



ROY & CHRISTINE STURGIS
PHYSICAL EDUCATION CENTER

Recreation and relaxation...

When the stress becomes unbearable and students are in need of some recreation and relaxation, they turn to the open doors of the Roy & Christine Sturgis-Physical Education Center. Whether they were attending a Tiger or Lady Tiger basketball game, working out in the weight room, or simply taking a leisurely swim in the pool, it was evident that students across campus believed in the stress-relieving value of physical activity. *photo by William D. Downs Jr.*

If you only new...

Numbers. Broken records. Transition. As the AIC came to an end and Ouachita prepared to enter the NCAA Division II, the world of sports gained more athletes, claimed new victories, and adjusted to the challenges of change.

Dr. Craig Hamilton, director of bands, enjoyed a year of growth as the band was the largest in recent years. Coach Benson also treasured the numbers as he reached his 30th year, 160th win, and 300th game milestones.

And still, the numbers came, along with the victories. Accomplishing what no other NAIA men's tennis team in the state of Arkansas had ever done, the Tiger netters finished seventh at the NAIA National Men's Tennis Championship. In addition, Coach Craig Ward and Coach Jim Dann were named NAIA National Coaches-of-the-Year in their respective sports.

In the midst of all the milestones, the cheerleaders attempted to return to traditions of the past with male cheerleaders joining the squad. As people questioned this change, they also questioned the security of University sports in the future.

Yet people knew the one fact of importance. They knew that whatever the future had in store, the traditions would endure and school spirit would continue.

...sports

SPREDDY OFFENSE- Senior fullback Marrice Fields evades each tackle on his way to the end zone. Fields received several honors including ALL-AIC Offensive First Team. *photo by Guy Lyons*

FINAL SECONDS- The Tigers tried to gain the victory in the last season game against Arkansas Tech. The homecoming loss to the Wonder Boys devastated the Tigers with a close 17-14 loss. *photo by Guy Lyons*



PUMPED- The Tigers get geared up for another tough game in the final season of the AIC. The Tigers said farewell to the conference and honored their coach for 30 years of service. *photo by Guy Lyons*



THE FINAL STANDINGS

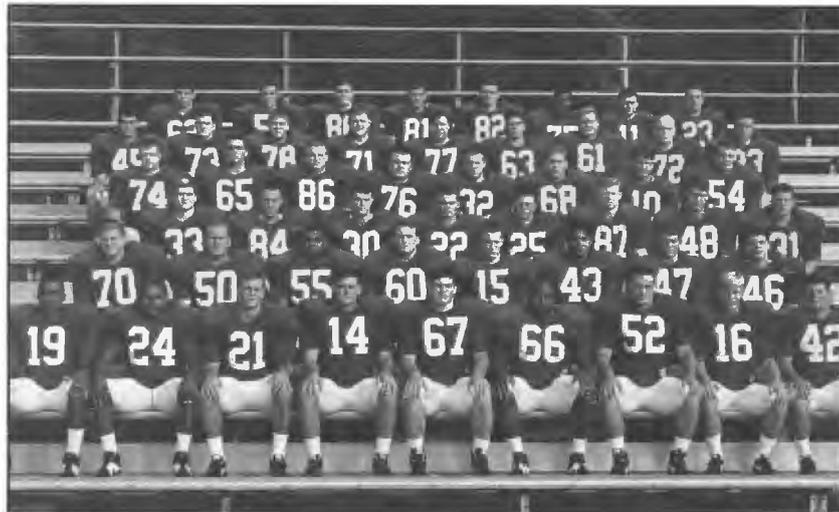
Southwest Baptist University	27-2
Northwestern Oklahoma State University	15-19
Northeastern Oklahoma State University	17-35
Tarleton State University	42-12
East Central Oklahoma University	24-20
Southeastern Oklahoma State University	19-16
University of Arkansas at Monticello	21-38
Southern Arkansas University	19-14
Harding University	14-34
Arkansas Tech University	14-17

5-5, 1-3, 4th in the AIC

ESCAPE- Sophomore quarterback Brad Ray successfully dodges the tackle. Ray was a vital asset to the Tiger offense. •photo by Guy Lyons



Tiger Football Team- *Front Row:* Kenneth Wright, Maurice Fields, Randy Winters, Kevin Jones, Josh Jones, William Nevels, Chad Wilkerson, Richard Williams, Kenny Griggs *Second Row:* Drew Yoakum, Mike Schleiff, Pamell Lee, Mark Madison, Robert Poole, Jason Renteria, Trey Fayard, Randy Winters *Third Row:* Brent Black, Brian Hunnicut, Brian Kehner, Vince Perrin, Art Cadena, Jeremy Patters, Don Hoover, Jeff Johnson *Fourth Row:* Jim Dippel, Justen Wooten, Kevin Samples, Billy Rhoden, William Moody, Anthony Efird, Brad Ray, Bryan Hoy *Fifth Row:* Mike Carozza, Greg Dalton, Brad Patterson, Chet White, James Gass, Cade Smith, Brandon George, Aaron Thedford, Ben Wilson *Top Row:* Heath Harris, Brian Maddox, Scott Neatherly, Wade Atchison, Bo Renshaw, Adrian Miller, Brock Lyons, and Mike Laughlin. •photo by Joy Barber



Returning from a tough season, Tiger football was back and **BETTER THAN EVER**

For the Tigers, the season consisted of reforming and restoring. Coming back from a last place finish in the conference, the Tigers revived themselves and ended the season finishing fourth in the conference with a 5-5 record.

The Tigers relied primarily on 18 sophomores and 15 juniors and seniors to improve last year's record. Leadership came from All-AIC player Maurice Fields, a senior tailback from North Little Rock, who led the league in rushing with 1,038 yards on 214 carries. Bo Renshaw, a senior from Southlake, Texas, and Randy Winters, a junior from Midlothian, Texas, both led the Tigers in defense as two of the leading tacklers.

The Tigers set to work a speedy offense and a stingy defense to capture their five victories. In the season opener against Southwest Baptist University, the Tigers sealed a 27-2 victory over the Bearcats using their speed by gaining 233 yards on 49 carries.

The Tigers next two victories

came on the road against the Tarleton State University Texans and East Central University Tigers where they spoiled the ECU homecoming with a 24-20 victory.

The final Tiger victories cut it close with a 19-16 win over Southeastern Oklahoma State University and a 19-14 victory over the Southern Arkansas University Muleriders, where Fields earned recognition as the NAIA Division I Player-of-the-Week.

However, with the victories came the losses. The Tigers fell early against the Rangers of Northwestern Oklahoma State University. The next defeat came from the Redmen of Northeastern State University and the University of Arkansas at Monticello.

The final losses were the toughest to handle for the Tigers. A 34-14 defeat from the Bisons of Harding University dropped the Tigers out of contention for the final Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference championship and the national NAIA playoffs.



"Our young men played really hard, and we were pleased with their performance."

Buddy Benson
Coach

And finally, the Tiger Homecoming loss to the Arkansas Tech Wonder Boys was devastating. The Tigers could not hold on to a halftime lead and fell 17-14 to the Wonder Boys. This win for Tech gave them with their first outright AIC title since 1971.

Despite the losses, the Tigers came out with several players who received top honors. Those who made the ALL-AIC Offensive First Team were offensive tackle Drew Yoakum, running back Maurice Fields and split end Richard Williams. Defensive end Bo Renshaw and safety Randy Winters were named to the ALL-AIC Defensive First Team, and slotback Vince Perrin was named to the ALL-AIC Specialist First Team.

"Our young men played really hard, and we were pleased with their performance," said Coach Buddy Benson.

After the season ended, the Tigers began rebuilding for next year with optimism and plenty of hard work. •Priscilla Shrader

GAME FACE Coach Benson coaches his 30th season with intensity and a commanding presence. Even while success had never come easy, he compiled a record of 160-134-7 with the smallest football playing school in the state. *photo by Roy Burroughs*

ACCOMPLISHMENTS Coach David Sharp shares Benson's joy in being named to the Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame. Benson acquired other awards including being named to the NAIA's Hall of Fame. *photo by Mac Sisson*



Buddy Benson spent 30 years not only coaching, but also

MAKING HISTORY

As the final seconds ticked off the clock in the heartbreaking, homecoming loss to Arkansas Tech and another Tiger football season came to an end, it marked the end of a season full of milestones and honors for the dean of AIC coaches.

In what proved to be the AIC's final football season in its 65 year history, Tiger head coach Buddy Benson reached several milestones of his own.

Benson walked into the first game against Southwest (MO) Baptist University with one milestone under his belt. The SBU game marked the beginning of Benson's 30th year as head coach of the a Tiger football program.

The second milestone of the season came when the Tigers defeated Southern Arkansas University 19-14 on Oct. 22. The win gave Benson his 160th as head coach.

The third and final milestone came on Oct. 29 when the Tigers travelled to Searcy to face the

Harding University Bisons in Benson's 300th game.

The 30 years, 160 wins and 300 game milestones, however, were not the subject of a private ceremony held in honor of Benson midway through the season.

On Thursday, Sept. 29, a group of former Tigers, including Cliff Harris, a former pro-bowl defensive back for the Dallas Cowboys, interrupted the Tigers' afternoon practice session to present Benson with several gifts to draw attention to his selection into the Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame.

The former players presented Benson with a special, one-of-a-kind ring featuring the seals and mascots of the OBU Tigers and the University of Arkansas Razorbacks, Benson's alma mater.

The players, knowing Benson's love of golf, also presented him with a complete set of Ping II golf clubs.

Benson, in addition to being a member of the Arkansas Sports Hall



"The players wanted to show their gratitude for the investment Buddy made in their lives."

Mac Sisson
Sports Information

of Fame, was a member of the NAIA's Hall of Fame and in an ironic twist of fate would no longer be a coach of an NAIA team after the 1994 season.

In 1995, the university would begin competition as a provisional member of NCAA Division II, which meant competition against bigger schools with bigger athletes and bigger athletic budgets.

Benson's success at the university had never come easy. He had rarely had a team of more than 40 or 50 players and still he had managed to win more games than he had lost.

Benson had compiled a 160-134-7 record as the smallest football playing school in the state.

So as the university's athletic program came to a turning point in its long storied history, Coach Benson would more than likely be seen standing on the sidelines, yelling out orders, getting the job done and winning more than losing. *Jeff Williams*



REL OF LAUGHS Former player and 1966 graduate Bill Scrimshire (L), along with OBU President Ben Elrod, catch a few laughs. Scrimshire, the mayor of Malvern, was a former player who supported Benson. *photo by Mac Sisson*



OUTSPOKEN Benson speaks to student reporter Jeff Williams about coaching his 300th football game while his son Gary Benson listens. Benson's former players, close friends and family presented him with a complete set of Ping II golf clubs in honor of his highly successful 30 year coaching career. *photo by Mac Sisson*

TEAMWORK Benson speaks firmly to the football team after a hard day of practice. He rarely had a team of more than 40 or 50 players, yet he still managed to win more games than he lost. *photo by Mac Sisson*

MAKING IMPACT- Junior Joe Crum goes for a base hit during an intramural softball game. Despite the heat, softball brought out several spectators during the spring activities. *photo by Dawn Bulard*

GETTING BY- Senior Warren Crabtree tries to make it through the Beta defense. Crabtree was a member of "Cotton Bowl," which won the football championship. *photo by Lesha Kirkham*



JUMP FOR IT- Junior Chris Eley goes up for the rebound in an intense game of basketball. Spring basketball proved to be a competitive part of intramurals. *photo by John Bunch*



PUSHING THROUGH—Sophomore Lisa White tries to get past the Chi Deltas with the help of her fellow Gamma Phi players. The women of Chi Delta took the title in the football competition after a six year winning streak for the EEE women's social club. *photo by Guy Lyons*

From fall football to spring softball, every intramural team was

PLAYING TO WIN

It's a sunny afternoon and my 15 page paper is calling my name. What do I do? For many students this decision came easy. With a brisk walk to the intramural fields, they found an entire afternoon of fun-filled competition while their books were left waiting for them at the dorm.

Intramurals were a major part of campus life. They provided students with activities to keep them in shape and promoted school spirit through involvement. "Intramurals should be for fun," said intramural director Van Barrett. "We look at it as a time when students can use some of their physical skills and apply them to take care of some of the stress they are facing."

While every social club participated in intramurals, other clubs, organizations and individuals added to the activities. With football and volleyball competition in the fall and basketball and softball competition in the spring, students kept active throughout the entire year.

Competition was an important

aspect of intramurals. In the football competition, the women of Chi Delta took the crown after a six year winning streak for the EEE women's social club. "It was very exciting for us," said junior Chi Delta member Stacey Peoples. "We worked really hard to win the title, and we plan to continue the tradition."

The men's football competition proved to be a tough league. "Cotton Bowl" came out on top, winning the championship with the help of a strong defense and a speedy offense. These men took every aspect of the game seriously. "Our hard work and determination paid off," said junior Phillip Stover, a "Cotton Bowl" player. "We take football intramurals very seriously."

In the spring competition, "Rho Sigma 1" took the basketball title. Basketball demonstrated the intensity of intramurals. Team members often had to remind themselves that it was just for fun, and the administration showed that they would not take unsportsmanlike conduct,



"We look at it as a time when students can use their skills and apply them to take care of some of the stress they are facing."

Van Barrett
Director

Competitors found that despite the tension among the teams, having fun was what it was all about.

Softball added to the spring activities. Whether giving the umpires a hard time or cheering on the outfielders, students found spring afternoons entertaining and exciting. "Intramurals are a fun way to experience competition, while at the same time meeting new people," said junior David Lynch.

These spring softball games came after much preparation for several teams, including long practices in the hot sun. Early in the afternoons, before the games started, teams and their fans would be seen preparing for the battles of the day.

With the final game played, "Tri Mu" came out on top for the women in the softball competition while the two teams both called "Hit Me Harder" took the championship in the co-ed and the men's competition.

After all the competition was over and the winners were announced, students looked forward to next year's competition and the activities that were ahead. *Priscilla Shrader*

With the loss of five starters, a young team struggles to

MAKE AN IMPACT

After winning a share of the 1993 AIC Volleyball crown with Harding University, the Ouachita Lady Tiger volleyball team hoped to repeat its Cinderella dream year as the team played in the last season of the 65-year-old Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference.

To start the 1994 year, the Lady Tigers played eight straight matches in the University of the Ozarks Invitational in Branson, Missouri. There they got off to a rocky start losing five matches in a row. Turning things around, they won the next three matches that they played in the consolation bracket. Unfortunately, this roller coaster start would set the standard for the remainder of an up and down year for the Lady Tigers. "We had a young team, so it was a year of rebuilding for us," said sophomore Krista Lapp.

The next big tournament of the year took the Lady Tigers to

Magnolia for the Southern Arkansas University Invitational. In this tournament, the Lady Tigers lost their first two matches to Lubbock (TX) Christian University and Texas Lutheran College, both straight sets. However, the Lady Tigers showed that they were not push overs as they won their last two matches over Midwestern (TX) State University and Evangel College in Springfield, MO.

Up next for the Lady Tigers was the opening of the last season of AIC volleyball. The Lady Tigers faced Arkansas Tech in which the Golden Suns handed them a disappointing loss in three straight sets. However, the Lady Tigers rebounded well in their next match to defeat Williams Baptist University and win their first conference match of the year.

After their victory over WBU, the Lady Tigers suffered a losing streak, dropping their next three



"We played hard in every match, and everyone made an impact in the wins."

Tona Wright
Coach

matches to push their conference record to 1 and 4.

With only ten teams in the AIC, the season was half over. The next two matches would bring victories over ATU and WBU. With these two wins in a row, the Lady Tigers had a tough schedule remaining and closed the final three games 0 and 3 against John Brown University, Southern Arkansas University and Harding University. The Lady Tigers finished their season 11-16 overall and 3-7 in the AIC.

"We played hard in every match, and everyone made an impact in the wins," said Coach Tona Wright.

After a season of hard work, the Tigers said goodbye to Wright, who retired at the closing of the year. The team began rebuilding and preparing for the 1995 season with plenty of practice and hopes for improvement. •Daniel Cox

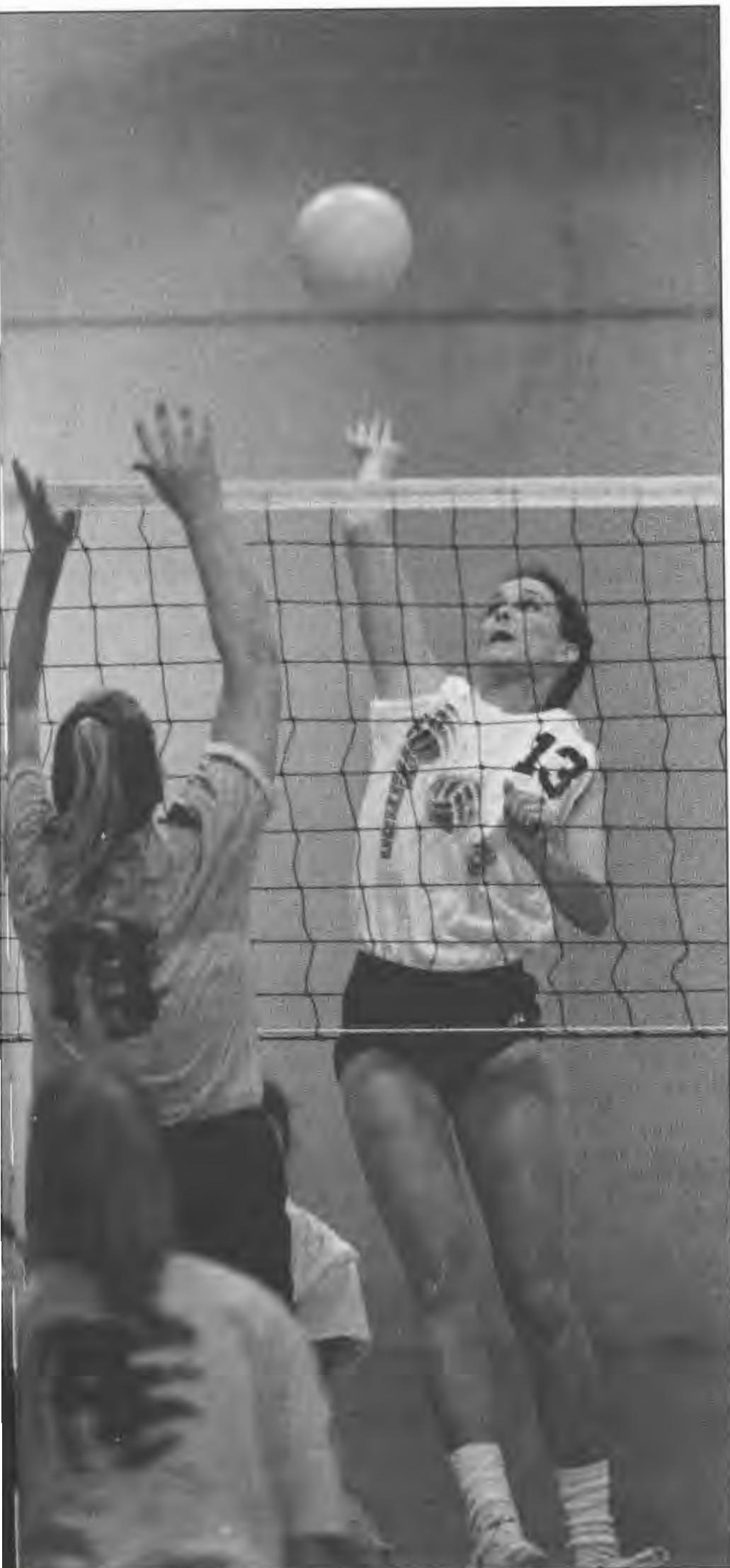


WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL TEAM- Front Row: Bridgette Bradford, Julie Wickstrom, Melissa Marsh Second Row: Christy Hudson, Sarah Kelly, Holly Lansford Third Row: Michelle Blaine, Krista Lapp, Stephanie Ferrill Fourth Row: Angela Griffin, Tona Wright, Betsy Danner, Vaughn Clary, Lidia Olivera •photo by Guy Lyons

THE FINAL STANDINGS

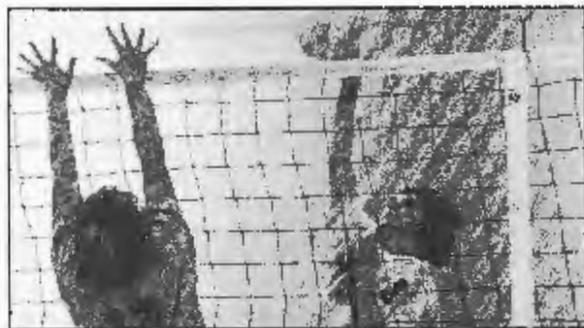
Southern Arkansas University	5-15 13-15
College of the Ozarks	10-15 17-15 9-15
Columbia (MO) University	7-15 2-15
Rockhurst College	6-15 4-15
Missouri Valley	15-7 15-10
Arkansas Tech	16-14 16-14
Friends University	9-15 15-9 15-13
University of Central Arkansas	13-15 11-15 9-15
Lubbock (TX) Christian University	15-6 15-9 16-14
Texas Lutheran College	15-4 15-9 15-0
Midwestern (TX) State University	16-14 15-13 15-11
Evangel College	14-16 15-3 15-3 16-17 15-11
Arkansas Tech	15-10 15-13 15-9
Williams Baptist College	15-5 15-7
John Brown University	15-8 10-15 12-15 15-4 12-15
Southern Arkansas University	3-15 5-15 2-15
Harding University	2-15 6-15 8-15
Lyon College	15-6 15-4 15-11
Hendrix College	15-6 15-5 15-11
Arkansas Tech	2-15 15-13 15-11 15-13
John Brown University	9-15 10-15 9-15
Hendrix College	9-15 10-15 9-15
Williams Baptist College	15-4 15-0 15-10
University of Central Arkansas	10-15 6-15 15-9 11-15
Southern Arkansas University	15-6 11-15 13-15
Harding University	8-15 8-15 15-12 13-15

11-16, 3-7, 5th in the AIC



LEADERSHIP Senior Angela Griffin provides a good example for the team with her kill shot. The Lady Tigers used skills like these to land fifth in the AIC. *photo by Guy Lyons*

TOUGH BREAKS Junior Melissa Marsh goes up for a shot in one of the final matches of the year. After a season of hard work, the Tigers finished 11-16 overall. *photo by Guy Lyons*



STEPPING DOWN After 24 years of coaching women's volleyball at the university, Tona Wright retires. She gave up coaching to serve as chairman of the Department of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation.



FINAL SERVE

After 24 years of coaching women's volleyball, Tona Wright stepped down from her position at the end of the 1994-95 academic year.

Wright joined the faculty in 1971 and established the first women's volleyball team at the university. She led the Lady Tigers to three shared or outright Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference titles.

Along with these accomplishments, Wright had many more career highlights which included being named the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics District 17 Women's Volleyball Coach of the Year three times and the honor of being named the AIC Women's Coach of the Year on three different occasions.

Wright was admired and loved by several of her players and fellow coaches. Michelle Blaine, a freshmen from Richardson, TX, said, "Coach Wright always put academics first. She considered our scholarships very important."

Finishing her career, Wright said, "This year's team was overall one of the best teams I have ever been with. They were easy to work with and were all very talented athletically. They were a great team to have finished my career."

by Daniel Cox

Women's Volleyball ... 121

FAREWELL- Coach Bob Gravett retires from his coaching duties after 29 years. He had numerous accomplishments including being named AIC and NAIA District 17 Coach of the Year five times.



A LIVING LEGEND

New victories. New losses. New faces. All were a part of 1993 campus life. One new loss was Dr. Bob Gravett, the head track and field and cross country coach, who retired from his coaching and teaching duties after 29 years.

Gravett, who served so loyally as a coach, friend, and teacher, retired in late August. This announcement affected many students and faculty.

"We are saddened to hear of Gravett's decision to retire," athletic director Bill Vining said. "He has been an inspiration to countless young men, and his coaching has produced for the university some stellar team and individual performances. We wish him the best of luck."

Gravett said, "My decision was one of sadness and gladness. Sad because of being without the team and students, and glad because of the sense of accomplishment."

Many students had their own opinions about Gravett's retirement, but his athletes were the hardest hit by the announcement. "Coach Gravett was the first real coach I ever had," senior Sam Rogers, a top runner for the cross country team, said. "We miss him a lot. He is such an incredible man."

While at the University, Gravett had several accomplishments. Under his leadership the University had 70 All-Americans, eight conference championships in track and field, and one cross country championship. He was named AIC and NAIA District 17 Coach of the Year five times, and he served on the United States Olympic Committee.

Gravett and his students had several pleasant memories of his time at the university. Those memories each would hold close, and no one would forget the impact Dr. Bob Gravett had on the Ouachita family.

by Priscilla Shrader

MOVE IT- Sophomore runner Joe French travels through the crowd, passing plenty of runners on the way. French added speed to the cross country team. *photo by Dawn Bullard*



THE FINAL STANDINGS

SAU Invitational	
Harding University	21
Ouachita	55
Southern Arkansas University	57

OBU Invitational	
Harding University	38
East Texas State University	44
Ouachita	115

Lyon College Invitational	
Harding University	21
Southern Arkansas University	58
Ouachita	68
Williams Baptist College	103
Hendrix College	118

Rhodes College Invitational	
Rhodes College	62
Carthage College	64
Ouachita	126

AIC Championship Meet	
Harding University	24
Southern Arkansas University	76
Lyon College	77
Ouachita	78
Williams Baptist College	131
University of Ozarks	136



4th IN THE AIC



TOP RUNNER: Senior Sam Rogers leads the Cross Country team to a second place finish in the SAU Invitational. Rogers finished at the top of the Tiger roster in almost every meet. *photo by Dawn Bullard*

DETERMINED: Junior Chris Newberry looks ahead to the finish line. Newberry was a tough runner for the Tigers. *photo by Dawn Bullard*

Despite the retirement of Bob Gravett, the cross country team was

STILL GOING STRONG

Just barely a week into the season, the cross country team took a major blow with the announcement of coach Bob Gravett retiring after a 29 year coaching stint. With a tough pair of running shoes to fill, coach Jon Kelley, a graduate from Oklahoma City, Okla., took the cross country team through a tough season.

Kelley was a former runner for the team and knew the guys well. He found it easy to take the leadership role and made the transition easier for the entire team. "Given the conditions of a new coach and little recruitment, I'm pleased with our showing," said Kelley.

The first meet brought the Tigers to Southern Arkansas University in Magnolia. In the invitational, the Tigers finished a season high second, 34 points behind the eventual AIC

champion, Harding University, and two points in front of the host team, SAU. The top Tiger was Sam Rogers, a senior from Cabot. Five other Tigers placed in the top twenty.

Next up for Kelley's Tigers was the OBU Invitational. The invitational has been a tradition at the university for 15 years. The running Tigers finished in fourth place. Again, Rogers was the highest placing Tiger with a ninth place finish. Harding University and East Texas University took top honors in the invitational with 38 and 44 points, respectively.

The story remained the same for the next four meets. The Tigers recorded two third place races in a row at the Lyon College Invitational and at the Rhodes College Invitational in Memphis, Tenn. A disappointing sixth place finish at the LeTourneau (TX)



"Given the conditions of a new coach and little recruitment, I'm pleased with our showing."

Jon Kelley
Coach

College Invitational brought the Tigers to the backstretch of the season.

The next to last meet saw the Tigers place third at the Pre-AIC meet in Monticello with 67 points. It also saw a first place finish for Rogers, who won the 8K event with a time of 27:25.

The last meet of the season brought the end of cross country in the AIC, as the conference officially concluded at the closing of the 1994-95 athletic season. The meet brought the Tigers back to SAU. The Tigers finished the meet in fourth place behind Harding, SAU, and Lyon College. Rogers ended his season with a fifth place finish that earned him a place on the last ALL-AIC Cross Country Team.

After the season ended, the runners kept themselves physically prepared for the next season and the new conference. *Daniel Cox*

CONCENTRATION-
Sophomore Jerome Bonds concentrates on his next offensive move in the second half of the season opener. Bonds was one of several young faces that added to the Tiger program. *photo by Guy Lyons*



Relying on some new faces and key returners, Tiger basketball had

A NEW ATTITUDE

With two returning starters and a young team with plenty of potential, the Tiger basketball team took care of business on the basketball court.

Returning senior starters Reggie Comeaux and Doug Young stretched their ability and experience, leading the young Tiger team through a challenging season. Comeaux, a forward from Houston, TX, was the go-to-man for the Tigers, while Doug Young, a senior from Van Buren, was a leading rebounder for the Tigers, averaging 6.1 per game. Comeaux racked up an average of 22 points per game, making him the leading scorer for the Tigers.

College basketball experience continued to lead the way as two newcomers added a great deal to the Tiger roster. Lamont Page, a junior transfer from Westark Community College, and junior Nathaniel Cage, also a Westark

transfer, mixed well with the Tigers and ended the season with some impressive numbers. Cage led the team in rebounds right ahead of Young, averaging 6.5 per game.

Along with the two newcomers, Tiger veteran Jarrod Gaither complimented the offense by adding to the Tiger's defensive game. Gaither was a sophomore who gained more time on the court, after an impressive 1993-94 season. Head Coach Mike Reynolds said he was the best contribution to the Tiger's defensive game. "If a team has a great offensive player, we put Jarrod on him," said Reynolds.

Coach Reynolds had a fine season. "We had good experience coming back," Reynolds said. "I knew we had a good foundation, and I just wanted to build on that."

The Tigers finished with an overall record of 12-16, 8-8 in conference play, and a sixth place finish in the final season of Arkansas



"I knew we had a good foundation and I just wanted to build on that."

Mike Reynolds
Coach

Intercollegiate basketball. "We had a good season," said Young. "I feel we were just a few plays away from a conference championship. It was a great conclusion to my Ouachita career."

The season ended with a 76-65 Tiger loss to Harding University in the first round of the Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference Post-Season Championship Basketball Tournament. The game also marked the final AIC basketball game for the Tigers who were accepted to join the NCAA Division II next season as an independent. After nearly 70 years of providing competitive varsity athletics, the AIC folded.

With the season ending and the loss of Comeaux and Young, the Tigers would be relying on the younger team members to rebuild a foundation in the 1995-96 season, when they joined the ranks of the NCAA Division II. *Priscilla Shrader*



STAR TIGER: Senior Reggie Comeaux puts it in for two against Christian Brothers University. Comeaux was the leading scorer for the Tigers with an average of 22 points per game. *photo by Guy Lyons*

MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM: *front row:* Shane Freeman, Doug Young, Reggie Comeaux *second row:* Chris Mescke, Lindsey Wetzig, Mark Laughlin, Lamont Page *third row:* Jarrod Gailher, Frank Paul, Wanley Maia, Bryan Manley, Richard Meyers *top row:* Mike Reynolds, Nathaniel Cage, Barry Frazier, Cedric Brown, Grant Pate



THE FINAL STANDINGS

Christian Brothers University	74-90
Christian Brothers University	79-75
East Texas Baptist University	91-101
Drury College	75-82
Evangel College	71-72
University of Central Arkansas	79-88
East Texas Baptist University	89-70
University of the Ozarks	86-94
University of Arkansas at Monticello	108-93
Texas College	82-75
University of Central Arkansas	75-98
Olivet Nazarene College	75-93
Lyon College	103-73
Williams Baptist College	115-67
Lyon College	90-79
Harding University	71-87
Southern Arkansas College	78-99
John Brown University	75-67
Arkansas Tech University	74-80
University of the Ozarks	85-77
University of Arkansas at Monticello	97-86
Williams Baptist College	96-60
Lyon College	81-78
Harding University	58-78
Southern Arkansas University	54-73
John Brown University	74-76
Arkansas Tech University	59-81
Harding University	65-76

12-16, 8-8, 6th in the AIC

LEADERSHIP Junior Lavinia Young finds the basket and makes the shot for the Lady Tigers. Young led the Tigers in scoring with an average of 14.8 points per game. *photo by John Bunch*

LADY TIGERS BASKETBALL TEAM left to right: Daytra Rogers, Holly Hagle, Kim Sullivan, Lori Williams, Joveta Saylor, Victoria Norton, Karla Lang, Courtney Davis, Leslie Tipton, Lavinia Young, Karen Southerland, Amy Teague



THE FINAL STANDINGS

Arkansas Baptist College	72-45
Louisiana State University at Shreveport	107-17
Cameron University	75-71
Quincy University	77-67
East Texas Baptist University	59-63
University of Central Arkansas	90-70
Oklahoma Baptist University	54-83
Phillips University	65-75
University of the Ozarks	77-57
Arkansas Baptist College	92-61
University of Arkansas at Monticello	56-71
Bethel College	72-57
Lambuth College	70-56
University of Central Arkansas	45-65
Williams Baptist College	75-77
Lyon College	58-47
Harding University	62-68
Southern Arkansas University	67-59
John Brown University	82-63
University of Arkansas at Monticello	80-89
Arkansas Tech University	62-68
University of the Ozarks	60-64
Williams Baptist College	74-48
Lyon College	63-73
Harding University	64-61
Southern Arkansas University	77-81
John Brown University	77-56
Arkansas Tech University	49-58
Lyon College	51-52

15-14, 7-9, 4th in the AIC





HUSTLE- Sophomore Leslie Tipton brings the ball down the court with the Harding Bisons on her tail. Tipton was the second highest scoring Lady Tiger. • photo by John Bunch

With a new coach and new talent, the Lady Tigers experience a

SEASON OF CHANGE

Adjustment characterized the Lady Tigers' season as University Athletic Director Bill Vining assumed the role of head coach after the resignation of Head Coach Sharon Morgan.

Coaching again after retiring from coaching in 1989, came as a change for Vining. "I love to work with young men and women in sports," said Vining. "This challenge is one that certainly merits a lot of attention."

Remarkably, the change came easy for the Lady Tigers, who had a winning season with a 15-14 overall record, a 7-9 conference record, and a fourth place finish in the AIC.

The strength of the Lady Tigers came in the number of returning players. The roster featured two seniors, two juniors, and four sophomores, all adding

experience to the Lady Tiger program.

The top scorer for the Lady Tigers was Lavinia Young, a junior from Gurdon. Averaging 14.8 points and 6.7 rebounds per game, Young was a key to the Lady Tiger success. Leslie Tipton, a sophomore from Mena who averaged 13.8 points per game, also contributed to the team's success. The two seniors provided Vining with an experienced backcourt. Daytra Rogers, a senior guard from White Hall, came out with 91 assists and around seven points per game. "Daytra is a very enthusiastic player," said Vining. "She's a good ballhandler and an excellent defensive player."

Lori Williams, a senior from White Hall, was an excellent three-point shooter for the Lady Tigers, averaging almost 50 percent from



"I love working with young men and women in sports."

Bill Vining
Coach

three-point range. Williams averaged 9.6 points per game.

For these seniors, the heartbreaking game was against Lyon College. The Pipers point guard made a layup with seven seconds in the game of the first round of the Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference Post-Season Championship Basketball Tournament. This marked the end of the season. "I enjoyed the season," said Young. "We went through a lot of changes and adjustments. I enjoyed coach Vining, and I look forward to next year."

With some key players returning in the 1995-96 season, the Lady Tigers would begin making their mark on NCAA Division II play. For the Lady Tigers, this meant competing against bigger schools with bigger programs. • Priscilla Shrader

POWER Junior Patrik Lofvenberg attacks the ball during a tennis match. Lofvenberg finished the season ranked 19th best singles player in the nation. In addition, he received postseason honors when he was named an NAIA All American Scholar-Athlete along with only 49 other players nationwide. *photo by Jim Yates*

HONORED Coach Craig Ward explains a technique to a tennis camp participant. Ward's fellow coaches named him NAIA National Men's Tennis Coach-of-the-Year.



COACH-OF-THE-YEAR

He broke records. No other words could describe Men's Tennis Coach Craig Ward.

Since coming to the University in 1991, Ward guided his Tiger tennis team to recognition in the state, across the region, and throughout the nation. His teams had won 58 conference matches and lost only three. They carried the AIC Championship for four years straight. And they finished seventh place in the NAIA National Men's Tennis Championship Tournament, achieving what no other Arkansas NAIA tennis team had ever done.

Hiding behind the vast accomplishments stood the powerhouse of the team, Coach Ward. While many had already recognized this tower of strength, naming him AIC Coach-of-the-Year on three different occasions, the entire nation acknowledged it the week of May 22-May 27 when his fellow coaches named him the NAIA National Men's Tennis Coach-of-the-Year.

Even in his moment of glory, Ward maintained a position of humility.

"It is a great honor to have been chosen for this honor by my fellow coaches in the nation," said Ward. "I appreciate the honor, but it really is a reflection of the team. It shows their dedication to good play, good sportsmanship, and a belief that the tennis program at Ouachita is part of the overall educational process."

Ward believed what he said, and he had convinced his teams of it. While continuing to excel academically, team members also offered free tennis classes during schools' physical education periods, taught lessons free of charge, and held tournaments to benefit cancer research.

Ward always displayed a desire to honor others, and more than his teams recognized this humility. His fellow coaches could think of no other man worthy of the title Coach-of-the-Year.

by Beth Ann Lee

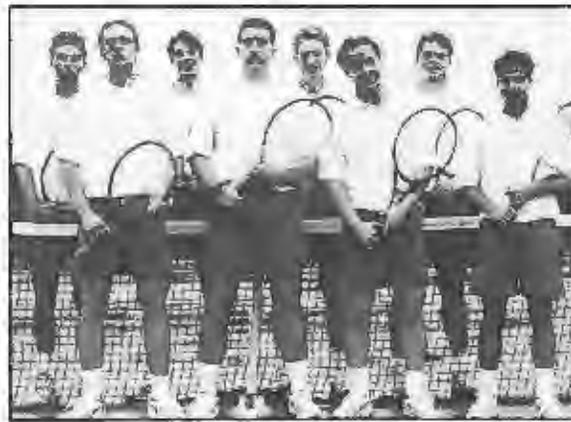
IN CONTROL Sophomore Christian Wassmer easily contacts the ball during an afternoon tennis practice. Wassmer ended the season ranked 29th best singles player in the nation. He and his doubles partner, Lofvenberg, were ranked as the 12th best duo in the nation at the end of the season. *photo by Jim Yates*



THE FINAL STANDINGS

Oklahoma City University	2-6
University of Arkansas at Little Rock	2-5
Southwest Baptist University	7-0
University of Texas - Tyler	5-2
Grambling University	7-0
University of North Texas	6-1
University of Texas - Tyler	1-5
Mobile College	0-6
Lyon College	9-0
John Brown University	9-0
University of North Alabama	5-4
University of the Ozarks	7-0
University of Texas - Tyler	2-5
Lamar University	7-2
Harding University	7-2
Southwest Baptist University	9-0
Oklahoma City University	0-6
University of North Texas	9-0
Northeastern State University	6-3
Arkansas Tech University	9-0
John Brown University	9-0
Harding University	5-4

7-0, 16-6, 1st in the AIC



Tiger Tennis Team:
Front Row: Tim Oosterhous, Trey Barr, Cristofer Johansson, Mike Marquez; Second Row: Patrik Lofvenberg, Larry Hurta, Christian Wassmer, Marc Heflin - photo by Craig Ward



With a seventh place finish in the nation, the Tiger tennis team kept

HITTING NEW MARKS

The Tiger tennis team did what no other NAIA tennis team in the state of Arkansas had ever done. The Tiger netters finished seventh at the 44th annual NAIA National Men's Tennis Championship Tournament. It was the best finish ever recorded by a Tiger men's tennis team at the NAIA nationals and the highest final season ranking ever bestowed on an Arkansas team.

The finale of the regular season came against tough conference opponent Harding University in a 5-4 nail-biting match for the AIC championship. It all came down to the final doubles match with the Tigers only needing one win to come away with the crown. Senior Marc Heflin and freshman Cristofer Johansson came from behind to take the victory with a 3-6, 6-2, 6-4 win.

Men's Tennis Coach Craig Ward said he felt the team's success was a "testament to our team and our great fans and school."

Tennis observers knew Ward had a solid team going into the season. A solid and talented cast of returners meant winning the confer-

ence title for the fourth straight year with an unblemished 7-0 mark, while marking a 16-6 record overall. The intersectional competition, including three tough fall semester tournaments, was impressive in Ward's squad playing larger programs and doing quite well.

"I really believe that the top regional NCAA and NAIA powers that we play are beneficial to us," said Ward. "It certainly gives definition to the players in what type of competition they will face at nationals. Besides, it really pushes you to do your very best. We have no weak sisters on the schedule."

The reputation of the squad was echoed by NAIA-ITA pollsters with the team being ranked sixth in preseason and never falling much below that ranking during the duration of the season. Individual postseason honors came in bundles.

Junior Patrik Lofvenberg finished the season ranked 19th in the nation in singles and copped All AIC honors. Sophomore Christian Wassmer was ranked 29th in singles. Johansson, a freshman, ranked



"I really believe that the top regional NCAA and NAIA powers that we play are beneficial to us. We have no weak sisters on the schedule."

Craig Ward
Coach

32nd, and sophomore Tim Oosterhous was voted 35th. Teammate junior Larry Hurta finished the season as the 36th best singles player in the nation.

In doubles, Lofvenberg and Wassmer ended the year as the nation's 12th best duo. Meanwhile, teammates Hurta and Oosterhous were ranked 19th.

Another honor came in late May, when Ward was selected by his peers as the NAIA National Men's Tennis Coach-of-the-Year, also another first for a University tennis coach.

Postseason honors also went to Oosterhous and Hurta in being named as First Team NAIA All Americans. Second team honors went to Lofvenberg, Wassmer and Johansson.

Lofvenberg was also among 49 players, nationwide, to be chosen to receive the honor of being an NAIA All American Scholar-Athlete.

Concerning Lofvenberg's selection, Ward said, "This pleases me as a coach to see an athletic excel both on the court and in the classroom."

•Priscilla Shrader & Mac Sisson

FORM - Sophomore Dijana Aleksic maintains her position as she prepares to return the ball. Aleksic, an international student from Bosnia, gained her first year of college tennis experience by competing with the Lady Tigers' tennis team. *photo by Jim Yates

BACKHAND - Sophomore Michelle Nicholson moves into position, allowing her to return the ball and score. Nicholson was one of three returning players to the women's tennis team which ranked fifth in the AIC. *photo by Jim Yates

TIGER WOMEN'S TENNIS TEAM From left to right: Michelle Nicholson, Dijana Aleksic, Jennifer Madlock, Coach Betsy Danner, Yoshie Ganaha, Patti Blackard, Shea Morgan *photo by Jim Yates



The inexperienced Lady Tiger tennis team struggled to overcome

A ROUGH SERVE

Without the services of its star player for most of the season, the young and inexperienced Lady Tiger tennis team finished in fifth place in the final year of the Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference.

Coach Betsy Danner's purple and gold clad court players finished with a 5-10 overall record and 5-7 in league play.

One of the crippling blows to the chances of the team came on April 10 when the University's number one singles player, Dita Kopecna, a sophomore premedical studies major from the Czech

Republic, sustained an elbow injury and was unable to complete the season.

Up until the injury, Kopecna had lost only one match in two years of conference play.

The depth-thin squad keenly felt the loss taking it on the chin from opponents for the duration of the season.

The Lady Tigers put only one senior and three returners on the court from the 1994 team that finished third in the conference.

"I thought we competed hard for most of the season," said Danner. "But, when you lose a player with



"I thought we competed hard for most of the season."

Betsy Danner
Coach

the playing experience of Dita and then you don't have a lot of solid back-up, then trying things can happen."

Jennifer Madlock was the only senior on the team, and sophomore Michelle Nicholson joined Kopecna and Madlock as the only Lady Tigers with college tennis experience.

Newcomers Shea Morgan, Patti Blackard and Yoshie Ganaha, along with sophomore Dijana Aleksic, rounded out Danner's squad.

In the post-season accolades, league coaches voted Kopecna and Madlock with All-AIC honors. *Mac Sisson & Jeff Williams



THE FINAL STANDINGS

John Brown University	1-8
Arkansas Tech University	2-7
Hendrix College	3-6
Lyon College	9-0
University of the Ozarks	6-3
John Brown University	4-5
Harding University	0-9
Arkansas Tech University	2-7
Hendrix College	4-5
Southern Arkansas University	3-6
University of Central Arkansas	0-9
Lyon College	6-3
Southern Arkansas University	5-4
Harding University	0-9
University of the Ozarks	7-2

5-7, 5-10, 5th in the AIC



ANTICIPATION Freshman Patti Blackard focuses her attention on the ball as she concentrates on where to return it on her opponent's court. Blackard was one of four newcomers on the women's tennis team. *photo by Jim Yates*

Setting new records and gaining new honors, the swim teams were

MAKING A SPLASH

Stepping up to take his position, he secures his goggles, takes a deep breath, and listens for the gun to go off knowing that this would be his last meet in NAIA competition.

On March 4 the Tiger Sharks and Lady Tiger Sharks took the pool at the Palo Alto Natatorium in San Antonio, Texas for their final meet as an NAIA school.

It was the last day of the 1995 Men's and Women's NAIA National Swimming and Diving Championship Meets, a meet that the swimmers and divers would again not walk away from empty handed.

The biggest honor was received by head coach Jim Dann who was named the men's diving coach of the year after leading his two divers, Jeff Anthony and Bobby Rollins to a third and sixth place finish respectively in the three meter diving event.

"Jeff and Bobby may have been a little nervous going into the meet," said Dann. "But between the two of

them they outscored all the other schools there."

After a 4-3-1 overall record, a 4-2-1 league record and a third place finish in the New South Intercollegiate Swim League, the Tiger Sharks walked away with a ninth place finish overall after being listed as the sixth place team in the preseason NAIA poll. "We are very proud of our men's and women's swimming and diving programs," said Dann. "Their hardwork and talent show that they are a very devoted group of athletes."

The ninth place finish was the top finish by any non-scholarship swimming program in the NAIA.

The Lady Tiger Sharks who were picked ninth in the preseason NAIA poll completed a somewhat disappointing season with a 1-5-1 overall and league record, a seventh place finish in the NSISL and 18th place finish in the national championship meet.

The loss of diver Michelle Blaine who tore her anterior cruciate



"We are proud of our athletes. Their hard work and talent show they are a very devoted group."

Jim Dann
Coach

ligament while playing volleyball for the university, was a big blow to the Lady Tiger Sharks before the season started.

"Losing Michelle really hurt our chances," said Dann. "Instead of having a first, second or third place finish in two events, we were not even able to score in those events."

The Lady Tiger Sharks relied mostly on the strength of Kim Hill who set a New South Intercollegiate Swim League record for the 200 meter individual medley with a time of 2:14.24, shattering her old record by more than two seconds.

Next season the university's athletic program will join NCAA Division II with limited participation in the NAIA. Fortunately for the swim team the lack of a conference will not affect them, as the NSISL will remain intact, but still the process of making and scoring in the Division II national tournament is slim, even for one of the best non-scholarship programs in the nation.
•Jeff Williams

ENDURANCE- Freshman Fred Dickinson hangs in there for the Tiger Sharks during a meet in the Roy and Christine Sturgis Physical Education Center. The Tiger Sharks had the top finish for any non-scholarship school in the NAIA. •photo by Gey Lyons





THE FINAL STANDINGS

NSISL Championship Results

Men		Women	
Henderson State University	793	Henderson State University	743
Delta State University	592	Delta State University	470
Ouachita Baptist University	590	Williams Woods College	448
John Brown University	454	John Brown University	369
University of Arkansas at Little Rock	361	Austin College	363
Austin College	249	University of Arkansas at Little Rock	326
Hendrix College	206	Ouachita Baptist University	325
		Hendrix College	178

9th in the NAIA

18th in the NAIA

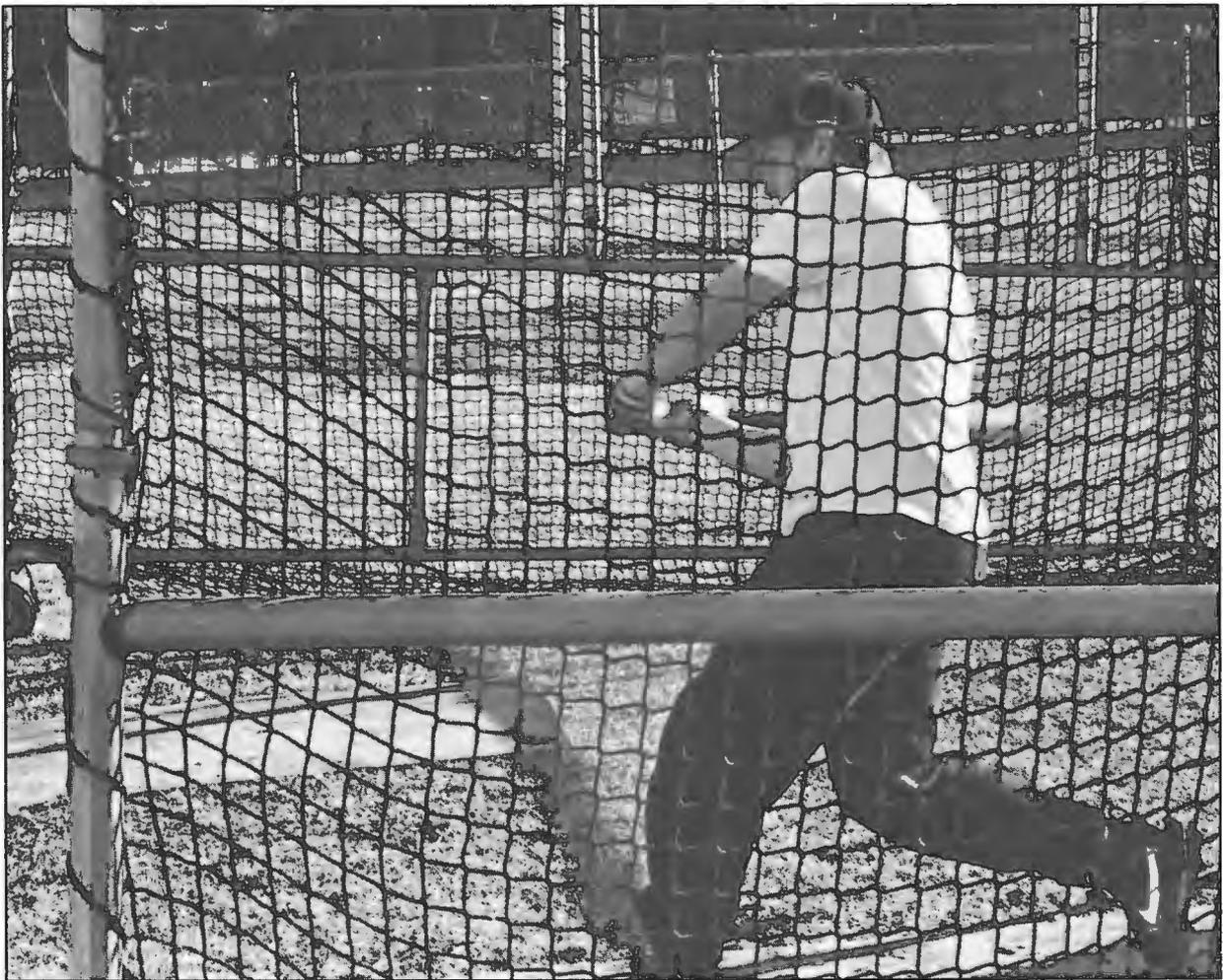
SWIMMING AND DIVING TEAM MEMBERS- *Back Row:* Richie Griffith, Fred Dickinson, Joe Crum, Ryan Norris, Davey Taylor, Jason Miller, Jeff Anthony, Andy Russell *Middle Row:* Cory Shiller, Vladimir Kravchenko, Bobby Rollins, Carl Davis, Aaron Gillespie, Jason Burns, Mas Yamamoto, Ryan Killackey, Shane Carson *Front Row:* Elena Kravchenko, Laura Stringfellow, Michelle Blaine, Kim Hill, Audrey Weaver, Carey Richardson, Jari Kirkland *photo by Kyle Hamman*



DETERMINATION- Senior Cory Shiller looks for a good finish with hopes of improving his time. Shiller provided leadership for the TigerSharks, who finished ninth in the NAIA. *photo by Guy Lyons*

ON YOUR MARK- Freshman Jari Kirkland takes off for the Lady Tiger Sharks. With an 18th place finish in the NAIA, the Lady Tiger Sharks had a successful season. *photo by Guy Lyons*

PRACTICE- Freshman Doug Fellenz works on his hitting game at batting practice. Playing baseball meant dedication from both the players and the coaches during spring practices. •photo by Kyle Hamman



With few veterans but eager troops, Tiger baseball continued

FENDING THE FIELD

On a spring afternoon while many were attending intramurals or catching a quick nap before heading to Walt's, there were a few dedicated young men preparing for the battles ahead. The battleground was a simple diamond outlined in green with a special place for each troop involved.

Preparing for these battles meant hours of practice in the hot sun with a glove and a ball. The baseball team spent many afternoons with Coach Van Barrett working on their skills and perfecting their hitting games.

With only two returning pitchers and all three returning outfielders, the Tigers were forced to replace and rebuild the baseball program. "I really like the chemistry of the team," said Barrett. "We had some good pitchers, but most of them were facing stiff competition

they had never faced before."

Early in the season, the team faced some tough conference opponents and came out on top in a few AIC battles. Against Lyon College, sophomore Gerry Clements struck out 10 and gave up six hits. Despite the talent on the mound, the Scots came back to defeat the Tigers 5-1 with a three-run homer in the fifth inning. The Tigers added two more to their score, but they came up short in the end.

The second half of the doubleheader proved different for the Tigers. In the second game, the Tigers trailed 4-3 in the top half of the fifth inning before sophomore shortstop Jimmy Ellis scored on a wild pitch to tie the game at 4-4. Ellis continued to lead the way for the team, driving in two more runs, making it a 6-4 Tiger victory.

At the end of the season,



"We had some good pitchers, but most of them were facing stiff competition."

Van Barrett
Coach

the Tigers were hoping for a spot in the Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference Championship Baseball Tournament. They came up short when they did not get the help they needed from other teams and were eliminated from the four team field of the tournament. The bats seemed cold in the final weeks of the season.

The team ended the season with a 10-26 overall record and 9-21 in the AIC. With a sixth place AIC finish, the Tigers were looking forward to next year in hopes of improving the program they had established. "We had a really young team with not much depth in our pitching," said freshman player Jason Patrick. "We'll improve next year."

With the loss of only two seniors, the Tigers would be ready for an even better season with the help of the returning players and an optimistic coach. •Priscilla Shrader



IN THE MIT- Freshman Will Lippott throws a strike against the Harding Bisons. Pitching became an issue for Coach Barrett when only two pitchers returned. *photo by John Bunch*

STRIKE ONE- Sophomore Jason Patrick takes his first strike against the Scots of Lyon College. The Tigers faced several tough AIC opponents and finished the season with a sixth place finish in the conference. *photo by John Bunch*



HUSTLE- Sophomore Jimmy Ellis hustles for the force out, making a good throw and defending the field. The Tigers relied on a new infield to get the job done. *photo by John Bunch*

THE FINAL STANDINGS

Southern Arkansas University	23-3	40-11
Arkansas Tech University	20-6	32-16
University of the Ozarks	17-11	21-22
University of Arkansas at Monticello	16-12	24-22
Harding University	15-13	25-25
Ouachita Baptist University	9-21	10-26
Lyon College	6-20	16-32
Williams Baptist College	2-26	11-45

9-21, 10-26, 6th in the AIC

IN THE AIR- Junior Jarrod Gaither places his best foot forward as he leaps through the air in a field event. Gaither placed second in the AIC Championship Meet field event with a leap of 22-2 and fourth in the triple jump with a 41-9½. He had the best finish for the Tigers in the championship meet. *photo by Jeff Root*



ON YOUR MARK- Sophomore Jonathan Dudley moves into starting position before a meet. In the AIC Track and Field Championship Meet, the Tigers struggled, earning only 17 points and pushing them into a fifth place finish. *photo by Jeff Root*

THE FINAL STANDINGS

Harding University	136.5
Southern Arkansas University	54.5
Arkansas Tech University	33
University of Arkansas at Monticello	23
Ouachita Baptist University	17

5th in the AIC





WARM-UP: Junior Jarrod Gaither helps sophomore Jonathan Dudley stretch before practice. Interim Coach Jon Kelley, a former standout Tiger and 1994 graduate of the University, led the afternoon practices. *photo by Jeff Root*

IN STRIDE: Senior Mike Schleiff sprints around the track during an afternoon practice. In the Harding University Invitational, Schleiff finished fifth in the shotput with a toss of 35 feet and 8³/₄ inches. *photo by Jeff Root*



Running the race with a new coach, the Tigers looked forward to

CROSSING THE LINE

On your mark. Get set. Bang! He's off down the stretch, jumping hurdles, maintaining speed, and all the way looking for the finish line.

The Tiger track team entered the season with low numbers and experience but also with a new leader. Jon Kelley, a former standout Tiger and 1994 graduate of the University, was named interim coach in the fall after the retirement of head coach Dr. Bob Gravett. "We had a good season considering a new coach and the new athletes," said Kelley. "I am really proud of our team."

Kelley took on his duties with optimism and good preparation. He led practices for the team in the spring and provided leadership at important meets. These practices included many hot afternoons at the track working on stamina while learning and improving skills.

With a second place finish in 1994, the Tigers hoped this practice would pay off in the AIC race. In their first indoor meet at the Harding University Invitational, sophomore Chuck Barber finished first in the long jump leading the way for the Tigers. Barber also finished second in the 60 meter hurdles with a time of 7.9 seconds.

Also at Harding, sophomore Adrien Miller finished third in the shotput with a throw of 43 feet and 8 ³/₄ inches, while senior Mike Schleiff finished fifth in the event with a toss of 35 feet and 8 ³/₄ inches.

In outdoor competition, the Tigers struggled to finish near the top. At the Southern Arkansas University Invitational Meet, the Tigers finished fourth with 43 points. Miller again earned honors in the shotput with a throw of 45-3.



"We had a good season considering a new coach and the new athletes."

Jon Kelley
Coach

He also finished second in the discus with a throw of 124-5 ¹/₄.

In the final meet of the season, the Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference Track and Field Championship Meet, the Tigers struggled with only 17 points and a fifth place finish in the AIC.

Junior Jarrod Gaither placed second in the field event with a leap of 22-2 and fourth in the triple jump with a 41-9 ¹/₂. Gaither had the best finish for the Tigers in the championship meet. "This year was different with the transition of coaches," said Gaither. "We were a small team, and we struggled a lot, but we all became good friends."

This year was not only the final season for the Tigers to compete in NAIA track and field, but it was the final season that the University would sponsor a team. *Priscilla Shrader*

CELEBRATION - Freshmen Matt Beck and Nathan Strickland celebrate a goal at practice. Beck was one of the student coaches for the club. *-photo by Caroline Blount*

POWER - Junior Brian Eskridge kicks the ball with full force during a fall practice. The soccer club practices were completely student led. *-photo by Kyle Hamman*



FOCUS - Sophomore R.J. Otey concentrates on the ball during a spring practice. Skills like these put the club on top against schools like Southern Arkansas University. *-photo by Kyle Hamman*





EYES ON THE BALL: Seniors Shad Wickstrom and Jason McCord battle for the ball during practice. Wickstrom and McCord were two of the few upperclassmen in the soccer club. *photo by Kyle Hamman*

With young leadership and several newcomers, the soccer club was **SETTING NEW GOALS**

Ninety minutes of juggling, kicking, and scoring — not a good movie or a Broadway production, but just another soccer game with the Tigers taking the victory.

Victories were not uncommon for the soccer club. The club defeated several teams which had a faculty coach and better practice equipment. With a season of improvement in the fall and a season of success in the spring, they proved themselves.

This proof came from several victories against other AIC schools, where competition was stiff. Schools like Southern Arkansas University proved to be tough teams to beat. Against the Riders, the club was able to pull off a victory by performing its skills correctly with an unstoppable offense and a solid defense. Outscoring its opponent, the soccer club came out

on top once again.

Victory did not come as easy for the club against Harding. They were unable to pull off a win in Searcy where they could not seem to find the goal enough to claim a defeat.

The soccer club gave athletic students a chance to become involved while experiencing both teamwork and leadership. It was completely student led by team coaches freshmen Ben Carothers and Matt Beck, and allowed anyone who was interested to play. "I like the fact that the club is student led," said freshman club member Andy Bonifant. "It gives us more of a sense of accomplishment."

While consisting of mainly freshmen, the addition of a few upperclassmen provided extra leadership. "We had a young team with a number of newcomers," said Carothers. "We were fortunate to



"We were having fun and winning games, and that is what's important."

Ben Carothers
Coach

have some young guys who could provide good leadership."

Part of the challenge in leadership came from learning to overcome obstacles. For the soccer club, the members' schedules proved to be a hindrance for the program. Between classes, social clubs, and waiting in line at Walt's, team members found it difficult searching for a time to practice. Finding the best possible time to please everyone's schedule was very important to the club.

With the help of this practice, the soccer club was able to come up with several victories. "We found a good combination of guys," said Carothers. "We were having fun and winning games, and that is what's important."

Despite being a young team and lacking a faculty coach, the soccer club rebuilt itself in hopes of creating a solid program for the future.

•Priscilla Shrader

MEASUREMENT Freshman Clay Conly carefully judges the distance to the ninth hole as he putts. The Tigers battled low numbers and severe weather, making it a difficult trip to a third place finish in the AIC. •photo by Dawn Bullard

TIGER GOLF TEAM The Tiger golf team includes from left to right: junior Kevin Jones, freshman Clay Conly, senior John Bunch, sophomore Damon McDonald, sophomore Trey Speight, and Coach Ike Sharp. It was the smallest team in recent history. •photo by John Bunch



With a third place finish in the AIC, the Tiger golf team was

PUTTING UP TO PAR

A hush comes over the crowd as the first putter steps up to the tee. With a simple stroke, he begins a course of 18 holes of measurement and concentration.

The golf season proved to be a challenge for the Tiger squad. Never the less, the team, hampered by bad weather and small numbers, still battled to a third place finish in the final AIC race.

The golf team was the smallest in recent history. By the time the spring season arrived, the group was down to only five players. The line up for the 1995 Tigers included Clay Conly, a freshman from Gurdon, sophomore Damon McDonald from Benton, sophomore Trey Speight of Blytheville, junior Kevin Jones from Arkadelphia, and senior John Bunch from Texarkana, TX. "Having such a small team made things difficult for us," said Speight. "Most of the

other teams have from eight to 12 players. Only having five meant that we all had to play a couple of our non-conference tournaments one man short."

Coach Ike Sharp commented that the weather was the worst he had ever seen it in his four years with the team. "We played in the rain at least twice," Sharp said. "Several of the other sites were completely saturated from earlier rain, and the wind-chill in our Oklahoma tournament dipped below 20 degrees."

Despite all of the setbacks, the Tigers managed to play very well. Coach Sharp seemed pleased with his group's third place finish. "I really felt like we would finish in third this year," said Sharp. "Tech and Harding are very strong programs right now. It would be pretty hard for us to catch them, even playing our best golf."



"I really felt like we would finish third this year."

Ike Sharp
Coach

Two members from the team were selected to the all AIC team, which consisted of 10 golfers with the lowest stroke averages for the AIC matches. The Tigers who made it were sophomore Trey Speight, who made the team for the second year and John Bunch, a fifth year senior who had never made the team before. "When I finished my last round I didn't think I had a chance," commented Bunch. "I left the course before the announcements were made. I didn't find out until a couple of days later."

Coach Sharp spent the spring making preparations for next year's team. "I'm looking for a few seniors around the state who I think we might be able to get," sharp said. "We'll be a young team again next season, with Jones being the only senior. I would really like to bring in three or four solid players to fill out next year's roster." •Carl Johnson



THE FINAL STANDINGS

Arkansas Tech University	46
Harding University	44
Ouachita Baptist University	32.5
University of Arkansas at Monticello	31.5
Southern Arkansas University	22.5
Lyon College	19.5
Williams Baptist College	10
University of the Ozarks	9

3rd in the AIC

CONCENTRATION- Senior John Bunch carefully focuses his attention on the ninth hole. Every stroke was important for the Tigers since low numbers of players caused them to play a couple of their non-conference tournaments one man short. *photo by Dawn Bullard*

HONORED- Sophomore Trey Speight practices his stroke. Speight was one of two members of the team selected to the all AIC team which consisted of 10 golfers with the lowest stroke averages for the AIC matches. *photo by Mac Sisson*

FIRED UP Sophomore Christie Armstrong cheers with the pep band during a Tiger basketball game. The cheerleaders added excitement and entertainment to each game. *photo by John Burch*



CHEERLEADERS *front row:* Laura Blakely, Amy M. Adams, Bambi Jack; *second row:* Misty Butts, Christie Armstrong; *top row:* Stacy Smart, Abby Hughes, Brooke Soners; *not pictured:* Chris Cavin, Derick Palmer, Jeremy Daugherty *photo by Mac Sisson*

LOUD AND CLEAR Freshman Amy Adams yells the cheers with the crowd. The cheerleaders kept the crowd involved in all the games. *photo by Guy Lyons*





MAKING FRIENDS: Mascot Chris Cavin keeps some young fans entertained during a Tiger basketball game. Cavin was one of three male squad members. *photo by Guy Lyons

Crowds cheered and teams conquered as the cheerleaders provided

THE SPIRIT LINK

We're down by five with 30 seconds to go. The crowd begins clearing out and any hope of victory is lost. Yet there is a faithful group of 11 standing on the sideline chanting "Go Tigers Go!"

For the cheerleaders, defeat never came until the final second ticked off the clock. The 11 cheerleaders, eight freshmen and three sophomores, kept the crowds involved and had fun supporting each team. Three of the freshmen members of the squad were male. This made a difference in the cheering techniques.

Male squad members were tradition in the past years; however, it had been eight years since students had seen such a difference. "It's a little different being at a small school and being only one of two male cheerleaders and a male mascot, but we plan to build the squad up,"

said freshman cheerleader Derick Palmer. "In the future, we hope to have one male to each female squad member." Palmer added that he thought the availability of male cheerleaders gave the squad more versatility in cheering and stunt building.

The addition of the male members and the other freshmen caused a few adjustments to be made. However, the transition came easily, and the squad worked well together.

Plenty of hard work went into this new coed team. They practiced daily. In addition, they had to return early from both their summer and Christmas vacations. All of this hard work paid off during their performances at halftime or at pep rallies. Their schedules often included long road trips or late night practices; however, each cheer-



"They (cheerleaders) hold tradition and give significance to the University."

Nancy Turner
Sponsor

leader juggled his/her time and somehow found a way to fit in homework and social time as well. They each set priorities and put the most important things first.

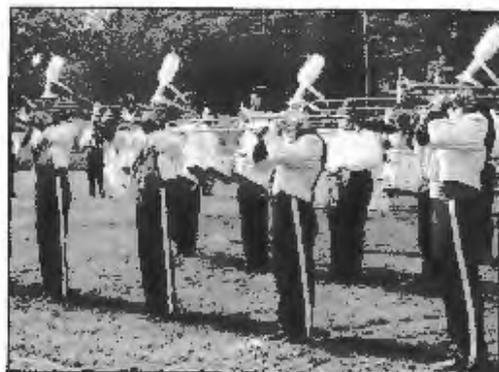
This hard work was initiated by the captain of the squad, sophomore Abby Hughes. "I was really impressed with the maturity of the new freshmen," said Hughes. "I enjoy cheering and maintaining good relationships with them all."

The other leaders of the squad were sponsors Nancy Turner and Kathy Berry. "Many people don't think cheerleaders are important, but they hold tradition and give significance to the University," said Turner.

The relationships built by these cheerleaders were ones that would last. The bus trips, long practices, and exciting games would always be remembered. *Priscilla Shrader

PLAY IT: Sophomore Jeremy Martin plays the trombone during halftime. The crowds enjoyed the halftime shows performed by the band. *photo by Guy Lyons*

LINE UP: The trombone section of the band lines up perfectly on the field during a halftime performance. The band added spirit to the game and provided entertainment during halftime. *photo by Jay Barber*



CONCENTRATION Sophomore Missy Jones focuses her attention on the melody line. The auxiliary section played from the sidelines during the halftime show. *photo by J.P. Arnold*





RING LEADER - All eyes look to senior drum major Mac McMurry, who directs the band during the halftime shows. McMurry auditioned for his position. •photo by Guy Lyons

For the 1994-95 band, pleasing a crowd consisted of simply playing

A HAPPY TUNE

When the 1994 marching band season started, it had one of the most talented and strongest freshman classes that ever played in the University's band hall, according to Dr. Craig Hamilton, director of bands. Of the 98 member band, there were 20 to 30 freshmen. The vast majority of the band was non-music majors.

In the fall, the band performed at all home games. "Our philosophy is to entertain the home crowd and promote spirit — that's our main gig," said Dr. Hamilton. Aside from marching at home games, the band also marched as the exhibition band at the Jessieville High School band contest. The band performed at festivals and exhibitions to recruit new band members.

The 1994 marching band was the largest at the university since

the 70s. Practice lasted only one hour and 15 minutes Monday through Thursday every week and Friday on a game week. Dr. Hamilton said he liked to get things done in the least amount of time possible. "I like the practice schedule here better because it gives you more time to get ready for things in the evening and I like not having practice every Friday," said sophomore band member Melody Bigler.

In spite of the short practices, the band learned and performed two different shows. Hamilton said he liked to change the music and show throughout the season so the home crowd and students did not get bored.

During halftime, senior Mac McMurry led the band as drum major. Also on the field were the



"Our philosophy is to entertain the home crowd and promote spirit."

Dr. Craig Hamilton
Band Director

feature twirler, sophomore Jennifer Devault, the majorettes, led by co-captains Misty Evers and Kristi Cannon, and the flagline, led by Melody Bigler. "When I came to audition, Dr. Hamilton said he liked to have a three-ring circus out there, so that's why we added twirlers," said sophomore Jennifer DeVault. "We're out there to complement the band."

In the Spring, the Pep Band, made up of 20 volunteer members, added spice to the basketball games. "When we played the crowd cheered, and it got really loud in the gym. The players get fired up more," said senior John Bunch. "Without the band it is kind of dull."

After a rewarding year, the band hoped for greater accomplishments with an expected 100 members. •Shannon Howell

Set, hut!...

The Tigers snap the ball in this 1920s football game against Hendrix. Beginning in 1895 as the first documented evidence of organized athletics, the football program struggled until 1912 when Morley Jennings arrived. Tiger coach for 14 seasons, he led to the establishment of the University as a powerhouse in football.



Jump...

A 1930s basketball player practices his shot. Because basketball required an indoor arena, a team was not organized until 1916 when Henderson-Brown College loaned the use of its facilities. After beating the Reddies in a five-game series, the Tigers' practice time was limited to early mornings. Throughout the early years, basketball served as little more than a winter training activity for the football squad.



Co-eds...

Women in the late 1800s capture the essence of dorm life. At this time, the University strictly prohibited contact between the sexes. While couples were permitted to sit on the benches and porch in front of the Young Ladies' Home, the Dean of Women would come by with a yardstick and measure—there had to be at least a yard between the girl and her date. Since Saturday was a class day, students could have dates only on Sunday afternoons, and the number of dates a girl was allowed was determined by her classification.

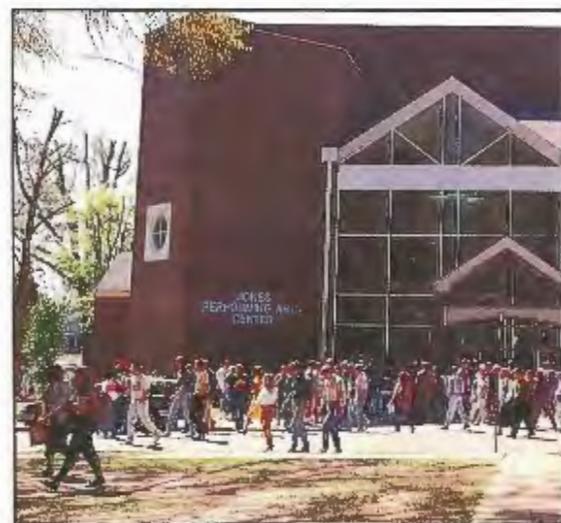


If you only



Crowning glory...

The outgoing Homecoming Queen senior Tiffeny Thompson congratulates the new Queen, senior April Shields. Traditions of Homecoming had modified somewhat—it originally consisted of floats and parades.

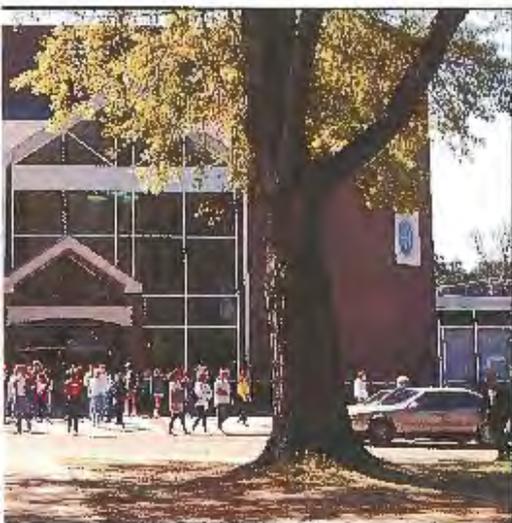


Mass exodus...

Students leave Jones Performing Arts Center following chapel services. Every Tuesday morning they gathered to hear preachers, student testimonies, and music groups. Chapel served as a time for students and faculty to worship—not only as a University body but as a body of believers.

Lounging...

Junior Jeremy Durrett adds a little enjoyment to studying as he reclines on the park bench in front of Riley-Hickingbotham Library. Nearly every sunny afternoon, the circle and the benches in Grant Plaza would be packed with students visiting with friends, studying, or simply enjoying an afternoon outside.



In mid air...

Sophomore Michael Sepulveda leaps down the football field during an intramural game. Intramurals offered students the opportunity to participate in "friendly" competition. For the participants, it served as a stress reliever. For everyone else, it was cheap entertainment.





Fumble...

Sophomore quarterback Brad Ray falls on a mishandled snap from the center during the Tigers' football game against Southern Arkansas University's Mulriders. The Tigers' final AIC season ended with an overall record of 5-5, 1-3 in conference play, and a fourth place finish in the AIC. They would be joining the NCAA division II as an independent.



Smack...

Sophomore Dita Kopečna from the Czech Republic prepares to return the ball during a women's tennis match. In the final season of the AIC, the Lady Tigers obtained a record of 5-10 overall and 5-7 in league play. They finished fifth in the AIC.



new...



Searching...

Sitting in the aisle, a student skims through some research material. Students had access to sources in both Riley-Hickingbotham and Huie libraries through the Automated Library Information System (ALIS).

Leaving a mark... |

Between classes, students enjoy a quick conversation in front of R. A. Lile Hall. Completed in the fall of 1988, R. A. Lile Hall adjoined J. G. Lile Hall. It was here that students attended classes in the departments of computer science, English, history, and foreign languages. As the marker in the sidewalk explained, Old Main stood on this site before it was struck by lightning in 1949. Markers of old buildings reminded students of the heritage and foundation for which the University stood.



Brass...

Sophomore band member Jeremy Martin entertains the crowd as he marches along the sideline during halftime at a home football game. Consisting mostly of non-music majors, this 98 member band was the largest at the University since the 1970s.



Ablaze...

Fire consumes Old Main on graduation day in May of 1949. It was struck by lightning around four in the morning. Students poured out of their dorms to help, and several boys ran in and carried out the safe containing the registrar's records. The next day, the same boys tried to move the safe; they could not even lift it. Although some of the valuables were salvaged, very little of the 60-year-old campus landmark remained.

Spanning the time...

A bridge stands over the ravine joining both sides of campus. While this original wooden bridge seemed to unite students, men and women still remained segregated. However, the concrete bridge which could be seen today was the first to carry students to a women's residence hall on the other side of campus. For the first time since anyone could remember, both male and female students lived on each side of the ravine.



Salute...

Proudly wearing a Ouachita Baptist College beanie, a 1960s freshman buttons a senior. This originally mandatory act became voluntary before its dismissal in the mid-1980s. Freshmen placed their thumbs on the buttons on the top of their beanies and saluted passing seniors saying, "Lower than dust am I to the O, mighty senior."



Signing up...

Students in the 1950s line up outside of Grant Hall to register for classes. While some students mingled, others casually registered by hand. Improvements had been made over the years. Current registration consisted of computers and long lines, yet plans had been made to remedy this problem. Registration goals for the future simply involved an appointment with the student's advisor and the use of a computer internet.