

2011 Ouachitonian

becoming the

difference

Student Life 8 Academics 52 Sports 80 People 128 Organizations 176 Community 224

Be the *difference* you want
to see in the world.



Photo by: Callie Stephens

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Enrollment: 1,503
410 Ouachita St.
OBU Box 3761
Arkadelphia, AR 71998
870-245-5211
ouachitonian@obu.edu

Becoming
the
difference



Tripp the Tiger shows his spirit by waving the Ouachita flag. Tripp led the crowds in cheering on the Tigers at athletic events.
photo by: Callie Stephens



As Ouachita's president, Dr. Rex Horne said, "Ouachitians are called to be difference-makers."

For students, this was the *difference* between living a life in the light of Christ and a life in darkness, embracing fellow students and those around the world from local Backyard Bible Clubs to mission trips to New Orleans and Africa.

We learned the difference between average and excellence when U.S. News & World Report named Ouachita the No. 1 Baccalaureate College in the South for the fourth consecutive year.

Professors added to our lives by providing students with new knowledge taught through traditional classroom activities and hands-on learning, including a new study abroad program in Liverpool; the *difference* between what we had and what we were about to receive.

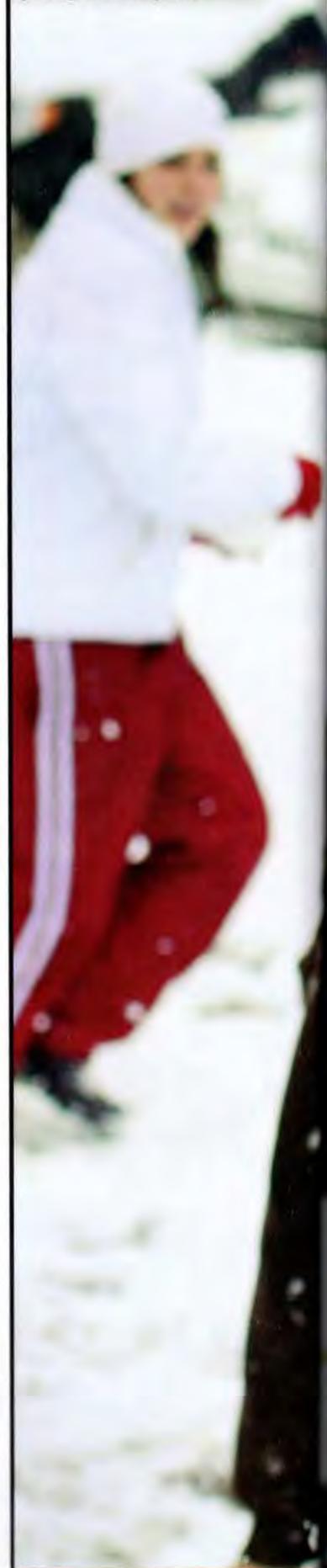
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Ouachita's athletes showed the *difference* between playing a sport and becoming a team when the men and women TigerSharks were well represented in the NCAA Division II Swimming and Diving National Championships in San Antonio, Texas.

There was a *difference* between everyday life and living out your passion demonstrated by students like Tim Ferris and Marcus Schlesinger who were training to compete in the Olympics.

The Tiger for Life campaign began its first year with the incoming freshman class and taught the university about the difference between attending a college and becoming a life-long member of the family.

Juniors Abby Faulkner and Brant Stokes play in the snow with a group of friends. On February 9, many snow fights broke out across campus on a campus-wide snow day.
photo by: Callie Stephens



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Freshman Carli Sasser and the Movers and Shakers hit a high note during the Festival of Christmas. For Ouachita, the Christmas season began with the Festival of Christmas.

photo by: Callie Stephens



The *difference* between flying solo and networking was demonstrated by the overwhelming response to Rush week and the commitment to service through OSF, Campus Ministries and Student Senate.

We were shown the difference between the ordinary and the extraordinary when Tiger Serve Day was recognized locally as one of the Volunteer Organizations of the Year.

We learned the *difference* between embracing community and doing it on our own when the men of Kappa Chi hosted two benefits for Mr. Graham's Bread, a local non-profit business, and the university sponsored a team in Relay for Life.

As our journey began, we realized that we are **Ouachitoni**ans, and we are

Becoming the Difference.

Seniors Mark Morrison and Sarah Greeson high five one another during Tiger Serve Day. The Elrod Center for Family and Community and Campus Ministries provided various ways for students to become involved in community outreach.

photo by Nicole McPhate



Student Life

A campus that promoted community and family made a difference in the lives of the students who called it home. The Tiger for Life campaign began its first year and made a difference in the lives of the freshman class. Tiger Serve Day sent students into the community to serve as Christ would. TWIRP week allowed students to make new acquaintances and possible lasting friendships. Chapel and Refuge taught students

*The difference between a life in
the light of Christ and a life in
darkness.*



A Life-Changing Summer

O uachita students did not take summer lightly. Some students worked, some traveled, but a few chose to spend their summer making a difference as missionaries.

Lauren Smith, a senior early childhood education major from Kennett, Mo., worked as a missionary in Branson for Mountain Country Ministries.

“We got to live on the campus of College of the Ozarks,” said Smith. Along with three other missionaries, Lauren was responsible for helping youth groups run camps, Vacation Bible Schools and community service work.

“Kids came from all over the place: Georgia, Arkansas, Kansas and Texas. It was amazing to see them building their relationships with Christ, and being a part of that,” said Smith, a second year veteran of the program. “I gained people skills and learned how important it is to live out the gospel on a day to day basis, not just have it as a presentation when the right people are looking.”

All the way across the continent, Jordan Lentz, a senior communication science and disorders major from Waterproof, La., worked in Nome, Alaska.

“The only way into Nome is by plane, unless, of course, you are a participant in the Iditarod Races, where your sled dogs will lead you across the state,” joked Lentz. Lentz, as well Christina Albee, a senior psychology major from Hannibal, Mo., worked as helpers for Nome Community Baptist Church with projects such as Summercise. Summercise is a day camp for kids to promote healthy eating and a healthy lifestyle. Lentz and Albee got to experience native Alaskan culture first hand. They even tried whale as an entrée.

“The culture is so rich there, that even after two months I still don’t feel as if I completely see it through a crystal clear filter,” said Lentz. Lentz continued to describe her stay in “bush Alaska” and it was evident that it had a huge impact on her life. “We took away a true love and respect for the people in the town of Nome and in remote Alaska. All this talk about Alaska makes me want to jump on a plane tonight and head back,” exclaimed a smiling Lentz. Although she was only in Nome for a few months, the experience she had was obviously a life-changing one.



Junior Taylor Tarlton, sophomore Jakson Guerra and alumnus Robert Pinkston help move Qubecqoius in on National Moving Day. The trip to Quebec was one of two mission trips sponsored by Campus Ministries during the summer.

photo courtesy of: Deborah Caldwell

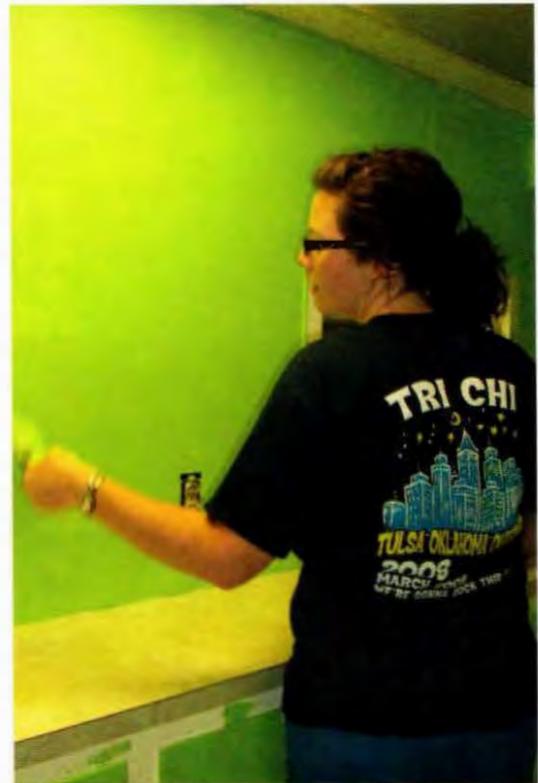
Senior Jordan Lentz fishes on the banks of Nome, Alaska. Lentz experienced many parts of Alaskan culture while serving as a missionary with NAMB.

photo courtesy of: Jordan Lentz





Sophomore Stewart Kelly plays a game with a group of children in a village in Northern Thailand. Kelly went with the University of Arkansas's BCM and International Missions Board to Thailand for two months during the summer.
photo courtesy of: Stewart Kelly



Senior Lauren Smith paints during a mission project in Branson. Lauren served as a missionary for Mountain Country Mission.
photo courtesy of: Lauren Smith

photo courtesy of: Stewart Kelly

Junior T.C. Squires helps fellow ResLife leaders check in new students in the dorm lobbies. Freshmen were greeted by R.A.s and WOW leaders the minute they arrived on campus.

photo by: Callie Stephens



Tyler Ellis assists WOW leaders in unloading new students' cars on move-in day. Leaders spent all morning moving freshmen into their new homes at Ouachita.

photo by: Callie Stephens

Junior Jacob Lively directs freshmen during Tigers and Torches. Freshmen participated in Tiger and Torches as a part of WOW orientation.

photo by: Callie Stephens



Singer/Songwriter Summer Ames performs at the WOW concert. Ames opened for Matt Wertz.

photo by: Callie Stephens



Freshmen register for Freshman Family Groups at the Campus Ministries Mixer. CM hosted the event at WOW to introduce new students to different opportunities to serve around campus.
photo by: Callie Stephens



Incoming freshmen were greeted by eager upperclassmen at the start of the school year as they unloaded cars and carried boxes to their new homes. This process was the first step the freshmen took during Welcome to Ouachita's World (WOW).

The WOW Steering Committee organized the week to make it more enjoyable and helpful for the freshmen. Sophomore Ryan James, a pre-nursing major from Benton, was on the committee for WOW.

"We started planning in the spring to get everything ready. We got all of the WOW leaders lined up and made a rough draft of what we wanted to see happen," said James. "We came back about two weeks before school started to get all the videos shot, all the sessions planned and the logistics figured out for the herd of freshmen moving in."

The "New Beginnings" session in JPAC was a way to congratulate incoming freshmen on becoming a Tiger for Life. Student Body President Jacob Lively, a senior biology major from Queen City, Texas, spoke to welcome the freshmen and their parents to campus.

Students had an opportunity to make friends and many memories in their WOW groups. Each was headed by two upperclassmen to teach the freshmen about traditions and student life on campus.

"My WOW group leaders were so interactive and personal," said Rusty Butler, a freshman church music major from Little Rock. "Being a part of the group gave me the opportunity to get to know a few of my fellow classmates."

Sunday morning was a time for the new students to slow down their weekend and worship together in Jones Performing Arts Center.

"There was just something incredible about being away from all I have known, in the middle of so much unknown, singing to my God who knows everything about me," said Katie Hopmann, a freshman art major from Cypress, Texas. "To lift up one voice as a class was super neat, and being able to worship together reaffirmed that my decision to come to Ouachita was one of the best I ever made."

The Campus Activities Board (CAB) held a Matt Wertz concert in JPAC Monday night. "It was nice to go with a group of new friends and enjoy good music together. Also, it was only \$5. You can't beat that," said Carli Sasser, a freshman music education major from Hamburg.

WOW was a chance for freshmen to not only begin forming life-long friendships, but also begin their journey as a Tiger for Life.

Becoming A Tiger for Life

By: Mauri Sparks

Partying Like Our Parents

Campus windows, mailboxes and sidewalks were filled with questions the week of Tuesday Sept. 7 through Monday Sept. 13 asking, friends, potential boyfriends and crushes to various dances and parties hosted by organizations on campus. TWIRP week had begun.

Girls quickly began asking guys to be their dates as soon as the word spread that the week was coming. For many it was “an opportunity to meet new friends and develop friendships even farther,” said Alexis Pace, a sophomore musical theater major from Sugarland, Texas.

Beginning the week was the Tri Chi 80s Night, where the ‘couples’ were invited to join members at the Tiger Den to enjoy popular culture inspired music and compete in various competitions.

“The Tri Chi night was so full of energy,” said Preston Winstead, freshman Christian studies major from Fort Smith. “It was good to see what our parents’ parties would be like and add our own flavor to it.”

The dates continued throughout the week with other themed events. Wednesday brought EEE 50s night. The event on Thursday was Chi Delta Harvest Moon, a semi-formal occasion allowing students to dress up for their dates. The Chi Rho Phi Luau night on Friday and the CAB Movie, “Toy Story 3,” on Sunday were the weekend events.

“The whole week was so different this year. The atmosphere was open and ready for all of us to be who we are,” said Brandom Stokes, a junior Christian studies major from Fort Smith.

For the first time, Student Senate hosted a Cajun night held in the Commons. Students were invited to come with their dates, eat Cajun-inspired food and visit with members of the Student Senate.

“The Cajun night was different in a good respect. We were able to really come out of our shells and stick to our friends at the same time. I’ll be happy to see what happens next year,” said Chase Clay Rackley, a sophomore business major from Little Rock.

Ending the week was the popular Barn Bash, hosted by Campus Ministires. “The Barbeque and sqaure dancing is always fun, but what makes it even better is that all of your friends are there.” said Hannah Hilburn, a junior Christian studies major from Harrison.



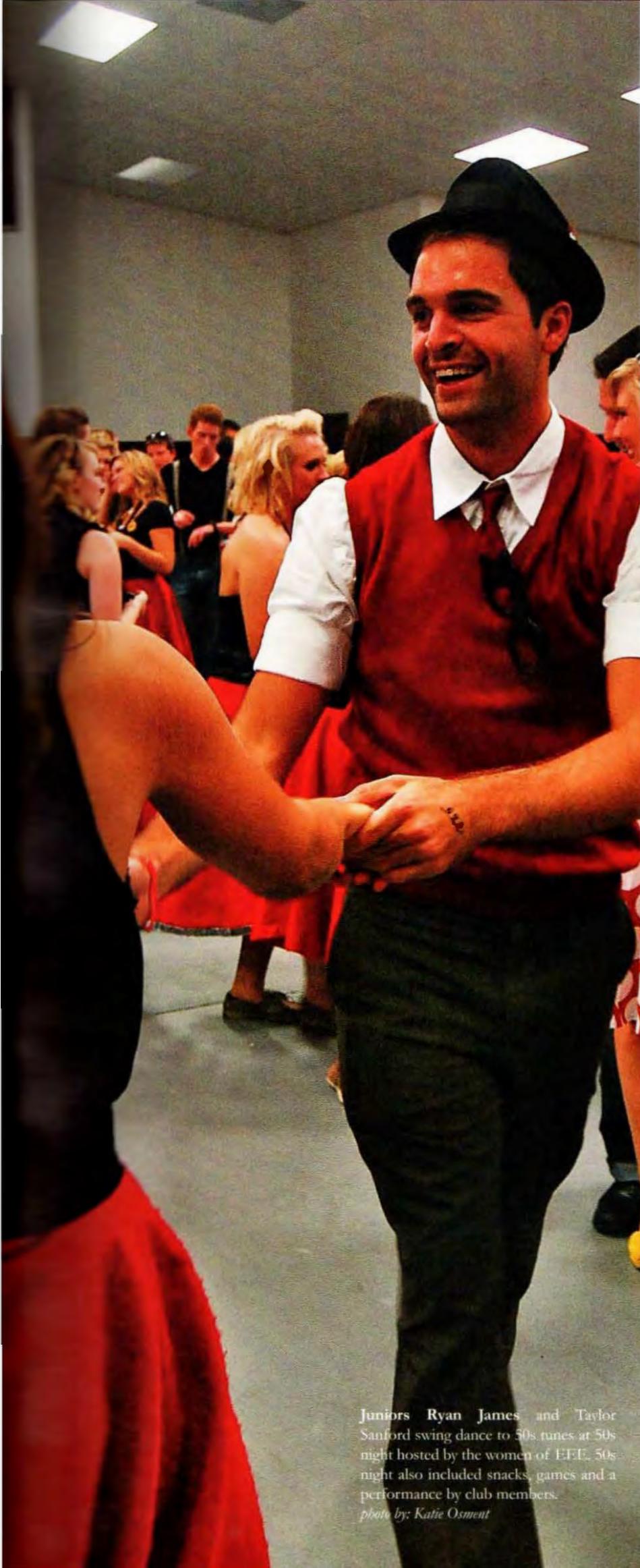
Students pose for a picture in their best western attire. Barn Bash, sponsored by Campus Ministries, was a tradition of TWIRP week.

photo by: Lara Overman

Delta's Harvest Moon. The dance was a semi-formal TWIRP event held off campus at Dino's Main Street Cafe.

photo by: Jessuca Bowling





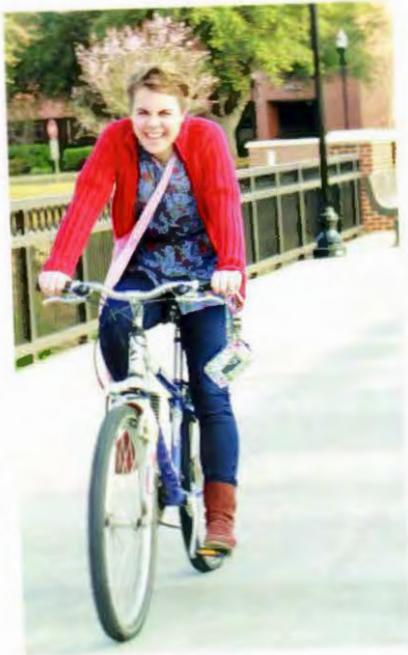
Juniors **Ryan James** and Taylor Sanford swing dance to 50s tunes at 50s night hosted by the women of FFE. 50s night also included snacks, games and a performance by club members.
photo by: Katie Osment

Tri Chi pledges perform for a large crowd at 80s night. The women of Tri Chi kicked off TWIRP week on Monday.
photo by: Nicci Filinger



Sophomores **Breanna Holder** and Chad Bullington pose for a picture in their Hawaiian garb. The women of Chi Rho Phi hosted Luau night and had limbo, contests, food and games as part of the evening's events.
photo by: Zach Nottingham

Sophomores Jason Cantwell and Payam Pourjavad lift weights. The workout room in the student center received new cardio and weight equipment.
photo by: Kristen Bernard



Senior Casie Neal rides her bike across campus. The new bridge served as a connector between north and south campus.
photo by: Sarah Sparks



Dr. Rex Horne presents the newly refinished marble Tiger. President Horne dedicated the Tiger to the family of its sculptor at OctTigerFest.
photo by: Nicole McPhate



Seniors Amy Harrington, Alle Baldwin and Holly Garland enjoy the spring weather. The newly built bridge contained benches great for students to relax on.
photo by: Sarah Sparks

Sophomore Rebecca Atkinson hangs out with her friends in the new West Side dorm. The dorm's unique layout provided community interaction for students.

photo by: Nicole McPhate



Heflin Plaza, the West Side residence halls and the OBU Cardio Center in Evans Student Center were a few of the new facilities that were seen around campus. Each addition brought campus even closer together by providing outlets for community, transportation, fitness and more.

Heflin Plaza was a key element of the campus redevelopment, and was formed to easier link north campus with main campus by replacing the old footbridge. The Heflin family dedicated the Plaza during the early part of the summer, and it was available for use to students at the start of the fall semester. The bridge became the site for Spotlight on Arkadelphia and other campus activities, and gave a feeling of unity to the residents of each side of campus.

Another new addition and part of the campus redevelopment effort was the construction of new residence halls. The West Side dorms, lovingly nicknamed Rex and Becky by the residents, were two three-story residence halls for both males and females. The dorms were designed with community in mind. Each two-bedroom suite surrounded a large common room filled with couches, lamps, rugs and a big screen television. The living room provided a space for residents to read, study, eat and hang out. This set up was extremely beneficial for the goals of RAs.

"The living rooms are the center point of each floor," said Amanda Seeley, a junior theology major from Garland, Texas, who was an R.A. in West Side. "It gives all us girls an opportunity to get to know each other. I am fully engrossed in their lives. I am able to serve them so much better with a set up like this."

Another change to the campus was the newly renovated workout room in the student center. The OBU Cardio Center contained new treadmills, stationary bikes, ellipticals and weight machines. The Cardio Center provided easier access to exercise equipment, which promoted good health habits around campus.

The renovations around campus gave students a wide range of opportunities to build friendships and gain experiences.

By: Sarah Henley

In with the News

Restored Traditions

When Student Senate members were seen walking across campus at 5:45 a.m. students knew that, soon enough, purple and gold balloons would cover every square inch of campus, and the day of Homecoming would begin.

“It was rough for everyone to get up that early, but it had to be done, and it was definitely worth it for the student body and alumni that came to campus that day,” said Hannah Pfeiffer, a junior mass communications major from Benton.

The day started with OcTiger Fest activities on central campus. The festivities included alumni drop-ins for social clubs and academic departments and booths for campus organizations. Also, for the second year, Student Senate sponsored a live tiger display near the library.

“The tiger was a big hit last year with the student body, so we decided to bring it back,” said Senate President Jacob Lively, a junior biology major from Texarkana, Texas. “It also added to the overall specialness since the Tiger statue was also revealed later that day.”

The Tiger statue was restored to its original white marble state, tail included, and was revealed in a ceremony which honored those who built the statue, as well as those who donated to the restoration project.

In the pre-game Homecoming ceremony, the queen and her court were announced after being voted on by the student body. Allison Cornell, a senior mass communications major from Allen, Texas, was crowned Homecoming queen.

“When they had called the first four members of the court, I figured my chances were gone,” Cornell said. “Then when they called my name for queen, it just all seemed surreal.”

The court included: Amy Campbell, a freshman biology major from Russellville; Jennifer “Pooh” White, a senior Christian studies major from Stuttgart; Kezia Nanda, a junior psychology major from Jakarta, Indonesia; and Julielle Vault, a senior studio art major from Little Rock.

The football game resulted in the Tigers defeating the North Alabama Lions 24-23 in overtime.

“Homecoming week was a great opportunity to welcome former students and friends back to campus while honoring traditions and milestones among the on-campus community,” said Lauren Land, Ouachita’s internal alumni director.



Members of Rho Sigma stand behind their club’s table at the annual OcTiger Fest. All social clubs had areas set up for their members and alumni to gather the morning of Homecoming.

photo by: Katie Osment

President Rex Horne greets guests at OcTiger Fest. OcTiger Fest allowed alumni to have a central location to visit with faculty and current students.

photo by: Katie Osment

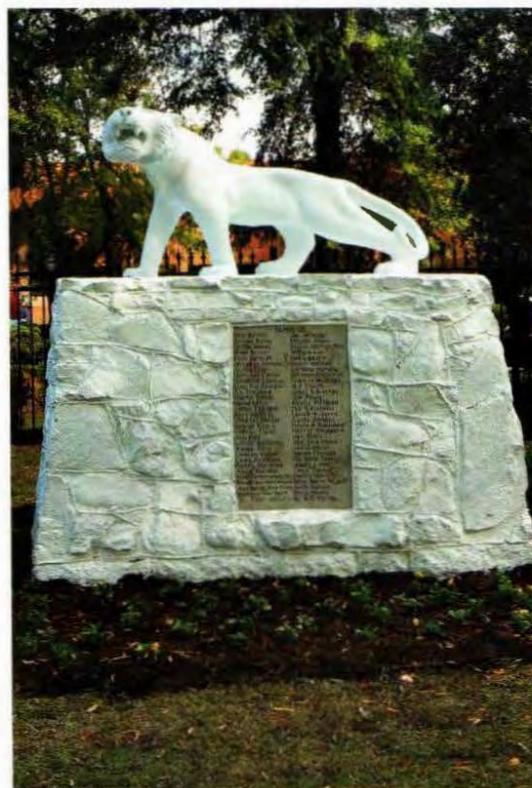


Senior Allison Cornell and her father pose for a picture at the pre-game presentation of the Homecoming court. Cornell was voted Homecoming Queen by her fellow students.
photo by: Molly Anne Turner



The Tiger offense moves the ball against a tough North Alabama defense. The Tigers won in overtime against the Lions, 24-23.

photo by: Alexis Johns



The newly restored tiger reigns over its territory in the middle of campus. The project to restore the Tiger to its original state was completed in the early fall.

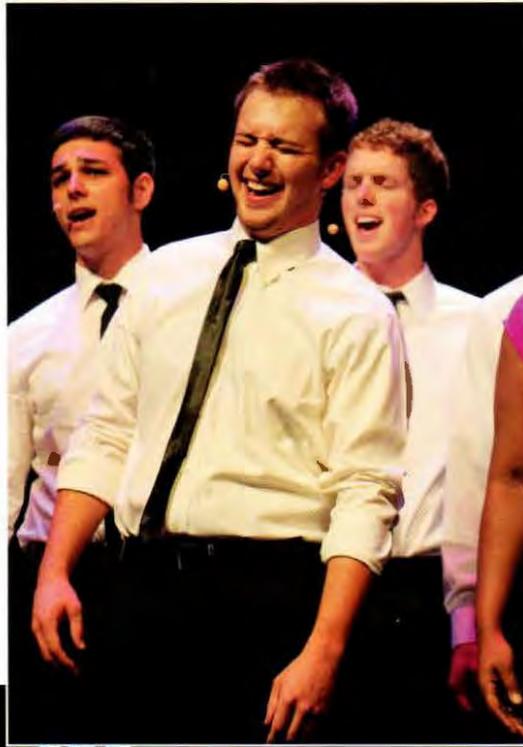
photo by: Katie Osment

The women of Tri Chi dance the "Single Ladies" dance as a part of their White House secretaries show. Tri Chi won third place over all in the competition.
photo by: Callie Stephens



Seniors Drew Harper and Brooks Sisson and sophomore Blayne Beene sing in their best southern accent in the Beta Tunes show. The men of Beta Beta were hillbillies.
photo by: Callie Stephens

Host Cory Epps performs during the sacred set of Tunes. The hosts and hostesses had themed acts between each club's performance.
photo by: Kristen Bernard



The men of Eta Alpha Omega get ready for surgery in their portrayal of doctors. The men of Eta Alpha Omega won first place overall for the competition.
photo by: Callie Stephens



The Men of Kappa Chi sing about the risks and benefits of being an aviator. The Kappas won second place over all at the Saturday night performance.

photo by: Callie Stepbens



If a bystander entered Ouachita grounds during the weekend of Homecoming, they were probably a bit taken aback with the sight before their eyes: hillbillies with scraggly beards, inmates walking freely around the grounds, women dressed up as men, doctors tossing around baby dolls, aviators ready for takeoff, the last three presidents of the United States and tooth fairies trying their best to fly. Of course, for any Ouachitonian, this was a completely normal activity. For inquiring minds that were still confused, only one thing could have explained this lunacy: Tiger Tunes.

Tiger Tunes was an annual event was hosted by the Ouachita Student Foundation and held during the week of Homecoming in Jones Performing Arts Center. Its main goal was to raise money for scholarships for upperclassmen. Although Tiger Tunes was held during the fall, preparation started as early as last spring.

The show consisted of six social clubs, Campus Ministries, Tiger Blast and the hosts and hostesses, who were chosen by audition in the spring. Each group decided on a theme for their show and came up with lyrics, choreography and costumes.

"I was so glad to able to participate in Tiger Tunes with Campus Ministries," said Amanda Nitcher, a freshman music major from McKinney, Texas. "God gave me some amazing friends from that experience. Despite the amount of time it took up in my week, I don't regret it one bit."

The hosts and hostesses performed solely for entertainment and introduced each act. The hosts and hostesses included: Cory Epps, Kelsey Kearney, Stewart Kelly, Callie Chancey, Aubrey Elliot, Brandon Stokes, Cortnie DeVore and Ben Reeves.

"My experience as a host could probably be best described as great. I really enjoyed getting to know the other hosts and hostesses and having the opportunity to share the gifts that God has blessed me with," said Epps, a junior church music major from Wynne. "The performances are such an adrenaline rush. It's scary and exciting to know that all eyes are on you, and it's your responsibility to give the people what they want."

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By: Jake Coffman

An Exciting Surprise

An Exciting Surprise

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Each group brought something unique and entertaining to the stage with their themes.

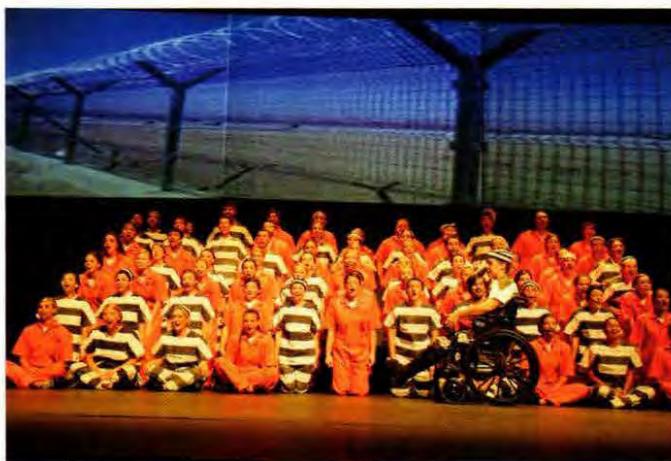
The men and women of Campus Ministries took the stage as inmates longing for escape; the women of EEE portrayed couples longing for their “ring by spring;” the men of Eta Alpha Omega were doctors saving the sick and delivering newborns; the men of Beta Beta portrayed hillbillies at their finest; the women of Chi Delta were tooth fairies explaining their business to a young child; the women of Tri Chi were White House secretaries complained about their busy schedules; and the men of Kappa Chi flew in as aviators. Tiger Blast performed a dark set “Mad World,” which included the popular song “Mad World” as well as other popular songs such as Lady GaGa’s “Poker Face.”

Different judges were brought in each night to give awards for musicality, theme and lyric, choreography and costume. At the final show the overall awards were chosen for first, second and third place.

First place went to the men of Eta Alpha Omega, second place to the men of Kappa Chi and third to the women of Tri Chi. The women of Tri Chi also won the People’s Choice Award, which was decided by the audience of each show who voted for their favorite act by dropping a dollar (equal to one vote) into that group’s voting box.

This was the first year for the men of Eta Alpha Omega to place in the history of Tiger Tunes. They celebrated after the last performance with their famous Muggin’ party, an event that invited all of campus to join them in drinking over 1500 bottles of root beer.

Even in its 32nd year, Tiger Tunes was still one of the most anticipated events and continued to entertain a wide variety of audiences. The people behind the production were the members of the student-led organization OSF. In the past OSF, has awarded over \$92,000 in scholarships.



The men and women of Campus Ministries dream of the day when they will live a life “Somewhere Over the Barbed Wire.” Campus Ministries’ show had an inmate theme for the event.

photo by: Callie Stephens

Junior Nikki Anderson sings with her leading lady in the EEE set. The women of EEE portrayed men and women defending the tradition of “a ring by spring.”

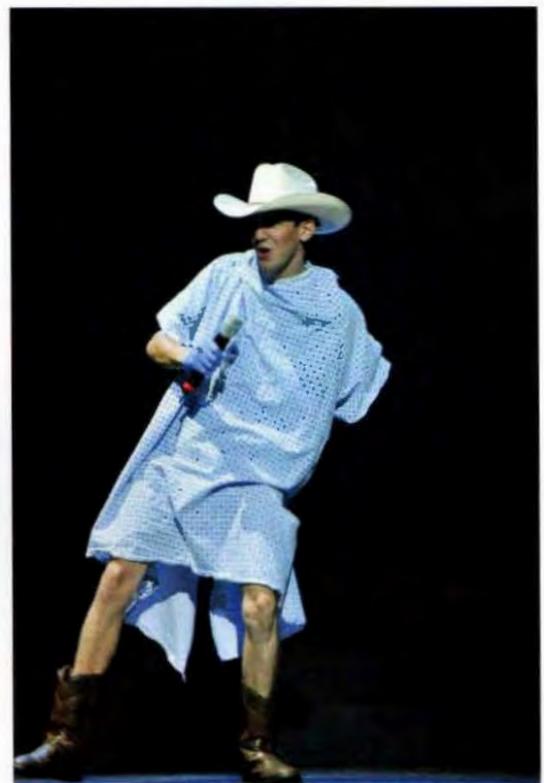
photo by: Callie Stephens





Junior Kelsey Kearney sings her heart out with fellow hostess, sophomore Callie Chancey. Kearney and Chancey were two of the eight hosts and hostesses chosen for Tiger Tunes 2010.
photo by: Callie Stephens

Senior Melissa Collier dances with the Women of Chi Delta. Chi Delta entertained the crowd with their humorous tooth fairy Tunes show.
photo by: Kristen Bernard



Senior Jordan Henry holds tightly to his hospital gown while performing his solo. The men of Eta Alpha Omega came in first place overall in Tiger Tunes.
photo by: Callie Stephens

Sophomore Hannah Ramsey prepares a box for Operation Christmas Child. A packing party was held on the bridge to allow students the opportunity to reach children around the world at Christmas.

photo by: Nicole McPhate

Junior Katelyn Mustain drinks hot chocolate and enjoys the company of friends at the Christmas tree lighting. The Christmas tree lighting was sponsored by the Speechies.

photo by: Nicole McPhate



Senior T.C. Squires works on the Eta Alpha Omega window for the CAB window decorating contest. The Etas won the competition with their "Santa at the eye doctor" window.

photo by: Callie Stephens



Junior Rudy Jones and Sophomore **Jillian Kanis** act out the nativity scene during Festival of Christmas. FOC served as a time of celebration and worship during the Christmas season.

photo by: Callie Stephens

Freshman Zach Smith constructs a gingerbread house at the annual CAB Christmas Party. The CAB Christmas party provided food, fun and entertainment for students.

photo by: Hannah Bishop



When Christmas time rolled around, the air on campus began to change. The people, usually welcoming and giving, became even more so. Students all across campus joined together during the season and participated in service opportunities. Two of these projects were a canned food drive and Operation Christmas Child.

A canned food drive was held to help those in the community who did not have a sufficient amount of food. Students from all areas of study and social circles donated cans that were then distributed.

Lauren Jackson, a sophomore biology major, was one of several students who participated in the food drive. For her, donating food was a way to make a difference in someone's life. Beyond just a service, Jackson saw donating cans of food as a way to spread the gospel in a practical and active way. "It is a good way to get involved in the community and to be a part of something that can make a difference," said Jackson.

Another student who served during Christmas time was Haley Whisenhunt, a junior communication science and disorders major, who participated in Operation Christmas Child.

Operation Christmas Child, a ministry of Samaritan's Purse, allowed students to fill a shoebox with toys and daily necessities for a child. Once the shoeboxes were filled, they were taken to a local church and distributed to children all across the world as Christmas gifts.

For Whisenhunt, this ministry was a way for her to make someone's Christmas "extra special," and like Jackson, she felt it was a Christian duty. "I love getting to help out because I have been so blessed, and being able to give back is something that I feel called to do," she said.

Both Operation Christmas Child and the canned food drive were service opportunities that students who had been blessed with the opportunity of education, the opportunity to make something of themselves and the opportunity to share the true meaning of Christmas with someone through an act of service, could give back.

"It is a small way of reaching out to those in need, and letting them know that they are cared for by people in their community and by Christ," said Whisenhunt. "It is a way to share the true message of Christmas -- that Christ was born in a small stable to die on a cross for each of us so that we may be saved."

By: Aspen Grams

A Season of Service

Rally on the Ravine

By: Tori Abellera and Sarah Henley

To give the college football game between Ouachita Baptist University and Henderson State University the notorious title of “Battle of the Ravine” was certainly not an exaggeration. At Ouachita the battle was not half-way fought. During the Battle of the Ravine week school spirit turned into school obligation.

Carrying on the tradition of guarding the Tiger, newly restored to its original glory, the men of Rho Sigma began their battle on Sunday night, October 24. “The Rho Sigmas do this for the students,” said K.C. Knobloch, a senior accounting major from Monticello and vice-president of the Rho Sigmas. “The bell ringing and traditions that we do are for us, but we always strive to improve our campus.” The men of Rho Sigma set up tents around the Tiger and kept guard day and night, every day, to prevent vandalism like what has occurred in the past.

Because of their constant watch, the men of Rho Sigma were able to stop Henderson students in one attempt at this kind of vandalism.

“They were suspiciously wandering around the campus, and I had never seen them before, so we kept a close eye on them,” said Quint Ashburn, a senior history major from Monroe, La. “It turns out that they were planning to attack our campus with eggs and water balloons filled with Listerine and lotion.”

The Battle of the Ravine Week was a full week of celebration. On Wednesday, Oct. 27, social clubs participated in a carnival organized for students where they graciously distributed free goodies. The women of Tri Chi had a great turn out with their delicious candy apples as well as the women of EEE with their decorative cookies.

A new aspect to the Battle of the Ravine was the Rally on Ravine. Organized by community leaders, the first Rally on the Ravine was a city-wide celebration and pep rally held in downtown Arkadelphia. It included games, food and even a dunking booth featuring faculty members from the two universities.

After Rally on the Ravine, fans were pumped for the main event of the Battle of the Ravine, the football game between HSU and Ouachita. The cheers and chants in the student section were led by Ouachita’s cheerleaders and the new pom squad.

But even with a large, supportive crowd, the Tigers lost a hard-fought game to Henderson, 35-26.

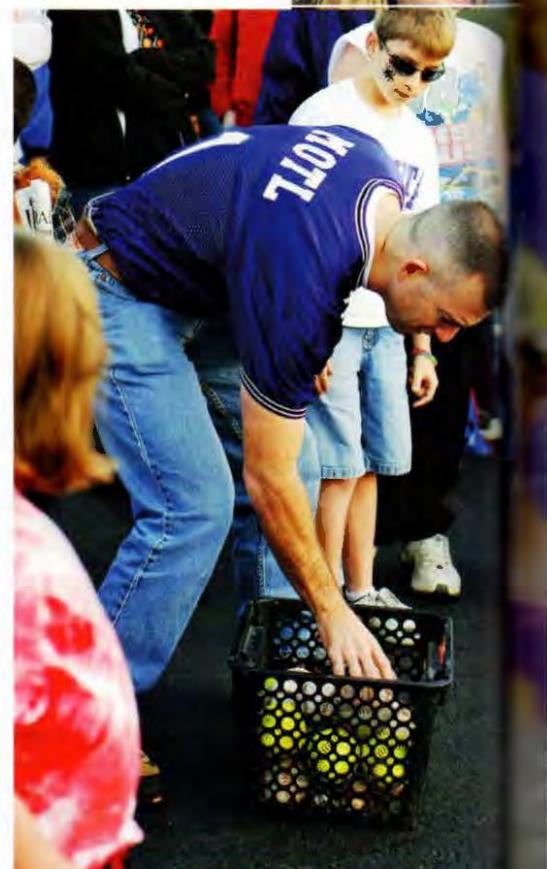


Senior Eli Cranor looks for the open slot in the Reddie defense during the Battle of the Ravine. The Reddies won the game 35-26.

photo by: Callie Stephens

Dr. Kevin “Casey” Motl prepares to dunk Brian McKinney at Rally of the Ravine. Rally of the Ravine was a city-wide pep rally held in downtown Arkadelphia the day before the game.

photo by: Nicole McPhate





Students yell at the top of their lungs at the Battle of the Ravine pep rally held in the amphitheater. Students competed in a spirit competition at the pep rally that resulted with the women of EEE in first, the women of Tri Chi in second and SIFE in third.

photo by: Nicole McPhate



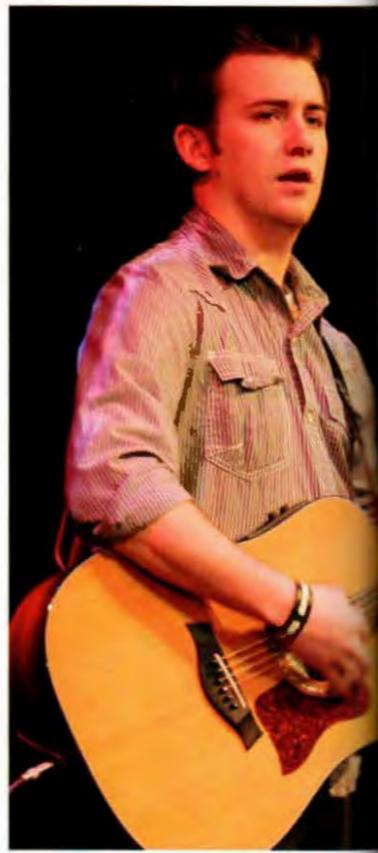
Junior Townsend Keller paints his arms in preparation for the Henderson-Ouachita game. Body painting became a popular way to show spirit for OBU students.

photo by: Nici Fillinger

Shelby Briley holds up a sign with her prediction of the winner of the Battle of the Ravine pep rally. Students at both universities compete in their respective teams.

Junior Cory Epps leads the Chapel congregation in worship. Cory served as the student worship leader several times throughout the year.

photo by: Callie Stephens



Sophomore Chad Bullington takes roll during Chapel. Students were required to attend seven semesters of Chapel.

photo by: Callie Stephens

JPAC Manager Joey Licklider adjusts the sound and lights during a Chapel service. One of Licklider's responsibilities was to make sure that all technical aspects of Chapel ran smoothly.

photo by: Callie Stephens



A group of students look through stacks of children's profiles after hearing Sean Groves in Chapel. Groves spoke about his experience supporting a child with Compassion International and encouraged students to do the same.

photo by: Sarah Sparks

Professors lead students in the song “Sweet Betsy” as part of the 125th Chapel. This service kicked off the 125th anniversary celebration of Ouachita.

photo by: Nicole McPhate



“**D**efinitely the best way to end my Chapel career. No lie. So amazing to see my student body broken, humbled and in awe of Christ!” tweeted Leanne Cushman, a senior Christian Studies major from Springdale, in response to Chapel led by Reverend Archie Mason of Central Baptist Church.

Chapel was a time for students to worship and it expressed a large part of what the university stood for: faith.

“The benefit to students can be of eternal consequence. The varied speakers, programs and people who share in Chapel can challenge the course and impact a student’s life. Chapel, by its very existence, is a consistent reminder of one of our core values of faith in Christ,” said Dr. Rex Horne, president of Ouachita.

Guest speakers came from all over to deliver their message. These men and women were chosen with the intent of displaying diversity and appealing to different types of students.

“Chapel provides a chance to hear different perspectives on Christian faith and heritage and to develop an appreciation of different speaking and preaching styles,” said Ian Cosh, vice president for community and international engagements and Chapel coordinator. Among Chapel speakers was former NFL player Scott Turner. His passion for the sport and Christ, and his dedication to both, left students with an unforgettable message.

For some students Chapel served as the small push they needed to keep their head up through a hard time. Students relied on this time and took advantage of it in more ways than one, often embracing the Lord during a time of struggle.

“There are some days when I know for a fact that I am having a bad week, and Jesus is what I really need to just make it through the day,” said Monica Smith, a freshman biology major from Van Buren. “Those weeks I just can’t wait to get to Chapel and hear what God has in store for me.”

Without the Chapel experience some students may not have been able to seek, learn or find a love of God. Chapel was a place for students and faculty to emphasize their love for God and their love for learning. The campus community worshipped together and learned together—keeping their faith strong and their love for the Lord stronger.

Keeping a Strong Faith

By: Alexis Johns

Willingness to Serve

By: Abbey Jamieson

Since its beginning, The Elrod Center made a difference not only in the lives of the people being served, but in the lives of the students who served. Students not only participated in Tiger Serve Day, but also had the opportunity to serve through ElderServe, America Counts, America Reads, TranServe, Disaster Relief, Thanksgiving Basket Delivery, Dating, Engagement and Marriage Week and a celebration for World War II veterans on Veteran's Day.

Students' involvement and willingness to serve had grown over the past few years and was well noticed on campus.

"The biggest change was in the willingness of our students to take the initiative and volunteer without being asked," said Ian Cosh, Director of the Elrod Center. "Students truly discovered the joy of service. That motivation seemed to come from the inside, and students were more and more willing to take the initiative and serve in new and creative ways."

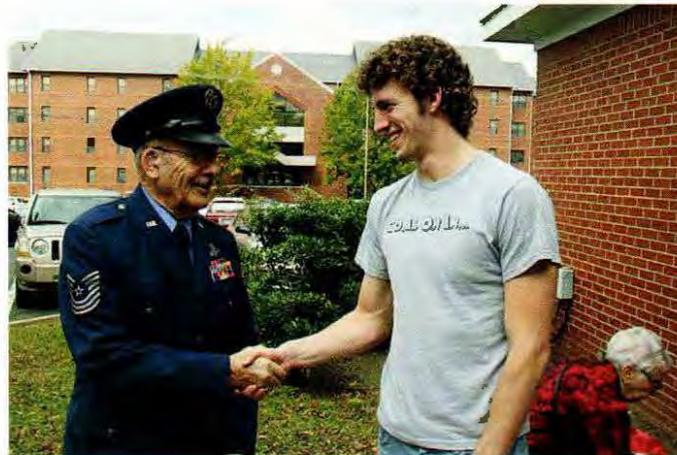
Senior Sarah Greeson, an English major from Hot Springs, found joy in her work-study job at the Elrod Center tutoring for America Reads. She described it as much more than a simple work-study position.

"My tutoring sessions were a huge highlight of each week," said Greeson. "The students welcomed us into their little worlds, and we got to build a friendship with them while teaching them about something as essential as reading."

Students such as senior Daniel Anderson, a Christian Studies major from Spring, Texas, also found a true passion in the program of his choice, ElderServe.

"I started ElderServe thinking I could help them out through listening, yet listening only opened the door for some of the greatest friendships I'll ever have," said Anderson. "The older generation is one that is overlooked and underestimated, yet I'm proud to call some of them friends."

Not only does the Elrod Center hope students can find a place to serve on campus, but that they will take this way of life a step further, and continue to serve during their lives outside of Ouachita.

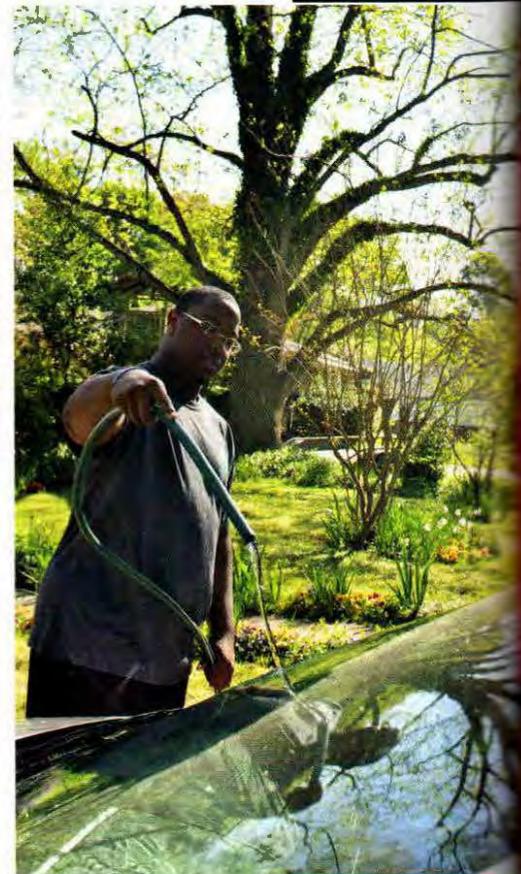


Senior Matt Pope shakes hands with WW II veteran Gene Pillard at Elder Serve's Veterans' Day luncheon. The luncheon allowed local veterans to share a little about their experiences serving their country.

photo courtesy of: the Elrod Center

Freshman JaDarius Dade washes a car during Tiger Serve Day. The Elrod Center gave students two opportunities, one in the fall and one in the spring, to impact the community through Tiger Serve Day.

photo by: Callie Stephens





Senior Lori Hilburn tutors an elementary student as a part of the America Counts program. The Elrod Center provided opportunities for students to serve a multitude of people.
photo by: Callie Stephens

Mark and Linda Whitworth speak during a breakout session at the Elrod Center during DEM week. The Whitworths also spoke at chapel that week.

photo by: Sarab Sparks



Seniors Leanne Cushman and Greta James check out their gifts from the Elrod Center. The Elrod Center recognized students and members of the community at the annual Service Banquet.

photo by: Jessica Bowling

A Little Different



Junior T. C. Squires and Clayton Chapious, hall director of O. C. Bailey, check freshman guys into the dorm. The ResLife staff was responsible for checking every student into their dorm rooms during move-in.

photo by: Callie Stephens



Junior Leigha Hill meets with freshman Katie Hoppman. The ResLife staff made themselves available to the students on their halls to talk or just hang out.
photo by: Nicole McPhate

Facilitating Growth

By: Cassie Harrell

When life was crazy, exciting, happy, sad and even devastating, students in every residence hall had at least one person to turn to for advice, love, care or something as simple as a hug.

Who were these people? They were the ResLife staff and they were willing to meet the needs of the students on their hall at all hours of the day.

“Our vision is to help people grow,” said Michael Cox, director of residence life and hall director of Flippen-Perrin men’s dormitory. “Part of what Ouachita wants you to do is grow socially, spiritually, academically and physically.”

In order to facilitate growth, the 50 men and women who made up the ResLife staff had to have a sense of creativity, an ability to see the good in all situations and a passion for people. Leigha Hill, a junior communication sciences and disorders major encapsulated all three of these criteria. “I believe that ResLife staff makes a difference through their ability to care,” said Hill. “We help to provide a safe environment for students to interact and build friendships.”

Despite having to enforce the rules, the staff took a genuine interest in the lives of each student on their hall. “I know that I am not the parent, but sometimes I do have to enforce rules,” said Hill. “During these times, I try and remember why I do what I do. I want to provide a place of safety and security.”

For Daniel Searles, a freshman Christian studies and philosophy major from Maud, Texas, his RA, Adam Gosnell was just that—a place of safety and security. “He had an impact on my life because his room was always open to come and hang out to talk about life or whatever. It was kind of like a little sanctuary,” said Searles.

However, the two men also formed a friendship. “We also started a devotional session a couple times a week where we would just get together and love Jesus,” said Seales.

No matter how you looked at the people who made up the ResLife staff, there was no denying that they were working hard to challenge the growth of the students, facilitate community, and in the lives of each person they came in contact with, they did their best to make a positive difference.

Francis-Crawford West Hall Director Becca Woodall meets with the RAs in her dorm. Hall directors were required to hold weekly meetings to find out what was going on in the lives of their RAs.

photo by: Nicole McPhate

Gosser Hall Director Nancy Harrell has lunch with sophomore Erin Edge, an RA in Gosser. Hall directors met with their individual RAs bi-weekly in order to facilitate community within the staff.

Photo by: Allison Grigsby



Worship Amidst the Storm

By: Becca Watts

Students came from all different backgrounds with different life experiences but they had one thing that joined them into the body of believers: the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. Christian Focus Week reminded students of this unity.

"The theme was 'Same But Different,'" said Katelyn Mustain, a junior dietetics and nutrition major from Lewisville, Texas, and a member of the Christian Focus Week leadership team. "This theme came from the desire to communicate that as Christians, we are not called to sameness- but to embrace who God has made us to be."

With the theme verses, Ephesians 4:14-16, Christian Focus Week began on Sunday, February 6, and went through Friday February 11. On Sunday a Prayer and Pancakes event allowed students to pray for everything God was going to accomplish in the week ahead.

The week continued with daily worship sessions in JPAC with various speakers and bands. Noonday was spent focusing on the theme passage for the week and learning more about the unified church. In the afternoons and evenings, breakout sessions and special events were held. Also with the help of CAB and Student Senate, Campus Ministries brought in Charlie Hall and Lindsey McCall on Tuesday night for a concert and to lead worship in the morning worship sessions.

"My favorite part of CFW were the international student testimonies on Tuesday afternoon," said Mustain. "I enjoyed this because it is so refreshing to hear the stories of people who have grown up so differently than the average students."

"The main difficulty of the week was the uncertainty of the weather," said James Taylor, director of Campus Ministries. "Since the forecast held snow, we had to stay flexible and be willing to work around whatever weather we had. We did end up having to cancel one morning session and a couple of breakout sessions because of heavy snowfall. However, our leadership team bounced right back, and that night we were able to hold Refuge, despite the arctic weather."

Despite the weather, CFW was successful, but not because of the attendance, or the leadership team overcoming obstacles or organizations working together to accomplish something. "The most important part of Christian Focus Week are the memories and the new realizations students take away from this week," said Mustain.



Senior Allison Cornell entertains students with her musical talent during CFW. Campus Ministries hosted the coffeehouse in the Tiger Den.

photo by: Kristen Bernard

Junior Katelyn Mustain paints scripture onto canvas. CFW held an Art and Worship session for students to discuss and practice praise through art.

photo by: Callie Stephens



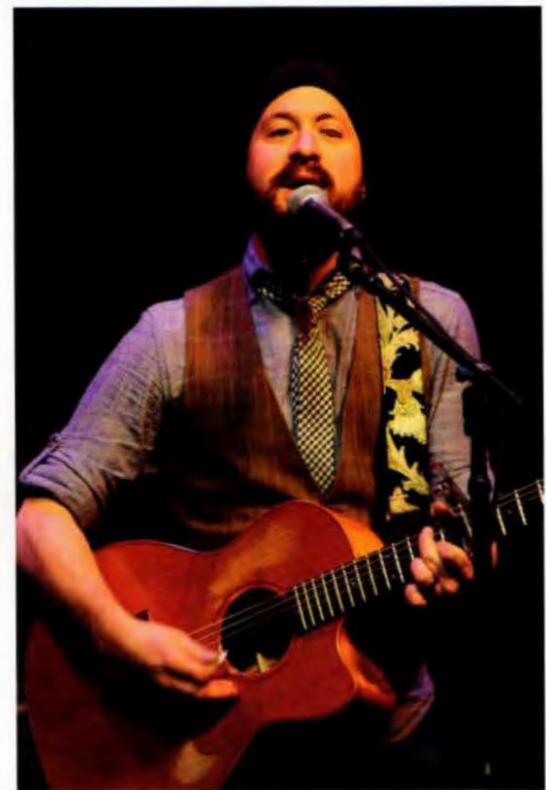
Like the sun breaking through
on a grey-sky, cloudy day
Like water on a desert
that hasn't seen any rain
Your love fills us up
so that we can pour it out
those who are broken and troubled
so they can sing and shout

A student uses her Bible as a reference for artwork during the Art and Worship session. Breakout sessions during CFW provided a more intimate setting for students.

photo by: Callie Stephens



Alumnus Jarrett Davis leads worship in JPAC. A worship service was held each night of the week during CFW.
photo by: Callie Stephens



Charlie Hall performs as part of the CFW concert. The concert was sponsored by CAB, Students Senate and Campus Ministries.
photo by: Jason Stevenson

Senior Elisabeth Hipp, as Kim Macffee, argues with her onstage father played by freshman Timothy Drennan. The musical provided entertainment for the community in the spring.
photo by: Callie Stephens

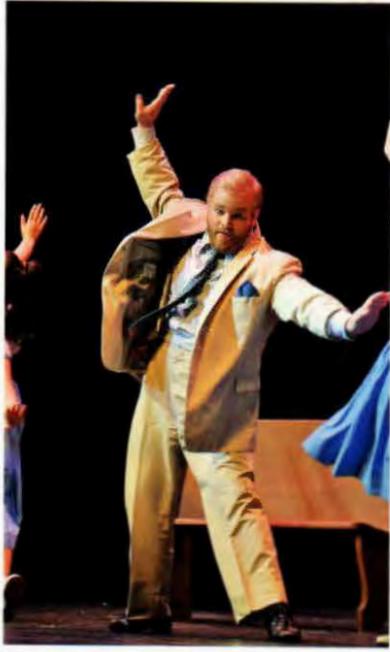


Senior Jacob Watson slides his way across stage in "Bye Bye Birdie." The production was held in April.

photo by: Callie Stephens

Junior Andrew Miller and Senior Jody Lee perform in the opera "Don Giovanni." Miller and Lee held lead roles in the Italian production by Mozart.

photo by: Callie Stephens



Well known faces perform in the musical, "Bye Bye Birdie." Drs. Poole, Henley, Root and Holsclaw brought laughter to the audience with their song.

photo by: Callie Stephens



Juniors Andrew Miller and Grace Johnson share a tender moment in "Don Giovanni." Johnson, as Donna Elvira, was doublecast and performed two out of the four nights.

photo by: Callie Stephens



From bee hive hair dos to retro 60s dance moves, the musical "Bye Bye Birdie" captivated American audiences for years with its catchy melodies, crazy characters and its satirical display of American life in the 1960s.

In the spring, the School of Fine Arts went full force putting this show together in every aspect, from colorful set pieces and costumes to the vibrant lighting designs and musical numbers.

For the freshmen, they were excited to be a part of the 60s journey, however, they did not know what to expect performing at the college level. "It was really intimidating in the beginning, but I became comfortable as the process went on with all the support from my peers and the staff," said Garrett Whitehead, a freshman musical theatre major from Clebourne, Texas, who played the role of Harvey Johnson.

Not only was it an experience for those performing but it was a great learning experience for those working behind the scenes. "Stage managing 'Bye Bye Birdie' was a totally fulfilling opportunity," said Jordan Miller, a freshman musical theatre major from Rockwall, Texas, and stage manager. "It was my first large show to manage and I learned so much, I cannot wait to work on another production."

Everything that went into a stage production was thought out until the drop of the final curtain. The audience left with a sense of satisfaction and the feeling that they were doing more than simply watching a show, but that they had become a part of the story themselves.

The School of Fine Arts aimed and achieved this goal in the spring with "Bye Bye Birdie" but also in the fall with "Don Giovanni." "[This] marks only the second time we have presented our opera in a foreign language (Italian) with English Surtitles," said Jon Secrest, professor of music and director of Don Giovanni. "Don Giovanni" is a two act opera. Last year we presented 'Gianni Schicchi' in Italian, but it was a one act opera, making it significantly shorter than 'Don Giovanni.'"

Another difficult aspect of the production of "Don Giovanni" was the large cast, which added to the technical aspects of the production. "[This was a] monumental work for a school of our size," said Secrest. But students were up for the challenge. "You get to learn from each other. Acting and performing is a constant journey and its nice to be around fellow students who are just starting off in that journey with you," said Jacob Watson, a senior musical theatre major from Wynne.

The Drop of a Curtain

By Shay Michael and Becca Watts

Hard Work and Dedication

By: Jake Coffman

Hard work and dedication made up the core of how the Department of Theatre Arts functioned, and there was no hiding these attributes in the productions this year.

The fall production of "Wiley and the Hairy Man," directed by Assistant Professor of Theatre Daniel Inouye, was the theatre department's annual children's theatre production. Second and third graders from Arkadelphia's Central Elementary School came to see the show.

"We [started] our season with a children's show to provide an opportunity for area school children to experience a theatre production," said Inouye. "It also provided our OBU theatre students with an opportunity to act in a different style of production. We [strived] to find opportunities to encourage the appreciation of the arts in young students, and the children's show [was] a great opportunity in that endeavor."

Also in the fall was "You Have To Serve Somebody," directed by Associate Professor of Theatre Mary Handiboe. This play served as the department's submission in the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. The annual student-directed One-Act Plays and the Ten-Minute Play Festival also took place in December and March, respectfully. The uniqueness of both was that students alone, under supervision of a member of the theatre faculty, directed the plays and, in the case of the Play Festival, wrote them as well.

"Being on the production team as a freshman was a real honor," said Garrett Whitehead, a freshman musical theatre major from Cleburne, Texas. "It was a fantastic, fast-paced and intense night full of duties. As for writing, I kind of wrote the script for my own entertainment, and when the opportunity to submit it for the Ten Minute Play Festival came around, I was excited to share my work."

The spring saw the production of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night," directed again by Inouye with help from Assistant Director Kathryn Kellogg, a senior musical theatre major from Sherwood.

The theatre department went above and beyond with every performance and proved themselves one of the most involved majors for students and faculty alike.



Junior Kathryn Kellogg and seniors **Jody Lee** and **Molly Brown** perform in "You Have to Serve Somebody." The Theatre Department won three Irene Ryan awards from the Kenedy Center's American College Theatre Festival.

photo by: Callie Stephens

Senior Lauren Casteel, as Maria, schemes against Cesaro/Viola, played by **Moriah Patterson**, in "The Twelfth Night." The Shakesperian play was one of the spring productions.

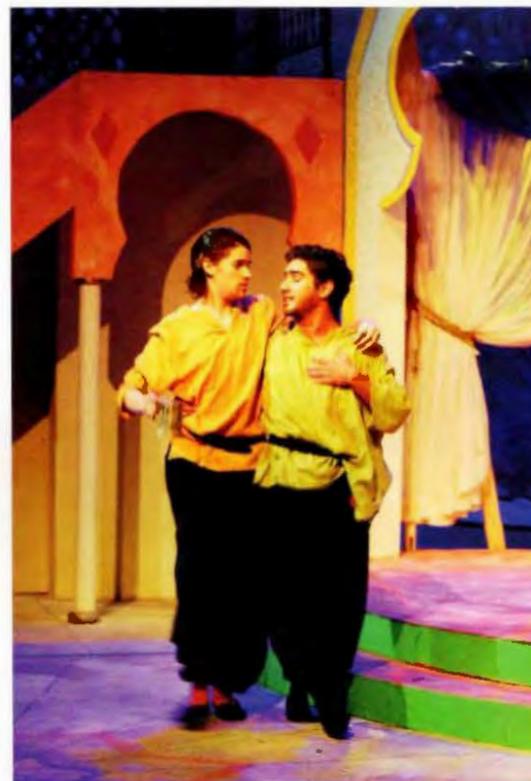
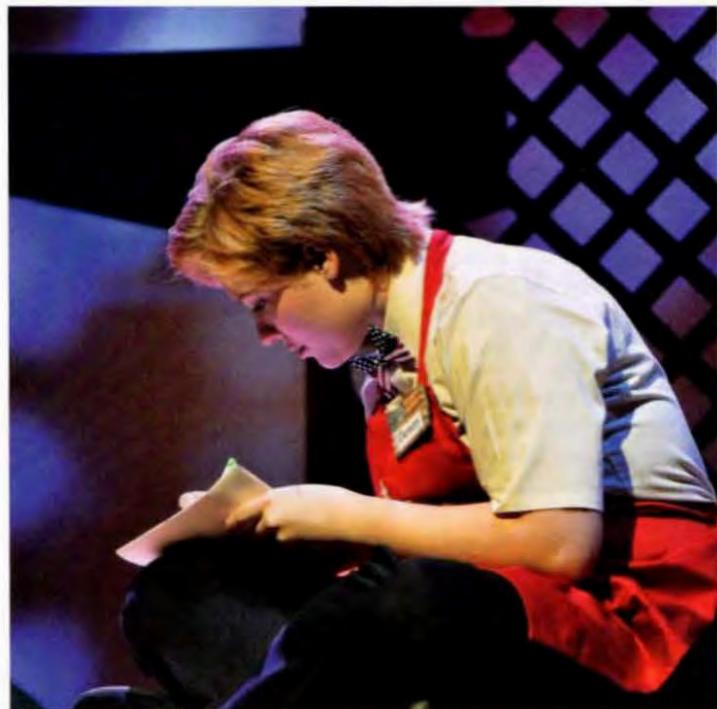
photo by: Kristen Bernard





Junior Samantha Spradling plays Denny Standard in the production "You Have to Serve Somebody." The comedy was written by Arkansan Werner Trieschmann.

photo by: Callie Stephens



Wiley, played by freshman Lauren Linton, scolds his dog, played by Bethany Swiontek. "Wiley and the Hairy Man" served as the children's theatre production in the fall.

photo by: Callie Stephens

Junior Rudy Jones and freshman Timothy Drennan bring laughter to the audience in "The Twelfth Night." The play, originally set in a mythical land, was restaged in Arabia by the OBU cast.

photo by: Nicole McPhate

Frosty the Snow Man welcomes students to campus on the lawn of Cone-Bottoms. Unfortunately, when the sun came out Thursday, his stay was not for long.
photo by: Callie Stephens



Junior Andrew Shotts takes a bite out of a giant snowball. Students around campus enjoyed the snow in various, silly ways on their day out of class.
photo by: Callie Stephens



Freshman Chanmi Park molds a snowball to throw at her friends. Both students and faculty were caught throwing snowballs throughout the day.
photo by: Callie Stephens



Sophomore Bradley Lindsey makes his way down the ravine on a water flotation device. Students made sleds out of anything they could find, including cafeteria trays.
photo by: Sarah Sparks

Seniors Kelly Magee and Jennifer White prepare to be pushed down a snowy hill together. Sledding was one of students' favorite snow day activities.

photo by: Sarah Sparks



February 27, 2003, was the last time Ouachita declared an official snow day for the campus, but on February 9 and 10, 2011, another snow day was declared across the university, thus breaking the long 9-year stretch.

Faculty had to go through a lengthy process to make this call. According to Vice President for Student Services and Dean of Students Keldon Henley, many factors were taken into consideration before a decision was reached.

"We paid close attention to weather reports and to the conditions on and around campus," said Dr. Henley. "Ultimately, there are three or four of us who make a final decision together. Because 95 percent of our students live on campus, cancelling classes can actually serve to increase the number of students who are driving... That's the primary reason we only cancel classes if we absolutely have to... Safety really is our biggest concern."

During 11:00 classes on Wednesday, students received text messages from the Ouachita Emergency Notification System announcing that campus was closed for the afternoon. As soon as 11:00 classes were over, snowball fights and sledding on campus began. And after it grew dark, students were hoping for another day in the powdery white stuff.

Students were ecstatic, as the new sparkling snow began to fall again on Wednesday night. As students found out that Thursday's classes were canceled, a wave of relief and joy swept through campus.

"Somebody found out on their phone that we had no school the next day and everyone on my floor was running around insanely happy," said Shelby Briley, a sophomore biology major from Siloam Springs. "There were screams of joy that resounded all over my dorm in that short amount of time when we all found out."

Hall directors and faculty also experienced the excitement of a day off. West Side II Hall Director Sarah Bean noticed a peculiar sort of celebration outside her dorm. After the OENS alert went out to all students and faculty, a parade of students began gallivanting through campus with trumpets, drums and saxophones celebrating the news.

"I thought the parade was awesome," said Bean. "It made me laugh to see the swarm of students celebrating in the snow. I even tried to run after them and get some photos. That whole snow day we served hot chocolate in our lobby and our girls really took advantage of their fun day off."

Snow Day Play

By: Abbey Jamieson

Relational Service

By: Korrie Browning

Since 1997, Tiger Serve Day was created to impact the community as well as the students who participated. Under the Leadership Team, comprised of 21 students, Tiger Serve Day was held both in the fall and spring semesters.

At the heart of Tiger Serve Day were relationships. Some were between the students working together while others were with the people whom they served.

Students met people in the community who left lasting impacts. "Before we did our first project, the man we were serving asked to pray with us. I'm not sure if he read the back of our shirts or not, but he prayed the exact scripture that was on them," said Whitney Moore, a senior early childhood education major from Sheridan. "It was such a blessing to be able to talk, laugh and listen to his stories."

"The hugs we gave and received were my favorite part of Tiger Serve Day," said Daniel Anderson, a senior Christian studies major from Spring, Texas. "The people were so appreciative of us not only helping clean, but also listen, chat and give them those hugs."

Without the careful planning of many students and faculty working through the Elrod Center, the stories of Tiger Serve Day would never have been told.

There were two significant changes, according to Judy Duvall, the assistant director of the Elrod Center. "We set deadlines for volunteers to sign up and also for community people to sign up for projects."

Along with the deadlines, a meeting was held the week before the spring Tiger Serve Day for team leaders to ask questions and be better informed for the big day. These changes, according to members of the Leadership Team, made this year's Tiger Serve Day the most organized yet.

"It's a very close team and we have a lot of fun working together," said Emily Morgan, a junior accounting and business finance major from Mountain Home who served as the chair of the Teams Committee for the event. "This year was the most organized it has ever been."

It was because of the Elrod Center, and the involvement of 920 students in the fall and 807 students during the spring, that Tiger Serve Day continued to bring much needed help, along with a few hugs, to people in need in Arkadelphia.



Junior Leigha Hill registers Tiger Serve Day teams early Saturday morning. Leigha served on the Leadership Team, comprised of 21 students.

photo by: Callie Stephens

Sophomore Lauren Shawver adds to a pile of limbs and sticks outside the home of an elderly resident. Students participating in TSD did both inside and outside work for community members.

photo by: Nicole McPhate



Senior Daniel Anderson sweeps the roof off for a senior citizen. Much of the work completed during TSD was for students to help community members do housework that they were physically unable to do themselves.

photo by: Callie Stephens



Students gather in front of The Elrod Center on an early April morning. Tiger Serve Day took place during both the fall and spring semesters.

photo by: Callie Stephens



Freshman Danielle Wells cleans the windows of an Arkadelphia home during TSD. TSD was a way to get to know community members, and also a great way to fellowship with peers.

photo by: Sarah Sparks

Freshman Meagan Moore screams and squirms during ice fishing. Teams had to see how many marbles they could fish out of a pool of ice water with their feet in under a minute.

photo by: Callie Stephens



A group of OSF members demonstrates one of the mega relay tasks. During the relay, teams had to complete as many tasks as possible in seven minutes.

photo by: Callie Stephens

A Tiger Traks team dives after a volleyball during oozeball. The mud games took place Saturday.

photo by: Nicole McPhate



Juniors Nolan West, Elizabeth Quick, Hannah West and David Street celebrate with her team after an Oozeball game. Oozeball was a favorite game for Tiger Traks participants.

photo by: Callie Stephens





Junior Kyle Smith and sophomore Zachary Pinkston race toward OSF members during the mega relay. The mega relay was one component of the Saturday morning fun of Tiger Traks.
photo by: Callie Stephens



As the warm breeze seemed to carry the sun ever closer, teams pushed until the very end, paying attention to every serve of the volleyball. A nice game of volleyball may not have been so hard if it were not for wading in ankle-deep mud.

Tiger Traks started on Friday, April 8, and concluded the next day. Teams started with the egg toss and then moved on to events in SPEC like basketball relay, Pictionary, ice fishing, and Charades. After every team finished in the gym, it was time for the final event of the night: Tiger Trek.

Tiger Trek required a lot of endurance to make it to the end. Starting at the Village Circle, each team had 25 minutes to run to as many of the 18 different stations as they could.

The first event of Saturday was the Raft Race in Waggoner Pool. The second was the mega relay on the intramural fields. Every team scrambled around trying to accomplish as many tasks as possible in seven minutes.

After lunch, the much anticipated and most competitive games, began. Tug-of-war and oozeball, a muddy version of volleyball, created pressure on the teams until the very end.

A total of 33 teams, 264 students overall, competed for the title and prize money. First place went to Extremely Processed Sandwich Meat, second place to Jehovah's Fitness and third place to The World Changers.

"Being on a team with my best friends made the experience that much more enjoyable," said Haley Prowell, a junior business administration major from Rogers and member of Jehovah's Fitness. "My team was super competitive, especially when money was involved, but we had a great time and had a lot of fun!"

"Hopefully the event will continue to grow every year and we will have a record-breaking number of teams sign up for Tiger Traks 2012," said Jessica Winston, a junior biology major from Sheridan and the OSF student director of Tiger Traks.

"Who wouldn't want to participate in 'Arkansas's Most Exciting College Weekend' and help raise scholarships for their friends at the same time?" said Winston.

By: Mauri Sparks

The Most Exciting Weekend

A Moment Worth Waiting For

By: Cassie Harrell

May 14, 2011, was the day they had worked for years to see happen. They had completed degree requirements, participated in social clubs and intramural sports, and spent hours cramming for major exams. They built friendships, learned to ask for help and most of all, completed the classes it took to make this moment happen. They were the class of 2011 and they were ready to graduate.

As the processional began, graduates were led from Walker Conference Center toward Cone-Bottoms Hall by the commencement marshal, Dr. Byron Eubanks, chair of the University Committee. Serving alongside Eubanks were Dr. George Keck and Mrs. Mary Worthen as honorary commencement marshals.

Crossing the senior walk allowed graduates to take a look at the buildings they had spent so many hours in. For some, it was emotional. For others, it was a moment of victory.

"The most meaningful part of graduation was being able to spend the morning with fellow classmates and being able to celebrate our accomplishments over the past four years together," said Jereniah Nugent, a biology major from Wynne.

University officials conferred a total of 263 degrees, including 227 bachelor of arts degrees, 23 bachelor of science degrees, eight bachelor of music degrees and five bachelor of music education degrees.

After conferring the degrees, President Horne recounted current events to graduates, including the flooding in the U.S. and the death of Osama bin Laden. He acknowledged the events "do not give graduates what would seem to be a warm welcome into this world in 2011."

However, President Horne went on to say, "You have received a first-rate education. Your minds have been challenged and instructed. You have grown intellectually."

Before leaving the ceremony, graduates were given one last piece of advice from their president, "So I would say you are prepared and you're ready to face the world as it is in 2011. And I would go further in saying that with all the challenges that you face, what an ideal time to go out and to make a difference."



Dr. Daniel R. Grant, Ouachita's 12th president, greets current faculty and staff prior to commencement. The 124th commencement was held on the lawn of Cone-Bottoms.

photo by: Nicole McPhate

Senior Caitlin Chapman reads Scripture during the commencement ceremony. The graduate from the Pruet School of Christian Studies with the highest GPA was asked to read during commencement.

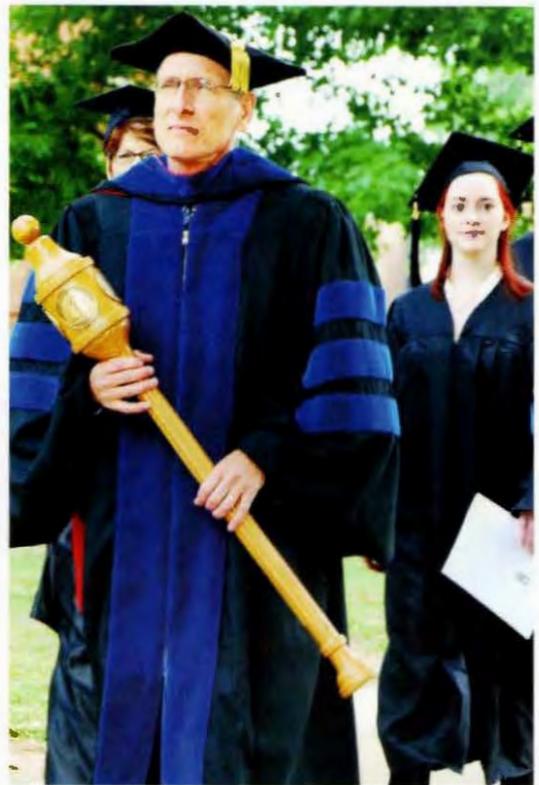
photo by: Nicole McPhate





Dr. Kevin Motl hugs a student after commencement. Ouachita created an environment where professors not only taught students, but invested in their lives.
photo by: Nicole McPbate

Graduates sing the university hymn, "See God's Light." The hymn was written for the university and reflects the words on the university seal: vision, service and integrity.
photo by: Nicole McPbate

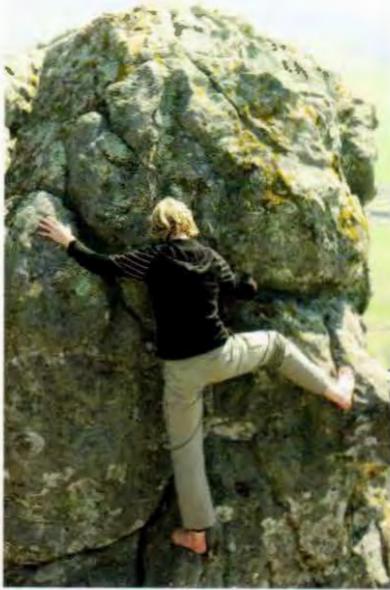


Dr. Byron Eubanks, chair of the University Committee, serves as commencement marshal and carries the university mace. Dr. George Keck and Mrs. Mary Worthen were named honorary marshals and followed Eubanks while leading graduates to the commencement ceremony.
photo by: Nicole McPbate

Senior Marcus Schreiner works his way up the climbing wall. Outdoor Rec hosted Battle of the Boulder for students to compete in indoor rock climbing.
photo by: Merideth Butler



Freshman Preston Winstead climbs barefoot up a boulder at Petit Jean State Park. Students enjoyed the outdoors on various Outdoor Rec trips.
photo by: Trevor Huxham



Students gather around a picnic table to share a meal at the Buffalo River National Park. This trip provided an activity for students to do over the Labor Day weekend.
photo by: Trevor Huxham



A group of students stand on top of Pinnacle Mountain near Little Rock. Outdoor Recreation provided many small trips around the state for students.
photo by: Trevor Huxham



Students make their way across a stream at Petit Jean Mountain. Outdoor Rec took a trip to Petit Jean to provide students with an opportunity to hike and hang out.
photo by: Meredith Butler



In the midst of homework, college life can be overwhelming. Fortunately for students, Outdoor Recreation provided numerous opportunities to get out of the library and into the great outdoors. Hikes to Albert Pike, a Labor Day canoe trip, biking the Big Dam Bridge and relaxing in hammocks on the bluff were just a few of the many Outdoor Recreation activities. Outdoor Recreation took seven trips in the fall semester, six in the spring and a ski trip over Christmas break.

The leadership for the organization has grown significantly since its first year in 2005. Outdoor Recreation gained a new director, Clayton Chapuis, a 2010 graduate of Ouachita. Chapuis and his "Think Tank," a group of students who helped brainstorm ideas for outdoor activities, met together and planned activities with Dr. Mike Reynolds, professor of kinesiology and leisure studies.

Outdoor Recreation trips would not be possible without the help of students who plan the trips. Sara Hanson, a senior dietetics major from Tyler, Texas, was fortunate enough to have a work-study position as a part of Chapuis's "Think Tank."

Hanson first got involved with Outdoor Recreation because of her love for outdoor sports and a desire to broaden her outdoor activities.

"With my adventurous spirit and my love for the outdoors, it seemed right to check out what Outdoor Recreation had to offer," Hanson said. "I was attracted to the opportunities available that I wasn't able to experience with my own resources, such as rock-climbing, kayaking, camping and more."

Hanson encouraged other students to get involved with Outdoor Recreation as well. "The program benefits students because it refreshes the drive for adventure so many college students possess, allowing them to meet that need for excitement with nature instead of the other options so common on college campuses," Hanson said.

Involvement with Outdoor Recreation had more than just a physical impact on students who participated. "One sees the world from a different and new perspective, breaking the shell of the narrow-minded and unappreciative," Hanson said. "Being outside in God's creation nurtures mind, body and soul, and it promotes healing in more ways than imaginable."

Recreation and Relationships

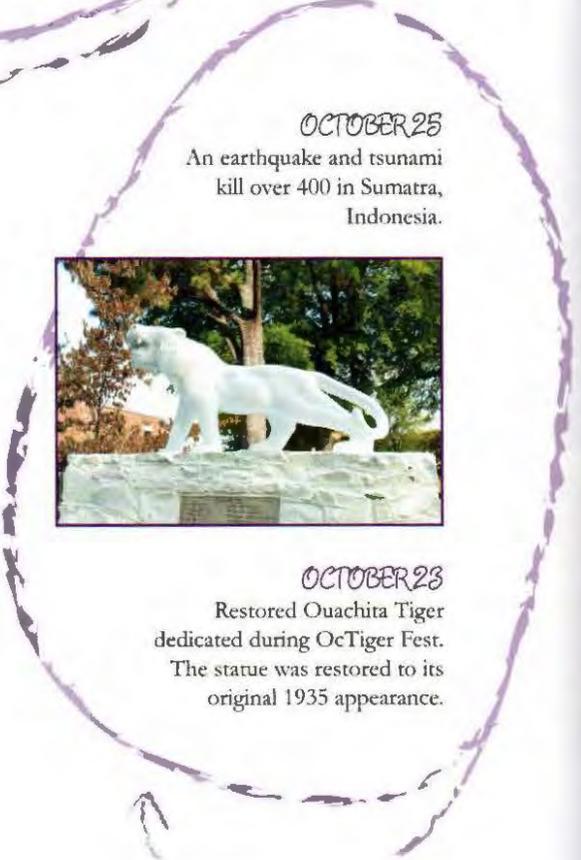
By: Katie Osment



AUGUST 24
Police search for a possible armed robber near campus after a burglary at US Bank.



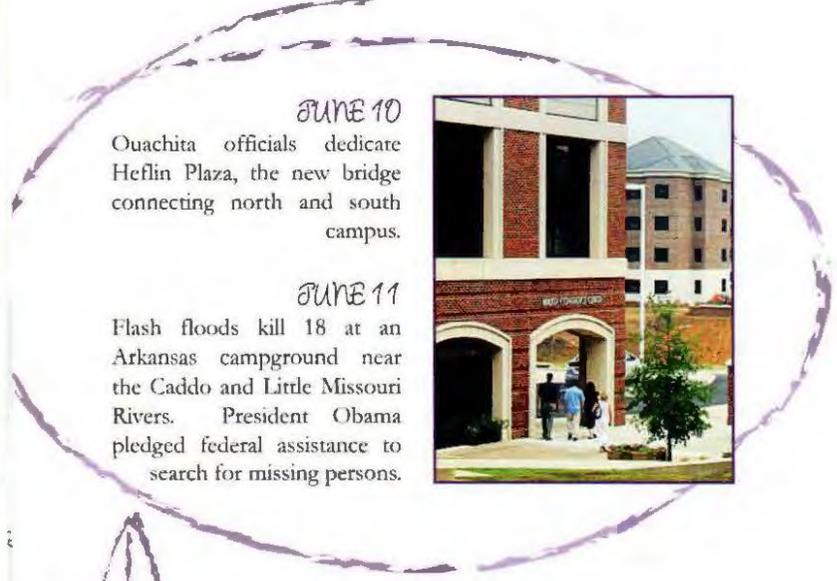
AUGUST 31
President Obama announces the end of Operation Iraqi Freedom after seven years with a withdrawal of combat troops.



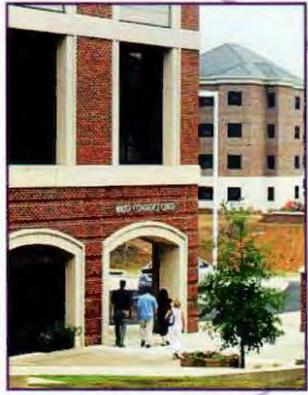
OCTOBER 25
An earthquake and tsunami kill over 400 in Sumatra, Indonesia.



OCTOBER 23
Restored Ouachita Tiger dedicated during OcTiger Fest. The statue was restored to its original 1935 appearance.

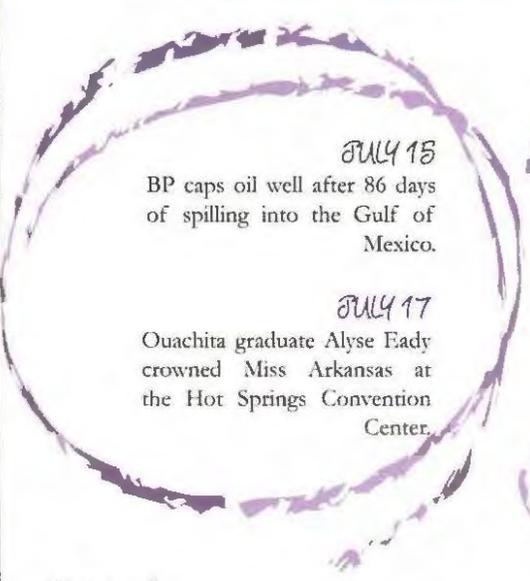
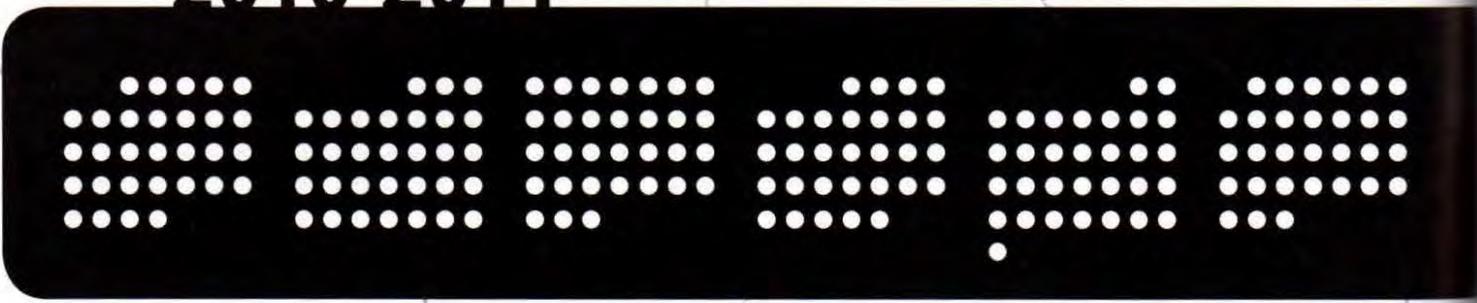


JUNE 10
Ouachita officials dedicate Heflin Plaza, the new bridge connecting north and south campus.



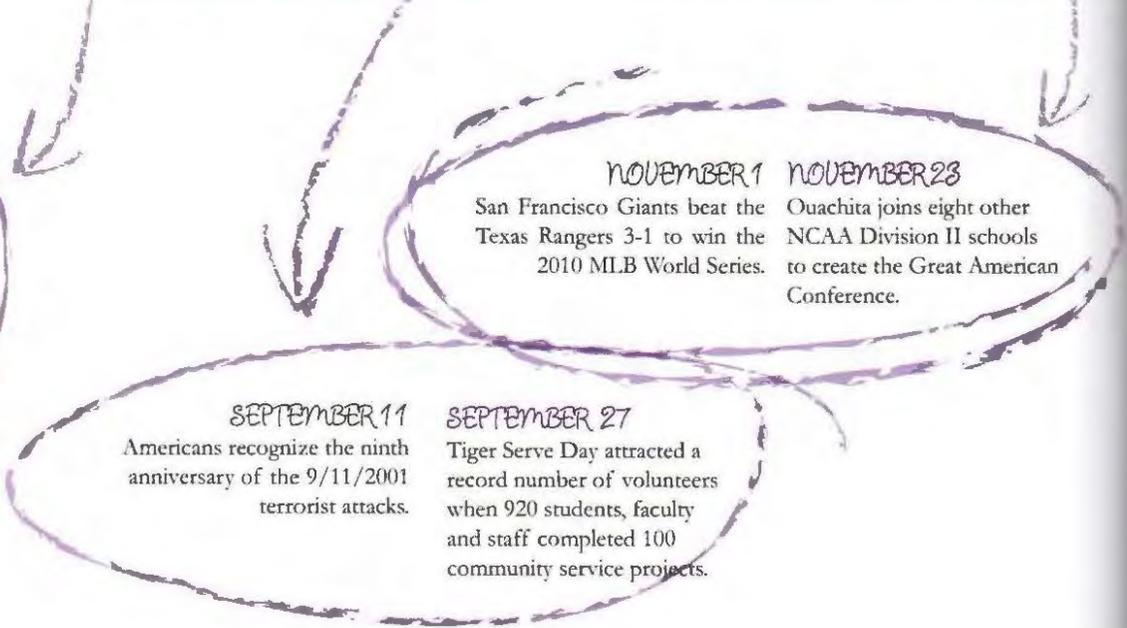
JUNE 11
Flash floods kill 18 at an Arkansas campground near the Caddo and Little Missouri Rivers. President Obama pledged federal assistance to search for missing persons.

2010-2011



JULY 15
BP caps oil well after 86 days of spilling into the Gulf of Mexico.

JULY 17
Ouachita graduate Alyse Eady crowned Miss Arkansas at the Hot Springs Convention Center.



NOVEMBER 1
San Francisco Giants beat the Texas Rangers 3-1 to win the 2010 MLB World Series.

NOVEMBER 23
Ouachita joins eight other NCAA Division II schools to create the Great American Conference.

SEPTEMBER 11
Americans recognize the ninth anniversary of the 9/11/2001 terrorist attacks.

SEPTEMBER 27
Tiger Serve Day attracted a record number of volunteers when 920 students, faculty and staff completed 100 community service projects.

DECEMBER 6

Senior Abby Turner wins the 2nd annual Business Plan Competition with her event planning business, "iPlanit."

DECEMBER 21

The first lunar eclipse to occur on the day of the Northern winter solstice and Southern summer solstice since 1638 takes place.

APRIL 8

Ouachita Student Foundation hosts annual Tiger Traks. Thirty-three teams participated in the event.

APRIL 29

Prince William, Duke of Cambridge, marries Catherine Middleton. An estimated two billion people tuned in for the "Royal Wedding."

FEBRUARY 1 FEBRUARY 6

Ouachita launches yearlong 125th anniversary celebration. "Making a Difference Since 1886" was coined as the theme for the celebration.

Green Bay Packers defeat Pittsburgh Steelers 31-25 to win Super Bowl XLV.



MAY 16

Ouachita confers 263 graduates for class of 2011. The event marked the 124th spring commencement exercise.

MAY 22

Tornados kill over 125 in Joplin, Missouri. The storm was reported to be the deadliest in the U.S. in over 60 years.



JANUARY 6

President Obama names William Daley of JPMorgan Chase to be his new chief of staff.

JANUARY 15

2010 Ouachita grad Alyse Eady named first runner-up in the Miss America pageant in Las Vegas.



MARCH 7

Ouachita's Ben M. Elrod Center for Family and Community launches annual Dating, Engagement and Marriage Week.



MARCH 11

Massive 9.0 magnitude earthquake and 23-foot tsunami strike Japan 230 miles northeast of Tokyo.