

THE BELL TOWER

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Sports

Lions Basketball continues to prove why the deserve their spot at the top.

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Entertainment

Macbeth opens this weekend, one of FHU's largest theater productions ever.

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UPC's first coffeehouse of the semester is deemed a success.

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Briefly:

The Lions Baseball team will play this weekend, Sun. March 1 at 12 p.m.

Lions Softball vs Bethel College this Mon. March 1 at 3 p.m.

Intramural volleyball rosters go out Mon. March 1.

Don't forget \$2 movie nights every Mon. and Fri. at the Crws Colbert Activity Center

Upcoming Events

FHU Theatre presents Macbeth. The show opens tonight at 7 p.m in the Black Box Theater and runs through Mon. March 2. Showtimes begin at 7 p.m. each night with matinees at 2 p.m. on Sat. Feb. 28 and Sun. March 1.

Soul Food

"And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Phillipians 4:7

The GC renovations provide more efficiency



Construction in the GC continues as the 'One-Stop Shop' is being prepared for its final steps.

'One-Stop Shop' near completion

By Marisa Jones
Staff Writer

It is doubtful that anyone expected to return to Freed-Hardeman University (FHU) after a relaxing winter break to find the E. Claude Gardner Center for Bible, Communication, and World Evangelism (thankfully abbreviated to "GC" by most) in such a chaotic state.

As construction workers tramp plaster dust in and out of the halls, piles of debris mount up by the truckload outside while signs pointing the way to the Office of Admission and Financial Aid (straight through the heart of disaster) add a whole new meaning to the word "stress" for its staff. With one of the school's main administrative and educational buildings in such

disarray, several questions are just begging to be asked, foremost among them: what exactly is going on in GC?

Dr. Barry England was the man who seemed to hold all the answers. A 16-year veteran staff member of FHU, he was previously engaged as Vice President for Planning and Technology. After a short absence from FHU, during which he held the office of president at Columbia Academy, he will now be returning to hold (as of June 1, 2009) the title of Associate Vice President of Academics.

Already extremely involved in the new GC renovations, Dr. England was available for a few questions conducted via email about what the future holds for our dear Gardner complex.

The first question posed to England was the most obvious: What is the purpose behind the renovations in GC? The current construction is, in fact, meant to simplify things—to pull together various departments into a "One-Stop-Shop" so that prospective and current students can accomplish several tasks at once. The various errands in mind include admissions, financial aid and the payment of student accounts, freshman advising, advising, registration, testing, and tutoring.

Why now? England says the renovations are an element of the President Joe Wiley's administration. After seeing a demanding need for improvement in student procedures and interaction, Wiley chose to

implement the construction phase as soon as possible rather than waiting any longer. In fact, Wiley has successfully executed this same plan in other schools, and students can expect increased efficiency at the school as a result of these changes on the FHU campus.

With the current state of things, efficiency is not the first term that comes to mind. However, when asked how much longer construction was projected to last, England quickly assured that completion would occur within the next few weeks.

As for the extent of the renovations, England said that new offices were being built to reallocate space for Admissions, Financial Aid, the Registrar, Testing, Tutoring, and Bursar.

Despite Wiley's technological reputation, students can expect that area to be the same as the pre-existing equipment on campus—no revolutionary iKnow program this time around, but modern technology

nonetheless. In the meantime, before the end of construction, the Office of Admission and Financial Aid remains open to all students, and with second-floor GC being in a more advanced state of construction than first floor we can expect to see results very soon. The final question to England was general: "Is there anything else you would like the student body to know?"

England said: "I believe both new and returning students will appreciate the cohesive effort of the 'One-Stop-Shop' providing even better services at FHU, where individual and personal attention is a core value to who and what we are."

While the GC renovations may cause some temporary inconvenience, their ultimate goal far outweighs the current annoyance. As England demonstrates, the devoted staff will assure that the FHU experience is optimized with the best there is to offer, no matter the difficulty in providing it.



Kristina Toland/The Bell Tower
FHU Admissions workers continue to move into their new office.

English majors find drama in the mountains of Virginia

By Shannon Hargis &
Heather Fortunberry
Assistant Editors

It is 5 a.m., dark and cold, and yet, if one looks closely he will see a few students venturing out of their warm beds and dorms in to the chilly morning air and walking toward the GC parking lot.

"Who are these brave students?" one might ask. They are none other than Freed-Hardeman University English majors, willing and ready to sit in a drafty van for a 13-hour drive to historic Staunton, Virginia. (For those who do not know, after much debate with the locals, that is pronounced St-AN-ton, not St-ON-ton as it may appear.)

What could cause these students' willingness to endure such a long, cold road trip? Well, that would be the Renaissance Play season at the American Shakespeare Center (ASC), which is located in the historic downtown of Staunton. While there, the students were able to see three plays performed in original Elizabethan England style. Also they were able to take a tour of the only recreation of Shakespeare's indoor theater.

The plays the students saw were: *The Changeling* (no relation to the recent movie released by the same title starring Angelina Jolie), *Henry VI Part 1*, and *The Revenger's Tragedy*.

Making up about half of the attendees were students from Dr. John McLaughlin's Renaissance Drama class offered this semester, who just so happened to have finished reading two of the plays seen while in Virginia.

Driving the treacherous journey was chaperone Dr. Derrick Spradlin accompanied by Dr. Margaret Payne as well as McLaughlin, bringing the group total to 13.

All of the plays were shown in the Blackfriars Playhouse in Staunton, which is also the home of the American Shakespeare Center. The Blackfriars Playhouse was built in the same fashion as the original indoor theatre that Shakespeare's acting company built on London's Blackfriars Monastery. The stage and seating were all the same, as well as what is known as "universal lighting."

At the American Shakespeare Center, "We do it with the lights on," reads the motto. Instead of the lights going down when the play begins, the whole theater is

continually lit throughout the play by chandeliers and a bright light shining through the top windows. This is how it would have been done in Renaissance times because Blackfriars was the only indoor theater and there obviously was not electricity. Only candlelight and a few windows at the top, where the sun would shine through, would have lit the theater.

This type of lighting not only allowed the audience to be able to see the people around them and see their reactions, but the actors were also able to see all the audience members.

Another part of seeing the plays in the original Renaissance style was that there are no directors. The actors and actresses run everything. They receive their script prompts and only have a few days, maybe a few weeks if they are lucky, to rehearse and learn their lines.

In these situations, the actors also choose all of their own costumes and decide what props they would like to use in the show. Additionally, they are able to choose and perform all of the pre-show and interlude entertainment music. It is quite a bit of work, but they believe that



Shannon Hargis/The Bell Tower
English majors enjoy Renaissance style Shakespearean plays.

the outcome is definitely worth their efforts.

The staff at Blackfriars Playhouse includes many interns from Mary Baldwin College (MBC), which is just up the road from the theater.

While visiting Staunton, the group was able to have one of Freed-Hardeman's graduates, Andrea Kelley, as their guide around town. Kelley is now attending MBC. She arranged for a professor from MBC to speak to the group about the program and their collaboration with Blackfriars. This was a

great opportunity for the English majors to get a closer look at one of the many ways they will be able to use their major following graduation.

Overall, the trip proved to be both fun and educational for all who made the journey. The students had the privilege of learning about the history of Shakespeare's theater while actually getting to see his plays performed the way he would have done them. The students were also able to spend time in a very beautiful town with wonderful people.

Annual Maroon & Gold Day allows prospective students a day in the life

By Shannon Hargis
Assistant Editor

All students have been there. They feel like the awkward high schooler walking around a college campus, excited yet terrified about the new life adventure quickly approaching, yet hardly listening to the tour guide because he is trying to seem much older and cooler. In this situation, the student does not admit that seeing the current college students walk by offering strange looks makes him feel like that sixth grader scared on a school bus full of eighth graders all over again.

This scenario may have been how a majority of college tours went, but FHU tours to try a different approach.

This past Monday, over 100 high school juniors and seniors flocked to FHU's campus to what is known as Maroon and Gold Day, sponsored by the Admissions office. There are six Maroon and Gold days held throughout the year. A few are reserved for during large events like Homecoming and Makin' Music.

Maroon and Gold Days

are great opportunities for prospective students to come visit and tour the campus while also having the chance to meet and chat with other FHU hopefuls like them. Maroon and Gold days are done in a large part

with the help of the professional club, Campus Delegate Team (CDT). CDT is a group of FHU students who interview and are chosen to each year to work with the Admission office and to help them give tours, travel to college

fairs, high schools, and events like CYC and Winterfest. They also help Dr. Belinda Anderson and the Admissions counselors with other projects.

This past Maroon and Gold played host to potential students from all over the country, not just Tennessee. They began their day by attending chapel. There was a large section in the middle of Loyd reserved for the students and their parents. Much to the dismay of the students who would normally sit there, they had permission to sit in the balcony during that day of chapel.

CDT members were at Loyd at 9 a.m. to begin welcoming and chatting with the arriving students. After chapel, the students were split into five groups. From there, CDT members led these five groups on separate tours of the campus. While on their tour, they got to see a few classrooms, all the buildings on campus, the student center and new student activity center. The guests also had the option of going on a dorm tour later in the afternoon.

Students were free to ask questions along the way and many



We cater these days to junior and senior high school students who are interested in seeing campus life in action. The following dates are available:

October 6, 2008
November 14, 2008
December 5, 2008*
February 16, 2009
March 9, 2009
April 3, 2009

Courtesy of FHU Admissions
This ad outlines Maroon and Gold Days for the rest of this semester

See 'Maroon & Gold'

Coffeehouse to be held in new CCAC

By Hilary Mead
Staff Writer

Have you been missing the sound of live acoustics as you mingle with friends with a hot Cup 'O Joe in your hand? Well, University Program Council's Coffee House is back and ready to show you a good time. Last Tuesday was the first Coffee House of the spring semester, also the first time to be held in the new Crews-Colbert Activity Center. The stage beams of red and blue shining from the upstairs window onto the street lead you inside and up the stairs into the dim candlelit room, enclosed with round tables. On every table there were board and card games.

"Welcome to the first Coffee House this semester. We have coffee and cappuccino you can make in the back," Tyler Steffy announced. "Hope you enjoy it." He also added one other special new

summation from UPC: if anyone preferred to have something from the downstairs KC's coffee shop, all UPC members, clad in aprons, would be take your ID card and go downstairs to place your order. Along with appreciated service, musicians such as Jesse Mullins from Jackson, Max Roth, More Than a Movie's Scott Utter, and Bryson Leach performed the entertainment. These components promised to make a cozier atmosphere.

"I really liked the games. It gave you more things to do than just listen to music," Kristen Springer replied. Others mentioned that the soft candlelight added a nice feel to the room as they played cards and socialized.

Although there were many changes to benefit this event, there were mixed feelings from the students. Hosting the Coffee House in the glamour of the new building may appeal to some, but

many believe the Crews Center is not a superior stead to the Burk's Student Center. "It was awkward because some people just stood around. Definitely not as homey as the Student Center where we spend most of our time together."

When asked about the KC's products offered, one attendee responded, "There were not as many free refreshment choices... and we had to spend more money." A few other students mentioned, "There were good songs played but people talked rather than pay attention to the music. And not many stayed for the entire time." Other students noticed the change in attendance compared to last year. Some commented that "not as many people came as usual."

When asked about the negative reactions, UPC member Spenser Savage said, "I think it's only because we are

trying something new. It will take some time to get adjusted to it, and we had last minute entertainment. We are also competing with Makin' Music practices. Being the first of the spring semester, we didn't expect a huge crowd, but with more musicians and the winding down of Intramurals, it will be a little more fun in the future." Michael Galloway also added, "It was a great event for those who did not have a lot to do on a night busy with activities."

So, if you are feeling skeptical about the future Coffee Houses, and even considering not attending the next one, give UPC time to work out the kinks, come next month, and enjoy the other events they hold. Remember that UPC is always open for suggestions and with more time, fewer game conflicts, and hopefully more musicians, Coffee House is sure to improve.



Kristina Toland/The Bell Tower

Scott Utter serenades students at UPC's Coffeehouse.

SAA travels to conference

By Andrea Bigham
Assistant Editor

Fifteen members of Freed-Hardeman University Student Alumni Association (SAA) and SAA sponsor Melissa Seratt traveled to Chattanooga last Thursday for a weekend of student advancement training at the annual District 3 Council for Advancement and Support of Education Affiliated Student Advancement Programs (CASE ASAP) conference. This annual meeting was held at the Chattanooga Marriott and the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga campus.

CASE ASAP is an organization that aids higher education institutions to increase student involvement in advancement programs. This includes alumni associations like SAA as well as other student ambassador programs. This is an international organization whose membership exceeds 3,000 schools in 45 countries. FHU belongs to District 3

which comprises more than 60 colleges and universities in the Southeast United States. More than 400 students who represent those schools gathered for information sharing last weekend.

Jeremy Sweeney, SAA Vice President of Personnel Involvement, said, "SAA goes to conference every year and it is a really good time for us to come together and bond as a group while learning about other student-alumni programs."

While at the CASE ASAP conference, SAA members attended leadership seminars, went to breakout sessions lead by student representatives from various schools in District 3, participated in table discussions and went to a state-wide meeting. Each activity was focused on a different aspect of student advancement. Sweeney commented that the breakout sessions are very helpful to SAA members because they facilitate brainstorming within the group when planning for

events for the coming year.

Sweeney said: "A lot of the ideas that we hear at the sessions are not something that we can do, but we can take ideas that other schools have and make them more appropriate for Freed. For example, the Ambassadors of Appalachian State may have some really good recruitment ideas, but they are trying to reach a campus of 20,000 students. We are trying to reach less than 2,000 so adjustments have to be made in our case."

Various topics were discussed during the activities at the conference. SAA members have returned from the meeting enriched by hearing others' ideas about event planning, recruitment, fund-raising, school spirit, community service and much more.

Vice President of Special Events Courtney Kimbrough said, "I'm excited about what is going to happen with SAA because we always come back from conference energized and ready to try new things. This is



Kristina Toland/The Bell Tower

Freed-Hardeman University SAA club members pose together while representing at the CASE ASAP.

a time for leaders to step up and make decisions for the club."

Several SAA events are planned for the remainder of the semester. The annual Mr./Miss FHU Presentation chapel day is slated for March 11. After that, SAA is considering at least one

major fundraiser for the week of Makin' Music. Additionally, plans are in the works for a recruitment "hype week" beginning Mon. April 13 to encourage new SAA membership for the 2009-2010 school year.

SAA is a service organization

that seeks to promote effective communication between students and alumni as well as educate current students about the importance of being a good alumnus and assists various on campus organizations throughout the year.

Students win sweet prizes at UPC's annual Gold Rush event

By Hannah Colley
Staff Writer

Just when one might think Freed-Hardeman is on the brink of becoming boring, the University Program Council rushes to the rescue with flying colors. Their latest conquest included gold spray paint, little nuggets, and brilliant minds to plan the whole affair.

On Tues. Feb. 24, UPC members hid 25 golden nuggets throughout the outdoor areas between the library and Brown-Kopel.

The lucky finders of these nuggets, varying in size and shape, were told to take their golden treasures to the Student Center between the hours of 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., where a UPC representative would authorize the validity and legitimacy of the nugget.

The prize for finding one of these brilliant objects includes a diverting night of late permission to spend at the Crews-Colbert Activity Center from 11:30 p.m. to 2:15 a.m. The activities of the night include: watching National Treasure II, playing an assortment of video games, and spending time with friends. Each winner is allowed to bring one guest. As if that's not exciting enough, free pancakes will also be provided.

The lucky winners are as follows: Courtney Allen, Will Sharp, Andrea Parrish, John



Kristina Toland/The Bell Tower

Katy Killen holds her new golden brick ready to claim her prize.

Hayes, Tyler Bodell, Ben Shafer, Spencer Jerrolds, Kyle Nichols, Jessie Hatfield, Kristoffer Smith, Heather Lockard, Ethan Thomas, Laura West, Jade Herron, Whitney Johnson, Loren Carroll, Joseph McKenzie, Katy Killen, Amanda Osborne, Adam Burke, Nadia Watson, Katlyn Brown, Brandon White, Jason Sadler,

Joseph McKenzie, and Kristina Toland.

Other upcoming UPC events include a movie festival, an Ultimate Frisbee tournament, a Finals breakfast, and of course, Coffee House. Don't miss out on all the other golden opportunities this council has to offer!



Kristina Toland/The Bell Tower

Kristina Toland and Jessie Hatfield pose happily with their golden bricks which soon will be awesome prizes.

2009 Makin' Music Update

"It's really great to share our 'baby' with our cast. They've really been working hard so far and are so supportive of the show. Can't wait for April 4th! 'All things work together for those who love the Lord...on retreat weekend!'"

-Phi Kappa Alpha Directors

"The show is coming along better than we could ever imagine. Things are all starting to fall into place, and adding the choreography/dancing has just made it even more wonderful. We have confidence in our show and a love for Makin' Music, a love for our cast, and love for each other. With these three elements we feel as if we have already won and we haven't even put it on stage yet. XBX is ready to bring it this year!"

-Chi Beta Chi Directors

"Our cast surprises us every time that we practice. The energy and excitement that we feel at practice is unBEElievable. We're having a great time working towards 17!!!"

-Sigma Rho Directors

"We are doin' work, son. 31!"

-GTO Directors

"According to our fortune our future is looking explosive!"

-Xi Chi Delta Directors



Kristina Toland/The Bell Tower

Jessie Hatfield reaches up high to grab a hidden golden brick in a tree by Brown-Kopel during Gold Rush.

Civil War meets iambic pentameter in 'Macbeth' update

By Shelley McClelland
Staff Writer

More than likely most students have read some of the world's most well-written literature in school. William Shakespeare, an English poet and playwright who is widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language, was probably the author of one or more of those required readings. Many films and plays have been produced to help bring the characters to life.

Alas! But what if one has not had the opportunity to observe one of these outstanding works? From Thur. Feb. 26 to Mon. March 2, "Macbeth" will be performed in the new Black Box Theatre located next to the Crews-Colbert Activity Center.

"Macbeth" or "The Scottish Play," for those reading this in the back-stage world of theatre, is the shortest and most compressed of Shakespeare's tragedies. The two main characters, Macbeth and Lady Macbeth, keep falling into temptations and they just cannot stop.

There is a rather noticable twist that is being incorportaed into FHU's version of Macbeth this weekend. While the show will incorporate the original scripted words, the play will be set just after the American Civil War. This tale about a man's overwhelming lust and obsession and the consequences features a gang of Union Officers and southern belles.

Theatre director Dr. Cliff Thompson notes, "It's a really spiritual play about a sinner that rejects grace. It's very powerful." The play shows how sinful acts cause one's life to spiral out of control and move into a whirlwind of pain.

The play comes with its directing creativity. The audience will witness four major fight scenes this weekend and, with the Black Box Theatre's very intimate space, extra caution must be practiced.

Thompson, though, does not seem too concerned about the small quarters. He praises his cast as having "the best quality of acting. They attack the script in a vigorous, robust way!"

About 30 students are involved in making this play

such a success both on and off stage. The students' majors vary from Theatre, Psychology, Social Work and Bible. Thompson insists that any student is welcomed to participate in the school's plays.

Senior Chris Pate, who plays the lead role in "Macbeth," is not new to the stage-scene. In his college years alone, he has been in seven plays. As a theatre major, he has that drive to be on center stage in front of an audience.

Pate said, "I've always had this entertainment desire." When asked how his role as Macbeth is different than his previous roles, he explained, "It is different in every way. It is the most difficult; emotionally and physically draining."

Chair of the Department of Communication and Literature, Dr. John McLaughlin, is looking forward to watching "Macbeth" this year. Though he has read and seen the play in the past, he said "I've never seen just a really good production of 'Macbeth.' I felt the productions I've seen didn't do it justice." This year, he hopes to be impressed.

McLaughlin added, "I've seen part of the play in rehearsal and I'm very excited about it!"

Thompson has worked diligently to bring these famous characters off the page and onto the stage. Making theatrical history on the Freed-Hardeman University campus, this will be the first large play to be shown in the Black Box Theatre. It seats only 75 but there will be six showings.

"Macbeth" will be performed Thur. Feb. 26, Fri. Feb. 27, Sat. Feb. 28 and Mon. March 2 at 7 p.m. It will be at 2 p.m. on Sat. Feb. 28 and Sun. March 1. Students should note that the customary "student-pay-what-you-can" showing will be at the 2 p.m. performance on March 1.

Contact Thompson in the McDaniel House to reserve tickets to any of the shows. Tickets may also be purchased at the door, but students are reminded about the small number of seats in the Black Box so advance tickets are recommended.

Thompson said, "'Macbeth' has really inspired me creatively. There's nothing ordinary about this production."



Kristina Toland/The Bell Tower

FHU's Civil War version of Shakespeare's classic play "Macbeth" features cast members wearing costumes to fit the time period.



Kristina Toland/The Bell Tower

"Macbeth" is only the second major production to be held in the new Black Box Theater. The show will feature all of the same characters as the original version of "Macbeth" but will have a time period twist. Here the famous witches rehearse for opening night.

The intentional and unintentional merits of internet blogging: Honey, wake up the kids--it's the blog



By Bryson Leach
Columnist & Blog Junkie

I never really had much interest in blogging or reading blogs until I got one not too long ago. The idea of creating a page that maybe only I would read seemed like a silly one, and not to mention a self-centered one at that.

Sometimes I would stumble across a blog due to Google search result, but normally I skip them, feeling that they might be untrustworthy. But the idea of a blog being an opinion from one or a few people serves a lot of neat

purposes.

Here is a list of blogs that I find interesting, and I look forward to their periodic updates. I have provided the web addresses where they can be found as well.

- Lunch Bag Art--this blogger posts a picture of the art that they draw on their kid's daily lunch bag. Monet would be proud.

Where to find it:
<http://lunchbagart.tumblr.com/>

- Garfield Minus Garfield--it is a daily Garfield comic with Garfield erased from the frames. It is quite an interesting reflection on the angst of Mr. Jon Arbuckle.

Where to find it:
<http://garfieldminusgarfield.net>

- Bradblog--FHU's own Brad Montague's blog with a daily post of interesting things, links to weird websites or pictures

that he has found around the ole internet.

Where to find it:

<http://bradblog.tumblr.com>

- Indexed-- For anyone who has vver wondered if it would be socially ok to make Venn diagrams or pie charts for everything. This blogger thinks so. She diagrams something different every day.

Where to find it:

<http://thisisindexed.com/>

- McSweeney's Lists--Hilarious lists submitted by readers on any and every topic.

Where to find it:

<http://www.mcsweeneys.net/links/lists/>

And if you really get carried away blog surfing, I also have a blog you can check out. I take a new picture every day and post it alongside a quote or two.

Where to find it:

<http://brysonleach.tumblr.com>

81st Annual Oscars honor work from Ledger, Boyle, and others

By Bailey Gillreath
Staff Writer

It's hard to believe that the time of the year when the red carpet is unrolled and the gossip begins to circulate about who will win, who's with who, and who's wearing what, has already come and gone. This past Sunday night marked the 81st annual Academy Awards which was hosted by the hunky Hugh Jackman.

In today's culture, it's really a matter of opinion on whether the Oscars are more about the accomplishments and talent of the directors, writers, producers and actors who have been nominated for the prestigious award, or the clothes worn by them. This year, however, was a little more moving than most as the talent of one young actor who died tragically and suddenly was brought to the forefront.

The family of Heath Ledger accepted his posthumous award for Best Actor in a Supporting Role for his work in 'The Dark Knight' with undoubtedly mixed emotion. As the camera panned the crowd the reaction of the seemingly untouchable celebrities served to, for just a moment, humanize the elite audience. Expressions of deep emotion, sympathy, pain, and pride showed in the faces of Ledger's contemporaries as the father of the late actor made his acceptance speech.

Even with Heath Ledger's amazing and chilling work as the Joker on the ballot, the competition was close in all categories. In the end the most notable Oscars went out to the following: Best Picture went to 'Slumdog Millionaire', Best Actor in a Leading Role went to Sean Penn for his portrayal of gay rights activist Harvey Milk in the Gus van Sant film 'Milk', Best Actress in a Leading Role was given to Kate Winslet for her part in 'The Reader', Best Actress in a Supporting Role went out to Penelope Cruise for her work in

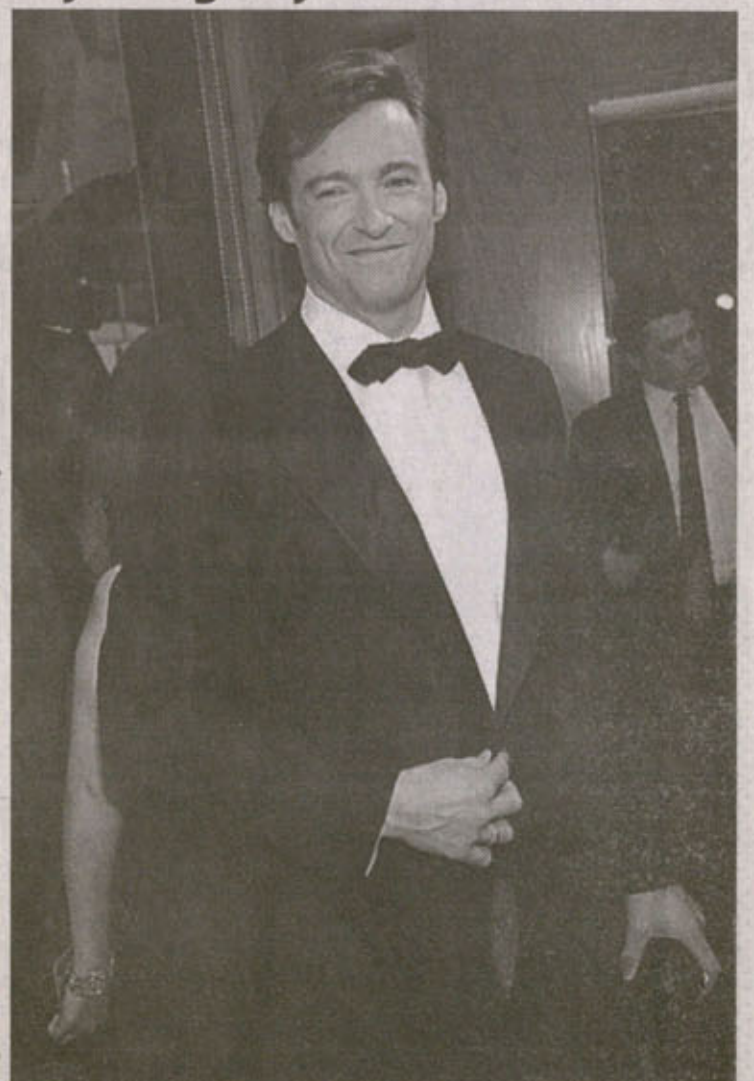


Photo Submitted

Australia native Hugh Jackman poses for cameras before he assumes hosting duties of the 81st Annual Oscars in California.

'Vicky Christina Barcelona', and the Best Animated Feature was handed to Pixar's 'WALL-E'.

It is also worth mentioning that Slumdog Millionaire swept the Academy Awards of 2009 taking home eight different awards. A complete list of the winners can be found on the official Academy Awards website, www.oscar.com.

As usual, the night was full of laughter, nervous acceptance speeches, and cheesy one-liners, even anti-climaxing with the Baz Lurhmann crafted melody of musicals past, performed by

Jackman and Beyonce. The only real surprise of the night was Sean Penn's win.

While many critics expected the acclaimed star to take home the golden trophy, the increasingly popular cult following of Mickey Rourke and Darren Aronofsky's underground film 'The Wrestler' were shocked to see Rourke miss out on his first real shot at an Oscar. Penn must have felt sympathetic to Rourke's plight calling Rourke "brother" during his acception speech.

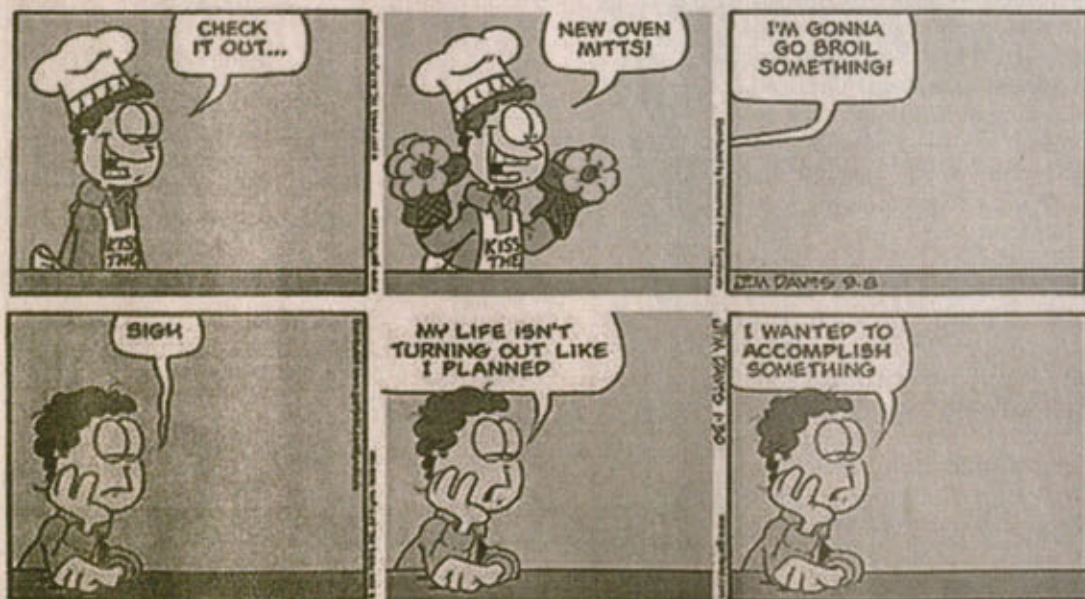


Photo Submitted

An example of the "Garfield Minus Garfield" blog in which Garfield is erased from this comic strip.

Expanding Our Political Imagination



Broderick Greer
Columnist

When a person finds out I did not vote for John McCain, he or she assumes I voted for Barack Obama. When a person finds out that I'm not a Democrat, she assumes I am Republican. When a person finds out that I support healthy environmental policies, he or she may assume that I am a tree-hugging liberal

who drinks Starbucks on a daily basis. These assumptions are rooted in the American culture's inability to imagine alternatives to the current political status quo. This stifled imagination is the heir of political partisanship that lacks in dynamic dialogue and creative conversation.

We tend to think of America in terms of red states and blue states, liberals and conservatives, pro-life and pro-choice, Republican and Democrats, and pacifists and warmongers. Our political vocabulary is dominated by either/or rather than both/and. This either/or way of thinking does not explain conservative gun owners who also support the more

liberal concept of a national healthcare plan or the paradox of homosexual politicians who are hardcore Republicans. A healthy political imagination buries polarizing and partisan language in deep, dark, desolate pits of the vocabulary cemetery. For the politically creative, red states and blue states have been replaced by purple, while conservative and liberal have been replaced by cooperative and freethinking. The Republican Party and Democratic Party have been replaced by The Surprise Party, and war and conflict have been replaced with peace-making and justice.

The politically imaginative person is fortunate to be able to think and live and act beyond old party lines. We do not

have to be enslaved to isolating labels that stunt the growth of healthy political cooperation, conversation, and collaboration. God has given us the gift of using our political imagination to get things done, whether it's playing with neighborhood kids here in Henderson, aiding single mothers contemplating abortion in Jackson, or assisting the poor and underprivileged of Memphis and Nashville.

Politically imaginative people are not only frustrated and irritated by injustice and inequality in their communities, but are also motivated and stimulated to solve those problems through involvement and compassion.

The Morris Explores

Q: Is he or she the one, and how can you know?

Jake Morris

A: We spend our entire pre-married lives dreaming of Mr. or Mrs. Right. I think we can partially blame Walt Disney for this notion that there is one special person who can



kiss us and cause us to awaken from this loveless sleep in which we have been drifting. Our picture of perfection is based on a number of factors (lessons we've heard in church, characteristics that we've seen in our parents, images we've seen in a sports illustrated, etc...). As hard as we might look, it is unlikely that we will ever find that person who meets all of our criteria. Therefore, I don't believe that there is a "One" for anybody. I think that there are many people who come in and out of our lives who could be our potential one. "But how do you know when someone is a potential one?" I don't know that everybody does. The challenge for many unmarried people is to find a person who is close enough to that perfect match that they are willing to make a go of it. "But I don't know!!!" Then I'd recommend going to see one of our counselors on campus and let them help you explore your feelings for this person whom you are dating. If you are unwilling to evaluate your relationship with someone else (whether it be professional or friend) then that might be a red flag that this is not the one. One final note, just because you think that you've found the one now, does not mean that you will have these same feelings in 7 years. Relationships change and they require a lot of work....even with the one.

Melanie Morris

A: Before I got married, I had put all of my anxieties into picking the right person. But I learned that is only part of it. You have to pick a person who is a good fit for you. Do you agree on more things than you disagree on? Do you have similar goals, desires, work ethics, and views on the value of marriage? Do you have an approximate ratio of 5:1 positive to negative interactions? (Yes, that is a number from research. I didn't come up with that). And of course, do you love them? Do you feel supported, valued, respected, and happy with this person? Is this person your best friend? If so, this person may be one of the ones for you. But once you pick a good fit for you, prepare to have fun (after all, you are living with your best friend all of the time) AND prepare to work. Some days are fun days, and some days are work days. If you commit to working through the rough times so that you have more fun times to enjoy, you can make your own happily ever after.



4 TYPES of SLIGHTLY ANNOYING STUDENTS

BY BAILEY Gillreath

the inaudible - whisperer kid



This kid mumbles about anything that strikes him as funny. It MIGHT be hilarious, but you wouldn't know because you can never understand them. *Smile & nod*

the BFF - With the Teacher kid



Whether it's one-sided or a continual inside joke fest between teacher & student, this classmate seems to have known the Professor for years...or at least longer than you - for sure

the Snoozer kid



This is the kid you can count on to be asleep within the first 5 minutes of class...or he somehow gets away with it.

the Charismatic kid



This kid seems to hold a powerful charm over even the most beastly of teachers... especially if they are of the opposite gender.

Her view: Here We are Now, Entertain Us



Brittney Chapin
Columnist

Oh, how it seems to be the triumphant proclamation of America: "Here we are now, entertain us!" Watching our society reminds me very much of instances in which a disgruntled infant cries out to a nearby mother who quickly scurries to shake a rattle or produce a singing and dancing Barney-version toy. Americans whine at the top of their lungs, "I'm bored! What else is there? This can't be it!" and the entertainment industry rushes to stuff a compelling pacifier in our mouths. The pacifier might be a smaller but faster iPhone, a tech-savvy invention like the Kindle, or perhaps a new and riveting, action-packed movie. No matter what cool new thing comes out, though, it won't stifle America's cries of boredom for long, and before you know it something newer and better will be in high demand.

So there you have it. That's just the way our society is: hungry for entertainment and too lazy to entertain ourselves. It's

not just entertainment, though. Some of us seem to have developed this complex where it is near strenuous to put forth effort, so we just sit back and wait for things to happen. Instead of taking charge and accepting a personal responsibility to make everything we do worthwhile, we wait for someone else to make things worthwhile for us.

One example of this concept can be seen through Freed-Hardeman social clubs. For every one person who puts their all into making his or her club the best club possible I'd say there are at least two other people that sit back and wait for the club to do something for them. The people that get the most of being in a social club are not the ones that relax and wait for someone to make being a club fun or special. But just the opposite, the people who prize being in a club are the ones who sport club gear on Thursdays, go to retreats, get involved in intramurals, Homecoming, as well as Makin' Music and attend all meetings and participate whether it's their favorite activity or not. You only get out of social clubs what you put in, so don't be surprised when your empty hands bring a feel of empty achievement back to you.

Relationships are quite similar in some ways, too.

See 'Her view' page 5

His view: The Lion, the Brush, and the Vanguard



Kody Scott
Columnist

Early in the 20th century, a lion came to Henderson, TN. This lion, though nameless when he arrived, came to be called by many names. He was called Strength. He was called Courage. He was called Power. There are tales told of how he roamed the then Freed-Hardeman College campus freely; the upright, incorruptible students of that pure time are said to have enjoyed sacred fellowship with the gentle beast daily. This harmonious bliss lasted for many years. The lion and the students grew in love for one another. Many a salty and sorrowful tear was shed when students, educated and sanctified, left to shed their light on the darker places of this world. The skittering dark, however, danced on the horizon and the lion feared that, in time, the darkness would reach the college. In 1967 the darkness arrived. It called itself Connie and Richard. Their leader, Art, sent them to capture the lion and forever preserve him in bronze. The lion fought bravely, but Connie and Richard, with the help of Art, overcame him. They took him into a place called

Student Center—a Mecca for their kind—and placed his bronzed body upon a pedestal for all to see. The communion of lion and man was forever broken. In fact, the figureheads of Freed-Hardeman fell into such irreverence that they moved the lion's effigy to a sidewalk under a tree that, though thriving now, could any moment suffer the ruthless landscapist's blade. The lion of the early 1970s is not the lion of today. The once shimmering statue now regularly endures a painting of the most unnatural colors. His golden mane is now white and his flaxen body an insufferable burnt sienna. There is a vanguard among us, however; a revolt against those of the interior is underway. Their bristly vessel of revolution, though, leaves us all wondering, How long, O Lord? The painter Mark Rothko has said, "I'm not an abstractionist. I'm not interested in the relationship of color or form or anything else. I'm interested only in expressing basic human emotions: tragedy, ecstasy, doom, and so on." Thus we know that the vanguard is not a school of abstractionists. But, just what are they doing? And who are they? The variety of paint splattered upon the great lion is so wide that one can be certain that the vanguard is comprised of multiple subcultures.

The lion is painted in the name of various social clubs, of departments

See 'His view' page 5

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The Bell Tower is the official student newspaper of Freed-Hardeman University and is published under the direction of the department of communication and literature. Letters to the editor are welcomed. Send them to thebelltowereditor@hotmail.com

Upcoming Games

Lions Baseball

- 2/26 v. *Huntington College* 4 p.m.
- 2/27 v. *Concordia Univ.* 3 p.m.
- 2/28 v. *Concordia Univ.* 12 p.m.
- 3/1 v. *Lindsey Wilson* 2 p.m.
- 3/6 v. *Trevecca Nazarene* 2 p.m.
- 3/7 @ *Trevecca Nazarene* 12 p.m.
- 3/9 v. *MacMurray College* 3 p.m.
- 3/9 v. *Mid-Continent* 4 p.m.
- 3/11 v. *McKendree College* 2 p.m.
- 3/13 v. *Union University* 3 p.m.
- 3/14 v. *Union University* 12 p.m.
- 3/16 @ *Tougaloo* 12 p.m.
- 3/20 @ *Martin Methodist* 6 p.m.

Lions Softball

- 2/26 v. *Cumberland Univ.* 2 p.m.
- 2/28 v. *Notre Dame College* 1 p.m.
- v. *Christian Brothers* 5 p.m.
- 3/2 v. *Bethel College* 3 p.m.
- 3/5 v. *Bethel College* 3 p.m.
- 3/9 @ *Union University* 3 p.m.
- 3/24 @ *Cumberland Univ.* 1 p.m.
- 3/28 v. *Martin Methodist* 1 p.m.

NCAA Basketball AP POLL Top 25

1. Pittsburgh
2. Connecticut
3. Oklahoma
4. North Carolina
5. Memphis
6. Louisville
7. Duke
8. Marquette
9. Michigan State
10. Villanova
11. Missouri
12. Clemson
13. Wake Forest
14. Arizona State
15. Kansas
16. Purdue
17. Gonzaga
18. LSU
19. Xavier
20. Illinois

Lions Basketball pulls together in last minute win

By Jacob E. Wallace
Staff Writer

What an exciting game. The Freed-Hardeman Lions came into this past Saturday's matchup with archrival Union University at the Sports Center just one game out of first place in the Transouth Conference. Although it looked bleak early on for our Lions, the came away much better off. After trading buckets in the first six minutes, the Bulldogs caught fire and took control. Thanks largely to solid three point shooting by Matt Neaville and excellent post play by Greg Truvillion, the Bulldogs shot nearly 56% in the first half to take an 11 point lead into the locker room. The lead would have been larger had it not been for senior Kristoffer Smith who missed only one shot in the period, scoring 16 points. FHU looked better in the first few minutes of the second half, scoring 4 quick points to cut the lead to 7. However, Union recovere by answering the Lions surge with a 12-2 run beginning with a 3 from former Harding Academy Lion Tacumah Alexander. Down 17 with 11:27 left, the Lions looked done. That's when Freed-

Hardeman came to life. Senior Shun Trevillian stepped up to help Kristoffer Smith. Though still down 65-50 with just over eight minutes remaining, FHU overcame the deficit with a 19-4 run, to tie the game at 69 with less than two minutes remaining. Union answered immediately following the tying shot with a Matt Neaville baseline two that put the Bulldogs up by 2 points. Smith led the team back down the court and one upped Neaville with a 3 to put FHU in the head 72-71. Union was able to draw a foul on the ensuing possession, and Keith Tolliver hit two free throws to put Union up 73-72. On the next play, Zach Frey drove the baseline attempting to hit a layup but was fouled. After knocking down both shots from the charity stripe, FHU was winning 74-73 with 18 seconds remaining. Union attempted a layup in response, but was unable to hit the shot thanks largely to quite a bit of contact. Trevillian grabbed the rebound and hit one of two ensuing free throws. Union attempted to win it with one final shot, but it fell short and the Lions beat

their archrival for the second time this season 75-73. Smith had 26 on the game, while Trevillian added 17 of his own. The Lions wrap up the regular season Thursday with a game at home against Lyon College. A win will guarantee at least a second place finish in the Transouth for the Lions. While that win coupled with a Union loss in one of its three games this week will give Freed-Hardeman the conference regular season title. All the excitement of this exceptional regular season for the Lions climaxes Thursday at Smith-Kirk Court. If the Lions can beat Lyon, they will be in an excellent position for conference play, and almost assuredly grab a large bid in the NAIA National Tournament.



Courtesy of FHU Sports Information
Senior Kristoffer Smith goes up for a jump shot against the Union Bulldogs.



Courtesy of FHU Sports Information
Head baseball coach Patrick McCarthy gives his team members coaching instructions after a practice on Carnes Field.

Baseball team works to defend winning record

By Kyle Taubken
Editor

The Lion baseball team carried a record of 3-0 heading into this weekend's series with Lindenwood. The Lions managed only one win during the series to put them at 4-3 on the year. Although the Lions didn't win every game like they had hoped, there were some positives to be taken from the performance. Junior Brian Bullard led the Lions with two homeruns in the four game span while teammate Willy Hernandez hit another homerun to bring his total to 4 on the year. Junior pitcher Jorge Lorie picked up his first win of the season going 6 strong innings in game 3 with Sophomore Joey Gildea picking up his first save of the year. In every game of the four game series, the Lions had their opportunities to win but couldn't quite put it all together. All in all the Lions baseball team is very talented and can be as good as they want to be this



Courtesy of FHU Sports Information
Early in the season, Willy Hernandez already has a .429 batting average and five homeruns in the books. The Lions return to action Tuesday, February 24 against Miles College in Birmingham, Al, but the next home game is Thursday, February 26 against Huntington College.

Her view

From page 3
In some relationships only one person is doing all the planning, paying, complimenting, traveling, sacrificing, and toiling. Not to be Debbie Downer or anything like that, but I do believe a relationship like that is destined to fail. You can't just sit back and wait for your significant other to make a relationship meaningful to you. Relationships sometimes are more like work and less like a vacation. In times of "work" (especially in long distance relationships) both parties involved in the relationship need to be actively striving toward being the best companion possible. Once again, you get out of relationships what you put into them so don't be shocked when your

empty efforts result in Facebook informing the world that you are "no longer in a relationship." A final area that we shouldn't merely wait to be entertained is the most important of all: worship. Even though our auditoriums are set up to resemble a stage, the things that take place there are not simple acts of entertainment worth a possible "two thumbs up" or "four out of five stars." This is something that most Christians probably struggle with sometimes. I know I do. How many times have I left the Sunday morning worship service only to hear "I didn't get much out of that," before I've even exited the building. Ouch. Since when was worship to God something that we watched passively and rated based on its

entertainment and spirituality level? We're so swift to critique worship with a quick whisper to our neighbor complaining "He's leading this song way too fast," or "Well, that prayer was awfully lengthy." If you come to worship only offering a tush to warm the seats and glazed over, distracted eyes to stare towards the front of the auditorium then it should be no surprise when you feel you "didn't get anything out of church." Don't let traits of American society sink into every aspect of your life in these ways. Spoiled as we are with all the technology, gadgets, and discoveries that are being developed every day, we still need to work to entertain ourselves. We need to put effort towards the things in life that we say matter to us.

His view

From page 3
(i.e., one can assume that the simple, polka-dot atrocity recently witnessed is likened to something an education major would assign to her class), of popular films (The Dark Knight), and others. In spite of these markers, the mystery remains. In my quest to discover what this artful desecration meant to students, faculty, and administration, I learned many things. Some students feel that the revolt is "too tame." Others find it to be entertaining and laughable. Some say it's immature and elementary. Professor Cargile of Draughon feels that the lion's feelings aren't being taken into consideration.

FHU Athlete Spotlight



Name: Evan Mansell
Classification: Freshman
Hometown: Muscle Shoals, AL

The Favorites

Favorite Teacher:
Jenny Johnson

Favorite Food:
Chicken

Favorite Sports Team:
University of Alabama

Favorite Pre-game music:
Rap

The Questions

Q. What do I like most about the Baseball team this year?

A. There is a great feeling of team unity on and off the field. Everyone has the same goals and hopes for the season.

Q. Most memorable event that has happened while playing for Freed-Hardeman?

A. Witnessing Willy Hernandez and Mike Clayton hit three homeruns in back to back games.

Q. What is your major and what do you plan on doing once you've graduated?

A. Business. I plan on going to law school after graduation.

President Wiley (rarely seen or heard) and his progeny, the Dean Jeana Wiley, made no attempt to answer my questions concerning the lion. I fear that Connie and Richard still live in the hearts of those of the interior. Will the lion ever be avenged?



Counseling Questions

The University Counseling Center

Somewhere Between a Rock and a Hard Place

By Jonathan D. Harrison

Question: My roommate is involved in things that I don't believe are right and that are against Freed rules. ...I don't know how to confront them about it...it is becoming a stumbling block to me and creating awkwardness between us.... I have told her it bothers me but it always just starts a fight. I need advice on how to go about solving this problem.

Answer: Admittedly, this situation lies somewhere between a rock and a hard place. On one hand you don't want to be a "snitch" and get your friend in trouble. However, on the other hand her behavior is affecting you in a negative way. Even though it "always just starts a fight," I believe talking to her about it is the right approach. After all Jesus said, "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone" (Matt. 18:15, ESV). Whether dealing with a fellow Christian or not, this is a good first step because it keeps the situation quiet and gives the other person a chance to right their wrong. However, since this has not worked you may have to take the next step "But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses" (v. 16). If other friends are aware of this situation and feel the same way you do, then it may be time for an intervention. This will communicate to her how serious the problem is and how important it is that she stops whatever it is she is doing. If that fails you may have to give her an ultimatum and say, "You're my friend, I care about you, and I don't want this to come between our friendship, but if you don't stop doing this I will be forced to report you to the Dean of Students. I don't want to do that, so if there is something I can do to help you stop or if you need to go talk to someone about this I will help as much as you allow me to."

Do you need someone to talk to? Do you need help overcoming a problem, such as alcohol or drug abuse? If so, then please call 989-6768 or email nscott@fhu.edu to schedule an appointment. You can also visit our website at <http://web.fhu.edu/University+Counseling+Center/>.

Lit. to warm your fingers with: the Russians



By Stephanie Pounders
Columnist

Drowning my misery in a strong drink at the local (coffee) bar, I cannot help but wallow in misery at the thought of trekking back, once again, in the cold. As I'm sure you noticed, week before last the temperature hit something around 70 degrees and was gloriously beautiful and warm. I, the early February daisy, rose from ground, welcoming the sun on my dormant leaves. Like Dostoevski's Zosima, my "...whole heart had blazed up and turned toward some kind of light." I finally "wanted to live, to go on and on along some path, towards the new" absence of hateful winter wind and cold.

I find myself plummeting just two weeks later, into the depths of seasonal depression as my petals crumple beneath the frost of this ill fated cold. What we really need are poofy Russian fur hats and mufflers.

But since I don't know any real Russians to loan them, and my travel fund is currently lying at zero, I'm sending all you peoplesicles something else to warm you little paws. This week's list of reading recommendations focuses on another group of people who have experienced a significant amount of their own suffering in the cold: the Russians. Most Russian literature you might be familiar with began to be written during Russia's golden age in the 1830s, beginning with the poet Aleksandr Pushkin and culminating in two of the arguably greatest novelists in world of literature, Leo Tolstoy and Fyodor Dostoevsky, and the playwright Anton Chekhov. In the Twentieth Century, leading

figures of Russian literature included internationally recognized poets such as Vladimir Mayakovsky, Boris Pasternak, Anna Akhmatova and Joseph Brodsky, and prose writers Maxim Gorky, Vladimir Nabokov, Mikhail Sholokhov, Mikhail Bulgakov and Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn.

Suffering, often as a means of redemption, is a recurrent theme in Russian literature (which isn't surprising considering all that snow). Dostoevsky is noted in particular for exploring suffering in works such as *Notes from Underground* and *Crime and Punishment*. Christianity and Christian symbolism are also important themes, notably in the works of Dostoevsky, Tolstoy and Chekhov. In the 20th century, suffering as a mechanism of evil was explored by authors such as Solzhenitsyn in *The Gulag Archipelago*. A leading Russian literary critic of the 20th century, Viktor Shklovsky, in his book, *Zoo, or*

Letters Not About Love, wrote, "Russian literature has a bad tradition. Russian literature is devoted to the description of unsuccessful love affairs."

So if, like me, you are looking for a place to warm your hands with a little commiserating about your lot in life, put on your hobo gloves and jump right in. This is the best of The Russians...

1. *Lolita*, by Vladimir Nabokov
2. *Dr. Zhivago*, by Boris Pasternak
3. *Anna Karenina*, by Leo Tolstoy
4. *The Death of Ivan Illich*, Leo Tolstoy
5. *The Cherry Orchard* and *The Seagull*, by Anton Chekhov
6. *Matryona's House*, by Solzhenitsyn
6. *The Brothers Karamazov*, Leo Tolstoy
7. *The Dead Souls*, by Nikolai Gogol

Creative Writing Corner

By Rachel Ryan
Staff Writer

An excerpt from 'Little Acorns Grow'



She slipped through the slender crack of the front door in the quietest way possible. The only way she could avoid napping at "nap time" was to convince her granny that she was actually asleep. But she never was. Her mind was too loud for her to sleep while the sun beamed its highest and laid its golden blanket softly on her world.

I never actually spoke to this little girl, but I saw her everyday. I watched her wear the same purple dress like miniature royalty in her ever-changing kingdom of nature. For that was her world. She touched, spoke to, and befriended every inch of the land. She caressed the dirt like a mother caresses her baby's tiny hand. A kind of consideration that I thought could only exist between two people, or at least two living creatures. But nothing lacked attention from this little girl. Every broken tree limb, every trampled flower, every nightingale's song—she offered her whole heart into every tender moment that she could share with the world around her. And it wasn't until I entered her world that I understood.

I was walking to the front of my yard to retrieve the mail I had been impatiently expecting all afternoon. "They're late again," I remember thinking in annoyance. Then I saw her. Crouched beside an ancient oak in her front yard. And, of course, her granny was nowhere to be seen (I secretly questioned her constant negligence of this wandering little girl). But when I pushed aside the clouding frustrations of the day—when the "important" details of my life melted through my fingers—I saw her differently.

It took me a minute (or perhaps 10 since I'm not sure how long I actually stood there) to figure out what she was doing. She was picking up acorns. Picking them up and placing them at the base of the towering yet gentle old oak. She was giving them back to the tree. I didn't understand until I heard her voice. She was helping the tree, or she thought she was. As she consoled "him" she explained that she would help "him" find every last acorn so he could have his family back—his family? I immediately thought to correct her innocent mistake, to explain that the acorns need to disperse in order to grow other places. But I stopped myself from interrupting, not really understanding why.

I kept thinking about what she had said: "his family." What did she mean? But they were his seeds, why can't his seeds be his family? No. Only humans have families. But she knew better.

I inched closer, so absorbed in her every action that I almost forgot to breathe. It took me a moment to realize that a tear was rolling softly down my cheek. I wiped it away as she turned to see who was behind her. The little girl looked me in the eye with a kindness I had never seen before. What a pure smile! Such innocent and unfounded affection for a stranger cannot be easily forgotten, and then she calmly turned around to continue with her mission. She asked nothing, and I had nothing to say.

I didn't know what to do, so I gradually knelt down to the ground. I brushed my hand over the grass and saw a single acorn nestled beside my shoe in the dirt. I traced my fingers over its smooth, hard shell. And as I held this single acorn in my hand, I saw something in it that I had never seen before—life. Another tear rolled down my cheek, and then another. I looked again at the little girl, still crouched under the shade of the tree in her purple cotton dress. I stepped beside her and reached my hand out to carefully lay my single acorn in the pile she had created. While I knelt beside her I heard her clear, small voice singing. She only paused briefly to thank me for my help and smile that pure smile once again. She continued to sing as I walked away... "you'll never know dear, how much I love you, please don't take my sunshine away."

"At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, 'Who is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven?' And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them and said, 'Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven.'"

Matthew 18:1-4

Maroon & Gold

From page 3

The day was wrapped up with a chance for the students to go on a dorm tour and mix and mingle with current students as well as other prospective students.

In short, Maroon and Gold days are a great way to begin the process of networking and making friends before even being on the FHU campus. It is an awesome and highly beneficial experience for prospective juniors and seniors, as well as a chance to score some free food and FHU swag.

So next time you see some high school kids walking around campus looking shy and nervous, be sure to go up and make them feel as welcome as possible. Someday soon they could be a valuable member of your social club, or maybe even one of your closest friends.

Campus wide devos seem stronger than ever before

By Robert Hatfield
Staff Writer

Students at Freed-Hardeman University (FHU) have noticed a difference lately in campus-wide devotionals. The devotionals occur each Monday and Thursday night in either Old Chapel Hall or the Commons at 10:30 p.m. In recent years devotional attendance has decreased as the semester progressed, but students say the attendance pattern changed in the fall semester of 2008.

Marcia Jo Frazier, a junior psychology major from Pulaski, TN, said, "Last year it seemed that no one came to [devotionals]...now there are different speakers and different people in charge." Frazier added that she has attended every devotional so far this semester.

Dustin Dickey, junior biochemistry major, is in charge of the Monday night devotionals. Dickey commented that he and Grayson Holt (who is in charge of the devotionals on Thursdays) have worked hard to improve and promote campus-

wide devotionals. Dickey said, "We have really pushed to have an organized theme for each semester that the speakers must follow." Additionally, Dickey and Holt sold t-shirts to promote the devotional themes for each night. According to Dickey, 70 t-shirts were sold for the spring semester. Dickey added, "Also, we try to bring in popular speakers from the campus and from the community."

Jonathan Pritchard, senior Bible and biochemistry major, said he has noticed the changes from the previous years to this year. Pritchard said, "I really like the focused theme and how the speakers seem to be connected to the theme. The student speakers are guys who regularly attend the devos, and I appreciate that."

Students agree that the new ways of promoting campus-wide devotionals are affecting the campus. Pritchard said, "I think [devotionals] affect the spirituality of the campus, at least to a small degree. I hear it talked about ... in the dorms a lot."

Pritchard wonders if the

attendance drop in previous years was related to the inception of Facebook. He said, "Pre-Facebook, devo seemed like a social thing more than a spiritual one. Once Facebook came along attendance dropped dramatically. This year, attendance is back up again and the atmosphere seems more spiritual than before."

Frazier commented, "Personally, it's better for my own spirituality and I think it helps those around me. I like it because, unlike chapel, I know this is thirty minutes of time set aside for me to worship with my peers."

But students say there is room for improvement. "I wish I knew



Weather permitting, campus wide devos are held every night in the commons.

who was speaking and what they were going to speak about before I got there," Frazier said. She added that it is often hard to hear the speaker when the devotionals are outside in the Commons. Pritchard commented, "While

I think it is as good this year as it's ever been, I wish we could get the word out more. Some people might be more inclined to come if they knew their friends were speaking."