





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.

Lauren Scarbrough Photo



Nathan Anthony Photo

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



Lauren Scarbrough Photo

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 Beyonce 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.



Jeremy Dixon Photo



Abby Engelkes Photo

Led by team captain and intramural chair Lacy Hollingsworth, the Women of EEE Hardware pose after winning an intramural soccer championship. Many players on the team also played competitively in high school.

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 Droben, 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

playing for **FUN**

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 Freel

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.

together in FAITH

"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 devotionals.

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.

by Molly Freel

"I've really enjoyed the behind the scenes work with the rest of the leadership team and the Rogers."

- Megan Clay, senior biology major, El Dorado



Showing off his strength and agility, senior wrestler Dallas Smith plays dodgeball in the FCA game night in September. Smith was one of many Tiger athletes to regularly participate in FCA events.



Maddie Brodell Photo

Members of the Tiger football team join together in prayer at an FCA meeting. The meetings and other events were open to all students, not just athletes.

Taking a break from dominating on the gridiron, seniors Justin Jones and Spencer Knight toss a frisbee at the FCA game night. Dozens of students came to the event.



Maddie Brodell Photo



Maddie Brodell Photo



Maddie Brodell Photo

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.

Settling the SCORE

- Bob Gravett Invitational-5th
- Sau Lois Davis Invitational-6th
- Gulf Coast Stampede-6th
- UALR Invitational-7th
- Choctaw D2 Challenge-8th
- GAC Conference Meet-8th



Sophomore Katie Cunningham races toward the finish line, keeping up with her opponent through every stride. Ouachita was one of many schools to compete at the GAC Conference Meet hosted by East Central University.



Tyler Rosenthal Photo

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.



Tyler Rosenthal Photo



Wesley Kluck Photo

Front Row: Ashley Randels, Grace Finley, Katie Cunningham, Kasey McLeane, Rachel Dilatush. Back Row: Courtney McDiarmid, Olivia Guin, Abby Engelkes, Kaylie Roberts, Jessica Branam, Kayla Bullard.

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.

racing past COMPETITION

"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.

"Why 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

keeping the spirit **ALIVE**

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.



Gary Gerber Photo

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.



Wesley Kluck Photo



Wesley Kluck Photo

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.



Wesley Kluck Photo

Front Row: Victoria Wilson, Amanda Abbud, Lauren Teague, Colleen Owen, Laura Beth Smith, Kyaira Flagg, Shelby McCollett, Troy Daniell. **Second Row:** Abbey Little, Teianna Carter, Mariah Gough, Sarah Jeffrey, Rylee Schwaller, Julianna Howard, Hollan Van Horn, Kaitlyn Jackson. **Back Row:** Sarah Pettit, BJ Avant, Drew Dubose, Cody Osborn, Brooke Schmidt.



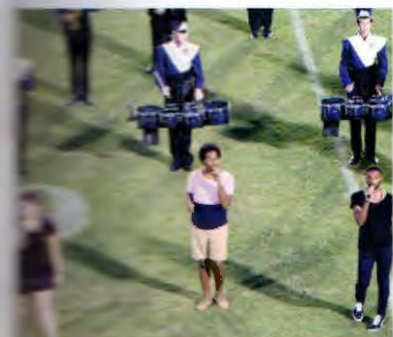
Sophomore Caroline Twyford plays the flute alongside the rest of the band members. Twyford had been a part of the Tiger Marching Band since her freshman year.

Gary Gerber Photo



Gary Gerber Photo

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.



Gary Gerber Photo



Gary Gerber Photo

Trying to fire up the home crowd, the drumline performs one of its many halftime performances this season. The drumline also participated in a drum-off against rival Henderson State during Battle of the Ravine week.

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

one for the AGES

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 Etau 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

"It was just a blessing. I think our bond got us where we were and allowed us to achieve what we did."

- Steven Kehner, senior business administration major, Molvern



Surveying the field, senior quarterback Kiehl Frazier scrambles out of the pocket as he looks for a target. Frazier finished with 2051 yards passing and 19 touchdowns on the season, en route to being named All-GAC Second Team.



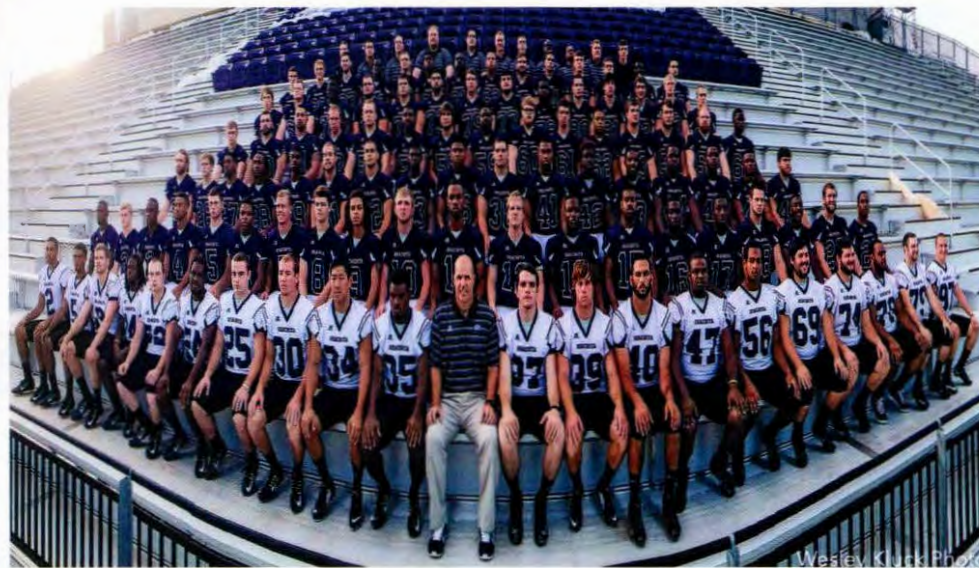
Maddie Brodell Photo

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.



Maddie Brodell Photo

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.



Wesley Kyles Photo

Front Row: Kiehl Frazier, Jalen Jones, Drew White, Jeremy Small, Steven Kehner, Etauj Allen, Spencer Knight, Zack Mitchell, Matt Mainiero, Gerald Warner, Coach Todd Knight, Eric Ashburn, Jacob Clark, Kyle Lamothe, Dion Young, Dave Fair, Michael Rogers, Brent Calhoun, Aaron Sprinkle, Jake Kraus, Matthew Ehasz. **Second Row:** Ke'Vontae Pope, Nathan Loftin, Kendrick Henderson, Alex Myres, Drew Farmer, AJ Burton, Ty Towers, John Sharp, Rotimi Oladejo Jr, Austin Warford, Evian Hill, Lucas Reed, Shaquille Hunter, Antha West, Jakahari Howell, Ricardy Joseph, Mike Williamson, Kris Oliver, Travis Simon, Michael Farley. **Third Row:** Kraft McLean, Nicholas Hayes, Donovan Bausley, Justin Johnson, Devin Price, Blake Johnson, Josh Hall, Jordan Harold, Clay Patrick, Davon Potts, Cameron Haskins, Brandon Marks, Peter Daniel, Waymon Johnson Jr, Jahlon Mitchell, Drake Jones. **Fourth Row:** Shannin Shimer, Tristen Walsworth, Devin Ball, Dakota Wilson, Andrew Estes, Javin Prunty, Austin Danzy, James Nuells, Clay Whaley, Elijah Ramsey, Riley Wilson, Tyler Gahr, Brannon Kotch, Hal Hoggard, Anthony Casteel. **Fifth Row:** Andrew Ingram, Canyon Moore, Roderick Ingram, Michael Russell, Cameron Alexander, Jed Beach, Jordan Sharp, Mitch Bledsoe, Justin Avery, Jay Patrick, Cody Hughes, Austin Kirkpatrick, Johnathan Powell, Ryan Perkins. **Back Row:** Brett James, Shelton Wooley, Connor Burkhalter, Justin Jones, Logan Morris, John Rachal, Tyree Gray, Cortez Akins, Barkley Legens, Demetric Jennings, Tanner Moss, Jacob Engel, Chris Leger, Andrew Gendi.

Settling the 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

Settling SCORE

- Southwest Baptist 2-3
- Alabama Huntsville 3-2
- Trevecca Nazarene 3-0
- Miles College 3-0
- Southern Arkansas 3-2
- Williams Baptist 3-0
- Lyon College 3-0
- Arkansas Tech 0-3
- Texas A&M Commerce 3-2
- Henderson State 3-1
- NW Oklahoma State 1-3
- SW Oklahoma State 3-2
- Williams Baptist 3-0
- Southern Nazarene 0-3
- Harding 0-3
- Arkansas-Monticello 1-3
- Southern Arkansas 3-2
- East Central 3-2
- SE Oklahoma State 3-1
- Alabama Huntsville 0-3
- Arkansas Tech 1-3
- Central Baptist College 3-0
- Henderson State 3-2
- SE Oklahoma State 1-3
- Harding 3-1
- Harding 1-3

15-10-0



go towards blood cancer research.

Heather Ellis Photo



Rachel Ewart Photo

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.



Senior Chelsey Hess prepares to serve. Hess, along with the five other senior team members, finished her career with a 15-10 record this season.

Hess and sophomore Anna LeTorneau wait for the ball to reach their side of the net. LeTorneau was competing in her second season as a Lady Tiger.



Heather Ellis Photo



Wesley Kluck Photo

Front Row: Caitlin Cantrell, Tara Wait, Madeline Walls. Second Row: Alexis Weber, Anna LeTorneau, Chelsey Hess, Ashley Wake, Emily Alderson. Third Row: Keely Howk, Brandi Armfield, Jayme Shell, Kelsey Bradley. Last Row: Abby Pickett, Julie Stanley, Lauren Perry, Kori Bullard, Kelley Ballard, Stephanie Pollnow.

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

fighting until the **END**

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.

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

team of **DESTINY**

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 Emmanuel 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.



Kelsey Band Photo

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.



Heather Ellis Photo



Wesley Kluck Photo

Front Row: Katy Alexander, Emily Keith, Jessica McCauley, Lauren Llanes. Second Row: Sammie Mack, Lauren Powers, Audrey Rodriguez, Sarah Fish, Madeline Mosley, Megan Clay, Delaney Kookan, Alisa Trejo. Third Row: Kasey Smith, Sarah Luttrell, Tiana Soulas, Miranda, Hudleston, Morgan Flippen, Madison Trussell, Bryson Rial, Abby Emmanuel, Haley Hatcher. Last Row: Hannah Hart, Megan Clay, Hannah Hover, Morgan Allen, Tessa Woodcock, Tiana Soulas

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

Settling the SCORE

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.

Maddie Brodell Photo



Wesley Kluck Photo

Front Row: Ben O'Brien, Nelson Pacheco, Jarrod Collins, David Henley. Second Row: Griffin Crocker, Bailey Bledsoe, James Keith, Jacob Warner, Marcellus Hill, Taylor Goyen, Logan Hampton, Haden Johnson, Peyton Green. Third Row: Blake Beshirs, Kaleb Banning, Ron Hadri, Brian Williams, Philippe Ichter, Jacob Garcia, Jackson Currin, Eric Bentley, Josh Kriby. Fourth Row: Ryan Sisco, Dillon Farrell, Ian Monteiro, Brandon Horn, Tinashe Chigede, Sewell Yost, Tyler Mouton, Christian Mayho, Matt West, Kyle Hendren. Last Row: Ryan Trayner, Ezra Richardson, Michiru Forbess, Michael Cade, Gideon Onguti, Colton Huie.



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.



Maddie Brodell Photo



Maddie Brodell Photo

Freshman midfielder Blake Beshirs fights for possession against an opponent. Beshirs finished the season with three goals in 16 games played.

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."

season of GROWTH

"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."

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.

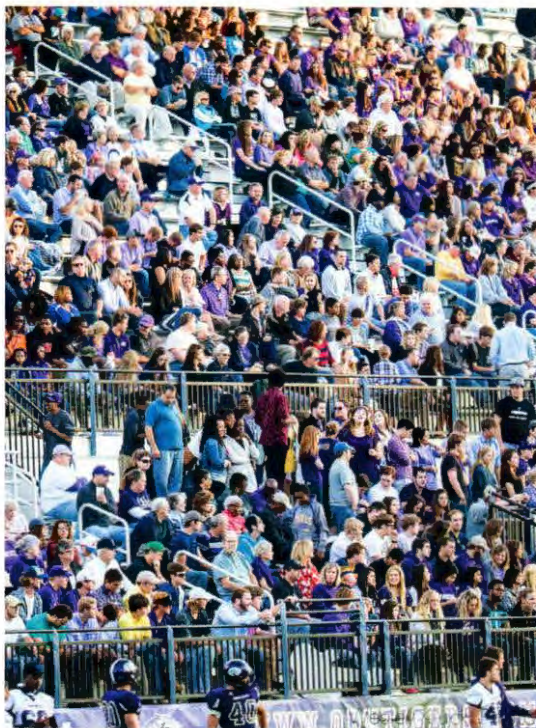
"[The younger players] got the experience of playing top-level players. It helped them understand what they need to do to win the games," Henley said.

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.

by Robert DeSoto



Cliff Harris Stadium

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

On Dec. 13, 2013, Ouachita President Rex 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 free 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 Powell 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

accomplishing GOALS

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

"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."

- Dallas Smith, senior kinesiology major,
Joplin, Missouri



Senior Josh Myers faces off against an opponent from Shorter University on February 6. Myers was one of seven seniors on the team that acted as mentors for the large freshman class.



Wesley Kluck Photo

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.



Wesley Kluck Photo

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

Settling the 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-Broadus 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



Wesley Kluck Photo

Front Row: Weston Cronan, Shane Foley, Garrett Evans, Lee Celestino, Josh Myers, Seth Hutchison, Dakota Head, Tanner Bailey. **Second Row:** Dylan Harmon, Noah Reid, Michael McDaniel, Connor Loderhose, Justin Fletcher, Kalik Battle, Roman Rose, Blake Clevenger, Nate Rodriguez, Blake Dauphin, Garrett Hudson. **Third Row:** Head Coach Chris Chionuma, Alex Pollock, Ryan Sanchez, Justin Vinson, Dexter Carter, Kyle Roberts, Sean Roche, Jacob Sherrill, Reed South, Jacob Andrews, Assistant Coach Bobby Williams. **Back Row:** James Moore, Taylor Poe, Jacob Weingrad, O'Dell Lee, Blake Andrews, Dallas Smith, Payne Hatter, Gabriel Cabrera, Collin Chambers.

Settling the SCORE

Henderson State 84-131

Delta State 58-223

UALR Invite 4th place

West Florida 64-112

Henderson State 83-128

UALR 62-116

NSISC 7th place



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.

Wesley Kluck Photo



Wesley Kluck Photo

Front Row: Abigail Baze, Alyssa Stubblefield, Rachel Ewart, Karen Wray, Abby Thomas. **Second Row:** Madeline Rowe, Courtney McDiarmid, Tatiana Pacheco, Kristina Beall. **Back Row:** Emily Grigsby, Emily Knocke, Elizabeth Willis.



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.



Wesley Kluck Photo



Wesley Kluck Photo

Catching her breath along the way, sophomore Alyssa Stubblefield competes in a relay event. This was Stubblefield's second season swimming for the Tigersharks.

Spending 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

a new RACE

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 become 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

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

a year of **REBIRTH**

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.

by Rachel Ewart

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

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



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.



Lauren Perry Photo

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



Lauren Perry Photo

Settling the SCORE

Henderson State 82-149

Delta State 71-217

UALR Invite 2nd place

Henderson State 73-154

NSISC 4th place



Wesley Kluck Photo

Front Row: Emile Maritz and Yan Rocha. **Second Row:** Cody Osborn, Nolan Games, Matt Cox, Tristen Parish, Colt Thompson. **Back Row:** Alex Clerget, Devin Austin, David Wray, Zachary Baker. s Riley Bunyard, Cawley Starling, Seth Fox, Cody Knapp.



Wesley Kluck Photo

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

improving each **DAY**

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



Freshman forward Kori Bullard fights for position in the paint against Arkansas-Monticello. Bullard was a two-sport star for the Tigers this year, also suiting up for the Lady Tiger volleyball team.



Wesley Kluck Photo

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.



Grace Finley Photo



Grace Finley Photo



Wesley Kluck Photo

Front Row: Ashley Johnson and Haley Cooper. **Second Row:** Alexis Sharp, Ashley Morrow, Keshia Broussard, Student Assistant Coach Emily Payne, Macy Burr, Katherine West, Morgan Miller, Head Coach Gary Crowder. **Back Row:** Assistant Coach Michael Jennings, Taylor Bowles, Deleesha Monroe, Kori Bullard, Katie Kapler, Jasmine Cashaw, Breanna Harris.

Settling ^{the} SCORE

- Southwest Baptist 76-74
- Lincoln 64-79
- Arkansas-Ft. Smith 79-78
- Texas A&M Comm. 56-66
- Central Baptist 73-51
- Midwestern State 59-82
- Arkansas Tech 54-84
- Southern Arkansas 67-69
- Arkansas-Monticello 59-69
- NW Oklahoma State 64-66
- Blue Mountain 66-54
- Harding 45-70
- SW Oklahoma State 61-85
- East Central 71-59
- Southern Nazarene 58-61
- SE Oklahoma State 71-67
- Henderson State 46-75
- Southern Arkansas 88-72
- Arkansas-Monticello 52-73
- Arkansas Tech 61-66
- NW Oklahoma State 59-63
- SW Oklahoma State 80-77
- East Central 48-45
- SE Oklahoma State 60-71
- Southern Nazarene 77-72
- Henderson State 86-98
- Harding 56-81

10-17-0

Settling the SCORE

- Texas A&M Comm. 87-83
- Champion Baptist 101-54
- Southwest Baptist 70-74
- Northeastern St. 99-87
- Arkansas Tech 64-57
- Southern Arkansas 59-75
- Stephen F. Austin 60-84
- Arkansas-Monticello 74-71
- NW Oklahoma State 83-67
- Harding 81-75
- SW Oklahoma State 66-58
- East Central 82-88
- Southern Nazarene 75-58
- SE Oklahoma State 70-61
- Henderson State 67-71
- Southern Arkansas 77-70
- Arkansas-Monticello 80-74
- Arkansas Tech 71-57
- NW Oklahoma State 70-69
- SW Oklahoma State 89-63
- East Central 80-61
- SE Oklahoma State 78-71
- Southern Nazarene 89-84
- Henderson State 80-78
- Harding 71-91
- SW Oklahoma State 67-71

20-6-0



Junior guard David Berete throws down a powerful dunk against Champion Baptist. Berete averaged 8.7 points and 4 assists per game in his first season for the Tigers.

Lauren Perry Photo



Wesley Kluck Photo

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.



Clair Childers Photo



Lawen Peery Photo

Leading the fastbreak, junior forward Tirrell Brown soars for a slam dunk in transition. Brown, a University of Central Arkansas transfer, was named GAC Player of the Year and GAC Newcomer of the Year after averaging 17.6 points and 7.4 rebounds per game for the Tigers.

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.

coming together as **ONE**

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

Settling the SCORE

Mystic Creek GC

The Buc

UAM Fall Classic

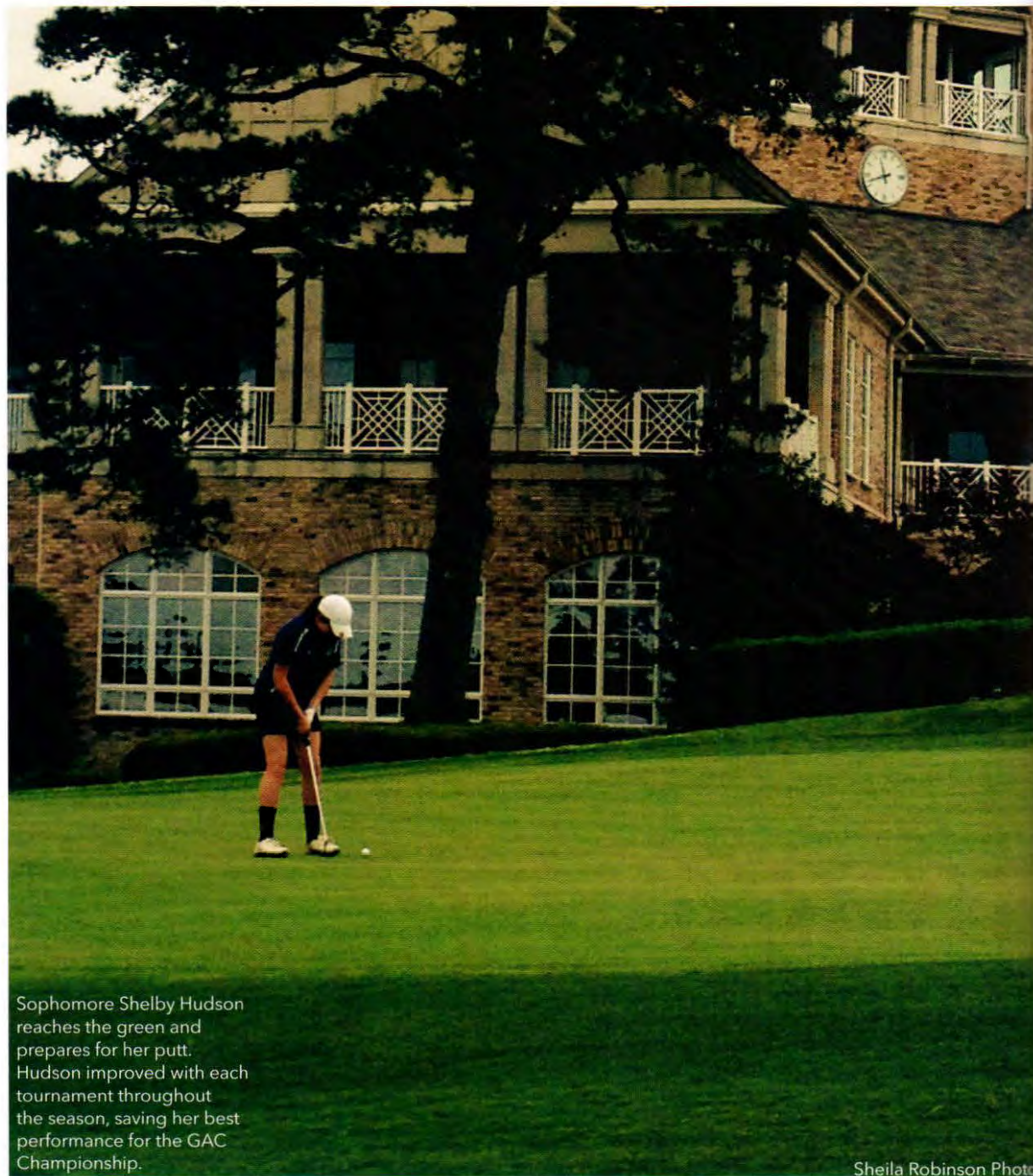
Tanglewood Resort

Mulerider Spring Classic

HSU Bear State Bank Invite

GAC Championship

Robinson and Hudson played as individuals throughout the season in the tournaments above.



Sophomore Shelby Hudson reaches the green and prepares for her putt. Hudson improved with each tournament throughout the season, saving her best performance for the GAC Championship.

Sheila Robinson Photo



Sheila Robinson Photo

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.

Ali Robinson lines in a putt at the Hot Springs Golf Course. Robinson has been golfing since she was a child.

Sheila Robinson Photo



Sheila Robinson Photo



Sheila Robinson Photo

Team Members: Ali Robinson and Shelby Hudson.

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

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 Calhoun, 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.



Sonia Barker Photo

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.



David Sharp Photo

Settling ^{the} SCORE

- Mystic Creek GC: 2nd
- UAM Fall Classic: 7th
- Dave Falconer Classic: 19th
- Mulerider Spring Classic: 4th
- Natural State Golf Classic: 8th
- GAC Championship: 10th



Sonia Barker Photo

Will Hegi, Jamie Barker, Head Coach David Sharp, Jacob Calhoon, Griffin Smith and Shane Starkey.

FOR THE RECORD

2014-2015
Tiger Athletics
Highlights

1st
all-time leader in
goals in GAC history
after only 2 seasons

1st
Men's Tennis became first
GAC team of any sport
to win four consecutive
GAC championships

1st
Colt Fason GAC's
all-time leading
scorer for Men's
Basketball

**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

2nd Men's Swimming
800 Yard Freestyle
Relay team at NSISC
Conference Finals

3rd Men's Swimming
400 Yard Freestyle
Relay team at NSISC
Conference Finals

3rd Nate Rodriguez finished
third in the NCAA National
Wrestling Tournament
133-pound bracket

3rd Men's Swimming
200 Yard Medley
Relay team at NSISC
Conference Finals

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

5th Wrestling
team
ranked 5th
in nation

6th Josh Myers finished sixth
in the NCAA National
Wrestling Tournament
141-pound bracket

7th Payne Hatter finished
seventh in the NCAA
National Wrestling
Tournament
174-pound bracket

16 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

Etauji 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

Settling the SCORE

UAPB 8-1

Tarleton State 1-8

Southwest Baptist 0-9

Delta State 3-6

Mississippi College 3-6

Texarkana A&M 8-1

Maryville 1-8

Southern Nazarene 3-6

East Central 0-9

Henderson State 4-5

Arkansas Tech 0-9

SE Oklahoma State 1-8

Harding 3-6

Henderson State 1-8

2-12-0



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.

Zac Baker Photo



Robyn Campbell Photo

Front Row: Kourtney Chumbley, Vanja Bogetic, Camila Ferreira and Valeriya Mansvetova. **Back Row:** Maddie Patterson, Katie Stanage, Keely Howk and Polina Tsymbalova.



Sophomore Polina Tsymbalova lunges for a ball against Southeastern Oklahoma State. Unfortunately, the Lady Tigers lost the match 1-8.

Zac Baker Photo

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.



Alex Becerra Photo



Zac Baker Photo

On a bright sunny day, junior Valeriya Mansvetova returns a serve back to her opponent. The team participated in both singles and doubles matches.

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 Tsymbalova and Camila Ferreira won

doubles PLAY

their matches as well.

Bogetic and Tsymbalova 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

building a **DYNASTY**

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.



Wesley Kluck Photo

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.



Wesley Kluck Photo

Settling ^{the} SCORE

- UAPB 6-0
- University of Ozarks 7-0
- Southern Methodist 0-6
- Southwest Baptist 6-3
- Mississippi College 9-0
- Delta State 7-0
- Colorado St-Pueblo 9-0
- Cameron University 5-4
- Midwestern State 3-6
- Drury University 3-6
- NW Missouri State 5-4
- SE Oklahoma State 2-7
- East Central 7-2
- Harding 8-1
- Nebraska Kearney 5-4
- Southwest Baptist 5-2
- Arkansas-Fort Smith 8-1
- East Central 5-1
- SE Oklahoma State 5-3

15-4-0



Courtesy Photo

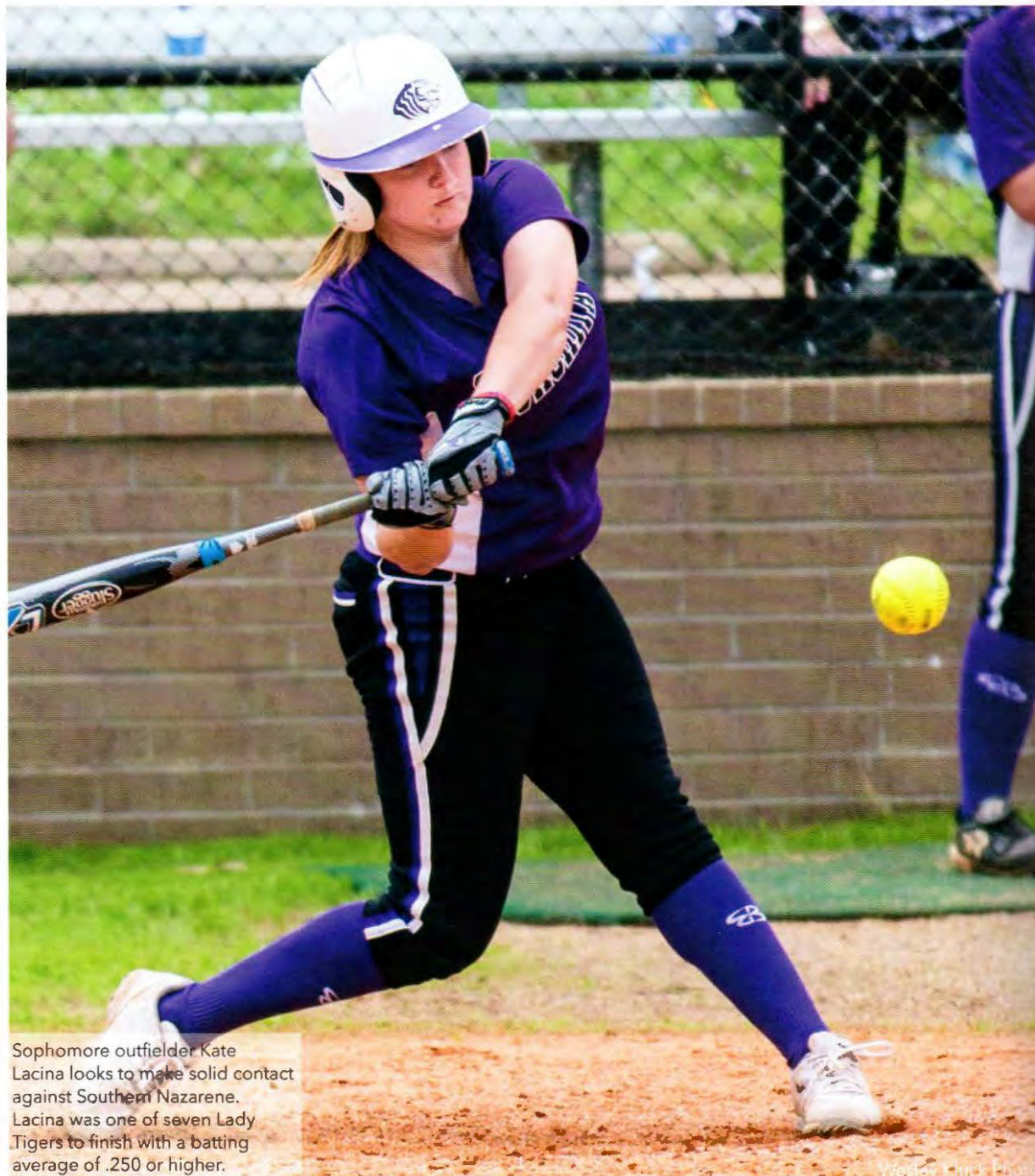
Front Row: Maciej Brasciszewicz, Marko Boskovic, Jason Mechali. **Back Row:** Andre Stefano, Lennart Lonnemann, Vitor Oliveira and Coach Craig Ward.

Wesley Kluck Photo

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.



Front Row: Amber Oxford, Suzie Gresham, Olivia Guin, Jocelyn Jones, Jessica Branam and Kailey Madden. **Second Row:** Ashley Davis, Madison Crosby, Brittany Engel, Carly Yazza, Kaylie Roberts, Taylor Anderson, Emily Acuna, Alex Jennings and Daniella Brantley. **Back Row:** Madison Mayfield, Macy Nantz, Summer Phillips, Jade Sones, Sarah Johnson, Kate Lacina, Delaney Bedunah, Madison Mayfield, Kayla Golden, Brittany McElroy and Callie Clement.



Junior catcher Kailey Madden applies the tag to prevent what would have been a run. Madden also served as a utility player for the Lady Tigers.

Retreating toward the warning track, freshman outfielder Kelly Powell tracks down the ball for the out. Powell was one of many freshmen to gain significant playing time this season.



Wesley Kluck Photo



Wesley Kluck Photo

After fielding a ground ball, junior infielder Suzie Gresham flips the ball underhanded to the first baseman to record the out. Gresham had 15 hits on the season, including three homeruns and two doubles.

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

a new ERA

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

success on the **FIELD**

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 homeruns 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.



Abbey Fowler Photo

Making solid contact, senior infielder Tyler Faught sends a ball right back up the middle against Southern Arkansas. The Tigers would go on to beat the Muleriders by a score of 8-2.

Trying to avoid the tag, sophomore shortstop Justin Weigle slides into third. Weigle led the Tigers with eight stolen bases this season.

Settling the SCORE

- St. Edward's 6-4
- St. Edward's 4-5, 3-2
- Texas A&M-Kingsville 4-2
- Nebraska at Kearney 7-10
- Pittsburg State 3-7
- SW Oklahoma State 8-10
- Arkansas Tech 10-0
- Arkansas Tech 10-8, 4-1
- Harding 10-3
- Henderson State 2-3, 3-2
- SE Oklahoma State 11-0
- Southern Arkansas 8-2
- Southern Arkansas 0-8, 7-9
- Southern Arkansas 14-15
- Arkansas Monticello 10-7, 3-4
- Arkansas Monticello 9-8
- Delta State 9-4
- NW Oklahoma State 6-3
- NW Oklahoma State 8-0, 6-1
- Harding 4-7, 8-6
- SW Oklahoma State 0-3, 0-1
- SW Oklahoma State 9-4
- Dallas Christian 2-0, 8-2
- Southern Nazarene 10-4
- Southern Nazarene 9-1, 1-6
- Arkansas Tech 7-3
- Henderson State 0-2, 5-4
- Henderson State 5-8
- Arkansas Tech 11-3
- Henderson State 3-4
- Southern Arkansas 2-4

25-17-0



Wesley Kluck Photo



Front Row: Tripp Cecil, Parker Norris, Evan Ruiz, J.D. Speed, Sean Faught, Tyler Faught, Brian Krikorian, Weston Smith and Ty Owens. **Second Row:** Head Coach Jeremy Haworth, Graduate Assistant Kolby Moore, Drew Feuerbacher, Austin White, Jace Melby, Justin Weigle, Chandler Blake, Reuben Miller, Graduate Assistant Nick Roundtree and Assistant Coach Kyle Hope. **Third Row:** Preston Adami, Skylar Ward, Quinn Moser, Mason Clay, Josh Reeves, Jon Cunningham, Jakahri Howell, Preston Speers, Ryan Hammer, Kason Kimbrell, Jacob May, Brandon Monk and Garret Walker. **Back Row:** Zach Gloff, Kyle Alexander, Will Wallace, Connor Eller, Matt Sinclair, Trevor Welton, Lance Cullum, Trey Hart, Zach Rathburn, Jordan Lawrence, Tryce Schalclin, Connor Reed, Jacob Knight and John Franklin Matros.

Wesley Kluck Photo