The background of the page is a blurred photograph of a basketball game in progress. A laurel wreath, rendered in a dark grey color, is superimposed over the image, framing the central text block and extending towards the bottom of the page.

Passion is not something that can be received or learned. It is a combination of strength, perseverance and heart. It is without fear. If you want something badly enough, you will reach it. If you work hard enough, you will achieve it. Without passion, games are nothing except sweat left on the field. Without it, talent is nothing. To leave a mark, you must release every ounce of strength you have. You must persevere toward your goals every day. You must fight until the last buzzer. Harding teams have always been known to give 100 percent in their games. The volleyball team pushed through to a conference championship with a new coach leading the way. The football team made it to the NCAA Division II playoffs for the first time since 1992. The cross country and track teams sent individuals to compete at the national meet against the toughest runners in the country. The basketball teams exemplified consistent leadership on and off the court. Throughout these successes, students found passion and made legacies. Kill the winning serve. Step up to the plate. Mold your hand to the racket. Leave your fingerprints on the ball. At the end of the day, those with passion are going to be the ones remembered. Allow your passion to consume you and pursue your dream. Let it drive you. Find your passion and build your legacy.

Sydney Hamm, Athletics Editor

Athletics

Isaiah 40:31

Serving it Up

Three women bring home All-GAC honors

Predicted in the preseason coaches' poll to be a top team in the newly formed Great American Conference, the Lady Bisons tennis team did not disappoint its supporters. The Lady Bisons began the season by defeating their first 10 opponents and were unbeaten in conference play before falling 5-4 to Arkansas Tech University, who would eventually win the conference championship. Although the team's strong performance was a combined effort, several players were key factors in contributing to the success.

Sophomore Maria Moreno, a transfer from West Virginia State University, was named the GAC's Newcomer of the Year. Having played tennis since she was a small child growing up in Bogota, Colombia, Moreno said she viewed the sport as a responsibility to her teammates and school as well as something she enjoyed doing.

"The first goal is to have fun and give everything of ourselves," Moreno said. "We prepare and get better each practice."

Another influential player for the Lady Bisons was 2012 alumna Gina Cielo, who ended her Harding career with 57 wins. As a senior, she led the team with a 20-5 singles record and won 19 consecutive singles matches. She attributed her success to her preparation at practice throughout the year.

"I would tell other tennis players to work hard, especially in the offseason," Cielo said. "In order to keep improving your game and reach your peak in college, you must practice all year round."

Besides an impressive athletic showing on the court, Cielo also earned recognition for her performance in the

Row 1: M. Moreno, C. Catteau, G. Cielo, B. Phumtip, L. Chan. **Row 2:** M. Ruiz (asst. coach), C. Vesta, C. Huey, G. Rowden, K. Huff, C. Lanier.



classroom. She was named to the Capital One 1st Team Academic All-America At-Large Team, becoming the third Harding female student-athlete to receive All-Academic honors.

"I felt extremely honored and very excited to receive All-America honors," Cielo said. "It was a great way to end my college tennis career."

Additionally, 2012 alumna Ling Chan and junior Benyapa Phumtip were named to the 1st All-Great America Conference Team, and senior Chelsea Lanier was named to the second team.

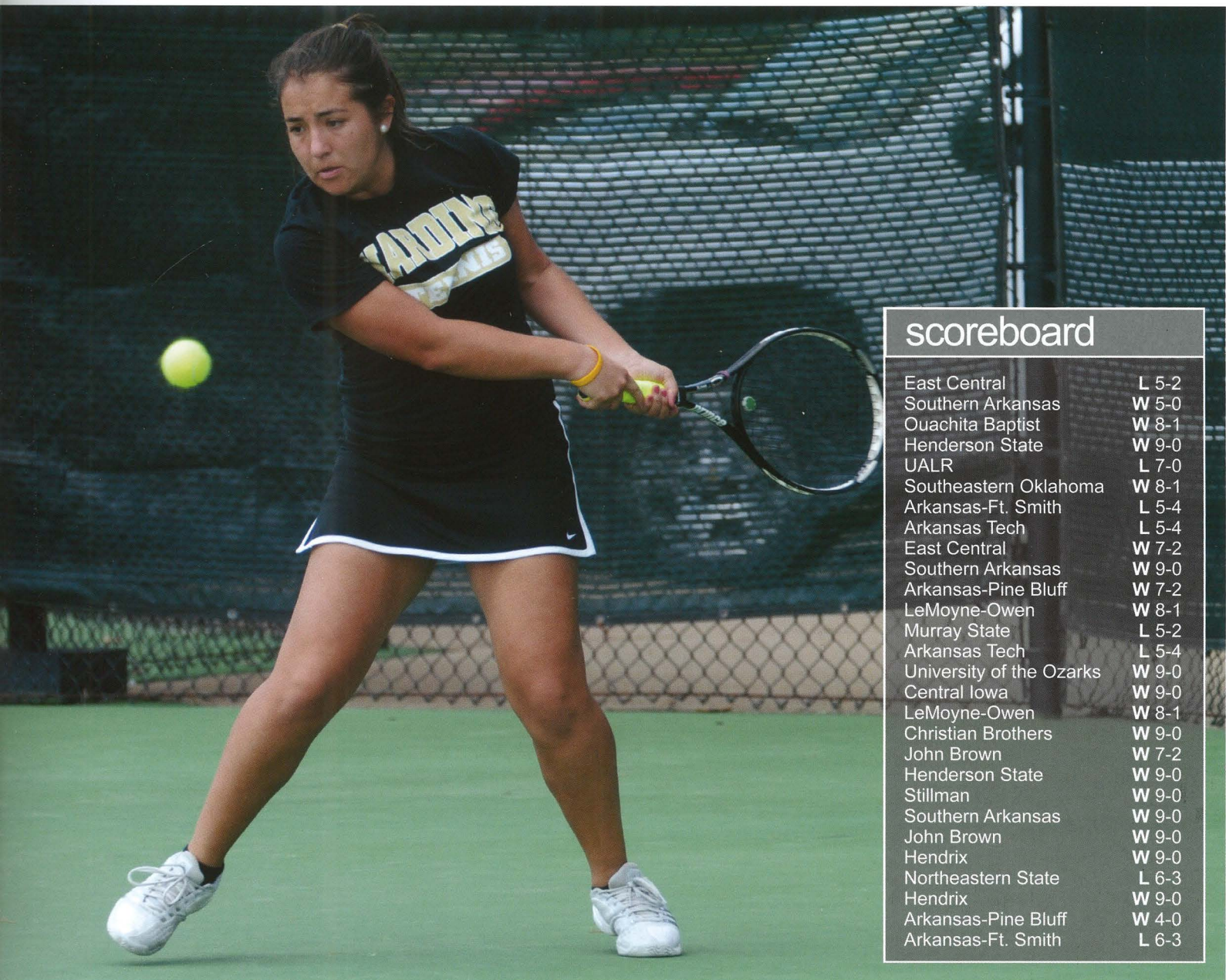
Chan, a native of Hong Kong, had also been named to the conference team the previous two seasons. She and Phumtip set a new record for Harding doubles match winning percentage with a record of 21-5 and a percentage of .808 over two seasons. The previous record was set in 1998.

"I felt so glad and excited to be placed on the Great American Conference team," Chan said. "I felt happy with my performance throughout the year. I always believe that hard work will pay off."

According to Moreno, the women's tennis team was able to be successful because the players pushed themselves to perform to the best of their abilities and had excellent communication, which allowed them to work well together on the court.

After a strong season in a new conference, the Lady Bisons looked forward to an even better performance in the next spring.

Alexis Hosticka/Laura Chambers



scoreboard

East Central	L 5-2
Southern Arkansas	W 5-0
Ouachita Baptist	W 8-1
Henderson State	W 9-0
UALR	L 7-0
Southeastern Oklahoma	W 8-1
Arkansas-Ft. Smith	L 5-4
Arkansas Tech	L 5-4
East Central	W 7-2
Southern Arkansas	W 9-0
Arkansas-Pine Bluff	W 7-2
LeMoyne-Owen	W 8-1
Murray State	L 5-2
Arkansas Tech	L 5-4
University of the Ozarks	W 9-0
Central Iowa	W 9-0
LeMoyne-Owen	W 8-1
Christian Brothers	W 9-0
John Brown	W 7-2
Henderson State	W 9-0
Stillman	W 9-0
Southern Arkansas	W 9-0
John Brown	W 9-0
Hendrix	W 9-0
Northeastern State	L 6-3
Hendrix	W 9-0
Arkansas-Pine Bluff	W 4-0
Arkansas-Ft. Smith	L 6-3



Preparing for a backhand, sophomore Maria Moreno positions herself for the serve. Moreno received the GAC "Newcomer of the Year" award. *Ashel Parsons*

Eyes fixed on the ball, 2012 alumna Gina Cielo prepares for the return against her opponent on March 26. Cielo received the Academic All-America award and finished her collegiate career with more than 50 matches won. *Ashel Parsons*

On March 26, sophomore Katie Huff approaches the net for a return. The team practiced five times a week for more than three hours a day. *Ashel Parsons*

scoreboard

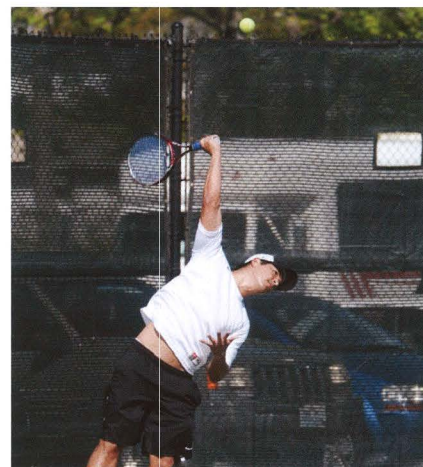
Ouachita Baptist	L 5-0
Ouachita Baptist	L 8-1
Southeastern Oklahoma	L 5-4
Arkansas-Ft. Smith	W 8-1
East Central	L 5-4
Arkansas-Pine Bluff	W 9-0
LeMoyne-Owen	W 9-0
Murray State	W 6-1
University of the Ozarks	W 8-1
Central Iowa	W 9-0
LeMoyne-Owen	W 8-1
Christian Brothers	W 9-0
John Brown	W 9-0
Stillman	W 8-1
Newman	W 7-2
University of the Ozarks	W 7-2
Millsaps	W 9-0
John Brown	W 9-0
Hendrix	W 9-0
University of the Ozarks	W 6-0
Hendrix	W 9-0
Christian Brothers	W 9-0
Arkansas-Pine Bluff	W 6-1
Arkansas-Ft. Smith	W 6-3



2012 alumnus Aldo Campos serves the ball to the other side of the court on March 26. Campos ended his collegiate career with a 24-7 record. *Ashel Parsons*

With his focus on the ball, sophomore Mark Singnil forehands the ball over the net on Feb. 4. Singnil began the season with a 12-match winning streak. *Jeff Montgomery*

Keeping his balance, sophomore Caleb McReynolds returns a deep serve on March 26. Harding's season came to a close after the semifinal round of the GAC tournament. *Ashel Parsons*



Row 1: M. Mare', A. Edwards, H. Hashimoto, A. Ford, C. McReynolds, J. Rowden, A. Saegert, S. Lhotak, G. Synco. **Row 2:** M. Ruiz (asst. coach), H. Ruiz, J. Vasquez, F. Carbonari, G. Uglovs, M. Bailey, J. Rider, F. Hickey, M. Singnil, A. Campos.



The Perfect Match

Freshman brings new sense of team unity

Sophomore Kittibodee "Mark" Singnil of Samutsakorn, Thailand, first came to the United States to play college tennis in January 2012. Singnil turned out to be a valuable addition to the Bisons tennis team. By the end of the three-month season, he helped lead the team to a 20-4 record and was named both the 2012 Great American Conference Freshman of the Year and GAC Player of the Year.

"I'm really glad that I got those awards," Singnil said. "It gives me a lot of confidence in myself and also is my inspiration to work harder. Moreover, every single award that I have gotten, it's because of my effort and especially my hard work."

Singnil went 15-1 in singles matches and 12-5 in doubles matches for the spring season, making him a standout player from the beginning of his collegiate career. Although it was not his best record, Singnil said he pushed both himself and his teammates to work hard throughout the season.

Members of the men's tennis team spoke highly of Singnil as a player and as a person. Sophomore Jon Mark Rowden, who went 10-4 in doubles matches with Singnil last season, said that Singnil and his achievements made the team grow closer and helped push everyone to work harder.

"It was definitely an honor for him to receive those awards, and I think our team as a whole would agree with the fact that he deserved them as well," Rowden said. "We push each other extremely hard, and we all know if we continue working hard, then we have a great chance at accomplishing our goals and making history at Harding University."

Other players, such as Henrique Ruiz, a 2012 alumnus who played on the tennis team throughout his college career, said Singnil was an inspiration for the entire team.

"I have no doubt Mark is the greatest tennis player Harding has ever had," Ruiz said. "It was encouraging for me, and I believe for the whole team, to see Mark stepping up as the number one player and not caring about who his opponent was. He would go out there and beat them as hard as he could. He helped the team to realize the potential we had and believe in ourselves."

Singnil said his ultimate vision for the team went beyond his personal awards, and he believed that the team could achieve that vision.

"We have an objective, a destination; we all want to go to a national competition," Singnil said. "So I tell everybody, 'work hard and just do your best.'"

Matt Ryan



A Strong Start

Freshman qualifies for nationals in two events

Previously known for strong performances in cross country and distance events, the Lady Bisons track and field team excelled in a variety of spring events. They set nine records, one runner achieved all-American honors, and two women qualified for the indoor national championships, which had not happened in six years.

Coach Steve Guymon affirmed the team's solid performance across the board.

"The thing that I enjoy is watching every event," Guymon said. "We may not be the world's best in every event, but we have someone solid in every event."

Although freshmen athletes did not often lead their teams, Ewa Zaborowska, a freshman from Poland, was one of the two Lady Bisons to qualify for indoor nationals, and she also made it to outdoor nationals. Zaborowska ran cross-country in addition to competing the 800-meter and the 1500-meter races in track.

Zaborowska placed ninth in both races, but only the top eight places qualified for the All-American team. Although

Zaborowska was not on the All-American team, she was proud of her success in the season as a whole.

"I regret that I didn't get All-American, but I am glad with what I achieved," Zaborowska said.

Zaborowska's impressive performance did not end with the 800-meter race. She also broke the 1500 record, which was previously set by Janet Cherobon-Bawcom, a 2005 alumna who competed in the 2012 London Summer Olympics. Zaborowska was happy about her record but said that Cherobon-Bawcom was primarily a cross-country runner, not a 1500-meter runner.

Teammate Dallis Bailey praised Zaborowska's overall performance and her value as a training partner.

"She was a great motivation and a great teammate to run with," Bailey said. "She pushed me hard everyday."

Another leader on the team was senior Cathy Ebenja who ran sprints and achieved All-American honors in the indoor 60-meter run. Ebenja came close to qualifying for outdoor nationals and succeeded in setting the long jump record of 19-3 1/4.

Guymon was also impressed with the performance of the men's 4x400 meter relay team. Even though two key runners on the 4x400 meter relay team graduated the previous year, the Bisons were still able to come within one second of qualifying for the outdoor national championships.

The Bisons did well in both track and field, setting several individual records. Junior pole vaulter Tiffany Chambers set a new record in the women's pole vault at 11-9. Senior Rhiannon Roper also set a record in the women's outdoor shot put, throwing 36-7; the indoor weight throw, throwing 40-6; and in the outdoor hammer throw, throwing 114-6. Freshman Eric Rapp set a record in the men's indoor weight throw, throwing 34-0.

"We were well-rounded this year. Even though we were DII, we could still go to DI schools and compete and be proud that we were from Harding," Bailey said.

Kory Howard



Row 1: T. Chambers, C. Beck, E. Perring, C. Ebenja, P. Bell, B. Davis, S. McNeil, A. Priest, A. Dixon, D. Bailey. **Row 2:** D. Wallace, A. Raley, B. Pearson, R. Roper, R. Domeyer, B. Bartelt, E. Thompson, E. Zaborowska, R. Roberts.



Row 1: C. Merry, R. Stafford, B. Lawson, W. Kopec, W. Seagren, M. Cumpian, P. Biwott, J. Durham, M. Sherk, K. Howard, L. Callier, B. Furlong. **Row 2:** J. Winslager, T. Lively, J. McManus, J. Holt, J. Dybowski. **Row 3:** J. Koonce, Z. White, L. Farkas, L. Green, E. Wilson, Z. Uhiren, R. Johnson, E. Rapp, K. Kinser, M. Stewart, A. Evans, C. Safley, R. Cagle.



Inches above the 6-4 bar, 2012 alumnus Logan Callier clears the height. Callier was named to the Capital One Academic All-America Men's Track Team. **Jeff Montgomery**

With long strides, sophomore Ewa Zaborowska leads the race on March 5, with sophomore Dallis Bailey close behind. Zaborowska qualified for the NCAA Division II Outdoor Championship Meet in the 800-meter run and 1500-meter run. **Jeff Montgomery**

On March 5, 2012 alumnus Bradley Furlong focuses on the next hurdle as he nears the finish line. Furlong participated in the 100-meter hurdles and 400-meter hurdles. **Jeff Montgomery**



scoreboard

SW Oklahoma State	L 5-1	L 6-0	L 9-0
Arkansas Tech	L 22-12		
Southeastern Oklahoma	L 5-3	L 9-3	W 6-5
Henderson State	W 9-4		
Arkansas Tech	L 3-1	L 8-6	L 7-4
Christian Brothers	W 3-2	L 9-8	
Ouachita Baptist	W 4-3	W 7-4	L 5-2
Southern Arkansas	L 8-3		
Henderson State	W 3-1	L 5-3	L 9-2
Southern Arkansas	L 4-2	L 1-0	L 8-0
East Central	L 5-2	L 6-5	W 1-0
McKendree	W 8-2		
Quincy	L 1-0	W 4-1	W 7-6
North Alabama	L 7-6	L 8-7	
Arkansas-Monticello	L 8-7	W 7-6	W 12-9
North Alabama	W 2-1	W 2-1	
William Jewell	L 5-4	W 5-1	W 3-2
William Jewell	W 5-4		
Arkansas-Ft. Smith	L 15-2		
Alabama-Huntsville	W 4-1	W 2-1	W 2-1
Alabama-Huntsville	W 5-4		
Maryville	W 8-0	W 3-1	W 3-1



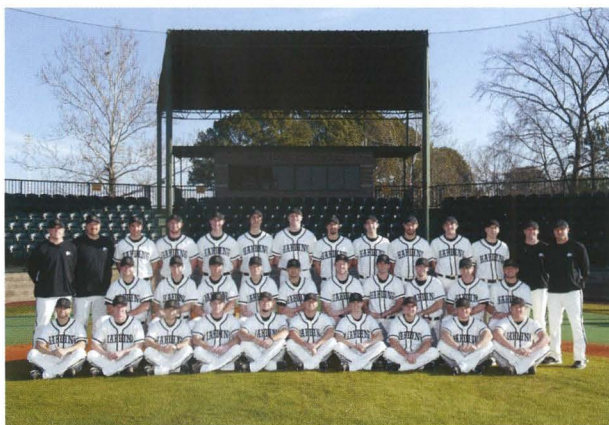
Senior Logan Holthaus focuses on his form to throw the perfect pitch. Holthaus was one of 14 pitchers for the Bisons. **Ashel Parsons**

With one foot on base, junior Matt Calhoun stands ready to tag the runner. Calhoun was named to the New York Collegiate Baseball All-Star Team during the summer league. **Ashel Parsons**

On April 4, Chase Presley, a 2012 alumnus, sprints around the bases on his way to home plate. Presley played in 144 games during his college career. **Ashel Parsons**



Row 1: G. Fyock, M. Duke, K. Offenbacker, T. Stanford, A. Smithey, B. Smith, B. Bradley, C. Hardy, K. Atkins, B. Ninemire. **Row 2:** J. Anderson, J. McCreary, L. Denton, C. Walker, A. Guglielmi, M. Calhoun, P. Anzalone, S. Kinnear, C. Presley, E. McCarver. **Row 3:** T. Keith (grad. asst.), P. McGaha (coach), J. Spears, A. Fiddler, N. Ford, L. Waddell, J. Bohnett, H. Shirley, L. Holthaus, R. Modglin, K. Lane, J. Giles, J. Tenhouse (asst. coach), A. Schatzley (asst. coach).



Diamond in the Rough

Pitchers shine through difficult season

After making their first appearance in the Gulf South Conference South Region tournament in spring 2011, the Bison baseball team had high hopes for victory in the new year. The team began well, winning seven straight games, and went on to win 18 out of the next 24 games, but, according to junior pitcher Cameron Walker, it all went downhill mid-way through the season, which ended with a final record of 24-25. Although the season did not end as the Bisons expected, there were several successes, leaving the team with reason to celebrate.

Senior starting pitcher Hayden Shirley, who was out for a year with an extensive elbow injury, went into the season excited and ready to be back.

"After working that full year... it was very rewarding to be able to see all the hard work pay off," Shirley said. "My coaches helped me a lot to push me and to always be there for me and same with my teammates. My teammates were always pushing me and encouraging me."

Shirley said recovery was long and sometimes unbearably painful, but he knew he would come out stronger.

"Every time he went out, he competed," Walker said. "He's an animal. He came in and did what he was supposed to do."

Senior starting pitcher Lucas Waddell also made a name for himself when he ended the season with 20 career wins. With one remaining season of eligibility, Waddell set himself

up to break Harding's previous record of 21 career wins, set in 2003.

"It is really cool to be in this position, and I am excited I have the opportunity to keep competing," Waddell said. "I am very fortunate and very thankful to have played on some great teams here at Harding. Wins are a team statistic. Defense doesn't put runs on the board, offense does. It's scoring runs that win games. I've just tried my best to make it so my team doesn't have to score as many."

Walker, Shirley and Waddell agreed that without the brotherhood of the team, the pitchers' success would not have been possible.

"Our team bonded really well," Walker said. "All of the players are like brothers, not only in Christ, but we think of each other as real brothers... I guess like a family."

Having only three seniors graduate, this brotherhood of Bisons looked forward to playing the next season as a more experienced team.

"The fact that we have the majority of the guys returning gives us a head start and allows us to grow on the team bond we already established last year," Waddell said. "I am excited to see what will happen when we play to the best of our abilities, but I am more excited to see us grow closer to each other and God."

Jordan Honeycutt

Lining up for the shot, junior Lucas Collins putts on the green. Collins won the 2012 Bison Fall Classic. *Ashel Parsons*

On April 10, sophomore Emily Plyler bends to line up her putt. Plyler was named to the 2012 GAC All-Tournament Team. *Ashel Parsons*

Sophomore Nathan Kannenberg keeps his eye on the green as he kicks up sand. Kannenberg's season best was a 71 at the David Falconer Memorial Tournament. *Ashel Parsons*



Driving to the Next Level

Women win the GAC Championship

Harding's women's and men's golf teams finished first and fifth in the 2012 Great American Conference Championship Tournament at the end of the spring semester. These finishes gave the women's team their first ever first place finish in the GAC standings and allowed the men's team to start the fall season ranked 78th out of 192 NCAA Division II teams, its best start in years.

The first place women's golf team finished the season with an overall record of 64-30, despite losing key member senior Whitney Ohlhausen, for the season due to a long-term illness. Sophomore Emily Plyler said that although the team lost someone as instrumental and close as Ohlhausen, it stood strong and was inspired to perform at a more competitive level.

"I think we grew as a team because one of our best friends, Whitney Ohlhausen, got sick," Plyler said. "It really just brought us together and made us realize how close we really were and just how different it was to have one member of the team gone. But conference was amazing,

and even though we won, we still wanted her there."

Likewise, Ohlhausen said that her team's ability to perform well and to stick together through her illness was a great encouragement. Although she was unable to play in the fall season, Ohlhausen said that she was well enough to return to play with the team again in the spring.

"I got sick at the end of November and was in the hospital for the next six months," Ohlhausen said. "When conference came around, everyone stepped up to the plate and played their hardest. My team is amazing and called me when they won, and I was in a hospital bed. They surrounded me with love and support and said they did it for me. I know they did it for many reasons, but the fact that I was one of the many really meant a lot, and I couldn't wait to get back and repay them with hard work for all they had done for me and the program."

The men's team had an overall successful spring 2012 season, sophomore Brandon Clark said. Although Clark said the season began with a slow start, the team progressively improved and still managed to finish fifth in the conference tournament, which Clark said was characterized by three days of mostly poor weather conditions.

"The conditions at conference were tougher, and I mean it's a three-day tournament, so that wears on you," Clark said. "We had a bit higher expectations, but overall we fulfilled a lot of our goals, so it was a successful season if you ask me. We had a lot of good finishes, and not only that, but we had a lot of good times as a team on trips and everything. It was easy on golf trips to get along, and we're there supporting each other, and you know that no one was going to be disappointed or let down if you didn't have your best performance."

Clark said that he had new goals for himself and for his team going into the 2012-2013 season and that he believed that there was a good chance that the team could finish the season with better statistics than before.

Matt Ryan



Row 1: B. Godman, W. Ohlhausen, B. Marquez, S. Kim, E. Plyler, C. Morgan (coach).



Row 1: D. Howell (coach) B. Clark, L. Collins, T. Williams, D. Board, J. Perry.
Row 2: R. Carter (asst. coach), L. Jackson, A. Williamson, N. Kannenberg, R. Hadash.

A Common Bond

*International teammates
bring diversity to team*

The cross country team welcomed new athletes and embraced a unified, diversified team with the addition of athletes from Poland and Romania.

Sophomore Lajos Farkas from Romania and freshman Milosz Golik from Poland competed on the team. Freshman Dawid Konieczek and sophomore Jacek Dybowski, both from Poland, were red shirted. Also, Wojciech Kopec from Poland, who had been on the team the previous five years, served as student assistant coach.

"They definitely bring a different cultural dynamic to the team," junior Rachel Roberts said. "It's fun to talk to them about their nutrition and what they eat because it's just so different. Poland is the size of Texas, so they all know a lot about all the runners in their country, so they'll go to team camps and run together."

Junior member Taylor Lively said the warm-up drills that the Polish members introduced to the team helped to loosen up their hips and to make them stronger. Junior Andrew Evans said that, due to their backgrounds, the foreign runners were used to approaching their training in

alternative ways, such as their practice routines and pre-race routines. The team worked together to combine the best approaches from the American and European styles.

The team immediately bonded over running despite the cultural differences, even spending time together on weekends and sharing meals.

"I think it's a great experience for me to practice with all these guys from my team," Dybowski said. "We had representatives of four countries on our team last year, so I actually learned a lot. I most enjoyed that we all became one family, no matter where we are from. We practice hard and we support each other all the time."

Roberts said the team became like a family or a support group. Many members became homesick, especially the foreign runners whose homes were far away.

"People get homesick, but they don't really talk about it," Roberts said. "We can take it for granted that some people haven't seen their family in over two years. They don't get to go home very often, and they usually have to work for the school, so they have to spend the majority of their time working."

In addition, Roberts and Lively both said that some of the foreign students did not understand some aspects of the Christianity practiced at Harding. Roberts said she would explain answers to any questions they had and that doing so strengthened her own faith. Lively said he often talked to them about their questions about Christianity as well.

Lively also lived with a few of the international runners over the summer, and he said they were not shy at all and were always goofing around.

"Having people from Poland brings more character on to the team," Lively said. "I always enjoy going to practice to run and have a good time."

The diversity of the runners made the cross country team stronger physically and spiritually as they learned from each other and overcame cultural differences to form close relationships.

Lyndsey Ruble

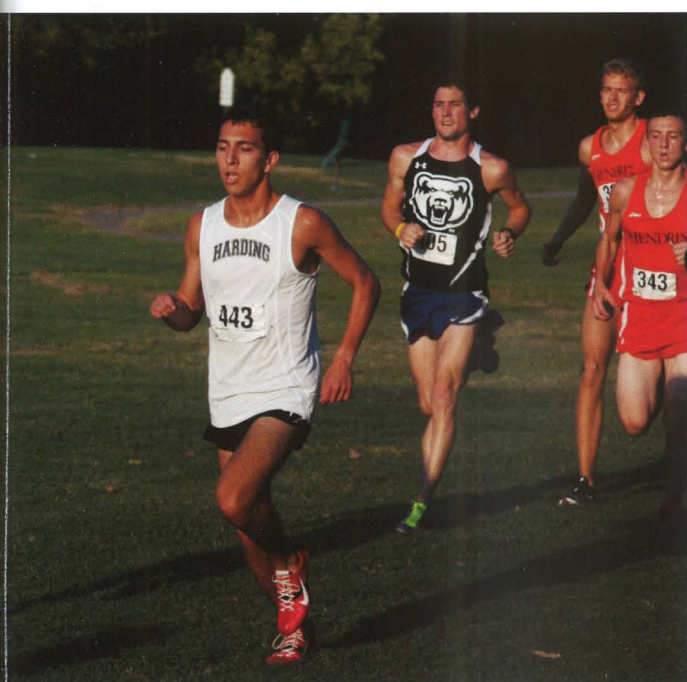


Row 1: J. Rapowitz, K. Taylor, L. Allen, S. Shepherd, A. Priest. **Row 2:** T. Kim, E. Zaborowska, R. Roberts, D. Bailey, M. Elliott.



Row 1: M. Sherk, T. Lively, Z. Uhiren, S. East, M. Cumpian, E. Wilson. **Row 2:** W. Kopec (volunteer asst.), D. Konieczek, M. Golik, J. Dybowski, L. Green, L. Farkas, W. Seagren, A. Evans.





Getting a good start, the Lady Bisons sprint ahead of the rest of the pack Sept. 7. The women placed second at conference as a team, which advanced them to regionals. **Ashel Parsons**

Junior Matt Cumpian holds his place in the race at the University of Arkansas-Little Rock Invitational. Cumpian was the 6th Harding runner to finish and placed 33rd overall. **Ashel Parsons**

Meters away from the finish, sophomore Logan Green relaxes as he nears the end of the 5K race. The 5K was a nice break for the men's team because they typically raced more than 4 miles. **Ashel Parsons**

Getting their teammates mentally prepared for a game, seniors Roderick Cohn and Ashtun Williams lead a team chant Sept. 29. Cohn and Williams played as defensive backs for the Bisons. **Ashel Parsons**

Pivoting around the tackle, sophomore D'Nico Jackson-Best fights his way around his defenders. The Bisons made history by making their first postseason NCAA appearance after finishing the regular season 9-1. **Ashel Parsons**

Senior Ty Powell lunges forward to sack SW Oklahoma State's quarterback. The Bisons won the game 38-7. **Ashel Parsons**



scoreboard

NW Missouri State	L 35-0
SW Oklahoma State	W 38-7
SE Oklahoma State	W 31-9
Arkansas Tech	W 76-23
Ouachita Baptist	W 34-14
Henderson State	L 38-10
Southern Arkansas	W 23-20
East Central	W 31-14
Southern Nazarene	W 42-13
Arkansas-Monticello	W 52-7
North Alabama	W 31-10



Row 1: R. Cohn, K. Martin, J. Oller, C. Kamper, D. Riley, A. Stock, J. Bodiford, R. Westbrook, T. Powell, K. Kellett, A. Finley, A. Scott, E. Ragsdale, T. Wilkes, N. Brinkley. **Row 2:** C. Rogers, T. Finley, J. Moore, A. Ladner, E. Kelly, A. Williams, B. Jones, D. Buckner, D. Bonner, T. Stevenson, T. Leak, T. Clark, C. Farrel, C. Pletta. **Row 3:** A. Gillaspie, I. Siryon, P. Mion, A. Brackins, N. Jackson-Best, R. Smith, W. Martin, D. Britt, J. Gay, S. Keese, K. Henderson, R. Ward, T. Stafford, N. Kadlecsek. **Row 4:** D. Skidmore, J. Cantrell, C. Sarkissian, J. Bracken, A. Menkin, J. Gallington, D. Lee, P. Houston, A. Smithey, E. Bradfute, E. Mitchell, L. Tarrant, J. Vivio, J. English. **Row 5:** C. Lockwood, R. Palenske, W. Walker, M. Galloway, S. Schreiber, N. Cash, D. Hudson, J. Calvin, L. Purtle, D. Garrett, P. Bingham, M. Thompson, D. Hudson. **Row 6:** A. Rachal, B. Cable, M. Firmin, C. Caton, R. Hawkins, M. Belin, A. Romero, A. Kiel, L. Kolb, G. Simmons, M. Buehler, M. McKeown, R. Roberson. **Row 7:** M. Zuka, C. Gray, E. Simmons, J. Aldridge, L. Smith, E. Frazier, M. Cain, A. Stribling, N. Stevens, K. Hatter, B. Shields, E. Todd. **Row 8:** P. Parish, S. Smith, C. Douglas, E. Roberts, C. Lynch, C. Bassett, D. Ream, B. Theisen, A. Akers, D. Holliman, J. Vaughn, Z. Abney, M. Bingham, I. Boone. **Row 9:** M. Tennison, P. Smith, D. Murphy, D. Clark, K. Gordon, L. Johnson, D. Rangel, W. Bland, C. Isenberg, C. Alexander, A. English, C. House, S. McBride. **Row 10:** J. Davis, R. Davis, C. Boatwright, V. Bow, C. Zalenski, J. Jackson, J. Syrotchen.



The Bisons football team completed their best season in 40 years after playing in their first ever NCAA Division II playoff game. Although the game resulted in a 35-0 loss, the Bisons were proud of the success they had throughout the season, which would be remembered as one of the most talented teams in Harding's history.

The final game of the season was a first-round playoff matchup against Northwest Missouri State, one of the best teams in Division II football. Although they were coming off of an impressive 9-1 regular season record, the Bisons were plagued with injuries of key players throughout the playoff game. Two of the Bisons' running backs, sophomores Romo Westbrook and D'Nico Best, suffered ankle injuries before half time.

With two important offensive weapons sidelined early, starting quarterback senior Kelvin Martin was forced to move to running back, and backup quarterback sophomore Keenan Kellett took over.

"It was tough adjusting to having a new quarterback and running back, especially this late in the season," offensive lineman junior Dallan Hudson said. "We were still confident, but against a team as good as Northwest Missouri, you need everyone healthy."

The Northwest Missouri State Bearcats proved to be too much for the Bisons down the stretch, and their dream season was cut short.

"Every loss is disappointing, but we don't have any regrets from this season," junior defensive end B.J. Jones said. "We played hard every game and grew closer together and proved to a lot of people that we were a real competitor. I'm already working hard to get ready for next season."

This season, the Bisons boasted one of the best defenses in Division II football, allowing only 17 points and 284 yards

Bringing the best to the table

Team makes first NCAA postseason appearance

per game to opponents. The defense was led by seniors Aaron Gillaspie and Ty Powell. Gillaspie, a linebacker, led the team in tackles and ranked third in the Great American Conference, averaging more than eight tackles per game. Powell played defensive end and recorded eight and a half sacks on the year for the Bisons.

The Bisons' offense was built around a strong running game led by Martin, who rushed for 710 yards and threw for 656 yards. Senior wide receiver Donatella Luckett was also a significant contributor to the Bisons offense, hauling in 453 yards receiving and 7 touchdowns on the season.

The season started out well for the Bisons. They dominated their first five opponents by a combined score of 179-64. However, they faced adversity when Henderson State came to Searcy and beat the Bisons 38-10.

After their first loss of the season, the Bisons were more determined than ever to make it to the Division II playoffs, a feat never accomplished by any Harding team since the university joined the league in 1997. They finished the regular season on a four-game winning streak, and the only thing left to do was see if they were selected to make the tournament.

More than 200 fans, players and friends gathered together in the Hammon Student Center to watch the NCAA Division II playoff selection show hoping to hear the Bisons' name called.

"It was such a crazy time," sophomore Romas Roberson said. "I couldn't believe we had come so far and were going to get to compete in the tournament. We worked hard for it all season long, and even though we didn't do as well as we hoped, the fact we got there said a lot about our determination."

Payton Hurst

Row 1: M. Turner, A. Schinzing, R. Owens, T. Eubank, B. Trevino, L. Copeland, S. Daniel. **Row 2:** M. Welch (vol. asst.), J. Launius, B. Graham, L. Savage, A. Short, M. Howard, M. Arnold, C. Morris, T. Helton (vol. asst.), M. Fear (coach).



The volleyball team set two goals for the season: go undefeated in conference play and win the Great American Conference championship.

After a four-month season of hard work, perseverance and dedication, the ladies accomplished both of their goals. First year Lady Bisons volleyball head coach Meredith Fear thought that accomplishing their goals was a significant achievement.

"Winning the GAC and going undefeated in conference play has been our goal since day one," Fear said. "It has been such a blessing to see the team establish that goal and then work so hard over months of training and practice to attain it."

Assistant coach junior Travis Helton said that the previous season's results motivated the team to perform even better this year.

"I think our team had a determination after some difficult losses last year, and they refocused on what we wanted our team to be about," Helton said. "Our defined goal was to go undefeated and win conference, and we put in the time and work ethic to get there."

According to Fear, she stepped into a program that already had a tradition of excellence. Her job was not to build a program but to continue a legacy of success. She said one of the most important elements of putting a great volleyball team on the court was building team chemistry by making a family atmosphere.

"Obviously, when you have a team of young women comprised of many different personalities, maintaining a high level of team chemistry over four months can be difficult," Fear said. "This team knew the importance of respecting your teammates and made creating a family atmosphere between them a top goal and priority

Setting the Pace

New coach leads team to conference championship

throughout the season. They have worked actively both on and off the court to maintain a high level of team chemistry and did a great job of it."

Senior captain Amber Schinzing said she felt that she, senior captain Bailee Graham and junior captain Lisa Copeland each displayed a different aspect of leadership. Their different personalities helped the team achieve unity because the leaders could relate to a range of players and situations. Graham was the spiritual leader on the team; Schinzing brought more of the intense, "let's go for it" attitude; and Copeland was a positive and calming presence on the court.

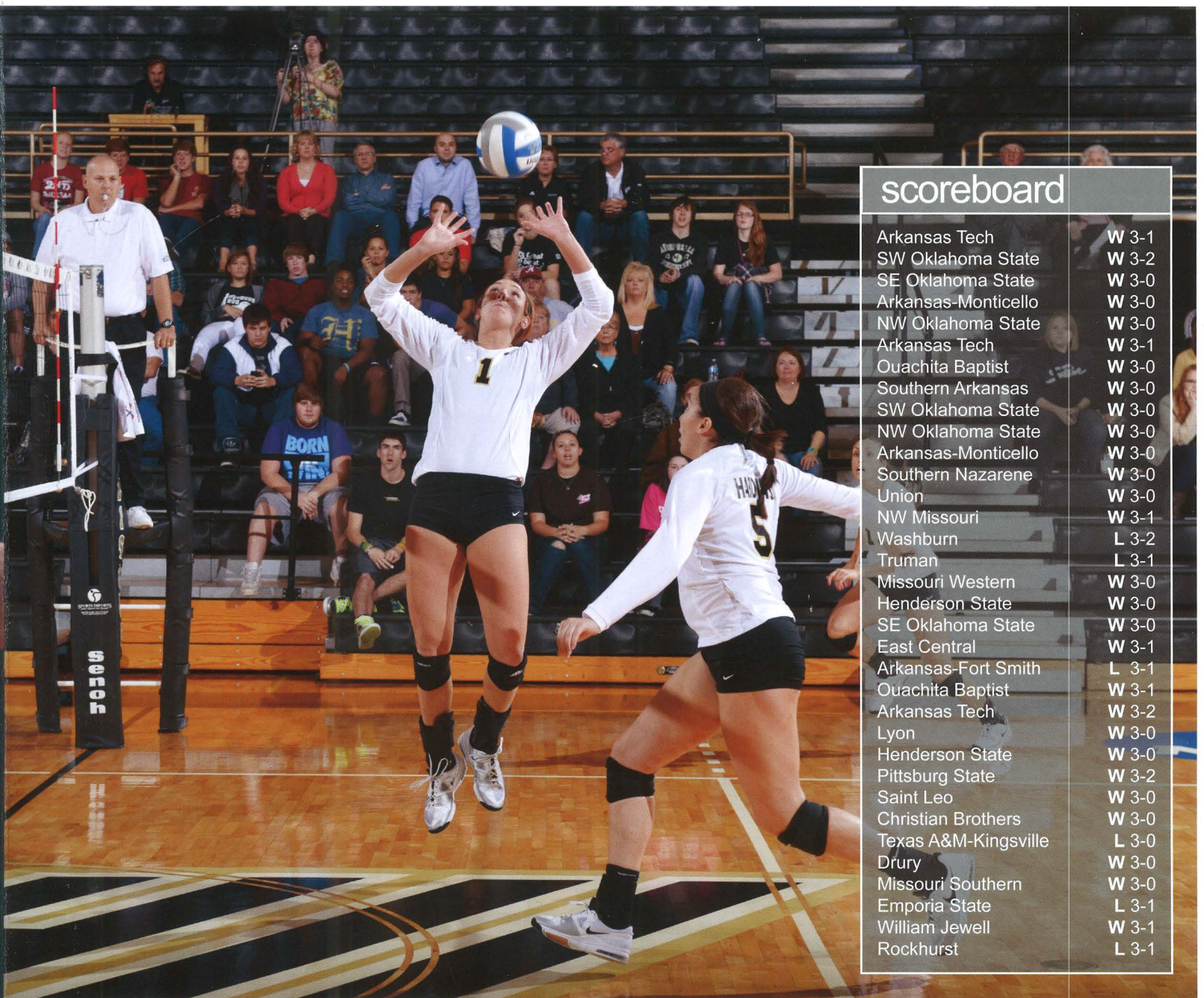
"I think we're able to cover all the areas," Schinzing said. "We each have someone that we can relate to within certain areas, and we're able to be mentors for them in several areas. Whether they need spiritual help or just a good friend, they can come to us."

Helton said that the thing that made the volleyball team so special was not their play and performance but rather the attitude with which they approached the sport. He said they did their best to honor God both on and off the court.

"I think it all boils down to the positive encouragement that we're having and for us to stay calm and positive on the court, not focusing on the negative but just what we can do to get better," Schinzing said.

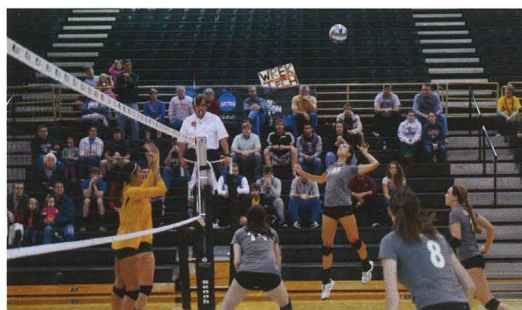
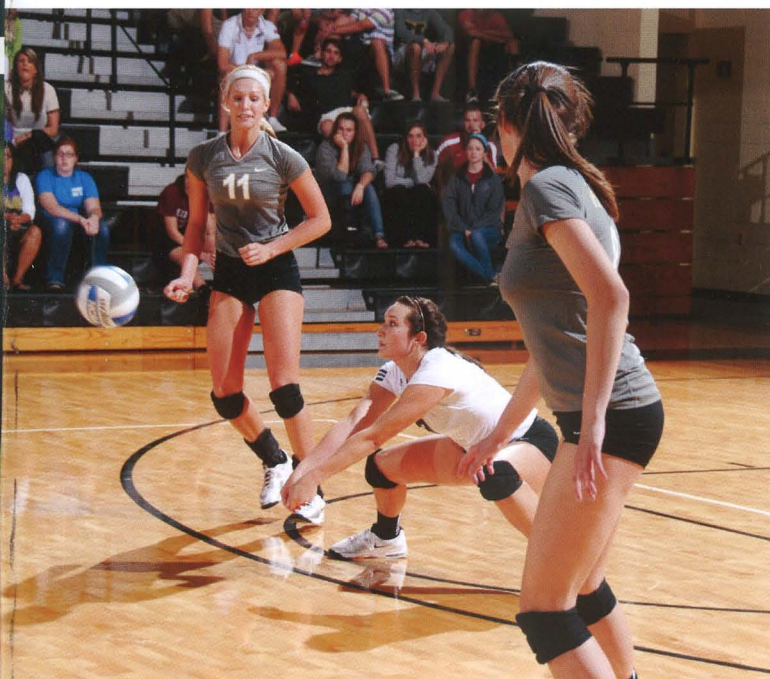
Though volleyball was undoubtedly a game of momentum, precision and strength, for the Lady Bisons, it was much more. For them, the game was one of relationship and trust, which ultimately led to high scores and triumphant games. At the end of the season, the team was confident it accomplished its goals and honored God in the process.

Corey Stumne



scoreboard

Arkansas Tech	W 3-1
SW Oklahoma State	W 3-2
SE Oklahoma State	W 3-0
Arkansas-Monticello	W 3-0
NW Oklahoma State	W 3-0
Arkansas Tech	W 3-1
Ouachita Baptist	W 3-0
Southern Arkansas	W 3-0
SW Oklahoma State	W 3-0
NW Oklahoma State	W 3-0
Arkansas-Monticello	W 3-0
Southern Nazarene	W 3-0
Union	W 3-0
NW Missouri	W 3-1
Washburn	L 3-2
Truman	L 3-1
Missouri Western	W 3-0
Henderson State	W 3-0
SE Oklahoma State	W 3-0
East Central	W 3-1
Arkansas-Fort Smith	L 3-1
Ouachita Baptist	W 3-1
Arkansas Tech	W 3-2
Lyon	W 3-0
Henderson State	W 3-0
Pittsburg State	W 3-2
Saint Leo	W 3-0
Christian Brothers	W 3-0
Texas A&M-Kingsville	L 3-0
Drury	W 3-0
Missouri Southern	W 3-0
Emporia State	L 3-1
William Jewell	W 3-1
Rockhurst	L 3-1



Senior Amber Schinzing sets up her teammate, sophomore Liv Savage, for the spike. Schinzing was named to the GAC All-Tournament Team. *Ashel Parsons*

On the back row, junior Lisa Copeland squats to bump the ball. Copeland was the defensive specialist for the team and had a match high of 13 digs during the game against Henderson State Oct. 2. *Ashel Parsons*

On Nov. 17, senior Bailee Graham spikes over Arkansas Tech. The Bisons defeated Tech 3-1, gaining the privilege of hosting the Great American Conference Tournament. *Ashel Parsons*

Athletic Legacies

Student athletes leave their mark on the record books

Throughout all the athletic programs, students faced a myriad of challenges. The playing fields held many new coaches. Numerous young freshmen joined the teams. Injuries prevented key athletes from playing. Conference championships were on the line. Harding athletes rose to meet the challenges and achieved success in their respective sports.

In every sport, students reached their goals and established significant legacies. Harding won the "Best Road Trip Destination in College Basketball" competition sponsored by GEICO. The award was based on categories including the atmosphere of games, historical aspects of the program and the scenery of the town. To win the title, Harding beat out well-known Division I schools such as Brigham Young University, West Virginia University and Indiana University. After Harding won the competition, CBS came to Searcy on March 2 to film the basketball teams competing against Southeastern Oklahoma University. That same night the men's basketball team became the Great American Conference regular season co-champions. The feature aired in April on CBS Sports during the Final Four tournament, giving Harding athletics national publicity.

Another tremendous accomplishment included the football team advancing to the NCAA postseason playoffs for the

first time in school history, finishing with the best regular season record in 40 years. Standout senior Ty Powell left his footprint on the field by receiving an invitation to the NFL Combine after the season was over.

The Lady Bison volleyball team made a name for itself by being the third team in program history to go undefeated in conference play. The players ended the season by winning the Great American Conference Tournament for the first time since joining the new conference.

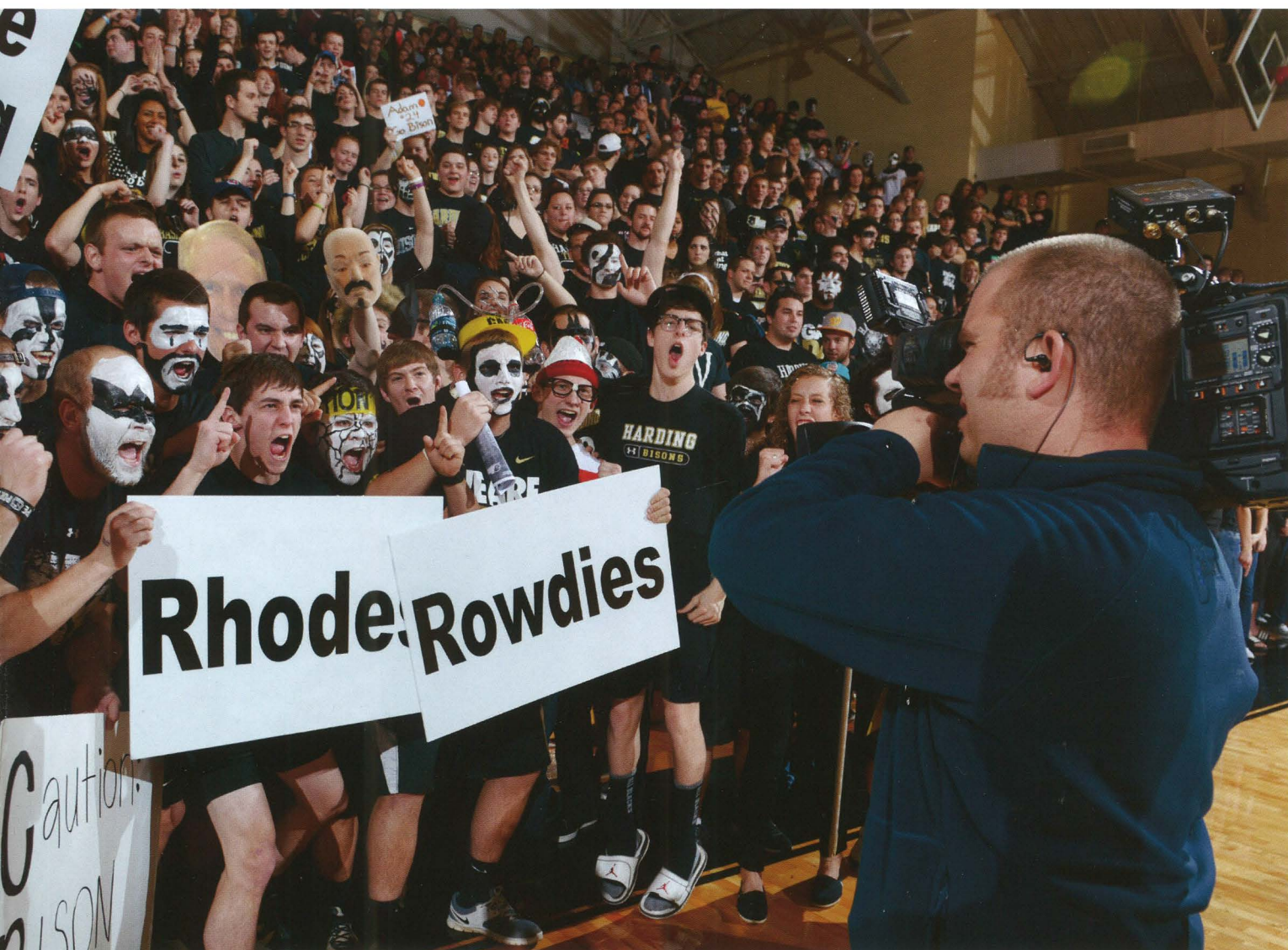
The track and cross-country teams made strides toward their goals as well. Several of the members qualified for nationals against prominent runners from across the country and earned All-Region honors and All-America honors.

The women's golf team also added to the many awards gained by Harding athletics. The team won the GAC tournament, its first conference championship in Harding history. Three of the underclassmen received All-Tournament and conference honors.

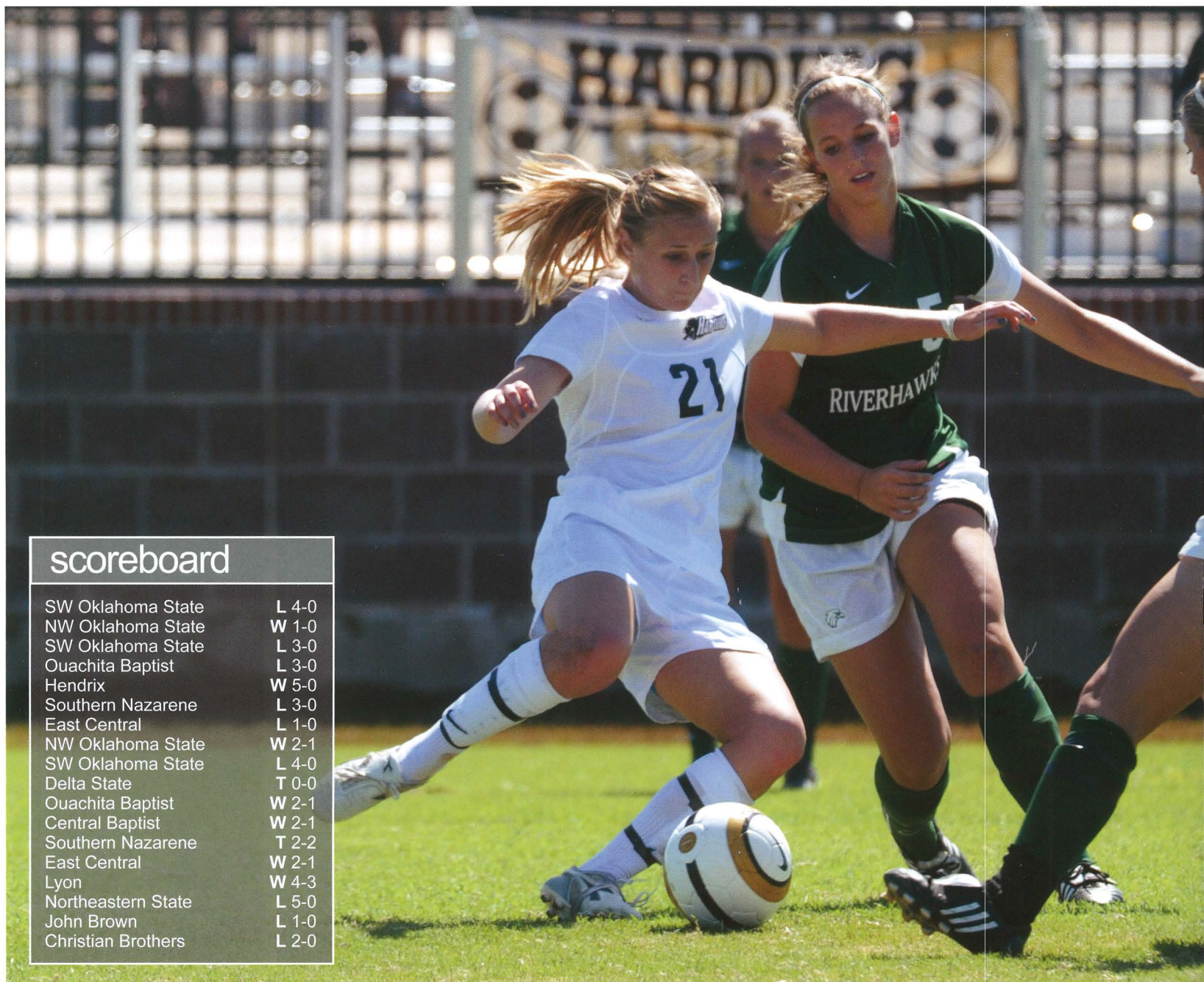
By facing their challenges with confidence and embracing the changes, the teams overcame more than they expected. From conference championships to national awards, the athletic department left significant marks on Harding's history.

Sydney Hamm





Photos by Ashel Parsons



scoreboard

SW Oklahoma State	L 4-0
NW Oklahoma State	W 1-0
SW Oklahoma State	L 3-0
Ouachita Baptist	L 3-0
Hendrix	W 5-0
Southern Nazarene	L 3-0
East Central	L 1-0
NW Oklahoma State	W 2-1
SW Oklahoma State	L 4-0
Delta State	T 0-0
Ouachita Baptist	W 2-1
Central Baptist	W 2-1
Southern Nazarene	T 2-2
East Central	W 2-1
Lyon	W 4-3
Northeastern State	L 5-0
John Brown	L 1-0
Christian Brothers	L 2-0



Fighting for the ball, junior Hannah Hatcher battles her two opponents Sept. 9. Hatcher started every game she played in the 2012 season. *Ashel Parsons*

Before being blocked by her opponent, freshman Ashley Sampson positions herself for the ball. Sampson played as a midfielder for the Lady Bisons. *Ashel Parsons*

On Oct. 7, junior Jenna Taylor successfully leaps over her opponent to head the ball in midair. The team won the match against Northwestern Oklahoma State University 2-1. *Ashel Parsons*



Row 1: L. Hatcher, M. Minnich, L. Lee, E. Buttram, A. Adkison, K. Miller, R. Thoroughman, S. Hollingsworth, A. Schmidt, A. Sampson. **Row 2:** K. Winston (grad asst.), J. Walker (vol. asst.), K. Tschiggfrie, D. Berryman, J. Taylor, A. Fitzgerald, A. Royce, D. Nonaka, S. Jackson, A. Ritchie, L. Scharf, E. Haltiwanger, H. Hatcher, G. Harris (coach).



In addition to the 10 players returning to the Lady Bisons soccer team, nine freshmen joined the ranks. Because of the new team dynamic, the players had to work together to develop close relationships and to learn the balance of school and soccer. Joined by a Christian faith and passion for soccer, the girls found a common ground that enabled them to work as a unit and play their best.

Lady Bisons head coach Greg Harris attested to the difficulty of uniting a group of women who were each talented athletes and strong women in their own right, and showing them how to use those strengths to create an unbeatable team.

"The challenge is you are trying to get all these different types of people and mix them together to work together for the same cause and to run a system together. That is a big challenge," Harris said. "What can be the biggest challenge is also some of your biggest fun too."

Harris and the team worked vigorously in the new season to know each other better, to trust in their peers and to use their strengths to win games.

After facing the initial challenges of getting to know one another's personalities and playing styles, the players quickly came to understand that without camaraderie, success was unattainable. Harris saw how the girls were intentional about forming relationship and playing well and, consequently, had high expectations, knowing that

Unified and Uniformed

*Young teammates bring
new dynamic to team*

the team would mature and gain experience throughout the year.

"Our first game this season was really hard; just because we have not really spent a lot of time together yet," junior Erin Haltiwanger said. "We did not really know each other's strengths and weaknesses as well as we do know. So, it really took a lot of concentration, focus and leadership to kind of guide people where to go and what to do."

Playing soccer while working on an undergraduate degree was a challenging experience for athletes who had to dedicate a lot of time to perfecting their skills and creating teamwork. Balancing personal life, school and sports was not easy, but at the end of the season, it was worth every sacrifice.

"I decided to switch [my major] so I can focus more on grades and soccer, and then I'm only in college once, so I might enjoy the social aspect of it," junior Hannah Hatcher said.

Teamwork and camaraderie were determinant factors for a successful 2012 season, leading to the Lady Bisons winning six out of the first nine games that they played. They also looked forward to the 2013 season in which they expected even better results, because many of the players would return.

Henry Gonzalez

Row 1: B. Bailey, B. Wilson, J. Ireland, J. Weaver, J. Friday, D. Anderson, A. Borsheim, J. Ireland. **Row 2:** O. Guzman (coach), C. Hunt, S. McGee, J. Stevens, C. Keeney, W. Lynn, R. Royer, C. Walker, J. Savage, C. Galloway (grad asst.), A. Brown (grad asst.). **Row 3:** I. Park, J. Mitchell, C. Walker, G. Haberstock, J. Amssoms, N. Ray, T. Sawyer, V. Moya, R. Wilhelm.



The Bison soccer team welcomed new head coach Odie Guzman to the team this year. During Guzman's time as a student athlete on the Harding soccer team, he realized he wanted to be a part of the Harding community after graduation, but he never knew he would get a chance at that dream a mere three years after graduation.

"I wanted this job ever since I played here," Guzman said. "Coach Harris was my mentor and spiritual leader. It was what I wanted to come back and do."

Guzman graduated in 2009 with a B.A. in management. After graduation, he coached the soccer teams at Lubbock Christian University for two years before he was offered the job as men's soccer coach at Harding.

"I love soccer," Guzman said. "I love the spiritual aspect of it, and I love setting an example for these guys. I plan on staying here for a while — just as long as they can keep me and want me."

Guzman led the team into a new conference called the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association. Guzman said the new conference was challenging, but the players were devoted to doing their best and "putting Harding on the map."

Senior midfielder Jackson Savage played soccer all four years of college and said the team could see that Guzman was competitive and had high expectations for the players.

"It doesn't matter what age you are, you have to establish yourself as a coach," Savage said. "More important than age is your demeanor. He is not someone you want to mess with. He has established himself despite his age, and we

Heading in a New Direction

New coach brings excitement and energy

give him respect, and he deserves it. He has kept us in line and pushed us to be better."

Though the team faced tough opponents, Savage said the team fought hard for each other and pushed themselves to the limit in practices and games. Royer said that Guzman always emphasized being ready to play before the game started. This included tough practices and serious warm-up drills.

In addition, center defender senior Rhon Royer said Guzman emphasized an unusual approach to soccer. The team played a more possession-oriented game, emphasizing holding the ball and relying on communication instead of physical contact.

"I feel that this year, more than any, we've come together as a team," Savage said. "I think a lot of that has to do with Odie. He's been pretty stern in his emphasis on team building and his emphasis on being united as a team. I think that's helped us win games and work hard for each other in practice."

More than anything, though, Guzman wanted to serve as a mentor to his players and to help them become Christian men who could be leaders both at Harding and after graduation.

"I always like to make sure that it's not just on the field stuff. I want to make an impact on these player's lives spiritually," Guzman said. "That's what matters most to me. Any man that comes through my program, I want to be a strong Christian man, leaders for their family or themselves."

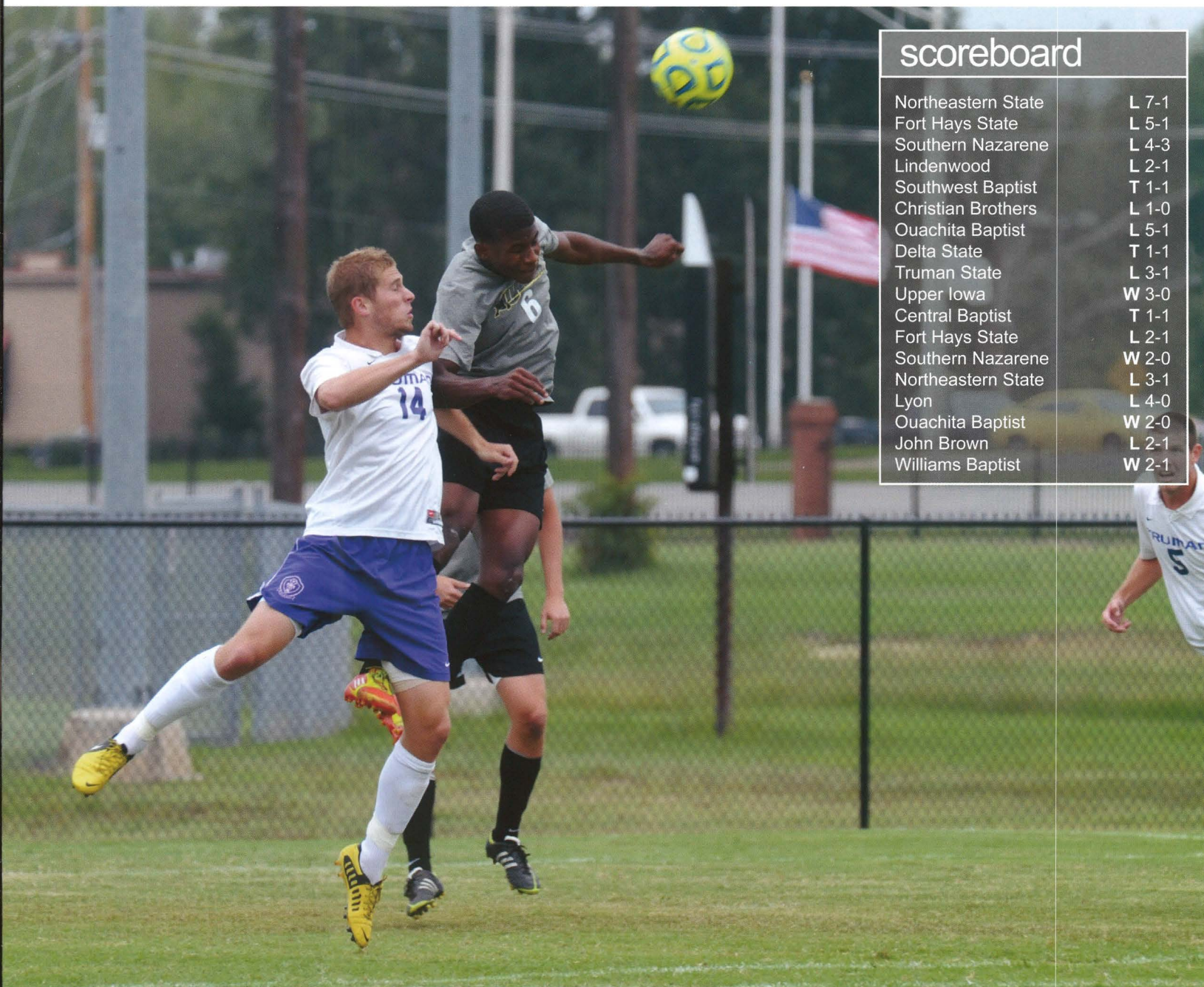
Lyndsey Ruble



Maintaining his balance, sophomore Gehrig Habershtock takes control of the ball with no opponents in sight. Habershtock played as a defender for the Bisons. *Ashel Parsons*

Fighting past his opponents, senior Jackson Savage runs down the field Sept. 30. Savage ranked fourth at Harding in career minutes and played more than 4,000 minutes during his college career. *Ashel Parsons*

In midair, senior Rhon Royer gains momentum above the grass as he heads the ball. Royer received All-Region honors as 1st Team defender. *Ashel Parsons*



scoreboard

Northeastern State	L 7-1
Fort Hays State	L 5-1
Southern Nazarene	L 4-3
Lindenwood	L 2-1
Southwest Baptist	T 1-1
Christian Brothers	L 1-0
Ouachita Baptist	L 5-1
Delta State	T 1-1
Truman State	L 3-1
Upper Iowa	W 3-0
Central Baptist	T 1-1
Fort Hays State	L 2-1
Southern Nazarene	W 2-0
Northeastern State	L 3-1
Lyon	L 4-0
Ouachita Baptist	W 2-0
John Brown	L 2-1
Williams Baptist	W 2-1





Opening up his form, senior Billy Ninemire prepares to throw to second base. Ninemire played as the Bisons' third baseman and started every game he played. *Ashel Parsons*

On April 10, sophomore Brittany Marquez holds perfect form at the Natural State Classic. The Lady Bisons placed fourth at the tournament. *Ashel Parsons*

Flying above the sand, sophomore Bailey Pearson participates in the long jump. Pearson also ran the 100-meter and 400-meter hurdles. *Ashel Parsons*

Freshman Larkin Hatcher builds up her momentum to kick the ball past NW Oklahoma State University on Oct. 7. Hatcher played as a midfielder for the Lady Bisons. *Ashel Parsons*

Celebrating a touchdown, junior Tello Luckett and sophomore Romo Westbrook leap in the end zone surrounded by their opponents. The Bisons won 38-7 against the Bulldogs. *Ashel Parsons*

scoreboard

Southwestern Oklahoma	L 82-68
SE Oklahoma State	W 77-63
SE Oklahoma State	W 83-69
Arkansas Tech	L 69-67
Arkansas-Monticello	W 74-63
Southern Arkansas	W 97-42
Ouachita Baptist	W 45-42
Henderson State	W 76-69
Southwestern Oklahoma	L 84-69
NW Oklahoma State	W 74-55
Southern Nazarene	L 66-56
East Central	W 72-51
Arkansas Tech	L 50-43
Arkansas-Monticello	W 77-59
Southern Arkansas	W 91-44
Ouachita Baptist	W 66-58
Henderson State	W 57-56
NW Oklahoma State	W 60-46
SW Oklahoma State	W 69-61
Christian Brothers	W 57-53
Missouri Southern	W 72-53
SE Oklahoma State	L 72-60
East Central	L 53-46
Southern Nazarene	W 78-64
St. Edward's	W 74-61
St. Mary's	L 78-58
Central Missouri	L 78-62
Christian Brothers	W 73-50



Leading the team down the court, junior Kristen Celsor goes in for a right-handed layup. Celsor received a GAC Player of the Week honor in January 2013. **Ashel Parsons**

Positioned in front of a Southwestern Oklahoma State defender, sophomore Arielle Saunders looks to the paint. Saunders played as a starting forward for the Bisons. **Jeff Montgomery**

On Nov. 10, sophomore Montana Lewis dribbles toward the goal. Lewis captured a double double, scoring 10 points and 11 rebounds against Christian Brothers. **Ashel Parsons**



Row 1: D. Boyce, A. Bramer, K. Wiedower, T. Haney, S. Holmes, L. Crenshaw, M. Brown, K. Preaus. **Row 2:** T. Kirby (coach), M. Mullin (manager), K. Celsor, A. Saunders, L. Harrison, A. Strickland, K. Dunn, M. Lewis, R. Williams (manager), D. Walker (assistant coach).



Rising Up

Young team shows experience and perseverance

Though some teams might consider an abundance of young players a risk to team success, they were the core of the Lady Bisons basketball team. Only two seniors were on the roster for the spring season, while there were eight freshman and sophomores.

"This year's team is still young, even though we have a lot of girls back who played big minutes last season," sophomore Arielle Saunders said. "As we've tried to figure out our team identity, we've slowly become one solid team of thirteen girls working together to achieve our goals."

Despite their youth, each player brought a different set of talents to the team, from athleticism to communication to spirit. Junior Lauren Harrison explained that the team unity improved due to the diversity of the girls and the strengths each brought.

"Having so many young players has caused leadership roles to fall on lowerclassmen," Harrison said. "We have freshmen that have taken roles that we needed filled. This year is different because instead of having one leader, I feel like we have many leaders in different areas. People have taken their talents and lead in those areas, and I think it has made us stronger and made more people feel involved and allowing them to contribute."

Junior Kristen Celsor also attributed their successful season to the leadership seen on the team. Regardless of age, each player led by example and did the best they could

to encourage each other on and off the court.

"We have so many girls that led in so many ways," Celsor said. "I don't really see myself as the loud, pep talk giving leader. I'm more of the silent type. I try to encourage my teammates individually and then use the extra years of experience that I have to help them with things they might be dealing with."

The team's theme of "Rise Together" helped spark a desire for success in unity at the beginning of the season, when they beat Division One school Oral Roberts 68-54. The players who did not graduate after the 2011-2012 season chose the theme so they could stay together and rise above the expectations placed on them. Their fluidity continued into the conference season, where they held an eight game winning streak after dropping the first two games.

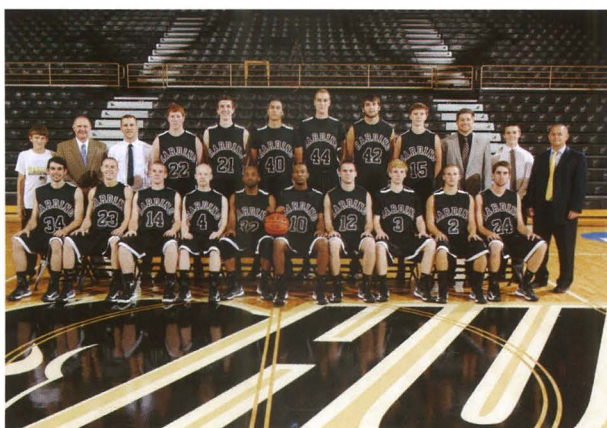
"Our theme this season really describes us well, as we struggled through some adversity," Saunders said. "It also explains any successes we've achieved."

The young team finished the season with room to grow and had high goals for the next season. The players looked forward to sharpening their skills and competing against tough teams.

"The team next year I hope will be able to build on the experience, since we will have more upperclassmen and room for improvement," sophomore Tabitha Haney said.

Sydney Hamm

Row 1: M. Gullotta, B. McNair, W. Jameson, Z. Kirby, D. Brown, B. Spencer, M. Walters, N. Nelson, T. Cochran, A. Sterrenberg. **Row 2:** D. Morgan, J. Morgan (coach), B. Brantley, J. Hudson, H. Johnson, L. Cannon, A. Kavas, Z. Roddenberry, J. Gibson, D. Palmer (grad asst.), E. Holloway (manager), R. Woods (asst. coach).



Reaching New Heights

Senior leadership puts team above the competition

The Bison basketball team saw a season unparalleled in leadership and unity. The team was a powerhouse of community, which was the foundation of the team's success. The leadership of the upperclassmen influenced the solidity of the team in both skill and Christian attitude.

According to junior Weston Jameson, the leadership of men such as seniors Bradley Spencer and Matt Walters was the most memorable part of his experience on the basketball team.

"Bradley Spencer and Matt Walters are the two biggest leaders," Jameson said. "They are really good about saying the right thing when we need to hear it."

Senior Zach Roddenberry, named the Great American Conference Player of the Week four times, was another significant leader. Head men's basketball coach Jeff Morgan said the first word that came to his mind when he thought of Roddenberry was the word kind.

Junior forward Hayden Johnson said that in his three years on the team, the relationships he had formed had carried him through difficult seasons.

"Just going through the highs and lows in life with these guys for the last 3 years has really brought us together," Johnson said. "My favorite part about this is the friendships I've made and the true chemistry we have been able to form on the court because of our relationships off the court."

Johnson's experience bespoke the quality of men on the basketball team. The players were family, enjoying each other's company on and off the court.

"What is so special about this team is the chemistry,"

Jameson said. "We enjoy being around each other and spend time with each other off the court. When I look back on my experience with basketball, I will remember more than anything the relationships with my teammates."

The Christian attitude of the players was evident everywhere. In January, the team spoke at the College Church. Several of the players used basketball analogies to describe patience and endurance in life's trials.

"I started off letting the church know that I was thankful for being where I am today," Spencer said. "I specifically spoke about how making a turnover in basketball is like messing up in life, and how we can do one of two things: continue to do wrong or change it. Just like in basketball, we can hold our heads down and be upset because of the turnover or hustle back on defense."

The Bisons' desire to demonstrate Christian attitudes in all aspects of their sport and lives was influenced not only by their disciplined backgrounds, but by their coaches as well.

"Everyone on the team knows that the expectations are very high for us because of the foundation set by our coaches and the players that have come through the program before us," Johnson said. "We are expected to set examples in the classroom, on the court and, most importantly, as Christian leaders."

For the basketball players, their time spent on the court added up to much more than points. They came away with honed athletic abilities and refined character, sharpened by their community of Christian brothers.

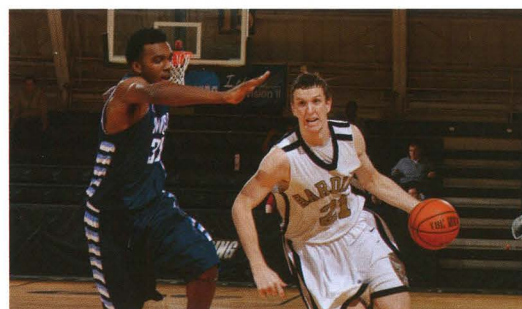
Mallory Pratt



With his focus on the basket, senior Bradley Spencer shoots above Arkansas Tech on Jan. 24. Spencer was one of four seniors for the Bisons. **Ashel Parsons**

Sprinting down the court, junior Hayden Johnson rushes ahead of his defender and toward the basket on Jan. 3. The Bisons beat Southwestern Oklahoma State University 76-54. **Ashel Parsons**

Towering over Southern Nazarene, senior Zach Roddenberry scores two points for the Bisons on Dec. 1. Roddenberry received the distinguished honor of player of the week four times for the GAC Conference. **Jeff Montgomery**



scoreboard

Minnesota State University-Mankato	L 86-65
University of Central Missouri	W 75-71
Ouachita Baptist	L 78-63
Southern Arkansas	W 62-43
SE Oklahoma State	W 85-58
Arkansas Tech	W 73-64
Arkansas-Monticello	L 78-61
Southern Arkansas	W 93-87
Ouachita Baptist	L 60-56
Henderson State	L 70-68
Southwestern Oklahoma	L 71-60
NW Oklahoma State	L 80-61
Southern Nazarene	W 71-58
East Central	W 92-86
Arkansas Tech	W 72-64
Arkansas-Monticello	W 57-50
Southern Arkansas	W 81-77
Ouachita Baptist	W 83-78
Henderson State	W 66-61
NW Oklahoma State	W 82-66
SW Oklahoma State	W 76-54
Christian Brothers	W 66-48
St. Edward's	L 69-66
Northwest Missouri	W 68-66
SE Oklahoma State	L 67-64
East Central	L 75-60
Southern Nazarene	W 80-67
NE Oklahoma State	W 65-63
Christian Brothers	W 68-63
Champion Baptist	W 92-58
St. Edward's	W 79-62
Central Baptist	W 92-71