The Ouachitonian 2015

Ouachitonian Staff

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Five miles from the I-30 AR-7 exit, past the local Waffle House, over the Caddo River and across the Ravine is a place generations of Ouachitonians have grown to call home. Deep in the heart of Arkadelphia, Arkansas, stands a place quite unlike anywhere else. It is a place of learning, a place of growth and a place of community. Here we earn our stripes at Ambush and become Tigers for Life during Tigers and Torches. Here we race around the Village on trikes and carry torches through campus for the oldest rivalry game in D-II football. Here memories are made, lifelong bonds are formed and roots are planted. What is this place so many of us call home? It is the campus of Ouachita Baptist University, or as we like to call it, "The Bubble."
People often ask where the nickname "The Bubble" originates. Some say it is because of the circular shape of campus, but most agree it is because Ouachita is unlike any other place in the world. Here is a community that makes us cherish every moment - the moment we move into our freshman dorm room, the moment we storm JPAC at Tiger Tunes, the moment we help a community member during Tiger Serve Day and even the moment we turn our tassels at graduation. All of these moments come together to create what we all know and love as "The Bubble."
Students in “The Bubble” had a knack for bringing campus to life. With activities and events scheduled for almost every day of the year, it was hard to find time to be bored in “The Bubble.” Campus was full of new faces as freshmen earned their stripes at the newly updated Ambush, and alumni came home to celebrate Tiger Tunes and Homecoming. The Tiger was guarded and bragging rights were claimed at the 88th Battle of the Ravine. Rain storms caused a change in plans for spring commencement, and we said goodbye to Ouachita president and friend, Dr. Rex Horne.
Senior Lucas Castleberry stands with brother Evan and sister Ainsley on the Houston Astros baseball field, Minute Maid Park. Castleberry interned with the professional baseball team over the summer.

Senior Tyler Rosenthal chats with P. Allen Smith during his summer internship with Arkansas Business Publishing Group in Little Rock. Rosenthal served as photographer and social media intern for Little Rock Family, a magazine of ABPG.

Senior Erin Wilson interacts with a budgie bird during her summer internship at the Memphis Zoo. Wilson worked as the volunteer services intern.

Senior Molly Bowman rides a riverboat in the bay of downtown Singapore. Bowman received the Ann Elrod Scholarship to attend the Global Marketing Conference.
Meeting people and networking yourself is what allows you to excel at that job, because business relationships make the world go 'round.

- Lucas Castleberry, senior accounting and finance double major, Bryant

N
o matter what they did or where they were, Ouachita students didn’t let their summer break go to waste. Some took on career-focused internships, while others crossed the Atlantic and explored new cultures and sights.

Erin Wilson, a senior business administration management and marketing double major from Hot Springs Village, served as a volunteer services intern at the Memphis Zoo and co-manager for the high school intern program.

“The highlight was definitely working with the high school students,” Wilson said. “That was good management experience for me being a business major.”

Reflecting on her internship as a whole, Wilson said, “It was a once in a lifetime experience. I definitely wouldn’t trade the relationships I built this summer.”

Lucas Castleberry, a senior accounting and finance double major from Bryant, handled stadium operations as the guest services intern for the Houston Astros.

“I got to work the Beyoncé and Jay-Z concert. Watching that come together was really cool. Handling that kind of crowd was really fun for me,” Castleberry said.

His goal for the internship was to leave an impression on his employers.

“Meeting people and networking yourself is what allows you to excel at that job, because relationships are what make the business world go ‘round,” Castleberry said.

While students like Wilson and Castleberry gained work experience learning about the job world, other students gained life experience by traveling around the world.

Hollan Van Horn, a junior mass communications major from Fayetteville, traveled to the Netherlands for two weeks. Her father was the general manager for the Team USA collegiate national baseball team. She and her family were able to travel alongside while the team played in the Honkbalweek Tournament in Haarlem, Holland.

During her trip, Van Horn spent her time exploring historic locations like the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam and the Corrie ten Boom Museum in Haarlem, as well as various ornate Catholic cathedrals.

In addition to sightseeing, Van Horn enjoyed representing the United States. “My favorite part was the day we won. It was awesome when we got to sing our national anthem,” Van Horn said.

Ouachita students ventured outside ‘The Bubble’ this summer, making valuable business connections and encountering new cultures in the process.

by Barrett Gay

Junior Hollan Van Horn stands with her family after the USA National Collegiate baseball team won a tournament over the summer. Her father, Coach Dave Van Horn, served as General Manager of the USA team as well as head coach of the Arkansas Razorback baseball team.
As the summer came to an end, new and current students began trickling back on campus to start the new school year. The first event to kick-off the year was the New Student Retreat, which received a reboot this year and was renamed Ambush. The weekend-long event was created to help freshmen meet their classmates, while also learning about the town they would live in for the next four years when they returned to campus for WOW.

“Ambush refers to a group of tigers roaming together, so it’s a great way to highlight the new students coming together as a group and becoming Ouachita Tigers,” said Morgan Brothers, a junior speech pathology major from Memphis, Tenn. “It was a decision made by admissions, but Casey Motl first used the term for Tiger Nation and admissions jumped on board.”

Jamie Flowers, a freshman Christian studies major from Birmingham, Ala., enjoyed her first weekend on campus with her classmates.

“Pulling in, I thought I was going to have a panic attack I was so nervous about meeting everyone,” said Flowers. “But by the time Ambush was over, I was not nervous at all. I was just excited because of the relationships I made, while my knowledge of the campus and Arkadelphia immensely improved.”

Prior to Ambush, Flowers met her roommate and suitemates through the OBU class of 2018 Twitter page.

“People started connecting and messaging through the page and that is how I found my suitemates and roommate. It was completely blind, even though none of us had met. But my roommates, suitemates and I had been texting since March, so I felt like I already knew them,” Flowers said.

While Flowers found comfort in new surroundings, other students who grew up in Arkansas, such as Jackson Kennedy, a Christian studies major from Stuttgart, found the transition to be easier.

“When I arrived on campus, I was helping the girls and guys that were moving me in. I had a big hand full of stuff while I was walking up the stairs in Flippen and about half way up, I tripped and fell backward and dropped everything and rolled down the stairs,” Kennedy said. “It was so embarrassing. I just picked up all of my things and ran up the stairs as fast as I could.”
New members of Tri Chi's 2014 pledge class perform during 80's Night Sept. 2. The women's social club hosted the first night of TWIRP in the Tiger Den with popsicles and candy.

Sophomores Abby Engelkes and Katlin Dixon dance during 50's Night Sept. 3. The women of EEE hosted the night with games, refreshments and a performance from the 2014 pledge class.

Freshmen Jacob Frears and Summer Phillips are crowned Nerd Prom King and Queen Sept. 5 during Chi Rho Phi's Nerd Prom TWIRP night. Students dressed in their best nerd gear and danced to compete for the title of king and queen.

Freshmen Jamie Flowers, Abigail Mills, Rebekah Arredondo, Taylor Dooley, Amanda Abbad and Maddie Brodell pose for a picture at the Chi Delta photobooth during TWIRP Nov. 4. The women of Chi Delta provided fun games and activities for students to play at the luau party.
"Being an experienced TWIRP-er, I was able to make sure that new students and freshmen felt comfortable and at home."

- Ragan Ledbetter, junior mass communications major, Little Rock

"Pajamas, Pac-Man, poodle skirts, poolside fun, prom and plaid. This could only mean one thing for the women of Ouachita; it was TWIRP week. Campus Activities Board, the women of Chi Delta, Chi Rho Phi, EEE, Tri Chi and Campus Ministries sponsored various events throughout the week of Sept. 1-6.

"For me, TWIRP was a whole new experience because I had never asked a guy to anything before," said freshman Layten Moseley, an early childhood education major from Benton. "I asked completely random strangers, and now they are some of my best friends."

Sunday night, CAB showed "Captain America: The Winter Soldier." Movie night was a good transition for freshmen to get acclimated to the TWIRP atmosphere.

"At first I thought it was weird when my date came up and asked me to go, but once I got there and we just hung out, it was cool," said freshman Jackson Kennedy, a Christian studies major from Stuttgart. "It was cool once girls started asking me to all of the nights, because I was excited to see what each of the different themes was like."

For the TWIRP veterans on campus, it was a week of fun preparation and shopping to get ready for each night.

"I've done TWIRP twice now so I was really pumped about finding new outfits for each night," said junior Ragan Ledbetter, a mass communications major from Little Rock. "It was also fun to show off all of my really cool dance moves."

Each night consisted of games and fun dances with candy and drinks for everyone who came to the TWIRP event.

"It was a lot of fun asking all of the different guys because I got to get to know each of them at the different functions each night," Moseley said.

TWIRP was a time for the campus to come together and have fun while introducing freshmen to more than just the academic side of campus.

"For most freshmen it can be intimidating to walk in a room confidently while you are surrounded by upperclassmen who have experienced TWIRP week before," Ledbetter said. "Being an experienced TWIRP-er, I was able to make sure that new students and freshmen felt comfortable and at home."

Six nights of fun, food, games and dancing was just what encompassed the meaning of community on campus.

"Each night I felt so welcome and it was a ton of fun to just go crazy and hang out with friends," Moseley said. "I didn't feel like some outsider freshman doing it either."

by Amber Easterly

Freshmen Delaney Bedunah and Zach Rathbun square dance during Campus Ministries' TWIRP event, Barn Bash, Sept. 6. Students had a barbecue dinner and a night full of two-steppin' to finish off TWIRP Week.
Tiger Tunes 2014
The seats of Jones Performing Arts Center were full each night as Tiger Tunes took over campus Oct. 2-4. Students, faculty, alumni and community members gathered on campus to celebrate 36 years of Tiger Tunes.

Hosts John Doss, a senior music major from Rogers; Kyle Osmon, a junior musical theatre major from Rogers; Tyler Rosenthal, a senior mass communications major from Little Rock; and Evan Wheatley, a junior music and Christian studies major from Camden and hostesses Aaryn Elliott, a senior early childhood education major from Bentonville; Maddie Martin, a senior biology major from Garland, Texas; Ashley Randels, a senior early childhood education major from Rogers; and Emily Weeden, a sophomore worship arts major from Rogers performed musical sets between shows to throwback decades of the past.

Eight social clubs, Campus Ministries and Campus Activities all participated in the three-day production. One returning group to the Tunes stage this year was the Men of Sigma Alpha Sigma. “It has been about 10 years since we were in Tunes. None of the older members who brought us into the club had participated in a show. We were having to really feel everything out and set a standard for how we should prepare our show,” said Chase Brooks, a senior graphic design major from Houston, Texas. “Our hope was to make people laugh and have a good time with a quality show that displays who we are as a brotherhood. It was definitely an awesome first-time experience.”

Another new aspect to Tiger Tunes was the Spirit of Tunes Award. “This year we decided to name the award after our former classmate, Shelby Seabaugh. We decided to give it to Aaryn (Elliott) because she embodies every aspect of Tunes,” said Lauren Snow, a junior mass communications major from Wylie, Texas, and OSF assistant Tiger Tunes director. “She has been everything from an usher with OSF, a show participant, a director of a show and a hostess, which is every possible duty you can partake in Tunes. Not to mention how well she did at every job she participated in.”

Elliott was involved on campus in many different ways and encompassed the characteristics dedicated to the spirit of Tunes. “It was tricky balancing school, hosts and hostesses practices, planning a wedding, OSF and being the president of the EEEs, but each sphere of involvement gave me a community of friends to lean on and help me through it,” Elliott said. “I was totally shocked to receive the award, though. I was already tearing up when they began to talk about her legacy with Tunes. It wasn’t until they said that the recipient had directed a show and was now a hostess that I made the connection that it was me. I felt so honored.”

As Tunes came to a close Saturday evening, the overall awards were announced after the final show. In fourth place were the men and women of Campus Ministries as Sandwiches, and in third place were the men of Eta Alpha Omega as Janitors. The women of EEE came in second as the BEEs and the overall winners were the men of Kappa Chi as the Egyptians. “The experience of being in a winning show was something I never thought I would be able to experience,” said Will Richey, a senior music major and Christian studies minor from Benton and co-director of the Kappa Chi Tiger Tunes show. “Being in leadership over the show required a lot of hours during the summer and into the beginning of the school year, but I’m glad that I had other guys with me to shoulder the burden. It was a blessing to end my Tunes career by winning it all.”

by Amber Easterly
Egyptians
The Men of Kappa Chi

Janitors
The Men of Eta Alpha Omega

bEEEs
The Women of EEE

Sandwiches
Campus Ministries

Kindergarten
The Women of Tri Chi
Campus began buzzing with current students, prospective students and returning alumni for Homecoming week Sept. 30-Oct. 4. The theme for the week was “Traditions, Touchdowns and Tunes.”

As Tiger Tunes shows received their finishing touches and Homecoming festivities began, over 300 high school juniors and seniors visited campus for GROW (Getting Ready for Ouachita’s World.) GROWers attended the first night of Tiger Tunes Thursday evening. Friday morning, students visited classes they felt they might be interested in and then attended the Purple Plaza Party.

“The first Purple Plaza Party was so great, perfect weather, the booths and activities. It was fun and the Homecoming candidate presentation and pep rally was a great finale,” said Jon Merryman, director of alumni. “We had prospective students tell us that they weren’t sure they were choosing Ouachita until that event, and I definitely think it was a success.”

The Purple Plaza Party was the first time for Lunch on the Lawn and GROW to be incorporated into one event for Homecoming. Clubs and organizations campus wide set up tables and fun activities to entertain the students, faculty and alumni Friday afternoon during lunch.

Saturday morning began with Otiger Fest. Alumni, friends, students and faculty came together for reunions. Social clubs, organizations and academic departments hosted drop-ins across the campus lawn. Tailgates took place at the new Cliff Harris Stadium, along with crowning of Homecoming Queen. Senior Anna Sikes, a Christian studies major from Conway, took the crown.

“Homecoming is very magical at Ouachita because it brings the whole campus together to celebrate the school we hold so dear,” Sikes said. “It was a mixture of surprise and excitement when I was crowned.”

After a 54-21 win over Southwestern Oklahoma State University, the final two Tiger Tunes shows began. After awards were given, the men of Eta Alpha Omega hosted their annual event, Muggin’.

“It’s a time when everyone can come together after a super stressful and competitive week,” said Tyler Davis, a senior mass communications major from Benton. “No tunes, no pressure, just a lot of root beer.”

by Amber Easterly
1/ Senior Anna Sikes is crowned the 2014 Homecoming Queen by 2013 queen Kelsey Frink before the Homecoming football game against Southwestern Oklahoma State University on Oct. 4. Sikes represented the men of Eta Alpha Omega on the Homecoming Court.

2/ Students and the Tiger mascot dance along as the band performs during the mini pep rally held during the Purple Plaza Party on Oct. 3. The party was a new combination of Homecoming events held during the week, including Lunch on the Lawn.

3/ Sophomores Haley Brown and Hunter Lewis compete in the tricycle race held in the middle of campus during the Purple Plaza Party Oct. 3. Campus Activities, as well as various clubs and organizations, provided entertainment and activities.

4/ Senior Jon Murry and sophomore Seth Bubbus play a game of baggo with the men of Eta Alpha Omega during Lunch on the Lawn. Social clubs provided games and activities for students to participate in as the Homecoming festivities kicked off for the weekend.

5/ Senior Austen Morgan, junior Michael Butler and sophomore Evan Wheatley, members of the men’s social club Eta Alpha Omega, pass out IBC Root Beer during the club’s annual event, Muggin’. The club hosts the event each year after the final performance of Tiger Tunes on Saturday night.
Amity Trade Days
843 S. Mountain Rd., Amity
28 miles

Swing dancing at the Arlington Hotel
239 Central Ave, Hot Springs
35 miles

Downtown Hot Springs
Central Avenue, Hot Springs
30 miles

President William Jefferson
Clinton Birthplace Home
National Historic Site
117 S Hervey St., Hope
47 miles

Timberline Paintball
3200 S Reynolds Rd., Bauxite
50 miles

Downtown Arkadelphia
Main Street
.5 miles

Caddo River Rats
116 Valley St., Caddo Valley
4 miles

DeGray Lake Resort State Park
2027 State Park Entrance Rd., Arkadelphia
10 miles

Rowdy Adventures Zipline
13695 AR-51 Okolona
22 miles
While there was almost always something to do on campus every night of the week, students had plenty of options for activities off of campus as well. In just an hour's drive or less, plenty could be found to do outside of The Bubble.
Dr. Kevin Motl rallies the student body during the Battle of the Ravine bonfire Nov. 13. The men of Rho Sigma prepared torches for the student body to carry through campus and end with the lighting of a bonfire at the intramural fields. The night concluded with a fireworks show sponsored by Dr. Wesley Kluck.

Freshman Tanner Moss bashes in the spray painted car with a sledgehammer during the Kappa Chi Car Bash Nov. 12. The men of Kappa Chi hosted the event in the middle of campus and allowed any student to come out and abuse the car.

During BOTR festivities, the men of Rho Sigma hosted a Bible Bowl. Rho Sigma competed against the women of Chi Rho Phi, who won the competition.

KATV Daybreak news anchor Melinda Mayo interviews Dr. Rex Horne during the early morning Battle of the Ravine pep rally Nov. 14. Both student bodies from OU and HBU came out to support their teams and celebrate with the Daybreak crew.
Contemplating her Christmas wish list for Santa, junior Roxanne Easter participates in CAB’s Christmas party Dec. 10. Students decorated cookies and listened to Christmas stories read by fellow students and professors.

Freshman girls decorate Christmas cookies during the annual party held in the Frances Crawford Hall lobby. Residents played games and decorated the dorm Christmas tree.

Senior drum major Elizabeth Lawson leads the marching band through the downtown streets during the Arkadelphia Christmas Parade. Various clubs and organizations from campus represented the student body in the parade.

Junior Lauren Snow reads a purposeful lesson during the 18th annual Lessons and Carols Dec. 9. The evening celebrated Advent with performances from the Ouachita Singers, Women’s Chorus and Handbell Ringers.
December and the holiday season marked a time for traditions, generosity and remembrance. Campus celebrated this time of year in a multitude of ways, but for only one single reason, the birth of our Savior.

The communication sciences and disorders students kicked off the season with the annual Speechie Tree Lighting ceremony. Students sipped hot chocolate, mingled and took photos while waiting for the tree lighting countdown. Dr. Nancy Hardman, who provides the tree from her land, reinstated this tradition 10 years ago from her days at Ouachita.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hickingbothom hosted their second annual Christmas dinner for the girls of Georgia Hickingbothom Hall. The girls were served a three-course dinner with a different course taking place on each floor of the building.

"Mr. Hickingbothom gave this building to his wife as a gift and she loves taking care of her girls any way she can. This is one of her biggest joys," said Hillary Hill, area coordinator of Georgia Hickingbothom Hall.

The CAB Christmas party served as a low-key, relaxing study break from finals. The night included live music by students, cookie decorating and an ugly Christmas sweater contest. Santa Clause even stopped by for a visit. A new addition to the event featured professors reading classic Christmas stories to the audience. Students also had the opportunity to write letters to Santa that were delivered to Ouachita's own President Horne.

An anticipated tradition was the annual Festival of Christmas. This year's theme was Christmas Through the Ages. Best-selling author and friend of Ouachita, Ace Collins, served as narrator, telling the stories behind the songs performed by the ensembles. "This is a big event in the community. People get their tickets months in advance," said Aaden Jones, a sophomore musical theatre major from Maumelle who performed in the show.

When the superficial aspects of Christmas become distracting, students like Hannah Shull reminded students to focus on others. Shull, a senior psychology major from Little Rock, set up a station for students to create decorative Christmas cards for each of the 50 children at the Monticello Children's home, since her ministry team could not make their December visit.

"Seeing the campus's reaction and willingness to do it, I was blown away. I think it's just a really cool, personalized way to show some love to the kids," Shull said.

- Hannah Shull, senior psychology major, Little Rock

Senior Zack Turman and his little brother decorate cookies during Campus Ministries' Christmas party for the Big Brother/Big Sister program. The party, which took place Dec. 3 in the Tiger Den, featured pictures with Santa and Christmas card making.
Tiger Serve Day was Ouachita's way of offering a helping hand to the community, not as individuals, clubs or organizations, but as the university as a whole. The campus came together to reach out to all parts of the community and strove to show the love of Christ through its actions. With the types of projects varying from year to year, no two Tiger Serve Days were ever exactly alike. To the participants, this year's was especially meaningful.

"I've only done it for two years, but this year seemed a lot different," said Blake Bowen, a junior psychology and history double major from Rogers. "I was signed up for a random group last year, but this year I actually signed up with a group of friends. We wound up raking leaves, trimming bushes, stuff like that for an elderly couple who couldn't do it themselves, which was a little different from what we did last year. It's stuff like that that can make Tiger Serve Day just a little different every time you do it."

Students said that while Tiger Serve Day projects might have seemed fairly simple, they could be fairly labor intensive. This year's participants found themselves doing what they described as time-consuming and laborious work. However, the participants agreed that at the end of the day, the hard work was worth it in the name of helping those who could not help themselves.

"We went out to rake up some pine straw for this guy who had an enormous yard," said Will Richey, a senior music major from Benton. "At the end of the day, we wound up with what was probably 60 bags of pine straw. It was a lot, but we were ecstatic to be able to help out."

For the students and faculty who brought Tiger Serve Day to fruition, that's really what the event was all about. They felt that, regardless of the individual tasks that they were assigned to complete, as a group, they made a big difference in their community.

"I think serving others should be our call and vocation," said Dr. Margarita Pintado, assistant professor of Spanish. "We are so busy and focused in our own world that we miss many opportunities to help others. I think Tiger Serve Day helps us remember how wonderful and how rewarding it is to serve."

by Noah Hutchinson
1/ Broom in hand, senior Antha West sweeps leaves off of a driveway during Tiger Serve Day. West and his team raked leaves and carried limbs away that fell during the winter weather.

2/ Sophomore Anna Holcomb helps out during the science edition of Tiger Serve Day. Students volunteered to do fun experiments and projects with kids from the community in Jones Science Center.

3/ Students fuel up with breakfast before completing projects. Sodexo provided both breakfast and lunch next to the Elrod Center for students on Tiger Serve Day.

4/ Cleaning out a flower bed, junior Haylee Garland pulls weeds and picks up leaves. Garland worked at an apartment complex to plant new flowers and trim bushes.

5/ Junior Jacob Moreno and sophomore Drew Dodge clean the roof and gutters of a home for their Tiger Serve Day project. The team cleaned cars, raked leaves, trimmed trees and bushes and washed windows.
Writing out prayers, freshman Sarah Sandy participates in the Pancakes and Prayer event held Feb. 8 in Evans Student Center. The event allowed students to fellowship and pray for Christian Focus Week.

Junior Sadie Sasser performs during the Arts and Worship night held in the Tiger Den Feb. 9. Students listened to music and made art with cardboard and paint.

Sophomore Spencer Bryson serves barbecue at the Men's Dinner held in the Tiger Den Feb. 10. Student Pastor Jason Curry from The Church at Rock Creek in Little Rock spoke during the dinner and challenged the men to be leaders on campus.

Singer and songwriter Jillian Edwards performs Feb. 8 in Jones Performing Arts Center. Edwards kicked off Christian Focus Week with a free concert for students.
A cold February week brought canceled classes, but no winter weather. At some universities, this might be a peculiar phenomenon. At OBU however, it meant Christian Focus Week (CFW) was in full swing.

CFW was one of the first campus wide events of the spring semester. It was a time when various classes were cancelled and replaced by sessions that allowed students to break away from their weekly routine and study the word of God with peers. "It says a lot about the mission the school is founded on for them to cancel class to focus on God. It’s an outward sign of our beliefs for others to see," said Stephen Curry, a senior music education major from Little Rock.

"This year the theme was titled 'Citizen'," said Curry. "The entire week was teachings about how nobody can live alone. We all need community to thrive. Being a Christian means God has given his people the Holy Spirit and he uses it to speak to others through you and vice versa.

Many students agreed this year’s Christian Focus week was one of the best yet.

"Christian Focus Week was on point this year," said Lauren Hutcheson, a sophomore musical theatre and theatre education double major from Bossier City, La. "Rusty Butler, the worship leader for the week, did a spectacular job.

Hutcheson participated in the various events held throughout the week for students. "I was really convicted and slapped in the face by the messages of what it actually means to live in a community of Christ followers," Hutcheson said. "I always saw my relationship with Christ as a two way street between He and I, no one else. But that’s not the case. He’s placed us around people for specific reasons, all to better and grow his kingdom. Christ has called us to live in his kingdom together, not alone."

The week centered on the student body breaking away from the usual and setting their eyes on the true goal, which is Christ.

"CFW taught me that we should draw closer as friends and as brothers and sisters of Christ," said Sadie Sasser, a junior Christian and Biblical studies major from Crossett. "The speakers stressed whether we agree or disagree with each other, being a part of a community should create an open atmosphere to draw us all closer together in Christ, not tear us apart."

by Blaine Surber

Flipping pancakes, sophomore Emma Riley helps cook for Pancakes and Prayer night Feb. 8. Students filled Evans Student Center to celebrate the beginning of Christian Focus Week.
During the trike races held in the Village Circle, sophomores Victoria Williams and Jordan Williams switch off for the relay. Teams competed for the fastest time to get their entire team around the circle on a trike.

In the mega relay competition, sophomore Haley Brown and freshman Ben Patterson pass an orange between their necks. Teams completed tasks across the intramural field for the relay.

Senior Jon Jacks pushes through the water during the raft races held Friday night in SPEC. Teams raced up and down the swimming pool lanes for the fastest time.

Senior Mitch Bledsoe helps to anchor the back of his team in the mud during the Tug-of-War competition held Saturday, April 25. Teams also competed in the mud for oozeball, also known as volleyball.
At the end of the spring semester the Ouachita Student Foundation hosted its annual Tiger Traks event. This event was held at the end of the semester to serve as a chance for students to unwind before finals week. Traks is also one of the organization’s largest fund raisers for scholarships.

“Traks is at the end of the spring semester to be a de-stressor for students leading up to finals,” said John Merryman, director of Ouachita Alumni. “The atmosphere of competition between the teams contributes to it being an exciting weekend.”

For the first time since Merryman can remember, the OSF Traks steering committee had to make some last minute changes to Friday night’s schedule due to rain. Some of the indoor events originally scheduled for Saturday were moved to Friday night to avoid the rain storms.

“We had to just roll with it,” said Mari Bednar, a sophomore dietetics major from Little Rock and a member of OSF’s Tiger Traks steering committee. “It showed us what we have to work with and how it can still work out.”

Since its beginning in 1975, as OSF’s first event to hold, Tiger Traks developed into one of the spring semester’s biggest events and has been tagged as Arkansas’ Most Exciting College Weekend.

“Traks began with a men’s bicycle race, women’s trike races, and a celebrity tennis match. Sometimes a concert was added, too,” Merryman said.

One of the main aspects of Traks was teamwork. Teams of eight students competed against each other in a variety of games, including a mud volleyball and tug-of-war, relay races, trike races, dodgeball and water raft races.

“I think what people like about it is that it provides something to do without having to travel,” said Anna Cathryn Massey, a senior biology major from McGehee and OSF member. “I also think that people really enjoy the competitive aspect of the event.”

Tiger Traks was held the same weekend as Early Registration for new students. It was an opportunity for prospective students to get a taste of what it would be like as a student on campus.

This year the winning team was Abusement Park, second place went to Come Back Kids and in third place was the Barking Spiders. First place winners were awarded $100 each, while second place competitors won $75 and third place won $50. The winners were announced at the end of the weekend just before Tiger Idol, the annual singing event hosted by Student Senate held in the amphitheatre.

Anna Cathryn Massey, senior biology major, McGehee
Dr. Rex M. Horne, Jr., president of Ouachita Baptist University since 2006, announced his resignation as president effective this summer in order to serve as president of Arkansas' Independent Colleges & Universities. He succeeds Ouachita alumnus Rex Nelson who has been named director of corporate communications for Simmons First National.

"My nine-plus years at Ouachita have been very rewarding," Dr. Horne said. "I have been most impressed by the work performed by our faculty and staff. The sense of calling and commitment to duty has been evident on the campus. Our students are difference makers. I will treasure the time the Lord allowed me to serve here. Our prayers, continued interest and desire to help remain strong."

During his tenure as Ouachita's 15th president, Dr. Horne has led efforts to strengthen the university's financial standing, including launching the "Defining the Difference" capital campaign. Other achievements include providing leadership for several significant improvements to the physical campus, including such major projects as the Student Village residence halls dedicated in 2009 and Cliff Harris Stadium dedicated in 2014. He also presided over Ouachita's 125th anniversary celebration in 2011.

Throughout his years as president, Dr. Horne consistently challenged students, faculty and staff to be "difference makers" in their personal lives, careers and ministry opportunities. "You are difference makers," he reminded Ouachita's 2015 graduating class. "Make this your lifelong passion and pursuit."

Concerning his new role, Dr. Horne said, "I have known the presidents of our private colleges and universities as friends. I now have the opportunity to assist them personally and represent them corporately before the public and our legislature. The schools share a foundation of faith. I pray this time will prove beneficial for these friends and their institutions."

"Rex Horne is a graduate of one of our Arkansas independent colleges and the president of another," noted Dr. Don Weatherman, chairman of the AICU executive committee and president of Lyon College. "There couldn't be a better background for the next president of Arkansas' Independent Colleges & Universities. Dr. Horne is respected throughout the state."

"I was concerned about the task of replacing Rex Nelson, who served our organization effectively and professionally," Dr. Weatherman said. "I'm delighted we were able to find an educator who is also effective, professional and respected in every region of Arkansas."

Arkansas' Independent Colleges & Universities is a consortium of 11 independent institutions of higher education throughout the state. In addition to Ouachita, member institutions include Arkansas Baptist College, Central Baptist College, Crowley's Ridge College, Harding University, Hendrix College, John Brown University, Lyon College, Philander Smith College, University of the Ozarks and Williams Baptist College. The AICU provides support for the member colleges and universities in such areas as scholarships, governmental affairs and public affairs.

Reflecting on Dr. Horne's tenure as president, Jay Heflin, chair of OBU's Board of Trustees, said, "Dr. Horne has been a beacon of hope and light for Ouachita over the last several years. His leadership and vision have not only transformed the physical appearance of Ouachita's campus, but they have strengthened the Ouachita community in very meaningful ways. He has put us into an enviable position among Christian liberal arts universities for attracting and retaining the best and brightest students."

"We are thankful for God's provision in leading Dr. Horne to Ouachita in 2006 and look forward to continuing our relationship with him as he transitions into his new role with Arkansas' Independent Colleges & Universities," Heflin added. "While we won't see him on a daily basis, we know that God has called him to a new ministry to be a pillar of support for all independent colleges and universities throughout Arkansas. We prayerfully wish him much continued success."

"I have known Rex Horne for years as a great leader and personal friend," said Dr. Sonny Tucker, executive director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. "I watched him serve with tremendous impact as the pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Little Rock and as president of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention."

"As president of Ouachita, not only was he a great friend to my two children while they were students there, he has been a great friend to the pastors and churches in Arkansas and has led the school to new heights as a national leader among private Christian universities," Dr. Tucker said. "As an Arkansas Baptist and as a parent, I deeply appreciate Dr. Rex and Becky Horne."

Dr. Horne, who attended Ouachita as a student, holds degrees from Lyon College, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Becky, are the parents of four adult children and have 11 grandchildren.

Prior to serving as president of Ouachita, Dr. Horne served 16 years as senior pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Little Rock. He previously was pastor of churches in Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana. He also has served as president of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention and chair of the Great American Conference Council of Presidents as well as serving on several corporate and civic boards.

by Trerri Henderson
Students on the backpacking day trip stop for a photo at Jamestown Crag. The class took several trips throughout the semester to different trails across the state.

Jason Bean and students white water raft during a weekend excursion. This was one of the many opportunities students could take with the Recreation Life team.

Ouachita graduate Ellen Eubanks belays a friend while rock climbing. The Recreation Life team visited several popular spots in Arkansas known for rock climbing.

Freshman Jacob Frears competes in the annual RockFest climbing competition on the rock wall in the back of SPEC Feb. 24. Frears, who has a love for outdoor rock climbing, also participated in other various events hosted by the Recreation Life Center.
Growing up, Zach Matthews, a senior Christian studies major from Wylie, Texas, spent his summers doing typical outdoor adventures. Once at college, he pursued his love for the outdoors with the recreation life opportunities on campus.

"I got involved with Rec Life because I led week-long backpacking, kayaking and climbing trips in Colorado," Matthews said. "It is my way to unwind and relax."

Matthews became a part of the recreation team because of his passion for the outdoors. He worked to plan and organize trips, along with managing, repairing and organizing gear, as well as fixing bikes. His job also included setting up routes at the climbing wall.

"Rec Life is a great way to help students engage and enjoy the outdoors here in Arkansas," Matthews said. "It can be something as simple as hammocking at the bluff and enjoying s'mores to rock climbing at Horseshoe Canyon Ranch."

The recreation team wanted to involve all students on campus. Its goal was to get students outdoors and learn about the opportunities they had to explore.

"We hold special events at the wall each semester like seminars on various events like outdoor cooking and climbing," said Kenzie Lionberger, a junior history and sociology double major from Temple, Texas. "We also hold the rock climbing competition each year called RockFest. It's always tons of fun and you don't have to be an experienced climber to participate."

Lionberger became involved with Recreation Life her freshman year when she was working as an intramural referee and was asked to work at the climbing wall.

"I help with the outdoor rec rental center, but I also work at the rock wall. I monitor while people are climbing to make sure they don't do anything wrong that could get them hurt," Lionberger said. "It requires a lot of supervising and safety checking, which is worth it when I see students having fun with their peers."

Recreation Life was also a place where athletes could spend time. Senior Jacob Clark, a dietetics and nutrition major from Palestine, Texas, participated in activities and worked at the recreation center.

"I played football for four years, so I never really got a chance to be active with rec other than intramural sports. I was interested in finding a work study job and came across an opening for the rock wall," Clark said. "What I enjoy most is the athletic, non-sedentary lifestyle that encourages students to be active."

The Rec Life office offered a multitude of ways for students of every area of campus to leave the Netflix in their rooms and explore the great outdoors.

by Amber Easterly
From tutoring kids at local schools, to spending time with elders in the community, students had many opportunities to get involved with the Ben M. Elrod Center for Family and Community. Rachel Wicker, a junior Christian studies and Christian missions double major from Benton, believed that as students, it was easy to stay in the bubble and get swept up in school life.

"Personally, when I am able to step away from my worries and fears with school and take that time to focus on someone else, those worries seem to go away as I am reminded at what a great God we serve," Wicker said.

As a work-study member at the Elrod Center, Wicker got to do a variety of different tasks in her service to the organization.

"From office work and answering the phone, to cooking and preparing for events, I love the chance to be a part of the Elrod Center life," Wicker said.

Haylee Garland, a junior Christian studies and psychology major from Cabor, had a tug on her heart to help others in a way that would be transformative.

Garland volunteered with the America Reads/America Counts program through the Elrod Center. She helped elementary school children with their reading ability, while also loving on them and shining God’s light.

"We are called to serve God’s people, not to get caught up in our own selfish desires and ambitions," Garland said. "Giving our time and resources to kingdom work can only benefit and grow us into mature Christians who will continue that same service after we leave Ouachita."

The Elrod Center encouraged students to step outside of their own lives and fill their hearts with the joy of selflessness, while developing meaningful relationships with others in the process.

Ian Cosh, vice president of community engagement, felt that students had a natural desire to serve others because it provided them with a cheerful spirit knowing they have made someone’s life better and lifted a burden.

"As an institution, we have to demonstrate that we are not just takers, we give back," Cosh said. "The students here generate such servant’s hearts and they have raised the profile of the spirit of service tremendously around campus."

by Rachel Ewart
1/ A week before the holiday break, students volunteer to deliver Thanksgiving baskets to the Arkadelphia community. The baskets were filled with items donated by students, faculty and staff, and provided an entire meal for families in need of food for Thanksgiving.

2/ Junior Bonnie Magee speaks during the Elrod Foundation Board meeting on Feb. 5. Board members heard reports about the various ministries of the center.

3/ Working with America Reads, senior Hannah Shull works with her student on her verbal reading skills. Shull volunteered weekly to improve the children’s reading ability with fun children’s books.

4/ Washing and sweeping a driveway, junior Grace Finley volunteers to help clean up a home on Tiger Serve Day. The Elrod Center hosted a day of service each semester of the year for students on campus to volunteer.

5/ Volunteering with America Counts, junior Lauren Snow works with her student on math skills. Snow incorporated blocks, coins and cards to explain math equations and multiplication tables.
"Talent was showcased through the roof," said Todd McNeel, a senior mass communications major from Grand Prairie, Texas, when asked to describe the musical productions performed this season. "The professors selected quality material that was difficult, yet showcased the talent students possess here."

The year brought two mesmerizing musical shows to Jones Performing Arts Center. The School of Fine Arts presented "The Mikado" in November, and "Shrek! The Musical" in April. "I was given the opportunity to perform the title role, the Mikado, in this year's opera," McNeel said. "It was by far the funniest part I've played in an opera."

"The Mikado," a comedic opera written in the late 1880s, follows a young man named Nanki-Poo in his quest to find love outside of royalty's chains. "I remember the first time the cast began to rehearse the music, there was always something in the score that would make us laugh," McNeel said. "That's why the rehearsal process was one of the best."

In the spring, the theatre department performed "Shrek! The Musical," an adaptation of the DreamWorks animated film "Shrek."

"The best part of the rehearsal process was getting to step into Shrek's shoes," said Will Stotts, a freshman musical theatre major from Jonesboro who played the title role of Shrek. "Playing a big smelly misunderstood ogre was so much fun."

The School of Fine Arts took every step necessary to ensure Shrek was one to top all others. "This show required extensive rehearsals," said Ben Stidham, a senior musical theatre major from Dallas, Texas. "The plot is the same from the movie. The movie is hilarious, so the musical becomes a two-hour laugh fest for the audience."

"It's great to be a part of a department that gives students opportunities to perform quality material that will prepare us for jobs after school," Stidham said.

In addition to the musical performance, the JPAC lobby was transformed into an ogre's world. Children attending the musical were able to interact with the cast before and after the performance.

From opera to musical theatre, students gained a world of experience while entertaining crowds and showcasing their talent.

by Blaine Surber
1/ Senior Joshua Wayne, as the character Ko-Ko, sings a solo during “The Mikado.” The opera ran Nov. 20-23 in Jones Performing Arts Center.

2/ Starring as the Mikado of Japan, senior Todd McNeel performs during the Mikado. The theme of the opera was forbidden love and deception.

3/ Seniors John Doss and Seth Russell perform as Nanki-Poo and Pish-Tush in the opera performance of “The Mikado.” Doss was a music major and Russell was a vocal performance major.

4/ The fire-breathing dragon and Donkey fall in love during “Shrek the Musical” April 16-19. Junior Kendrick Scorza played Donkey while sophomore Kayla Walker played the dragon.

5/ Donkey and Shrek deliver Princess Fiona to Lord Farquaad. Freshman Will Stotts played the lead role of Shrek and senior Cami Willis played Princess Fiona.

Seniors Hunter Brown, Tyler Wisdom, freshman Hannah Hines and junior Angela Morgan act as Father, Jones, Lily and Mother in the fall production of "The Giver." The show ran Sept. 25-30 in Verser Theatre.

"Medusa" is performed during the One Act Play Festival held Dec. 11 in Verser Theatre. Junior Walter Dodd played Persues and freshman Natalie Gill acted as the statue.

Sophomore Abby Root and senior Blaine Surber play Wendy and Peter Pan during "The Muse Project" held Feb. 19-23 in Verser Theatre. The production was a cirque inspired exploration of Peter Pan and was student written and directed by Kaylee Nebe.
The finished product was everything I imagined it to be when I read the script.”
- Cami Willis, senior musical theatre and church media production double major, Flower Mound, Texas

The Ouachita theatre department pulled out all of the stops to create an incredible line of shows during the 2014-2015 season.

“it’s not every day OBU students get to experience great theatre,” said Hailey Weiner, a junior musical theatre major from Little Rock. “This season was an amazing line up of shows.”

The first production of the season was “The Giver,” an adaptation of the novel by Lois Lowry. “The play takes place in a futuristic utopian society where everyone is created equal and wiped clean of their memories of the past,” said Cami Willis a senior musical theatre and church media/production major from Flower Mound, Texas.

This year the theatre department brought Drew Hampton onto the theatre faculty as the new assistant professor of theatre arts.

“It’s been a great first year here,” Hampton said. “I came in on an amazing season and was given the opportunity to direct one of my all time favorite Shakespeare pieces, ‘A Midsummer Nights Dream.’”

“A Midsummer Nights Dream” was the fall show in the season line up. One of Shakespeare’s most creative masterpieces, it follows four star-crossed lovers and their journey through enchanting woods to find their true love.

The next production on the list was the One Acts, directed by senior theatre majors for the academic course, Play Directing. “It was by far one of my all time favorite theatre classes I’ve taken,” Willis said.

The Play Directing course gives senior theatre majors the opportunity to select, cast, design and direct a short play of their choosing to showcase. “I was terrified of the class, now looking back I am so grateful for the opportunity to direct,” said Willis.

Students were also given the chance to get their feet wet in play directing or writing through the Muse Project. This opportunity allowed students to submit self-written plays to be considered for a slot in the line up of the season’s shows. Senior Kaylee Nebe’s Peter Pan cirque adaption titled “Second Star to the Right” was chosen and was the first aerial and cirque show produced on campus.

One of the last performances the theatre department gave was the All Night Theatre 10 Minute Play Festival. Students prepared a show to perform within 24 hours. Students stayed up all night to rehearse and get everything ready.

“I was cast in a depressing show this year,” said Weiner. “But the opportunity to hang out with friends all night creating theatre is an amazing experience.”

This variety of shows in the theatre department’s line up allowed students and audiences to experience a multitude of genres story lines that put the students hard work on display for all to see.

by Blaine Surber

Senior Sara Cat Williams and sophomore Kayla Walker perform “Void” during the Ten Minute Play Festival held March 14 in Verser Theatre. Students auditioned and produced the show in 24 hours.
Dr. Charles Fuller, music director and conductor, leads The Centurymen during Chapel April 14. The group was an auditioned men’s chorus of professional Christian musicians who were church music leaders from across the United States.

Tiger Tunes hosts and hostesses perform during Homecoming Chapel Sept. 30. The group sang in front of the student body for the first time in Chapel before the four Tiger Tunes performances the following weekend.

Pastor Jackie Flake of Community Bible Church in Fort Smith speaks to students in Chapel Feb. 10. Pastor Flake spoke during Christian Focus Week.

Director Dr. Craig Hamilton and the concert band share their music during Chapel held Dec. 9. It was themed a Christmas celebration for the last Chapel of the semester before winter break.
At first glance, most people would have probably agreed that Chapel seemed fairly straightforward. You sat down, sang a few songs, listened to a speaker and went about your business. However, the variety of people chosen to speak on Tuesday morning, with their different backgrounds, professions and perspectives, meant that no single year of Chapel would be exactly like the last. Guest speakers for the year included Mr. Robert Holt, founder and executive director of Living Waters Outreach Center, Mr. Jackie Flake, pastor at Community Bible Church in Fort Smith and Mrs. Kim Yada, a professional mental health counselor.

"The thing that makes Chapel unique is the quality of the speakers," said Dixon Land, a junior mass communications and Christian studies double major from Little Rock. "Chapel has been so interesting this year. Whether it's a returning alumni, an overseas missionary or just someone with an inspiring story or useful piece of knowledge, you can really feel God at work in Chapel."

This year, the array of speakers chosen to participate in Chapel was vast and varied. One thing that all of them had in common was that they considered it an honor to be asked to speak.

"I received an email invitation from Ian Cosh in January of 2014," said Dr. Rebecca Jones, assistant professor of communications. "I was immediately honored. It was a huge privilege to be chosen, but also an enormous responsibility."

The variety among the Chapel speakers meant there was a little something for everyone. No matter what someone expected coming into Chapel, in all likelihood, they'd get it eventually.

"I enjoyed Chapel this year," said Al Lashley, a sophomore philosophy major from Conway. "It's nice that it's always something different. It keeps things shaken up and keeps them from getting boring. I like the fact that they're always changing between speakers from campus or speakers brought in from somewhere else or things like The Singers. It's a nice break from the everyday."

The unique blend of Chapel helped emphasize one of its aspects that some people might have overlooked. It was a community experience. The mixing pot of perspectives brought this to the forefront by making sure that everyone in our admittedly limited demographic was represented.

"I think the spirit of Chapel is a shared community experience," said Jones. "To just come together and have this common communal experience within our fragmented society. In a world where community experience is disappearing, I respect that Ouachita has continued this tradition."

by Noah Hutchinson

Sophomore Kayla Walker and senior Christina Moon perform with the Ouachita Sounds during Chapel. The group composed of six girls and boys sang a mixture of musical genres for the student body.
Sara Elizabeth Walker reads the scripture at commencement. Walker, along with Blake Kutter (left) and Sophie DeMuth (right), were the highest ranking graduates of the Pruett School of Christian Studies.

Dr. J.D. "Sonny" Tucker addresses the audience after receiving an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from the university. Tucker serves as executive director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Katie Theriot receives her degree from President Rex Horne. Theriot, from Alexandria, La., majored in Communication Sciences and Disorders.

Antwion Patterson, Maddie Patterson, Emily Payne and Lauren Perry await their classmates during the commencement processional. The ceremony was moved to JPAC due to weather.
“Graduation is the day every senior looks forward to and starts to countdown towards the moment they step foot on campus for their last year.”
- Micale Kocke, senior biology major, Cabot

Days and nights of more than usual rainfall proved too much for the lawn of ConeBottoms Hall. The 343 graduates were divided into two groups by alphabet, and two commencement ceremonies were held back-to-back in Jones Performing Arts Center. Despite having to move inside for graduation, the class of 2015 celebrated the milestone with family and friends.

Senior Class President Jamie Barker gave the invocation. Scripture was read by Pruett School of Christian Studies honor graduates Sophie DeMuth, Blake Kutter and Sara Walker.

President Rex Horne presented an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree to Dr. J.D. “Sonny” Tucker. Tucker, a 1982 graduate of Ouachita, serves as executive director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

“From the deepest place in my heart, I want to express my appreciation for this tremendous honor,” Tucker said. “To receive this recognition from a place that I love so deeply will be among my greatest honors and moments in life.”

Degrees were awarded by Dr. Stan Poole, vice president for academic affairs. A responsive reading was led by Dr. Danny Hays, dean of the Pruett School of Christian Studies. The invocation was led by Jay Heflin, a Ouachita graduate and chairman of the Board of Trustees.

The class of 2015 had 143 honor graduates, including 21 students who graded summa cum laude with a 3.95 or higher grade point average. Forty-six students graduated magna cum laude (3.75 GPA) and 76 graduated cum laude (3.5). Also recognized at commencement were 26 students who completed the Carl Goodson Honors Program.

Serving as commencement marshals were Dr. Ray Granade, director of library services and professor of history, and Dr. Nancy Hardman, the Edna and Freda Linn Professor of Communication Sciences and PreMedical Studies. Hardman served during the year as chair of the University Committee. The honorary marshal was Dr. Raouf Halaby, professor of visual arts and English, who retired after 42 years of service on the Ouachita faculty.

“Graduation is the day every senior looks forward to and starts to countdown towards the moment they step foot on campus for their last year,” said Micale Kocke, a senior biology major from Cabot. “This years commencement was nothing short of the day I had been anticipating. But because of the weather, #JPACKed and the chaos of trying to find my friends for photos, graduation 2015 will be remembered as the year in which we realized Dr. Horne doesn’t actually control the weather.”
The United States Senate votes to confirm Ouachita alumna Jane Chu as chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts.

In the ice bucket challenge to bring awareness about ALS, participants fill up a bucket of ice and dump it on themselves, then upload the video to social media.

Michael Brown, an African American teenager in Ferguson, Mo., is shot by a police officer, which leads to riots and protests.

Iconic actor Robin Williams dies at the age of 63 in what is believed to be a suicide.

Thomas Eric Duncan, the first person diagnosed with Ebola in the United States, dies in Dallas, Texas.

Average gasoline prices in Arkansas reach the highest point for 2014 at $3.49 per gallon.

Ouachita is named one of Forbes top colleges in "Best National Liberal Arts Colleges" for the sixth consecutive year and rated in the top colleges in the "US News and World Report" national rankings for the fourth consecutive year.

The new Cliff Harris Stadium dedication is held prior to the first home football game. The stadium honors the former Ouachita Tiger and Dallas Cowboy.

The Ouachita Tigers football team beats Henderson State 41-20, finishing the regular season with an undefeated, untied 10-0 record for the first time in program history.
### December

**14 DEC**
President Obama lifts sanctions against trading with Cuba after 56 years.

### January

**JAN**
Minimum wage in Arkansas increases from $7.25 to $7.50 an hour, increasing some yearly salaries by $520.

### February

**26 FEB**
The FCC votes 3-2 to regulate Internet service as a telecommunications service.

### March

**12 MARCH**
Ouachita dedicates the new Gene and Kathy Whisenhunt Soccer Field House that featured state-of-the-art locker rooms, a team room, player's lounge and coaches office.

### April

**8 APRIL**
A jury finds Dzhokhar Tsarnaev guilty on all 30 charges related to the 2013 Boston Marathon bombing. On May 15, he is sentenced to death in the penalty phase of the federal trial.

**12 MAY**
President Rex Horne announces his resignation as president of Ouachita in order to serve as president of Arkansas' Independent Colleges & Universities.

### May

**5 MAY**
Former governor and Ouachita alumnus Mike Huckabee announces in Hope that he is running in the 2016 presidential election.

**12 MAY**
Triple Treat, a trio from Benton including recent OBU grads Will Richey and Tyler Davis, receive a standing ovation and four "yes" votes in the groups’ audition performance on "America’s Got Talent."

**26 MAY**
Ouachita dedicates the new Gene and Kathy Whisenhunt Soccer Field House that featured state-of-the-art locker rooms, a team room, player's lounge and coaches office.
Few things bonded campus together like cheering our Tigers on to victory. Spirits were high as sports in "The Bubble" had yet another history-making year. The Tiger soccer program took unprecedented steps forward with the new Gene and Kathy Whisenhunt Soccer Fieldhouse, the newly named Wesley and Debbie Kluck Field and the Lady Tiger soccer team winning the GAC championship for the first time. Fans were thrilled to cheer the Tiger football team on to victory from the new Cliff Harris Stadium in one of the most exciting football seasons ever. The team went 10-0 for the first time in history, claiming its second GAC championship and making its first appearance in the Div. II playoffs. The men’s Tiger tennis team continued its streak of excellence by winning its fourth consecutive GAC championship, a first for any team of any sport in the conference.
Swinging for the fences, Garrett Moore looks to make solid contact in a slow-pitch softball game. There were two different leagues, one for all men and another for co-ed.

After winning a hard-fought championship game against Aged to Perfection, Kappa Phat throws up the "money team" sign. Senior Jackson Carter had one touchdown catch during the game.

Freshman Ben Ball, a business administration major from Russellville, looks to find the strike zone as a softball pitcher. Many students participated in the intramural sport this season, some as a social club or others as a group of friends.
After clinching a first place finish, members of Team Beyoncé give some love to their favorite professor, Dr. Brune. The championship game was played in Vining Arena.

Members of the Beta Black flag football team yell out a chant after a battle on the gridiron. The team continued to be one of the most successful on the field this season.

Intramural sports were a great way for students to get involved across campus. Intramurals offered students who were not a part of collegiate sports to still be involved in an athletic environment. Flag football, soccer, volleyball, basketball and softball were all available for students to participate in.

“Getting to play intramurals through college helps feed my competitive need,” said Allison Drobena, a senior communications sciences and disorders major from Hot Springs.

Taylor Wentz, a senior communications sciences and disorders major from Little Rock, said that volleyball was her favorite sport to play. Wentz played on a team with her social club, the Women of EEE. “I love playing intramural volleyball because you don’t have to have a lot of skill or experience to play and have a fun time,” Wentz said.

The intramural program was divided into two leagues, an upper league and a lower league. The program did this so that students who just wanted to play for fun could without getting into the competitive side.

While some teams played for fun, others took the competitive side very seriously. Emily Payne, a senior kinesiology and sports recreation and ministry major, spent the entire fall semester carefully choosing teammates to form the perfect intramural basketball team.

After team captains sorted the teams between the two leagues, games were placed into a bracket. This allowed a tournament and championship in both leagues.

There were a lot of things that went on behind the scenes to prepare for the yearly sporting activities. Ouachita appointed two student co-directors for the Intramural program, Dalaney Thomas and Jared Lantzsch.

Some of their responsibilities included managing student referees, maintaining order in the games, resolving conflicts between competing teams, working with the supervisor to make decisions on brackets and league dynamics.

Being a co-director came with its share of benefits. “I enjoy getting to have a voice that can make a difference. Additionally, I’ve grown a lot of relationships with referees and intramural participants,” said Thomas.

Some of the changes that were made were the dynamic of relationships between the older refs and the newer refs. “We wanted to create an environment conducive to improvement so we try to show support in any way possible, even if that means just providing the refs with snacks,” said Thomas.

Lantzsch said they also worked on changing the atmosphere. “Sports are very competitive and can get stressful for our staff. We have tried to make it a fun and enjoyable atmosphere in which our referees like coming to work. We try to accomplish this by always encouraging each other and offering advice to one another. I believe that this is the best work study job offered by Ouachita.”

by Molly Freil
With the demanding schedule of most student athletes, many found themselves sticking to a strict schedule in order to accomplish everything they needed. For many of athletes, one thing they made sure to fit in their schedule was setting aside time for FCA meetings and events. FCA, (Fellowship of Christian Athletes), served as an organization that provided a Bible study and fellowship to student athletes. The group met on the first Wednesday of every month and was led by Coach Rickey Rogers and his wife, Lydia Rogers.

"We weren't just led to be in this position. We were led to be at Ouachita, period. We felt that the Lord had something else for us here besides my husband's job. The more we prayed about it, the more we knew this was for us," Mrs. Rogers said.

FCA was a group of students who came together to fellowship, play games and grow together through Christ. While the official name of the club is Fellowship of Christian Athletes, students didn't have to be an athlete to be a part of the organization.

"We have many students that come who maybe played in high school and miss that atmosphere of being on a team or just being connected with a group of people," Coach Rogers said.

The Rogers made an effort to make this year was different from the rest.

"This year we put together a leadership team. Our main role has been to guide and oversee them as they get things ready for our meetings," Mrs. Rogers said.

"Coach Rickey Rogers and his family are such a blessing to be around. His leadership brings so much to FCA and to this campus," said Jordan Sharp, a junior business administration marketing and sports management double major from Arkadelphia.

The leadership team was split into teams to handle certain responsibilities such as going and asking someone to speak at meetings, taking care of pictures and social media, community service and passing out flyers.

The Rogers say that they really tried to invest and help students on the leadership team grow in their faith.

"I've really enjoyed the behind the scenes work with the rest of the leadership team and the Rogers. The meetings we have before every event in their apartment is a great time to grow as a group," said leader Megan Clay, a senior biology major from El Dorado.

In the past, FCA had people from the community, students and alumni come to speak and give devotional. This year the Rogers brought in the coaches to share their testimonies.

"We thought that it would get a lot more students here. It's a great way for them to be able to connect with their coaches on a spiritual level," Coach Rogers said.

The Rogers, along with the leadership team, saw growth in numbers. They hoped to continue the growth along with continuing to look for opportunities to get involved not only at Ouachita but also with the Arkadelphia community.
Sophomore Jay Patrick bows his head in prayer along with other students at one of the many FCA meetings this year. The gatherings were a way for students with a similar interest in worship and sports to come together as one group.
The whistle sounds and the runners are off to the races in one of the six cross country meets the Tigers participated in this season. The meets included the Bob Gravett Invitational to begin the season on September 6 and the GAC Conference meet to end the season on November 8.
Sophomore Kayla Bulard races toward the finish line. The Tigers traveled all the way to Pensacola, Fla., for the Gulf Coast Stampede on September 27.

Senior Ashley Randels and freshman Courtney McDiarmid maintain a steady pace at one of the many cross country meets. McDiarmid was one of only two freshmen on the cross country team.


It’s 5:30 a.m. and there is an obnoxious alarm sounding. It sounds like it is being amplified through speakers the size of a dorm room. Why would anybody be awake so early and by choice? For a cross country runner, this is the weekly schedule. With 6 a.m. practices Monday through Thursday and weekends dedicated to racing, team members put a lot of work into being the best. The girls work hard, according to Coach Mike McGhee. His training program included sprinting, swimming and speed work, with the girls averaging about 5 miles a day in distance.

The cross country team had a competitive season with six meets, starting with the Bob Gravett Invitational hosted at home where they had their best finish for the season in fifth place. They came in sixth place in both the SAU Lois Davis Invitational and Gulf Coast Stampede.

One meet that was memorable for Coach McGhee was the last one of the season, the GAC conference meet. With one of their top runners in the emergency room the night before the bus left, Coach McGhee was worried his goals for the meet (beating Henderson and Arkansas Tech) wouldn’t be accomplished. But the team stepped up to the challenge.

“We beat Henderson, and missed Arkansas Tech by 8 points. I was really impressed with how hard they ran,” McGhee said.

For freshman Rachel Dilatush, a biology and psychology double major from Fayetteville, joining the team as a new runner, she was surprised at how easy it was to become one of girls.

“All of my teammates encourage me and push me to do better,” Dilatush said.

Abby Engelkes, a sophomore biology major from Conway, agreed with Dilatush. She felt that she has seen the team grow closer this season. All the early practices and aching muscles could be tough, but that was what brought the team together, according to Engelkes.

“We’re so close is because we all hate it together, but we get through it and we push ourselves. We can see the results together,” Engelkes said.

The team was filled with great runners and there’s more to it than just what you can achieve on the track, according to Coach McGhee.

“A great runner is one that has it all- not just the best time but has the big heart, has the discipline,” McGhee said.

The girls’ dedication was evident through the times they recorded throughout the season, but what really makes the difference? Commitment, according to Engelkes.

“Commitment to the team above yourself,” Engelkes said.

by Taryn Bailey
In April of last year, Abbey Little, a sophomore mass communications major from Hot Springs, was named captain of the 2014-2015 cheer squad. However, the definition of cheer captain changed when she needed to have knee surgery.

"It was incredibly frustrating because I had to sit out on practices and the first few football games during recovery," Little said. "I wanted to be able to participate with my teammates and grow with them instead of just watching everything. It was weird being captain and only being able to watch."

With the support of her teammates, Little returned to the sidelines after her recovery. The team led the football team and crowd throughout an incredible season.

"This is the first cheer squad I've ever been on," said Cody Osborn, a junior Christian studies major from Alexander. "It was such a great year to be a part of the team because of the success of the football team. Cheering for a team that wins is very satisfying."

One highlight game during the season for the squad was the Battle of the Ravine game against Henderson.

"Battle of the Ravine was probably one of my most memorable experiences," Little said. "I think my favorite part was actually being able to cheer at Henderson because we beat them on their home turf and then got to storm their field at the end of the game with the football team and the rest of the crowd."

Aside from the regular season, the squad cheered during the Tiger’s first appearance in the Division II playoffs.

"Our boys played a heck of a season and I could not be more proud of our Tigers. Coach Knight did a wonderful job of leading the team toward success," said Kaitlyn Jackson, a sophomore biology major from Arkadelphia. "They made cheering at football games even more exhilarating, and the boys finished empty for sure."

At the end of the record-breaking football season, the cheerleaders transitioned into basketball season. The team worked to encourage students and the crowd to be loud and supportive of the Tigers on the court. Throughout basketball season the team performed both on the sidelines and center court during special halftime performances.

"I’ve learned a lot about myself and others. Sometimes the decisions made have to be made for the entire team, not just one person," Little said. "My teammates taught me that you can never give or receive too much encouragement and love because that’s what makes you stronger as an individual and as a whole."

by Amber Easterly

"It was such a great year to be a part of the squad. Cheering for a team that wins is very satisfying."

- Cody Osborn, junior Christian studies major, Alexander

The squad performs one of its many stunts at a Tiger football games. They also performed at halftime of men’s and women’s basketball games.

Cody Osborn, Drew Dubose, BJ Avant and mascot Troy Daniell run with the flags after a Tiger touchdown. The boys helped maintain crowd excitement going into the next drive.

Sophomore Kaitlyn Jackson, freshman Shelby McCollett and junior Mariah Gough cheer on the men’s basketball team during a free throw. For basketball season spirit squad performed sideline cheers and halftime routines.
The band lines up in a standard line formation to perform one of its many halftime performances during football season. In the first year of the new Cliff Harris Stadium, the band performed at all home football games this season, incorporating gospel hits along with the traditional fight song and alma mater.
Members of the Ouachita Singers join the marching band. Dr. Ryan Lewis and Dr. Craig Hamilton formed the idea to add vocalists to the marching shows. Sophomore Jason Potts plays the trombone. The band played an integral part in motivating players and fans this season.

Echoing from the pristine Cliff Harris Stadium, sounds rang in colors of praise and devotion with voices, trumpets, flutes and cymbals.

The Tiger Marching Band reintroduced gospel hits like “Jesus Is Just Alright” and “Overcomer” during its halftime and Tiger Tunes performances. In addition to playing and marching, the band also featured musicians, many coming from local churches to sing and play along with the ensemble’s gospel anthems. These local musicians worked with the band to further encourage audience participation during the band’s performance.

During brainstorming sessions with Dr. Ryan Lewis, assistant professor of music, Dr. Craig Hamilton, director of bands and Trimble Professor of Music, formed the idea of a contemporary gospel mash-up. Lewis and Hamilton worked together in arranging all of the music for the show.

“We tried to use contemporary gospel tunes that the students and faculty would recognize and sing along with,” Hamilton said.

“We approached the praise and worship style in a very modern way,” said Zack Willis, sophomore music major from Redfield. “We could be loud and have fun while still achieving the visual effect of church.”

In the midst of an undefeated football season, the band managed to take the audience to church and have them dancing their way there. According to Hamilton, the band played an important role in its support of football through its motivation of players, coaches and fans.

entertaining with STYLE

“We were in a new stadium with a more professional look,” said Chelsea Villanueva, a senior music performance major from Rogers. “It was truly an environment that fit the crowd better, and it was refreshing to play and watch the games there.”

Willis also noted that the band helped to attract more people and excite the crowd.

The marching band’s gospel mash-up also featured guest praise singers. The band also dressed in choir robes and danced and played music from its halftime show on each night of Tiger Tunes.

“The dancing and the singers made the show more relatable to the audience,” Villanueva said. “They were encouraged to sing along with us.”

The band focused on playing well, staying relaxed and making the performances fun. Events such as a drum-off against Henderson’s drum line were testament to the group’s effort to promote cooperation and entertainment.

“We accomplished developing a more uniform sound, considering what we were playing,” Villanueva said. “By the end of the season, we were mostly checking tuning and sound and working on playing as an ensemble.”

Beginning before the start of the semester, the band began to grow musically and socially while serving as a source of entertainment. It was this growth that generated an energy that would last beyond the football season.

by Robert DeSoto
The 2014 season for the Tiger football team was one for the ages. The Tigers opened the new Cliff Harris Stadium in style by finishing the regular season with a perfect 10-0 record for the first time in school history. After winning the Great American Conference and clinching a first round bye for the playoffs, the season came to a heartbreaking end when the Tigers were defeated in overtime by the Minnesota-Duluth Bulldogs 48-45.

Despite the playoff loss, the Tigers proved over the course of the season that they were hands down the most talented team in the GAC. They had quite the home field advantage in their first season playing in Cliff Harris Stadium. The team outscored visiting opponents by a total score of 175-85 in five home regular season games. Winning on the road came just as easily as the Tigers finished with an undefeated road record for the season, including a dramatic, come from behind victory against the Harding Bisons in Searcy. “It was just a blessing. I think our bond got us where we were and allowed us to achieve what we did,” senior running back Steven Kehner said.

Any conference victory is something to be proud of, however, there is always one game a year that means more to the team and the entire campus than any other game. The last game of the regular season against Henderson, The Battle of the Ravine, is always an emotional contest on and off the field. This year’s matchup was no different. The Tigers were looking for vengeance after last season’s triple overtime loss at home, and with the GAC conference title on the line, the stakes were as high as ever. Despite playing in a hostile environment across the street, the Tigers remained as poised as they had the whole season and cruised to a 41-20 win over the rival Reddies. After avenging last year’s defeat, sophomore running back Brandon Marks said, “It meant that it was finally our year to run the show. It was our time to have bragging rights and to let everyone know that the Tigers mean business.”

At the conclusion of the season, the Tigers had conference-high 18 players receive All-GAC honors. Head coach Todd Knight was also the unanimous choice for GAC Coach of the Year. Safety Zack Mitchell, offensive linemen Aaron Sprinkle, Brent Calhoun and Michael Russell, kick returner Etauj Allen and Kehner, a unanimous selection, were all named to the All-GAC First Team. “It shows the hard work and dedication that we have put forth to accomplish these things,” Mitchell said.

Eight players received All-GAC Second Team honors and four more were tabbed with honorable mention recognition. The magnitude of the 2014 Tiger football season cannot be overstated. It will be remembered as one of the most successful in team history.

by Zach Parker
Senior receiver Jalen Jones reaches for a dramatic, one-handed catch against rival Henderson State. The Tigers won the Battle of the Ravine by a score of 41-20.

Senior defensive back Jeremy Small looks for room to run after intercepting a pass against East Central. Small had three interceptions for the season, second best on the team.


Settling Score

South Nazarene 28-7
East Central 41-20
SE Oklahoma State 35-29
SW Oklahoma State 54-21
NW Oklahoma State 41-10
Harding 31-28
Arkansas Tech 14-9
Southern Arkansas 38-28
Arkansas-Monticello 47-10
Henderson State 41-20
Minnesota Duluth 45-48

10-1-0
Freshman Kori Bullard goes right at two of her opponents, spiking the ball over the net in the process. Bullard was one of five freshmen to make her Tiger debut this season.
The 2014 season for the women’s volleyball team was once again very successful. For the fourth time in the last five seasons, the Lady Tigers finished with a winning record at 16-10, including a very impressive 9-3 record at home. And the home crowd advantage was evident. "The crowd helps a ton. The swimmers are always badgering the other team, which makes us more confident. It also helps that they cheer so loud when we get a good rally or an awesome save. The crowd at home always keeps the floor loud, which is great for us," senior Chelsey Hess said.

Early season jitters were not a problem for the Lady Tigers. They were on fire from the opening game, winning eight of their first 10 matches, including a 3-1 finish in the Alabama Huntsville Tournament to open the season. However, Great American Conference play produced mixed results for the Lady Tigers. The team struggled to find consistency and actually had a three-game losing streak and a three-game winning streak in the middle of the season. Most impressively, OBU won both of its matches against the always-competitive rivals from across the street, Henderson State. After finishing the season with a 7-7-conference record, the Lady Tigers qualified for the Great American Conference Tournament. The moment was short-lived as OBU suffered a heartbreaking 3-1 loss to the Harding Bison in the opening round. Despite this crushing defeat, the team refused to hang their heads after the season. "I definitely consider this season a success. We were able to surprise some teams with our level of play. Most importantly, I consider a successful team not one that has the best record, but one that has grown closer as a family and in Christ, a success that I believe we achieved," senior Kelley Ballard said.

The Lady Tigers boasted a roster made up of veterans and newcomers, featuring six seniors or redshirt seniors and also five freshmen. Three players were named to the 2014 Volleyball All-GAC Teams for their efforts. Junior Abby Pickett was awarded a spot on the All-GAC Second Team, while Ballard and sophomore Ashley Wake received honorable mention honors. Pickett was named to the all-conference team for the third consecutive season after leading the team in total kills with 219. Ballard was first on the team with her 84 blocks, including 32 solo blocks, good for second in the GAC. Wake led the team and was third in the conference with her 467 digs this season.

Despite the early loss in the conference tournament, the pieces are there for the Lady Tigers to build off of this success, and come back even stronger next season. Unfortunately for graduating seniors like Hess, not everyone will be able to experience the growth and maturation that this team experiences together. "It was neat to be a part of such a close team. I could see how things we worked on would go on to help the team next year when I won’t be here. I definitely saw the light at the end of the tunnel this season," Hess said.

 Fighting until the END

By Zach Parker
The 2014 season for the women's soccer team could be described as a tale of two teams. There was the regular season team that went through ups and downs en route to a 6-11-1 record (5-5 in conference), and there was the postseason team that ended the season on a three-game winning streak and won the first Great American Conference championship in school history. They played much better at home with three wins and three losses, compared to three wins and six losses on the road.

The Tigers struggled out of the gate, losing seven of their first nine contests, including a 5-0 loss to St. Mary's University on September 7 and a 6-0 loss to Texas Women's University on September 19. Ouachita started putting it all together when conference play began on October 3. Sophomore Bryson Rial said, "One of the best things for us this year was chemistry. With a large number of freshmen, it was initially hard to mesh and work together for a common goal. With the leadership and dedication of our two seniors, we were able to focus our efforts on the right things and we peaked at just the right time. Their leadership was crucial in getting the end result we desired."

Ouachita's 5-5 conference record included victories over Harding and Southern Nazarene. After earning the number-three seed in the Great American Conference Championship Tournament, the Tigers defeated Harding and Southern Nazarene once again, each time by a score of 1-0, to clinch the conference championship. Junior Haley Hatcher said, "It felt awesome to be the first team to do that. We were so proud. We did it for each other and our amazing coaches. It will be a day that I never forget."

At the end of the season, Hatcher was named GAC Offensive Player of the year for the second consecutive year. She led the GAC and was third in the nation with 17 goals. "I was very honored to win the award. I wish my whole team could have gotten it with me because they all deserved it too. I couldn't have accomplished anything without each and every one of my teammates," Hatcher said.

Hatcher was joined on the All-GAC Women's Soccer First Team by sophomore Tessa Woodcock, while Rial was named to the All-GAC Women's Soccer Second Team. Woodcock was also named Most Valuable Player of the GAC Tournament and was joined on the GAC All-Tournament Team by Hatcher, freshman Lauren Llanes, senior Abby Emmanual and junior Morgan Allen.

Teams are measured by wins and losses, but more importantly they are measured by championships or lack thereof. In this regard, the 2014 season has to be considered a success for the women's soccer team. This team will go down in history as the first team to bring home a GAC championship.

"It was very gratifying to see our hard work pay off in the end, and it was an honor for all of us to be able to represent Ouachita in this way," Rial said.

by Zach Parker

"We did it for each other and our amazing coaches. It will be a day that I never forget."

- Haley Hatcher, junior mass communications major, Maumelle

Sophomore midfielder Bryson Rial aims to strike as an opening in the net appears. Rial finished with four goals and three assists on the season, good for second on the team in both categories.
Sophomore defender Madison Trussell winds up to clear the ball to the other side of the field. Trussell played in 20 games this season, including 12 starts.

Freshman forward Alisa Trejo fights for possession against her opponent. Trejo was one of 14 freshmen on the roster this season.

Settling the SCORE

Texas A&M Int. 1-2
St. Mary's 0-5
Northeastern State 1-2
Oklahoma Christian 2-2
Rogers State 6-3
Texas Women's 0-6
Texas A&M Comm. 0-4
Harding 1-6
Texas A&M Int. 1-3
NW Oklahoma State 2-1
SW Oklahoma State 2-3
Southern Nazarene 3-2
Harding 5-3
NW Oklahoma State 1-6
SW Oklahoma State 2-1
Southern Nazarene 0-3
East Central 1-2
East Central 2-1
Harding 1-0
Southern Nazarene 1:0
8-11-1

Settlingscore

Texas A&M Int. 1-3
St. Mary's 0-3
Harding 4-2
Oklahoma Christian 0-3
Rogers State 2-3
Mississippi College 2-3
McMurray 3-0
Dallas Baptist 5-3
Texas A&M Int. 1-1
Delta State 2-0
Northeastern State 3-2
Union 2-1
Christian Brothers 0-1
Harding 0-0
Southern Nazarene 1-0
Northeastern State 1-3

8-6-2

Sophomore midfielder Brandon Horn dribbles the ball up the field as he surveys his options. Horn finished with two assists in 15 games played on the season.

Senior goalkeeper David Henley clears the ball down the field after making one of his many saves on the season. Henley recorded three shutouts in his 15 starts this year.

Freshman forward Christian Mayho avoids the defender and looks to pass. Mayho was one of 24 freshmen for the Tigers this season.

"The challenges of any new environment take some getting used to. In the same way, the men’s soccer team faced the process of grooming and honing their skills to create an effective team out of a fairly young one, posting an 8-6-2 record.

Following last season’s heavy influx of 17 freshmen, this year saw 24 freshmen on the team. "We brought the freshmen in knowing it would be a process," said head soccer coach Kevin Wright.

"Coming from high school soccer to college soccer is really a big change," David Henley, a senior Spanish major from Fort Worth, Texas, said. "Everything goes at a quicker pace and the players are much bigger."

The team started out with five losses at the very beginning, but eventually worked its way up to seven wins. Players attributed this progressive success to the team’s youth.

"We didn’t start out very well," Kyle Hendren, a junior business administration/finance major from Little Rock, said. "Our coach was still trying to figure out the lineup, and we were still trying to figure out how to work with each other. With any playing situation, when you bring in 20 new people, it’s going to take some getting used to."

Throughout the season, players worked on strengthening their skills and improving their teamwork.

"We had to figure out how everybody wanted to play," Logan Hampton, a sophomore accounting major from Conway, said. "You have to take into consideration people’s playing tendencies, like whether they’re left-footed or right-footed."

Once the team figured out its right dynamic, the players saw the results almost immediately as they collected their seven wins.

"At the beginning we were just filling holes with players," Wright said. "We didn’t have a guy that scored a lot of goals, but we later found players like Tinashe Chigede who could."

In addition to bettering the team’s offensive tactics, they also worked to strengthen and solidify their defense. One of the best tools in accomplishing these goals was allowing players to get the chance to play against real competition.

"[The younger players] got the experience of playing top-level players. It helped them understand what they need to do to win the games," Henley said.

Bettering the team’s playing ability, as well as its dynamic, was among the effects of playing more and more games as the season progressed.

"Our getting better just comes from experience," Hampton said. "Playing more games, continuing to get better, it gave us much more confidence."

With the addition of so many younger players, the men’s soccer team developed their skills and the team dynamic as the season unfolded, ending the season with a winning record.

"We weren’t winning at the beginning because nobody knew how the other played. We weren’t on the same wavelength," Henley said. "But after six games, once you understand what to do and how to do it, it becomes 10 times easier."

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by Robert DeSoto

season of GROWTH

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by Robert DeSoto
Cliff Harris Stadium

"There is just a sense of pride that we have now," Athletic Director David Sharp said about Ouachita University’s Cliff Harris Stadium. "Now, we don’t just have football games, we have an event."

On Dec. 13, 2013, Ouachita President Rev. Horne presented plans to fund the construction of a new football stadium in honor of Cliff Harris. Harris, a 1970 graduate of Ouachita, was an All-American safety for the Tigers and is a member of the Ouachita Hall of Fame, NAIA Hall of Fame and the Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame.

"He is arguably the most notable former Ouachita athlete out there. There is no question about that," Sharp said. Harris went on to play for the Dallas Cowboys for 10 years, where he played in six Pro Bowls and is one of only 13 players in NFL history to play in five Super Bowls. The four-time All-Pro safety nicknamed "Captain Crash" was named to the NFL’s All-Decade Team for the 1970s and the NFL All-Time Dream Team by Sports Illustrated. On Oct. 4, 2004, Harris was inducted into the Dallas Cowboys Ring of Honor, a club that began in 1975 and consists of only 20 members.

Despite all of his success outside of Ouachita, Harris still credits the university for his development and maturation.

"The foundation of my faith was planted at Ouachita. When you come into Ouachita as an 18-year-old kid and leave there at age 22, your life is just beginning and you do not realize it at the time, but a foundation of faith that you are going to lean on for the rest of your life is laid there at Ouachita," Harris said.

After receiving a major donation as a matching challenge, and additional funds from a "100-Yard Campaign," Ouachita destroyed its former home stands and press box on February 14, 2014. Harris attended the event and even participated.

"I had the opportunity to get personally involved in the demolition of the old stadium, which was quite a thrill for me, considering the history of the stadium," Harris said. "The old stadium did not want to give up, and it fought hard, but finally gave in and toppled over."

Then on Monday, May 12, I will never forget it, they delivered steel and started on the 13th. And four months later, we played in it on Sept. 13," Sharp said. "That whole process has been really, really neat to see."

The stadium continues to include A.U. Williams Field, named after Arthur Upton Williams, a physician from Hot Springs, who made a large donation for an athletic field on Ouachita’s campus in 1912. The field was originally created for Ouachita’s baseball team and was the minor league Kansas City Blues’ spring training site during 1916 and 1917. The field also hosted two exhibition games, including the March 27, 1916 spring training game between the Blues and Honus Wagner’s Pittsburgh Pirates. In 1960, six years before Harris arrived, the new and current A.U. Williams Field was built on campus.

Cliff Harris Stadium is 192 feet long, stretching from one 18-yard line to the next on A.U. Williams Field. The stadium is 110 feet deep and stands 82 feet tall.

"I think one of the most significant features of the new stadium is the George Dunklin Family Press Box," Harris said. "I was very, very impressed, and that is something that sets this stadium apart from other stadiums." The George Dunklin Family Press Box, named in honor of the Dunklin family’s generous financial gift, is nearly 3,500 square feet and features a presidential suite, athletic director’s suite and reception area. The press box also contains a film deck and rooms for coaches, radio and other media, sports information, public address speakers and clock operators.

Although the stadium is used only for football, Sharp is greatly appreciative of the help the athletic department has received from the rest of the campus.

"I think first and foremost you have to point to Dr. Horne for the vision and the boldness to get this done," Sharp said. "And then of course, the development office because they raised quite a bit of money. Dr. Brett Sharp was the key guy as far as the construction and working with the architect, and of course Coach Todd Knight for helping plan how we wanted the stadium to look."

Ouachita dedicated the stadium on Saturday, Sept. 13, prior to the inaugural game in which the Tigers defeated Southern Nazarene 28-7. Standing on the field before the game with family, friends and former Ouachita and Cowboys teammates, Harris spoke about his appreciation for Ouachita and those surrounding him.

"Only through the generosity of Kelcy Warren, the project’s lead donor, and Rex Horne sharing his vision of the stadium with him, was construction of the stadium possible. Rex did a great job through his personality, honesty and sincerity to present the vision and the need that gained Kelcy’s support for the project," he said.

The Tigers finished the regular season undefeated at Cliff Harris Stadium, defeating their opponents by an average of 18 points. During Ouachita’s 54-21 homecoming game victory over Southwestern Oklahoma State on Oct. 4, over 3,300 fans, including Harris, were in attendance.

"Cliff’s got such a giving heart, and he is so humble about it," said Sharp. "He has been very, very gracious, but, at the same time, he is very, very proud of it. He loves the fact that he can come back and see everyone and acknowledge their thanks."

As the season developed, students on Ouachita’s campus attempted to raise school spirit by nicknaming the stadium. As multiple handles spread, one name grew exponentially, and by the end of the season, the stadium was known across Arkadelphia simply as "The Cliff."

"I think 'The Cliff' is a great name for a stadium," Harris said. "I have seen stadiums with nicknames that do have positive effects, and the fans really get into them. I hope that this nickname will stick and continue with what was started this year, and our opponents will come into town and not look forward to playing at ‘The Cliff.'"

The 2014 football season ended with a 41-20 victory across the street in the 2014 Battle of the Ravine, giving Ouachita its second Great American Conference Championship in four years. The Tigers also hosted their first NCAA Division II playoff game in school history. Although many believe "The Cliff" has become a good-luck charm for the Tigers, Harris understands the need for outstanding coaches and determined student-athletes.

"Having a new stadium can certainly have a positive effect not only on the team, the college and the city," said Harris, "But as I know personally, the reality of team success and winning in football is the team needs to perform at high levels. This year, they did such that. I am so proud of Coach Todd Knight and the job that he did. What an incredible accomplishment to compile the best record in more than 100 years of Tiger football. I was very honored and humbled to have my name associated with this historic season. What great timing to have it in this first year of the stadium with my name on it. It was such a thrill for me."

The stadium, which is the first part of Ouachita’s campus seen when driving into Arkadelphia, is not only to benefit Ouachita but the entire town.

"Now, you come down Highway 7, and you see this beautiful stadium, with a state-of-the-art press box, a parking lot, a nice fence around it," said Sharp. "It is a huge shot in the arm of athletics, all of our athletic teams and our school, but also it is a front door to the community, and there is just a sense of pride that we have for it."

by Brandon Smith
The new wrestling season for the Tigers brought new goals, new challenges and a new coach. Chris Chionuma was named interim head coach for the Tiger wrestling team for the 2014-2015 season. Despite the pressure to deliver success in his first year as a head coach, Chionuma was up for the challenge.

"I handled it well. I took it head on," Chionuma said. "I don't see anything except the upside to it because I'm young and the things we are doing here are new and we have the right leadership with the seniors here."

After being preseason ranked the number four team in the country, expectations were at an all time high for the Tigers. Guided by Chionuma and the seven seniors, the team was looking to improve on the success of previous seasons and take this program to the next level.

"Coming into the season, our number one goal was to win a national championship," said Nate Rodriguez, a sophomore biology major from Neosho, Mo.

The regular season was headlined by impressive victories over Central Oklahoma twice, Oklahoma City and Shorter by a combined score of 118-31. The Tigers were dominant and also took care of business against Wayland Baptist before attending the Lombardi Maryville Duals in St. Louis, Missouri. As the regular season came to a close, seniors Garret Evans, Dallas Smith and Josh Myers, sophomore Nate Rodriguez and freshman Payne Hatter all traveled to St. Louis to participate in the NCAA Division II Championships.

A year after winning a junior college national championship, Hatter was looking to achieve the same thing at the Division II level. While he came up short in his quest for another title, he fought hard and was honored as an All-American by finishing seventh in the 174-pound weight class. Evans suffered a couple of tough losses but still finished his Tiger wrestling career as a three-time All-American. Myers was also named an All-American for the third time and Rodriguez was for the second time after both finished the year ranked in the top six of their respective weight classes.

The real story of the tournament for the Tigers this year was Smith. He came into the year looking to become the first four-time All-American in Tiger wrestling history. Smith accomplished that and more as he defeated Nick Burghardt of Maryville University to win the individual national championship in the 184-pound weight class, the first in school history.

"It was amazing to accomplish a childhood goal of winning a collegiate title. I feel blessed to have the coaches and teammates that I did, in order to be there at the end," Smith said.

The team finished the year as the number five wrestling team in the country, and just five years after its beginning, Tiger wrestling claimed its first national championship this season, courtesy of Smith.

by Zach Parker

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- Dallas Smith, senior kinesiology major
Joplin, Missouri
Senior Dallas Smith looks to pin his foe from Central Oklahoma. The Tigers won both matchups of the home and home series against the Bronchos.

Junior O’Dell Lee goes for a takedown against Shorter University. The Tigers went on to win by a score of 29-6.


Settliaat

SCORE

Arkansas Baptist 48-6
Williams Baptist 39-6
Alma College 29-16
Central Oklahoma 26-9
Indianapolis 44-0
St. Cloud State 22-19
Findlay 32-9
Alderson-Broaddus 49-3
St. Cloud State 17-22
Mercyhurst 15-21
Oklahoma City 32-9
Central Oklahoma 31-7
Shorter 29-6
King University 40-9
Maryville 12-26
McKendree 19-22

12-4-0
Firing off the starting block, junior Karen Wray looks to build an early lead. Wray finished in the top 10 at the NSISC conference finals.

Enjoying a temporary break in the action, junior Emily Grigsby catches her breath. Grigsby and the Tigersharks finished 4th at the UALR Invitational on December 4.

Junior Elizabeth Willis competes in a backstroke relay against Henderson State. The Tigersharks fought hard but lost both competitions against the Reddies.

Spend six out of seven days a week together, giving up free time to get faster in the pool and sacrificing sleep for improvement are just a few of the many challenges that the Lady Tigersharks faced this season. But with new coach Stephen Bostick in charge, the girls had a season unlike any other.

"I think Bostick has done wonders to the team ever since he came. I feel like he’s helped me fall in love with swimming again," said Rachel Ewart, a mass communications and sociology double major from Bossier City, La.

Under Bostick’s unique training regimen, the girls got the chance to do something new in practice every day, including more fast-paced racing to better prepare them for meets. Their team of only 10 girls placed seventh out of nine teams in the NSISC conference finals with juniors Elizabeth Willis and Karen Wray finishing in the top 10 spots in their individual races.

Bostick’s coaching and encouragement for the girls turned the team around, and in only a year managed to show how strength and success did not merely lie in numbers.

“I think every day was a proud moment. We have a lot of girls with a lot of potential and I think every day they got more and more confident in what they were doing,” Bostick said.

Whether the girls were new to swimming, or had been swimming for 16 years, they agreed on one thing for certain, it required dedication.

“It takes a lot of time. You really have to be committed to do it or you’re not going to succeed,” said Madeline Rowe, a freshman speech pathology major from Gunter, Texas.

The Lady Tigersharks were committed to swimming their best in every meet whether it be in Arkadelphia, in Pensacola, Fla., or in Mississippi for the NSISC championships. Tough coaching, and passion, brought the girls far.

“I think the most important aspect of a team is unity among groups of certain personalities. Having everyone come together and finding something that they love and they’re passionate about,” Ewart said.

Not only was swimming important to the Lady Tigersharks for the purpose of how far they might get in competition, but also as a consistent way to improve their attitudes on a weekly basis.

“Swimming is where I find community. It’s freeing to me with all the stress of school to dive in the water and get away from problems,” Ewart said.

Swimming was not only a chance to advance athletically but a way to learn valuable life skills like time management, confidence in your abilities and how to work in a situation that is team oriented and less individualistic. Not only did the women became better athletes, they became better equipped adults. Ultimately, it’s not all about statistics.

“If you love what you do, it really doesn’t matter how fast you go,” Rowe said.

by Taryn Bailey

Women's Swimming Sports 73
With early morning practices and long hours of dedication, it's safe to say that the Tigersharks worked hard this season with the leadership of a new coach.

Former swimmer and Ouachita alumnus Steven Bostick was welcomed on deck as the new head swimming and diving coach. Although the team was on the small side to begin with, Bostick knew that was a challenge in front of him that he was willing to take on.

"With Bostick's creative workouts, this season has allowed me to train harder than I ever have," said Riley Bunyard, a freshman business major from Harrah, Okla. Bunyard had an excellent first season of collegiate swimming as he achieved best times in all three of his events by four to six seconds. At NSISC conference championships, he qualified for the A final heat in two of his three events, placing eighth in the 200 butterfly and seventh in the 400 individual medley.

Additionally, Matt Cox, a junior political science and finance double major from Texarkana, Texas, also had a solid season with the guidance of the new coach.

"Overall I benefited from Bostick's training regimen that he introduced us to. Practices were different each day. It never got monotonous," Cox said.

Cox saw success at conference as he made A finals in two individual events. He swam a best time in the 100 butterfly placing fourth, and he took sixth place in the 100 freestyle. Cox also contributed some speed to the men's A relays at conference that placed top four.

"One of the most impressive races for our men's team at conference was the 800 freestyle relay," Bostick said. "They placed second, barely getting out touched by Delta State."

The relay included seniors Emile Maritz and Yan Roca, along with juniors David Wray and Matt Cox.

In addition to some great swims, the new divers added to the team score at their very first conference meet. Junior Cody Osborn placed seventh in both the one and three meter dives, while sophomore Jonathan Dixon took eighth place for the one-meter board.

"I was happy with our divers and putting them on the podium their first time around," Bostick said. "I think doing well at conference motivated the divers and also gave them some confidence for what they are capable of."

Osborn picked up his diving abilities from his training as a cheerleader. The flips for cheer were similar to the dives he had to learn to score at meets, so it was easy to pick up for him.

In contrast, Dixon dove in high school and decided to pick up the sport again while also gaining a great support system in his team.

Aside from exerting maximum effort in their training regiments, the men's team had a solid season of bonding as they laid the foundation for the program to build on.

- Matt Cox, Junior political science and finance double major, Texarkana, Texas

"Overall I benefited from Bostick's training regiments that he introduced us to. Practices were different each day. It never got monotonous."

With speed and precision, senior Matt Cox competes in the butterfly event against Henderson State. Although the Tigersharks came up short in both meetings with the Reddies, Cox continued to prove all season long that he wouldn't back down to any opponent.
At the sound of the whistle, the Tigersharks dive in the water and head for the finish line. The swim team faced off against the rival Reddies and competed in the UALR Invite.

Senior Emilie Maritz reaches for his goggles after finishing a race. Maritz and fellow senior Yan Rocha were the leaders of the young Tigershark team.

Settling the Score

Henderson State 82-149
Delta State 71-217
UALR Invite 2nd place
Henderson State 73-154
NSISC 4th place

The Lady Tigers experienced a year of learning and growing together as a team. They bonded together throughout the season, proud of each other for fighting and never giving up.

"The biggest thing we learned was to not worry about the win and loss record, but to just keep improving each day," said Coach Garry Crowder. "We grew together as a team and I know these girls each know their roles and what it takes to be successful."

With seven out of the 14 members being freshmen and only two seniors on the team, the girls had to work hard to learn the plays and be confident in them for the games.

"It was very frustrating at times. It was hard to learn such a new and complex system when it was often two or three of us on the court who were unsure at the same time," said Kori Bullard, a freshman biology major from Hot Springs. "To be the only freshman on the starting line-up was an incredible honor, but it was also extremely nerve wracking. The nerves came from my inexperience at the college level, but also because of my love for the game and want to win each battle we faced."

"I think they did a great job and contributed so much to our team. They all came in ready to work and transitioned to the college level with poise in my opinion," said Ashley Johnson, a senior kinesiology and leisure studies pre-professional major from Sherwood.

Of the 10 winning games, Crowder said the team's best were over University of Arkansas at Fort Smith, an NCAA tournament team, and Southeastern Oklahoma, who had won 20 games. On November 11, the Lady Tigers defeated University of Arkansas at Fort Smith with a 79-78 victory after Katherine West shot a 3 pointer with 3.9 seconds left on the clock. On January 17, the Lady Tigers stayed in the lead for most of the game to complete a 71-67 home win over Southeastern Oklahoma.

The Lady Tigers finished the season winning six of the 12 games played at home in Bill Vining Arena.

"Playing in the same gym as we practice every day has a huge impact. There's nothing like playing in front of a home crowd cheering for you. When we are on the road, we just don't have that advantage. It's hard for everyone to play on the road," said Macey Burr, a junior elementary education major from Hot Springs Village.

Breanna Harris, a 5'10 junior kinesiology and leisure studies pre-professional major from Bryant, was named to the GAC All Conference Team averaging 13.1 points per game. With a regular season record of 10-17 and a conference record of 6-14, the Lady Tigers finished ninth in the GAC Conference, only missing the postseason tournament round by one game.

by Abbey Little

"There's nothing like playing in front of a home crowd cheering for you."

- Macey Burr, junior elementary education major, Hot Springs Village
After separating from the defense, junior guard Breanna Harris puts up a three point shot. Harris was named All-GAC Honorable Mention with averages of 13.1 points and 4.4 rebounds per game.

Junior guard Katherine West dribbles the ball up the court against Arkansas-Monticello. West averaged 8.6 points and 3 assists per game.

Junior guard David Berete throws down a powerful dunk against Champion Baptist. Berete averaged 8.5 points and 4 assists per game in his first season for the Tigers.

Front Row: Allen Buchanan, Justin McCleary, Colt Fason, Micah Delph, Tirrell Brown, David Berete. Back Row: Head Coach Dennis Nutt, Assistant Coach Eric Braeuer, Jontavis Willis, Michael Igbokidi, Carven Holcombe, Austin Theiss, David Hill, Jordan Corbitt, Student Assistant Tyler Gattin.
Looking for an opening, sophomore guard Justin McCleary dribbles into the lane against Arkansas-Monticello. McCleary averaged 10.4 points per game for the Tigers, while shooting 42 percent from three.

Senior guard Micah Delph attempts a three point shot from the corner. Delph led the team in three pointers made this season with 70.

For some teams, a season in which there are only three seniors on the roster would be considered a rebuilding year. The men's basketball team, on the other hand, had every intention of competing despite a lineup featuring so many new players. With seniors Colt Fason and Micah Delph leading the way, the Tigers finished the regular season with an astounding 20-5 record before coming up short in a hard fought, overtime contest in the first round of the Great American Conference Tournament against Southwestern Oklahoma State. "Coach made it clear that it was me and Colt's team. It was our job to keep the guys motivated, and to help the young and new guys get accustomed to the way the Tigers operate," Delph said.

Junior forward Tirrell Brown, a transfer from University of Central Arkansas, was one of the many new players on the team. The transition to a new group of guys was seamless for Brown as he led the team in scoring with 17.6 points per game and was second on the team with 7.4 rebounds per game. Brown was named GAC Player of the Year and GAC Newcomer of the Year for his efforts. Along with Fason, who averaged 13.7 points and 7.7 rebounds per game, Brown was selected to the All-GAC First Team while Delph received All-GAC Honorable Mention honors after leading the team in free throw percentage and second in assists. In his last game as a Tiger, Fason moved into first place on the conference's all time scoring list. "Records that I've won over the season mean a lot to me and are a huge boost of motivation for my future in basketball," he said.

The Tigers boasted an impressive 16-4 conference record. They were especially successful at home where they went undefeated in 13 contests, outscoring opponents by an average of 17 points per game. By winning nine of their last 10 games, the Tigers won the outright conference title for the regular season. The 2014-2015 season was the most successful for head coach Dennis Nutt in his Ouachita tenure. In his first 20-win season as head coach, Nutt was unanimously named GAC Head Coach of the Year. "The biggest reason we won 20 games and had the success that we did was because of Coach Nutt and Coach Eric preparing our minds in the beginning to see the big picture," Fason said.

Although the season did not end with a championship in the conference tournament, the Tigers were a force to be reckoned with for the entirety of the 2014-2015 campaign. Despite so many new additions to the roster, they played as a team and won as a team. "We had to learn that not every night has to be your night to shine and after we figured that out, we were able to win many games," Fason said. Tiger fans will not soon forget the success of the men's basketball team this season.

by Zach Parker
Eying the cup, Ali Robinson looks to sink her putt and move on to the next hole. As the older player, Robinson was the leader of the women’s golf team this season as she led the team in scoring along the way.
Implementing practice into performance, Shelby Hudson follows through on a putt. The team put hours of practice in each week this season.

From countless hours on the course, to perfecting swings, the Lady Tigers held tough throughout the season and played some of their best golf while gaining confidence in the sport. Although the team was small this season, the girls learned to enjoy what the sport taught them.

This season’s training regimen consisted of three to four hour practices, which included short-game drills for pitching, chipping and putting. The team also worked on full swings at the driving range and followed up with nine holes of golf.

“While on the course, we discuss course management to maximize placement of shots for tournament play and continuous focus on conquering the mental side of golf, which is 90 percent of the golf game,” said Doug Taylor, the women’s golf head coach.

One of the main challenges this season was entering tournaments as individuals rather than a team since the Lady Tigers came short of having a full team.

Ali Robinson, a junior mass communications and psychology major from Bella Vista, and Shelby Hudson, a sophomore psychology and history major from Queen City, Texas, started the season off with a top 10 finish at SAU’s Fall Classic. Robinson then followed up with a top 20 finish at the Buccaneer Classic in Memphis and a top 30 finish at the UAM Fall Classic. Robinson led the team in scoring this season while Hudson finished the GAC Championship with her best score of the season.

“These two athletes represented Ouachita in the finest fashion this year,” Taylor said. “Their attitudes, actions and performances building a BOND represented the high standards our student athletes represent each day at Ouachita and I couldn’t be more proud of them. I have thoroughly enjoyed the season with them.”

Robinson affirmed that being surrounded by others who have a love for the game and are uplifting made golf all the more special for her. Through the ups and downs of the season, Robinson benefited overall from what golf has taught her.

“Golf has really taught me to have patience. Patience with others, the game and myself,” Robinson said. “My favorite part about golf is the challenge it gives me. I’ve come a long way in terms of confidence and skill level, but there will always be an opportunity for me to learn more about the game and how to better myself through it.”

Hudson believed that the transition from high school to college tournaments was much different than she imagined, however, she loved having the opportunity to travel to new places and bond with Robinson and coach Taylor.

“This season has showed me that golf isn’t always about competing and winning, it’s also about enjoying yourself and most importantly just having fun,” said Hudson.

It was announced in February the university would discontinue the golf program after the spring season. But for Robinson and Hudson, it was a year to gain knowledge and appreciation for the sport they loved.

by Rachel Ewart

Team Members: Ali Robinson and Shelby Hudson.
Overcoming adversity is something that all teams go through in a season, regardless of the sport. For the men's golf team, the entire year was about dealing with adversity after it was announced in February that the men's golf program would be suspended effective in the fall of 2015. Although the door was left open to possibly continue the program at a later time if donors chose to fund it, the team still had to deal with the distraction that they were playing in what could be the final season for Tiger golf.

"It's definitely something that was in the back of my mind, but I just did my best to not let it affect me. I tried to go out and play as well as I could. The biggest distraction was people from different teams saying they had heard something about it and were wondering if it was true," said Shane Starkey, a sophomore business administration major from Vilonia.

In what could have been a disastrous season for the Tigers, younger players relied on the leadership from seniors like Jamie Barker, a biology and political science double major from Smackover, and Will Hegi, an accounting major from El Dorado.

"As someone who has done it for four years and has a lot of experience that younger guys may not have, I definitely considered myself a leader," Barker said.

The team finished second overall at Mystic Creek GC in September, where Hegi and freshman Griffin Smith, a biology major from Sheridan, finished as the top two golfers individually. After placing one final run in the top 10 at the Mulerider Spring Classic and Natural State Golf Classic, the team struggled at the GAC Men's Golf Championship at the end of the year, finishing in 10th place. However, Hegi did finish inside the top 20 for par 4 scoring at the same tournament. Despite coming up short of their goals, the Tigers maintained the unity of a team throughout the entire season.

"At the end of the day we're all guys who have golfed our whole lives, so we each shared the responsibility of posting a good number each time we teed it up," Barker said.

As a small team, with only seven players on roster, the Tigers bonded together in a very difficult time and became closer when many teams would have fallen apart.

"The adversity of having the program cut helped us to push ourselves. We wanted to finish this season as best we could to send the program out right until it does come back. I would say we bonded more this season because we all had the same goal in mind and that was to give everything we had for one last season," said Jacob Calhoon, a junior business administration major from Jonesboro.

Regardless of record or where they finished, the men's golf team represented Ouachita with pride during its final run.

by Zach Parker

"As someone who has done it for four years and has a lot of experience that younger guys may not have, I definitely considered myself a leader."

- Jamie Barker, senior biology and political science double major, Smackover

Senior Will Hegi tees off at the GAC Men's Golf Championship. At the end of the season, Hegi was named Ouachita's Outstanding Men's Golfer of the Year for his efforts.
One of the leaders of the team, senior Jamie Barker, follows his shot at the GAC Men’s Golf Championship. Barker later won the Men’s Golf Jerry Forehand Award.

Never taking his eyes off the ball, junior Jacob Calhoon prepares to tee off. This was the third season for Calhoon on the golf team.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Settling the Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mystic Creek GC: 2nd</td>
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<tr>
<td>UAM Fall Classic: 7th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dave Falconer Classic: 19th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mulerider Spring Classic: 4th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natural State Golf Classic: 8th</td>
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<td>GAC Championship: 10th</td>
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Will Hegi, Jamie Barker, Head Coach David Sharp, Jacob Calhoon, Griffin Smith and Shane Starkey.
FOR THE RECORD

2014-2015 Tiger Athletics Highlights

Colt Fason GAC's all-time leading scorer for Men's Basketball

Men's Tennis became first GAC team of any sport to win four consecutive GAC championships

GAC CHAMPS
Men's Tennis

GAC CHAMPS
Football

National Champion
Dallas Smith
Wrestling

GAC CHAMPS
Men's Basketball Regular Season

GAC CHAMPS
Women's Soccer
Men’s Swimming
800 Yard Freestyle
Relay team at NSISC
Conference Finals

Men’s Swimming
400 Yard Freestyle
Relay team at NSISC
Conference Finals

Nate Rodriguez finished third in the NCAA National Wrestling Tournament
133-pound bracket

Sarah Johnson had the 3rd most doubles and 8th best batting average for GAC softball

Josh Myers finished sixth in the NCAA National Wrestling Tournament
141-pound bracket

Payne Hatter finished seventh in the NCAA National Wrestling Tournament
174-pound bracket

Steven Kehner GAC record 16 rushing touchdowns

John Franklin Matros GAC Baseball Freshman of the Year
Connor Eller GAC Baseball Pitcher of the Year
Jeremy Haworth GAC Baseball Coach of the Year
Todd Knight GAC Football Coach of the Year
Etauj Allen named Don Hansen National Special Teams Player of the Year for GAC Football
Haley Hatcher Women’s Soccer GAC Offensive Player of the Year
Dennis Nutt GAC Men’s Basketball Coach of the Year
Tirrell Brown GAC Men’s Basketball Player of the Year and GAC Newcomer of the Year
Senior Kourtney Chumbley goes for an underhand swing against Southeastern Oklahoma State. As one of only three seniors on the roster, Chumbley was one of the leaders of the Lady Tigers.
Sophomore Polina Tsymbolova lunges for a ball against Southeastern Oklahoma State. Unfortunately, the Lady Tigers lost the match 1-8.

Looking for an ace, sophomore Vanja Bogetic fires a powerful serve over the net. The Lady Tigers had impressive victories over UAPB and Texarkana A&M.

The Ouachita Lady Tiger Tennis Team marked a season of change as they secured big wins against the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff and Texas A&M-Texarkana.

"This season was tough, but each of us worked hard," said Kourtney Chumbley, a senior mass communications major from Richardson, Texas. "We helped each other as a team and we looked for success as a team. There is so much improvement and they are going to do some amazing things next year."

The Lady Tigers got off to a good start against UAPB when all six Lady Tigers won in straight sets and three winning their matches by sweeping them. The Tigers also took two of three in doubles matches on the day.

"It certainly was a confidence builder," said Betsy Danner, head coach of the women's tennis team.

Valeriya Mansvelova won in two sets on the day 6-0 and 6-4. Vanja Bogetic earned the second win by scores of 6-4 and 6-3. Kourtney Chumbley, Polina Tsymbolova and Camila Ferreira won their matches as well.

Bogetic and Tsymbolova won their doubles match 8-0 over the UAPB doubles team.

"That was a big win for us," Chumbley said. "We knew that we had to kick off the year with a big win and we went out and did that against a good UAPB team. I was very happy that we were able to win those matches. It really gave us a lot of motivation to work hard and win as a team early in the year."

Following the big win, the Lady Tigers fell in four straight games before resurging in an 8-1 win over Texas A&M University-Texarkana.

After a loss to Maryville University, the Lady Tigers had road losses to Southern Nazarene, East Central and Henderson State. The Lady Tigers then suffered a tough loss to Harding University.

Bogetic, a junior from Budva, Serbia was named to the 2015 All-Great American Conference Second Team.

"It was a good honor getting to be on the conference second team," Bogetic said. "I was happy to play for this team this season."

by Dixon Land
The word "dynasty" is not thrown around lightly when referring to a team, regardless of the sport. The men's tennis team has done everything in their power to be worthy of such a title. The Tigers clinched their fourth consecutive GAC Men's Tennis Championship this season, becoming the first team in conference history, in any sport, to accomplish such a feat. The Tigers came from behind against the Southeastern Oklahoma State Savage Storm in the final to win by a final score of 5-3. They moved on to the NCAA Division II Championships but came up short against the 3-seeded West Florida Argonauts by a final score of 5-0. The men's tennis team finished the season with a very impressive 15-5 record.

There was no slow start for the Tigers this season as they began the year by defeating seven of their first eight opponents, with five of them being shutout victories. The only loss in this stretch came against Division I Southern Methodist on the road. They followed that up by winning six of their next eight matches with shutouts against Mississippi College, Delta State and Colorado State-Pueblo along the way. That also included wins over ranked opponents Cameron University and Northwest Missouri State University on the road.

After suffering a disappointing 2-7 loss at the hands of Southeastern Oklahoma State to open conference play, the Tigers defeated East Central by a score of 7-2 and Harding by a score of 8-1 to reassert their dominance in the GAC. The Tigers ended the regular season on a six-game winning streak and entered the GAC Tournament as the number 2 seed. They dominated East Central in a 5-1 victory before avenging their regular season loss against Southeastern Oklahoma State to clinch their fourth straight conference title.

"We made history and I'm glad I was a part of it. To contribute to the tennis program and continue on from the success of our previous Tigers was awesome," said junior Jason Mechali, a finance and accounting double major from Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

Under the leadership of head coach Craig Ward, the Tigers continued their streak of absolute dominance this season. Junior Vitor Oliveira, a kinesiology major from Brasilia, Brazil, was named to the CoSIDA Capital One Academic All-District Team as well.

"I had to give up on some fun time in order to practice or study, but the sacrifice paid off in the end as it was very satisfying to set a goal, fight for it and achieve it," Oliveira said.

The hard work and preparation paid off for the men's tennis team this season as they competed hard and truly earned the title of a dynasty.

"The thing that stood out the most with this group was how much they enjoyed each other and team chemistry was a difference maker at the end. They were a joy to coach and be with," Coach Ward said.

by Zach Parker

"We made history and I'm glad I was a part of it. To contribute to the tennis program and continue on from the success of our previous Tigers was awesome."

- Jason Mechali, junior finance and accounting double major, Port Elizabeth, South Africa

Using his speed, sophomore Maciej Brasciszewicz chases down a ball against University of Arkansas-Fort Smith. The Tigers would go on to win the match by a convincing score of 8-1.
Keeping both hands on the racket and both eyes on the ball, senior Marko Boskovic looks to place his shot out of his opponent's reach. Boskovic was the only senior for the Tigers this season.

Sophomore Andre Stefano winds up for a powerful serve. Stefano and the Tigers recorded five different shutout victories this season.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Settling the SCORE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UAPB 6-0</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Ozarks 7-0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southern Methodist 0-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southwest Baptist 6-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mississippi College 9-0</td>
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<td>East Central 7-2</td>
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<td>Harding 8-1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nebraska Kearney 5-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southwest Baptist 5-2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arkansas-Fort Smith 8-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Central 5-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE Oklahoma State 5-3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15-4-0

Settling the Score

Lyon College 4-5, 9-13
Lincoln University 8-0
Missouri Southern State 9-11
Missouri Western State 8-0
Christian Brothers 5-2
William Jewell 2-6
Southwest Baptist 3-4
Minnesota Duluth 7-5
SE Oklahoma State 1-7, 3-4
SE Oklahoma State 3-4, 4-9
Southern Arkansas 5-0, 6-7
Southern Arkansas 7-8
Arkansas-Monticello 3-8, 4-13
NW Oklahoma State 1-6, 3-1
NW Oklahoma State 0-8, 2-3
SW Oklahoma State 3-2, 12-4
Henderson State 5-4, 1-7
Southern Nazarene 1-13, 2-8
Southern Nazarene 10-2, 2-4
Henderson State 0-5, 2-5
East Texas Baptist 0-3, 0-4
Arkansas Tech 3-5, 2-7
Arkansas Tech 0-7, 0-8
Harding 2-6, 2-7
Harding 2-1, 4-6
East Central 0-8, 2-10
East Central 4-5, 7-15
11-35-0

Sophomore outfielder Kate Lacina looks to make solid contact against Southern Nazarene. Lacina was one of seven Lady Tigers to finish with a batting average of .250 or higher.

The term “rebuilding season” is not one that most teams like to use to describe a year. However, every team goes through one from time to time, regardless of the sport. This year could be described as a rebuilding season for the Lady Tiger softball team. With only five upperclassmen on the roster, the goal for this season was for the younger players to gain some valuable experience while competing hard along the way.

Olivia Guin, a math and secondary education double major from Shreveport, La., considered herself to be one of the leaders of the team as one of only three seniors.

“I got called ‘mom’ by a lot of the underclassmen. I feel like I took this year to just help in any aspect I could when it came to them because they are the future of this program,” Guin said.

The Lady Tigers were on fire to begin the season. They won three of four games in the Ronnie Hawkins Invitational, including 8-0 shutouts against Lincoln University of Missouri and Missouri Western State University. After two heartbreaking losses to open the UAM 8-State Classic, the Lady Tigers bounced back to defeat University of Minnesota Duluth by a score of 7-5.

After the season’s opening tournaments, conference play led to what could best be described as growing pains by the young softball team. The Lady Tigers went 7-28 against GAC opponents, but the playing time proved to be beneficial for many of the underclassmen on the roster. Sophomore outfielder Kate Lacina and freshman utility player Sarah Johnson were named to the All-GAC Second Team for their efforts. Lacina, an accounting major from Bentonville, batted .331 for the season and also led the team with 10 home runs, while Johnson, a kinesiology and sports management double major from Mount Vernon, Texas, led the team in batting average, hits, doubles, RBI, total bases and slugging percentage.

“After struggling with my confidence and swing early in the season, it meant the world to me to have a coach that believed in me and friends and family that supported me through the entire season,” Johnson said.

Freshman outfielder Kelly Powell, an accounting major from Flower Mound, Texas, finished third on the team with a .295 batting average and also had five triples and six doubles on the year. On the mound, freshman Delaney Bedunah, a psychology major from Wichita Falls, Texas, was named Pitcher of the Year at the Academic Awards Banquet. As the ace of the staff, she led the team in ERA, wins and had the fewest walks among starting pitchers.

“It meant that all of the hard work that I had put in throughout the year paid off in more ways than I had even expected it to, and it doesn’t really matter how experienced you are, what really matters is how much effort you put into it,” Bedunah said.

In a rebuilding season, it’s best not to measure a team by their win-loss record. Despite the 11-35 record, the Lady Tigers were able to give many young players valuable experience, which has to be considered successful.

by Zach Parker
The 2015 season for the Tiger baseball team was filled with the success that fans have become accustomed to. The team finished with a 25-17 record, including 14-8 in the Great American Conference. The Tigers also boasted a 16-6 home record at Rab Rodgers Field.

“We were just comfortable there. It’s our home field. We know how it plays and in baseball you’re supposed to be good at home, and I think that’s really what helped us win so many games at Rab,” said senior catcher Matt Sinclair.

After a slow start to open the season, the Tigers put the rest of the conference on notice by winning seven of their first eight games against GAC opponents. Then came a rough stretch against Southern Arkansas before another hot streak with seven wins in nine games. Despite coming up short in their chance to clinch the regular season conference championship in their last game, the Tigers still came into the GAC Tournament with high hopes.

In the first game of the tournament, the team blew out Arkansas Tech by a score of 11-3. They came up short against Henderson State and Southern Arkansas in the next two games and the season was over.

Even without winning a conference championship, the Tiger baseball team still did more than enough to walk away with their heads held high. Junior pitcher Connor Eller, sophomore shortstop Justin Weigle and senior outfielder Parker Norris were named to the All-GAC First Team, while freshman pitcher John Franklin Matros and junior third baseman Reuben Miller were named to the All-GAC Second Team for their efforts. Eller was also named GAC Pitcher of the Year after going 8-2 with a 2.53 ERA as the ace of the Tiger pitching staff.

“My mind set was to come in and make an immediate contribution. I began working even harder to give my team the best chance to win when I took the mound,” Eller said.

Matros was also named GAC Freshman of the Year after going 4-4 with a 2.97 ERA in 10 starts this season. "I was fortunate to come into an experienced team and coaching staff that gave me the opportunity to contribute to our team’s success," he said.

Weigle came into his own this year as he led the Tigers with 32 RBI, finished second on the team with five home runs and was third in batting average, hitting .338 on the year.

Norris was arguably his best as he led the Tigers in hits and on base percentage and was second with a .361 batting average. The two-time All-GAC outfielder will go down as one of the best players in team history.

The Tigers had their best season in Head Coach Jeremy Haworth’s four year tenure and he was named GAC Coach of the Year because of it. The team had the third best batting average and second best ERA in the conference while also committing the third fewest errors. The Tiger baseball team was synonymous with success and the 2015 season was no different.

by Zach Parker

"I was fortunate to come into an experienced team and coaching staff that gave me the opportunity to contribute to our team’s success."

- John Franklin Matros, freshman accounting major, Arkadelphia

Junior Connor Eller goes through his windup against Southern Arkansas. Eller was the ace of the staff this season as he paced the Tigers in wins, starts and strikeouts.
While “The Bubble” consisted of many facets, **academics** was at its core. Students were taught the importance of learning not just inside the classroom, but the value of real world experience as well. From a budding coffee business to media internships, students experienced life outside “The Bubble.” An updated CORE curriculum was introduced that allowed students to gain a liberal arts education, which combined with their major, prepared them for life after Ouachita.
TRAVELING dreams

Those who had the heart to travel the world and experience new cultures were in good hands when it came to Ouachita’s study abroad program. The Grant Center of International Education provided opportunities with universities in 14 different countries including Australia, Austria, China, Costa Rica, England, France, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Morocco, Scotland, South Africa and Spain, as well as the European Study Tour in the summer and the Hands On Missions Program.

“It’s always been my dream to travel somewhere else in the world. Studying abroad seemed like the best way to accomplish this,” said Haley Martin, a sophomore Christian studies and mass communications double major from Little Rock who studied in England.

When choosing the location, students thought about many things. Some, like Taylor Strain, a senior mass communications major from Mabelvale, had dreamed about their location forever.

“Australia had been my number one place to go because of all of the movies and pictures I had always seen,” said Strain. “Perth was the perfect spot because it wasn’t directly in the hustle of the main city. We were so close to other cities, shopping and beaches, we got the feel of everything.”

Students faced challenges being away from home, however the experiences, knowledge and friendships they gained while abroad were irreplaceable.

“When I got to the airport, there were two girls who were also studying here. They thought I was from Spain. I thought they were from Ireland. They’re from Wisconsin. We realized quickly we weren’t so different after all. It’s all of the awkward first encounters that we laugh about because we’ve become great friends,” said Martin.

“There’s so much more to the world than most people get to see,” said Taylor Black, a junior psychology and mass communications double major from Benton, who studied in Salzburg, Austria, in the fall.

“I was able to make friends from literally all over the world that I can call up in a heartbeat if I need somewhere to randomly stay, see castles every day, go canyoning off cliffs and waterfalls, eat classic German food, see the Roman Coliseum and even talk to concentrations camp survivors,” said Black.

By studying abroad, students are given the chance to broaden their horizons, become more confident and spontaneous, and take once in a lifetime adventures they will cherish forever.

by Abbey Little
1/ Sophomore Jenna Gammon stands in front of the monument created to celebrate the joining of the Great Southern and Indian Oceans. Gammon studied in Perth, but was able to travel all over Western Australia during her time abroad in the spring.

2/ Junior Elva Rosas takes a ferry to explore the beautiful city of Sydney, Australia, on a Friday afternoon. The view of the Sydney Opera House was just a part of her view on a daily basis.

3/ Sophomores Nina Hefner and Sidney Meriweather enjoy the peaceful scenery of Salzburg. Their excursion took them to Untersberg, Austria's tallest mountain.

4/ Junior Caroline Groustra visits The London Tower Bridge right outside the Tower of London. Groustra was able to go to her favorite city of London multiple times on weekend trips during her time studying in Liverpool, England.

5/ Junior Taylor Black embraces the windy day at the Cliffs of Moher in Ireland. During her time abroad, Black was able to travel to 10 different countries.
1/ Dr. Jeff Sykes teaches students the process of calculating installment loan payments in the Introduction to Problem Solving course. This class allowed students to strengthen their foundational quantitative reasoning skills before taking more advanced math courses.

2/ Senior Hollan Van Horn practices her interview skills during a Senior Seminar exercise. During this activity, students served as a mock interview panel for graduate school or a job, while their classmates pitched why they were strong candidates.

3/ Dr. Scott Jackson returns graded exegetical draft papers back to his students. Interpretation of the Bible was a required course that taught students how to interpret, apply and write an exegetical paper over specific passages of the Bible.

4/ Freshman Chad Satchell practices his speech for a small group of peers before presenting to his class. Public Speaking was added as an option in the new CORE requirements. The course helped students gain confidence when speaking in front of others.

5/ Dr. Myra Houser finds creative ways to give lectures by incorporating current topics like Target commercials. Contemporary World, a course that explored major events happening in the world, was just one of the history courses Houser taught.

Freshman Emily Acuna exercises during Health and Safety. The class covered issues such as nutrition, exercise, mental health, stress and domestic violence.
A new school year brought a new CORE curriculum for underclassmen on campus. This past school year students and professors adapted to a new set of course requirements.

Students were required to take a set of interdisciplinary courses under what is called the CORE curriculum. These courses, adopted by the School of Interdisciplinary Studies and approved by the faculty, allowed students to not only get an all-around exposure to the liberal arts, but also helped them connect concepts across their courses and majors.

The 2014-2015 CORE Catalog was altered for incoming freshmen, the first major update since 1995. These changes included the addition of the Arts Engagement Series, a course where students attended performances and art exhibits to earn credit.

Course requirements also changed for the common CORE. Science courses like Physical Science and Life Science were replaced with Scientific Inquiry and Scientific Connections. After a trial run last year, Introduction to Liberal Arts was restructured into Connections, a course that focused on making connections across disciplines.

In addition to the common CORE requirements, more flexible menus were offered, allowing students to make choices in their CORE experience. For example, in addition to the previously required Wellness course, students could opt to take Health & Safety or Outdoor Leisure Pursuits.

Dr. Bethany Hicks, assistant professor of history, said the CORE classes gave students the benefit of discussing topics that overlapped with other CORE courses.

"It creates a better space for the students to be more comfortable bringing in expertise from their major," said Hicks. "For example, you talk about medicine in ancient Greece and ideas about what made them sick. This semester, I had biology students talk about what they learned about how disease was treated."

Lauren Ford, a freshman political science major from Cabot, said the CORE classes she took definitely overlapped with other courses.

"I've seen how some classes will overlap with others," said Ford. "I will learn something in class one day, and the next day I might use that information in another class."

Marcellus Hill, a freshman mass communications major from Ennis, Texas, said CORE classes benefitted students by exposing them to more subjects outside of their majors.

"It never hurts to have knowledge on other subjects outside of your major," said Hill. "It makes you a more well-rounded person."

The CORE program was useful to students and professors in connecting ideas across their disciplines. As professors continued to actively engage their students in discussions, everyone in the classroom benefited from having their minds exposed to different ideas from all fields of study.

by Matthew Ablon
From serving the Lord through missions and ministry, to building strong student-faculty relationships, the Pruett School of Christian Studies laid a strong foundation for students to build upon.

Many students consider the faculty one of the unique aspects of campus and it was clear to see the faculty of this school touched the hearts of many students through their wisdom and down to earth teaching. Junior Karen Wray, a Christian studies major from Memphis, Tenn., expressed her respect for the department and her love for the personable professors.

"Honestly, my favorite part of being a Christian studies major is the relationships with the professors," Wray said. "You get to know them as people not just teachers and they want to get to know you as well. It's not one sided. They take a specific interest in your learning, not just getting their job done."

Wray came to Ouachita with the mindset of being a business major, but God redirected her path and led her to switch to Christian studies. She added a minor in Greek, which broadened her horizons for future career options.

"What has set OBU's program apart from all others are its professors," said Will Peevy, a junior Christian studies and Biblical studies double major from Rogers. "It's rare to find a Christian studies program where the instructors have been published, are regularly being called to present at various conferences, have spent time overseas in missions and are regarded as some of the best scholars in their respected fields."

Dr. Ray Franklin shared insight about how much he enjoyed not only pouring into the students, but also watching them grow.

"We are equipping young men and women to be servants of the kingdom. For me, that's more than just a paid staff ministry position, but to build personal relationships with the students and watch them mature in the Lord," Franklin said.

Another beneficial aspect of the Pruett School of Christian Studies is that it allows students and faculty to be transparent with their faith and worldviews.

"There's a lot of energy on a college campus and I enjoy getting to know the students and their stances of faith," said Franklin. "I love watching the lights come on when they grasp a concept in class, about the Bible and how it applies to their life, or about missions and how we can answer God's call. Watching God work in the students has been incredible."

by Rachel Ewart
1/ Dr. Joey Dodson analyzes a passage of the Bible in Greek for his students. Dodson used the board for visual demonstrations to break apart scripture.

2/ Senior Reed Shackelford types out notes during Advanced Christian Ministry. As a part of the class, students were required to give short sermons to their classmates.

3/ Senior Sarah Stiles works in the Christian studies department during her work study. Stiles graded papers and worked as Dr. Doug Nykolaishen's assistant in Berry Bible Building.

4/ Dr. Barbara Pemberton explains a World Religions lesson in class. The class studied various religions differing from Christianity.

5/ Dr. Tully Borland reviews a lesson in his Introduction to Philosophy class. Borland presented ideas to his students that challenged their minds.
The School of Humanities offered students majoring in English, Spanish, mass communications and speech communication a variety of educational opportunities in the classroom and in the field. The school refocused the objectives of teaching within some of the departments, including the English department, which was renamed the Department of Language and Literature.

Dr. Jeff Root, Dean of the School of Humanities, said this change was done in order to recognize all the department does.

"In all of the courses and majors in that department, they are focusing on language, whether it is English or a foreign language, and literature, which is true in Spanish just as it is in English," Root said.

With more focus on language, professors and students alike benefited with unique discussions in classes such as English Literature II and Literary Criticism. Hannah Wright, a junior English major from Jersey, said her time in the Language and Literature Department was fruitful and further piqued her interest in the art of the English language. Her teachers in particular were a major influence.

"The teachers in the Bugtruck are awesome," said Wright, using the affectionate nickname for the department. "Even if you're not an English major, the door to the Bugtruck is always open to anyone waiting to wander."

Another major draw for students within the School of Humanities was the field of mass communications. McKenzie Cranford, a senior mass communications major from Coppell, Texas, said her experience in mass communications courses had been invaluable to her professional development as well as her academic development.

"I've been deeply encouraged by the people in the department, and by taking advantage of the many involvement and leadership opportunities available, I have gained confidence and skills that will help me as I take the next step in my journey after graduation," Cranford said. "I've learned to be a more effective communicator as well as how to relate to and work with people of different backgrounds."

Communications students were involved in real-world marketing campaigns during the year. The International Association of Business Communicators-Arkansas honored Ouachita's campus chapter for its social media campaign for the national Cliff Harris Award. In the spring semester, the Advertising/PR Campaigns class developed a marketing campaign for the Rogers Department of Communications.

Humanities students praised the school for its strong academic offerings, and the School of Humanities continued to educate students who had a passion for studying languages, literature and communications.

by Matthew Ablon
A Fresh Coat Of Paint

Any artist will tell you there is nothing quite like starting fresh with a new canvas. The newly renovated facilities at Moses-Provine Hall served as that fresh canvas for students from the Rosemary Adams Department of Visual Arts and students of all majors to utilize. The remodeling of Moses-Provine Hall featured a fresh update on the building with an emphasis on safety and accessibility.

Moses-Provine Hall served as the home to the School of Natural sciences for many years until the second floor became the facilities for the Department of Visual Arts in the late 1990s. Since that time, many of the classrooms have not suited the needs of students enrolled in art courses.

"We completed a self-study in the fall of 2012 that showed some of our strengths and weaknesses," Donnie Copeland, associate professor of visual arts, said. "We discovered that we needed a place of our own that better suited our needs."

Copeland and other faculty members worked closely to determine the best plans for the transformation of Moses-Provine Hall. The next step would come after a generous gift in 2013 from 1963 alumna Rosemary (Gossett) Adams to aid the project.

"We were thrilled to receive her gift," Copeland said. "It came at a time after the survey when we really needed the money."

"A gift like that only comes around once in a lifetime," Dr. Scott Holsclaw, dean of the School of Fine Arts, said about Adams' gift. "After receiving the gift and the drawing up of plans, we became very excited about the possibility of helping out the department."

With the finances and renovation details in place, the transformation began in the fall semester. According to Holsclaw, the specific changes to Moses-Provine had to do with increasing safety and accessibility for students. In terms of safety, the department added workshop dust vacuums and ventilation systems to help keep the air safe from dust or fumes. They also made woodworking and ceramic spaces safer with better tools and appropriate workspaces.

"I took ceramics last year, and the rooms would become so hot when we had the kilns going because of the poor ventilation," Cait Crowell, a senior graphic design and mass communications major from Lindal, Texas, said. "I had never had to use power tools before my art courses, I feel better about being required to do so now that it's much safer."

When considering accessibility, the department installed an elevator and added bathrooms on the second floor. Even something as simple as these additions created a more convenient and more independent environment for the visual art students to call their own. The large tables and sinks suited for science labs made way for new cabinets and flat-file storage spaces.

"Being an art major, you have to use almost every single room to get things done," Crowell said about the new card swipes that came with the renovations to unlock workrooms in the evenings. "And when I was working on my exhibit and I had to bring 25 feet of wood upstairs, I didn't have to walk upstairs with it thanks to the elevator."

Along with the façade of the building that opened up with new windows and the inside that had new floors installed, the new gallery space on both floors of Moses-Provine was a highlight of the renovations. Previously, the only gallery spaces available were Hammons Gallery and the lobby of Verser Theatre. The new spaces allow for more exhibits to run for longer periods and more exhibits of professional collections.

"The new galleries are the biggest improvement," Craig Martin, a senior graphic design major and mass communications from Harare, Zimbabwe, said. "They create an environment that's much more professional."

According to Holsclaw, the renovations allow for the exhibits and the department as a whole to be more connected with the campus.

"The arts are hugely important to our way of life," Holsclaw said about the continued heritage of the campus' connection with the arts. "They've always been a part of Ouachita since 1886."

by Robert DeSoto
Servitude. This was not often a word associated with education. However, according to Dr. Rachel Pool, an assistant professor of education in the Huckabee School of Education, it was the perfect word to describe the field of education. Dr. Pool believed that Jesus was the master teacher, and she transferred this to the way she taught in the classroom.

"We look at the evaluation system that we'll use on our student teachers and we show how Jesus fulfilled all of those evaluation standards," Pool said.

For Katie Cunningham, a sophomore English and secondary education double major from Frisco, Texas, this "others before self" attitude was especially important in educating others.

"I hope that it is never about me. Whether I am teaching English in another country or in a classroom, I want to give all that I can to teach and love people well," Cunningham said.

Students in the Huckabee School of Education had the chance to learn about global servitude and travel overseas to the UK during the May term of the Study Abroad program. Through learning about the culture, education systems in other countries and meeting with missionaries, students who wanted to be exceptional teachers had a chance to absorb information that they could carry with them into their future teaching endeavors.

"Just like the 12 disciples that multiplied into the world, we're hoping that wherever we are we can make our impact in that school and then that impact goes with the students," Pool said.

Students at Ouachita strove to genuinely make a difference in the lives of others.

"I hope I'm able to be an effective teacher and not just have it as a job, I hope that I can be a good example for Christ," said freshman Alexa Spinks, an early childhood education major from Arkadelphia.

The School of Education also was home to students who were interested in recreation, fitness and sports ministry. The Department of Kinesiology and Leisure Studies also offered pre-professional programs that prepared students for continued studies in areas such as athletic training, exercise science, physical therapy and occupational therapy.

While students gained content knowledge in their classes, they applied that knowledge in the field through outdoor and recreational activities, and through their volunteer work with public school students and with Special Olympics.

by Taryn Bailey
1/ Sophomore Katie Cunningham utilizes the computers in her professional writing class to finalize her differentiated instruction paper. Students were required to choose an educational topic and write a research paper.

2/ Instructor Rachel Pool lectures from a powerpoint to her Instructional Technology class. Students learned how to integrate technology into the K-12 curriculum.

3/ Mrs. Kaila Murphy models a character book talk for the students of Literature for the Elementary Classroom. Murphy dressed as the main character of the book and told the story from her perspective.

4/ Students prepare activities for Special Olympics. The event was held February 19 in SPEC. Students in the Department of Kinesiology and Leisure Studies helped plan and work the event.

5/ Students in the Physiology of Exercise course learn how to conduct nerve reflex on the iWork system. The software system offered experiments and exercises in various aspects of physiology.

BY THE NUMBERS

- Fitness
- Elementary Education
- Pre-Professional Studies
- Secondary Education
- Early Childhood Education
- Recreation
- Kinesiology Teaching Emphasis
- Middle School Education
- Recreation Sports Ministry
1/ Junior accounting major Bonnie Magee listens to a lecture during Institutional Accounting. The course taught students about accounting theory for not-for-profit organizations.

2/ Sophomores Elise Cobb and Kit Bowen listen to Mrs. Jeanie Curry review for the last test of the semester in Accounting II. Students were able to expand their knowledge of the basics of accounting, emphasizing partnerships and corporations.

3/ Brett Parker speaks to business majors during a First Friday session about his experiences as an entrepreneur. Parker and his wife appeared on the TV show "Shark Tank," where they gained support for their idea of a baby blanket to help babies feel safe when they are asleep.

4/ Students mingle and eat with Ouachita board members, alumni, donors, government officials and business leaders from around the state at the Hickingbotham School of Business Luncheon. Attendees were served lunch by Sodexo Catering and listened to a guest speaker.
The Hickingbotham School of Business saw growth with a new group, new emphasis and a new word. Seniors McKenzie Berry, a business administration marketing and management double major from Tulsa, Okla., and Erin Wilson, a senior business administration marketing and management double major from Hot Springs Village, took initiative and began “OBU Women in Business.” Berry and Wilson formed this group when they were in class together and hoped to make it a permanent part of the School of Business.

“It started as a project for Dr. Faught’s Business Leadership class. The best part about this to me is seeing a professor that wants us to succeed and grow as professionals,” Wilson said. “A lot of women that are originally business majors end up switching, so we want to lower the turnover for female business majors and possibly encourage girls as freshmen to become business majors.”

Mrs. Jeanie Curry, the only female professor in the Hickingbotham School of Business, offered her assistance with this new group.

“The group helps them build relationships with other women so when they graduate they will be more comfortable building those relationships where they work,” Curry said.

With both Wilson and Berry about to graduate, they agreed that younger girls were the key to making the program stay strong on campus.

“We wanted it to be focused towards the younger girls and carry it out because we are graduating so soon. Our hope for right now is to really get it going and thrive and for girls to have a positive experience,” Berry said.

In addition to this new group, the School of Business saw the creation of a new emphasis to their degree.

“This year we have started the sports management program and we have seen quite a lot of interest in that,” said Bryan McKinney, Dean of the Hickingbotham School of Business.

A key group on campus and an additional emphasis were not the only new things the School of Business saw. The school also coined a new term, “Bissions.”

“Bissions was actually coined by Griffin Peeples, so we have to give him credit for it,” McKinney said.

McKinney explained that with having a business department at a Christian University, they wanted to provide their students with a way to use their gifts. Those students were looking for a way for missions and business to come together, and that was something the department wanted to provide as well.

The Hickingbotham School of Business had not only expanded the number of groups, terms and emphases for students, but assisted students to become difference makers in the world of business.
The Division of Music at Ouachita can be described in three words: practical, personal and positive. The division sought to challenge and encourage students in their pursuit to learn, perform and compose great music.

"We try to take the student from where they are and move them as quickly and proficiently as we can to a level where they will be successful once they leave Ouachita," said Dr. Gary Gerber, chair of the Division of Music.

According to Gerber, the theory, aural skills and music history courses laid a foundation for the budding musicians. The applied instruction courses then helped individuals gain increased proficiency with a certain instrument or voice part. Gerber also mentioned that the ensembles are to music majors as labs are to science majors. The students used what they learned from their classes and applied instruction and brought them together in various group performances.

"The most enjoyable classes are those where I'm putting into practice what I'm learning," said Caroline Dunlap, a sophomore piano performance major from Little Rock.

In addition, Gerber explained the significance of the recitals as part of a holistic music education, especially the senior recital.

"It's one of the capstones of the course and the curriculum that we teach. It is putting into practice all of the lab, foundational, theory, music history and their applied lessons into a package that they can present. It's a goal they work toward," Gerber said.

"It definitely is rewarding when you are able to go out there and really make music and feel like you haven't just performed well, but you've touched people with it," Dunlap said about her sophomore recital.

Students like Kimberly Attaway, a sophomore music education major from Austin, Texas, also thrived off of personalized attention from their instructors.

"I've learned so much and just because of the atmosphere of Ouachita, I've had those one-on-one connections with the professors. That individual attention will definitely pay off and will make me marketable," Attaway said.

"The faculty and the students are super encouraging here. It's not so much cut-throat competition, it's really a lot more like a family," Dunlap said.

"I enjoy working with students and faculty to see them be successful," Gerber said.

With personal investment from expert professors, applicable coursework and an uplifting atmosphere, Ouachita music students were well equipped for life beyond the bubble.

by Barrett Gay
1/ Mr. David Stanley, instructor of music, teaches senior John Doss during his private voice lesson. Students majoring in music were required to take applied lessons each year.

2/ As part of the Drum Ensemble class, students form a drum circle and learn hand drumming. The course taught students different aspects of eastern music.

3/ Sophomore Lizzie Shelby rehearses for her Piano Seminar. Students with a keyboard emphasis were required to take Piano Seminar every semester.

4/ Senior Cory Feuerbacher interacts with Dr. Bruce Johnston during an elective guitar lesson. Dr. Johnston offered guitar and bass lessons to all of Ouachita's student body regardless of their major.

5/ Senior Cami Willis performs a song during her senior recital. The senior recital is a degree requirement for music majors.
1/ Sophomore Morgan Cansler draws with oil pastels in Design II. Students in this course built upon their basic skills and learned the intricacies of color theory.

2/ Assistant Professor Ferris Williams instructs Karley Telfer in her graphic design course. Students learned the rules and principles of good design and composition.

3/ Students view Aly Smith’s senior exhibit titled Pages. Smith created life-size magazine pages on the wall with tape so viewers could see the story of her time in the Visual Arts Department.

4/ Sophomore McKenzie George throws a bowl on the potter’s wheel in Ceramics. Students learned the basics of wheel-thrown pottery.

Senior Katherine Love discusses her senior exhibit with Dr. Gary Smith. Love’s exhibit showcased her graphic design skills.

BY THE NUMBERS

- Graphic Design: 3
- Studio Art: 1
- Art Education: 2

Haley Hatcher Photo
Visual arts students spent most of their time in class getting their hands dirty and exploring different avenues of artistic expression as they polished their skills and developed a personal aesthetic. Work in multiple avenues was encouraged and in the senior exhibits, work in multiple mediums was on display.

In order to broaden the horizon of students, new visual arts classes were added to the curriculum. These classes included Introduction to Digital Media, Typography, Sophomore Portfolio, Secondary Methods of Art Education, History of Modern and Contemporary Art and History of Graphic Design.

"These new classes are giving students more of an opportunity to develop their craft," said Blaine Surber, a senior mass communications and musical theatre double major from Sulphur Springs, Texas.

According to Ferris Williams, assistant professor of visual arts, "Typography is one of the most important aspects of a designer's job. It is constantly listed among job listings as one of the most important skills needed by designers. This made it important enough to us to have it as its own class."

The Typography course was designed to teach students the many facets of type on the printed page and the web. By equipping students with a thorough knowledge of typography, the department produced stronger designers.

Sophomore Portfolio was created to allow students to begin to cultivate their portfolio earlier than their senior year. Having a basic portfolio helped students gain internships and made the final portfolio during their senior year not such a daunting task.

"It think it is so smart to require a sophomore portfolio class," said Aly Smith, a senior graphic design and mass communications major from Sherwood. "As a senior I had to plan and execute my senior exhibit and assemble my portfolio at the same time. Future students who will already have a good portion of their portfolio finished, or at least understand the process, will have a much smoother time finishing their senior portfolio."

According to Donnie Copeland, chair of the Visual Arts Department, the purpose behind the new art history courses, History of Modern and Contemporary Art and History of Graphic Design, along with the other newly added courses, was to more thoroughly prepare students for work in their chosen field.

"It is fitting for a liberal arts degree in art or design, such as ours, to include more history," said Copeland. "They, along with the other more technically oriented additions, will better prepare students for future professional work in the visual arts and design workplace," Copeland said.
CREATIVE chances

"It's all about giving students opportunity," said Professor Eric Phillips, chair of the department of theatre arts.

For the department, giving students opportunity didn't mean a brand new degree or updated classrooms, it meant giving students the ability to apply on stage what they've been learning in the classroom.

The 2014-2015 season brought something new to traditional show line up. Students, rather than faculty, came together to create The Muse Project.

"We wanted to open up a slot in our season line up that included the students more in the production and allowed them to apply what they've been learning in the classroom to the real world," Phillips said. "The entire theatre faculty came together to brainstorm ways we could give students more responsibility and opportunity to those who wish to be playwrights, directors or scene designers after they graduate. The Muse Project became the end result."

The Muse Project allowed students to submit self-written work or already published material they wished to direct to be performed during the show season. It allowed many students to take what they learned in the classroom and apply it to this new opportunity. Any genre of theatre was allowed to be submitted for consideration. There were no limitations as to what could be selected. This allowed students the ability to work with each other to create a finished product that could inspire the campus and community.

The first Muse Project was "Second Star to the Right," a Cirque du Soleil inspired exploration of Peter Pan, created and directed by Kaylee Nebe.

"Kaylee took the story of Peter Pan and just used movement, mostly with aerial silks, cube and lyra to tell the story, almost like Cirque du Soleil," said Abby Root, a sophomore theatre and speech education major from Arkadelphia. "I played Wendy and it was by far one of the best experiences I've ever been a part of."

The theatre department took huge risks by giving students the freedom to create their own show in the season. The risk paid off as the first Muse Project was a hit across campus.

"Theatre is all about taking risks," said Daniel Inouye, assistant professor of theatre arts. "The Muse Project stands by that motto by allowing students to take risks in creating new and exciting art for the public to see. It's great to be a part of a department that provides students opportunity to show their creativity."

by Blaine Surber
1/ Sophomore Abby Root and senior Blaine Surber perform as Wendy and Peter Pan in the production of "Second Star to the Right." The pair returned to school early from Christmas break to start training on the silks and learning the show together.

2/ Mrs. Jennifer Maddox leads her Jazz class in an across the floor combination in the new dance studio in Mabee. The Williams Dance Studio housed all the required jazz, tap, ballet and modern dance classes.

3/ Sophomore Kyle Osmon and senior Kaylee Nebe perform a scene titled "The Shape of Things." Acting 3 students explored character development and performance from different dramatic literatures.

4/ Junior Stacy Hawking and senior Jessica Smith read through their lines in the lobby of Verser. Students in Acting 4 worked quickly to learn new scene work, styles and acting approaches.

5/ Assistant Professor Daniel Inouye leads the American Drama class in discussion. Over the course of the semester, the class evaluated theatre from American society by studying representative playwrights.

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BY THE NUMBERS

- Musical Theatre
- Theatre
- Theatre/Speech Education

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Fine Art: Theatre Arts
Academics
When Jake Kausler, a senior Biblical languages and computer science double major from Marion, Ark., began reading Bram Stoker’s “Dracula,” he could only picture in his mind’s eye the landscapes and the spooky structures that the book talked about. But when Kausler and 15 other students partook in the British Isles Tour through the Carl Goodson Honors Program, they came face to face with history, and they saw literature come alive in front of their very eyes.

The trip itself came about because of three different Honors seminars that took place on campus: Tudor History, Fantasy Literature and The Vampires. In each seminar, students read books and learned about different authors and time periods in history. It was these seminars that formed the backbone of the trip overseas.

Dr. Barbara Pemberton, professor of Christian Missions and director of the Carl Goodson Honors Program, designed the study tour. She shared how one of the goals of the program is for students to experience what they are learning through travel. “We planned the trip,” Pemberton said, “so that we could kind of go behind all of these seminars, behind the writers to see their inspiration for how they got to where they were.”

Before leaving the United States, the prospective travelers met on campus and shared information about the various seminars and what people needed to know about them. Once all the presentations were completed and the required readings were read, the students were eager to board their plane to find out what the British Isles had in store for them. Led by Pemberton and Mrs. Lynn Valletutti, Instructional Media Services Coordinator at Ouachita, they set out in mid-May for their journey.

Their plan was simple and very extensive. They would start out in Dublin, the Birthplace of “Dracula’s” author Bram Stoker, and learn about the culture of Ireland. Then they would make their way to Scotland, learning about fantasy writings and authors like Robert Kirk, visiting castles and going on “ghost tours.” After Scotland they would drive south to England, where they would experience mystical places like Whidbey, with its stimulating architecture and landscape that further inspired Stoker’s “Dracula.” They would visit Stratford – the birthplace of William Shakespeare, the famed Oxford University, and finish their tour in London.

Though the trip was meticulously planned out, some of the most beautiful moments of the trip were parts that were not planned. One such experience was the simple coincidence, or miracle, that the group’s tour guide in Dublin happened to be an expert on Bram Stoker and “Dracula.” He had even written a book on the subject. Pemberton mentioned how the tour guide’s insights were thought provoking to the group and gave them a deeper understanding of who Bram Stoker was.

Another unplanned beauty of their trip occurred when the group was touring in Aberfoyle, Scotland. They met their guide who, Pemberton said, “Looked like a gnome. He had a little stick, and he was going to tell us about every single herb and berry in Scotland. He was a gnome, just right out of a book!”

After spending the afternoon touring different sites in Aberfoyle, the gnome-like guide asked the group to meet him at the trunk of his car for a surprise. The students gathered around, unsure and a bit anxious at what this strange-looking man was going to show them.

“He pulled out bagpipes,” said Pemberton, “and he bagpiped us to our bus. It was the only bagpipe experience that we had.”

Jake Kausler had an impactful, unplanned experience of his own when he was riding on a train to Edinburgh, Scotland. He had split up from the group for a short time to tour some graduate schools. As he traveled to reconnect with the group, he sat by a man who was willing to talk to him about the area. “He gave us a huge overview of the history and the politics that are going on there and just really a history of Edinburgh,” Kausler said, “so I not only got to see the city firsthand and see its beauty, but I got to hear about it as well.”

Though students see historic landmarks and beautiful scenery when they go overseas, Kausler said that is only part of the purpose of travel. He feels like this trip has given him a greater understanding of cultural differences, and it has given him a more global mindset. He said that it is about “experiencing an entirely different culture, getting out of America, and seeing what the world is like somewhere else...there are so many nuances and just different things that are so different over there that really make you see the world differently...the world isn’t just American. There are other ways to live and other ways to do things.”

Perhaps the greatest take-away from such trips that honors students take, however, isn’t about the places they go. Yes, the gain so much insight about cultures and countries and history. Yes, they learn how to travel safely and correctly around the world. But the relationships that the trip form and solidify are of much greater value than anything the students learn.

Kausler said the trip spurred on new friendships. Though the group was made of a diverse group of students from many different disciplines, they found the shared experience bonded them together in a unique and close relationship.

“It’s people that I wouldn’t have interacted with normally because, you know, we’re from different disciplines,” he said, “We wouldn’t have seen each other and it really brought everybody together.”

The Carl Goodson Honors Program was “established to further academic excellence and inspire intellectual curiosities for qualified students,” and it continues to do that by providing students with opportunities to grow and learn both inside and outside the classroom. As Pemberton looks to the future, she hopes to plan more trips for students to learn while fostering meaningful relationships that will last a lifetime.

by Coleson Lech
1/ Senior Tyler Fugere performs a ligation reaction in Genetics Lab. Genetics focused on the basic principles, theories and mechanisms of heredity.


3/ Freshman Cody Thompson fills up a beaker with water under the fumehood. General Chemistry required three hours of lecture as well as three hours of lab per week.

4/ Dr. Joe Jeffers explains how to characterize an unknown product for a lab assignment to sophomore Drake Puryear. Organic Chemistry was a required class for chemistry majors.
Students in the Patterson School of Natural Sciences spent long hours each day in classes, labs and clinical settings. Applying the classroom knowledge was important for these students, many of whom would continue their studies in graduate programs across the country. What Ouachita offered was the opportunity to conduct research with professors while still an undergraduate student.

The summer research projects only offered a select number of contested spots, and those who acquired them would have 10 weeks to broaden their spectrum of knowledge and continue to prove themselves in the field.

"We have a pretty significant summer research program," said Dr. Tim Knight, Dean of the Patterson School of Natural Sciences. "We have 10 faculty members with about two students a piece. The students work for 10 weeks over the summer where they'll earn $3,000. At the end of the summer, they'll present their research at the medical school, and then possibly turn around and give another presentation at Fayetteville."

While almost all of the programs within the natural sciences were participating in the summer research projects, dietetics had an additional development this year that they, as well as anyone looking to take their classes, saw as very important.

"The most important thing that's happened to us in 2015 is that our program was reaccredited in January," said Dr. Detri Brech, professor of dietetics. "We received our ACEND reaccreditation for the next seven years after undergoing a process that included writing a self study document and having a sight team visit our department. This is a big deal because without this accreditation, our graduating students couldn't go on to sit for the registration exam."

For communication sciences and disorders students, the practical experience they gained was through clinical hours. While they continued to see children in the clinic, this year brought an unusual number of clients who had suffered a stroke. This allowed students experience with not only different age groups, but different speech therapy needs as well.

"Being that we have real clients, if our students don't do their homework, they don't just lose points," said Dr. Nancy Hardman, Linn Professor of Communications Sciences and Pre Medical Studies. "They have to do their ethical responsibility of being prepared to handle their clients. We've had 10 stroke patients this year, one of which comes all the way down from Texarkana. It's a good service we're providing, because insurance stops paying after a while. We'll see them for free though, since it's already so hard on them."

From the traditional science fields of biology, chemistry and physics to health science fields including speech therapy and dietetics, students in the natural sciences gained real world experience through research, clinicals and internships.

by Noah Hutchinson
With classes offered in history, political science, psychology and sociology, the W.H. Sutton School of Social Sciences provided students with countless opportunities for success after graduation.

Many students used a degree in one of these areas as a stepping-stone into graduate school. Richard Burke, a junior history and political science major from Hot Springs, had law school aspirations.

"I came to Quachita to major in political science and history because I think they offer courses that can give me the best preparation for law school. Having taken classes like Judicial Process and Constitutional Law, I feel like the social sciences school has definitely given me an opportunity to succeed in the rest of my education," Burke said.

Jackson Carter, a senior history and mass communications major from Hot Springs, also had plans to pursue a graduate degree.

"When I first came to OBU, I wasn’t sure what I wanted to do with my history degree. After my first couple years, I decided that I wanted to become a professor," Carter said.

Although many students followed the path of Burke and Carter with their social sciences degree and eventually pursued a graduate degree, there were many other opportunities for students in the school. Psychology and sociology are majors that provided many options for students as far as potential careers. They were also very popular as elective courses for students that had majors in a different field.

Dr. Doug Reed, the chair of the Political Science Department, was one of the many advocates of students majoring in the social sciences because of the preparation that it gave them for the job world, in any field.

"People learn how to think critically and evaluate problems. They also learn that most decisions are not right or wrong decisions and these can be up for debate. You have to write essays and you have to try and think clearly, which prepares students for the real world," Reed said.

The W.H. Sutton School of Social Sciences continued to be among the best for preparing students for the real world.

by Zach Parker
1/ Dr. Randall Wight instructs a General Psychology class. Students learned the basics of human behavior as well as basic psychology principles throughout the course.

2/ Students engage in discussion with Dr. Kevin Motl to understand how politics have evolved. The Modern America class learned about the presidencies of Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton, and George W. Bush.

3/ Senior Chelsey Hess takes notes during the New South course. The class focused on the history of the American South from the Civil War to the present, discussing topics that led to the state of the south in the 20th century.

4/ Sophomore Brook East listens to Dr. David Caddell during Classical Social Theory. The class focused on the ways structures and institutions have progressed through the modernization of society.

5/ Students in the Intellectual Disabilities class listen to Assistant Professor Allyson Phillips lead a lecture. Phillips taught the students about the different types of disabilities as well as different prevention programs.

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**BY THE NUMBERS**

- Psychology
- History
- Political Science
- Sociology

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Social Sciences
Academics
While Ouachita is known for attracting the traditional college student just out of high school, more adults are returning to the classroom to pursue or complete a degree. Ouachita saw this need and developed a solution to ease the access to a college education. After a year of development, Ouachita Online was launched, which allowed non-traditional students to pursue degrees in Christian studies and business administration.

"Many of these students would be unable to attend Ouachita as residential students," said Dr. Rob Hewell, professor of music, director of worship studies, and coordinator of online course development. "They have families and careers and live in a number of places, many of them outside of Arkansas. University administration has made a commitment to extend the Ouachita experience to others beyond our campus community."

Looking to the future, Hewell said the prospects of the online degree program look promising.

"Ouachita Online is growing in the number of students who are taking online courses, the number of courses offered, and the number of faculty members who are participating as course designers and instructors," Hewell said. "Ouachita Online leaders are working diligently to enable OBU to offer online study experiences consistent with the University's commitment to a high quality liberal arts education that reflects a love of God and a love of learning."

by Matthew Ablon

1/ Dr. Brandon O'Brien, director of OBU at NLC; and Rick Bezet, NLC senior pastor; assist Dr. Stan Poole, vice president for Academic Affairs at OBU, at the ribbon cutting ceremony held on June 10, 2014. OBU at NLC students, faculty and staff, along with faculty and staff from OBU, attended the event.

2/ Mrs. Amy O'Brien teaches her Spiritual Formation course at OBU at NLC in Conway. Mrs. O'Brien also taught NLC's Children's Bible Survey course along with her husband, Dr. Brandon O'Brien, who taught the adult course.

3/ NLC students Grant Westlake, Tanner Bezet, Braeden Gregg and Kelsey Norton take advantage of the student foyer and coffee bar to study as they wait for their next class. The student foyer provides a break from the students' full class schedule.

4/ Tyler Coleman, from Baton Rouge, La., studies with Ally Brasko, from Conway. Coleman was on the NLC worship team and helped with the Student Ministry Worship team at their student services, "Real Life" and "Elevation."
A ribbon cutting for OBU at New Life Church in Conway was held June 10, 2014. OBU at NLC offers an associate of arts degree in both general studies and Christian ministry. The professors at New Life made sure to let their students know that the skills that they learned there, ministry or otherwise, would be relevant no matter what field they decided to enter into after graduation.

At the June ceremony, Dr. Brandon O'Brien, director of the program, said, "What makes this moment truly significant is that OBU at New Life Church offers more than an associate's degree. It offers more than hands-on ministry training. It offers students something neither institution can provide on its own. OBU at NLC combines Ouachita's 128-year heritage of excellence in Christian higher education and New Life's commitment to innovative and life-changing ministry to form students into fully devoted followers of Christ. Some of them will enter ministry as their career. Others will be teachers or doctors or small-business owners. Whatever they do for a living, the foundation for their future of learning and Christian service will be laid here."

Professors at NLC believed that their special brand of Christian education would prepare their students to be leaders both in the world and in their faith.

"I wanted to go into the secular music industry, which can be a dark place full of worldly things," said Tiffany Fagaly, a freshman general studies major from Maumelle. "I thought NLC was just for church ministry, but the faculty said otherwise. They said that they wanted people from both sides, because both sides were equally important. That's when I knew that this was the place for me."

While their facility was more compact and their classes were focussed in fewer subjects, OBU at NLC students said that the college experience wasn't as different as some might think.

"We have two classrooms," said Dillon Potter, a freshman Christian studies major from Cabot. "They both hold about 20 people. When we go to class, we're all in the same class at the same time."

Some students didn't start off at NLC. Adrian Pinkston, a freshman general studies major from Conway, went to a four-year university before going to NLC and said that the community environment is something that gave her new campus a leg up on larger schools. "It's like being a part of a family," Pinkston said. "The first day I was there, a girl ran up and gave me a hug before I had even been introduced to her. It's the same thing with the professors. If there's any kind of complication or if I'm having trouble with an assignment, I can go talk to them and I know that they'll take the time to help me. I've even had coffee with a professor just so they could talk me through something I was dealing with."

Although the OBU at NLC students attended classes an hour and half away, they were encouraged to attend events, such as Scholars Day, on the Arkadelphia campus to learn more about the university and meet their fellow Ouachitonians.
Cholors Day served as a capstone celebration for students' hard work and research. It was not limited to those in the honors program. Anyone on campus who committed serious time and effort to a particular study was welcome and encouraged to present their discoveries. The Honors Program and Ouachita took pride in promoting their students' in-depth scholarship.

The Alpha Chi Induction ceremony for its newest members kicked off Scholars Day. After that, there were countless posters, performances and presentations from every field of study all across campus. Students had the opportunity to share their theses, directed studies and other extensive projects they had worked on.

"Scholars Day is the day OBU celebrates academic achievement in every discipline," said Dr. Barbara Pemberton, director of the Carl Goodson Honors Program. "There are award winning presentations from every field of study, from science and business to history and theatre."

"Not very many undergraduate programs have something like this where students have the chance to participate in research with their professors and then present it," said Jake Kasusler, a senior computer science and Biblical languages double major from Marion. "It gives experiences that students can put on their resumes and use in any kind of future opportunity. Ouachita really wants students to be well-rounded and see all kinds of areas of experience and education, so I think Scholars Day definitely fulfills that."

"Scholars Day does a wonderful job of exhibiting all the talent we have on campus," said Rachel Pruett, a senior biology and chemistry double major from Harrison. "It shows every area of Ouachita you don't normally get to see. We tend to stick in our majors, so it's kind of interesting. It pulls [it] altogether."

Having an eager audience was what made the work worth it. Students, professors and family members alike came to celebrate and support the scholars.

"I was really excited because not just my thesis readers showed up, but there were also other professors that I've gotten close to that came, and some of my friends were there. It made me feel special that they cared about what I was doing," Pruett said.

Scholars Day embodied two of Ouachita's main values, community and scholarship. Students pursued what piqued their interest and shared it with others in hopes that their audience benefited from the knowledge gained.

by Barrett Gay
Sophomore Abby Root is presented with an Alpha Chi t-shirt and certificate at the Alpha Chi Induction Ceremony. Rising juniors who were in the top ten percent of their class were invited to join this national academic society.

Members of the Carl Goodson Honors Program welcome visitors to Ouachita to listen to students' presentations. Scholars Day was held on April 22.

Junior Abbey Ogier discusses her experience in Utah as part of the Sundance Film Festival presentation team. Other members of the group presented their film analysis papers about theological connections they formed when watching films on their own.

Freshman Eli Ash and sophomore Mattie Bogošlavsky perform a ten minute play titled "Lost in Translation," written by student Walter Dodd. Walter wrote the play about a family dealing with an autistic child and how it affected them, based on his own family.

Junior AlleaBelle Gongola presents her poster in the library. Gongola was one of several students to present research to her peers and professors.

Senior Chloe Huff gives her Scholars Day presentation in the Walker Conference Center. Huff's presentation was titled "Beauty is Born of the Rain: Walter Inglis Anderson's Art and Isolation."
What made "The Bubble" such a special place were the people who lived here. One freshman not only had to find her way through the ups and downs of college, but also had to guide the girls she served as an RA. Doing more than his part, a senior football player helped save a stranger from Canada. A junior fulfilled every girls’ dream of becoming a Disney princess when she spent a semester in the happiest place on earth. Mentoring students in the community, a sophomore stepped up as a YoungLife leader. Concluding more than four decades of service to our campus, a professor, who once dug the basement of Verser Theatre, said goodbye.
While many worship leaders express worship for God with an instrument or song, Michael Richardson, a freshman Christian Studies major from Frisco, Texas, does it a little differently. Richardson engages in worship through spoken word. When asked how he defines this, Richardson said, "It's free verse poetry, but another way to look at it is like a three minute, short sermonette almost."

Richardson realized he wanted to be a preacher when he spoke at FCA his sophomore year in high school. Along with preaching, he realized he could also use these smaller sermons in his ministry as well.

"I realized that I loved doing this, which is something I never saw myself doing. God was like, 'Hey, check this out, I'm going to put some words into your mouth,'" Richardson said.

Richardson said that sometimes a poem begins with a line he thinks of to be saved for later. He said that sometimes the poems are quick to write, but others he has written have taken longer to write and refine.

"Sometimes it flows out of what I really think God is trying to say through me," Richardson said.

Richardson does have one of his spoken word poems, "Good Christian," on YouTube and he performed it during a Campus Activities Tiger Tunes practice. He has also performed at venues on a much larger scale.

"On a choir mission trip this past year, we went to Washington, D.C. I got to do spoken word to Kari Jobe's 'Forever,' which was really cool," Richardson said.

Richardson also said that because spoken word delivers a sermon in a smaller package, people are more likely to listen to it. He said that he could approach topics that could be uncomfortable to hear about in a 20-minute sermon.

"If someone walks into a church and the first thing they hear is, 'Today we're going to talk about cocaine,' it makes people really uncomfortable. But if you throw it down really fast in a poem, they are more likely to receive it and not be really tense," Richardson said. "It's an easy way to talk about stuff that preachers don't want to talk about because they don't want to make people uncomfortable."

Even though he uses spoken word to minister to others, Richardson said they are primarily a form of personal worship between himself and God.

"I guess in a sense these are my psalms, these spoken words are my crying out to God and facing my own humanity and taking it to God," Richardson said. "It all needs to point back to God. All development, all struggles, all problems need to point back to Him. If spoken word is another way we can do that, then so be it. That has to be the goal of all that we do."
Millions of people watch shows such as “The Voice” or “American Idol,” but what does it take to actually make it onto these shows? Courtney Gough, a freshman psychology major from Bryant, has first-hand experience.

Gough first auditioned for “American Idol” in St. Louis, Mo., when she was 15. She auditioned for “The Voice” in Houston, Texas, and “American Idol” again in Little Rock when she was 17.

Gough went to her first audition in St Louis with a big group of friends.

“We showed up at 4 a.m. to stand in line. There were a bunch of really weird people that were dressed like blue Avatar people and in banana costumes,” Gough said.

Through the process Gough learned that the audition experience is very different from what is shown on television.

“They let us inside this indoor arena, and you had to just sit there until they called your section.”

The producers of the show called each row of sections to audition. After waiting eight hours, it came time for Gough’s section to audition, but for some reason the producers skipped over her row.

“My friend’s mom started yelling at these security guards to let us audition. They told her, ‘Ma’am don’t cross the fence.’ She jumped over the fence and asked one of the producers to let us go. Finally, they called our row and let us go down there,” said Gough.

Even though Gough didn’t make it on the televised show, she did get the opportunity to meet the show’s host, Ryan Seacrest.

“He was really nice and I said, ‘You re-tweeted one of my tweets one time. You don’t know that, but you did.’” Gough said. “And he said, ‘I’m sure I did, I’m sure it was a great tweet.’”

After auditioning for the first time, Gough decided she didn’t want to pursue auditioning again, but her mom had other plans. Her mom surprised her and said that she signed her up to audition with “The Voice” in Houston.

“This time we didn’t have to arrive at 4 a.m. and the contract said don’t wear crazy outfits or you will not be able to audition,” Gough said. “We had an appointment time to try out.”

Gough said that “The Voice” auditions differ “American Idol” because you go into an audition room with good acoustics with one person with a MacBook who serves as the judge.

Gough said that even though she didn’t make it into the next rounds of the auditions, she still had a great time.

“I would rather spend time performing for smaller crowds that I know, rather than being on television and becoming big and famous that way.”
Ouachita has numerous extra-curricular and recreational opportunities to offer students, and many students find new hobbies during their time here. But not everyone finds a hobby that drops them 12 feet down a cliff.

If you meet Jacob Frears on campus you will be greeted with a big smile and an energetic personality. He is a freshman kinesiology, and leisure studies and recreation ministry double major from Plano, Texas, who found his new hobby almost as soon as he stepped foot on campus.

Frears discovered rock climbing while working at a Ranch camp in Colorado during the summer of 2014. While he gained an interest this past summer, he didn’t get his first experience climbing until this fall when he learned about the rock wall in SPEC.

“When I came to school I heard about the rock wall so me and my friends started going,” he said, “Then my friend Zac Matthews took me to outdoor climb at Horseshoe Canyon and that’s when I really got hooked.”

Climbing the rock wall in SPEC and climbing outdoors offer different challenges.

“The first time I climbed inside it was pretty much what I expected. My first time to climb outside was very different,” said Frears. “It wasn’t harder or easier than indoor. Just different. It was scary and challenging and gave me a huge rush of adrenaline.”

With any newfound sport there is always risk of making a mistake. In climbing, those mistakes often involve falling.

“I took about a 12 foot fall this one time, it was nasty. Bruised my hip real bad,” Frears said. “I was lead climbing at I was about to get the next clip and I missed and lost grip. So I swung down and hit the wall hip first. I’m fine, though.”

Lead climbing involves two climbers. One climber attaches a clip periodically as protection. The other climber controls the tension and slack of the rope.

Even with the risks, Frears encourages other students to overcome their fear of heights and try it out. He says it is a great way to explore outdoors, and a unique skill to add to your resume.

“It’s not something you are good at right away. It takes a lot of practice, but if you commit to it you can climb some really cool places and go places and do things most people can’t,” said Frears.

Frears has bigger climbing dreams of his own, as he continues his climbing adventures.

The best advice he has for new climbers is to have patience.

“To be patient and to start with the easier ones,” said Frears. “Work your way up to the harder ones over time. The best climbing in the world is Spain,” he said, “so the dream to climb there.”
College is a scary, unfamiliar experience for most incoming freshmen. While some might be well acquainted with the campus they are coming to, most students have no idea what to expect. For freshman Ben Worley, however, this was not the case. Ben, a business administration major from Camden, was very familiar with campus, more so than most students due to the fact that his great-grandpa is the man responsible for carving the Tiger statue in the center of campus.

Ben's great-grandfather, B.F. Worley, who passed away in 1997, learned the carving trade from his father. When it came time for college, Mr. Worley was worried about cost of tuition and decided to use his talents to propose a compromise to Ouachita. He would carve a marble tiger for campus in exchange for the cost of tuition. Ouachita accepted, and the rest is history.

The legacy Ben's great-grandpa began continued with his grandpa, mom and most recently his cousin. Ben grew up with Ouachita alumni surrounding him and was drawn to campus through his family's stories.

"Ever since they've brought me here when I was 2, I've just loved the campus and it just felt like home," Worley said.

Being on campus from such an early age, Worley has always been aware of his great-grandpa's impact on campus. Worley made his presence known here on campus years before he would attend here by writing a letter to Ouachita's former president, Dr. Andrew Westmoreland.

"They sent my brother a shirt for his birthday. We wrote him a letter saying thank you and we sent him a picture of my brothers and I sitting on the tiger, and I wrote in the letter, 'My mom said it was okay for me to sit on the tiger just this once. My grandpa carved it," Worley said.

Ben's life on campus has been anything but boring so far, and he says he doesn't get tired of all the questions people ask him about his grandpa. As a new freshman with an unusual name on campus, it has served to be a good conversation starter for meeting new people.

Ben, like any other freshman, just has that desire to be friendly to people, make friends and keep Henderson away from that statue. There's more to Ben than just his identity as a relative of a sculptor. Just as his great-grandpa did, he wants to leave his mark on campus; but a little differently.

"I just want to be the guy who was friendly to everybody," Worley said.

Being a freshman is an experience like no other. Worley just wants to have that same fun, unforgettable experience that most Ouachita students seem to experience. So meet Ben Worley, the guy with a cool grandpa who just wants to be a friend and tell his story.
Webster’s Dictionary defines leadership as “a person who guides or directs a group; the ability to lead.” Often when you think of a leader, you think of someone older and wiser that has had lots of time to learn about being in authority. For Hannah Bunch, a freshman history and political science double major from Paragould, there was little time to gain that wisdom. When Bunch received a call from Hannah Pilcher, resident director of Francis Crawford Hall, in July before her freshman year with the opportunity to serve as an RA, she immediately knew it was something she wanted to do. In talking to Pilcher, Bunch was hesitant but extremely excited to hear about the responsibility that being an RA offered.

“When she started talking about what a ministry it was and how my job is practically just getting to know the girls on my hall and being their friend, that just sold me,” Bunch said.

Spending your time in an authority position while you are also having to learn to navigate the ropes as a freshman wasn’t easy, but Bunch believes it’s all about time management.

“You know when you’re going to be busy and you know to schedule out, this is when I’m going to do my homework and this is when I’m going to have my friend time and this is my RA time,” Bunch said.

Bunch knew from the beginning as a freshman with a heavy workload, having enough time to get everything done was going to be challenging. Just like with any area of life, sacrifices had to be made to have the top priority things taken care of.

“The only thing that I first thought about was not being able to participate in open dorm with your friends, but we don’t have to work every open dorm, so I won’t miss out on that,” Bunch said.

Being a freshman, not accustomed to open dorm, Bunch recalled a funny night in her first weeks on campus when she was in her room studying with her roommate.

“I heard this loud boisterous laughter and knew it had to be guys. I peeked my head out of my door to see where it was coming from and realized it’s the room two doors down from me! My adrenaline was rushing and half of me was ready to bust up in the room and kick them out and the other half was super anxious about the whole situation,” Bunch said.

After waking up her roommate about the laughter, Bunch realized it was an open dorm night, so the boys were allowed to be over.

Bunch really enjoys her job.

“I’m just so thankful for the blessing that it’s been and for the girls that have let me come into their lives,” Bunch said. “It’s an awesome ministry and just amazing how God worked it all out.”
Kara Strong, Little Rock, AR
Cooper Sutton, Frank, TX
Lindsey Swafford, West Memphis, AR
Nathan Terry, Bryant, AR
Kaitlyn Thomas, Searcy, AR
Kaitlyn Thomas, Searcy, AR
Brady Thompson, Harrison, AR

Cody Thompson, Sheridian, AR
Hailey Thompson, Hughes, AR
Ashley Thurman, Benton, AR
Rebecca Titus, Osburn, TX
Kolbie Tollett, De Queen, AR
Kristopher Torres, Aguadilla
Logan Turner, Cameron, TX

Chris Ulmer, Hot Springs, AR
Rebekah Van Cleave, Benton, AR
Sydney Van Scyoc, Wesley Center, KS
Katherine Vaughan, Rogers, AR
Jv Vinson, Conway, AR
Hope Wakeling, Bryant, AR
Ethan Ward, Benton, AR

Wade Warren, Dell, AR
Hailey Wesson, Hot Springs, AR
Victoria White, Pocahontas, TX
Haley Whitworth, Hot Springs, AR
Megan Williams, Ozark, AR
Dakota Wilson, Shannon, AR
Sam Wilson, Cabot, AR

Ashlee Wooldridge, Canon, TX
Mikala Wooley, Conway, AR
Shelton Wooley, Benton, AR
Ben Worley, London, AR
Montray Wyatt, Stuttgart, AR
Cassie Young, Armona, AR
Katelyn Young, Springdale, AR

Kevin Yu, Beijing, China
As a little girl for Halloween every year, Brooke Schmidt, a sophomore business administration/management and marketing major from Rowlett, Texas, used to dress up with a pretend crown as Miss America or Miss Texas. On Feb. 28, Schmidt received her very first real crown when she was named Miss Ouachita Baptist University 2015.

“I was nervous because I knew there were so many girls who had done pageants before and I hadn’t. I learned that it wasn’t all about the competition because it was something that I was doing for fun. I was just using the gifts that God had given me to do my best. If it was His plan, it would happen and if not, I was OK with that,” said Schmidt.

Throughout the pageant process she was able to meet new girls from around campus, have fun and push herself through new experiences.

“But I have never done a pageant, it was probably the first time in a long time where I completely stepped out of my comfort zone. It really allowed me to build a different kind of confidence on a different kind of level in areas that I had never had the opportunity to grow in before,” said Schmidt.

Schmidt has been a leader in many ways. She leads worship with her dad at church back home and has danced with the NBA Dallas Mavericks Dance Team. On campus, she was a member of The Women of EEE and the OBU Spirit Squad. Miss OBU was a new kind of leadership position she was eager to try.

“I loved the thought of being able to be a leader on this campus, in more ways than just being a cheerleader,” said Schmidt. “Both of my parents went to Ouachita. The people and professors have all done so much to get me here and I couldn’t think of a better way to give back to my school, the community and my peers.”

Schmidt said she was in shock when they announced her name as the new Miss OBU. She knew she had worked hard, but she was not expecting to win and have the opportunity to compete in Miss Arkansas this summer.

“I’ve already spent so much time studying about anything and everything related to Arkansas’ history and current events,” said Schmidt. “My platform is Teen Substance Abuse as I’ve researched a lot about how that is affecting the state and our campus. I’m in the process of designing t-shirts to sell and raise money for a charity that helps fund drug users’ treatment in memory of my friend Jordan.

With the encouragement of her family and friends, Schmidt was excited to begin her journey at Miss Arkansas.

“I’m going into this with an open mind and just keeping a positive outlook,” Schmidt said. “No matter what, God has big things for me as Miss Ouachita Baptist University.”
The balance between holy and hype - for Damaris Garcia, a Christian studies major from Richland Hills, Texas, represents worship. Garcia, along with her brother, raps original songs with Christian themes, fulfilling a dual need in her to worship God and minister to others.

Damaris and her brother Zeke, a worship ministry major from Richland Hills, Texas, gave high energy performances at events throughout Texas, OBU chapel, Campus Ministries variety show and the International Food Festival. Before performing at events like these, Garcia honed her skills through exposure to rap culture at an early age.

"My oldest brother Eli was interested in rap. When my brother Zeke wrote him a rap encouraging him, they realized that they shared a common interest and they started collaborating," she said.

Damaris watched her older brothers work together creating raps, while she wrote poetry. She performed a rap of 54 words for a project in the seventh grade. As a senior in high school, her brothers discovered that she could contribute by creating and performing raps with Christian messages.

Through support from their parents, church members, friends and faculty, Damaris and her brothers’ rap transformed from a hobby to a form of worship and ministry.

An event that impacted Garcia and demonstrated ministry took place in Hot Springs when a girl approached Garcia about her music after a concert.

"This girl was just amazed," Garcia said. "She kept saying how much she related with what we were rapping about and how rare it was to see not just a female rapper, but a female rapper who wrote about God."

Damaris and her brothers have worked with themes such as depression, suicide, straying away from God and accepting the call to ministry.

"Most of our raps come from things we’ve struggled with," Garcia said. "We want to focus on lifting up the name of Christ rather than ourselves."

Prayer before, during and after was part of the group’s routine in each performance. As each rap dripped with scripture and themes that came from personal experiences, Garcia and her brothers used their gift to minister to others and worship at the same time.

"When I’m on stage, it’s my time to worship God," Garcia said. "I want to be invisible of the crowd, while I show them who God is."

"I feel like I am called to missions, specifically to inner city missions," Garcia said. "I’m content, even if our rapping doesn’t go any further. Our ultimate goal is to branch out and further the Kingdom of God."
Many students have been to Kanakuk, worked at Kanakuk or have at least heard the crazy, exciting camp stories that others share. What most people haven’t heard about however is the behind the scenes work that goes on to make those crazy, exciting stories possible. Sarah Roberson, a sophomore science major from Conway, expected to have the Kanakuk experience that everyone talks about, but what she got was something very different.

“I thought that I was a really tough person and that I could handle any job. I realized really soon while working in the kitchen, I wasn’t as tough as I thought. The days and the hours that we worked were really long and really hard, and not what I had expected,” Roberson said. “I never would have thought that I could accomplish what I did this summer.”

Sarah worked at Kanakuk from July 3-August 9; over a month of hard and dedicated work serving God’s kingdom. Her job was serving on the kitchen staff. In Kanakuk terms, she was either one of the cooks or one of the kitchies, people who clean everything in the kitchen and serve every meal.

“We were awake by 6:00 or 6:15 every morning and then we started on breakfast. Once that was prepped, we ate very quickly and began prepping the food for lunch. Once that was done, we prepared for dinner,” Roberson said. “No matter how far ahead you got, there was always still work to be done. We got to go back to our cabin at about 9:00 or 9:30 every night.”

Roberson said they weren’t able to come into contact with the other staff a lot. However, one night a week the girls got a break from the kitchen and stayed in a teepee with another counselor and her kids.

“One night, two of the girls came out on the deck and needed guidance about salvation. I got to help answer some of their questions and the two girls ended up getting saved at the end of the week, so that was really cool,” Roberson said.

Besides their assigned one night away, the kitchen staff was always behind the counter and behind the scenes. Sarah said the girls were told to be prepared to feel very underappreciated. They knew they weren’t going to be in the spotlight and they were OK with that. They were also told that Kanakuk couldn’t be run without a kitchen.

“With that mindset, we were able to realize that we were still furthering the kingdom, even though it was a different act of service,” Roberson said. “God broke me in so many ways in the kitchen. He made me realize that I actually do not have it all together and I needed to rely on Him as my source of strength. Complaining got me nowhere, but spending time with the Lord made me remember to work hard and for Him every day. Learning that concept truly grew me this summer.”
Students were often occupied with growing in their personal relationship with God, and how they could carry that past Ouachita and affect lives in other states and countries. While that was a worthwhile goal, there was an immediate need for spiritual growth here in the local community. John Sivils, a sophomore English major from Arkadelphia, addressed that need by serving as an active member and leader of YoungLife for high school students at Arkadelphia High School.

“Our mission statement is ‘to introduce adolescents to Jesus Christ and help them grow in their faith,’” Sivils said.

Sivils joined YoungLife just wanting to get his feet wet, but with leaders on the team all graduating and the club having a need for leadership, he had the opportunity to step up and lead within the organization. He felt that being in a position of authority grew his relationship with Christ.

“It’s showed me what it really means to be like Christ, to be humble, and to serve others,” Sivils said.

John was drawn to YoungLife because of how the organization was focused on getting involved in students’ lives. They were a weekly uplifting influence to kids who might not have gotten it otherwise. Monday nights YoungLife hosted what they called “Club” where they played games, sang popular songs and shared the gospel with the kids. The work of YoungLife extended past one night weekly through on-campus Bible studies and fun activities like going to the movies, bonding time over fishing or hanging out playing video games. Leaders in YoungLife disciple their students and often split up into gender groups so that female and male leaders could specifically minister to a group that they could relate to.

“We want to show Christ’s love to them in our friendships with them and be able to give them a safe place where they can be themselves and where we can show them we love them,” Sivils said.

Although Arkadelphia only had YoungLife for high school there was room to expand with the organization having multiple different ministries. Other YoungLife ministry opportunities included Wildlife for middle school students, YoungLife Capernaum for individuals who were handicapped, and Young Lives which was a ministry for teenage mothers. There was even room for growth on the collegiate level with the ministry YoungLife for college students.

“I want to be able to see all of those in Arkadelphia. I feel like there’s a need for each of those and the more I live in this town the more I see it,” Sivils said.

John promotes YoungLife as a place where he and other college students looking to be impacted can grow leadership skills and people skills. Through hanging out with younger students on a regular basis and hearing their testimonies, John’s life was just as impacted as the students whom he served.
Most college students remember when Nickelodeon meant “Rugrats,” slime and cheesy pre-teen dramas. For Kendrick Scorza, a junior musical theater major from Little Rock, the good old days of Nickelodeon are a reminder of a life changing experience.

“There was an open casting call for Nickelodeon’s ‘Go Healthy Challenge’ in New York, LA and at the Presidential Library in Little Rock as well,” Scorza said. “I did my research and figured out that their basic mission statement was to teach kids how to get active and have a healthy lifestyle.”

For Scorza, getting selected to participate in the “Go Healthy, Challenge” wasn’t just luck of the draw. He had a story, as well as personal motivation to get healthy.

“My brother, who was only 25 at the time, had just had a stroke. With him being so young, it really made me want to live a healthier life,” Scorza said. “I told the producers how I was from New Orleans, how I had been affected by Katrina, everything I had been through and how I had been struggling with my weight. In about a month the producers called me and told me that I had been picked.”

The challenge didn’t just involve gaining a general level of fitness. Each participant was given a goal, and for Scorza, that goal was to run a triathlon.

“The goal that they gave me was to participate in the Conway Kids Triathlon,” said Scorza. “I had six months to get ready for it. I eventually had to swim a hundred yards, ride a bike for four miles and run a mile. I didn’t know how to swim, couldn’t ride a bike and couldn’t run to save my life.”

In the six months leading up to the race, the trainers provided by the Go Healthy challenge worked regularly with him in order to teach him the skills he would need.

“I was assigned a trainer named David Bazzel, who was a radio personality,” Scorza said. “They also gave me a nutritionist. At one point though, I got to work out with an Olympic gold medalist swimmer.”

In the end, Scorza’s journey was a success. All the training paid off and he reached the goals that had been set for him.

“At the end of the six months, I was able to participate in the triathlon,” Scorza said. “I learned how to ride a bike, learned how to swim and when it was all said and done I had lost over 40 pounds. I’ve been trying to live a healthier lifestyle ever since.”

According to Scorza, this wasn’t an experience he took lightly. He says that he took things away from his experience that he’ll be able to use for the rest of his life.

“This was very real for me as a person,” Scorza said. “The lessons I learned over the course of the show helped me not only to become a healthier individual, but also a more sound, all around person.”
As small children, many grow up loving Disney movies. They dress up as the characters, they sing the songs, they watch the movies on repeat and often dream of becoming a character. For Kathleen Suit, a junior theater major from Hot Springs, this dream became a reality when she was given the chance to participate in the Disney College Program with a role in character performance.

"We’re not allowed to take ownership of the character," Suit said. "I’m Kathleen Suit and Snow White is Snow White," Suit said. "If I ever say I’m friends with somebody, pertaining to a character it means that’s who I’m portraying for the day.

Suit was "friends" with several different characters in her time at Disney, most commonly Snow White, Chip and Dale, and Winnie the Pooh.

According to Suit, training for a job at Disney was different depending on what kind of character you were friends with for the day. There are sculpted characters, characters that don’t speak such as Mickey Mouse, Goofy and Pluto and then there are everybody’s favorites, the face characters. These are characters such as the princesses and the villains.

"We learn how to tell a story to a guest without using our words," Suit said. "You have to be able to animate to them the answer to any question that they ask you."

Employees also had to learn a variety of rules they had to follow in order to ensure guests feel respected and loved.

"We would never point at something. You always had to do an open hand point or a two fingered point because people from different cultures could get offended," Suit said.

And the most important rule of all, "Never be the first one to let go of a hug because you never know what a kid is going through," Suit said.

In her time there, Suit learned that Disney is designed to hide you from reality. From the way the ground is built lower than the walls so you can’t see the outside world to the Utilidors, a giant underground community that allows characters to go from one place to another in the park without guests seeing.

"People, when they go to these parks, they really suspend their disbelief. They come here to escape, to leave their problems," Suit said.

Before working for the Disney College Program, Suit had never been to Disney World even as a guest, so walking into the experience, she wasn’t sure what to expect.

"I expected it to be a job and it wasn’t. It was a life changing situation. I went to the parks every single day almost and never got tired of it," Suit said.

It was the chance of a lifetime; one that transported her out of Ouachita’s bubble and into a dream world where schedules vanish and are replaced with magic and happiness.
Sadie Sasser, Hamburg, AR
Lauren Scarbrough, Poynter, AR
Kenderick Scorza, Fort Smith, AR
Jordan Sharp, Springdale, AR
Treslyn Shipley, Arington, TX
Brandon Smith, Philadelphia, AR
Weston Smith, Texarkana, TX

Lauren Snow, Wylie, TX
Shelby Spears, Texarkana, TX
Cheyenne Strynadka, Poteau, AR
Shelby Sutton, Little Rock, AR
Patrick Sworn, Crosser, AR
Abby Thomas, Little Rock, AR
Megan Trout, Arkadelphia, AR

Emily Tual, Pajaro, TX
Zack Turman, Hot Springs, AR
Hollan Van Horn, Mayflower, AR
Esther Weicht, Brandon, MD
Haley Wheeler, Little Rock, AR
Joseph White, Spann, AR
Morgan White, Rayne, LA

Rachel Wicker, Benton, AR
David Willhite, Hoxie, TX
Amber Williams, Mount Vernon, AR
Josh Williams, Springwood, AR
Nat Williams, Little Rock, AR
Sara-Cat Williams, West, AR
Michael Wollard, Bayard, AR

David Wray, Pekin, TH
Karen Wray, Pekin, TH
For most students, summer is a season of spending time with family, working a part-time job or enjoying a long break from school. For Noah Myers, a junior Christian Studies major from Murfreesboro, summer was a time of hard work, miles away from friends and family.

Myers, an active member in the OBU ROTC program, spent his summer at Leadership Development Assessment Course, or LDAC for short, in Fort Knox, Ky. LDAC is the last requirement from the Army, other than graduation from college, for students in ROTC to become a Second Lieutenant.

"The goal is to teach you how to work with other people. You do everything that you've learned from your freshman to junior year, all in 29 days," Myers said.

Students are not allowed to communicate with anyone else during this time of training.

The first two days you have your phone just to let your family know that you made it safely, then they take it. You get it back the last two days to let your family know when graduation is and when you'll be coming home," Myers said.

The absence of a phone was especially difficult for Myers, as he was unable to talk to his fiancé, Madelyn Masengill, whom he was to marry less than a month later.

As far as the workload given at LDAC, it was unlike any program of its kind.

"For the most part we were out in the woods, either sleeping in a tent or outside. We would wake up at 4:30 in the morning, sometimes 3:30 depending on the day, and spend about 18 hours a day working operations," Myers said.

Myers had added pressure, as he was one of the leaders for the entire course. "I was in charge of 250 people at one time, so the decisions that I made affected everybody that was training for the day. It was kind of scary because I knew I was being watched and graded by people that I had never met. I was trying to make sure that everyone was taken care of, but I was also trying to make sure that I got a good grade," Myers said.

There was a lot at stake for Myers and the rest of the participants at LDAC. All the work that they had done from freshman to junior year was to prepare them for this course.

"It was a pass/fail type thing. If you fail this course, you fail the program and you don't commission into the Army," Myers said.

Now that he has completed LDAC, the next course for Myers is the Basic Officer Leadership Course, or BOLIC. Rather than 29 days, the BOLIC program lasts for four months, where Myers will again be graded on a pass or fail basis. This course lasts four months and determines what job Myers will perform during his time in active duty.

By Zach Parker
What would it feel like to fly? To let go of all worry and care and throw yourself into nothing but air? It seems unimaginable yet some have come close to the sensation. Kaylee Nebe, a senior musical theatre major from Mesquite, Texas, has always pushed boundaries wherever possible. She has become the campus dare devil hanging on aerial silks anywhere possible on campus and climbing up and hanging on by a thread, literally.

“I had seen videos of Cirque du Soleil and the whole concept of silks was amazing to me, but I always assumed that it was really hard to do,” Nebe said. “My sophomore year I was cast in the theatre department’s production of The Crane Wife. The director had two silks hanging on each side of the stage. We were asked to play around on them to see if we could come up with some sort of flight image. I began to play around and started watching tutorials and I realized it wasn’t as hard as I thought.”

Once the production ended, Nebe’s hunger to explore silks was not quenched and she began seeking out opportunities to learn.

“The first silks class I took I almost cried in my car on the way back home. I kept saying to myself ‘I’m never going to be able to do this,’” Nebe said. “The instructor taught us how to climb and I could barely get off the ground. What I didn’t know is silks require a lot of abs and arms strength, which I needed to work on.”

Though the experience wasn’t what she thought it would be, it didn’t stop her from returning.

“I lived in Oklahoma during the summer after my sophomore year and found an aerial silks class near my house. It was really fun because the venue was small and the class was much smaller than my first one,” Nebe said.

Nebe’s interest in aerial silks was motivated by a dream she wished to see fulfilled during her college career.

“I knew since freshman year that I wanted to direct a show in the theatre production season. Around the time I started working on silks, the theatre department announced the Muse Project. The Muse Project allows students to submit works to direct and I realized this was my opportunity,” said Nebe. “I had always adored the story of Peter Pan and always wanted to direct the show and immediately latched onto the idea of doing Peter Pan using silks to portray the flying throughout the show.”

The selection committee was intrigued by the aerial aspect Nebe wanted to incorporate into her version of Peter Pan. Nebe was approved to create and direct her vision which came to life on the Verser stage at the beginning of the spring semester.
Teodor Anghel, Royston, GA
Nicholas Archer, Fort Payne, AL
Morgan Aebili, Roswell, TX
Rachel Babb, Pisgah, AR
Elizabeth Baker, Seagoville, TX
Kyle Baker, Allen, AR
Kelley Ballard, Colleyville, TX

Kaylee Barnett, Mansfield, TX
Abigail Baze, McKinney, TX
Jordan Beard, Fort Smith, AR
Marissa Beckwith, Little Rock, AR
Kaitlyn Belk, Jonesboro, AR
McKenzie Berry, Broken Arrow, OK
Baronger Biegler, Roswell, TX

Bridget Bloxom, Seaford, DE
Scott Bohning, Giovannoni, MD
Hannah Gray Boren, Star City, AR
Hannah Bowen, Jonesboro, AR
Molly Bowman, Greentree, AR
Mat Brockway, Mountain, AR
Chase Brooks, Houston, TX

Ashley Bullington, Woodstock, GA
Jordan Burt, Searcy, AR
Nick Burt, Van Nuys, TX
Stoni Butler, Carbondale, AR
Joe Calametti, Little Rock, AR
Dexter Carter, Little Rock, AR
Jackson Carter, Hot Springs, AR

Abby Castlett, Malvern, AR
Jordan Cecil, Harrison, AR
Jessica Chang, Olde HS
Erin Cheshire, Colorado Springs, CO
Bailey Chitwood, Fort Smith, AR
Kourtney Chumley, Fort Smith, AR
Morgan Chunn, Hot Springs, AR

Jacob Clark, Palestine, TX
Megan Clay, El Dorado, AR
Kathryn Coffey, Rose City, TX
Rachael Cook, Fairview MO
Jeremy Cooper, Festival, TX
Mckenzie Cranford, Rockwall, TX
Sarah Cranford, Southlake, TX

Cait Crowell, Uvalde TX
Mali Crumpton, Summerville TX
Stephen Curry, Navy PA
Samuel Cushman, Springdale, AR
Beau Daggert, Roland, AR
Haley Dahl, Red Oak, TX
Harrison Daniel, Conway, AR

Kristi-Paige Danielson, Cabot, AR
Shelby Davis, Aline Clay, TX
Tyler Davis, Benton, AR
Kayla De La Cruz, Hot Springs, AR
Yan de Moraes Rocha, Rio de Janeiro
Sophie DeMuth, Rockwall, TX
Zack DeYoung, Benton, AR
In the heart of Africa lies a small country known for its wildlife and vast grasslands. This land is also home to a few Ouachita students. Where is this place? Zimbabwe, and Craig Martin, a 6 foot 6, 23-year-old who enjoys a cup of hot tea any time of the day, is one of these students.

“Think the people in Zimbabwe are very laid back,” said Martin. “It takes a lot to get a Zimbabwean stressing. And everything is very much done on, what they call, ‘African Time.’ A little step slower than people here are used to.”

The nature of Martin’s upbringing cultivates patience and persistence in a person which lends itself to Martin’s passion, art. All of Martin's pieces are a testament to his hard work and love for what he does, made evident by the tiny brush strokes to make a bird’s feathers, a dog’s fur or a lion’s mane come to life. However, Martin has not always been the avid artist he is today.

“I had taken art classes all the way through school, but I never really devoted much time or effort into it,” Martin said. Around his fourth year of high school, something changed.

“I had a new art teacher and she challenged us to stretch ourselves,” Martin said. She was very much a realist, draw or paint what you see. I realized I enjoyed drawing and I had ability.”

The blending of faith and art adds depth to Martin’s work because he is not simply trying to craft something that looks good, but he wants to show the beauty of creation.

“As a Christian, I believe in God as the creator of all of the stuff I am surrounded by back home. And I like to portray it as it is because I think it’s intentionally designed,” said Martin.

Martin’s love for animals and wildlife has cultivated a love of wildlife art, but it has also stirred in him a passion for conservation. Martin speaks fervently against poaching, especially of rhinos, which are being killed for their horns by the hundreds in southern African countries like Zimbabwe.

“I would prefer for the animals to be seen as an asset and beneficial to us through tourism,” Martin said.

His views are sound and simple - keep the animals safe to maintain the beauty of nature and wildlife so that the tourism industry can increase and more money can be generated for a struggling country. To help in the conservation process, Martin hopes to use his artistic abilities.

As he pursues a degree in graphic design, Martin hopes to use his skills to play a part in the conservation process. He hopes to couple his experience in graphic design and studio art by making visual aids for campaigns for conservation and against poaching. Martin sees a need for stewardship of resources in a place he loves, and he is taking steps to help.
Babysitting. Coaching. Directing. Carpooling. Homework. Birthday parties. This has been routine for seniors Kristi-Paige Danielson and Ramsey Vaughan since freshman year. The journey that allowed Arkadelphia to become a real home began when Vaughan started the search for extra cash.

"I just wanted a really fun job, and somehow I heard about Gymnastics Plus," said Vaughan, a kinesiology and leisure studies major from Branson, Mo. "I Googled the gym and found their Facebook page. I emailed them being old school and said that I was looking for a job."

Vaughan started teaching kindergarten through sixth-grade gym classes. She then noticed there was a cheer program offered and asked to get involved.

"My boss asked if I had any friends with experience, so we all crept KP on Facebook in the gym office," Vaughan said. "The head coach at the time saw that KP had cheered for a world championship team, and told me I had to make it happen and get KP on board."

Danielson was hired and the duo began as assistant coaches for the Excite All Stars. Over the past year, Danielson and Vaughan have been in charge of the program.

"We’ve had girls from 4 years old all the way to 12 years and they all usually age out. In the past, we have coached multiple teams, but this year we just had one," said Danielson, a Christian studies and Biblical studies major from Cabot.

To give their girls more opportunity, Danielson and Vaughan created the option of individual competition.

"We have three girls who compete in individuals where we choreograph for them, they go on stage by themselves and just do their thing," Danielson said. "Two of our girls won nationals titles a few weekends ago."

The team competes in about seven competitions each season. Danielson and Vaughan pick girls for the team, coach, choreograph every routine, pick out competitions and complete registration for each competition.

"It sounds lame, but I’ve learned incredible leadership skills and understanding what it takes to fully commit to something and see it all the way through from beginning to end," Vaughan said.

Both coaches agreed they have learned more about themselves throughout their experience. They learned to maintain a job and high stress levels.

"Time management has been key. It’s one thing to just be in school, but we’ve built relationships and I think that’s most important," Danielson said. "We’ve grown to love these kids and their moms and the community of Arkadelphia. This really does feel like home to us, not just Ouachita, but Arkadelphia."
Ashley Johnson, Shreveport, LA
Blake Johnson, Paducah, KY
Caitlyn Johnson, Winnston, TX
Kailen Johnson, Magnolia, AR
Rebecca Johnson, St. Paul, AR
Jocelyn Jones, Park, TX
Justin Jones, Garland, TX

Jake Kausler, Myron, AR
Allison King, San Antonio, TX
Ryan Kirk, Bryan, TX
Spencer Knight, Appealing, AR
Micael Kocke, Cibolo, AR
Joseph Koon, Hefney, AR
Jake Kraus, Longview, TX

Griffin Kretzer, Steam Spings, AR
Logan Kuhn, Island, AR
Harry Lab, Hyde Park, AR
Jared Lantzsch, Rogers, AR
Elizabeth Lawson, Terikshna TX
Coleson Lechner, Warden, LA
Barkley Legens, Vevlin, TX

Blake Loesinng, Hourting, AR
Marie Lindahl, Forest, AR
Jeb Little, Warent, AR
Jessie Little, Woodkey, TX
Katherine Love, Edington, LA
Elisabeth Magnus, Kuln, OK
Matts Mainiero, Austin, TX

Danielle Mainord, Shery, AR
Tracey Mardis, Springda, AR
Craig Martin, Harris, PK
Madeline Martin, Garland, TX
Karissa McCalip, Long, TX
Megan McLaughlin, Allen, TX
Kasey McLeans, Yorkon, AR

Bailey McMillen, Long, TX
Annie McMurray, Wick, TX
Todd McNeel, Grand Prairie, TX
Shelby McWhorter, Bearden, AR
Katherine McNeil, Bearden, AR
Kelly Mezzanatto, Murphy, TX
Mariah Miller, Corvisay, AR

Brian Monk, Pase, TX
Christina Moon, Carolas, TX
Austin Morgan, Sunnye, TX
Jamie Morgan, Philadelphia, AR
Melanie Morso, Benton, AR
Anna Moxley, Wake Forest, NC
Jon Murry, Glendin, AR

Maddie Myers, Parks City, OK
Noah Myers, West, ME
Kaylee Neblet, Sarasota, TX
Spencer Neblett, Little Rock, AR
Caroline Nimocks, Rosale City, AR
Paige Onyuru, Hot Springs, AR
Hannah Osborne, Minea, TX
Janet Ozmun, Arkansas AR
Kaylee Parrott, Shawnee OK
Maddie Patterson, Fair tail TX
Hannah Pinkerton, Rowlett TX
Lindsey Pipkin, Rockwall TX
Nicole Plott, Berrien GA
Chandler Powell, Arkansas AR

Rachel Powell, Wooten AB
Rachel Prunett, Thompson AB
Rebekah Raines, West Fork AR
Ashley Randels, Rogers AR
Emily Reeves, Camanche IA
Sam Riggs, Mountainburg AR
Sarah Rogers, Camanche IA

Tyler Rosenthal, Lake Rock AR
Seth Rountree, Rogers AR
Alayna Rutledge, West Monroe LA
Molly Salmon, Henderson, TX
Rebecca Sanchez, Edmondsville AR
Daniel Searles, Maumul TX
Reed Shackelford, Pensacola FL

Laura Grace Shaddox, Prairie Grove AR
Hannah Shull, New Rock AR
Anna Skiles, Cherryville AR
Amy Simon, Katy TX
Allison Smith, Gotebo, NE
Aly Smith, Shrewwood AR
Jake Sowell, De Queen AR

Paul Spann, Elk OK
Courtney Stanage, Hot Springs Village AR
Ben Stichem, Dallas TX
Sarah Stiles, Aubrey TX
Wade Stotts, Shawnee AR
Kelly Strickland, Afton AR
Blaine Surber, Suplai Springs, TX

Hannah Sweeden, Georgetown TX
Sarah Talley, Paris, TX
Shannon Talley, Calera, TX
Rebekah Taylor, Bentonville AR
Tegan Taylor, Clarksville AR
Elise Teel, Bryan AR
Emily Terry, Bryan AR

Katie Theriot, Sterling, AR
Kaley Thompson, Shreveport, LA
Zach Thompson, Stroud, OK
Marissa Thornberry, Webeville AR
Chandler Tillery, Sandstone AR
Tanner Trantham, Rogers AR
Curt Tucker, Benton AR

Jillian Turner, Texarkana, TX
Katie Turner, Fort, TX
Chelsea Villanueva, Seminole, OK
Allie Wado, Hot Springs AR
Kati Walker, Benton AR
Sara Walker, Russell Springs, AR
Dustin Walter, West Memphis, AR
"We're going to New York! Elevators, trains, the lights of Broadway!" Two years ago, when Chad Burris, a senior musical theater major from Van Buren, stepped into the role of Cornelius Hackl in the OBU theater department's presentation of "Hello Dolly," it's hard to say if he ever imagined those words would become so relevant to his real life so quickly.

"I am currently on the national tour of the Tony Award winning Broadway musical 'The Book of Mormon,'" Burris said. "I am the standby for the one of the leads, Arnold Cunningham. As a standby, I am at the theatre every night ready to go on, and whenever he is sick, I play the role."

Burris says that he got the audition through a personal connection and after a long and worrisome process, he was presented with what he's described as a dream opportunity.

"I auditioned for the show through a video in August of 2013," Burris said. "I found the email address of a guy that was helping cast the show and he asked me to submit a tape singing a song and doing several of the scenes from the show. In October he contacted me and said he was coming to Little Rock and I had received a callback. In May, after giving up all hope for booking the job, I heard from the NYC casting director and I flew to New York to audition for the director. In early June, I booked the job and left for rehearsals."

While the high expectations might sound nerve wracking to some, Burris says that it's actually caused him to stumble into a few laughable moments.

"My debut in the show was in Philadelphia, Pa., and I was so excited to go on," Burris said. "There was one part of the show that we didn't get to rehearse, so I went into it without ever doing it. I almost broke the set and fell through the window in the backdrop! It was a trip. Literally."

According to Burris, this job is everything he's been working for and everything he could have imagined.

"This job is a dream," Burris said. "This show has always been one of my favorites and it is so cool to be associated with such a massive machine that is 'Mormon.' My favorite thing work wise is getting to play the role. Getting that text that you're going on is the scariest, most exciting feeling that I have ever had."

One thing Burris stressed is the fact that he worked hard and seized his opportunity when he saw it.

"I want people to realize that if they want to achieve anything in their lives, they can do it," Burris said. "Anything is possible. Follow your dreams and work extremely hard."

Mary Worthen, a former professor at OBU, told me that luck is when hard work and opportunity meet. I agree with that completely and I think that if you're doing what you need to do, God will work the rest out."
As an athlete, achievements and accolades gained from on-field performance are always something to be cherished. However, for Spencer Knight, senior fullback for the Ouachita Tigers, the most important award was earned off the field.

Knight, a business administration major from Arkadelphia, was named to the 2014 AFCA Allstate Good Works Team, which recognizes football players from all levels for their volunteerism. Knight, along with the other 21 players named to the roster from schools across the country, traveled to New Orleans and was recognized at halftime of the Allstate Sugar Bowl on January 1, 2015. In the week leading up to the game, the players participated in a community service project together and also attended a football camp for boys.

Knight joined the “Be the Match” program in 2011 when he was looking to be a potential match for Justin Waite, a former Tiger teammate who was battling leukemia. After hearing the news, Knight and several of his teammates signed up and took a cheek swab test to see if they could be a match.

Unfortunately, none of them were a match and Waite tragically lost his battle with leukemia later that year. A couple years later, Knight received a call from “Be the Match” in the middle of the 2013 football season saying that he was a match for a 3-year-old boy in Canada.

While doing a bone marrow donation for a stranger in the middle of the season may seem like a difficult decision to make, Knight said, “My faith came into play and I trusted God to work it all out. I’ve had a high school coach that battled with cancer, I’ve had a cousin that had stage four lymphoma and a teammate in Justin Waite, so for me it was more than just a 3-year-old boy.”

Knight was flown to Houston on December 16 to undergo a physical and had surgery for a bone marrow harvest on January 2, 2014.

Despite such a courageous act of generosity, Knight refused to let himself get caught up in all the accolades.

“So many of my teammates signed up to be a donor for Justin and would have done the same thing if they were in my situation, I was just the one that got the call,” he said.

Being from two different countries has certainly made it difficult for Knight to receive updates on the boy and how he handled the entire process.

“The hardest part about being a donor is the emotional attachment that you gain. All I know is that he is a 3-year-old boy from Canada. I request updates through ‘Be the Match’. All I want to know is how he is doing,” Knight said.

For Knight, being named to the Allstate Good Works Team is the culmination of a life dedicated to serving others.
Senior Dinner Memories

Cami Willis, Flower Mound, TX
David Winkler, Little Rock, AR
Tyler Wisdom, Russellville, AR
Katy Wood, Paris, TX
Alex Young, Little Rock, AR

Lydia Warren, West Monroe, LA
Taylor Wentz, Little Rock, AR
Jadin Wesley, Little Rock, AR
Chelsea Whelpley, Little Rock, AR
Jared Whisenhunt, Little Rock, AR
John David Whitmore, Rogers, AR
Bobby Williams, Tulsa, OK
Involvement / OSF chair of Student Recruitment, Tiger Tunes hostess, Women of EEE - fall president, first vice president, Tiger Tunes director and 2012 Pledge Class vice president

Brags / The Shelby Seabaugh Spirit of Tiger Tunes inaugural recipient, Dean's List, President's List

PostGrad / "I plan to be an elementary teacher and hope to work toward a master's in administration someday."

Involvement / Sophomore Class vice president, Tiger Serve Day Leadership Team, Campus Freshman Family Group parent and leadership team, Noonday leader, Tiger Tunes, EEE Beau

Brags / Mr. Tiger

PostGrad / "After graduation I hope to work in discipleship or church planting."

Involvement / Res Life, Backyard Bible Club, International Food Festival Committee, Sociology Department research assistant, Tiger Tunes

Brags / President's List, Dean's List

PostGrad / "Because of my passion for ministry and the world, I plan on becoming an overseas missionary."

Involvement / Student Senate vice president, OSF Student Recruitment Ambassador, Student Life Committee representative, The Men of Beta Beta secretary, social chair, athletic director, and song leader, TSD Leadership Team

Brags / Theta Alpha Kappa, Tiger Leadership Network, ACMA First Place President's List, Dean's List

PostGrad / "I plan to enter the ministry after graduation."

Involvement / Tiger Football Team team captain, FCA Leadership Team, Hickingbothom School of Business Student Advisory Board Member

Brags / two time GAC Football Champion, three time GAC All-Conference, three time Academic GAC All-Conference, AFCA All-State Good Works Team

PostGrad / "I plan to obtain a coaching graduate assistantship and attend graduate school."

Involvement / Lady Tiger Soccer Team, Women of EEE, Gridiron Girls treasurer, FCA Leadership Team, America Counts Tutor

Brags / Academic All-Conference, President's List, Dean's List

PostGrad / "I plan to continue my education and become a physical therapist upon graduation."

Involvement / Biology

Megan Clay

El Dorado
Hannah Pinkerton
Benton

Involvement / Panhellenic president, Women of EEE chaplain, OSF Special Events Committee, National Speech, Hearing and Language Association, CM Ministry Leader, FFG co-chair, ElderServe

Braggs / Homecoming Court, Academic Honors Awards

PostGrad / "I plan to pursue my master's degree for communication sciences and disorders and practice speech pathology for the geriatric population."

Connor Goad
Hot Springs

Involvement / Christian Studies

Braggs / Dean's List

PostGrad / "I plan to pursue a career in the photography industry and music business networking."

Bradley Hunter Heird
Pine Bluff

Involvement / Student Senate secretary, Dietetics and Nutrition president, OSF Fundraising and Financing chair, Kappa Chi vice president, OBU Ducks Unlimited vice president, Tri Beta Steering Committee, College Republicans social media chair

Braggs / Undergraduate research in the medical field honoree

PostGrad / "I will be going to nursing school at UAMS and become a nurse practitioner."

Hannah Diaz
West Monroe, La

Involvement / Cross Country Team, The Women of Tri Chi chaplain, Phi Alpha Theta vice president, History Club president

Braggs / Outstanding Junior History Major Award, President's List

PostGrad / "I plan to attend graduate school for history and work toward becoming a history professor."

Stephen Curry
Little Rock

Involvement / The Men of Eta Alpha Omega pledge chair and Tiger Tunes director, Tiger Tunes host Ouachita Singers president, Concert Choir, Safety Band director, Tri Chi beau, Men's Discipleship leader, NSR leader and steering committee

Braggs / James Harrison Music Scholarships, Dean's List

PostGrad / "I plan to pursue a career in music education in the school while serving a church on worship staff."

Katie Theriot
Alexandria, La

Involvement / Backyard Bible Club, Big Brother Big Sister, OSF, National Speech, Hearing and Language Association, Alpha Chi, Theta Alpha Kappa, CM Ministry Leader, Tiger Tunes

Braggs / Betty Oliver Grant Endowed Award

PostGrad / "I want to be a speech pathologist."
**Involvement / Carl Goodson**
Honors Program - social co-chair and community chair,
Ouachita Singers, The Women of EEE, Alpha Chi, Tri Beta, Campus Activities Board, Tiger Tunes hostess

**Brag /**
Homecoming Court, President’s List, Carl Goodson Scholar Grant recipient

**PostGrad /**
"I plan on attending physician assistant school after graduation."

---

**Involvement / The Men of Eta Alpha Omega**
- president and secretary, Student Senate - position four and junior class president, Tri Beta - president and secretary

**Brag /**
Alpha Chi, President’s List

**PostGrad /**
"After graduation I will be attending dental school at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Dentistry."

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**Involvement / Student Senate**
Junior Class vice president, The Women of EEE, The Men of Rho Sigma sweetheart, Gridiron Girls - president and recruitment coordinator

**Brags /**
Miss OBU 2014, Tiger Tunes hostess, Homecoming Court

**PostGrad /**
"I hope to work in the public relations industry for various businesses."

---

**Involvement / Freshman Family Group, Gridiron Girls, ENACTUS, Art Club**
- secretary and social media chair, The Women of Tri Chi, Student Senate Freshman Treasurer, Campus Activities Board, IABC, Dietetics Club

**Brags /**
Student Juried Art Show Artist, Dean’s List

**PostGrad /**
"After graduation I plan on completing studies with fashion design at Arkansas Fashion School before attending graduate school."

---

**Involvement / The Women of EEE**
- president, vice president, second vice president, social chair and pledge class president, OSF - president and vice president, Student Senate - senior class vice president, executive, junior and freshman positions

**Brags /**
Miss OBU Congeniality and fourth runner up, President’s List, Dean’s List

**PostGrad /**
"I will be working toward my master's in strategic communications."

---

**Involvement / TSD Leadership Publicity Team, Transerve, OSF Communications Committee, Monticello Children’s Home Ministry, International Food Festival**

**Brag /**
Outstanding Junior Artist, Student Juried Art Show Grant Prize, Deans Choice Award, President’s List, Dean’s List

**PostGrad /**
"I hope to pursue a career in graphic design and illustration."

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**Involvement /**

**Brag /**

**PostGrad /**

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**Involvement /**

**Brag /**

**PostGrad /**

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**Involvement /**

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**Involvement /**

**Brag /**

**PostGrad /**

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Involvement / The Men of Eta Alpha Omega historian, EEE beau, OSF Student Recruitment and Communications, Photo Lab Editor, WOW leader, NSR leader, Ouachita Sounds, Tiger Tunes host, Tiger Network Leadership Scholar

Brags / two time International Photography award winner

PostGrad / "I plan to pursue a job in media entertainment, the arts, communications or public relations."

Involvement / TSD Leadership Team, WOW Steering Committee, The Tonight Show at Ouachita co-host

Brags / Intramural Soccer Champion, President’s List, Dean’s List

PostGrad / "After graduation I would like to pursue a career in communications, public relations, writing or entrepreneurship."

Involvement / The Men of Beta Beta, Dr. Jack’s Coffee general manager, Hickingbothom School of Business Student Advisory Board, ENACTUS project leader, Eddy Argy Investment Fund Equity Analyst

Involvement / The Women of Tri Chi - president, chaplain, sisterhood chair, Kappa Delta Phi treasurer, Ouachita Student Foundation, WOW Leader

Involvement / The Women of Tri Chi philanthropy chair and historian, Art Club social media chair, Eta Alpha Omega sweetheart, OSF Communications Committee, Pruet Sisterhood, NSR Leader, WOW Leader

Brags / Ben Elrod Scholar, Homecoming Court, Mrs. U.R. Grant Outstanding Freshman Female, Carl Goodson Honors Graduate, Theta Alpha Kappa

PostGrad / "I desire to work in international marketing and brand identity."

Christian Studies and Mass Communications

Molly Bowman

Greenbrier

Jayson Harris

Minden, La.

PostGrad / "After graduation I plan to continue work in the coffee industry."

McCall Guttridge

Early Childhood Education

Denison, Texas

Who’s Who Among Students at Ouachita

Bragg

Todd McNeel Jr.

Arlington, Texas

Brags / IABC Scholar, NATS Regional Finalist, NATS State Finalist

PostGrad / "I would like to work in arts administration, being an advocate for the performing arts. I would also like to be a professional opera singer."

Brags / President’s List, Dean’s List

PostGrad / "After graduation I plan on working as an elementary teacher."
Anna Sikes
Greenbrier

Involvement / TSD Leadership Team, Women's Discipleship Leader, The Women of Tri Chi, Pruet Sisterhood, Theta Alpha Kappa president, OSF Student Recruitment, FFG Mom

Braggs / Homecoming Queen, Garrett Ham Grant recipient, ETS Grant recipient, Betty Oliver Grant Endowed Award

PostGrad / "After graduation I want to teach Bible and equip believers in their personal faith."

David Winkler
Little Rock

Involvement / OSF Steering Committee, TSD Leadership Team, CM Tiger Tunes director, Tonight Show at Ouachita co-host, Men's Discipleship, Nertz Club, Tri Chi beau

Braggs / President's List, Dean's List, Tau Alpha Kappa, Alpha Chi, Hickingbothom School of Business Student Advisory Board

PostGrad / "After graduation I plan to work in college ministry and attend seminary."

Beau Daggett
Roland

Involvement / The Men of Eta Alpha Omega, Student Senate, Campus Activities Board, WOW Leader, EEE beau, CM, Nertz Club

Christian Studies

Rebekah Raine
Little Rock

Involvement / The Women of Tri Chi - secretary and keeper of the beaux, FFG Mom, Intramurals, Eta Alpha Omega sweetheart

PostGrad / "After graduation I would like to work in a church, possibly with children."

Rebekah Taylor
Arkadelphia

Involvement / History Honors Society, History Club vice president, Eta Alpha Omega sweetheart, International Club, IJM, TRIO Program

Blaine Surber
Sulphur Springs, Texas


Braggs / Two Time Friends of Fine Arts Theatre Award recipient

Musical Theatre and Mass Communications

History and Secondary Education
Involvement / Campus Ministries prayer leader, Refuge speaker, Veritas small group leader, Pruet Sisterhood

Sophie Demuth
Rockwall, Texas

Brags / Sophomore Ministerial Award, Carl Goodson Honors Program, Theta Alpha Kappa, Alpha Chi

PostGrad / “I plan to go to seminary and serve the church in some capacity.”

Involvement / History Club, Phi Alpha Theta, Epsilon Delta

Paul Spann
Enid, Okla.

Brags / President’s List, Dean’s List

PostGrad / “After graduation I will be attending physical therapy school at the University of Oklahoma.”

Involvement / TSD Leadership Team, CM Leadership Team, Noonday leader, Tiger Tunes

Bridget Bloxom
Benton

PostGrad / “After graduation I hope to work in the international missions field.”

Involvement / Ouachita Singers, Ouachita Sounds, Tiger Tunes director, Tiger Tunes host

John Doss
Rogers

PostGrad / “After graduation I plan to pursue a career in choral conducting.”

Involvement / The Women of EEE - secretary, Student Senate, Tiger Network Leadership Scholar, National Speech, Hearing and Language Association

Laura Grace Shaddox
North Little Rock

Brags / Mrs. J.R. Grant Endowed Award, Dean’s List

PostGrad / “After graduation I plan to attend graduate school to pursue speech pathology.”

Involvement / The Men of Eta Alpha Omega, Theta Alpha Pi - president and chaplain, Alpha Psi Omega president

Jalin C. Wesley
Little Rock

Brags / NATS Semi-finalist

PostGrad / “After I graduate, I plan to move to Dallas, Texas, and get plugged into the Dallas theatre circuit and follow my dreams of sharing the gospel through the world of entertainment.”
Imagine a job that allowed travelling the globe, experiencing new cultures and impacting other people's lives. Amy Garrett, assistant director for international education, has that chance. Garrett has the responsibility of helping international students who come to Ouachita adjust to moving to a different country for four years.

Garrett had her first international experience when she had the opportunity to study abroad in Salzburg, Austria, with Ian Cosh's daughter, Barri Bridges, in her sophomore year at Ouachita.

After returning to Ouachita, Garrett continued to be interested in travelling the world. This led her to move to China shortly after she graduated. While there, Garrett worked at the English Language Institute of China, teaching students English.

After being in China for seven years working with the ELIC, Garrett came stateside and began working in Colorado, recruiting college students to work at ELIC. While in Colorado, Garrett was offered the position of assistant director of international education at Ouachita.

Garrett recruits international students for Ouachita, often communicating with them through email or Skype and has even made trips to the country where a potential student lives. Garrett is also responsible for helping students gather their financial and academic records and get their F1 Visa to travel to America.

Along with all of this, Garrett teaches about six hours of ESL every semester. In these classes, Garrett helps her students improve their proficiency in English and develop necessary skills for becoming fluent in a second language.

"I am really proud of them, and if you think about it, it is a really incredible thing that they do," Garrett said.

Garrett also works with the Grant Center to plan a trip over fall break for international students. These trips normally take place in large cities like Dallas, Memphis, Chicago and even New Orleans.

Garrett said that the goals of these trips are to give international students opportunities to see and do things that are outside the experiences they have in Arkadelphia.

"I want it to be an experience and show them different parts of the U.S. I want to show them culturally interesting places," Garrett said.

Garrett has the chance to travel and experience new cultures and introduce students to American culture as well. "My favorite part of working here is working with college students, and I love that I get to work with missionary kids and international students and their families, as well as working with Americans who are interested in missions," said Garrett.
Mirroring the compartmentalized career of artists like Picasso, the 42-year teaching career of Dr. Raouf Halaby had been a syncretic journey that combined teaching with different fields of study and artistic pursuits.

Halaby first began teaching at Ouachita in 1973 as assistant professor of English. While Halaby loved teaching English classes, his career changed directions in the early 1990s.

"I was prompted by the university to teach the CORE art class, back then it was called humanities," said Halaby.

Halaby enjoyed the class so much that he agreed to take on two more sections of the course, both with full waiting lists.

Halaby realized at that time that if he was going to teach art appreciation, he needed to retool. In 1993, he took a sabbatical to do just that.

"I went to Italy and immersed myself in art history," Halaby said. "It gave me the opportunity to go to Florence, Venice, Milan, Naples, Pompeii and Assisi. It was a life-changing experience, which I followed up with more art history classes from UALR when I returned."

After his return, he received a call in August from the current chair of the art department. She was retiring. Halaby accepted the offer to become the new chair.

"The department was still located in the basement at Mabee Fine Arts when I took over. At that time, we had eight majors, one computer, a video camera and a printer. I started knocking on doors, asking people for money. Eventually, we were moved to the second floor of Moses-Provine."

After several years of raising funds and hiring faculty to teach courses like graphic design and ceramics, Halaby decided that it was time to step down from his position.

"The beauty of it all is that I was able to have a dual appointment," Halaby said. "I'm still in contact with English, my original passion, that original love that I had, and now I'm an art professor."

Throughout his teaching career, his students have been his priority. According to Halaby, the highlight has been watching them succeed.

"For every decision I've made there has always been a good outcome," Halaby said. "There have been decisions that have opened doors and at the heart of it all has been 'What can I take back to the classroom? How can I inspire my students?'"

In the same manner that when one element of a work of art is altered, the entire composition is changed, Halaby's career has been marked with many of these life-changing decisions.

"I don't change because I get bored," Halaby said. "I have a curiosity that is insatiable. Humanities are integrated. All of these are at the core of what makes us human."
In the eyes of any community he set foot in, Scott Dupree could be seen as nothing if not a loving man. Dupree, the former manager of the campus cafeteria, who moved to the position of cashier on his own accord, says that his main motivations in life were a love of working, love of the students he serves and love for people in general.

“I’ve been here going on five years,” Dupree said. “I got a phone call three days after I left Degray Lodge saying that they wanted me to come and work here, and so far, it’s been the best job I’ve ever had.”

Dupree, hired on the spot for his experience, worked in management for the caf for four of his five years at Ouachita before moving to his position as cashier. According to him, it gave him a newfound sense of freedom, as well as appealing to his friendly demeanor.

“I’ve been doing restaurants for 30 years,” Dupree said. “I like this better than any restaurant. It’s the best position for me. I love the people, my boss is the best I’ve ever had and I get nights and weekends off. I haven’t had that in 20 years, so I’m really excited about that.”

Dupree was so committed to the students he served that during the worst winter weather of 2015, he stayed the night in the caf just to make sure there would be someone on campus to man his post the next day.

“I ended up coming down here at about 1:30 at night,” Dupree said. “I looked out my window, saw that the ice was sticking everywhere and knew somebody would have to be down there in the morning. Instead of getting up at 6:00 in the morning and finding out I couldn’t make it, I just headed down that night, brought my blanket and curled up in a booth. I took about a three hour nap and at 5 a.m., I was ready to roll.”

While Dupree’s dedication was something that most people on campus could immediately recognize, he said he was not all work and no play. He enjoyed volunteering with his wife of 15 years as well as riding ATVs and unicycles.

“I’ve been riding unicycles since I was 13,” Dupree said. “One Halloween I borrowed a student’s unicycle, put on a clown costume and rode around campus making balloon animals and tossing candy. That was a great time.”

Although Dupree said that his view that his job took care of him was one of the big reasons he was so in love with it, he claimed that the best part of the whole thing was the students.

“I want those students to know that I’m there for them,” Dupree said. “At all cost I’ll take care of them, and I think they know. I love it when people ask me to help them, and if I can’t get on something immediately, I’ll find someone else. It’s just what I do, man. I’m a people person.”

by Noah Hutchinson
This campus of difference makers is more than your common university. It's a community, a home. Many of the faculty and staff have Tiger connections beyond their time as employees of the university. For Dr. Myra Houser, this connection started as an undergraduate student. Through her time in graduate school, she traveled around the world, and when finished, found her way back to Ouachita to teach. She is a tiger for life.

Houser's Ouachita story started when she and her family moved back to the United States from Africa and she spent the last three years of high school in Dallas, Texas. This is where she first learned about Ouachita. During her time at Ouachita, Houser earned a degree in mass communications and political science. She also spent time working for the school newspaper, The Signal.

Leaving the bubble after graduation was something that Houser had thought about since her freshman year, but the idea didn’t really take hold until a few years into her time at Ouachita. After spending some time in the summer working at camps, she discovered a love for teaching. Houser combined her desire to continue her education and her urge to teach by continuing to graduate school.

After applying to several schools, Houser landed in Virginia at The College of William and Mary. This transition from life as a Ouachitonian to somewhere completely new wasn’t easy. “It was really tough in a lot of ways,” Houser said. She noted the difference in interaction with faculty as something that made the transition difficult.

“I think Ouachita professors are very friendly and accessible. I had some really great professors at William and Mary, some of whom I’m still close with, but there were also a lot of people that felt like you could either sink or swim,” she said. After finishing at William and Mary, Houser pursued her doctorate at Howard University.

At Howard, it was not out of place to be in the African Studies department. The study of African history was a growing field at the time that was still new to the academic world. Being immersed into something new and unique was something that Houser treasured.

After receiving her doctorate from Howard, Houser accepted a job with her original home away from home, Ouachita.

A lot has changed since Houser had been at Ouachita, but the feeling of community still exists even as a professor. She said the faculty is younger and more dynamic, and the programs that she was a part of as a student have grown larger. The return to the bubble has been an adjustment, but a good way.

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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<td>Mr. William H. Sutton</td>
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<td>Rev. Larry White</td>
<td>Associational Missionary, Faulkner Baptist Association, Conway, AR</td>
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<td>Mr. James S. Young</td>
<td>Group Vice President, Tyson Foods, Inc., Springdale, AR</td>
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One of the things that makes “The Bubble” so unique is the variety of passions and interests that can be found here. The assortment of clubs and organizations on campus offers a fit for every passion. The oldest social club on campus celebrated 90 years of sisterhood with a kickoff for an unprecedented fundraising campaign for the university. Receiving national recognition, three Alpha Chi students won first place for research at the Alpha Chi National College Honor Society convention. OBU Enactus students finished in the top 12 teams in the nation at the Enactus United States National Exposition and were given the chance to share not only their project presentations, but the love and service of Christ as well.
Academic clubs, whether major specific or across multiple disciplines, allowed students to engage on an academic level from a different perspective.

Ali Lashley, a sophomore philosophy and psychology double major from Conway and president of the Philosophy Club, said he enjoyed meeting with friends from various departments to exchange ideas.

"It's an anti-stresser club because you can talk about what you think and believe, and you're not going to be judged," said Lashley.

The club also hosted movie nights between the biweekly meetings. This meeting setting offered platforms for debate.

"My reasoning behind the movie nights is they facilitate discussion, free thinking and people just like to watch movies," Lashley said.

The philosophers weren't the only ones who enjoyed film. The History Club, which received its charter this year, watched "Monty Python" in honor of the late Dr. Tom Auffenberg.

"We love having movie parties," said Hannah Diaz, a senior history and Christian studies double major and History Club president from Monroe, La. "Being able to have community with people who have the same interests is vital," Diaz said.

The History Club was a club that was open to anyone on campus.

"We have athletes, people in social clubs, people in the honors program, so there's a variety of people you can connect with," Diaz said.

Other clubs were intended for students in specific majors, like the Huckabee School of Education's chapter of Kappa Delta Pi. Dr. Kathy Collins, chair of the Department of Education, explained the value of joining a structured academic club.

"It's a well-established organization, and it's good for networking. Being a member gets you access to resources you might not have otherwise," Collins said.

Kaitlyn Clark, a junior elementary education major from Monroe, La., and president of Kappa Delta Pi, was glad she joined.

"I love our education department; they're great. I definitely feel very prepared for my future," Clark said.

Whether major-specific or open to all, academic clubs were worth the time students invested in them. With so many ways to get plugged into campus, clubs were good for those who sought to build relationships, but also learn more outside the classroom.

by Barrett Gaynor


2/ Sophomore Marissa Pilcher participates in a science experiment with the American Chemistry Society. Members provided activities for National Chemistry Week during the lunch hour in the amphitheater.

Beyond the Classroom

Being able to have community with people who have the same interests is vital.
- Hannah Diaz, senior history and Christian studies major, Monroe, La.

4/ Junior Anna Kumpuris receives her Theta Alpha Kappa induction from Dr. Doug Nykolaishen. The organization inducted new members on April 16.

5/ Senior Anna Sikes meets with freshman Jamie Flowers as part of the Pruet Sisterhood. Both girls were involved with discipleship and encouraging other club members.

6/ Seniors McKenzie Cranford and Chelsea Whelpley attend an International Association of Business Communicators-Ouachita networking event. The group had the opportunity to meet with alumni working at Arkansas Business Publishing Group and ask them questions about the professional workplace.
“My favorite part is the relationships you foster with your directed study professor and thesis reader.”
- Kyle Hargis, senior biology and philosophy major, Camden
Honors clubs did not just make students look good on paper. They encouraged students to encourage one another while participating on campus and discovering their passions as they prepared for graduate school or the work force.

“Graduate schools all tell me all the time, ‘There are a lot of straight A students out there. I want to know what else have they done, what initiative did they take?’” said Dr. Barbara Pemberton, director of the Carl Goodson Honors Program.

Members of Ouachita’s chapter of the Alpha Chi National Honor Society went above and beyond scholastically and philanthropically. This year, a student team of three won first place and $5,000 at the Alpha Chi national convention in Chicago for their research project on science and the arts.

Other members participated in the group’s annual book donation service project. Alpha Chi received a grant to purchase children’s books, read them at a local day care and then sent them home with the kids.

The Carl Goodson Honors Program also challenged students to go the extra mile. To graduate with honors, extra coursework was required, including two seminars, a directed study and a research thesis.

While these tasks may sound daunting, they were opportunities for students to explore what piqued their interest. They worked closely with professors for these projects.

“The professors are thrilled to have a student who’s excited about something and to be able to guide them,” Dr. Pemberton said. “The honors program is the only place where you get to do something out of the catalog. It should be something you’re having fun looking into.”

“My favorite part is the relationships you foster with your directed study professor and thesis reader,” said Kyle Hargis, a senior biology and philosophy double major from Camden and chair of the academic division of the honors club, Alpha Tau.

The program also sought to cultivate an environment of interdisciplinary encouragement and interaction. They wanted students to engage with other honors peers.

“I’ve been able to meet really cool people and get to know them better,” said Madeline Martin, a senior biology major from Waco, Texas, and social chair of Alpha Tau.

Honors clubs desired to stimulate social interaction and holistic learning experiences for their students, in addition good grades.

by Barrett Gay
For many students, the sound of music was something they loved to enjoy. For the students involved in the music ensembles, however, it was something they loved to perform.

The music ensembles offered to students were open to music majors and non-music majors alike. Unlike high school bands and chorales, the ensembles didn’t meet every day, allowing non-music majors to commit to two or three rehearsals each week instead of a daily commitment.

This also allowed music majors to take more classes within their major as well as participate in multiple ensembles. The meeting schedule even allowed non-music majors to participate while still pursuing their fields of study.

Jason Potts, a sophomore music education major from Springdale, was a tenor trombone player involved in a variety of ensembles, including Marching Band and Trombone Choir. He praised the faculty for their talents and commitment to their groups.

“We have a lot of great faculty who are willing to do what needs to be done to help students grow,” said Potts.

Potts also mentioned how his involvement with instrumental ensembles has helped him grow as a musician not just on his own, but with his peers.

“I get to make music with other people my age and learn how to better play with an ensemble, not just as a single trombonist,” said Potts.

Seth Russell, a junior vocal performance major from Crossett, said he also enjoyed the camaraderie he experienced with his fellow choir members. Russell was a member of the Concert Choir, and enjoyed his experience.

“It gives a way for a solo singer like myself to have more practice time with the voice,” said Russell. “I would say Concert Choir is a universal experience that consists of all singers with different goals, majors in music or not.”

Russell also emphasized how important the choral ensembles are to Ouachita, citing them as a major draw for many prospective students.

Dr. Gary Gerber, chair of the division of music, said regardless of whether students join an instrumental or choral ensemble, their performance in these ensembles is a key part of student life.

“It helps with what we’re doing here at Ouachita,” said Gerber. “It gives us an opportunity to show what we’re doing with our division of music to the Ouachita community.”
SHOW
off
your
TALENT

I get to make music with other people my age and learn how to play better with an ensemble, not just as a single trombonist.

- Jason Potts, sophomore music education major, Springdale

4/ Sophomore Abby Tipps plays with Tiger Steel at a concert on April 1. Tiger Steel performed a variety of musical styles, such as jazz, reggae and Latin using steel drums.

5/ Senior Elizabeth Baker performs a flute solo with the Wind Ensemble during the PRISM concert. The PRISM concert featured all instrumental groups within the School of Fine Arts on April 21.

6/ Sophomore Jason Potts plays trombone with the Jazz Band at a performance at Dr. Jack's Coffeehouse. The Jazz Band and Jazz Band combo provided live music for a variety of on- and off-campus events.
"We are very focused on helping the community."

- Amy Gwin Simon, senior middle school education major, Naperville, Ill.

1/ SAI members served food at a music recital. The club assisted with receptions that followed student recitals.

2/ Senior Tara Clem performs during the Miscast Recital. SAI hosted the event on February 28.

3/ Sophomore Abby Root leads a children's workshop hosted by Theta Alpha Phi. The workshop took place on April 18.

4/ Members of SAI attend the Rose Ball. The Rose Ball was a new event on campus, held in February and hosted by the members of SAI.

5/ Sophomore Beth Crisler attends Spring Ball with other SAI members. SAI participated in the event with other clubs and organizations.
Music and theatre clubs focused on promoting themselves on campus. They hosted dinners, headed workshops for children, sponsored festivals and assisted in the growth of their departments.

Erin Cheshire, a junior choral music education major from Colorado Springs, Colo., was a member of Sigma Alpha Iota (SAI), a women’s music fraternity. Cheshire said spring was a time for the rushees to go through rush and induction week to become a part of SAI. In an effort to bring awareness to SAI, they also hosted a new event this year.

“This year we have really focused on getting our name out there in the Ouachita community. In the fall we began planning for the Rose Ball which is a new social event. We also hosted a Miscast Recital, which is a performance of pieces performed by unlikely performers,” said Cheshire.

Amy Gwin Simon, a senior middle school education major from Naperville, Ill., spoke about the first annual Rose Ball.

“We had a Rose Ball for the first time this year. It was a formal dinner for you to dress up and have fun with your friends on campus. We had a jazz combo played by OBU students while we ate, then a dance afterwards,” Simon said.

Not only did SAI reach out to the OBU community, but also to the Arkadelphia community.

“We are very focused on helping the community. A really big thing we do is singing at the nursing homes. We also team up with Collegiate National Association for Music Education to teach vocal lessons for mentally disabled students,” said Simon.

For Tara Clem, a junior a musical theater major from Texarkana, Texas, and SAI president, her favorite part was what she could do for her fellow peers.

“My favorite part of our club is that we host receptions for senior music majors recitals. It takes a great stress off of the recitalist and it is a very special way for us to show we care,” said Clem.

Jalin Wesley, a senior musical theater major from Little Rock, was a part of Alpha Psi Omega, a national theatre honor fraternity. The chapter, which replaced Theta Alpha Phi, inducted its first class in the fall semester. “We hosted workshops for children throughout our theatre season and hosted a banquet,” Wesley said.

“We enjoyed showing the children various aspects of theatre including improv, make-up and costuming,” said Abby Root, a sophomore speech/theatre education major from Arkadelphia.

by Gracie Lundstrum
Ouachita’s International Club helped international students through the process of adjusting to American culture.

“When we have a common experience we are much more compassionate and empathetic. So the nice thing about the International Club is that they are bound together by a common experience at Ouachita,” said Ian Cosh, Vice President for Community and International Engagement.

Weekly meetings allowed club members to get to know more about each other and build relationships that improved their Ouachita experience.

“It’s really hard to make friends. It’s a process, and the club really helps being a part of the process,” said Hanna Park, a freshman sociology major from Jakarta, Indonesia.

Ben Lange-Smith, a senior psychology major from Harare, Zimbabwe, and the president of the club, saw students work through the process of adjusting to the American way of life.

“At first they are all like ‘Hooray. America is wonderful. Sweet Tea and everything and the showers,’” said Lange-Smith. “Then they get into hostility stage like, ‘I miss home, no one understands what home is, no one understands these words, no one understands me.’ Then they go into the assimilation stage and they’re like ‘I’m an American, it’s all going to be all right.’

Members learned about life as an American, as well as other cultures. During their Monday night meetings, one member would talk about his or her culture.

The diversity of the club helped internationals feel more at home even if there were cultural differences. Many of those differences became a source of pride and humor for them during their time on campus.

American students were also members of the club. They helped interpret culture for international students. As peers, they had a different perspective to offer.

“We’ve always had a good number of American students who have a particular interest in internationals,” said Cosh.

“That’s really good because they can then be their American voice to the group and help interpret things that the international students might observe.”

Alex Holder, a sophomore accounting major from Sour Lake, Texas, enjoyed her experience of being involved with other students through the International Club.

“It’s really fun to go to learn about other cultures,” she said. “It’s like building friendships that will hold across the world.”

by Marie Lindsey

1/ Members of International Club take a trip during Fall Break to Bentonville. International Club took the trip in conjunction with Rec Life.

2/ Freshman Dalal Salah helps the Arkadelphia community during Tiger Serve Day. The student from Tangier, Morocco, was part of a TSD group with other International Club members.

3/ Junior Claudia Brizuela serves food from her native country, Honduras, during the International Food Festival. International Club hosted the festival on February 17.
FRIENDS

around the WORLD

It's like building friendships that will hold across the world.

-Alex Holder, sophomore accounting major, Sour Lake, Texas
Enactus, an entrepreneurial business club that was a part of the Hickingbotham School of Business, experienced a year of success. Enactus presented its business plan at Nationals this year in St. Louis. They competed against 180 other teams and placed in the top 12 in the nation.

“The experience at Nationals was tremendous. We’ve competed at Nationals for seven consecutive years now, and for seven consecutive years we’ve made steady improvement. This year, we advanced to the National Semi-Final Round, which consists of the top 16 teams in the nation,” said Brian McKinney, dean of the Hickingbotham School of Business and associate professor of business law.

Enactus was also busy with the growth and expansion of Dr. Jack’s. Dr. Jack’s, which started out as a simple coffee shop on campus, now sells Dr. Jack’s brand coffee by the bag to people outside of the Ouachita Bubble. A percentage of their revenue now goes to the Arkansas Baptist Children’s Home.

“One of our most significant partnerships was created with the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. Now, for every dollar of profit made through the sale of coffee to an Arkansas Baptist affiliated church, Dr. Jack’s will give 33 cents to the Arkansas Baptist Children’s Home,” McKinney said.

The group not only helped children locally, but in Nicaragua and Honduras as well. Griffin Peeples, a junior business administration major from Little Rock, was the project leader for the mobile pack.

“In one year, we were able to raise $44,000 and packed close to 210,000 meals, which fed 575 children for an entire year in Nicaragua and Honduras,” Peeples said.

Enactus has not only benefited those at the Arkansas Baptist Children’s Home in Nicaragua and Honduras, but also the students that work on those projects. Meredith Ellis, a sophomore accounting major from Southlake, Texas, was the presentation team leader for Nationals.

“Enactus is an important part of the business school because it involves using our entrepreneurial skills and taking action by helping people. And as business students, it’s what we are good at. For me, it’s a great way to serve God and my community with my talents. We hope to extend Enactus to include all schools on campus, not just the business school,” Ellis said.

by Gracie Lundsham
Enactus is an important part of the business school because it involves using out entrepreneurial skills and taking action by helping people. Meredith Ellis, sophomore accounting major, Southlake, Texas
“My favorite event put on by OSF is Tiger Tunes. It’s a fun way to promote OBU.”
- Gracie Lundstrum, senior mass communications and speech communication major, Springdale
With a motto of “Students Helping Students,” members of the Ouachita Student Foundation continuously promoted the university and raised scholarship money for fellow students. Through the group’s four committees, members worked year round to accomplish their motto.

“Being able to help a peer that sits next to me in class is something you don’t find at every university,” said Co-Chair of Special Events Lauren Snow, a junior mass communications major from Wylie, Texas.

During the fall semester, OSF was busier than normal. Members worked in the concession stands at all home football games, helped usher at music and theatre events, gave student tours and worked Tiger Days to help with prospective students. They also organized one of the biggest events on campus, Tiger Tunes, to bring in funds for student scholarships. A new award, The Spirit of Tunes, was given in honor of the late Shelby Seabaugh to her friend and co-director for the 2013 shEEEp show, Aaryn Elliot.

“My favorite event put on by OSF is Tiger Tunes. It’s a fun way to promote OBU. It also allows students to work together in healthy competition and provides so much money for student scholarships,” said OSF President Gracie Lundstrum, a senior mass communications and speech communication double major from Springdale.

During the spring semester OSF awarded scholarships, chose new members and hosted Tiger Traks. Throughout spring break, members who had signed up to be on the scholarship selection committee read through every application sent in by juniors and seniors. Once back to school, they met again to select the recipients.

New members were chosen by new executive members of OSF through an interview process and information sheets provided by the applicants.

Tiger Traks incorporated the usual relay games, mud volleyball and tug-of-war. New to Traks this year was a bonus points activity with Relay for Life that benefitted the American Cancer Society in addition to the scholarship fund.

“My favorite part of OSF is hearing the stories from the students who received scholarships, sometimes with tears in their eyes because of the things they are up against trying to pay for school,” said OSF sponsor Jon Merryman. “This year we raised a record breaking amount of $105,000 because of Tunes, Traks and other events, providing significant scholarships to 70 students.”

by Abbey Little
Like any other year, Student Senate was busy with Homecoming, Miss OBU and Battle of the Ravine. However, this year the group also faced a new fundraising initiative and constitutional changes.

“In the past, Student Senate really hasn’t made money for itself,” said Bradley Hunter Heird, a senior dietetics and nutrition major from Pine Bluff and the executive secretary of Senate. “This year we got the opportunity to sell Ouachita themed phone cases and participate in other fundraising activities that ultimately helped Student Senate prosper.”

Along with developing ideas for fundraising, the organization also worked together to create a better system in regard to parking tickets on campus.

“Senate has changed the parking ticket system and allowed for one ‘warning’ ticket before a fine is issued,” said Bethany Arredondo, a junior speech communication major from Prosper, Texas, and Junior Class treasure.

Josh Rubin, a junior biology from Dallas, Texas, and president of Student Senate knew he wanted the group to expand its outreach and make an effort to connect with campus athletes.

“This year, Senate began showing appreciation to some of Ouachita’s student athletes by encouraging students to go to sporting events and also by bringing drinks or snacks to some of the teams before their games,” Rubin said.

Student Senate not only represents the entirety of the student body, but they also serve and communicate on its behalf.

“I really enjoy the being able to actually make a difference at OBU. When other students have a situation, Student Senate works hard to alleviate problems,” Heird said.

Arredondo reiterated the idea of what a broad impact Student Senate has on the campus and how sometimes that goes unnoticed.

“My favorite part about serving as Senate is helping to make decisions that will have a positive impact on students,” said Arredondo. “Senate plays a huge role in the function of OBU and most people don’t even realize it. I think that getting to serve in an organization with the mission to benefit all students, opposed to a small group of students, is special.”
D I F F E R E N C E
making through LEADERSHIP

My favorite part about serving on Senate is helping to make decisions that will have a positive impact on students.

- Bethany Arredondo, junior speech communications major, Prosper, Texas
"It's really cool having input into the activities that are offered on campus."

- Alex Holder, freshman accounting major,
  Sour Lake, Texas
Getting involved, having an organization to call your own and meeting new people were desires of many college students who had lots of spare time on a weekly basis. While social clubs, sports and fine arts all offered ways to team up with a group full of people with similar interests, one organization that often got overlooked was CAB, or the Campus Activities Board. With students from all classes as members, it was a club that was welcoming and eager for student participation. Freshman Alex Holder, a freshman accounting major from Sour Lake, Texas enjoyed getting to serve as a member of CAB.

"I like planning the events for students to come to. It’s really cool having input into the activities that are offered on campus," Holder said.

CAB members had bimonthly meetings to discuss ideas for new events, encourage members to volunteer for those events and vote on how to improve those annual traditions such as the Christmas party held every winter, the movie night hosted during TWIRP week, Spring Fling and the GLOW run, which benefits P.A.T.H.

One unique attribute CAB offered was the constant change in pace of organizing new and entertaining events for students. In the spring, CAB held a retirement themed party where students had the chance to dress up, play board games and eat Fig Newtons. In an effort to reach out to the community, CAB paired with the Backyard Bible Club and the Big Brother/Big Sister program to host an Easter egg hunt. With many students going home on weekends, it was CAB’s goal to create reasons for students to want to stay and engage with each other. For members of CAB, it’s all about that engagement.

"If I weren’t in CAB I wouldn’t know a lot of other students, and I definitely don’t think I would have branched out as much. You make so many friendships through CAB," said Gracen Kelley, a junior communications sciences and disorders major from Lee’s Summit, Mo., and the head chair of CAB.

CAB was a place where students looking to find their place on campus could go to give their ideas, and grow the club.

"We can’t have CAB without student participation," said Jimmy Phillips, CAB’s advisor.

CAB did a lot on campus and was constantly looking for new ideas and new faces, ideal for those looking to come out of their shell.

by Taryn Bailey
Campus Ministries was the main vessel through which students at Ouachita were able to get involved in serving a variety of needs both on and off campus. Every year, student leaders and volunteers participated in a variety of ministry programs, from Big Brother/Big Sister and the Monticello Children’s Home ministry to Freshman Family Groups.

James Taylor, director of Campus Ministries, said the main impact for students involved in CM was on campus and within the community of Arkadelphia, but mission trips outside of Arkadelphia are also a major draw. Taylor also emphasized the need for Campus Ministries even though Ouachita itself is a Baptist university.

“The university has a number of programs aimed at the spiritual health and development of students,” Taylor said. “We help to coordinate religious life on campus.”

Taylor said many needs within Arkadelphia’s younger generations were met because of CM’s coordination.

“Most of our Arkadelphia-aimed ministries are connected with kids in the community, like working with children through Backyard Bible Club and Big Brother/Big Sister,” Taylor said.

Student leadership was the main reason Campus Ministries was able to operate. Senior Hannah Shull, a psychology major from Little Rock, was in charge of the ministry for Arkansas Baptist Children’s Home in Monticello. Shull said the main impact on the children in Monticello is a stable relationship with Ouachita students, even if it seems otherwise.

“I find that if you make the effort to show up and listen, the kids will respond in a way that melts your heart,” Shull said. “Sometimes it seems like our work doesn’t impact them much, but I know for a fact it does.”

Rachel Gaddis, a junior communications major from Cabot involved in Freshman Family Groups and Christian Focus Week. She says the impact of her involvement with CFW has stuck with her since her freshman year.

“I still have notes from several messages and journal entries about what God said to me during those weeks,” said Gaddis. “Really as long as you have an open heart and are intentional about going into those sessions, God speaks because He is there.”

The students and staff involved in Campus Ministries made a difference in their own ministries, but also helped to be impacted themselves through the experience in working with the community.

by Matthew Adam

1/ The Campus Ministries Sandwiches leap in the air during their Tiger Tunes performance. Their show highlighted the individual ingredients of a sandwich, such as bread, lettuce and cheese, and their struggle to come together.

2/ Seniors Coleson Lechner and Beau Daggett worship together at Noonday. Noonday was one of dozens of student-led programs provided by Campus Ministries.

3/ Sophomore Emma Riley takes notes during Veritas. Campus Ministries provided the women’s Bible study on Monday nights.
FAITH and student INVOLVEMENT

I still have notes from several messages and journal entries about what God said to me during those weeks.

""

- Rachel Gaddis, junior mass communications major, Cabot

4/ Senior Connor Goad speaks at Refuge. Campus Ministries invited all students to attend the worship session, which was held every Thursday evening.

5/ Senior Drew Ferris leads a Freshman Family Group. Each Freshman Family Group had an upperclassman "mom" and "dad" who served as mentors for the first semester.

6/ Junior Zack Turman attends a Christmas party for the Big Brother/Big Sister program. Big and little brothers and sisters played games and made crafts together during the party on December 3.
“Working on a publication staff gives us the chance to put those skills to use.”
- Emily Terry, senior mass communications major, Bryant

2/ Sophomore Amber Buxton works on her pages toward the yearbook deadline. Buxton served as a section editor her first year and was in charge of student life section of the book.

3/ Senior photo lab editor Terry Rosenthal organizes pictures from an event. Rosenthal was in charge of a team of photographers who shot most campus events for all publications.

4/ Junior Laken Livingston signals the beginning of a recording session in the television studio. Shows like the “Ouachita” show and “John Eldridge Show” were shot in the studio.

5/ Freshman Kevin Barnard operates a switcher in Turner Studio. Barnard switched between cameras during a live recording.
Within each area of campus came a story, someone’s particular point-of-view or a personal narrative. Through student publications, these stories were able to gain a voice and be shared. Members of publications staffs had opportunities to tell these stories and have their own voices heard as well.

The student publications consisted of The Ouachitonian yearbook, The Signal newspaper, the photo lab and video production. The purpose of the publications staffs is to not only capture and share the year, but also to give students as much real world experience as possible.

“We learn about our craft in our courses, but working on a publication staff gives us the chance to put those skills to use,” said Emily Terry, Signal editor-in-chief. “The time you spend on a publication staff is invaluable. It teaches you to be deadline oriented and keeps you on your toes.”

The Signal was a weekly printed paper published by Terry and her staff of section editors and staff writers. The Signal staff also produced the Online Signal which published original content, including videos and podcasts, as well as content from the printed version.

Being a part of the different student publication staffs and helping produce media for internal and external publications also gave students the opportunity to learn more skills and develop their talents.

“Being on the photo lab has helped me gain a lot of skills just from shooting different types of events,” Maddie Brodell, a freshman mass communications and graphic design double major from Little Rock, said.

On April 17, the Arkansas Collegiate Media Association named Ouachitonian Editor Aly Smith, a senior mass communications and graphic design double major from Sherwood, Yearbook Editor of the Year. The student publications won a total of 32 awards at ACMA, and the Ouachitonian yearbook won seven individual Gold Circle Awards from Columbia Scholastic Press Association.

“So much hard work went into producing that book. It’s affirming to know that all of those late nights and over a year’s worth of work paid off,” Smith said. “It also shows the level of quality work all of our staffs are producing that you can see the results of the work in such a tangible way.”

Video production students gained practical experience through major projects including the “Ouachita” show and the live stream of Tiger Tunes. They also produced “The J.R. Eldridge Show” for the Arkadelphia Badger football program.

Student publications were vital in sharing stories through internal and external publications, as well as showcasing student achievements and promoting learning.

by Robert DeSato

Seniors Blaine Surber and Ouachitonian Editor-in-Chief Aly Smith discuss yearbook advertisements during a meeting. Yearbook section editors and practicum workers received story assignments and page deadlines at weekly meetings.
College administrators, parents and even students were completely divided over the value of Greek life on college campuses. Many said it promoted friendship and charity while others argued it led to hazing, underage drinking and other dangerous activities. The Ouachita view on Greek life, or as we all called it “social clubs,” was a little different than what state schools experienced with national fraternities and sororities. 

“I feel that sororities, especially at big colleges, require a lot out of you,” said Alexis Morgan, a sophomore music education major from Frisco, Texas. “A sorority is their life, where here, a social club is good outlet for everyone, but does not make you have to make it your life. I like social clubs better just because I don’t have as much pressure on me.”

Social clubs on campus created a different vibe than that of a sorority or fraternity. Clubs are tight knit and are a part of the campus community.

“I like getting close to girls who are different than me and building friendships with them. Without a social club, I probably wouldn’t have met people who are different majors than me,” Morgan said. “I love doing things like Tunes with my club. It’s a great way to come together and work for something. I love social events because it’s a way to get away from studying and just be with your friends. I also love the Christian foundation of each social club here on campus. It is so unique and something not every school has.”

Students also saw the flip side to social clubs and recognized the importance of a national fraternity or sorority. Sophomore Titus Brooks, an accounting major from Houston, Texas, believed there was more recognition for a national fraternity.

“A social club is just here on campus. We don’t have houses and we don’t have as much money coming into our clubs as a fraternity,” Brooks said.

“I feel like frats are much closer and I think we miss that bond having social clubs. I have uncles and cousins who are Alpha Phi Alphas and it would be nice to have a chance to be brothers with them. A fraternity like that also lets you move into an alumni type group so that you can still be involved and be a part of the fraternity once you graduate from college.”

One major difference in a social club and national sorority was the cost. Social clubs on campus had small dues each semester with fees here and there, while fraternities and sororities paid thousands of dollars each semester in school.

“After being a leader in a social club, I do think I would appreciate the support of a national organization,” said Erin Wilson, a senior business administration and marketing major from Hot Springs Village. “Because we are the only chapter, we have less guidance. We can only rely on past experiences and the help of current school leaders to help us figure out where to take the club versus having a strong national support system who could help us set and achieve goals.”

But there was something special about being on a campus like Ouachita that proved the importance of a social club rather than a larger, national organization.

“Social clubs are engrained in the history of OBU and that’s what makes them so special to be a part of. You don’t really get that in a national sorority. Because they are national organizations, they aren’t as entwined with the university, or at least that’s my impression,” Wilson said. “Even though we don’t have sisters in colleges across the country, all of the women that have been through social clubs have experienced Ouachita and that connects us even more than just being part of the same social club. We share social club traditions as well as college traditions.”

by Amber Easterly
"Waking up Saturday morning was like Christmas all over again."

- Taylor Draper, freshman biology major, Little Rock
As students returned to campus from Christmas break, the long awaited anticipation of Rush week began January 13. Rush was a chance for students to attend parties for the various social clubs on campus and to get a glimpse of what it would be like to join a club.

"On Tuesday of that week we had 106 girls and 61 guys begin the Rush process," said Hillary Hill, assistant director of Campus Activities. "It was exciting to begin the week with so many students interested in rushing."

Each night Rush groups rotated throughout the social club parties. Afterward, members of the clubs met and sent back invites to their party for the next night.

"At first I was super nervous about the whole Rush process," said Taylor Draper, a freshman biology major from Bryant. "After the first night of figuring out what it would be like, I was totally relaxed and just ready to learn more about the clubs so that I could make the best decision at the end of the week."

One of the main goals throughout the process for clubs was to create a fun and comfortable environment for all of the students going through Rush.

"I feel like good food and fellowship are the best way to make someone feel at home," said Brad Hunter Heird, a senior dietetics and nutrition major from Pine Bluff and vice president of Kappa Chi. "As VP, I am in charge of Rush week. It was exciting to plan each event for Rush."

Friday night arrived and rushees signed preference cards in hopes of a bid to the club of their choice on Saturday morning.

"It was such a great feeling to have the stress of Rush behind me," Draper said. "Waking up Saturday morning was like Christmas all over again, and I was so excited to meet my pledge class and start the craziness of induction week."

Induction week was a full seven days. It was a time for members and new members to get to know one another. By the end of the week, new members built relationships with their new pledge class and learned the traditions of their new social club.

"Juggling classes, homework and induction week duties were quite a job. I was frustrated and emotional, but I honestly would not have had it any other way," Draper said. "I felt like I was constantly running around and getting nothing accomplished, but the rewarding feeling at the end of induction week was the best."

by Amber Easterly
The Men of Beta Beta rocked the stage as the Beta Builders during Tiger Tunes 2014. For many students, this was one of the only impressions they got of the club. What they didn’t see was the club’s effort toward brotherhood and tradition.

According to history, the Betas were founded the day after the attack at Pearl Harbor. A group of friends got together to pray and decided to form a club.

“It’s been so long ago that nobody really knows for sure,” said Curt Tucker, senior business major from Benton and Beta president.

Dr. Scott Jackson, associate professor of Christian studies, pledged Beta in the 80s and served as the club’s sponsor. He said he appreciated the diversity that the club adopted over the years.

“It’s neat for me to see the parts that I lead during their pledge week. It’s very spiritual. They are on the right track,” Jackson said. “I really do believe there is a bond that comes with social clubs. If I had a need, I know my Beta brothers would be there.”

The club’s initial purpose was to bring together ministry students and students from other majors. Changes were made in order to try to keep that balance.

“It’s really cool to see how much is the same,” said Tucker. “We’ve had to change a lot, for the better. We decided to diversify the kind of guys we want because of the change in culture and the change in times.”

Brady Thompson, a business administration major from Hensley, pledged Beta in the spring. He was impressed by the brotherhood that he found within the club.

The strong friendships that he made within his own pledge class and with older members in the club were the main reason he enjoyed being a Beta.

“I would have to agree brotherhood is definitely the best aspect of the Betas,” he said. “Our saying is ‘Tradition Continues,’ and so we try to keep that tradition going.”

The Beta’s pledge class of 2016 experienced pledging with a few changes. Tucker knew from experience that something about the pledging process has to change. Those changes had to be made with the club’s long standing reputation of tradition in mind.

And as for their Tiger Tunes performance...

“We want to go out, and we want to have fun. We don’t want to win. We just want to have fun and put on a good show,” said Tucker.

Other activities included tailgating at football games and mixers with other Beta brothers.

1/ Members of Beta Beta and EEE singing Christmas carols together. The men and women’s club had a mixer on December 9.

2/ Senior Connor Goad performs with the Men of Beta Beta during Tiger Tunes. Goad served as director of the builders-themed show.

3/ Senior Jayson Harris talks to prospective members during Rush week. The club hosted parties each night for the guys going through Rush to learn about the club and for members to get to know the guys.
Back to Beta Things

Brotherhood is definitely the best aspect of the Betas.

- Brady Thompson, freshman business administration major, Hensley


5/ Members of Beta Beta watch ESPN during a tailgate before a football game. They worked with other clubs in providing food and games to enjoy.

6/ Senior Jeremy Dixon mingles with prospective members during a Rush week party. The parties provided a relaxed environment for rushees and members to get to know each other.
“They’re my friends. You can’t replace that.”
- Dalaney Thomas, senior mass communications major.
From frogs in a swamp to tropical-themed water sports, Chi Delta members grew together not just as a club, but also as a group of friends. Chi Delta's various projects, such as Tiger Tunes, Relay for Life and other philanthropic tasks, combined with the girls' often impromptu times of fellowship to shape the club and each member in a unique way.

“Even though we didn’t win at Tiger Tunes, we were all super competitive the whole time,” MK Freeman, a kinesiology major from Conway, said. “We had several conflicts while preparing for our show. After that happened, it was really a push to be better united and rely more on your sisters when times get hard.”

Freeman, who co-directed and choreographed most of their Tiger Tunes show, the Chi Delta frogs, described the efforts after Tiger Tunes to spend more time together. Owl-Ins and Owl-Outs were the club's opportunities to spend time together and get to know each other better.

“Sometimes we would go bowling or go see a movie,” Katharine Kirby, a sophomore business administration and marketing major from Tampa, Fla., said. “Or we would just do something simple, like order pizza and watch a movie in someone’s apartment.”

Owl-Ins were an activity that Chi Delta did years earlier. But members tried to bring them back this year as a way to spend more time together.

“It seems like every time we had an Owl-In, I would always learn something new about someone in the club,” Kirby said.

In addition to fellowship with one another, Chi Delta’s philanthropy engaged club members with community members. Chi Delta participated in three nursing home visits to play games with and sing to the elderly. On visits close to Christmas, Chi Delta members sang Christmas carols for those living and working in the nursing home.

“In those projects, you get to know people’s hearts,” Dalaney Thomas, a mass communications major from Paron, said. “People’s personalities come out, and we’re able to grow together as sisters.”

While using club meetings to delegate business, Chi Delta members united in personal growth through fellowship and the carrying out of philanthropic projects.

“It’s very natural, everything in Chi Delta,” Thomas said. “They’re my friends. You can’t replace that.”

by Robert DeSoto
Some said that bigger is better, but the women of Chi Rho Phi believe that was not the case. They believed that the small size of their club was part of that special x-factor that made them what they were.

"Because Chi Rho Phi is a small club, each member makes a very big difference in the milieu of the group," said Marissa Thornberry, a senior English major from Mabelvale. "This means that each member makes a very big difference in the milieu of the group," said Marissa Thornberry, a senior English major from Mabelvale. "This means that each year has the potential to be very different from the previous one. I’m always amazed to see how much the girls grow in their confidence, their leadership abilities and their faith throughout the years."

One of the big changes that the members of Chi Rho Phi claimed to see among their club in the 2014-2015 year was greater integration with the rest of campus.

"This year, we’ve been trying to be more active on campus than we have been in the past," said Kenzie Lionberger, a junior history major from Temple, Texas. "We’ve been to more sporting events, supported our friends at their recitals and have been to all the plays. Also, I’m sure you’ve seen us in the Commons at least once a month with some sort of fundraiser."

Among their fundraisers was Chi Rho Phi’s biggest event of the year, Screen on the Green. Screen on the Green was an outdoor movie screening for OBU and Henderson students, as well as anyone else in Arkadelphia.

"A ton of work went into pulling this event off," said Hannah Sweeden, a senior history major from Richardson, Texas. "From getting the rights to the movie to getting the word out around Arkadelphia, our goal was to really have their hands full."

This year, the Chi Rho Phis showed their movie “It Happened One Night”.

Through achieving their improved campus involvement and large scale fundraiser success, the women of Chi Rho Phi created a close environment for themselves that they seem to blend in Arkadelphia.

“Chi Rho Phi is a unique family of different personalities that makes us very special,” Lionberger said. “We are a team. I personally see each of these sisters and I do not know if a lot of people can say that.”

by Noah Hutchinson
I'm always amazed to see how much the girls grow in their confidence, their leadership abilities and their faith throughout the years.

- Marissa Thornberry, senior English major, Mabelvale
The Women of EEE definitely had something to celebrate as they marked their 90th anniversary. As the oldest club on campus, the girls knew they belonged to a long lasting sisterhood they were able to share with not just current members, but with alumnae as well.

"Since 1925, the EEEs have always been committed to the legacies and traditions that began with our eight founding members," said Ouachita’s Annual Fund Coordinator and EEE alumna Marylacey Thomson.

"We try to maintain as many traditions as possible to keep our generational bonds and continuity strong. We are a large club and our sisterhood spans all pledge classes and all generations," said EEE President Gracie Lundstrum, a senior mass communications and speech communication double major from Springdale. "It is able to do this because these traditions have been similar with all those who have pledged EEE."

On Bid Day in January, 43 new members were welcomed into The Women of EEE as the 90th pledge class.

"It is so comforting to know that I am now a part of something much bigger than myself. Knowing the EEEs have been making a difference for 90 years is one of the main reasons I wanted to become an EEE and be a part of that legacy," said pledge class 2015 President Haley Wesson, a freshman communication science and disorders major from Hot Springs.

In celebration of the anniversary, The Women of EEE hosted an event called "90K for 90 Years." The purpose of the event was for current members and alumnae from all generations to come together to kick start a campaign to raise $90,000 for OBU’s Annual Fund.

"Ouachita has impacted each one of us in such an incredible way. Not only did this university provide us an education, but it gave us a place to grow in our faith as well as create lifelong friendships through this sisterhood," Thomson said. "The Women of EEE are committed to support Ouachita and no other social club has supported our university before and I think that is remarkable."

Ouachita was home to memories that the EEEs had made over the years. Being a member of the Women of EEE provided each strong, Godly woman to constantly push them to be the best they could be.

"The EEEs produce extraordinary and successful women. I am so honored to share a sisterhood with them," said Thomson.
PART of the TRADITION

We try to maintain as many traditions as possible to keep our generational bonds and continuity strong.

- Gracie Lundstrum, senior mass communications and speech communication double major, Springdale

4/ The Women of EEE perform a dance during Rush week. EEE members introduced the rushees to club traditions during the week.

5/ Sophomore Sarah Jeffrey twirls in a poodle skirt during TWIRP week. The Women of EEE hosted 50's Night on September 3.

6/ Junior Morgan White tosses a bean bag during a tailgating event. EEE members joined other clubs in providing games and food before football games.
“It’s just a lot of fun and fellowship with all the guys I love hanging out with.”

- Will Hanna, sophomore biology major, Russellville
The men of Eta Alpha Omega made their year count with their entertaining Tiger Tunes show, on and off-campus service projects and fellowship with like-minded brothers in Christ.

"There are many different kinds of people in Eta. There hasn’t been any situation where somebody has come in and not fit in, because what makes us work is our unity through Christ," said Will Hanna, a sophomore biology major from Russellville.

Alex Becerra, a freshman accounting major from Allen, Texas, knew early on where he wanted to be.

"While I was rushing, I noticed that a lot of them were really genuine when they spoke. It was a good crowd to be a part of," Becerra said. "I can get along with any of the upperclassmen Etas. They’re always there for you, so that’s the coolest part."

For Tiger Tunes, their theme was Janitors. They hoped to wipe the floor with the competition.

"I really enjoy all of the goofing around and good times because we don’t take it too seriously, so it’s a lot of fun and fellowship with all the guys I love hanging out with," Hanna said.

After Tiger Tunes, the Etas hosted their annual Muggin’ event. The purpose behind Muggin’ was to make sure students had a safe, fun place to go after Tunes to hang out and celebrate. Club members handed out hundreds of glass bottles of root beer to students in the middle of campus, where everyone gathered to have a good time.

The Etas also emphasized service as a central part to their brotherhood. In addition to participating in Tiger Serve Day, members gave up a few Saturdays each semester to offer similar house and yard-work services for Arkadelphia residents. Years ago the club adopted a highway, and twice a semester they worked to keep their goal of keeping it clean.

The Etas kept up with other traditions too, including the Eta Date Auction fundraiser and the second annual Etas in a Barrel, where students paid to throw water balloons at new members.

Jacob Moreno, a junior dietetics and nutrition major from Mexico City, Mexico, and Eta president, said he gained solid friendships by being a part of the club.

"The meetings are fun cause you just get to know the guys better and pray for each other and grow spiritually together," Moreno said.

For an Eta, service and friendship wrapped up in a fun college experience was what being a member was all about.

by Barrett Gay
The Men of Kappa Chi had quite a year to remember. As 2014 Tiger Tunes winners, intramural football and basketball champions and with a new pledge class joining the club, the guys grew closer together and strove to keep traditions alive.

"I can’t describe how awesome it felt to win Tiger Tunes," said Brad-Hunter Heird, a senior dietetics and nutrition major from Pine Bluff. "Being a co-director for the show was the highlight of my senior year. I gave everything I had to the show."

Energy drinks, sleepless nights and endless rehearsals proved strenuous during the two-month battle to be crowned Tiger Tunes champions. The club persevered and all of its hard work proved worth-while when they were announced for the 10th time in Kappa history as Tiger Tunes winners.

The Kappas came in fighting for the first place title.

"My favorite part of the show was definitely the camel costumes," said Jackson Carter, a history and mass communications major from Hot Springs. "It brought the comedic factor to the show and definitely became the funnest part to me."

After Tiger Tunes, the guys started planning for upcoming events. Kappa Car Bash was the next event of the semester. "It’s all about getting pumped up for the football game at the end of Battle of the Ravine week," said Drake Puryear, a sophomore biology major from Jonesboro. "It’s a great workout for those who take a few shots at the old car."

One of the last events of the year hosted by the Men of Kappa Chi was Kappa Glow. This year the party went off with a bang, literally.

"During the party one of our backlights got too hot and actually exploded. That made the dance even better," Puryear said. In the beginning of the spring semester Kappa planned Rush week and brought in new members into the club.

"As vice president in charge of Rush, I am definitely benefit the club. As cliché as that might sound, I honestly feel like the members of Kappa have grown to be respectable men. We truly are brothers."

Through the course of the year, the members grew closer together and formed a tight knit community.

"I’m thankful for the friendships we made in the past four years," Carter said. "They are ones that will definitely last a lifetime."

1/ Kappa Chi Egyptians perform during Tiger Tunes. Their show featured full Egyptian costumes, camels and mummies.

2/ Kappa Chi Egyptians incorporate Tina Turner into their show as Lauren Hutcheson sings “Rolling on the Nile.” The song was performed by the Kappa Chi “little sisters.”

3/ Freshman Montray Wyatt tries to sell himself at the Kappa Chi date auction. Members were auctioned off for other students to bid on them for a date. The event was used a fundraiser for the club.
I can't describe how awesome it felt to win Tiger Tunes. Being a co-director for the show was the highlight of my senior year.

- Brad-Hunter weird, senior dietetics and nutrition major, Pine Bluff
"There's no better feeling than knowing the rest of campus is counting on you to protect them from Reddies."

- Nathan Lowman, junior history major, Little Rock
When it comes to school spirit, the Men of Rho Sigma have separated themselves as the leaders on campus since their founding in 1935. This year they once again hosted the annual guarding of the Tiger, torch walk and bonfire during Battle of the Ravine week.

During the week leading up to the football game against Henderson State, the dedicated members of Rho Sigma set up a tent and spent all day and night protecting the Tiger statue from vandals.

"Guarding the Tiger is what being a Red Shirt is all about. There’s no better feeling than knowing the rest of campus is counting on you to protect them from Reddies," said Nathan Lowman, a junior history major from Little Rock.

The torch walk leading to a bonfire was a way for the Red Shirts to bring everyone together to build excitement before the big rivalry game. Dr. Wesley Kluck, an honorary member of Rho Sigma, provided fireworks for the big spectacle. All of this combined with a rally speech from Dr. Casey Motl led to an immense amount of hype for the Battle of the Ravine.

School spirit was a season long commitment for the Men of Rho Sigma as they also had tailgates and set up the inflatable tiger head at every home game. Building enthusiasm for football games was only part of what the club provided this year.

The men also had a mixer with the Women of EEE and competed in the annual Bible Bowl against the Women of Chi Rho Phi.

“As an EEE and a Rho Sigma sweetheart, the mixer was a special moment for me. I loved being able to spend some time together with both of my clubs at the same time,” said Reagan Rucker, a sophomore elementary education major from Maumelle.

Like many other social clubs, the Red Shirts also joined together to give back to the community. They had a team for Tiger Serve Day, sang Christmas carols at the nursing home, and supported the MS Walk in Little Rock.

“Even though people know us as the rowdy Red Shirts, we never forget how important it is to get involved in community service,” said Robert Lewis, a junior history major from Bentonville.

The Men of Rho Sigma continued to add to their rich history this year. Much like they have since 1935, they brought the campus together to support the Tigers and the city of Arkadelphia as a whole.

by Zach Parker

Members of Rho Sigma set up a speaker for a tailgating event. Rho Sigma joined with other social clubs to give students a place to tailgate and celebrate before every home football game.
For 80 years, tradition and brotherhood held members together in the Sigma Alpha Sigma men's social club. This group of men, who made a recent comeback on campus, was here to stay. With their first participation in Tiger Tunes in over three years, their presence at campus events and their letters displayed proudly every Wednesday, it was clear that these men were proud to be Sigma Alpha Sigmas. For Chase Brooks, a senior graphic design major from Houston, Texas, it was all about the brotherly bond.

"We're able to take a diverse group of men and form a bond that supersedes letters. The bond that I have with a brother from the 90s is stronger than I have with some friends from back home," Brooks said.

The Men of Sigma Alpha Sigma were a group small in numbers but rich in love and full of encouragement.

"If I had never pledged and met my brothers, I doubt I would be at Ouachita today. They have helped me when I need help academically, spiritually and physically," said Scott Bohning, a senior Christian studies and Christian ministries major from Florissant, Mo.

Not only did the men uphold traditions of tailgating, painting themselves in club colors at the annual Homecoming game and participating in Tiger Tunes, but they also got together on a regular basis to grow their friendship through eating meals together and taking spontaneous camping trips.

Because of the smaller number in membership, these men really had a chance to have close knit environment among their club and knew what was going on in each other’s lives on a daily basis. These men supported each other through every struggle whether it was individual or the club as a whole. It was not a matter of whether or not they could help a brother out but just when and where they needed to be to do so.

"I think a lot of our encouragement doesn't just come from words, it comes from actions," said Nate Shrader, a sophomore psychology major from Litchfield, Ill.

No matter what the reason for pledges to Sigma Alpha Sigma, every member wanted to offer something not only to the club, but to the campus.

"Instead of choosing a club that has already been established, I chose Sigma Alpha Sigma so I can leave my name, my mark and leave my own legacy to the future," said Troy Daniel, a sophomore biology major from Benton.
A lot of our encouragement doesn't just come from words, it comes from actions.

- Nate Shrader, sophomore psychology major, Litchfield, Ill.

4/ Senior Chase Brooks throws a football during a tailgating event. Tailgating gave the club a chance to interact with students from all parts of campus in a unified environment.

5/ The Men of Sigma Alpha Sigma cheer during a basketball game. The club brought lots of energy and Ouachita spirit to all the sporting events they attended.

6/ Donning orange jumpsuits, Sigma Alpha Sigma members conclude their Tiger Tunes show. The show featured their sweethearts as prison guards and told the comical story of their attempt to break free from prison.
"We are a quarter of a century old. I think that is a big milestone for our club."
- Erin Wilson, senior business administration and marketing major, Hot Springs Village
Another year for Tri Chi meant another pledge class reminiscing in the memories of the past three and a half years. As the pledge class of 2012 experienced its season of lasts, the club welcomed 37 new members in the pledge class of 2015.

"Rush was special to me this year. It's fun getting to see them starting out and getting excited about it," said Allison Smith, a senior psychology major from Jonesboro.

During Rush, Lori Motl, director of Admissions Counseling, shared her story about being in Tri Chi's very first pledge class and how her sisters have been supportive even after graduation.

"Every time I get to be around Tri Chi I think about, if my pledge sisters were here they would be so proud," Motl said. "I'm so impressed with the girls that are in Tri Chi."

In the fall, Tri Chi hosted its traditional '80s Night event for TWIRP. The club then took the JPAC stage as a kindergarten class for Tiger Tunes, winning People's Choice for the fifth year in a row. They also hosted a Boots and Bowties function at the Caddo Event Center and participated in tailgating events.

The fall semester marked Tri Chi's 25th year of being a club. "We are a quarter of a century old. I think that's a big milestone for our club," said Erin Wilson, a business administration and marketing major from Hot Springs Village, and Tri Chi president. "We are not a young club, but we aren't the oldest club either. Being in the middle leaves us a lot of room to change."

Angie Schleiff established Tri Chi in 1989. Freshman Emily Schleiff, Angie's daughter, was among the 37 girls who were a part of the new pledge class. Like many pledge classes have done before, PC'15 hosted a dessert auction as a fund raising event, which helped the club put together the annual Crush Dance.

"When you come to campus as freshmen you make a lot of friends in the beginning, but they are not very intentional friendships," said Tori Golden, a freshman secondary education major from Rogers and PC '15 president. "When I became a Tri Chi and met people through that, I gained some of my most treasured friendships. Growing close to the girls I pledged with and getting to know older members has helped shape the first year of my Ouachita experience."

by Marle Lindhal
Community is a word often used to describe “The Bubble.” When people use this word, however, they are not just referring to the community on campus, but the community of Arkadelphia as well. Local businesses networked with students during the first week of classes for Spotlight on Arkadelphia. Deploying all over the city, Ouachita students, faculty and staff offered assistance to community residents through Tiger Serve Day. Local church members opened their homes to college students for weekly community groups.
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COLOSSIANS 3:15
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**Alpha Chi**

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**Alpha Chi - Front Row:** Sarah Stiles, Kyle Hargis, Madeline Martin, David Ray, Cami Willis, Anna Mosley, Emily Harris, Stori Butler, Jessie Little. **Second Row:** Dylan Watson, Joanna Horton, Hannah Osborne, Rachel Gaddis, Logan Kuhn, Trevor Meese, Gary Fortney. **Back Row:** John Givler, Claudia Brijuela, Taylor Wentz, Ali Kinsey, Sarah Rogers, Maci Lewis, Allie Hegi, Rachel Pruett.


Pruet Sisterhood - Front Row: Jamie Flowers, Anne Sikes, Elizabeth Bacon, Annie McMurray, Anna Mosley, Jordan Beard. Back Row: Katherine Carter, Sophie Demuth, Sarah Styles, Anna Kempuris, Ashley Sharp, Micah Lawyer.


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The 106th volume of the Ouachitonian yearbook was published by Josten’s Printing and Publishing Company, 451 International Blvd. Clarksville, Tenn. 37040. Mary Nell Sparks was the regional manager, Natasha Durham was the sales representative and Brandy Wathke was the implant customer service representative.

Schools interested in obtaining a copy may contact the Ouachitonian by mail, phone or email: 410 Ouachita Street, OBU Box 3761, Arkadelphia, Ark. 71929 ouachitonian@obu.edu.

The majority of the photos were taken by student photographers in the photo lab. Portraits were provided by Kelly Shuman Photography of Arkadelphia. Sports group photos were provided by Dr. Wesley Kluck.

The cover design as well as theme and section designs were all created by Aly Smith, Ouachitonian editor. All designs were created on the Macintosh iMac and Adobe InDesign CS6. Fonts used in the book were Avantin Next and ATY Elmore.

The 2015 Ouachitonian is a member of the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, the Associated Collegiate Press and the Arkansas College Media Association.

The 2014 Ouachitonian received seven Gold Circle Awards and the Gold Medalist rating from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association. The yearbook also won 25 awards from the Arkansas College Media Association.

Retirees

John Cloud
Senior Development Officer for Estate and Gift Planning
32 years of service

Yvonne Cloud
Bookstore Textbook Manager
31 years of service

Margaret Frazier
Director of Campus Housing
26 years of service

Raouf Halaby
Professor of Visual Arts and English
42 years of service

Shirley McMillan
Director of Foster Grandparent Program
31 years of service

Jackie Suggs
Facilities Management
18 years of service
From the moment I decided I was coming to Ouachita I dreamed of getting the chance to serve as the Editor-in-Chief of the Ouachitonian. When I started on the staff my freshman year as a section editor, never did I imagine that I would eventually get to serve as Editor-in-Chief for not one but two books. Serving as Editor can take a lot out of you. It requires sleepless nights, lots of hard work and creativity, a wonderful staff willing to do almost anything and a lot of patience from the Lord. But I can honestly say every moment – every email, meeting, crisis, breakdown in the Newsroom closet, snack cake, Diet Coke, trip to Chick, laughing fit, nap on the couch and late night/early morning deadline was worth it.

This year was one for the books. My senior year was a whirlwind of wonderful memories that I will always cherish. From starting on this Editor journey for a second time, to creating and displaying my Senior Art Exhibit to being name the 2015 ACMA Yearbook Editor of the Year, I couldn’t think of a better way to end my time in The Bubble. I will forever be grateful for the experiences I had through this position and for getting to join the prestigious family of Ouachitonian Editors.

The Roots?: My Arkadelphia Parents. Even though you are first in my letter you were the last part I wrote because I honestly didn’t know what to say. You two have impacted my life in a way I can’t describe.

Mr. Dr. Root: Thank you for your constant encouragement and belief in me. You invest so much into your students and that is one of the things that makes this department so great. If a video of me signing a Christmas duet with Hutch shows up on YouTube I am tracking you down. I am still a little bitter I never got you to try hummus, but I guess you can’t win them all. Mrs. Dr. Root: I’ll be honest, the first time I had to show you layouts, I was terrified. I was so worried of disappointing you I was running around the Newsroom like a crazy person. Thank you for pushing me and never letting me settle. Without you and your guidance (and you catching all my mistakes) I would have never achieved what I did this year. Thank you for being there when I needed to talk, feeding me over the summer and loving on me the past four years. Just because I am leaving Arkadelphia doesn’t mean you are getting rid of me. Keep the staff in line next year, don’t be afraid to stand on the desk if you need to.

Amber: My how you have grown young grasshopper. Thank you for always being willing to take the long story. Your dependability made my job so much easier. I know I am leaving the yearbook in great hands with you and Robert. The palladium circle for co-editors goes to y’all.

Robert: Sorry for mispelling your name so many times last year. I tried really hard to not mess up this time. But if there are any mistakes, it’s Amber’s fault. Thank you for always being willing to do anything I asked. You are still the reigning platinum circle winner, no one will ever take that away.

Abbey: The academic section would not have happened without you and your determination to track down all those numbers. Thank you for not showing your frustration when I gave you directions that only half way made sense and for keeping me on track when I would forget to do something you needed.

Zach: Where have you been the past three years? I am saying it now, there will never be a sports editor as good as you. I bow at your ability to write a sports story that is both understandable to someone with zero sports knowledge (me) and satisfy the needs of a total sports junky (you). Thank you for always meeting your deadlines and being willing to take on two, three or three stories at once.

Blaine: Thank you for making my job so much easier by always staying on top of the ads. Thank you for tracking down all the payments, art work and paperwork even when you had a million other things to do. Never once did I worry that the ad section was not going to get done and I am so thankful for that.

Taryn: Your desire to learn the yearbook world makes my heart happy. Never once did you let me do something for you, you always wanted to learn so you could do it for yourself. You are truly an Editor’s dream. You have grown so much this year and I am so proud. Stick with yearbook, you are gonna be great.

Practicum: The yearbook could not happen without you guys. Thank you for always being willing to take the story even though I know you didn’t want to and for meeting deadline (almost) every time. Thank you for putting up with my 45,934 emails and for not walking out when I asked for more people profile ideas yet again.

Tyler: You my friend are a life saver. Your talent amazes me, but your ability to put up with me and fix a crisis amazes me even more. Thank you for always shooting anything I asked and for making my book beautiful with your exquisite pictures. It has been a joy being the “dynamic duo” with you this year.

Emily T: Never before has one dorm room possessed so much power – or so we thought. Who would have thought that an Ouachitonian Editor and a Signal Editor could be as best of friends as we are? Thanks for always being discrete when I texted you because I was crying in the closet and for always telling me it was going to be okay when I didn’t think I was going to get things done. Oh, and thanks for helping me out that one time I thought I lost my sense of smell.

Micale: God has blessed you with some patience for you to be able to sit...
there and listen to all my stress about something you care nothing about. I will forever be grateful for your freaky name to face memory when I couldn’t identify somebody. Without you and Emily T. the yearbook would be nameless. Sorry I went like a month without seeing you because the yearbook overtook my life. Thanks for staying my best friend.

Emily P.: Or should I say Roommate? Praise the Lord for Dr. Dwelle’s math for liberal arts class. God knew what He was doing when He gave me a roommate so different yet so similar to myself. Thank you for never being mad because I was always in the Newsroom way more than our actual room. You put up with my yearbook worries, art projects, stress fits and late night entrances for four whole years. Leaving you was one of the hardest parts of graduation. Grad-school is lucky to have you, but they don’t get to keep you forever. Come see me soon.

Natsha: You have been with me on my yearbook journey since day one. Who would have thought seven years ago when you walked into my high school journalism room for my first meeting with our yearbook rep that we would be finishing up my last college book together now. Thank you for pushing me and for telling me when things didn’t look so great. Thank you for always answering all my Jostens questions no matter the day or time and for always bringing me goodies. Even though Dr. Root takes all the bananas laffy taffy your bags of candy have gotten me through many deadline nights.

Sometimes I wonder what it would have been like to attend a different university, but that train of thought takes me right back to the gratitude I have for Ouachita and the community here. Thank you to everyone who helped make my college years exceptional. The completion of this yearbook means the completion of one of my many OBU jobs and a large part of my college involvement. Thanks to all the different people who made my Photo Lab Editor job an enjoyable one.

The Roots: My OBU experience wouldn’t have been the same without you guys. Thanks for winning me over to the Mass Comm side. You’ve taught me so much about our field, but also about life, faith, family and relationships. Thanks for putting up with me and being the best professors/advisors/counselors/friends/OBU parents.

Dr. Jones: Thanks for always being such a positive, encouraging and caring person throughout my OBU years. I’m so glad we had so many experiences together and I can’t wait to go back to Sundance with you hopefully sometime soon.

Trennis, Brooke & Rene: Thanks for always trusting and encouraging me in my photography life. You guys are an awesome team. Working with you guys has been one of the best parts of this job. When everyone else is asking #WhosTrennis?, I’m emailing and texting you guys daily. I consider it an honor.

Dr. Kluck: You are the most giving person I have ever known. Thanks for always allowing me in your studio, teaching me things and giving me inspiration to always honor The Lord with what has been given to us.

Aly: It’s done! It has been awesome working with you at school, internships and as friends. Thanks for all your help and making sure I’m doing what I’m supposed to. I hope you never stop visiting small towns for fun.

Grace: I know you’ll do an awesome job as Photo Lab Editor next year. Thanks for always being a helping hand. I hope you can one day consolidate your three different calendars into one. You rock.

Kelsey & Zac: Thanks for all your help as a part of the photo staff these past years. You guys have helped me so much. Keep up the good work!

Maddie & Alex: As newcomers to the photo staff, I was so pleased with the amount of work ethic and love for photography you guys have. Thanks for all your help. You guys were awesome!

The Queen: I’m not sure what I would’ve done without you. You are amazing. I can’t even begin to express my gratitude. Thanks for everything you do!

#ThePalletPalace: You guys are some rockin’ suitemates and friends. Thanks for doing OBU life together and always supporting me. I hope we all learned the importance of doing the dishes and picking up your own trash.

Bailey: Thanks for being my best friend for so long. You were the best golden retriever ever. I love you and miss you.
Home, “The Bubble,” Ouachita Baptist University - a place that serves as so much more than a four-year university. Here we grow in our faith and are shaped into the leaders the Lord desires us to be. Here we work together to raise money for student scholarships so our peers can continue their education. Here we develop professional relationships with faculty that extend past an hour-long class. Here, in “The Bubble,” we are family. While our time on campus may only last a short four years, the way we are impacted by this place stays with us forever.
On freshman move-in day, when upperclassmen swarmed our cars eager to carry all of our things inside, it felt like we were leaving home for what seemed to be an eternity. But suddenly, through a whirlwind of TWIRP dates, Chick money shortages, all-night study sessions, campus drive arounds and Tiger Traks mud fights, we found ourselves lining up in a cap and gown ready to take one last walk through "The Bubble." Here we embraced the value of a liberal arts education. Here we discovered the importance of making a difference. Here we learned that as Tigers for Life, we would always have a home in "The Bubble."