Community is a word often used to describe “The Bubble.” When people use this word, however, they are not just referring to the community on campus, but the community of Arkadelphia as well. Local businesses networked with students during the first week of classes for Spotlight on Arkadelphia. Deploying all over the city, Ouachita students, faculty and staff offered assistance to community residents through Tiger Serve Day. Local church members opened their homes to college students for weekly community groups.
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Aly Smith

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Zach Parker, Sports
Abbey Little, Academics
Taryn Bailey, People
Robert DeSoto, Clubs & Organizations
Blaine Surber, Community

Practicum: Noah Hutchinson, Barrett Gay, Katie Smith, Rachel Ewart, Matthew Ablon, Gracie Lundstrum Marie Lindhal, Molly Freel, Caroline Cain

Colophon

The 106th volume of the Ouachitonian yearbook was published by Josten’s Printing and Publishing Company, 451 International Blvd. Clarksville, Tenn. 37043. Mary Nell Sparks was the regional manager, Natasha Durham was the sales representative and Brandy Wathke was the implant customer service representative.

Schools interested in obtaining a copy may contact the Ouachitonian by mail, phone or email: 410 Ouachita Street, OBU Box 3761, Arkadelphia, Ark. 71999 ouachitonian@obu.edu.

The majority of the photos were taken by student photographers in the photo lab. Portraits were provided by Kelly Shuman Photography of Arkadelphia.

The cover design as well as theme and section designs were all created by Aly Smith, Ouachitonian editor. All designs were created on the Macintosh iMac and Adobe InDesign CS6. Fonts used in the book were Avenir Next and AYT Elmore.

The 2015 Ouachitonian is a member of the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, the Associated Collegiate Press and the Arkansas College Media Association.

The 2014 Ouachitonian received seven Gold Circle Awards and the Gold Medalist rating from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association. The yearbook also won 25 awards from the Arkansas College Media Association.

Retirees

John Cloud
Senior Development Officer for Estate and Gift Planning
32 years of service

Yvonne Cloud
Bookstore Textbook Manager
31 years of service

Margaret Frazier
Director of Campus Housing
26 years of service

Raouf Halaby
Professor of Visual Arts and English
42 years of service

Shirley McMillan
Director of Foster Grandparent Program
31 years of service

Jackie Suggs
Facilities Management
18 years of service
From the moment I decided I was coming to Ouachita I dreamed of getting the chance to serve as the Editor-in-Chief of the Ouachitonian. When I started on the staff my freshman year as a section editor, never did I imagine that I would eventually get to serve as Editor-in-Chief for not one but two books. Serving as Editor can take a lot out of you. It requires sleepless night, lots of hard work and creativity, a wonderful staff willing to do almost anything and a lot of patience from the Lord. But I can honestly say every moment – every email, meeting, crisis, breakdown in the Newsroom closet, snack cake, Diet Coke, trip to Chick, laughing fit, nap on the couch and late night/early morning deadline was worth it.

This year was one for the books. My senior year was a whirlwind of wonderful memories that I will always cherish. From starting on this Editor journey for a second time, to creating and displaying my Senior Art Exhibit to being name the 2015 ACMA Yearbook Editor of the Year, I couldn't think of a better way to end my time in The Bubble. I will forever be grateful for the experiences I had through this position and for getting to join the prestigious family of Ouachitonian Editors.

The Roots: My Arkadelphia Parents. Even though you are first in my letter you were the last part I wrote because I honestly didn’t know what to say. You two have impacted my life in a way I can’t describe.

Mr. Dr. Root: Thank you for your constant encouragement and belief in me. You invest so much into your students and that is one of the things that makes this department so great. If a video of me signing a Christmas duet with Hutch shows up on YouTube I am tracking you down. I am still a little bitter I never got you to try hummus, but I guess you can’t win them all.

Mrs. Dr. Root: I’ll be honest, the first time I had to show you layouts, I was terrified. I was so worried of disappointing you I was running around the Newsroom like a crazy person. Thank you for pushing me and never letting me settle. Without you and your guidance (and you catching all my mistakes) I would have never achieved what I did this year. Thank you for being there when I needed to talk, feeding me over the summer and loving on me the past four years. Just because I am leaving Arkadelphia doesn’t mean you are getting rid of me. Keep the staff in line next year, don’t be afraid to stand on the desk if you need to.

Amber: My how you have grown young grasshopper. Thank you for always being willing to take the long story. Your dependability made my job so much easier. I know I am leaving the yearbook in great hands with you and Robert. The palladium circle for co-editors goes to y’all.

Robert: Sorry for misspelling your name so many times last year. I tried really hard to not mess up this time. But if there are any mistakes, it’s Amber’s fault. Thank you for always being willing to do anything I asked. You are still the reigning platinum circle winner, no one will ever take that away.

Abbey: The academic section would not have happened without you and your determination to track down all those numbers. Thank you for not showing your frustration when I gave you directions that only half way made sense and for keeping me on track when I would forget to do something you needed.

Zach: Where have you been the past three years? I am saying it now, there will never be a sports editor as good as you. I bow at your ability to write a sports story that is both understandable to someone with zero sports knowledge (me) and satisfy the needs of a total sports junky (you). Thank you for always meeting your deadlines and being willing to take on, two or three stories at once.

Blaine: Thank you for making my job so much easier by always staying on top of the ads. Thank you for tracking down all the payments, art work and paperwork even when you had a million other things to do. Never once did I worry that the ad section was not going to get done and I am so thankful for that.

Taryn: Your desire to learn the yearbook world makes my heart happy. Never once did you let me do something for you, you always wanted to learn so you could do it for yourself. You are truly an Editor’s dream. You have grown so much this year and I am so proud. Stick with yearbook, you are gonna be great.

Practicum: The yearbook could not happen without you guys. Thank you for always being willing to take the story even though I know you didn’t want to and for meeting deadline (almost) every time. Thank you for putting up with my 45,934 emails and for not walking out when I asked for more people profile ideas yet again.

Tyler: You my friend are a life saver. Your talent amazes me, but your ability to put up with me and fix a crisis amazes me even more. Thank you for always shooting anything I asked and for making my book beautiful with your exquisite pictures. It has been a joy being the “dynamic duo” with you this year.

Emily T: Never before has one dorm room possessed so much power – or so we thought. Who would have thought that an Ouachitonian Editor and a Signal Editor could be as best of friends as we are? Thanks for always being discrete when I texted you because I was crying in the closet and for always telling me it was going to be okay when I didn’t think I was going to get things done. Oh, and thanks for helping me out that one time I thought I lost my sense of smell.

Micale: God has blessed you with some patience for you to be able to sit
there and listen to all my stress about something you care nothing about. I will forever be grateful for your freaky name to face memory when I couldn’t identify somebody. Without you and Emily T. the yearbook would be nameless. Sorry I went like a month without seeing you because the yearbook overtook my life. Thanks for staying my best friend.

Emily P.: Or should I say Roommate? Praise the Lord for Dr. Dwellie’s math for liberal arts class. God knew what He was doing when He gave me a roommate so different yet so similar to myself. Thank you for never being mad because I was always in the Newsroom way more than our actual room. You put up with my yearbook worries, art projects, stress fits and late night entrances for four whole years. Leaving you was one of the hardest parts of graduation. Grad-school is lucky to have you, but they don’t get to keep you forever. Come see me soon.

Natsha: You have been with me on my yearbook journey since day one. Who would have thought seven years ago when you walked into my high school journalism room for my first meeting with our yearbook rep that we would be finishing up my last college book together now. Thank you for pushing me and for telling me when things didn’t look so great. Thank you for always answering all my Jostens questions no matter the day or time and for always bringing me goodies. Even though Dr. Root takes all the bananas laffy taffy your bags of candy have gotten me through many deadline nights.

Sometimes I wonder what it would have been like to attend a different university, but that train of thought takes me right back to the gratitude I have for Ouachita and the community here. Thank you to everyone to helped make my college years exceptional. The completion of this yearbook means the completion of one of my many OBU jobs and a large part of my college involvement. Thanks to all the different people who made my Photo Lab Editor job an enjoyable one.

The Roots: My OBU experience wouldn’t have been the same without you guys. Thanks for winning me over to the Mass Comm side. You’ve taught me so much about our field, but also about life, faith, family and relationships. Thanks for putting up with me and being the best professors/advisors/counselors/friends/OBU parents.

Dr. Jones: Thanks for always being such a positive, encouraging and caring person throughout my OBU years. I’m so glad we had so many experiences together and I can’t wait to go back to Sundance with you hopefully sometime soon.

Tennis, Brooke & Rene: Thanks for always trusting and encouraging me in my photography life. You guys are an awesome team. Working with you guys has been one of the best parts of this job. When everyone else is asking #WhosTrennis?, I’m emailing and texting you guys daily. I consider it an honor.

Dr. Kluck: You are the most giving person I have ever known. Thanks for always allowing me in your studio, teaching me things and giving me inspiration to always honor The Lord with what has been given to us.

Aly: It’s done! It has been awesome working with you at school, internships and as friends. Thanks for all your help and making sure I’m doing what I’m supposed to. I hope you never stop visiting small towns for fun.

Grace: I know you’ll do an awesome job as Photo Lab Editor next year. Thanks for always being a helping hand. I hope you can one day consolidate your three different calendars into one. You rock.

Kelsey & Zac: Thanks for all your help as a part of the photo staff these past years. You guys have helped me so much. Keep up the good work!

Maddie & Alex: As newcomers to the photo staff, I was so pleased with the amount of work ethic and love for photography you guys have. Thanks for all your help. You guys were awesome!

The Queen: I’m not sure what I would’ve done without you. You are amazing. I can’t even begin to express my gratitude. Thanks for everything you do!

#ThePalletPalace: You guys are some rockin’ roommates and friends. Thanks for doing OBU life together and always supporting me. I hope we all learned the importance of doing the dishes and picking up your own trash.

Bailey: Thanks for being my best friend for so long. You were the best golden retriever ever. I love you and miss you.

Tyler Rosenthal | Photo Lab Editor

Editors' Letters
Community
Home, “The Bubble,” Ouachita Baptist University - a place that serves as so much more than a four-year university. Here we grow in our faith and are shaped into the leaders the Lord desires us to be. Here we work together to raise money for student scholarships so our peers can continue their education. Here we develop professional relationships with faculty that extend past an hour-long class. Here, in “The Bubble,” we are family. While our time on campus may only last a short four years, the way we are impacted by this place stays with us forever.
On freshman move-in day, when upperclassmen swarmed our cars eager to carry all of our things inside, it felt like we were leaving home for what seemed to be an eternity. But suddenly, through a whirlwind of TWIRP dates, Chick money shortages, all-night study sessions, campus drive arounds and Tiger Traks mud fights, we found ourselves lining up in a cap and gown ready to take one last walk through "The Bubble." Here we embraced the value of a liberal arts education. Here we discovered the importance of making a difference. Here we learned that as Tigers for Life, we would always have a home in "The Bubble."
the Bubble