



**Athletics**

*athletics*

**"Athletics bring out the spirit of students so they might  
experience life on a higher plane."**

JAMIE HIGGINS/////ATHLETICS EDITOR



**MEMBERS OF THE WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY TEAM** pray before their race on Oct. 9 at Harding's Ted Lloyd Invitational. The team finished first of eight competing teams. •A. BEENE

# ► BASEBALL

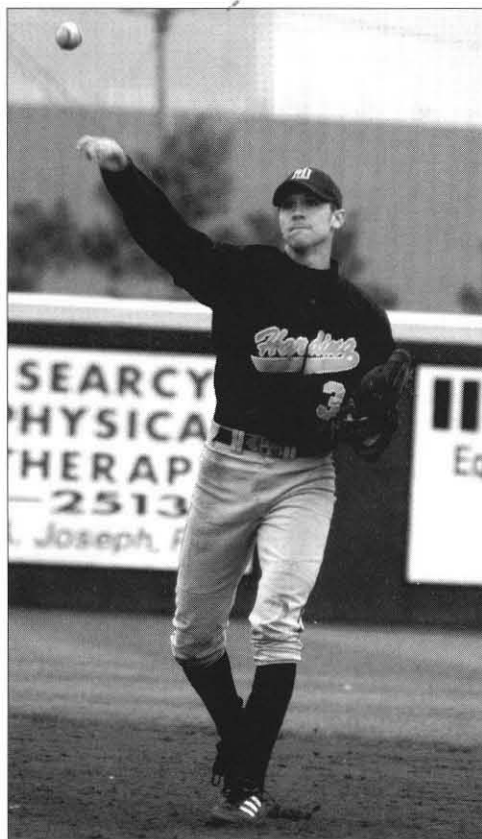
**JUNIOR BOBBY BADGER** swings at a pitch during a game against Lyon College Feb. 17, 2004, at Jerry Moore Field. Badger knocked in two runs in the Bisons' 9-3 win.

•J. MONTGOMERY



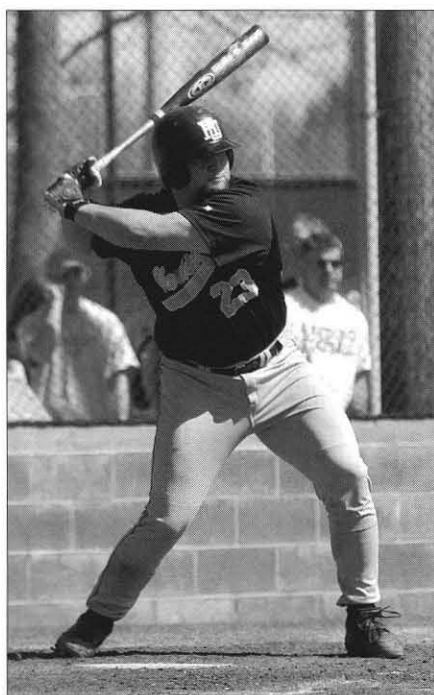
**SENIOR JAKE KIRBY** throws the ball around the infield during a game against Christian Brothers University April 12, 2004, at Jerry Moore Field. The Bisons lost the final game of the three-game series against CBU 11-7.

•J. MONTGOMERY



**JUNIOR JUSTIN CONE** awaits a pitch during the April 4, 2004, game against Delta State at Jerry Moore Field. Cone had one RBI and one run scored in Harding's 6-5 victory.

•J. MONTGOMERY



## BEHIND the MOMENT

### TRAINING

The team practiced three to four hours a day, six days a week. The team lifted weights and ran during extra time.

### OFF THE FIELD

The team spent a lot of time in prayer and participated in devotionals while on the road. "It was a great time of fellowship with a group of brothers," sophomore Michael Davis said.

### SCOREBOARD

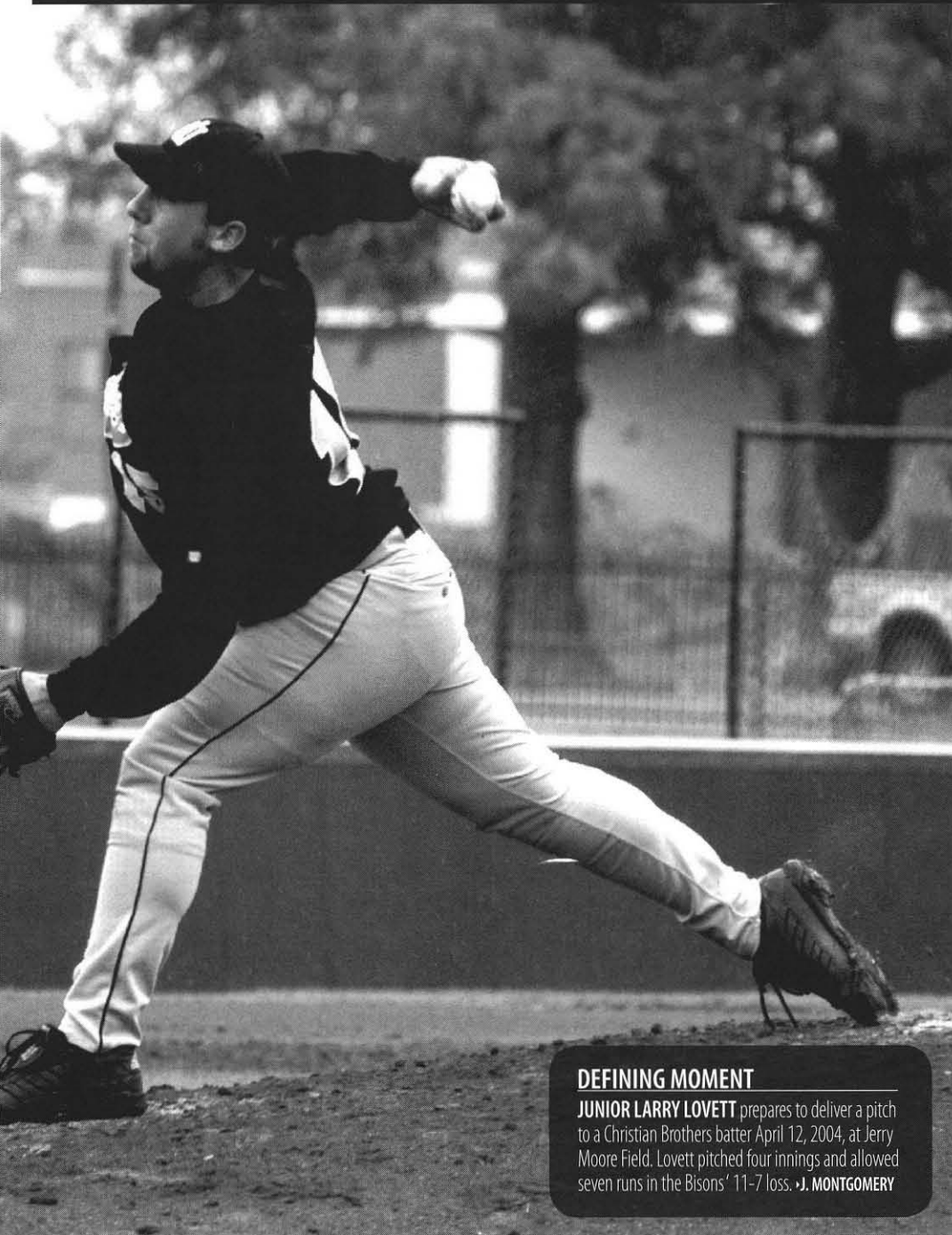
NORTH ALABAMA	L 1-2, L 4-11, L 6-16
SOUTHWEST BAPTIST	W 2-0, W 10-0
LYON	W 9-3
WILLIAMS BAPTIST	W 8-2, W 15-0, W 6-2
CRICHTON	W 8-3, W 8-2
WEST FLORIDA	L 0-7, W 3-1, L 1-3
HENDERSON STATE	L 1-3, W 4-3, L 8-9
CENTRAL ARKANSAS	L 0-1, L 6-8, W 7-6
EAST CENTRAL	L 1-3, L 2-6, W 4-3, W 6-4
S. ARKANSAS	L 0-16, L 0-12, L 12-13
CENTRAL BAPTIST	W 12-0, W 6-2
DELTA STATE	W 5-4, L 4-6, W 6-5
TENNESSEE-MARTIN	L 4-13
CHRISTIAN BROTHERS	L 4-7, W 11-9, L 7-11
ARK. - MONTICELLO	W 5-3, W 7-6, W 12-1
LYON	L 1-2
OUACHITA BAPTIST	W 9-4, W 10-3, W 4-0
CENTRAL BAPTIST	W 14-3, L 10-14
ARKANSAS TECH	L 4-8, L 1-2

### THE BISON TEAM

Row 1: B. Walpole, Z. Fisher, J. Davis, B. Brock, C. Kiihnl, D. Watts, T. Bowser, J. Blake. Row 2: J. Mills, B. Grice, E. Powell, B. Badger, L. Lovett, G. Valdez, M. Davis, B. Boyd, M. Hoggard, J. Williams, P. Woodroof, R. Lembeth. Row 3: S. Fullerton, K. Barrett, M. Trotter, B. Neely, M. Connett, G. Williams, J. Richardson, S. Camilleri, J. Kirby, B. Kimbrough, J. Cone, C. Turner, A. Garley, R. Brazile. •J. MONTGOMERY



# TEAM RALLIES BEHIND FRIEND



## DEFINING MOMENT

**JUNIOR LARRY LOVETT** prepares to deliver a pitch to a Christian Brothers batter April 12, 2004, at Jerry Moore Field. Lovett pitched four innings and allowed seven runs in the Bisons' 11-7 loss. **•J. MONTGOMERY**

**D**espite not making it to the Gulf South Conference Tournament, coach Shane Fullerton said the 2004 Bison baseball squad learned what true team success was all about — supporting others in times of crisis.

Junior catcher Brandon Grice's family suffered a tragedy March 28, 2004, when his father was charged with murdering Grice's mother inside their N. Little Rock home.

Grice was with the team when he found out about his mother's death, and he immediately returned home where he stayed for about a week. His teammates, however, made sure he was not alone.

"They called and came down to see me and have lunch with me several times," Grice said. "They were there for me no matter what."

To show that their thoughts and prayers were with Grice even when he was not with the team, the Bison players put a 14, Grice's number, and Grice's initials on their caps.

"When a crisis comes up it brings a group closer together, especially a team," Grice said.

Fullerton said the support offered to Grice was a testament to the team's emphasis on unity.

"Through everything, we found out what being a team was all about," Fullerton said. "Especially in a school like ours, there is nothing that should outweigh what a team really should be."

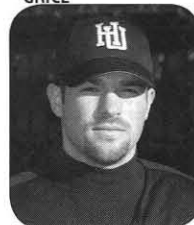
The unified team finished the 2004 campaign in fifth place in the conference's West Division with an overall record of 25-22. Fullerton said having veteran players on the team was a reason the Bisons finished the season with a winning record. Seven of last season's nine starters returned to the team in 2004.

"Leadership was a big plus for us this season," Fullerton said. "We had seven seniors who were all major players."

Several of those team leaders received individual honors during the season. Junior Justin Cone and seniors Ben Neely and Justin Goodrich earned mention on the GSC Preseason Baseball Team. Cone was also named the GSC West Division Offensive Player of the Week for the first week of April.

Juniors Larry Lovett, Tim Bowser and senior Jay Richardson were on the GSC Baseball Top Newcomers list.

GRICE



# YOUTH RULES GREEN

## UNDERCLASSMEN GOLFERS DOMINATE BISON TEAM

**T**he Bison golf team had a face-lift during the 2004-2005 season, with underclassmen accounting for nine of the 11 players on the team. This turn over, however, did not have a negative effect on the team, coach Nicky Boyd said.

"This golf team is one of the most talented Harding has had in a long time," he said.

In fact, the Bisons won the Central Baptist Invitational Oct. 4 and finished third in the Freed-Hardeman University Spring Invitational April 5-6, 2004.

Playing golf, for some Bison team members, was second nature.

"My dad started me when I was 4 years old playing golf," sophomore Austin Osborn said.

Osborn was not the only Bison who started at a young age.

"I was introduced to golf at the age of 9," freshman Ryan Applegate said. "I have loved it ever since."

Other team members paralleled the game with life, saying the sport taught them valuable lessons.

"Golf is a lot like life," freshman Craig Devereaux said. "I learn patience and to take life one day at a time, like I take one shot at a time."

One of the lessons players said they learned from golf was that practice was essential for success.

"I practice every day on driving for one to two hours, and I practice chipping and putting for one hour," Osborn said.

Some players spent up to five hours on the course practicing for tournaments.

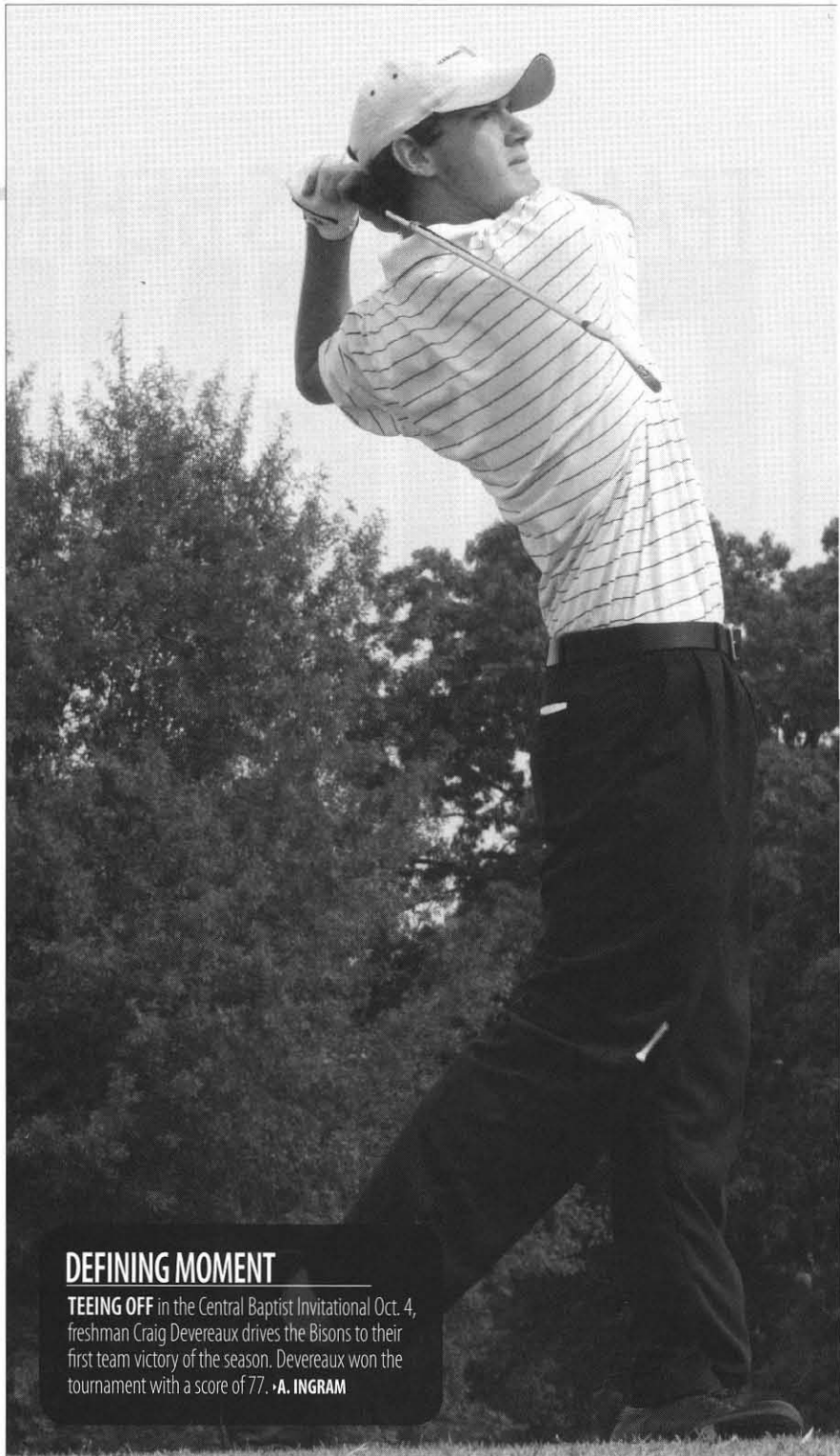
The young team managed balancing class and practice without too much trouble, Osborn said.

"School comes first, but golf is first in my heart," Osborn said.

The Bison golf team was younger, but quality was not sacrificed by age.

"Our players are all around good quality players," Boyd said. "This gives the team great depth to work with."

→ JAMIE HIGGINS



### DEFINING MOMENT

**TEEING OFF** in the Central Baptist Invitational Oct. 4, freshman Craig Devereaux drives the Bisons to their first team victory of the season. Devereaux won the tournament with a score of 77. •A. INGRAM

### BISON TEAM

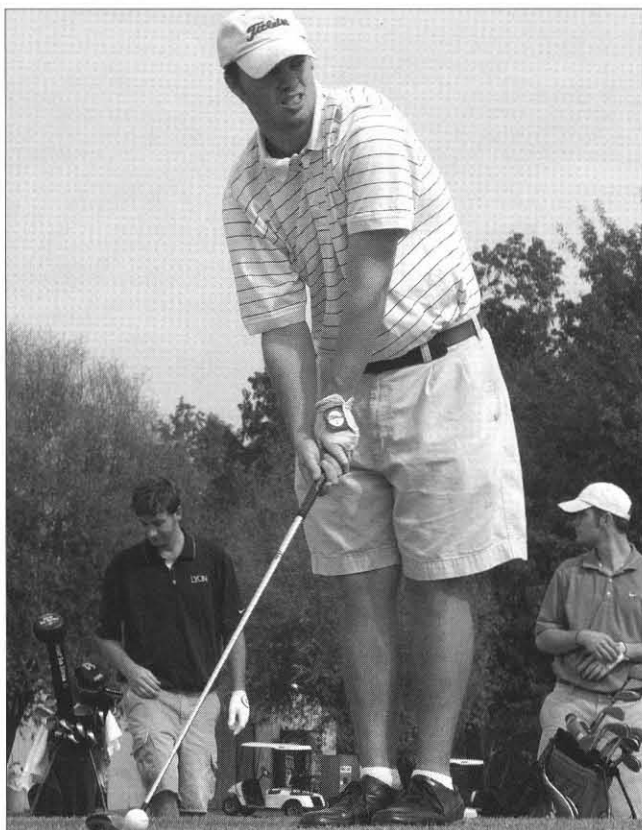
Row 1: J. Wade, D. Murphy, A. Reynolds, L. Dement, T. Marrs  
Row 2: N. Boyd, C. Carstensen, R. Applegate, C. Devereaux, A. Osborn, A. Morgan. •J. MONTGOMERY





#### EXAMINING THE GREENS, freshman

Andrew Reynolds ponders the approach he will take at the next hole during the Central Baptist Invitational Oct. 4 in Searcy. Reynolds shot an 81 at the event. •A. INGRAM



**FRESHMAN LANGDON DEMENT** tees off Oct. 3 in the Central Baptist Invitational. Dement, who shot an 81 at the event, was one of five freshmen on the team this fall. •A. INGRAM



**LOOKING CONFIDENT**, freshman Chad Carstensen watches the ball soar over the green at the Central Baptist Invitational Oct. 4. The Bisons finished first out of four teams at the tournament; and Carstensen had the second lowest score of 79. •A. INGRAM

## SCOREBOARD

### SPRING MATCHES

DOYLE WALLACE CLASSIC  
ARKANSAS TECH CLASSIC  
UCA INTERCOLLEGIATE  
FHU SPRING INVITATIONAL  
GSC TOURNAMENT

Team: 16 of 8  
Team: 14 of 14  
Team: 8 of 11  
Team: 3 of 8  
Team: 11 of 13

### FALL MATCHES

OBV INVITATIONAL  
UCA INVITATIONAL  
CENTRAL BAPTIST INVITATIONAL  
NORTH ALABAMA INVITATIONAL

Team: 6 of 7  
Team: 9 of 10  
Team: 1 of 4  
Team: 7 of 9

## TRAINING

Most players practiced daily from one to four hours. Players were responsible for their own practices. Only five members of the 11-member team were allowed to compete in each tournament.

## OFF THE GREEN

Players spent time in the student center getting to know one another. "It is a good group to hang out with," sophomore Ryan Applegate said.

# BEHIND the MOMENT

"GOLF IS A LOT LIKE LIFE. I LEARN PATIENCE AND TAKE IT ONE DAY AT A TIME, JUST LIKE I TAKE ONE SHOT AT A TIME."

►CRAIG DEVEREAUX, FRESHMAN

## ► MEN'S TENNIS

### BEHIND the MOMENT

"THERE WOULDN'T BE ANY WINNING UNLESS YOU HAD BONDS [OF FRIENDSHIP] IN THE FIRST PLACE."

► RYAN ROBERTS, FRESHMAN

### TRAINING

Two hours of play, then 20 minutes of warmups and conditioning followed by running.

### OFF THE COURT

Head coach David Elliott brought the tennis team to his deer-hunting grounds for a barbecue and team fellowship.

### SCOREBOARD

HENDRIX	W 7-2
HENDRIX	W 6-3
UALR	L 0-7
CHRISTIAN BROTHERS	W 9-0
RHODES	W 7-1
QUACHITA BAPTIST	L 0-9
DRURY	L 0-9
JOHN BROWN	W 9-0
SOUTHWEST TEXAS	W 8-1
HENDRIX	W 8-1
JOHN BROWN	W 9-0
DELTA STATE	L 3-6
DALLAS BAPTIST	W 9-0
CHRISTIAN BROTHERS	W 9-0
DELTA STATE	L 0-9
FREED-HARDEMAN	L 0-5
EAST CENTRAL	L 4-5
CHRISTIAN BROTHERS	W 9-0
EAST CENTRAL	L 3-6
SOUTHEASTERN OKLA.	L 4-5
DALLAS BAPTIST	W 8-1
VALDOSTA STATE	L 0-6
N. ALABAMA	L 4-5

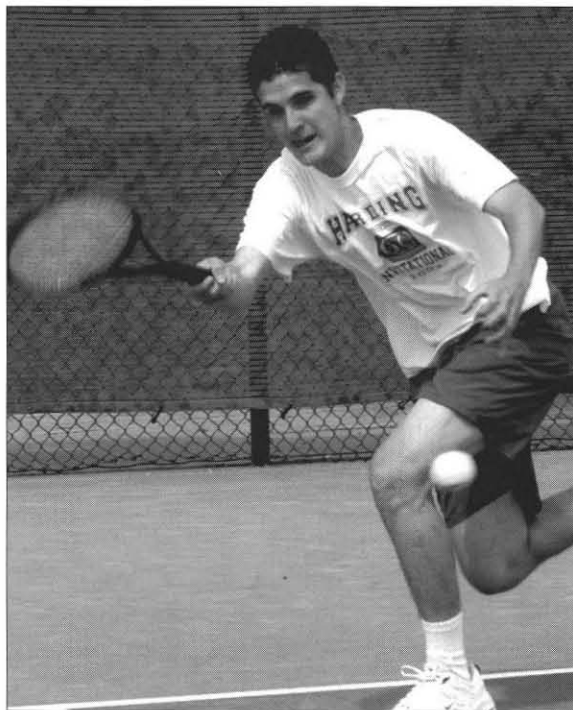
### THE BISON TEAM

Row 1: S. Paine, D. Ferreira, D. Bullington, G. Diaz.  
Row 2: R. Roberts, T. Tinsley, A. Giron, I. Rodriguez.

► J. MONTGOMERY

SOPHOMORE IVAN RODRIGUEZ follows through on a swing during singles competition April 5, 2004, against Nick Langham of Dallas Baptist. Rodriguez defeated his opponent 6-4, 6-2. ► J. MONTGOMERY

**RUNNING ACROSS THE COURT** to smack the tennis ball over the net, junior Andrew Giron defeats Andrew Pretty from Dallas Baptist 6-3, 6-1 April 5, 2004. Giron's victory helped the Bisons to a season record of 80-50. ► J. MONTGOMERY





# BONDS PROPEL TEAM

**S**ome said the desire to win and the devotion to train hard made a good team.

Others said individual members with a love of the game made the team.

Still others, like freshman Bison tennis player Ryan Roberts, said strong friendships on and off the court were the key to greatness.

"You'd have to have the bonds or else no one would care," Roberts said. "There wouldn't be any winning unless you had the bonds in the first place."

Junior David Ferreira said the men's tennis team made an effort to bond as a group.

"We get together," Ferreira said. "Obviously, like eating in the cafeteria, we're supposed to do that together. And when we're all warming up and getting our workouts at practice, we always do it as a group, like guys together/girls together. We try to do all our workouts as a team."

In addition to the regular practices and competitions, bi-annual team gatherings, usually a barbecue or cookout, helped inspire camaraderie and a sense of unity within the team.

"We get together and we talk," Roberts said. "Coach [David Elliott] talks with us. It's good to get together. I think teams need to."

Ranking third out of four teams in the West Division, the Bisons finished the 2004 season with an overall record of 12-11.

Two men on the team, Ferreira and junior Andrew Giron, earned All-GSC tennis honors.

Ferreira completed the year with an 8-10 singles record while Giron compiled a 9-6 singles record.

Both men competed together as Harding's No. 1 doubles team, collecting a 6-10 record.

While Elliott said he encouraged group bonding, that was not the main goal for the team.

"The main thing is winning and representing Harding properly," Elliott said. "That's our focal point. In order to do that, you have to have team chemistry and good bonding, but you don't build your team around that. That's the byproduct of a good team."

→ BONNIE BOWLES

## DEFINING MOMENT

**BLASTING THE TENNIS BALL**, freshman Ryan Roberts defeats Clint Fall of Dallas Baptist 6-1, 6-1 April 5, 2004. The Bison team finished the match 8-1, improving its record to 12-9. **J. MONTGOMERY**

# INJURY DOESN'T DEFEAT TEAM

**R**ain pounded down on the tennis court, drenching junior Margareta Dujmovic as she ran to return the ball at the opening of the first game of the Harding University Invitational in March 2004.

Dujmovic said one slide on the slippery court was all it took to bring her to the ground in pain.

"They thought from the beginning that I had torn my ACL, and it turned out I had," Dujmovic said. "It swelled up like a gigantic baseball."

Dujmovic said her injury was difficult at first because she could not play tennis the rest of the spring semester.

"It was depressing," Dujmovic said. "I couldn't start playing again until the summer, and even then, I still needed to use my leg brace."

Rather than discouraging her, Dujmovic said her injury motivated her to try harder and play better.

"When you realize you can't do it anymore, you're more determined when you can," Dujmovic said.

Dujmovic earned a 9-5 record for the season. Teammate sophomore Milena Chisaca, the second-seeded player, said the team had a difficult time without Dujmovic.

"It was a hard time because we really didn't have very many players," Chisaca said.

Another teammate, sophomore Denise Pascuzzi, said that although the Lady Bisons struggled without Dujmovic, they were able to handle it.

"It was tough in that Margareta is an amazing player and brought extra strength to our team," Pascuzzi said.

Pascuzzi said when Dujmovic was injured, all the women on the team moved up one rank.

The Lady Bisons ranked fifth out of nine teams in the West Division, and had an overall record of 15-10 and a Gulf South Conference record of 4-4. Chisaca, GSC tennis honoree, posted a team-best 17-6 singles record, including a 13-2 mark at No. 2 doubles.

Dujmovic said she was going to play in the spring of 2005, despite the fact that her ACL, like all injuries of its kind, will never completely heal. She was third-seeded among the seven players on the women's tennis team.

Pascuzzi said in spite of the inconvenience, set backs like Dujmovic's injury helped unite the team.

"We are a family," Pascuzzi said. "We all work together."

→ LISA BLOUNT

DUJMOVIC



## DEFINING MOMENT

**RUNNING TO THE NET**, senior Sara Campbell defeats her Dallas Baptist opponent April 5, 2004, 6-0, 6-0. The win contributed to Campbell's 73-28 record for the Lady Bisons.

→ J. MONTGOMERY

## IN THE MOMENT

A preseason Intercollegiate Tennis Association poll ranked the 2004 Lady Bison tennis team fifth in the South Region.

**COACH DAVID ELLIOTT** watches members of the women's tennis team compete against Dallas Baptist April 5, 2004. Elliott led the Lady Bisons to a season record of 15-10. •J. MONTGOMERY

**CONCENTRATING ON THE BALL**, freshman Karina Gomes, a redshirt last spring, practices with the team April 5, 2004. Gomez officially became part of the team in February. •J. MONTGOMERY

**CONCENTRATING ON THE BALL**, sophomore Catherine Carui returns a volley April 5, 2004, during a match against Dallas Baptist. Carui won her match 6-0, 6-0, improving her record to 17-7 for the season. The Lady Bisons ended the season with a record of 15-10. •J. MONTGOMERY

## THE BISON TEAM

Row 1: S. Campbell, C. Carui, K. Smith, C. Banuelos. Row 2: D. Pascuzzi, M. Dujmovic, B. Lutes. •J. MONTGOMERY

## SCOREBOARD

<b>HENDRIX</b>	W 8-0, W 6-3
<b>NORTHEASTERN</b>	L 1-8, L 0-5
<b>RHODES</b>	L 2-7
<b>HENDERSON STATE</b>	W 7-2, L 3-5
<b>JOHN BROWN</b>	W 8-1, W 8-1
<b>OUACHITA BAPTIST</b>	L 1-8
<b>SOUTHWESTERN</b>	W 6-3
<b>UCA</b>	L 1-8, L 3-6
<b>DELTA STATE</b>	L 2-7, L 0-9
<b>DALLAS BAPTIST</b>	W 9-0, W 9-0
<b>ARKANSAS TECH</b>	W 6-1, W 7-0
<b>CHRISTIAN BROTHERS</b>	W 9-0, W 9-0
<b>EAST CENTRAL</b>	L 3-6
<b>FREED-HARDEMAN</b>	W 5-3
<b>SOUTHERN ARKANSAS</b>	W 6-3
<b>ARK. - MONTICELLO</b>	W 6-0

## TRAINING

Two hours of practice followed by drills every day.

## OFF THE COURT

The players enjoyed camping excursions that unified them as one cohesive unit. They also went ATV-riding in the woods.

## TEAM DIVERSITY

Three out of the six team members came from outside the United States.

**BEHIND the MOMENT**

# RUNNERS DESTROY RECORDS

**W**alking away from the season with the highest NCAA finish in school history was the track team's final accomplishment for the year. With eight indoor and outdoor All-Americans, three academic All-Americans, two Gulf South Conference cross country champions and the 10,000-meter national champion on the team, the Bisons and Lady Bisons broke 19 school records in 2004.

"I don't know if I expected the teams to break so many records," coach Steve Guymon said. "It's always a plus when you have people on your teams that can break two or three records on their own. I was very impressed by what we did."

Among the team's All-Americans were seniors Janet Kogo and Jacob Rotich. Kogo and Rotich set three and two school records respectively, and were co-recipients of Harding's Berryhill Athlete of the Year Award.

Freshman Peter Kosgei was a surprise addition to the team. Placing nationally during the cross country and indoor track seasons, Kosgei remained competitive during the outdoor season in the 3,000- and 5,000-meter races. Kosgei broke an 8-year-old school record in the 5,000-meter, posting a time of 14 minutes, 9.8 seconds.

"It is unusual for freshmen to do this well, especially boys," Guymon said. "They usually take more time to develop athletically. Peter's talent was unbelievable."

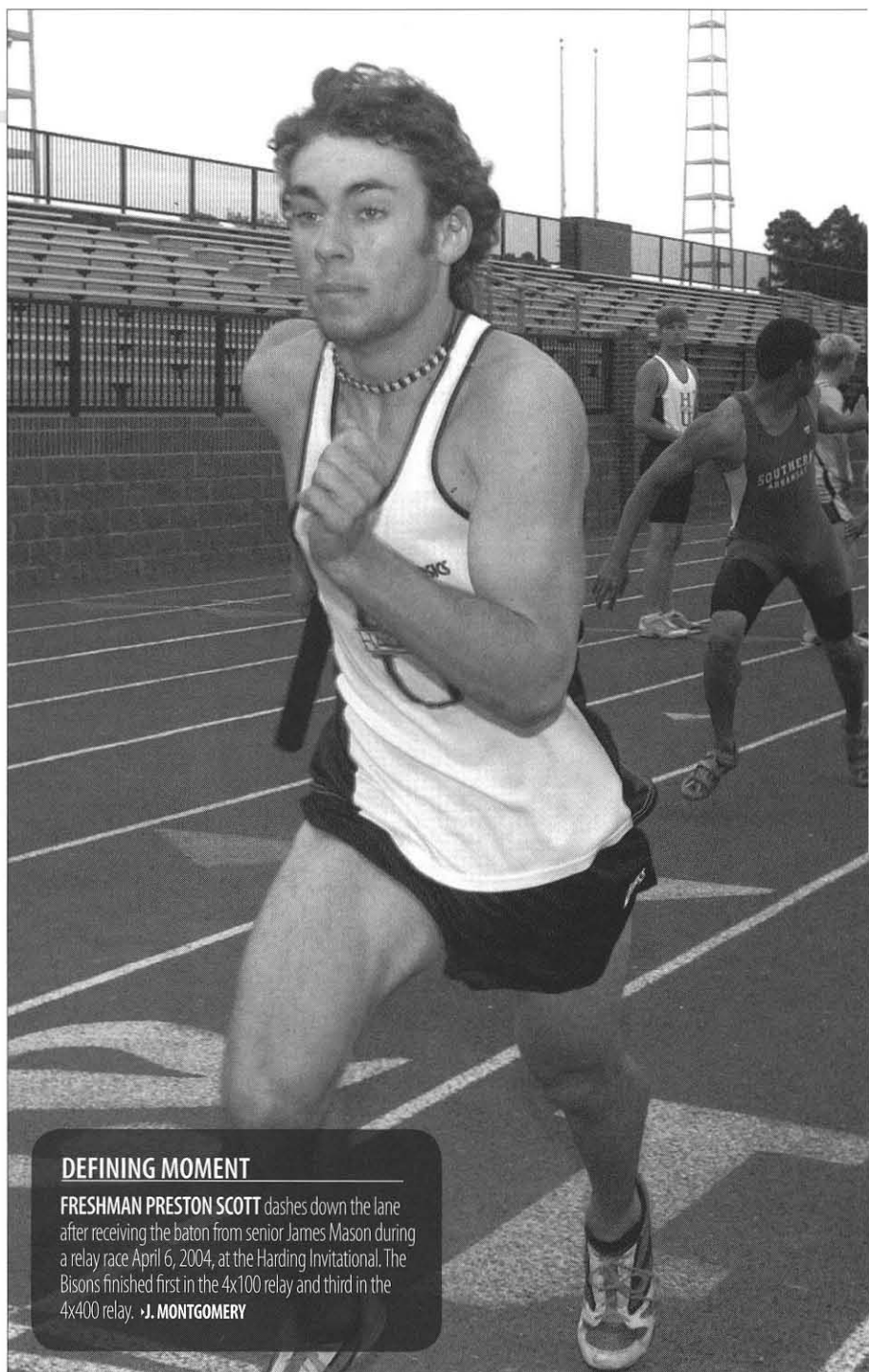
Along with the records set by Rotich and Kosgei, the men's team set school records in the 200- and 400-meter races, the sprint medley and the hammer throw.

"We had a lot of quality athletes on the men's team to start with, and with the football players adding to that, I thought we had a great chance to do really well during the season," Guymon said.

The women's team added five records next to Kogo's. Records were broken in the 60- and 3,000-meter races, and the triple jump. The women's 4x400-meter relay team, consisting of freshmen Jessica Brown, Jessica Pingrey, Tessa Tarole and sophomore Abby Rodenbeck, set a school record with a time of 4:23.49 at the McDonald's Invitational in January.

"The girls breaking the 4X400-meter record, all of Jacob's accomplishments, all of Janet's accomplishments, and the team's accomplishments were great," Guymon said. "We had some great highlights during our season."

→ SARAH CRIST



## DEFINING MOMENT

**FRESHMAN PRESTON SCOTT** dashes down the lane after receiving the baton from senior James Mason during a relay race April 6, 2004, at the Harding Invitational. The Bisons finished first in the 4x100 relay and third in the 4x400 relay. ▶ J. MONTGOMERY

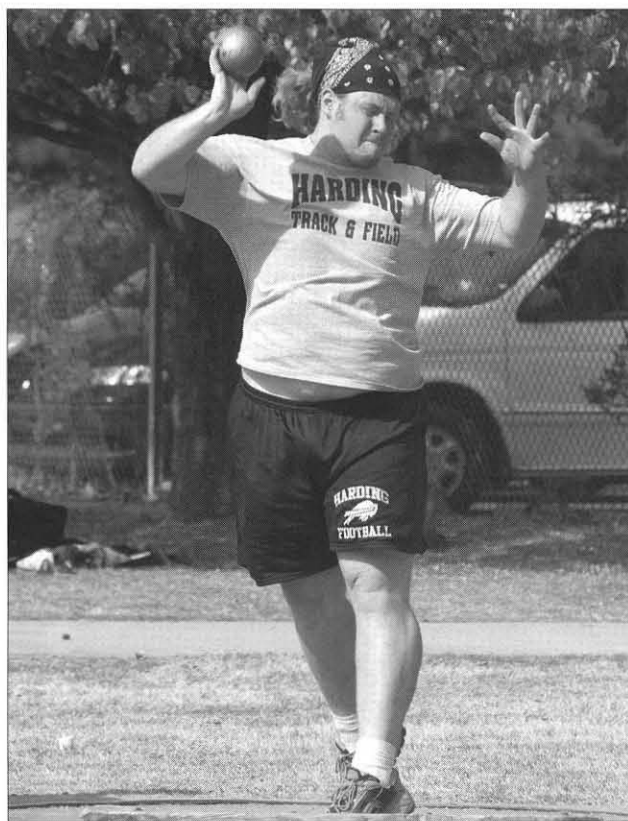
## THE BISON TEAM

Row 1: M. Brown, A. Rodenbeck, V. Echeverria, S. Reardon, J. Brown, Tara Tarole, J. Cornett, J. Kogo. Row 2: K. Szteyn, E. Harbour, H. Skelton, E. Baines, A. Bingman, J. Pingrey, Tessa Tarole, T. Branton, T. Harding. ▶ J. MONTGOMERY





**WITH A LOOK OF DETERMINATION**, freshman Holly Skelton runs toward the finish line in the 3,000-meter race at the Harding Invitational April 6, 2004. Skelton placed sixth with a time of 5 minutes, 44.34 seconds. **•J. MONTGOMERY**



**JUNIOR KEN COLLINS** launches the shot put April 6, 2004, at the Harding Invitational. Collins placed fifth in the event, throwing about 35 feet. **•J. MONTGOMERY**

## BEHIND the MOMENT

### TRAINING

In the fall, the team began running and practicing sprints every day.

### OFF THE TRACK

The team organized student-led devotionals on Thursday nights.

"The devotional adds a personal aspect to the team," sophomore Vicky Echeverria said. "It also opened doors and helped everyone be more accountable to each other."

After one of the devotionals, distance runner sophomore Emily Harbour was baptized into Christ.

Senior James Mason said he was grateful for the devotionals.

"The devotionals helped the individual athletes come together as a team," Mason said.

### SCHEDULE

#### INDOOR MEETS

ARKANSAS STATE INVITATIONAL  
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS INVITATIONAL  
TYSON INVITATIONAL  
MISSOURI SOUTHERN INVITATIONAL  
NCAA DIVISION II NATIONALS

Jonesboro, Ark.  
Carbondale, Ill.  
Fayetteville, Ark.  
Joplin, Mo.  
Boston, Mass.

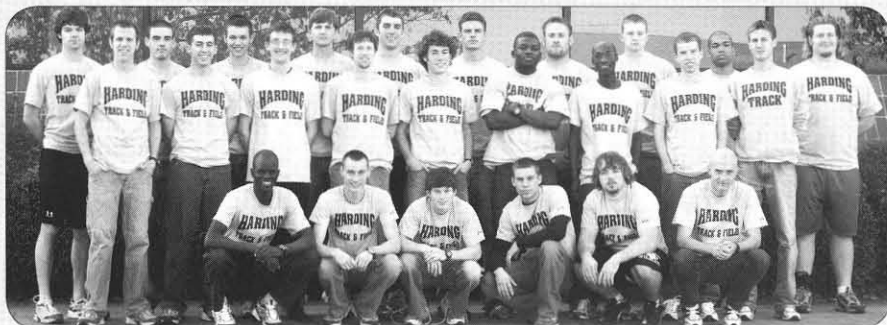
#### OUTDOOR MEETS

SOUTHERN ARKANSAS INVITATIONAL  
SEMO RELAYS  
TEXAS RELAYS  
HARDING INVITATIONAL  
DRAKE RELAYS  
UTA OPEN  
EMPORIA STATE  
NCCA DIVISION II NATIONALS

Magnolia, Ark.  
Cape Girardeau, Mo.  
Austin, Texas  
Searcy, Ark.  
Des Moines, Iowa  
Arlington, Texas  
Emporia, Kan.  
Walnut, Calif.

### THE BISON TEAM

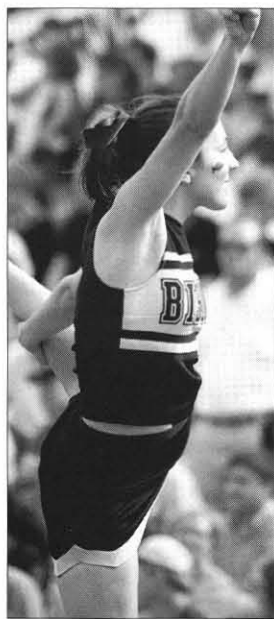
Row 1: P. Kosgei, R. Fisher, S. Huddleston, C. Swearingen, J. Eichorn, P. Bobrowski. Row 2: T. Davidson, C. Taliaferro, R. Bond, R. Gardner, P. Scott, L. Young, J. Rotich, S. Wietecha, M. Mierczko. Row 3: J. Mason, B. Collins, M. Gregger, L. Ganus, T. Kemmerer, J. Laird, T. Baker, C. Martin, T. DeSisso, K. Collins. **•J. MONTGOMERY**



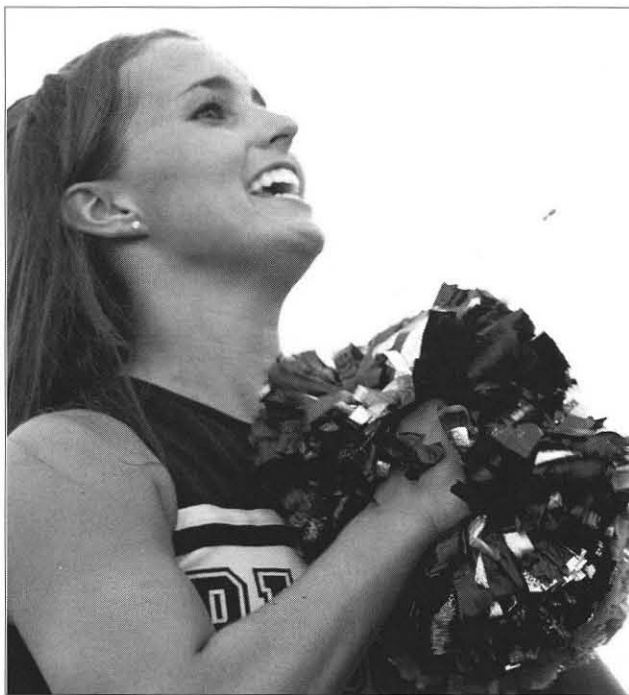
## ►CHEERLEADING

**HELPING LEAD THE SQUAD**, senior Cali Anderson, co-captain, attempts to energize the fans during the Aug. 28 football game against Southwest Baptist. The cheering paid off with a 17-10 Bison victory, which contributed to the team's overall season record of 6-5. •**A. BEENE**

**FLEXIBILITY IS KEY** for junior Holly Threm as she performs during the Oct. 23 Homecoming football game against Delta State. "The Homecoming game was different because Harvey the Bison was there, and we had to watch out for him," Threm said. "He would just walk up behind us." •**A. BEENE**



**FULL OF SPIRIT**, junior Emilyanne Dumas pumps up fans at the Oct. 30 football game against Arkansas Tech in Russellville, Ark. The cheerleading squad began practice a week before the fall semester started and cheered at football and basketball games. •**A. BEENE**



## BEHIND the MOMENT

### TRAINING

During the football season, the squad met one hour before each game and practiced three to four times a week for one to two hours. During basketball season the cheerleaders met before the games to stretch and practiced twice a week for one to two hours.

### THE BISON SQUAD

Row 1: E. Augsburger, B. Chapman, K. Mitchell.  
Row 2: H. Threm, L. Riley, C. Anderson, E. Dumas.  
Row 3: S. Rockhold, J. Graul, S. Watkins, K. McKeely, R. Anderson. •**J. MONTGOMERY**





# CAPTAIN SPLITS TALENTS

**A**pom routine. An anchor spot. A toe touch. A newscast. A tumbling segment.

Senior Latoya Riley, co-captain of the cheerleading squad, juggled a co-anchor spot on "Live at Five," TV 16's daily newscast.

Throughout the year, the cheerleading squad would practice anywhere from two to five days a week, depending on whether it was football or basketball season. Riley said the schedule was difficult at times, but she pulled through.

"Knowing regardless of all the activities I do, God is number one," Riley said. "He keeps me focused."

Junior Kim Frizzell, "Live at Five" co-anchor, said Riley was always on the go.

"We would go to a fair for a public relations class, come back to campus and prepare for the broadcast," Frizzell said. "After that, I would turn and she [Riley] would be saying goodbye as she went off to cheerleading practice."

Riley said she didn't mind the schedule, however, because she knew performing well in everything she did was her responsibility as a Christian.

"Sometimes we waste potential God-given talents," Riley said. "Every day we are presented with time to indulge in those opportunities he has given us."

Riley was just one of 12 women who worked throughout the year to pump up the Harding fans at the football and basketball games.

Each woman tried out in the spring for the following year. When trying out, each woman had to perform a cheer, a sideline, a jump, a partner stunt and a tumbling segment.

Once on the squad, the women practiced throughout the week on different aspects of the cheerleading sport.

"We do a lot of experimenting in practice to see what works best," freshman Kristin Mitchell said. "We work different stunts and stunt groups to see what looks good."

Senior Cali Anderson, Riley's co-captain, said one of the most important aspects of being on the squad was staying fit.

"We workout together and individually," Anderson said. "Everyone has to be sure to be healthy if they want to cheer."

→ RENEE LEWIS

## DEFINING MOMENT

SOPHOMORE ELISHA AUGSBURGER falls into the hands of teammates during the Oct. 23 Homecoming football game against Delta State. "[Cheerleading] is very physical, and you get to be involved in all the action," sophomore Stacy Rockhold, cheerleader, said. •A. BEENE

## ►CROSS COUNTRY

**LEADING THE RACE**, sophomores Artur Kern and Peter Kosgei, and seniors Maciek Miereczko and Reed Fisher set the pace at the Gulf South Conference meet Oct. 23 in Huntsville, Ala. Kosgei, Miereczko, Fisher and Kern placed first through fourth, respectively, clinching the title for the Bisons. •**D. CROUCH**

## BEHIND the MOMENT

### TRAINING

The team began the season with long-distance training and improving speed. Each practice lasted about two hours.

### OFF THE COURSE

Both teams met every Thursday for a student-led devotional in the locker room. "We really came together as a team, especially at the regional meet in Memphis," junior Jake Conley said.

### SCOREBOARD

#### BISONS

MEMPHIS TWILIGHT  
MISSOURI SOUTHERN  
ORANGE CRUSH  
OSU JAMBOREE  
TED LLOYD INVITATIONAL  
GSC MEET  
SOUTH REGIONAL  
NCAA II NATIONALS

Team: 1 of 16  
Team: 2 of 22  
Team: 3 of 6  
Team: 5 of 21  
Team: 1 of 5  
Team: 1 of 11  
Team: 1 of 22  
Team: 5 of 24

#### LADY BISONS

MEMPHIS TWILIGHT  
MISSOURI SOUTHERN  
OSU JAMBOREE  
TED LLOYD INVITATIONAL  
GSC MEET  
SOUTH REGIONAL  
NCAA II NATIONALS

Team: 5 of 16  
Team: 7 of 24  
Team: 1 of 17  
Team: 1 of 8  
Team: 2 of 16  
Team: 2 of 14  
Team: 9 of 24

**GATHERING ENERGY** for the final stretch, senior Helen Singoei finishes second at the Ted Lloyd Invitational Oct. 9. The race delivered Singoei's only defeat of the regular season. •**A. BEENE**



### THE LADY BISON TEAM

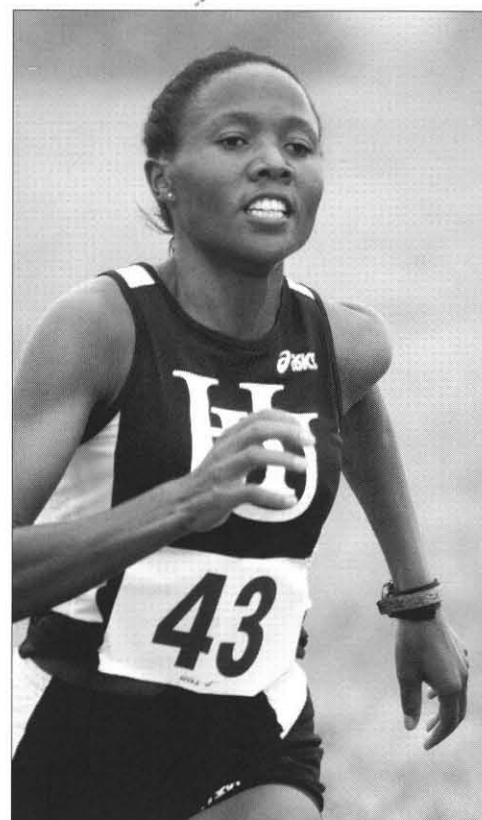
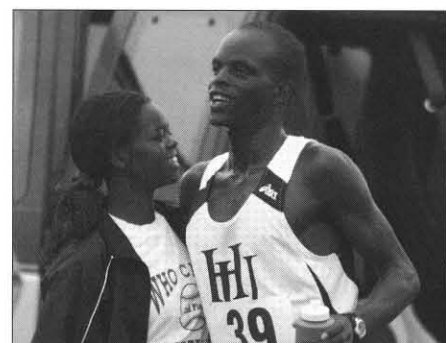
Row 1: J. Cornett, A. King, B. Anderson, C. Finn, E. Bryan, M. Brown.  
Row 2: J. Kogo, S. Chelimo, K. Sztayn, A. Rodenbeck, J. Pingrey, T. Tarole, H. Singoei, V. Echeverria, T. Harding. •**J. MONTGOMERY**



### AT THE TED LLOYD INVITATIONAL

**OCT. 9**, freshman Savito Chelimo congratulates sophomore Peter Kosgei on his first-place victory. Both the men's and women's teams finished first.

•**A. BEENE**



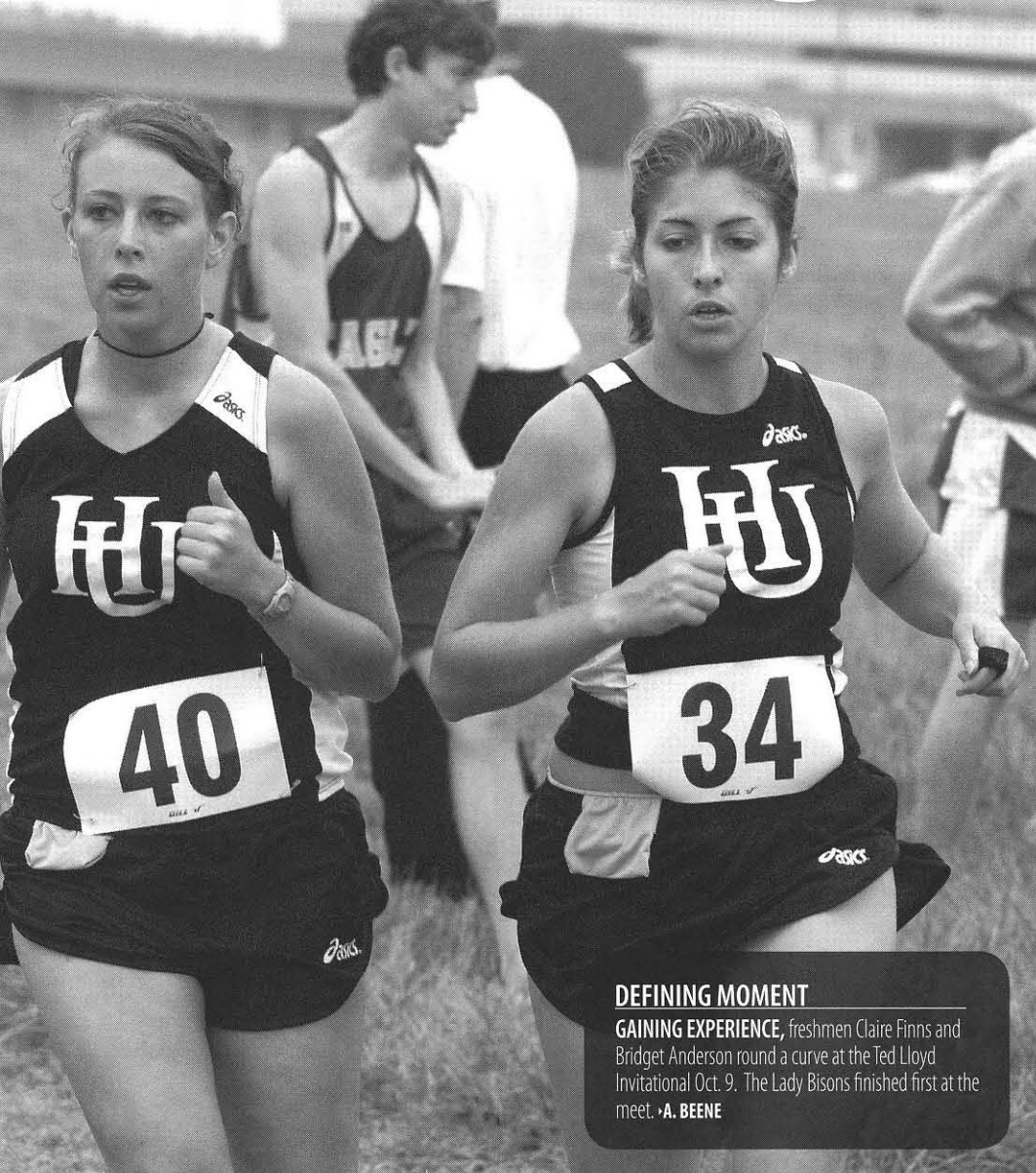
### THE BISON TEAM

Row 1: M. Jones, J. Kosgei, A. Frazier, S. Huddleston, J. Conley, K. Wood, R. Gardner, S. Arberry, A. Kern, P. Kosgei. Row 2: M. Cregger, W. Ellis, B. Collins, R. Fisher, M. Riley, J. Conley, M. Ellis, T.J. Davidson, P. Bobrowski, M. Miereczko. •**J. MONTGOMERY**



# VICTORIES SHADOW TEAMS

## → RUNNERS RACK UP HONORS



### DEFINING MOMENT

**GAINING EXPERIENCE**, freshmen Claire Finns and Bridget Anderson round a curve at the Ted Lloyd Invitational Oct. 9. The Lady Bisons finished first at the meet. • A. BEENE

Turkey. Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Cross country. Pumpkin pie.

One of those didn't usually fit into a typical Harding student's mold of Thanksgiving break. But for the Bison and Lady Bison cross country teams, cross country was a tradition for the gobble-gobble holiday.

Once again, the teams packed up their running shoes and made their way to the NCAA Division II Cross Country Championships in Evansville, Ind., Nov. 20.

The men earned a fifth-place finish for their third top-five finish in the past four years. The women finished ninth. This was the second time in three years the women had a top-10 finish.

Prior to nationals, the men finished first at both the Gulf South Conference meet Oct. 23 and the South Region meet Nov. 6. The women finished second in both races. The women fell short by one point to the University of Alabama-Huntsville for the closest GSC race in conference history.

"We competed really well as a team. We just did not come out as strong as we had hoped," senior Helen Singoei, who finished third at the GSC meet with a time of 18 minutes and 10 seconds, said. "Each of us competed as hard as we could, and as a team we did very well. We will just have to try again next year and do the best we can."

Freshman Kalina Szteyn finished first at the GSC meet with a time of 17:50. This earned her the GSC Freshman of the Year title.

"Running is my talent," Szteyn said. "We all have talents; I'm just blessed that I have found mine."

Singoei and Szteyn also earned All-America honors.

Along with the women, the men's team boasted its fair share of running stars. Sophomore Peter Kosgei crossed the finish line first in four out of the seven races he ran this season. He finished first at the Memphis Twilight Sept. 11, the Ted Lloyd Invitational Oct. 9, the GSC meet and the South Region meet. Kosgei earned a personal best and a school record at the Ted Lloyd Invitational with a time of 23:50. He finished fourth at nationals.

Senior Reed Fisher finished 20th at nationals. Fisher and Kosgei earned All-America Honors.

→ STAFF REPORTS

# 'MEGA MAN' OVERCOMES

JOE DACUS PLAYS DESPITE INJURY

In any sport, an injury can prove devastating to an athlete, but senior linebacker Joe Dacus was determined not to let a broken wrist keep him from playing football.

Known on the football team as "Mega Man" and "One-arm Bandit," Dacus overcame the struggles of pain and the immobility of his right wrist after he broke it Sept. 18 during the game against Valdosta State University in Valdosta, Ga.

Dacus wore a hard cast on his wrist that he wrapped in cushion before every game. After games, the cast would be dirty on the inside from sweat and dirt, so he had it removed and recast every week.

"He has [become] used to using it," red-shirt freshman Rocky Hall said. "We all watch him use it to club people on the field."

Freshman offensive tackle Brandon Tittle said he knew what it felt like to struggle through an injury. Tittle said he respected Dacus for playing despite his broken wrist.

"Joe is tough," Tittle said. "He is reliable and displays good leadership qualities."

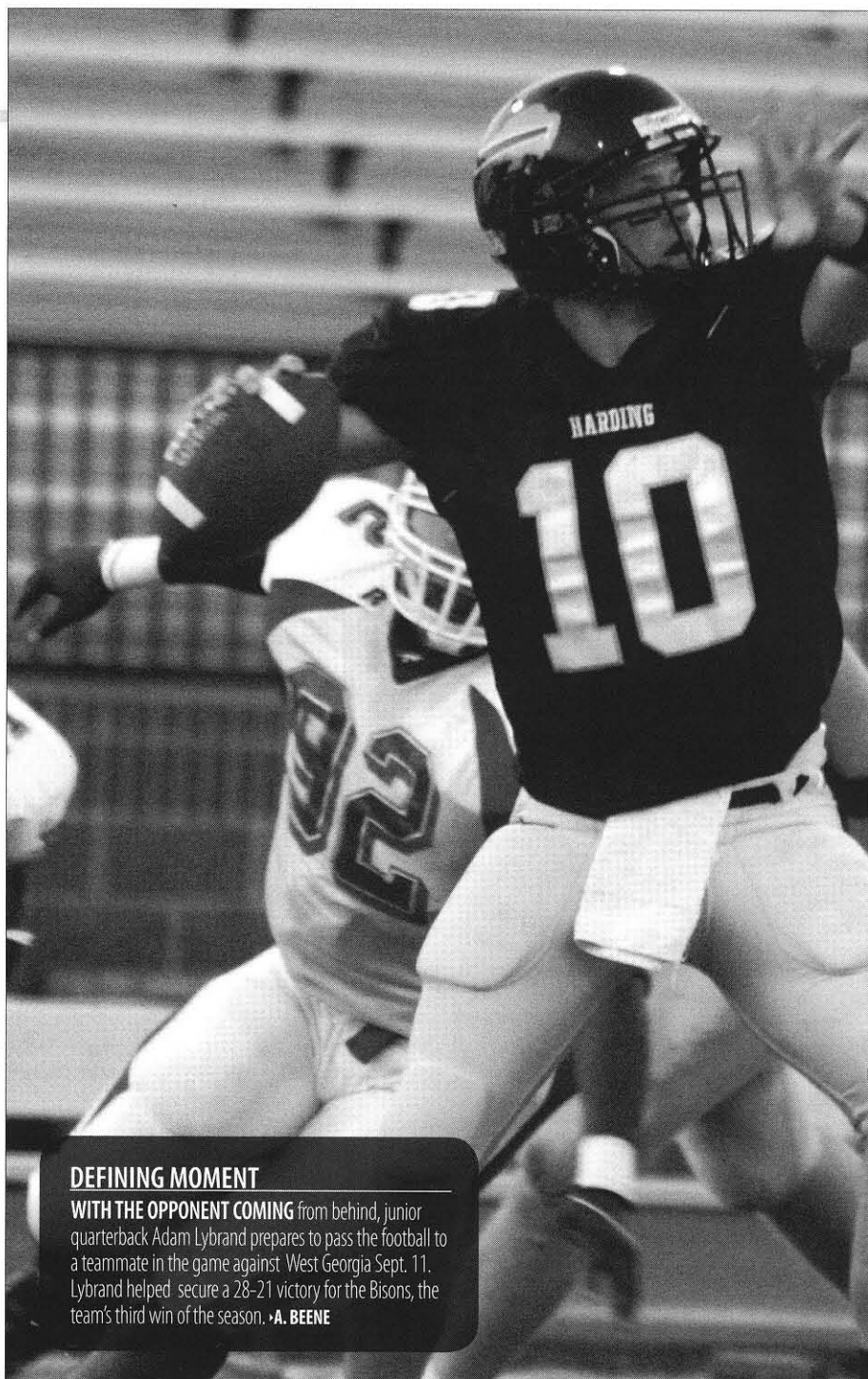
The Bisons fought on the field this season, Dacus' last, losing their final four conference games with a record of 4-5. As the playoffs were no longer an option for the Bisons, the team said they vowed to play for Dacus, who graduated in May.

The men's determination paid off, and the Bisons finished with a winning season record of 6-5, ranked sixth in the GSC West Division II.

Dacus said he thanked God that he ended up at Harding, and that he loved the coaches under whom he played football.

"I love football and I will miss it, but I have no regrets," Dacus said. "I've played as hard as I [could]."

→ ASHLEY KELLUM



## DEFINING MOMENT

**WITH THE OPPONENT COMING** from behind, junior quarterback Adam Lybrand prepares to pass the football to a teammate in the game against West Georgia Sept. 11. Lybrand helped secure a 28-21 victory for the Bisons, the team's third win of the season. **• A. BEENE**

## THE BISON TEAM

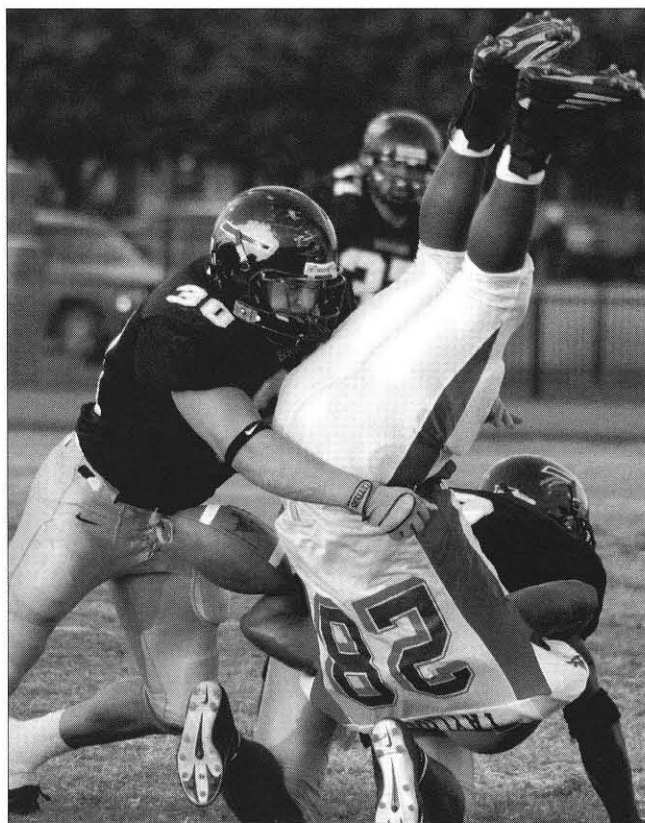
J. Price (1), J. Fairrow (2), T. Daniels (3), R. Knighton (4), R. Hall (5), R. Towns (6), D. Thomas (7), D. Williams (8), S. Dutille (9), A. Lybrand (10), R. Smith (11), N. Prosser (12), C. Keese (13), H. Adams (14), T. Hanson (15), D. Knighton (16), B. Davis (17), C. Rowan (18), T. Watts (19), T. DeSisso (20), J. Huckleba (21), B. Smith (22), A. Mitchell (23), S. Greer (24), D. Patton (25), C. Clark (26), J. Banks (27), K. West (28), J. Dacus (30), C. Perkins (31), B. Bonner (32), N. Noel (33), P. Garrett (34), D. Easter (35), I. Fieilo (37), B. Frank (38), D. Bozarth (39), S. Brown (40), A. Norman (42), M. Gaskin (43), S. Post (45), A. Venable (46), M. Gaub (47), S. Burnett (48), R. Conn (49), J. Wilson (51), C. Mahone (52), N. Moreland (54), G. Taylor (55), B. Siegel (57), D. Saunders (58), W. Werner (61), D. McCarty (65), A. Allen (67), T. Parks (69), E. Foy (70), J. Lehman (71), K. Henson (72), K. Collins (74), J. Stephenson (75), B. Tittle (77), C. Evans (78), J. Laird (80), D. Feliciano (81), D. Ware (82), G. Yates (83), T. Brown (84), D. Wilson (87), C. Harvey (89), J. Currie (90), J. Cavitt (91), M. McLunkins (92), K. Ferrell (93), J. Ellis (94), N. Hoffman (95), K. Wakwe (96), T. Baker (97). **• J. MONTGOMERY**





**LOOKING FOR A HOLE,** junior running back De-Juan Patton helps defeat Southwest Baptist Aug. 28. The Bisons defeated Southwest 17-10 in the first game of the season.

•A. BEENE



**TURNING THE OPPONENT ON HIS HEAD,** senior linebacker Joe Dacus helps make a tackle in the game against West Georgia Sept. 11. Dacus contributed to the Bisons' 6-5 winning season with 43 tackles. •C. ROBERSON

**JUMPING ON THE OPPONENT,** sophomore defensive tackle Justin Currie, freshman defensive back Rocky Hall and senior linebacker Izzy Fieilo tackle a Delta State player at the Homecoming game Oct. 23. Delta State handed Harding its fourth loss of the season, beating the Bisons 48-14. •J. MONTGOMERY



## SCOREBOARD

SOUTHWEST BAPTIST  
MISSOURI SOUTHERN  
WEST GEORGIA  
VALDOSTA STATE  
NORTH ALABAMA  
HENDERSON STATE  
CENTRAL ARKANSAS  
ARKANSAS-MONTICELLO  
DELTA STATE  
ARKANSAS TECH  
OUACHITA BAPTIST

W 17-10  
W 32-27  
W 28-21  
L 19-32  
W 30-27  
W 44-20  
L 20-28  
L 28-37  
L 14-48  
L 14-17  
W 20-17

## TRAINING

All players conditioned three to four days a week for an hour and a half. The players focused on different parts of the body to build strength and stamina.

## OFF THE FIELD

Devotionals were a part of the team's preparation for games. After a pre-game meal, one player led a devotional before the team played.

**BEHIND** the  
**MOMENT**

## ► MEN'S SOCCER

### BEHIND the MOMENT

#### TRAINING

Players met in the training room every day and walked to the field together. They started out jogging and stretching then moved to on-the-field techniques. Practice lasted about two hours.

#### OFF THE FIELD

The players attended Bible studies and ate out with each other. "We are all friends, and we worked well together as strong Christians," junior Ben Faris said.

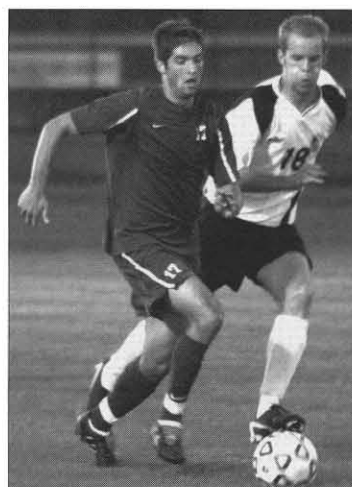
#### SCOREBOARD

NORTHEASTERN STATE	L 0-5
MISSOURI SOUTHERN	L 1-2
DALLAS BAPTIST	L 2-3
BETHEL	L 2-5
FREED-HARDEMAN	L 1-3
LYON	L 0-1
CHRISTIAN BROTHERS	L 0-2
DELTA STATE	W 6-1
OUACHITA BAPTIST	W 1-0
ALABAMA-HUNTSVILLE	L 0-7
CENTRAL ARKANSAS	L 0-3
MONTEVALLO	L 0-10
LINCOLN MEMORIAL	L 1-6
BELHAVEN	L 0-6
MISSOURI-ROLLA	L 2-3

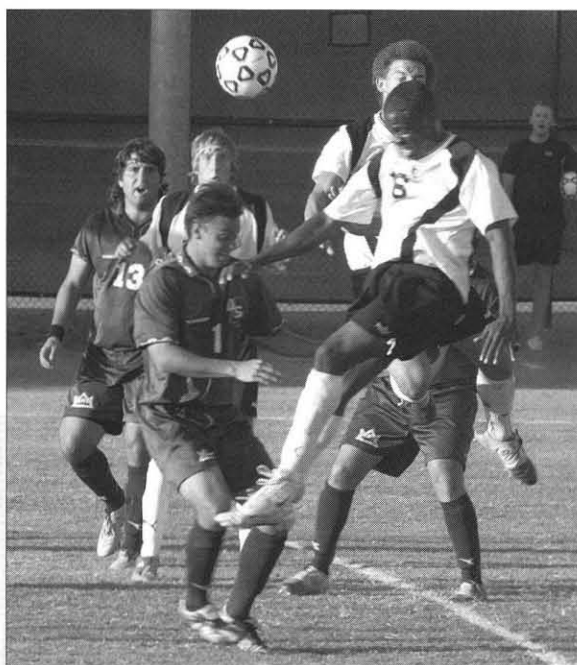
#### THE BISON TEAM

Row 1: C. Freis, P. Williams. Row 2: D. Graves, H. Bello, G. Eubank, J. Kosarek, N. Hamilton, B. Wallace, K. Fester, E. Mount, A. Roukey. Row 3: K. Hinckley, M. Allen, C. Jackson, H. Hutson, C. Smeal, R. Corley, Y. Ibrahim, K. Perkins, S. Daniel, B. Williams, B. Day, B. Faris, Z. Johnson, S. Snow, D. Mainprize, J. Ireland, K. Rodgers, G. Harris. •J. MONTGOMERY

**CHASING THE BALL**, freshman Eric Mount runs to catch a Belhaven opponent Oct. 28. Belhaven shut out the Bisons 0-6, the team's 12th loss of the season. •J. MONTGOMERY



**SENDING THE BALL SOARING**, freshman Habeeb Bello makes the play with a head bunt Sept. 30 against Delta State. The Bisons defeated the Statesmen 6-1, which was one of only two wins on the season. •J. MONTGOMERY





# INJURIES PLAGUE SEASON

**T**he Bison soccer team had a difficult season as its opponents outscored them 48-14. However, through all their disappointments, the team members remained hopeful that next season would be different.

The Bison team took its first hit by coming into the season without seven of their graduated seniors, six of whom were starters last season.

"It was tough when the season started because so many strong players were gone," junior Ben Faris, team captain, said. "We didn't have enough depth on the bench to replace them."

Not only did the team lose seniors, it also lost a key player, senior four-year starter Brian Day, who left the team for personal reasons at the beginning of the fall season. Head coach Greg Harris said the team was shocked when Day left.

"Brian was a captain, leader and a calming voice on the team," Harris said. "Losing Day was an unexpected blow that they were not prepared for."

The team's problems continued as injuries plagued members throughout the season. Sophomore Slade Daniel said injuries were a problem all season.

"During the season, three of our starters were out with injuries," Daniel said. "It was really tough on the team to lose power players."

Faris was out for four weeks with a bone bruise. Senior Kyle Perkins, also a captain, had a hamstring injury, which caused him to play on and off all season. Sophomore Scott Snow broke his jaw in practice Sept. 9 and was out all season.

As the season pulled to a close, the Bison soccer team had a record of 2-17.

The opponents' 299 shots outnumbered Harding's 144. To the outsider that may have seemed like a poor season, but to Harris and the team, it was a positive experience.

"The only negative was losing," Harris said. "My guys played with heart and they played for each other. You couldn't ask for much more."

→ AMY IRELAND

## DEFINING MOMENT

**WORKING TOGETHER**, junior Ben Faris and sophomore Brock Williams keep the ball from Delta State Sept. 30. Faris and Williams scored four of the six goals and contributed four assists in the match. **• J. MONTGOMERY**

# TEAM KICKSTO NATIONAL LEVEL

**T**he Lady Bison soccer team made school history when it qualified to play in the NCAA Division II National Tournament in Miami Shores, Fla.

The Lady Bisons' 3-4 loss to Christian Brothers University in the GSC Championship finals Nov. 7 left team members hoping that they would still receive a bid to the national tournament.

With an overall record of 15-4-1, the Lady Bisons had proved that they were a force to be reckoned with on the soccer field.

When the team heard the announcement that it was the number two seed from the South Region to participate, the women let out cheers, laughter and tears in celebration.

"When we heard our names called, we all were screaming and leaping with joy," junior Melanie Goodson said.

The team then quickly began to scramble to get their bags packed for the tournament.

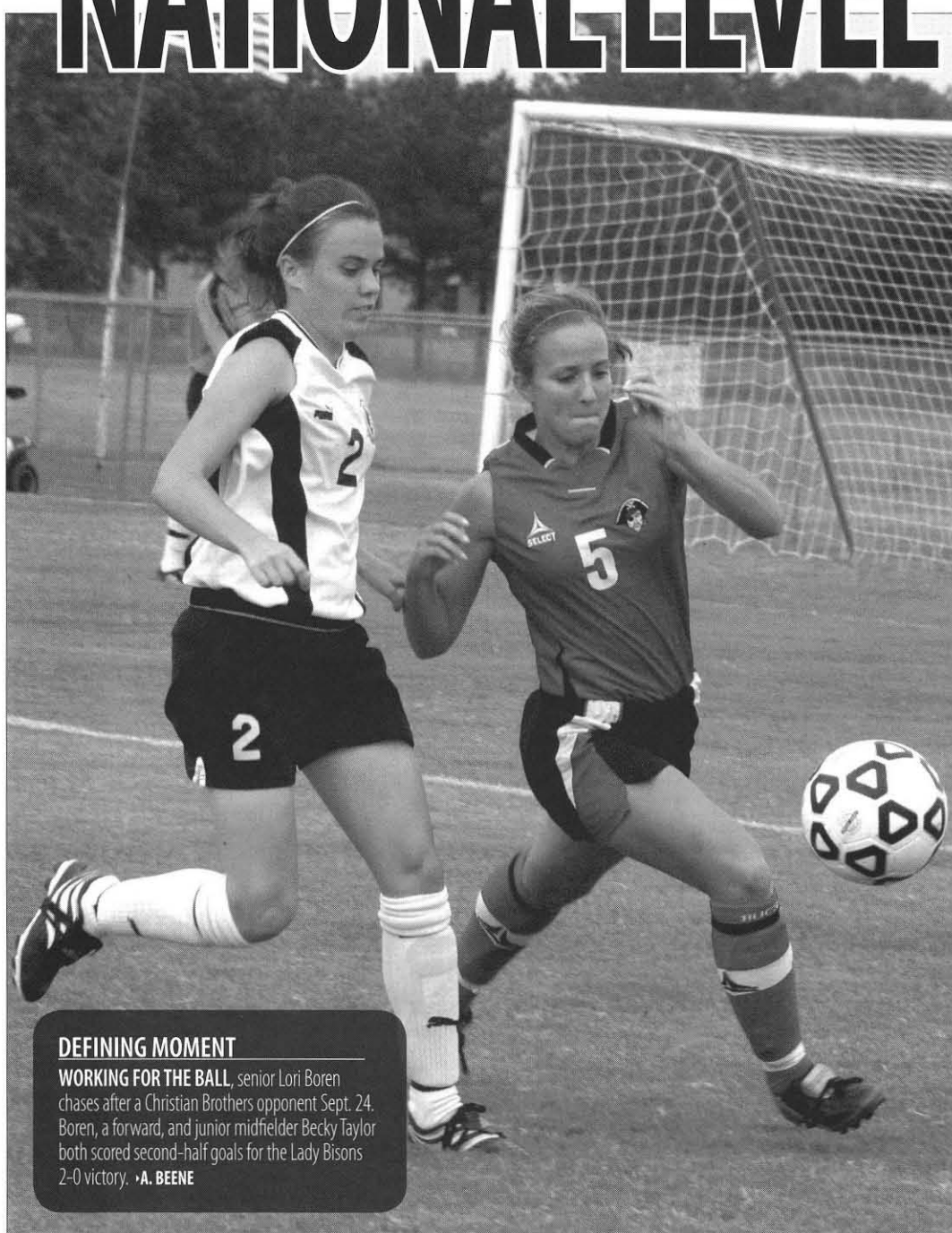
Members spent the next day traveling to Miami Shores, Fla., and then spent Wednesday relaxing. Unfortunately for the women, the University of Tampa beat the Lady Bisons 4-1 Nov. 11. The Lady Spartans took an early 3-0 lead after rattling off three goals in the first 18 minutes of play.

"Tampa just had more experience than we did, and we started out slow," head coach Greg Harris said. "They had a strong program and had been through the tournament several times before. It wasn't that they were better than us, they were just better prepared mentally."

Despite coming home earlier from the tournament than they had hoped, the team members said they were proud of their accomplishments this season.

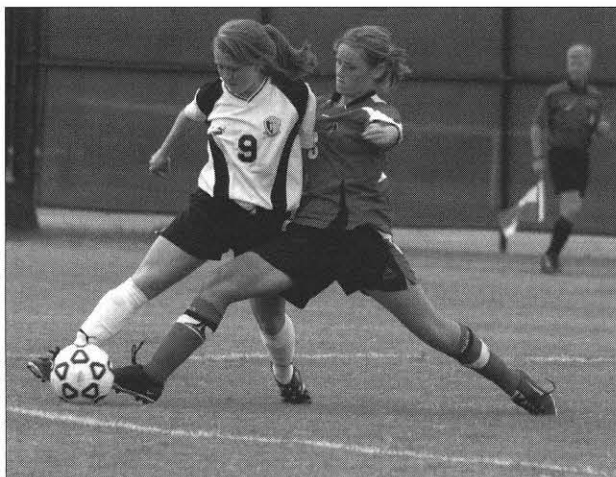
"We had so much fun," junior Julie Akins said. "I wish we could have gone farther than the first round, but our team accomplished so much. We have nothing to be ashamed or disappointed about."

→ASHLEY KELLUM



#### DEFINING MOMENT

**WORKING FOR THE BALL**, senior Lori Boren chases after a Christian Brothers opponent Sept. 24. Boren, a forward, and junior midfielder Becky Taylor both scored second-half goals for the Lady Bisons 2-0 victory. •A. BEENE



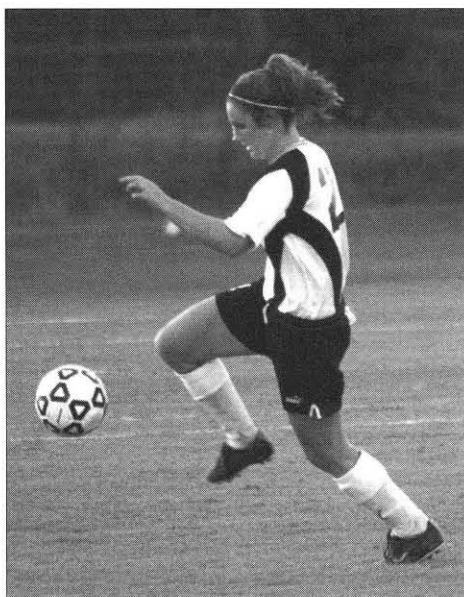
**NOT GIVING UP**, freshman Kendyl Washburn fights off a challenger from Christian Brothers Sept. 24. Washburn contributed the only assist of the game and helped the Lady Bisons to a 2-0 victory. •**A. BEENE**

## FIRST-TIME MOMENT

The Lady Bison soccer team was ranked 16th in the nation. This was the first year the team held a national ranking.



**DEFENDING THE BALL** against Christian Brothers Sept. 24, senior Becky Taylor contributes to the Lady Bisons' eighth win of the season. Taylor scored one of two goals in the 2-0 victory. •**A. BEENE**



**CHARGING TO THE NET**, senior Lori Born helps defeat St. Edward's Aug. 27. The Lady Bisons won 3-1 and finished the season ranked 26th in the nation. •**R. KECK**

## THE LADY BISON TEAM

Row 1: M. Goodson, C. Dovichak. Row 2: C. Piselli, L. Kellis, L. Stark, E. Currie, K. Washburn, L. Pierce, K. Kellis, D. Rodriguez, E. Jones, M. Hatcher, L. Bullington, L. Boren. Row 3: M. Allen, C. Saul, H. Hutson, S. Williamson, K. Rankin, L. Clissold, J. Long, J. Akins, B. Bennett, E. Whittington, E. Currie, H. Rosenbaum, M. Smith, K. Rodgers, J. Ireland, G. Harris. •**J. MONTGOMERY**



## SCOREBOARD

ST. EDWARD'S	W 3-1
FLORIDA SOUTHERN	W 1-0
NORTHEASTERN STATE	L 1-2
WEST GEORGIA	W 4-0
DALLAS BAPTIST	W 1-0
TEXAS WOMAN'S	W 4-1
FREED-HARDEMAN	W 9-0
MIDWESTERN STATE	W 1-0
CHRISTIAN BROTHERS	W 2-0
NORTH ALABAMA	W 4-2
DELTA STATE	W 6-0
OUACHITA BAPTIST	T 1-1
ALABAMA-HUNTSVILLE	W 1-0
LINCOLN MEMORIAL	L 0-1
MONTEVALLO	W 3-2
CENTRAL ARKANSAS	W 4-2
BETHEL	W 2-0
CENTRAL ARKANSAS	W 1-0
CHRISTIAN BROTHERS	L 3-4
TAMPA	L 1-4

## BEHIND the MOMENT

### TRAINING

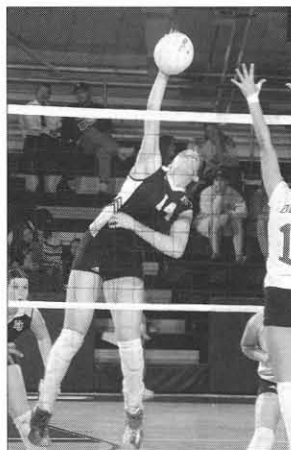
Every day after classes, the team spent time playing, shooting and working on techniques.

### OFF THE FIELD

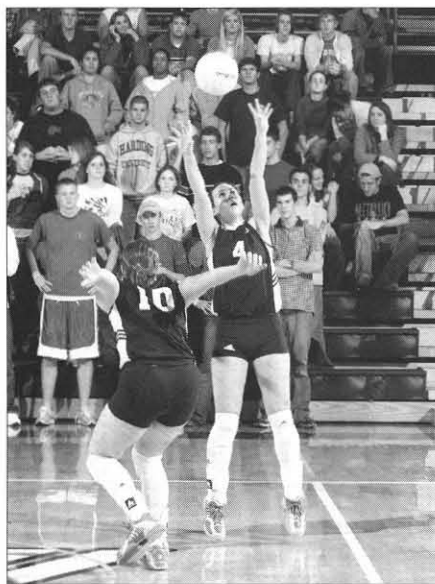
Head coach Greg Harris led devotionals when the team was on the road. Soccer also taught the team life lessons. "Soccer taught me about self discipline and working together as a team," freshman Lynsey Clissold said.

# ▶VOLLEYBALL

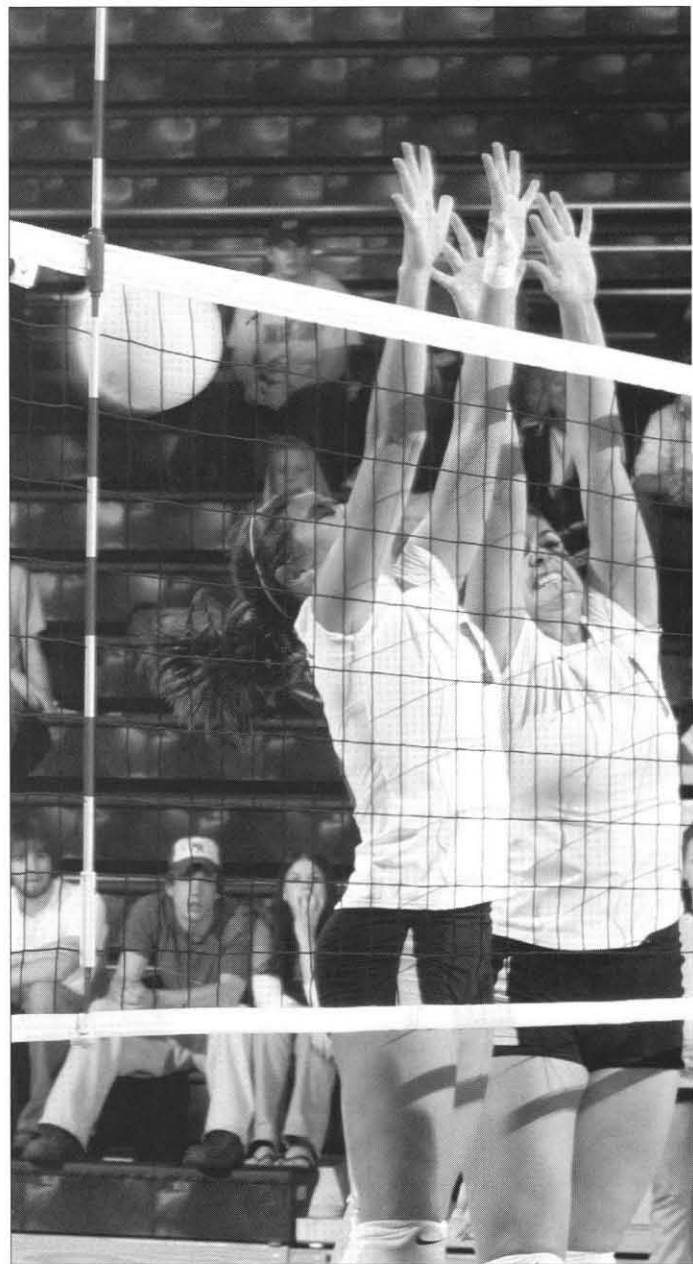
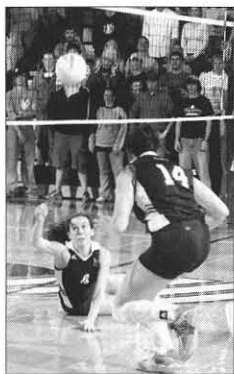
**JUMPING IN THE AIR**, sophomore Tiffany Morrison spikes the ball Oct. 12 against Ouachita Baptist University. The Lady Bisons beat OBU 3-0 with Morrison contributing eight kills and four digs. •**C. ROBERSON**



**SETTING UP** for a big play, senior Kate Kennedy and freshman Chelsea Ginn work to shut out Ouachita Baptist University Oct. 12. Kennedy led the team with 452 kills on the season. •**C. ROBERSON**



**FRESHMAN CHELSEA GINN EXTENDS** her arm to hit the ball while sophomore Tiffany Morrison moves into position against Ouachita Baptist University Oct. 12. The Bisons led the conference in assists, blocks and digs. •**C. ROBERSON**



## SCOREBOARD

OUACHITA BAPTIST	W	3-1	HENDERSON STATE	W	3-0
ARKANSAS TECH	W	3-0	ARKANSAS TECH	W	3-0
WEST TEXAS A&M	W	3-0	CENTRAL ARKANSAS	W	3-0
DALLAS BAPTIST	W	3-0	CHRISTIAN BROTHERS	W	3-0
SE OKLAHOMA STATE	W	3-0	RHODES	W	3-1
AUSTIN COLLEGE	W	3-0	WEST GEORGIA	W	3-0
HENDERSON STATE	W	3-2	ALABAMA-HUNTSVILLE	W	3-1
DRURY	W	3-0	WEST ALABAMA	W	3-0
CENTRAL ARKANSAS	W	3-0	MONTEVALLO	W	3-0
SOUTHERN ARKANSAS	W	3-1	LINCOLN CHRISTIAN	W	3-0
CHRISTIAN BROTHERS	W	3-0	LINCOLN CHRISTIAN	W	3-0
OUACHITA BAPTIST	W	3-0	ALASKA ANCHORAGE	L	3-1
TRUMAN STATE	L	0-3	MONTANA ST. BILLINGS	L	3-0
MISSOURI SOUTHERN	L	3-1	MISSOURI WESTERN	W	3-2
PITTSBURG STATE	L	0-3	MISSOURI SOUTHERN	W	3-2
CENTRAL MISSOURI	L	2-3	TEXAS A&M-COMMERCE	W	3-0
DALLAS BAPTIST	W	0-3			

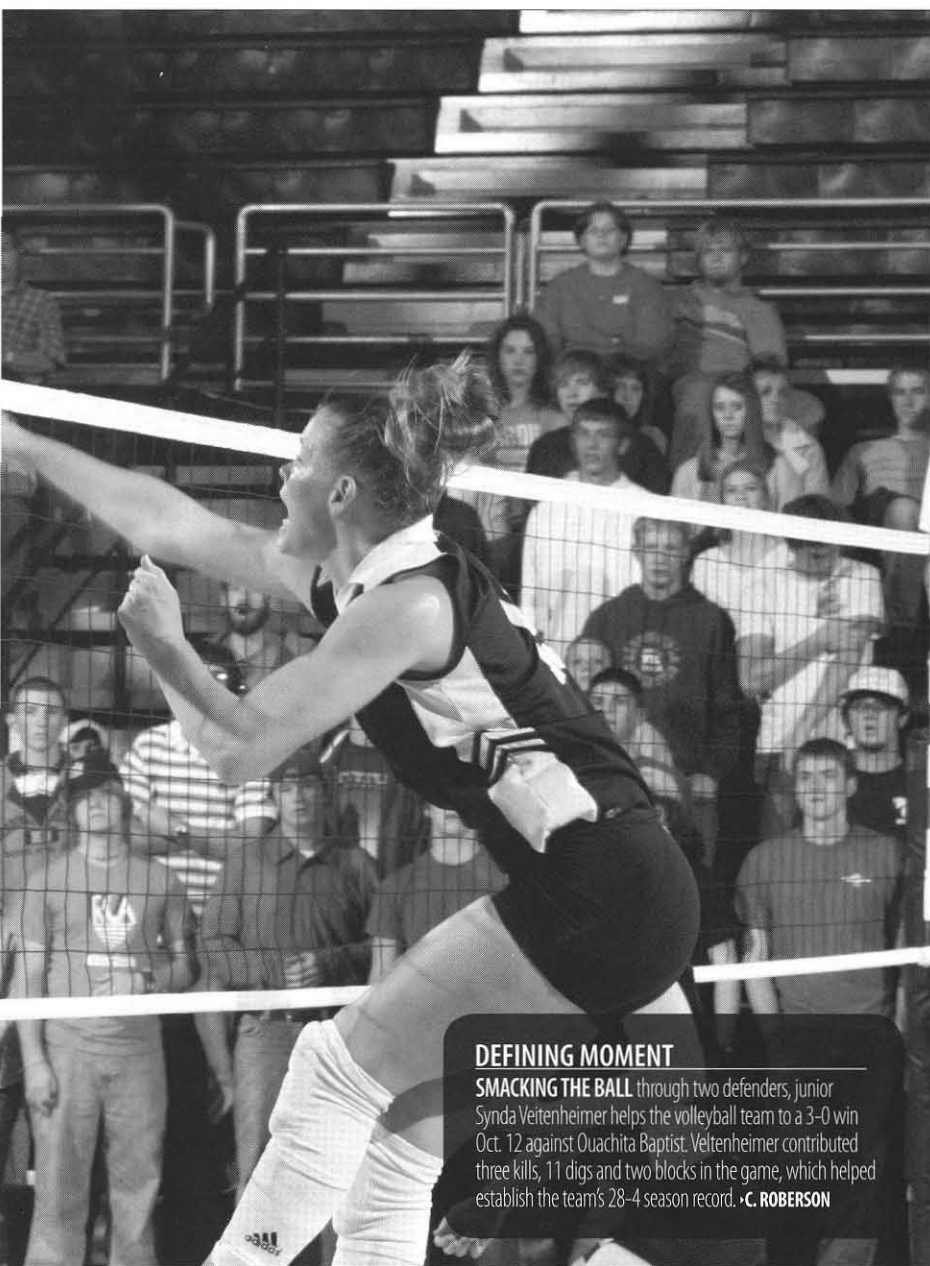
## TRAINING

The team trained at the beginning of the season two times a day and then dropped down to one per day. The practices were always different, but lifting weights and ball-handling drills remained consistent elements of the team's training.

## OFF THE COURT

Team members traveled to Camp Tahkodah at the beginning of the fall semester to learn about their fellow teammates. The team also ate with head coach Keith Giboney and other teammates throughout the volleyball season. "It was an experience where we all got along really well and learned a lot in the process," freshman Chelsea Ginn said.

**BEHIND the MOMENT**



### DEFINING MOMENT

**SMACKING THE BALL** through two defenders, junior Synda Veitenheimer helps the volleyball team to a 3-0 win Oct. 12 against Ouachita Baptist. Veitenheimer contributed three kills, 11 digs and two blocks in the game, which helped establish the team's 28-4 season record. **•C. ROBERSON**

# TEAM PLAYS IN ALASKA

**T**he weather was cool and windy when the Lady Bisons volleyball team arrived in Anchorage, Alaska, Aug. 31. Competing in the Aspen Hotels Invitational hosted by the University of Alaska gave the team a chance to play and sightsee in the Last Frontier State.

With the second day of their arrival at their leisure, the women tested their courage as they went white water rafting down Six Mile Creek, about 45 minutes from Anchorage. After weathering the smaller rapids, the women passed a swim test and attacked the class five rapids, the most difficult level of rapids.

"I'll never forget it," Veitenheimer said. "I think the fact that we are a team and we are used to working with each other helped a lot."

The Lady Bisons met their first defeat of the season at the invitational Sept. 2 against Montana State University-Billings 3-0, followed by a 3-1 loss Sept. 3 against the University of Alaska-Anchorage.

Giboney said the team did not expect the losses.

"[The losses] were disappointing because we felt like both of those [games] were wins," he said.

Following the initial losses, the team won two games against Lincoln Christian Sept. 3 and 4, winning 3-0 in both matches.

Sophomore middle blocker Katie Westmoreland said the team had the talent but was not on top of its game.

"As far as skill goes, we were OK, but we weren't communicating or playing well as a team that weekend," Westmoreland said. "But we worked on that and got better."

Giboney said the invitational gave the team a chance to identify and fix problems.

"After we got back from Alaska we went on a 16-game winning streak," Giboney said. "Mostly we tweaked our starting line up a little bit and tried to find out which rotations worked the best."

The Lady Bisons placed third in the tournament and returned to Searcy Sept. 5. The team played 34 games and ended the season with a 28-6 record. The team was undefeated in the Gulf South Conference during regular season play.

→ **AARON MILLER**

## THE BISON TEAM

Row 1: M. Piech, C. Ginn, N. Trevino, A. Morrison, S. Veitenheimer, A. Kellum, M. Rosenbaum. Row 2: D. Burkert, M. Doby, L. Lackey, T. Morrison, K. Kennedy, K. Westmoreland, K. Parks, J. Tepe, K. Giboney. **•J. MONTGOMERY**



# BISONS RETURN TO TUPELO

**T**he men's basketball team made its fourth-straight trip to the Gulf South Conference Tournament in Tupelo, Miss., this year, but a season-low shooting percentage in the quarterfinals March 4 led to a 84-87 loss to Delta State and the end of the Bisons' season.

Harding held a 52-51 lead with 10 minutes, 43 seconds left in the game, but the Statesmen responded with a 10-0 run to pull out to a 61-52 advantage. The Bisons never got closer than five points the rest of the game. The Bisons finished the season with an 18-11 overall record; they were 10-6 in conference play.

In addition to a winning season, the Bison players said the year also showcased highlights off the court. The team's weekly Bible study with David Mathews, evangelist at the Downtown Church of Christ, led to two new beginnings for junior guard Cesó Spirewell.

Spirewell, who led the team in steals with 93, was baptized Nov. 7 after one of the devotionals, and he also proposed to his girlfriend, sophomore Cymeka Delarosa, during the Jan. 19 Bible study.

"I knew Cesó was ready to make that step, but I was still shocked when he proposed during the devotional," said senior guard Emmanuel White, who led the Bisons with 95 assists.

The men met every Wednesday with Mathews and discussed everything from the facts of life to how God influenced everyday life.

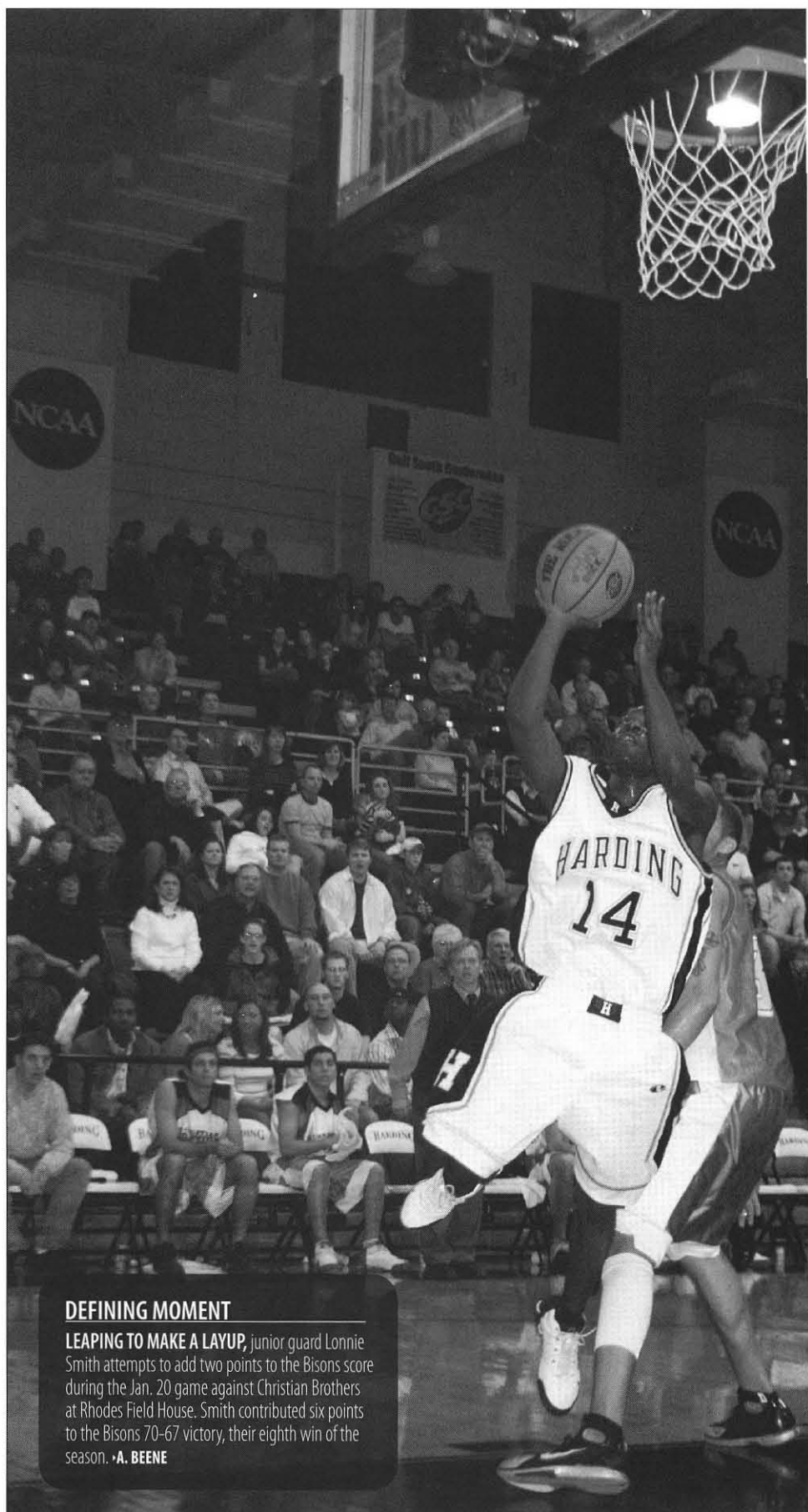
"[The Bible study] was an answer to my prayers to be able to interact spiritually with team members and play ball at the same time," White said. "It has made me a mature man."

Mathews said he could see that the men had grown closer as friends and as a team.

"The time together has grown them into a unit," Mathews said. "They want their lives to be better and to grow — and they are growing. I love these guys."

Team members said bonding experiences, like the Bible study, helped them find success on the court. Freshman forward Jacob Thies said the "sixth man" also contributed to the Bisons' winning season. "The fans are amazing," Thies said. "They are the best in Division II basketball."

→STAFF REPORTS



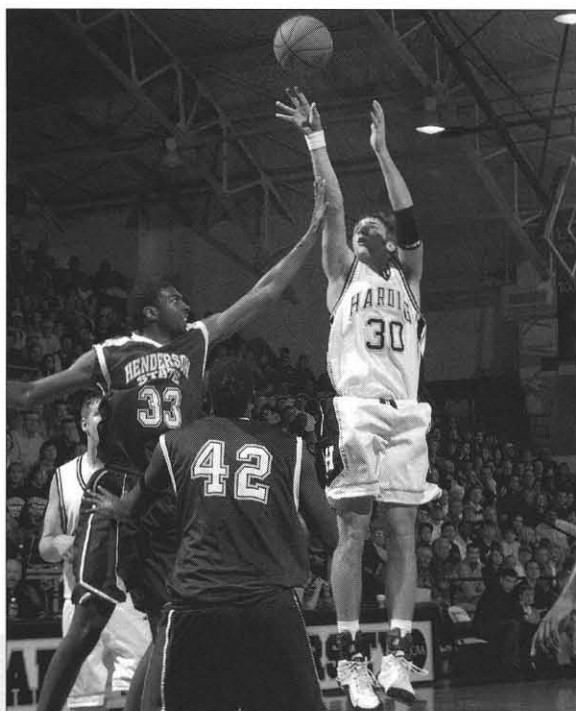
## DEFINING MOMENT

**LEAPING TO MAKE A LAYUP**, junior guard Lonnie Smith attempts to add two points to the Bisons score during the Jan. 20 game against Christian Brothers at Rhodes Field House. Smith contributed six points to the Bisons 70-67 victory, their eighth win of the season. •A. BEENE

**CHANGING DIRECTIONS**, junior guard Cesó Sprewell fights for the ball with a Christian Brothers opponent Jan. 20 at Rhodes Field House. Sprewell contributed four points in the game, which helped propel the Bisons to a 70-67 victory. •**A. BEENE**



**HOPING FOR NOTHING BUT NET**, junior guard/forward Matt Hall takes a jump shot Feb. 26 against Henderson State University at Rhodes Field House. Hall led the team this season with 21.1 points per game. •**J. MONTGOMERY**



## BEHIND the MOMENT

### TRAINING

The team's practices were geared toward the scouting report for the next opponent. The practices lasted one and a half to two hours. Team members also lifted weights three days a week.

### OFF THE COURT

The team participated in weekly devotionals, visited with each other after practice and usually ate together.

### SCOREBOARD

ARKANSAS BAPTIST	W	113-83
INDIANA TECH	L	95-98
SCIENCE & ARTS OKLAHOMA	W	90-74
ALABAMA HUNTSVILLE	W	66-59
MONTEVALLO	L	65-71
SOUTHWEST BAPTIST	L	77-100
MONTEVALLO	W	84-77
UNION	W	107-102
WEST FLORIDA	W	87-86
ARKANSAS LITTLE ROCK	L	57-75
DELTA STATE	L	73-87
ARKANSAS MONTICELLO	L	70-81
SOUTHERN ARKANSAS	W	73-63
CENTRAL ARKANSAS	W	73-70
CHRISTIAN BROTHERS	W	70-67
OUACHITA BAPTIST	L	60-71
ARKANSAS TECH	W	92-77
HENDERSON STATE	W	71-62
DELTA STATE	W	85-81
ARKANSAS MONTICELLO	L	60-67
SOUTHERN ARKANSAS	W	85-77
CENTRAL ARKANSAS	L	68-71
CHRISTIAN BROTHERS	W	82-69
OUACHITA BAPTIST	L	66-71
ARKANSAS TECH	W	96-82
HENDERSON STATE	W	86-67

### THE BISON TEAM

Row 1: M. Kirby, Z. Kirby. Row 2: E. White, M. Hall, A. Anderson, J. Profit, J. Bynum, R. Franco, J. Thies, J. Greene, C. Kee, E. White. Row 3: T. Kirby, B. Stanley, H. Zayas, D. Smith, C. Sprewell, K. Morgan, M. Ashcraft, L. Smith, A. Cole, J. Taylor, J. Morgan. •**J. MONTGOMERY**

## ► WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

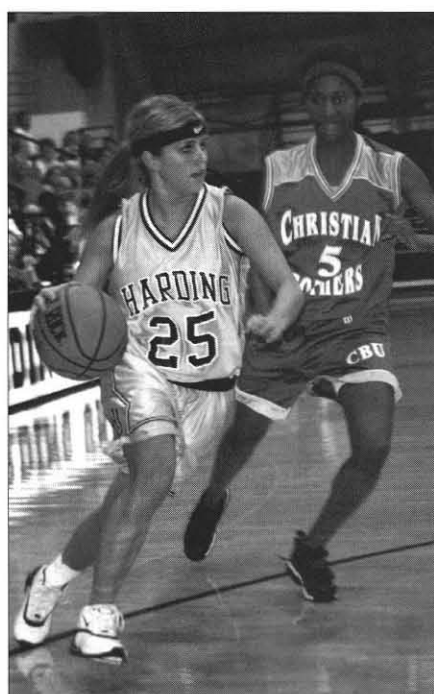


**CATCHING THE BALL**, freshman post Jacque Fredendall sets up to shoot a basket during the Dec. 9 game against North Alabama at Rhodes Field House. Fredendall helped the Lady Bisons dominate with a 70-54 victory. •**R. KECK**

**SENIOR POST JAIME SIMPKINS PUSHES** closer to the basket during the Dec. 4 home game against St. Edwards. Simpkins made 5 of 7 shots, which gave the Lady Bisons 11 points toward their victory. •**C. ROBERSON**



**DRIBBLING PAST HER OPPONENT**, sophomore guard Ashley Dixon looks for an opportunity to score during the Jan. 20 game against Christian Brothers University at Rhodes Field House. The Lady Bisons fell short 58-73, marking their eighth loss of the season. •**R. KECK**



## BEHIND the MOMENT

### TRAINING

The Lady Bisons practiced two to three hours a day, and lifted weights twice a week. Team members had one day off a week during the season.

### OFF THE COURT

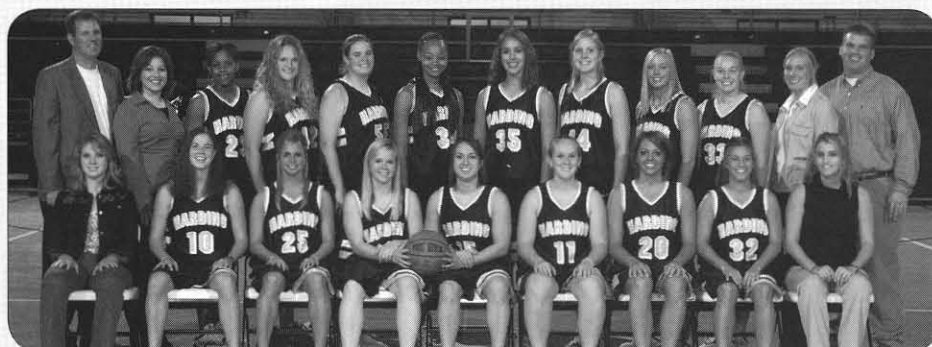
The team spent together during the week at devotionals. They also participated in scrimmages, dinners, movie nights and camping.

### SCOREBOARD

ARKANSAS BAPTIST	W	107-38
LYON	L	49-65
MIDWESTERN STATE	W	76-71
TEXAS WOMAN'S	L	49-72
NORTH ALABAMA	W	59-57
ALABAMA HUNTSVILLE	W	79-74
LYON	L	80-61
ST. EDWARD'S	W	70-54
NORTH ALABAMA	W	65-60
ALABAMA HUNTSVILLE	W	67-54
NORTHWEST MISSOURI STATE	L	52-85
SIU EDWARDSVILLE	L	61-69
DELTA STATE	W	52-37
ARKANSAS MONTICELLO	L	65-78
SOUTHERN ARKANSAS	W	64-62
CENTRAL ARKANSAS	L	73-83
CHRISTIAN BROTHERS	L	58-73
OUACHITA BAPTIST	L	53-64
ARKANSAS TECH	L	40-61
HENDERSON STATE	L	73-102
DELTA STATE	L	56-66
ARKANSAS MONTICELLO	W	76-71
SOUTHERN ARKANSAS	L	61-75
CENTRAL ARKANSAS	L	64-92
CHRISTIAN BROTHERS	L	47-65
OUACHITA BAPTIST	W	63-54
ARKANSAS TECH	L	44-61
HENDERSON STATE	L	73-91

### THE LADY BISON TEAM

Row 1: B. Bailey, B. Hobbs, A. Dixon, K. Tucker, L. Broadwater, B. Glover, A. Finney, A. Tackett, K. Bailey. Row 2: B. Francis, L. Roberts, M. Freeman, L. Hanson, J. Simpkins, D. Dickson, C. Simpson, J. Fredendall, J. McCullough, J. Pearson, E. Shipp, S. Burks. •**J. MONTGOMERY**



# FRANCIS RESIGNS AS COACH

## → KIRBY HIRED AS SUCCESSOR

After eight years as head coach of the Lady Bisons, Brad Francis resigned his position at the end of the regular season.

Francis, who announced his decision Feb. 20, had a career record of 99-116 as head coach. The Lady Bisons finished the 2004-2005 season with an overall record of 11-17. The team was 5-22 overall last season.

University officials announced Feb. 27 that Tim Kirby, assistant men's basketball coach for 12 years, would take the helm as women's head coach.

"Coach Kirby has been part of the Harding basketball family for 12 years," Greg Harn-den, athletic director, said. "He has been watching women's basketball and knows the Gulf South Conference. He is a great man that we think the world of."

Kirby will begin next year with many returning players; underclassmen accounted for nearly two-thirds of the Lady Bison basketball team this season.

And while the young team was disappointed in its losing record this year, the Lady Bisons managed to set a school record for most points scored in a game.

The team pummeled Arkansas Baptist 107-38 Nov. 15 at Rhodes Field House. The 69-point margin of victory was also a school record, topping a 58-point margin set in 1997.

Junior Brianne Hobbs, a guard, said each player on the team contributed to the win.

"Every single person on the team is capable of doing something," she said. "Everyone can score, and that puts our team at a great advantage. A lot of teamwork went into that win, and it gives us all a great feeling of accomplishment knowing that we all did our part."

Sophomore Betsy Glover said the victory got them ready for the rest of the season.

"It is always exciting to win your first season game," she said. "That win got us pumped up and ready for the rest of the year."

→ STAFF REPORTS

### DEFINING MOMENT

JUNIOR FORWARD MICHELLE FREEMAN attempts to put two points on the board for the Lady Bisons during the Dec. 9 game against North Alabama at Rhodes Field House. The Lady Bisons won the game 65-60. •C. ROBERSON