 2017, to begin their journey completely penniless. Throughout the trip, they were never once left hungry and made it to every destination on time. An overwhelming amount of Christians all across the country reached out to help, even ones they had never met before.

“We wanted to see what faith looked like throughout the country and display to others that, with faith, you are able to do anything,” McCall said.

McCall said they were helped by more than 113 different people, many of which were Christians. McCall and Hansen asked each Christian they came in contact with these two questions, “How did you come to find faith?” and “What does [faith] look like in your life?”

After only 13 days, the pair had traveled 4,593 miles in a car and 3,447 miles by plane. No matter where they were, someone in the community of faith was willing to find them some method of transportation or even drive them personally to their next destination.

“The United States is so big, so diverse. Faith plays its way out so differently no matter where you are,” Hansen said. “But the one thing I was assured of is that faith does grow, and it does play out wherever it is because it is universal.”

Baker agreed with Hansen and was not surprised by the generosity the pair received.

“I believe they could have done this across the world,” Baker said. “God gave us the community of faith for that reason, [to] have people across the globe to lean on and [to] help us in times of need. That is what makes the community of faith, ‘the greater community.’”

Harding alumnus Jacob McCall and graduate student Ben Hansen drive from Miami to Seattle relying on Christians the entire way. On May 10, 2017, Hansen and McCall began their journey and people started reaching out to help them along the way, giving them food and places to stay during the night. // Photo courtesy of Ben Hansen & Jacob McCall

LET WORDS TAKE ACTION

GRADUATE STUDENT ADOPTS CHILDREN AT THE YOUNG AGE OF 20

WORDS *Katie West* // PHOTOS *Abigail Cooper*

Anitha Kobusingye, a counseling graduate student originally from Rwanda, lost her parents when she was a baby. After spending time in an orphanage, a foster home and on the streets, she was adopted at the age of 10.

"I am a firm believer that every bad thing that happens in life comes with a blessing attached to it," Kobusingye said.

Despite the struggles of her childhood, Kobusingye focused on the blessings of life.

"It was difficult but it came with a thousand blessings attached to it," Kobusingye said.

One of those blessings was her mentor Larry Bone, who met Kobusingye in January 2010 during her first month in the U.S. Bone said after Kobusingye received her undergraduate degree from Harding, she was completely on her own in the U.S.

"We jokingly call her Anitha Kobusingye Bone now," Bone said. "In essence, we have adopted her into our family."

Bone noted how much Kobusingye had grown through her first years in the U.S., but not without support.

"She is successful due to her self-motivation, not as the results of pressure from others," Bone said. "Her maturity has developed and she is now a woman with high goals and the credibility to back up her dreams and achieve her goals."

According to Bone, Kobusingye's biggest motivation was her desire to take care of her 12 adopted children, who stayed in Rwanda with their nannies while Kobusingye was studying in the U.S. Kobusingye adopted the children eight years ago, while she was in high school. At 20 years old, she became a single mom of her children.

"I decided that I was going to adopt them because that's the best way I could feel like I was putting a smile on God's face," Kobusingye said.

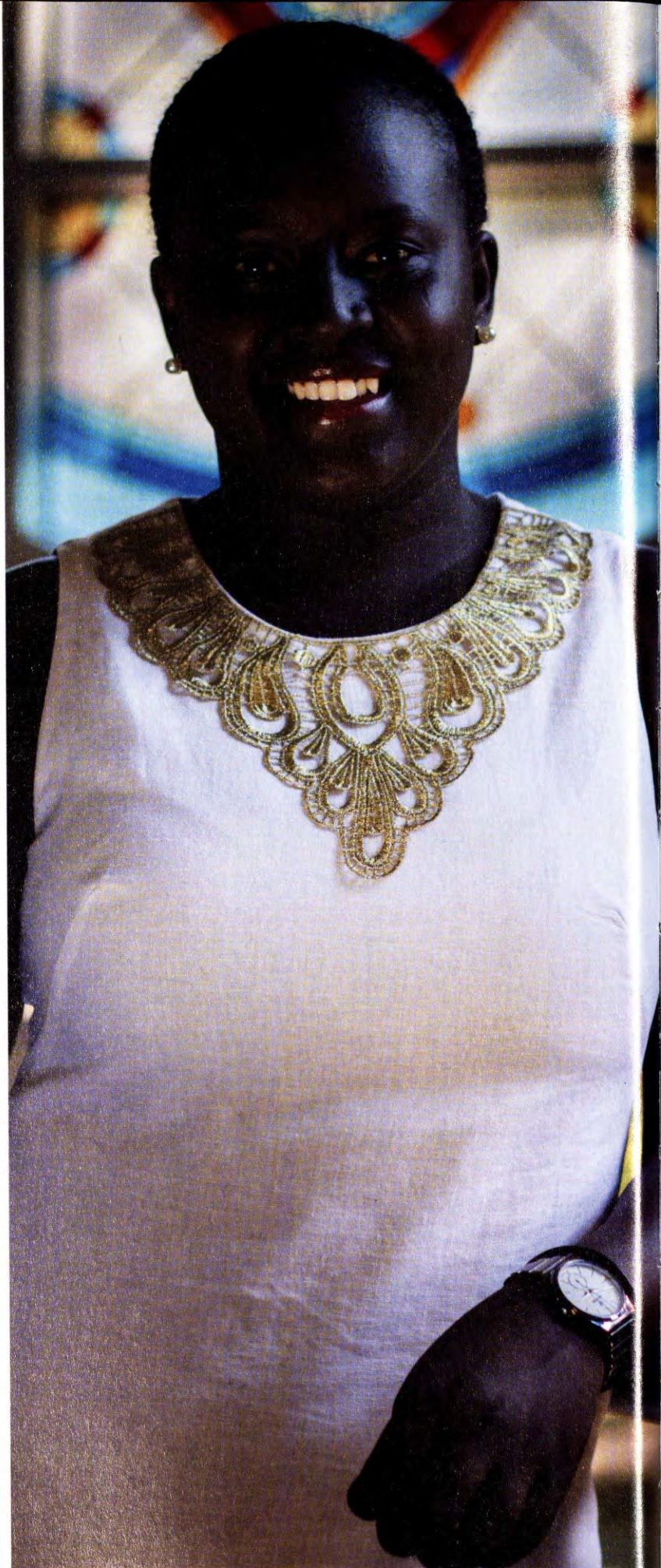
While doing graduate work for her degree in professional counseling, Kobusingye was guided by Dr. Jenene Alexander, director of professional counseling.

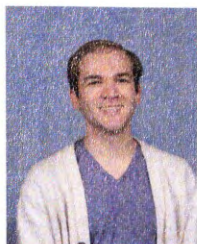
"We are delighted to have Anitha as a graduate student in professional counseling," Alexander said. "She is a dedicated graduate student and brings a strong sense of purpose and service coupled with cultural perspectives from her unique background experiences."

Alexander also saw how Kobusingye's graduate work would help her after she completed her degree.

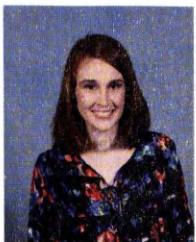
"There are countless ways in which Anitha will use her clinical training to benefit her future work in Rwanda," Alexander said. "She will take herself, her story, her training and her love for the children to continue impacting others in ways we can only begin to see at this moment."

Anitha Kobusingye is a graduate student in the university's professional counseling master's program in fall 2017. At the age of 20, Kobusingye adopted 12 children in Rwanda, becoming a single mom. // Photo by Abigail Cooper





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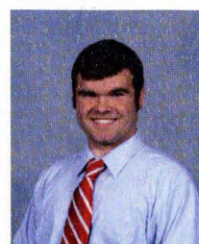
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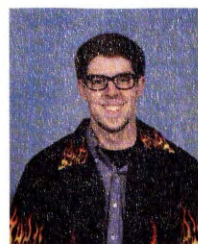
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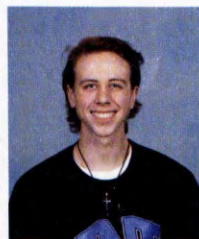
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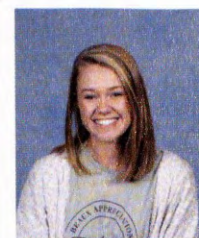
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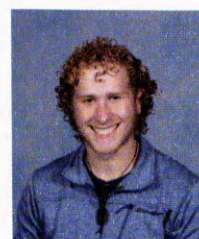
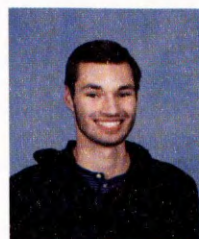
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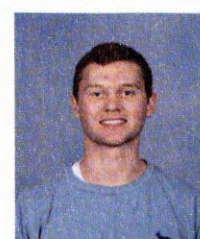
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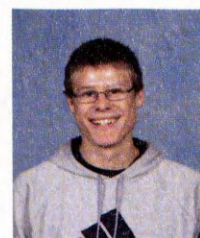
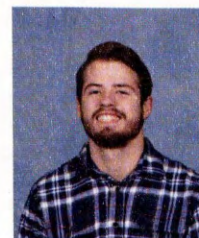
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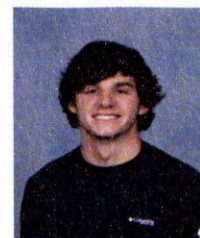


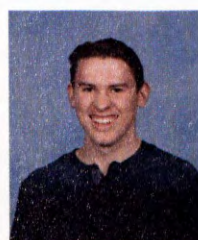
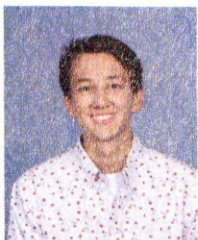
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Rachel James, HUA

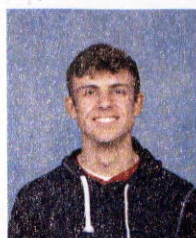
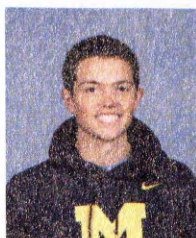
Adeline Johnson, HUG/HUF

Kayde Johnson, HUG/HUF

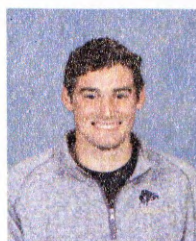




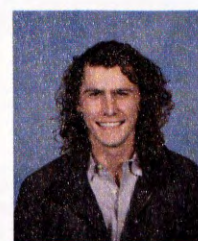
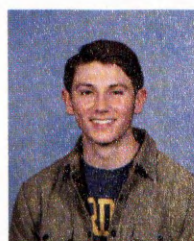
Sarah Kelly, HUG/HUF
 Zachary Kene, HUG/HUF
 Caralee Lynch, HUG/HUF
 Julianne MacDonald, HUG/HUF
 Dylan Maddox, HUA



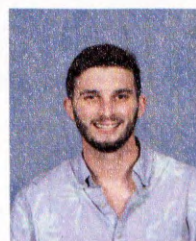
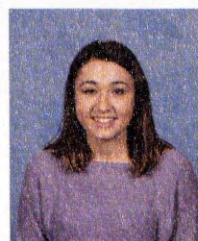
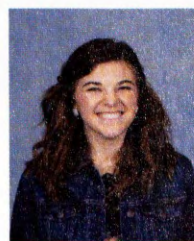
Camden Marshall, HUE
 Jessica McDonald, HUG/HUF
 Grady Moore, HUG/HUF
 Derek Nutt, Transfer
 Jacie Parker, HIZ



Emma Price, HUA
 Elizabeth Ramsey, HUG/HUF
 Cody Rozell, Transfer
 Elaine Savage, HUA
 Vanessa Shields, HUA



Payton Smith, HIZ
 Carlie Sobol, HUA
 Samantha Steed, HUE
 Hannah Stone, HUE
 James Thornton, HUA



Coleman VanBrunt, HUG/HUF
 Isabel Waller, HUG/HUF
 Richard Ward, HUA
 Tatum Watson, HUG/HUF
 Ashley Webb, HIZ



Loren Williams, HUA
 Whitney Williamson, HUG/HUF
 Rachel Willis, HUE
 Shauna Yeager, Internship