



From winning the first Battle of the Ravine in 1895 to clenching two inaugural Great American Conference championships, from the 1912 funding of A.U. Williams field to the opening of the state-of-the-art Hatcher Wrestling Complex, from President Hartzog hiring the first professional coaching staff in 1905 to the addition of former NBA player Dennis Nutt as head basketball coach, from tuning in to AM radio for the baseball broadcast to receiving text alerts and live stats via [obutigers.com](http://obutigers.com),

**WE  
ARE  
STILL  
TIGER  
NATION**



JAMES WOOD PHOTO

**SNAP//** The Tigers prepare for an offensive snap during the Sept. 10 game against East Central Oklahoma State. The game ended in a 31-18 victory for the Tigers.

# history

MAKING

**T**he Tiger football team made history on November 5 when they were victorious in a nail-biter 21-18 win over Southeastern Oklahoma State and were named the inaugural Great American Conference Champions. In their first year playing in the GAC, the Tigers saw high and low points throughout the season to win the first conference championship. Pre-season polls predicted the Tigers to finish third in the conference, but they surpassed these expectations and won their first conference title since 1982.

Thirteen players won GAC honors, and head Coach Todd Knight was named coach of the year. With a 6-1 conference record and 7-3 overall, quarterback Casey Cooper proved he was nothing short of fulfilling the duties as he was named GAC Offensive Player of the Year, with 2,779 yards of total offense and 19 touchdowns. "We knew we had an opportunity to take our program to the next level," Cooper said. "Our commitment level was extremely high thanks to the leadership of our senior class."

The Tiger offense showed explosiveness throughout the entire season, averaging 32.4 points per game and totaling 4,114 yards of total offense. Not only was their offense ranked second overall in the conference, the Tigers also led the conference in turnover margin due to their playmaking successes on defense.

The 17 seniors played a major role in the team's success. Senior tight end Philip Supernaw saw the team's growth over the past four years, and developed a deep passion for Tiger football. "We brought a football team from mediocrity to a championship through hard work, dedication, great



NICOLE MCPHATE PHOTO

**CELEBRATE//** Defensive backs coach Adam Olson celebrates with his players during the Homecoming game. This season marked Olson's third year with the Tigers. Soccer Club. Because it was an exhibition, the score wasn't kept. players and great coaches," Supernaw said. Supernaw led the team in receiving touchdowns.

Seniors like Travis Anderson, who led the team in receptions with 39, and Taurus Williams, a multiple-year starter and leader on the defensive line, exemplified their contribution to the team. Terrence Garrett led the team with 91 tackles and also became the all-time leading tackler in Ouachita football history.

The Tigers started off the season with three straight wins over East Central Oklahoma University, Arkansas-Monticello, and Texas A&M Commerce. After two disappointing losses to Delta State and Valdosta State, the Tigers showed why they were a special team by responding and winning four straight games to claim the conference crown.

"This year our team was indescribable, our work ethic was great, and we were all like brothers," said junior linebacker Augustine Ume Ezeoke.

Through the highs and lows of the season, one could not argue the excitement of the entire season and celebrating the team's first conference championship in 29 years.

// BY KATHRYN KELLY

EAST CENT. OK. ST.: 31-18  
 UA-MONTICELLO: 38-20  
 TEXAS A&M-COMMERCE: 39-33  
 DELTA STATE: 14-45  
 VALDOSTA STATE: 13-40  
 SW OKLAHOMA ST.: 48-38  
 SOUTHERN ARK.: 53-43  
 HARDING: 31-27  
 SE OKLAHOMA ST.: 21-18  
 HENDERSON STATE: 36-41  
**season record: 7-3**

JAMES WOOD PHOTO



NICOLE MCPHATE PHOTO

**DIRECTION//** Junior quarterback Casey Cooper listens for play direction during the Henderson game. Cooper was named the GAC offensive player of the year.



▼ TERRANCE GARRETT & A.J. WILLIAMS



GARET WEST PHOTO

▼ CHRIS RYCRAW



NICOLE MCPHATE PHOTO

**TUNNEL//** The Tigers take the field in their Homecoming match-up against Valdosa State. The Oct. 8 game ended in a 13-40 loss for the Tigers.

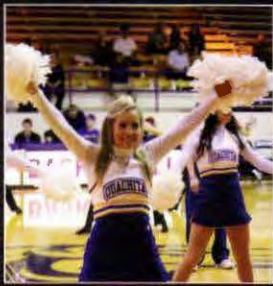


NICOLE MCPHATE PHOTO



WESLEY KLUICK PHOTO

**TIGER FOOTBALL//** Front Row: A.J. Williams, Clinton DeWitt, Phillip Supernaw, Travis Anderson, Adam Cooper, Terrance Garrett, Jonathan Browning, Tyler Gorge, Waylon Slabach, Quint Ashburn, Matt Sawyer, Roy Richard, Tucker Gilbert, Jacob Raine, Cory Godbolt, Kyle Smith, Taurus Williams; Second Row: Jacob Clark, Chris Rycraw, Casey Cooper, Jamien Neal, Jalen Jones, Jeremy Small, Ty Towers, Jemarkus Harmon, Zack Ruple, Jason Fowler, Marcus Calhoun, Benson Jordan, Terrill McCray; Third Row: Jarrod Flowers, Collin Wood, Justin Jones, Brandon Davis, Antwion Patterson, Steven Kehner, Julian Jackson, John Edwards, Spencer Knight, Travis Simon, Patrick Dukes, Augustine Ume-Ezeoke, Daniel McGee, Zack Mitchell, Dijon Benton; Fourth Row: Ricky Brown, Ezekial Garcia, Devon Cousins, Korey Byrd, Jackson Guerra, Brady Clifton, Dustin Donaldson, Kyle Lamothe, Desmond Shaw, Caleb Ramsey, Landon Freeman, Tyler Robinson; Fifth Row: Ugo Nkalari, Eric Ashburn, Clark Gaddis, Dion Young, Ethan Ramsey, Dennis Stratton, Marquez Massey, Dave Fair, Luke Kimmel; Sixth Row: Hunter Soper, Alex Poole, Joel White, Hal Hoggard, Cory Matlock, Barkley Legens, Michael Rogers, Chris Townsend, Tom Boles, Brian Griffith, Aaron Sprinkle, Brent Calhoun; Seventh Row: Trevor Newton, Mitch Bledsoe, Brandon Stogner, Garrett Sykes, Jake Kraus, D.J. Miller, Drew White, Bonner Chilton, Adam Ragland, Bradley Stamm, Brad Thomas; Eighth Row: Peyton Tolliver, Brett Reece, Shaun Hawkins, Darryl Parker, Adrian Thomas, Sam Dunnam, Justin Waite, Blake Johnson, Matt Maineiro, Ryan Newsom, Khalil Abdulkarim.



JASON PULLANO PHOTO



NICOLE MCPHATE PHOTO



JAMES WOOD PHOTO

**TOP//** Sophomore Keena Dixon cheers at a Nov. 21 basketball matchup between the Lady Tigers and Texas A&M Commerce.

**MIDDLE//** The lady Tiger mascot cheers during the Battle of the Ravine on Nov. 11. The Tigers would fall to the Reddies 41-36 in a heartbreaking loss.

**BOTTOM//** Junior Stephanie Morse performs her routine before a Sept. 13 football game. The dance team worked with the Cheer Squad and often had solo performances.



**STUNT//** The Ouachita Spirit Squad competes in the UCA & UDA College Cheerleading and Dance Team National Championships held in Orlando, Florida, on 13-14. The team placed seventh, the highest in school history.

WESLEY KLUCK PHOTO

# MAKING SPIRIT SQUAD history

# RECAPPING HISTORY

## recapping history



**P**roudly wearing purple and white, the Spirit Squads could be found raising Tiger spirit at anytime. The Spirit Squads consisted of two squads, the Cheer Team and the Pam Squad, but they came together to form one unified team. The squads made their season debut in early September, but their hard work and preparation started much earlier.

The Tiger Spirit Squads began their season with a three day clinic in early April that ended with the team try-outs. In late April, the squads met again for their first team practice.

In July the Spirit Squads met in Hot Springs for a three day camp to learn routines, master skills, and bond together as a team. Camp days were filled with intricate new routines, intense conditioning work-outs and silly bonding games. "We counted it up and we learned like 15 new routines in three days," said Heather Ellis, a freshman education major from Texarkana, Texas. "And my arms were so sore from push-ups - I hate push-ups - but it was worth it."

The men and women of the Tiger Spirit Squads reunited in August with an early move-in back to campus. While everyone was glad to have missed the chaos of move in day, an early move-in meant immediate practices to prepare for the upcoming football season. The squads met twice a week to practice routines and perfect various skills. However, team practices consisted of much more than dances and chants. Coach Brian Bridges conditioned his squads with timed mile runs, circuit training, timed sprints and other fitness routines. "The hard part of being on the team is definitely the physicality of it. Just like any other sport we have to work out and train," said Leah Harrington, cheer captain and senior biology major from Hot Springs. "But it's more than that, it's the bruises and broken noses when



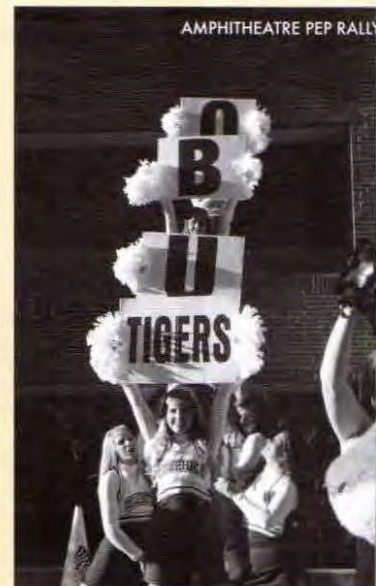
NICOLE MCPHATE PHOTO

CHANDLER TILLERY



JAMES WOOD PHOTO

HOME FOOTBALL GAME



AMPHITHEATRE PEP RALLY

JAMES WOOD PHOTO

**PERFORMANCE//** Sophomore Kristen Bernard and others perform at halftime during a basketball game on November 14th. The Cheer Squad kept the crowd on their feet during half time.



JASON RULLANO PHOTO

stunts fall that make it tough."

The highlight of the Spirit Squad's season came mid-January when the squads traveled to Orlando, Fla., for the cheer team to compete in the UCA National Cheer Team Competition. The squad moved back to campus 10 days early to train hard and prepare for nationals, where they advanced to the finals after their first performance. "They called the teams in random order and only eight teams could make it to finals," Harrington recalls. "I remember hearing the seventh team called and I had already sent a text to my mom saying 'We didn't make it to finals.' It wasn't but 10 seconds after that Ouachita Baptist University was

called as the final team."

The team made history at nationals placing seventh in the nation. This marks the highest any squad in Arkansas has ever placed. "Being nationally ranked is an honor we worked very hard for. Our team honestly stepped it up and proved that we deserved to be in the top with the best of the best," said Rod Arnold, a senior education major from Texarkana, Texas.

"Nothing beats the time spent together as a team," says Arnold. "I will miss the bonding that we as a team had through pep rallies, games and bus rides. You form a small family and I will miss them."

// BY ALY SMITH



WESLEY KLICK PHOTO

**SPIRIT SQUADS//** Front Row: Heather Ellis, Casey Knight, Molly-Ann Turner, Kayleigh Darlin, Libby Harrington, Stephanie Morse, Aly Smith; Second Row: Taylor Skinner, Keena Dickey, Crista Carile, Ashleigh Canada, Ashley Bell, Kristen Bernard, Paige Onyuru, Elizabeth White, Mallory Burroughs, Kaylee Barnett; Back Row: Natalie Way, Leah Harrington, Rod Arnold, Caleb Stephens, Brad Hunter-Heird, Charles Tillery, Chandler Tillery, Carrington Tillery, Caiti Sturell

CHRIS HOGAN ▼

THE TIGER BAND ▼

**QUEEN//** Sophomores Ryan Hess and Breni Nessler, and senior Alex Goff play "We are the Champions" during the halftime homecoming performance. The set included five Queen numbers.



NICOLE MICHAE PHOTO



JAMES WOOD PHOTO



**RALLY//** Marching Band students play at a pep rally in the amphitheater. The band led pep rallies as part of their goal to boost school spirit.



JASON PULLANO PHOTO

GARET WEST PHOTO

**ELECTRIC//** Racking the new marching band uniform, Senior Cory Epps plays the electric guitar during the halftime performance for the Battle of the Rovine game. Director Robert Hesse said the uniforms made the band feel more connected to the "Ouachita look."



NICOLE MCPHATE PHOTO

## MUSIC, ENERGY,

# spirit



GARET WEST PHOTO

**SOLO//** Senior Andrew McCraw plays a trombone solo during "Somebody to Love." This was McCraw's fourth and final year in the Tiger Marching Band.

**T**he Tiger Marching Band used their skills and energy to boost school spirit among students. The marching band was devoted entirely to supporting the football team as it went on to win the Great American Conference Championship. Their first priority was to the school, and, without them, campus would have been lacking in spirit.

"One of our main functions is to help support and promote any athletic event no matter what," said Robert Hesse, director of athletic bands. "We hope we have helped entertain the fans who have come to the event, and we were extremely happy for the football team to be so successful this fall."

During football games, the band's halftime performance featured the music from Queen, and included "We Are the Champions," "Fat Bottomed Girls," "Bicycle," "Bohemian Rhapsody" and "Somebody to Love."

"As so many of Queen's songs are iconic, it was hard to decide on which ones we would put into our production," said Hesse. "I have been developing this show for about 10 years and was waiting until the right moment to make it happen."

The marching band was a place

for students of all majors and backgrounds to join in bringing spirit to campus. "I have been embraced into a big family, full of great people with the same love I have for music," said drum major Elyse Senteney, a junior instrumental education major from Plano, Texas.

Students in the band were able to connect with others they may not have had the chance to meet otherwise. They could get things done while not feeling too stressed.

"Marching band provides the opportunity to support the school in various ways while still being a part of something enjoyable for those involved," said Anno English, a sophomore English major from Coppell, Texas. "With the way Mr. Hesse runs rehearsal, we are able to have fun while staying focused and getting work done."

New uniforms allowed the band to feel more connected to the "Ouachita look," according to Hesse. "It was past time to replace the old uniforms and we were very excited that we had so many people willing to help us get new uniforms," said Hesse. "We feel more connected to OBU now with our school colors and even our Tiger logo on the uniform."

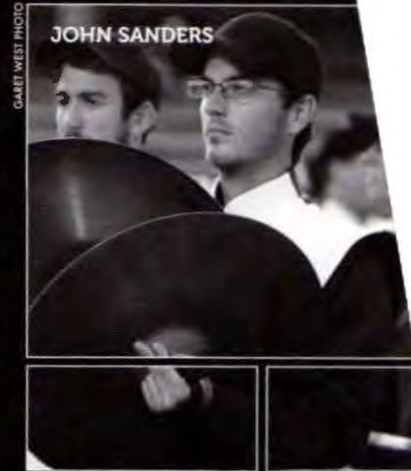
There is a level of dedication that repeatedly goes unnoticed, but the marching band regularly exceeds expectations by showing their talent to members of the university.

"Our goal is to be better musicians, better entertainers and better ambassadors each year," said Hesse. "I am pleased that we are continuing this great tradition at OBU and look forward to doing the same in the future."

// BY MAURI SPARKS

GARET WEST PHOTO

JOHN SANDERS



HOMECOMING 10/8/11

NICOLE MCPHATE PHOTO



NICOLE MCPHATE PHOTO

**TWIRLING//** Freshman major-ette Ashley Pinales performs during halftime of the Battle of the Rovine. The Tiger Band had a halftime performance at each home football game.

MARCHING





JASON PULLANO PHOTO



HEATHER ELLIS PHOTO



JASON PULLANO PHOTO

**TOP//** Senior Libby Harrington spikes the ball against Arkansas-Monticello. The lady Tigers won the match 3-0.

**MIDDLE//** Freshman Chelsey Hess digs for the ball in a game against East Central Oklahoma. Hess, a defensive specialist, hails from Conway, Arkansas.

**BOTTOM//** Freshman Savannah White serves the ball in the first home game of the season. Ballad, from Grand Prairie, Texas, played middle/right side for the Lady Tigers.



JASON PULLANO PHOTO

**SALUTE//** The Lady Tigers salute for the National Anthem during the Sept. 13 game against Arkansas Tech. The match ended in a 1-3 loss for the Tigers.

PLAYING FOR EACH

other

# RECAPPING HISTORY

## recapping history



**A**lthough the Lady Tigers volleyball team has had its ups and downs, this year's team decided to take a whole new outlook on the game which in turn, led to their successful season.

"We wanted to play for each other," said Allison Frizzell, a junior mathematics major from McKinney, Texas.

"That is the main difference between this year and last year," she said. "We got a new assistant coach, Rebecca Smith, and she really pushed us to compete with each other. She had us pursue that fifth game and taught us to never give up."

The Lady Tigers started the season with the Christion Brothers University Tournament in Memphis, Tenn. They came away with three out of four wins from the Central Baptist College tournament with their only loss coming from West Alabama.

The Lady Tigers played West Alabama taking the match to four games but were unable to close out the win in the end. Frizzell, defensive specialist, was selected for the Central Boptist College Tournament All-Conference Team.

Two volleyball games played this season were against a team right across the street: the Henderson Lody Reddies. The girls walked away victorious in both Battles of the Ravine.

In the last battle, the Reddies came to the Lady Tiger's den, and while they put up o forceful fight and toak the match to five games, the Tigers finally pounced when it counted the most and defeated the Reddies in a 3-2 match.

In addition to the Bottle of the Ravine, one night that every senior othlete remembers is senior night. The Lady Tigers took down University of Arkansas-Monticello Cotton Blossoms and won the match in three games.

Frizzell was named Great American Conference Defensive Volleyball

18-13  
season record

HEATHER ELLIS PHOTO

LIBBY HARRINGTON, LEXIE HEGI

JASON MELANO PHOTO

ALLISON FRIZZELL



JASON HULLAND PHOTO

AMERICAN INT'L:	3-0
WEST ALABAMA:	1-3
MONTEVALLO:	3-0
WEST GEORGIA:	3-2
AUSTIN COLLEGE:	3-1
TEXAS COLLEGE:	3-0
HARDIN-SIMMONDS:	2-3
MCMURRY:	2-3
MARY HARDIN-BAYLOR:	0-3
UT-TYLER:	3-0
ARKANSAS TECH:	1-3, 0-3
HARDING:	0-3, 3-1
RUST COLLEGE:	3-0
HUNTINGDON:	3-0
HENDRIX:	3-1
WILLIAMS BAPTIST:	0-3
SE OKLAHOMA ST.:	0-3, 1-3
HENDERSON STATE:	3-0, 3-2
SW OKLAHOMA ST.:	3-2, 3-1
EAST CENTRAL OK.:	2-3, 3-1
SOUTHERN ARKANSAS:	2-3, 3-2
ARKANSAS-MONTICELLO:	3-2, 3-0
*EAST CENTRAL:	1-3

**HUDDLE//** The Lady Tigers huddle up before a Sept. 13 match-up against Arkansas Tech. This was the first home game for the Lady Tigers.

Player of the week for the ninth week of the team's season. The Lady Tigers had never had a player receive this honor.

Lady Tigers were able to make o showing at the Great American post-season tournament. The volleyball team hos not made a showing at o conference tournament in five years.

Jillion Jeffcoat, o junior kinesiology major from Frisco, Texas, said it was especially exciting for the team to make it to conference play.

"It was super exciting to be successful enough in the season to make it to the tournament," said Jeffcoat. "My favorite part was that our team pulled together in order to accomplish

our goal and making it to the post season."

Unfortunately, they were unable to overcome East Central University. However the Lady Tigers still attacked the match and come oway with two players named to the All-GAC team for 2011 season: Frizzell ond Libby Horrington, a senior kinesiology moior from Conway. Frizzell was selected as the libero position and Harrington was selected for the second team middle blocker position.

By the end of the Lady Tigers season, they hod an 18-13 overall record, ond a winning record of 9-7 in the Great American Conference.

// BY ANNALIESE CLARK

WESLEY KLICK PHOTO



### TIGER VOLLEYBALL//

Front Row: Savannah White, Chelsey Hess, Allison Frizzell, Kristyn Hawk, Jillion Jeffcoat, Stephanie Bayne, Lexie Hegi; Back Row: Head Coach Danny Prescott, Keely Hawk, Lauren Perry, Danielle Wells, Julie Stanley, Kelley Ballard, Libby Harrington, Madison Scott, Megan Askew, Kelsi Bodine, Faith Avalas, Assitant Coach Becki Smith



LISA OVERMAN PHOTO

**MOVING//** Junior Taylor Gay moves the ball upfield in the first exhibition match of the season. Gay, a Little Rock native, scored six goals for the season.

# zing goals making goals

- HENDRIX COLLEGE: 1-0
- HARDING: 3-0
- TEXAS A&M INTER: 0-1
- NE OKLAHOMA ST: 0-1
- CENTRAL BAPTIST: 4-0
- SW OKLAHOMA ST: 0-1
- EAST CENTRAL OK ST: 2-0
- WEST FLORIDA: 0-1
- ALABAMA-HUNTSVILLE: 1-2
- SW OKLAHOMA ST: 1-2
- EAST CENTRAL OK: 0-1
- NE OKLAHOMA ST: 1-2
- CHRISTIAN BROTHERS: 1-0
- DELTA STATE: 0-1
- DALLAS CHRISTIAN: 9-0
- HARDING: 3-0
- \*SOUTHWESTERN OK: 1-0
- \*EAST CENTRAL: 1-3(PK)

season record: 8-10



KRISTEN BERNARD PHOTO

JUNIOR LAUREN HATCH ▲

**T**he OBU Lady Tigers were a team full of passion, commitment and talent. These qualities were proven by their successful season both on and off the field.

The team consisted of 25 women of all four classifications from all across the country. Early in the season, the Lady Tigers proved to be a strong contender in their conference.

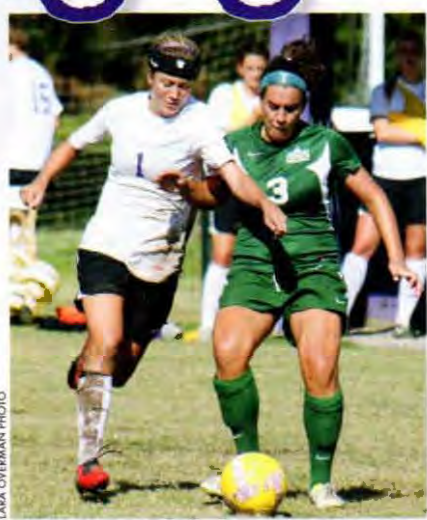
They began their season with victories over Hendrix College and Harding University. The victory over Harding marked the team's first Great American Conference victory. Although the girls fell short against opponents such as Texas A&M International and Northeast Oklahoma State, they picked up consistent wins in conference play to maintain a successful season.

They ended their season with 3-0 victory over Harding, earning them a 7-9 record, including a record of 3-3 in conference play and securing their spot in the conference tournament.

The success of the team heavily relied on the leadership of seniors Whitley Hoppe, Beth Wendl and Miranda Lytle. Before the tournament, Hoppe had earned 41 goals and five shut-outs. Wendl led the team in scoring with 14, followed by Lytle with eight.

In the tournament, the team defeated Southwestern Oklahoma State in the first round, but lost to East Central University in the second round after two overtime periods.

As the tournament closed, the conference released the 2011 GAC All-Tournament team. Ouachita placed three players on the All-Tournament team: Wendl at the forward position, Lytle at the midfield position and Hoppe at the goalkeeper position.



LISA OVERMAN PHOTO

**SCORE//** Senior Beth Wendl moves in for a steal during the Oct. 23 match against Delta State. Wendl led the team in scoring with 14 goals for the season.

Besides a successful season on the field, the Lady Tigers formed a close bond throughout the season.

"This group of girls is phenomenal," said Lauren Hatch, a junior English major from Mesquite, Texas. "I have never felt like I have more of a family than I do with them."

In their time spent not practicing, the team started a bible study in which they all had the chance to pair up and have prayer partners. "It's encouraging to know that someone is always sending up a prayer for you," said Mary Whisenhunt, a junior speech pathology major from Little Rock.

Being a part of collegiate athletics also had its obstacles. "It's definitely a lot of hard work, but whenever you see goals met it's exciting and encouraging," Whisenhunt said.

For Hatch and Whisenhunt, setting higher goals and seeing progress help keep the program successful. "Next season will be even better because we set the bar high this year," said Hatch. "I'm excited to see what it will bring."

// BY HANNAH BISHOP



KRISTEN BERNARD PHOTO

**UPFIELD//** Freshman Brie Munoz moves the ball upfield in the match against Delta State. Munoz was recognized as Defensive Player of the Week for the week of Sept. 27.

▼ FANS AT HOME MATCH AGAINST NE OK STATE



NICOLE MCPHATE PHOTO

▼ MARY WHISENHUNT



HEATHER ELIUS PHOTO

**HIGH FIVE//** Juniors Sarah McKimney and Carrie Lieblong celebrate during the Aug. 27 exhibition against Carrera Elite Soccer Club. This match was the season opener for the Tigers.



LARA OVERMAN PHOTO



WESLEY KLICK PHOTO

**WOMEN'S SOCCER//**

Front Row: Allison Drobena, Taylor Gay, Alex Patterson, Beth Wendt, Miranda Lytle, Whitley Hoppe, Angel Palacios, Sarah Broyles, Sydney Phillips, Abby Emanuel, Cara Smith; Back Row: Lauren Hatch, Carrie Lieblong, Leah Anderson, Brittany Davidson, Mary Whisenhunt, Morgan Pitchford, Jessica Allen, Brie Munoz, Allison Rupp, Akane Forbess, Megan Clay, Kelsey Frink, Sarah McKimney.



HEATHER ELLIS PHOTO



LARA COVEMAN PHOTO



HEATHER ELLIS PHOTO

**TOP//** Sophomore Nathan Gay and junior Ben Pettigrew clear the ball from a Arkansas Rush defender. Pettigrew said the juniors had to step up into leadership positions this season.

**MIDDLE//** Junior Payam Pourjavad looks upfield to pass against Central Baptist College. Pourjavad was selected to the 2011 All-GSC First Team.

**BOTTOM//** Junior Rizvan Ceka strikes for goal against Arkansas Rush. Ceka was selected to the All-GSC second team.

KRISTEN BERNARD PHOTO

**RUSH//** Sophomore Nathan Gay moves the ball upfield in an exhibition game against the Arkansas Rush. Gay, a Little Rock Native, started at center back for the Tigers.

# A SEASON OF growth

# RECAPPING HISTORY



**A**fter coming off the success of an 11-6 season, along with having a young team with no seniors, the Tigers set out to prove themselves. By picking up four wins and nearly making the conference tournament, they did just that. The Tigers met many hardships, and through the season they grew into a very close family.

The team was composed of three freshmen, eight sophomores and 12 juniors. Not having any seniors forced the team to look for leadership in new places. According to Ben Pettigrew, a junior history major from Hot Springs, the junior class stepped into a leadership role before the 2010 season was over. "Last year we didn't have many seniors, so the sophomore class kind of started taking leadership then," Pettigrew said. "So really, our growth as a team started last year and carried over this year."

Jared Carlin, a sophomore accounting major from Lubbock, Texas, commented on how the team's age contributed to their chemistry. "Because we are all so close in age it allows our team chemistry to develop," Carlin said. "This also gives younger players the opportunity to be leaders without the obstacle of upsetting the older members of the team."

OBU started the season with a 2-1 victory over Drury, but took a string of losses against Lynn, Northeast Oklahoma, Harding, and Texas A&M International. The Tigers bounced back with a 4-1 victory over Delta State, but met some tough losses in conference play. OBU finished with a second win over Delta State and a crushing 15-0 win over Dallas Christian College. The final game of the season was an extra-time tie against in-state rival, Harding. However, the tie sent the Bison to the GSC tournament over the Tigers.

"It was a tough game to swallow and move on from," said Pettigrew. "The team gave it all and just didn't

4-8-2  
season record



- DRURY: 2-1
- LYNN: 0-2
- NE OK STATE: 1-6
- HARDING: 1-2
- TEXAS A&M INT: 0-1
- DELTA STATE: 4-1
- CENTRAL BAPTIST: 2-2
- WEST FLORIDA: 0-1
- AL-HUNTSVILLE: 0-1
- NE OK STATE: 1-2
- CHRISTIAN BROS.: 0-1
- DELTA STATE: 5-2
- DALLAS CHRISTIAN: 15-0
- HARDING: 1-1

**DEFENSE//** Sophomore Taylor Heinsahn, and juniors Payam Pourjavad and J.T Goodrum stop an attack on goal against Christian Brothers. The Tiger defense held Christian Brothers to only one goal.

seem to catch a break."

The Tigers however did manage to place two members of the team on the GSC all-conference teams. Payam Pourjavad, a junior physics major from Plano, Texas, was an All-GSC First Team selection, following his 2010 selection to the All-GSC second team. Pourjavad played in 13 games, collecting two goals and four assists for a total of eight points. Rizvan Ceka, a junior business administration major from Cappell, Texas, was chosen as a 2011 All-GSC Second Team selection after leading the Tigers in offensive production. After an All-GSC First Team selection in 2010, Ceka finished the 2011 campaign with 14 starts,

scoring seven goals and collecting four assists for a total of 18 points.

After a long season the team developed a strong band led by the hard work of the junior class.

"We are all defiantly close like most sports teams," said Pettigrew. "I consider them like my immediate family. Like having 22 brothers on the same team."

Although the Tigers finished the season strong, the young team is destined for more success.

"After this difficult season, we will be more prepared and poised to make a run in the national tournament," Carlin said.

// BY BEN CLINE



**DEFENSE//** Front Row: Jacob Vickey, Ben Pettigrew, Jared Carlin, Cameron Espy, David Henly, Wayne Smith, Andrew Davis, Jason Cantwell, Taylor Heinsahn, Mat Brockway; Back Row: Jonathon Batres, AJ Bauckman, Nathan Gay, Bry Grass, Daniel Johnson, Connor Burke, Sergiu Postolache, Rizvan Ceka, JT Goodrum, Payam Pourjavad, Clayton Case, Josh Galante.

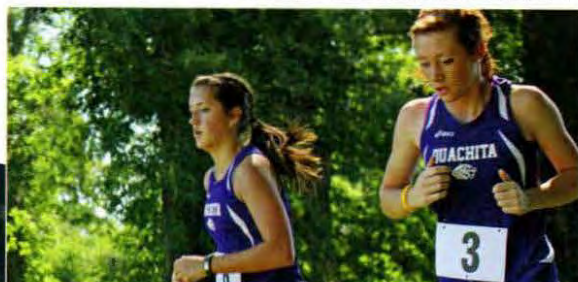
KACEY MCLEANE ▼

PARISH REED, JOCELYN JONES ▼

**STARTING GUN//** The Lady Tigers start strong at the Bob Gravette Invitational. The girls finished first in the women's collegiate division, placing Ouachitans in the top four positions.



GADET WEST PHOTO



JASON MILLANO PHOTO



**2011 CROSS COUNTRY//**  
Front Row: Kacey McLeane, Leah Whitlow, Jocelyn Jones, Rebekah Ward; Back Row: Parish Reed, Ashley Randels, Johanna Casey, Hannah Diaz, Kelsie Wilson.



WESLEY KLICK PHOTO

KRISTEN BARNARD PHOTO

**HOME RUN//** Sophomore Leah Whitlow gets a second wind at the Bob Gravette Invitational. The event was held on OBU's campus and featured junior high, high school, and collegiate divisions.



OLIGH ONAYITHA NOSTRY

# finishing strong



KRISTEN BARNARD PHOTO

**LEADING//** Sophomores Johanna Casey and Leah Whitlow increase their lead on the competition at the Bob Gravette Invitational. Casey finished first with a time of 20:13.87.

**M**ost students would do anything to keep from having to put on 8 a.m. class on their schedules. To the women's cross country team however, 8 a.m. was sleeping in. The Lady Tigers bonded with daily 6:30 a.m. practices and once a week track workouts at the local high school.

While their season may have only lasted from early September through early November, these ladies trained year round, summer months being their most intensive training time.

Evident at the sound of the starting gunshot, the women of the cross country team were set out to leave their competitors in the dust. The Lady Tigers claimed first place and the top four individual times in the inaugural GAC meet, the Harry Denson Memorial, in Monticello.

The team went on to grab another first place finish on home turf at the Bob Gravette Invitational on Sept. 10. Ouachita put runners in spots first through fourth place, and the team walked away with first place. The race not only consisted of women's college level racing, but also hosted junior and senior high boy and girl events.

A highlight of the season was a road trip to Pensacola, Fla. to compete in the Gulf Coast Stampede. The meet consisted of 16 teams coming from a mixture of NCAA Division I and Division II schools.

"Pensacola was my favorite memory of the season," said Ashley Randels, a freshman early childhood education major from Rogers.

The ladies headed back home with nice tans, good food, great memories and a seventh place finish.

The Lady Tigers had a successful season, earning first place at several of their meets and placing runners in the top spots on a regular basis. Hannah Diaz, a freshman history major from West Monroe, La., would credit their success to the unity of the team.

"We had a great team this year," Diaz said. "When you run with people, you talk a lot. After a few of the travel meets everyone bonded really well. Everyone gets along and it's really nice."

The team's shining moment came when they competed in the inaugural Great American Conference Cross Country Championship and placed sixth out of the nine teams that competed, finishing ahead of rival Henderson State University.

The team's lead runner, Johanna Casey, a sophomore kinesiology major from Aurora, Ill., was named to the inaugural GAC All-Conference Cross Country Team.

"It was great to finally see all the hard work pay off," said Casey. "God deserves all the glory though. He is the one who gave me all the strength and discipline to train and He blessed incredibly that race."

// BY ALY SMITH

HARRY DENSON MEMORIAL: 1ST PLACE  
BOB GRAVETTE INVITATIONAL: 1ST PLACE  
GULF COAST STAMPEDE: 7TH PLACE  
CHILLE PEPPER INVITATIONAL: 35TH PLACE

KRISTEN BARNARD PHOTO



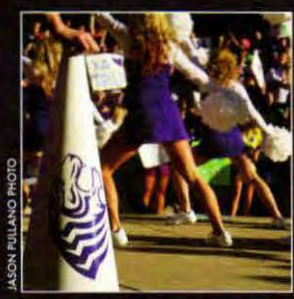
▲ JOSH EMERY, NICK CRUMP, CRAIG DANIELL

MEGAN YOUNG PHOTO



**TOP FINISHER//** Freshman Hannah Diaz begins her race in the Bob Gravette Invitational on Sept. 10. Diaz was one of five Ouachitians who finished in the top eight.





JASON PULLANO PHOTO



HEATHER ELLIS PHOTO



JASON PULLANO PHOTO

**TOP//** The Tiger Spirit Squad gets Tiger Nation pumped up at a September Pep rally.

**MIDDLE//** Senior Steven Harvell shows his Tiger Spirit at the Homecoming game. Harvell could often be picked out of the crowd because of his antics at the games.

**BOTTOM//** Fans sit on "the hill" overlooking A.U Williams field to cheer on the Tigers. Fans would gather on the hill to get a different view of the game.

**SATLITE//** Tiger Nation shows its love for Tiger football at the Battle of the Ravine. Students guarded the Tiger all week in preparation for the game.

JASON PULLANO PHOTO

# ONE TEAM, ONE nation

# RECAPPING HISTORY

## recapping history



Supporting the athletic events throughout campus and cultivating school spirit, Tiger Nation is the campus-wide organization dedicated to supporting Ouachita athletics through increased promotion, student attendance, and campus engagement.

Tiger Nation began two years ago as an opportunity to further involve students for the purpose of supporting Ouachita athletics and forming a spirit of unity between the school and its athletic programs. Dr. Kevin C. Motl, assistant professor of history, serves as the founder and faculty sponsor of Tiger Nation. Motl explained, "Everyone who cares about Ouachita and Ouachita athletics is already a citizen of Tiger Nation, and hopefully, a proud one!" Unlike typical clubs and organizations, there are no registration fees or sign ups, instead, Tiger Nation is an organization that adopts every proud Ouachitonian, or Ouachita supporter, and provides them with an opportunity to support the school through encouraging the athletic department.

"As of last year, Tiger Nation co-sponsors the Battle of the Ravine Week activities leading up to our annual football matchup with rival Henderson State," said Motl.

Although the week refers to the competition between the two football teams, one of the oldest rivalries in the NCAA, the Battle of the Ravine takes place within a variety of sports, and at each one, Tiger Nation is there in support of their team. Because of Tiger Nation, students are re-energized during the week and motivated by the campus-wide support, and by the faculty sponsor Dr. Motl, encouraging the athletic teams to go one yard farther, one second faster, and one point higher.

Kyle Smith is a senior business management major from Fredericksburg, Va. and, therefore, a member



HEATHER ELLIS PHOTO



JASON PULLANO PHOTO



DR. KEVIN MOTL



JASON PULLANO PHOTO

**HUDDLE//** The Women of Tri Chi show their support for the Tigers at a September Pep Rally. Social clubs would compete on gameday to have the best tailgate.

of Tiger Nation. Smith revealed that, "Tiger Nation is the primary vehicle of support for Ouachita sport teams, and it allows us to build an atmosphere that encourages athletic success and campus unity." Besides involving students, the organization has the innote result of providing a stronger home court advantage in which Ouachita teams can compete, and succeed in.

Ouachita sponsors 16 Division II athletic programs, and each one of them is a target and goal of Tiger Nation, a target and goal to support and encourage. In order to engage and involve the student body, Motl and the student leaders inform the campus with social media, emails, word of

mouth, and with their active involvement. In order to transform their campaigns around campus into results within the stands, Tiger Nation also sponsors cookouts and competitions.

However, it is still early for Tiger Nation, and in the future Motl envisions "big, rowdy crowds at our home athletic events, competition between the academic classes and the social clubs for more cash prizes, and exponential growth in Tiger Spirit." Tiger Nation is gaining participation and increasing student involvement after only two years, and continually seeks to better Ouachita by supporting its strong legacy of athletics.

// BY NATE PEACE

HEATHER ELLIS PHOTO



**CAR CHALK//** Seniors Lauren Dewitt and Leah Harrington decorate a car during Homecoming week. The women of EEE sponsored a car decorating event to help boost school spirit.



**SNAP//** Senior guard Sarah Pugh lays the ball up against southwestern Oklahoma. Pugh was one of five senior players who, according to her, had "great team chemistry."

JAMES WOOD PHOTO

# leaders

## SENIOR

**T**eam chemistry was the major component in the Lady Tigers' campaign in 2011-2012. The ladies earned a 10-6 record in Great American Conference play and finished the season with an overall record of 18-10.

"We had five seniors who played together all four years," said Sarah Pugh, a senior post player from Kaufman, Texas. "This gave us good team chemistry. This season I feel like everyone was always trying to push their teammate to do the best possible job on the court every day."

As a team bound together by senior leadership, the Lady Tigers started strong, winning six of their first eight games. They then won only five of their next 11 games. Whether it was the newness of the month or a just another chance to start fighting for playoff contention, February proved to be a big month for the Lady Tigers as they would begin a 7-3 run that gave them a chance to play in the conference tournament.

Throughout the season, close games were a norm that resulted in both losses and wins. Senior guard Beulah Osueke recalled the January 19 game played at Bill Vining Arena: "The Harding game was the most exciting game because we were down by 18 points and had to depend only on each other to fight back and capture the win."

Pugh remembers the February 5 game that began the 7-3 run. "We played Southwestern Oklahoma at their place. Lae (A'Laeshia) Adams didn't get to play in that game so people had to step up. We played our best team ball that game. We were down most of the game, but we were able to pull it out in the end. Their



NICOLE MCPHATE PHOTO

**DRIVE//** Senior A'Laeshia Adams drives down the lane in a home-game match up. Adams led the team in scoring, averaging 13.7 points per game, with 383 for the season.

player, Darci Dick, who was the GAC conference player of the year, was held to only two points that game."

The Lady Tigers were 2-0 against the Reddies this year and in both games the Tigers defeated them by at least 13 points.

"We effortlessly destroyed them and embarrassed them with ease," said Osueke. "Shamefully beating arch-rivals is always memorable."

The year finished with one nail-biting win against UAM and a loss to Southwestern Oklahoma. Though for a time, it looked like the Lady Tigers were going to have a rare, disappointing season, the senior leadership took the team back to the strong winning record that the Lady Tigers were accustomed to having.

More than the winning record, there was a noticeable difference of unity between the Lady Tiger players and other teams that Ouachita played. Osueke said, "The senior class had known each other and played with one another from freshman year. We all had the potential to be starters since the beginning stages of our careers and our bond was noticeable on the court."

// BY GARET WEST

TEXAS WOMEN'S: 65-75  
 TEXAS A&M COMMERCE: 89-67  
 CENTRAL OKLAHOMA: 58-67  
 U of NEW ORLEANS: 78-43  
 UT-PERMIAN BASIN: 70-51  
 PHILANDER SMITH: 84-34  
 DELTA STATE: 65-60  
 WILLIAMS BAPTIST: 91-56  
 U of A-FT. SMITH: 63-75  
 CHRISTIAN BROTHERS: 67-48  
 EAST CENTRAL OKLAHOMA: 91-79  
 SW OKLAHOMA: 68-73//88-87//67-83  
 S ARKANSAS: 85-70//91-67  
 SE OKLAHOMA: 55-61//88-82  
 HARDING: 80-76//76-60  
 HENDERSON: 89-57//82-69  
 ARKANSAS TECH: 66-76//70-80  
 U of A-MONTICELLO: 81-93//74-72  
 EAST CENTRAL UNIVERSITY: 72-77//67-83  
 ARKANSAS TECH: 70-80

season record: 18-10



NICOLE MCPHATE PHOTO

**FADER//** Senior Tamera Robinson shoots a fade-away jump-shot over two Southeastern defenders. Robinson, a Mablevale native, ended her final season with 275 points scored.

▼ ERICA SHARP



GABRIEL WEST PHOTO

▼ ELISE HOLMAN



NICOLE MCPHATE PHOTO

**ENCOURAGE//** The Lady Tiger bench cheers on the team in a February 11 match up against Southeastern Oklahoma. The Tigers won the game 88-82.



WESLEY KLUCK PHOTO

NICOLE MCPHATE PHOTO



WESLEY KLUCK PHOTO

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL//**

Front Row: Allie Brown, A'Laeshia Adams, Sarah Pugh, Nashia James, Domino Miller, Hayley Cooper, Madeline McCorkle; Back Row: Head Coach Gary Crowder, Assistant Coach Liz Webb, Kendra Coyle, Elise Holman, Erica Sharp, Breana Dillard, Mallory Clutts, Hannah Persing, Beulah Osweke, Tamara Robinson, Hayley Cooper.



GARY GEBBER PHOTO



GARY GEBBER PHOTO



GARY GEBBER PHOTO

**TOP//** Senior Emmanuel Engulu waits for a pass against Southwestern Oklahoma. The Tigers defeated the Bulldogs 68-56.

**MIDDLE//** Junior Nigel Ramsey shoots free-throws against Southwestern Oklahoma. Ramsey was named as an All-GAC Honorable Mention selection for the 2012 season.

**BOTTOM//** Freshman Colt Fason defends the inbound pass at home on January 7. Fason, a Conway native, saw a lot of action this year as a true freshman.



JASON PULIANO PHOTO

**STUNT//** Junior Michael Morris goes for a big dunk against Henderson State on January 23. The Tigers fell to the Reddies at home but exacted revenge in the away game at HSU.

# A SEASON OF firsts

# RECAPPING HISTORY

## recapping history



**I**t was a year of firsts for the Tigers with new head coach Dennis Nutt, their first year of play in the Great American Conference. The Tigers compiled a winning record of 16-12, which was the first winning season since 2008.

Nutt, who played in the NBA for three seasons with the Dallas Mavericks in 1986-88, also was a top student-athlete at Texas Christian University and Little Rock Central High School.

"I was thrilled that Coach Nutt joined our staff this season," said Athletic Director David Sharp. "His experiences playing on the collegiate and professional levels, along with his coaching and scouting experiences, brought a new dimension to our program."

The season began with a close loss to Div. 1 opponent Northwestern State University. The Tigers fought hard but would come up short 67-65.

After the loss, the team had four-game winning streak, averaging 91 points per game and giving up only 61. They also defeated Baptist Bible in their highest scoring game of the season, 103-67.

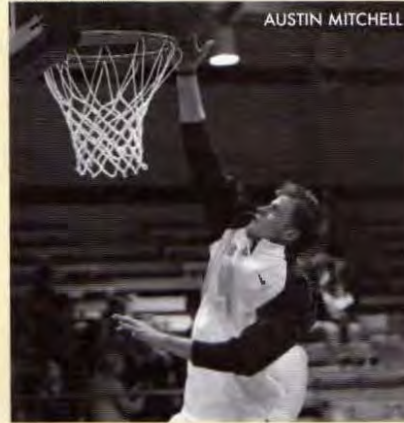
The first conference game was at home against East Central University. The Tigers took this game 87-74, led by junior guard Austin Mitchell with 29 points, shooting 5/8 from behind the three-point line. Junior Julian LaDay scored 20 points and had seven assists.

"My teammates found me on a lot of good open looks and everything I seemed to throw up went in. It was a great feeling," said Mitchell.

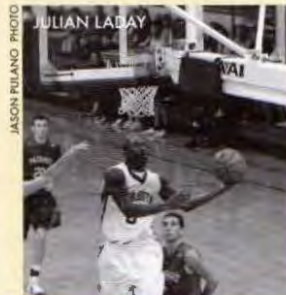
The team then captured wins over Southeastern Oklahoma, Southwestern Oklahoma and Harding, and a loss to Southern Arkansas University. After a five game losing streak, the Tigers pressed forward with a 70-57 win over Southern Arkansas. Junior Michael Morris scored 12 points on



JASON PULANO PHOTO



AUSTIN MITCHELL



JULIAN LADAY  
JASON PULANO PHOTO



JASON PULANO PHOTO

NORTHWESTERN STATE: 65-67  
ABSOLUTE ATHLETES: 89-54  
RHODES COLLEGE: 85-63  
BAPTIST BIBLE: 103-67  
DELTA STATE: 88-59, 62-65  
CHAMPION BAPTIST: 94-73  
NORTH ALABAMA: 75-74, 64-82  
DALLAS BAPTIST: 65-69  
WILLIAMS BAPTIST: 91-78, 86-72  
EAST CENTRAL: 87-74, 70-75  
SW OKLAHOMA: 68-56, 53-79  
SOUTHERN ARK: 69-71, 70-57  
SE OKLAHOMA: 78-75, 55-71, 85-65  
HARDING: 67-60, 69-60  
HENDERSON STATE: 70-80, 93-86  
ARK. TECH: 67-82, 80-76, 62-67  
U of A - MONTICELLO: 56-70, 77-81

**PERFORMANCE//** The Tigers huddle up before a scrimmage against Absolute Athletes, a team out of Little Rock. The Tigers ran away with the game and won 89-54.

4-5 shooting and had a record three blocks and two steals in the game.

The team won four of their last six games, with a notable win in this span over in-state rival Arkansas Tech, ranked No. 17 in the nation. Led by junior Nigel Ramsey with 21 points and 10 rebounds, the Tigers upset Arkansas Tech 80-76.

The season of firsts ended in the second round of the GAC tournament, as the Tigers fell to Arkansas Tech in a nail biter 67-62. Junior Austin Mitchell, the team's leading scorer, and guard Nigel Ramsey were both awarded All-GAC honors.

"It felt good to be recognized for my individual talents, but it would

have meant even more to have won conference and seen my whole teams hard work pay off," Ramsey said.

When Coach Nutt was asked to evaluate his first season as a whole, he replied, "We were pleased with our first year at Ouachita, as well as the inaugural season of the Great American Conference. I thought our guys bought into our new system, style of play and truly played hard all season long. As a coach, you hope your team improves all season and plays its best basketball in late February and early March, and we did that. We hope we can improve on this season and be better next year."

// BY ANTWOINE PATTERSON



WESLEY KLUICK PHOTO

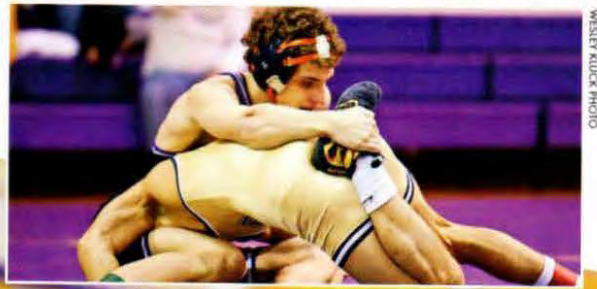
**MEN'S BASKETBALL//** Front Row: John Kornet, Nigel Ramsey, Michole Morris, Emmanuel Engulu, Austin Mitchell, Julian LaDay, David Day; Back Row: Head Coach Dennis Nutt, Eric Brauer, Taylor Smith, Tyler Posey, Colt Fason, Nick Ross, Tyler Gattin, Assistant Coach Logon Johnson.

DALLAS SMITH ▼



WESLEY KLUCK PHOTO

COLE BUNDY ▼

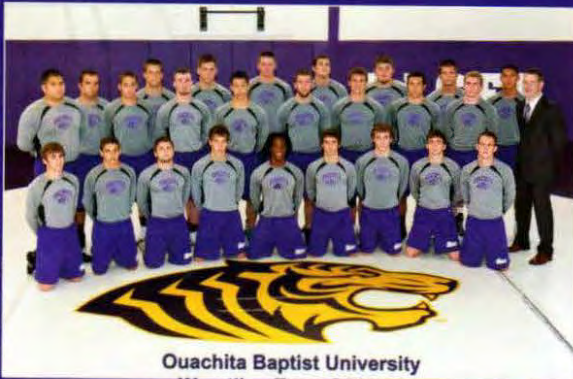


WESLEY KLUCK PHOTO

**TIME//** Sophomore Josh Meyers builds up riding time against a UCO opponent. Meyers was one of four Tiger Wrestlers to qualify for the national tournament.



**TIGER WRESTLING//** Front Row: Shane Fletcher, Tyler Hartman, Seth Hutchison, Garret Evans, Jayzee Williams, Joey Mereo, Cole Bundy, Spencer McMurtrey, Adam Cline; Back Row: Taylor Poe, Cooper Hayes, Ben Cline, Phillip Dolan, Josh Meyers, Gabe Musser, Sawyer Smith, Dallas Smith, Dallas Gracey, Aaron Butler, Tyler Graham, Kyle Farley, Anthony Mellio, Bobby Williams, Zach Smith, Dexter Carter, Coach Kevin Ward.



WESLEY KLUCK PHOTO

Ouachita Baptist University

WESLEY KLUCK PHOTO

**CLINIC//** Gabe Musser and Bobby Williams demonstrate a few wrestling moves at the Hatcher Wrestling Complex dedication. Greg Hatcher, founder of the Arkansas Wrestling Association, was instrumental in bringing wrestling to OBU.

BEKAH HALL PHOTO



# finishing strong



WESLEY KLUCK PHOTO

**COMPETE//** Coach Ward and the team look on as the Tigers take on the Mustangs from Central Oklahoma. The Tigers finished the season ranked 15th in the nation.

**I**n its first year at Ouachita, the wrestling team shared quarters with the basketball players, swimmers, intramural tournaments and activity courses. But now, thanks to a brand new home, The Hatcher Wrestling Complex, the team was able to train in one of the nicest facilities in the state. In what was once the old maintenance building, the 26 Tiger wrestlers from all over the United States were able to train just as well as most Division 1 wrestlers and excel at competing on the mat, thanks to their renovated training facility.

"Recruits are interested in the facilities," said head wrestling coach Kevin Ward. "It's one of the most important things they look at when they compare schools. Having something that's really going to set you apart from other places is going to be really important, and I'm absolutely sure that this facility does that," he added. "So I see it as having a big positive influence on our ability to get more quality athletes to our school."

Convincing quality wrestlers that they belonged at Ouachita was exactly what Coach Ward did. The wrestling team finished up their 2011-2012 season by placing 15th overall

in the NCAA National Tournament in Pueblo, Colorado, and having three athletes named All-Americans, accomplishing all of this in just their second year of existence. Garret Evans, Bobby Williams, and Dallas Smith were the Tigers given All-American honors at the tournament. Coach Kevin Ward was able to lead his team to its first national ranking in the history of the program, as well as the having two Regional Champions, the first in program history.

"The facility was definitely beneficial," said sophomore wrestler Ben Cline. "Just having everything in one location has been a huge help because you don't have to scramble around campus." The wrestling complex now holds a large room with two regulation mats, a spacious locker room, and cardio and weight areas. "We have an ice bath and small recovery room and that was a huge help," Cline added.

Coach Ward didn't mind bragging when it came to his team's state-of-the-art facility. "It's rare that you have a wrestling team to have their own building and everything they need to function under one roof. As far as it compares with the best teams in the country, we're right there with them. We have a room as nice as most Division 1 programs, and nicer than a lot of them. We're fortunate to have this place, and it's one of the best in the country at any level."

"We went from being ranked last in the nation in Division II and now we're ranked 15th and it's just a huge improvement," Cline said. "To achieve All-American status is a big deal, and we have three this year. We had a pretty impressive season."

// BY HANNAH BISHOP



**WRESTLING**

HEAD COACH KEVIN WARD,  
GREG HATCHER, REX HORNE



BEKAH HALL PHOTO



WESLEY KLUCK PHOTO

**WIN//** Sophomore Garret Evans gets his hand raised after a hard fought victory at home. Evans earned All-American status at the national tournament.





JASON PULLANO PHOTO



JASON PULLANO PHOTO

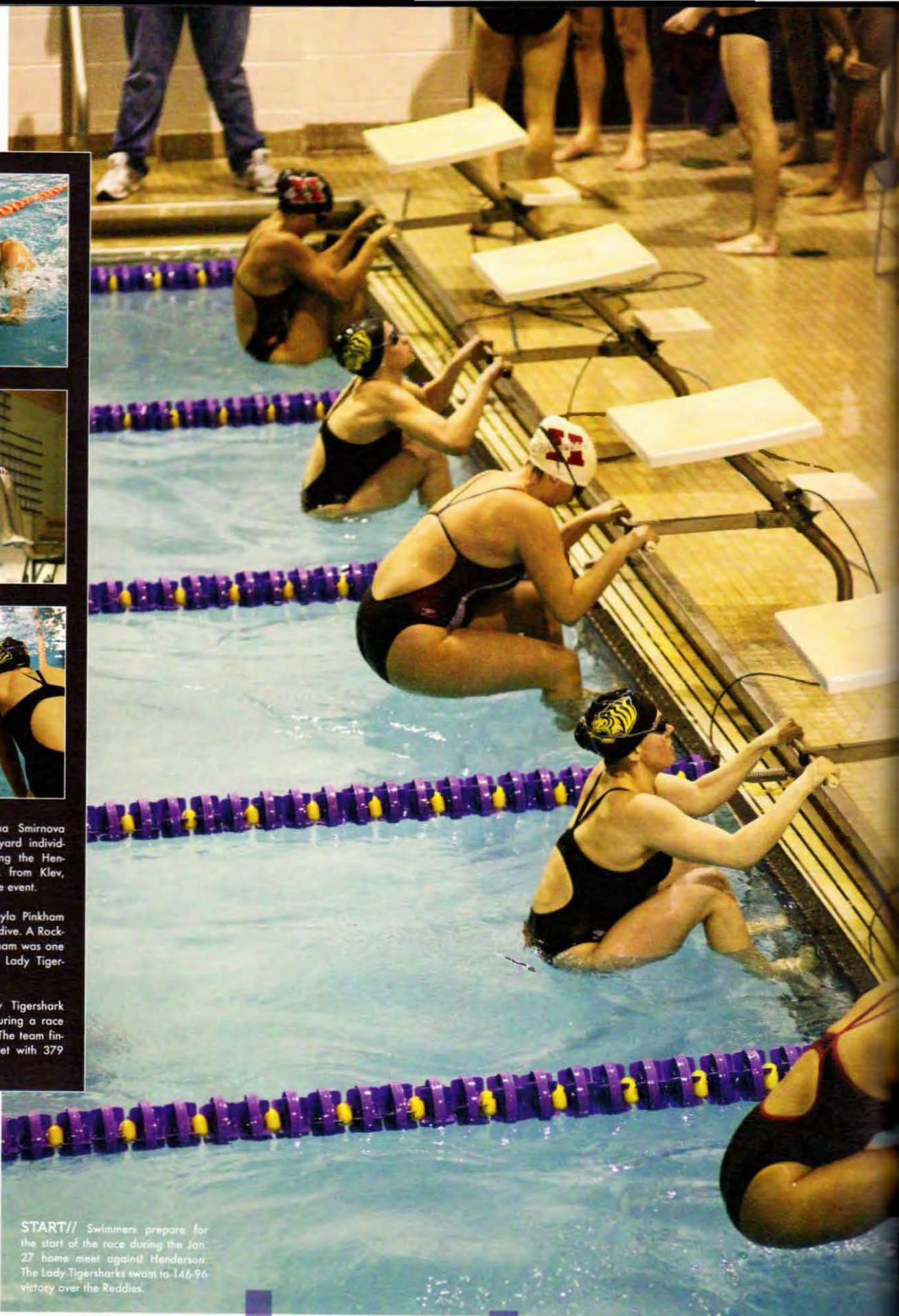


JASON PULLANO PHOTO

**TOP//** Junior Sviltana Smirnova competes in the 200 yard individual medley during the Hendrix Classic. Smirnova, from Klev, Ukraine, took ninth in the event.

**MIDDLE//** Junior Kayla Pinkham rounds out a one meter dive. A Rockwall, Texas native, Pinkham was one of three divers for the Lady Tigersharks.

**BOTTOM//** A Lady Tigershark awaits her teammate during a race at the Hendrix Classic. The team finished the Oct. 28 meet with 379 points, taking first place.



JASON PULLANO PHOTO

**START//** Swimmers prepare for the start of the race during the Jan. 27 home meet against Henderson. The Lady Tigersharks swam to 146-96 victory over the Reddies.

WAVES OF

victory

# RECAPPING HISTORY

## recapping history



The Lady Tigersharks opened their season October 7 against the Lady Red Waves of Henderson State University at Henderson. Kelli Caldwell, a senior music education major from Roonoke, Texas, won first place in the 3 meter diving competition. Jennifer Steele, a sophomore early education major from Tyler, Texas, also won her events in the 1000 and 500 freestyles. Haley Fax, a sophomore early education major from Garland, Texas, won the 200 freestyle. Rebecca Zandstra, a sophomore biology major from St. Charles, Mo., won the 50 freestyle. Svitlano Smirnova, a junior accounting major from Kiev, Ukraine, won the 100 breaststroke. Ksenia Gromova, a senior chemistry major from Russia, won the 100 butterfly and 100 backstroke. The end results of the meet was 124 to 115.

The first home meet of the season was against the University of Incarnate Word. Steele won the 200 freestyle. Gromova won her races in the 200 IM and the 100 backstroke. Smirnova won the 100 breaststroke. The final score was 85 to 157. "The main goal was to get up and swim hard and swim fast regardless of how torn down we are, and I think we did that," Head Coach Ryon Killockey said. "All in all I was very proud of the team. They really come together as a team, swam as a team, and competed as a team."

On October 28 the team traveled to Conway and participated in the season's first multi-team invitational, The Hendrix Classic. Caldwell finished in first place in the 3 meter diving, and Steele won the 1000 freestyle and the 500 freestyle. Gromova won the 200 butterfly. She also led her relay team in winning first place. The team won the meet with a total of 379 points.

The team competed in the Henderson State Invitational held in Bryant Nov. 11 and 12, with Oklahoma Baptist taking first, HSU second, and



JASON PULLANO PHOTO



OBU third.

The team then swam against Delta State University on November 19 at home. The 200 yard medley relay team won first place. Smirnova won first place in the 50 freestyle and the 100 breaststroke. Gromova won first place in the 200 IM and the 100 backstroke. Caldwell won first place in the 3 meter diving. The 200 yard freestyle relay team won first place. The final score was 141-89.

The UALR Christmas Invitational took place over three days in December. Day one of the meet consisted of relays. Steele, Young, Fox and Gromova won first place in the 800 freestyle relay. On day two of the

meet, Gromova won first place in the 100 butterfly. Day three brought a first place finish from Steele in the 200 freestyle.

A January meet with Delta State saw a close loss with DSU taking a 109-105 team victory.

The team won the next meet at home against Henderson 146 to 96, and then traveled to the NSISC Championship in Cleveland, Miss. where they won third place.

Gromova and Steele qualified for the NCAA National Championship meet, where Gromova pasted two new school records in the 200 IM and 100 backstroke.

// BY HANNAH SHULL

- HENDERSON: 124-115
- INCARNATE WORD: 85-157
- HENDRIX CLASSIC: 1ST PLACE
- HSU INVITATIONAL: 3RD PLACE
- DELTA STATE: 141-89
- UALR INVITATIONAL: 3RD PLACE
- DELTA STATE: 105-109
- HENDERSON: 146-96
- NSISC CHAMPIONSHIPS: 3RD PLACE
- NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS: 23RD PLACE

**FINISH//** A lady Tigershark dives to begin a race at the Hendrix Classic in Conway. The Tigersharks took first place in the meet, which was their first invitational of the season.

WESLEY KLUECK PHOTO



**WOMEN'S SWIMMING//**  
 Front Row: Holly Wray, Megan Rishel, Megan Young, Kelli Caldwell, Ksenia Gromova, Jessica Hillyard, Kelley Lester, Haley Fax, Chelbi Smith; Second Row: Caitlin Boren, Kelsey Brum, Kayla Pinkham, Meritell Mellado, Jennifer Steele, Svitlano Smirnova, Michelle Wasmund; Back Row: Ruth Megli, Jessica Wasmund, Rebecca Zandstra, Anneliese Clark, Brittany Ewart.



JASON PULLANO PHOTO

**SHUT-EYE//** Freshman Christopher Price and others catch up on some sleep. The TigerSharks spent numerous hours on the road.

# Swimming goals

**F**rom October to March, the men's swimming and diving team competed in meets across the region. As a whole, the team did very well, placing third at the New South Intercollegiate Swim Conference Championships in Cleveland, Miss.

"We met all of our goals and finished as a strong team," said Nathon Bercow, senior business administration major. "Our main thing was keeping the team together, keeping a strong team bond."

For nearly a week during the spring semester, head coach Ryan Killockey was hospitalized for pneumonia and a staph infection that infected his heart. Assistant coach Kyle Tilley had to step in and prepare the team for several of its toughest meets.

"When Killockey was ill I had to take up the reigns," said assistant coach Kyle Tilley. "It was a huge weight on my shoulders."

Working for Tilley was a learning experience for the team as a whole. This was especially eye opening for the seniors because two years prior Tilley swam in the pool as a competitor and fellow teammate.

"Having an assistant coach that you swam with for two years is not easy," said Bercow. "But you still want to work your hardest for him and for Coach, too."

During Tilley's time as temporary head coach, Ouochita hosted its annual duel meet against Henderson. This meet also recognized the seniors on the team. The 2012 seniors on the men's team were: Nick Bass, Bercow, Kristian Krc, Matt Pope, Austin Teague and Harrison Tomlinson.

Normally Killockey would be the one to present the seniors with their



JASON PULLANO PHOTO

**SPEED//** Junior Carl Johnson digs hard to finish in the 200 Fly. Johnson hailed from Klein High School in Spring, Texas.

flowers, but this year it seemed nearly impossible. This happened to be the day Killockey was released from the hospital, and nothing could stop him from being there for his swimmers. At the end of the team meeting in the locker room, Killockey burst through door with none other than an IV machine hooked up to him. His entrance was soon met by shouts and cheers from his team.

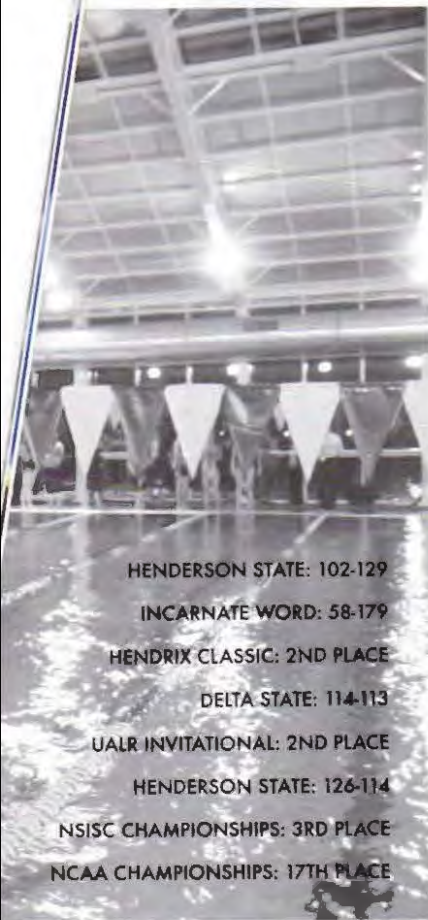
"Everyone was really excited," said Krc, a senior physics major. "It really motivated everyone to try their hardest."

This year marked the first time in several years the men's and women's teams beat Henderson State. With a score of 126-114, including an A relay disqualification, the men finished strong and on top.

The season ended with the NCAA Swimming and Diving competition. The meet took place in Mansfield, Texas. Krc, Pape, freshman Adam Zajoc and junior Marcus Schlesinger were all in attendance at the meet.

"Never lose sight of your goals and never give up," said Bercow. "It will be tough but you will make some of the best friends of your life."

//BY JESSICA WASMUND



HENDERSON STATE: 102-129

INCARNATE WORD: 58-179

HENDRIX CLASSIC: 2ND PLACE

DELTA STATE: 114-113

UALR INVITATIONAL: 2ND PLACE

HENDERSON STATE: 126-114

NSISC CHAMPIONSHIPS: 3RD PLACE

NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS: 17TH PLACE

JASON PULLANO PHOTO



HEATHER ELLIS PHOTO

**TIME//** Senior Kristian Krc checks his time at the end of a heat. Krc, a Conway native, was the recipient of the NCAA prestigious elite 89 award.



□ STARTING BLOCK

JASON PULLANO PHOTO



□ CARL JOHNSON

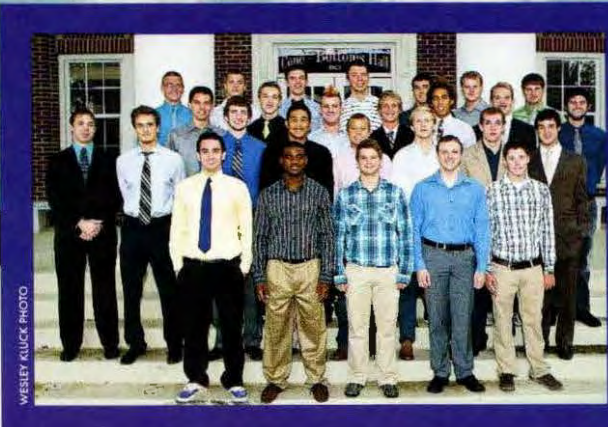
JASON PULLANO PHOTO



**RELAY//** Junior Carl Thomas competes in a relay during the Jan. 27 match against Henderson. Thomas' relay group finished a close second to OBU's "A" relay team, leaving HSU out of a top two finish for the event.



JASON PULLANO PHOTO



WESLEY KLÜCK PHOTO

**MEN'S SWIMMING//** Front Row: Jason Pullano, Carl Thomas, Logan Distefano, Nathan Bercaw, Martin Stevens; Second Row: Student Coach William Wood, Student Coach Razvan Goga, Matthew Pope, Eran Jennings, Christopher Price, Harrison Tomlinson, Austin Lindsey, Hein Hilmer; Third Row: Emile Maritz, Michale Sullivan, Carl Johnson, Kenton Scott, Marcus Schlesinger, Jake McLain, Graduate Assistant Kyle Tilley; Back Row: Dawson Prichard, Kristian Krc, Austin Teauge, Adam Zajac, Jacob Ramaly, Nick Bass, Student Coach Kyle Barlett.



KRISTEN BARNARD PHOTO



HEATHER ELLIS PHOTO



JASON PULLANO PHOTO

**TOP//** Sophomore Kourtney Chumbley takes on her opponent with a direct hit. Chumbley was an education major from Richardson, Texas.

**MIDDLE//** Sophomore Katelyn Barber saves the ball by using her backhand swing. Barber led the team in wins with singles and doubles victories against Delta State and Tarleton.

**BOTTOM//** Senior Kristin Bodine returns a ball in a home match. Bodine came to OBU from Webb City, Missouri.



**LUNGE//** Junior Somantha Street lunges for the ball in order to win the point against her opponent. In doubles, Street matched with partner Lilia Sokolova.

JASON PULLANO PHOTO

TOGETHER IN

**spirit**

# RECAPPING HISTORY

## recapping history



**T**here are times when technicalities don't accurately reflect the truth about a person, or a group of people. This was the case with the Lady Tigers tennis team. Ending with a conference record of 4-5 and an overall record of 4-13 didn't accurately reflect the hard work and dedication the Lady Tigers put into their matches.

A string of lasses began the season, with three 1-8 lasses to Delta State University, Northeastern Oklahoma State, and Tarleton State.

In their dual with the Lady Statesmen of Delta State, the Lady Tigers were only able to record one team point, coming in a victory by Kristin Bodine in singles play. In doubles action, Courtney Chumbley and Bodine fell by a score of 8-4, while Samantha Street and Lilia Sokolova fell by a score of 9-8.

The Lady Tigers hosted Drury on Feb. 2, falling by a score of 9-0 after a clean sweep by Drury. Chumbley and Bodine were unable to find an answer for Bea Juan and Stefonie Monsh of Drury, taking an 8-0 loss to the pair. As they moved into singles play, the Lady Tigers were unable to gain points, and Drury took the overall dual by a score of 9-0.

Leading the team in wins were Kristin Bodine, a junior music major from Webb City, Mo., and Katelyn Barber, a sophomore mathematics major from Mesquite, Texas. Bodine won in singles action against Delta and Oklahoma, while Barber won in both singles and doubles against Delta and Tarleton with her partner, McKenzie Cranford, a freshman mass communications major from Irving, Texas.

With their 4-13 record, the four wins gained this year came from two schools, Henderson State and Southern Arkansas. The Lady Tigers defeated the rivals each time with a score of 9-0. The two wins against Henderson gave the Lady Tigers this

4-13  
season record



KRISTEN BARNARD PHOTO

KRISTEN BARNARD PHOTO



LILIA SOKOLOVA



JASON PULLANO PHOTO

- DELTA STATE: 1-8
- DRURY UNIVERSITY: 0-9
- NE OK STATE: 1-8
- TARLETON STATE: 1-8
- SOUTHWEST BAPTIST: 0-5
- NE OK STATE: 0-9
- HENDERSON: 9-0
- S. ARKANSAS: 9-0
- ARKANSAS TECH: 0-9
- CENTRAL OK: 1-8
- DALLAS BAPTIST: 0-9
- SE OK STATE: 2-7
- ARKANSAS TECH: 0-9
- S. ARKANSAS: 9-0
- HARDING: 1-8
- HENDERSON: 9-0
- EAST CENTRAL: 1-8

**PERFORMANCE//** Freshman McKenzie Cranford stretches out to make a solid hit against her opponent. Cranford received doubles wins against Delta and Tarleton with her partner Katelyn Barber.

year's Battle of the Ravine win, the annual rivalry against Henderson State in every athletic event.

To be awarded a ticket to the Great American Conference tournament, two wins are necessary. With four under their belt, the Lady Tigers were in, making the trek to their own courts as conference was held on campus. Unfortunately, they suffered a loss to their first opponent, Southeastern Oklahoma University, but not without a few wins. Kourtney Chumbley, a sophomore middle school education major from Richardson, Texas, won in singles action, while Barber and Cranford won in doubles.

"I'm really proud of our team,

even though we didn't get very far in conference," said Chumbley. "There's a lot of spirit in our team. We don't take our matches lightly."

With no one on the team graduating, the team grew closer, not having to go through the trials of a teammate leaving.

"I'm so relieved no one is leaving this year," said Bodine. "It's always so hard to see a teammate go, and I'm really excited we all get to be together as a team for one more year."

While the record reflected one message, the team's togetherness reflected another - one of strength, teamwork, and spirit.

// BY HANNAH SHULL

BETSY DANNER PHOTO



**WOMEN'S TENNIS//** Mary Rachel Wolf, Kristin Bodine, McKenzie Cranford, Katelyn Barber, Samantha Street, Kourtney Chumbley, Lilia Sokolova

**DOUBLES//** Marvin Muller and Helge Knuth play doubles at a tournament in Little Rock. Knuth was named to the all-GAC team.

▼ ERNESTO MARTINEZ



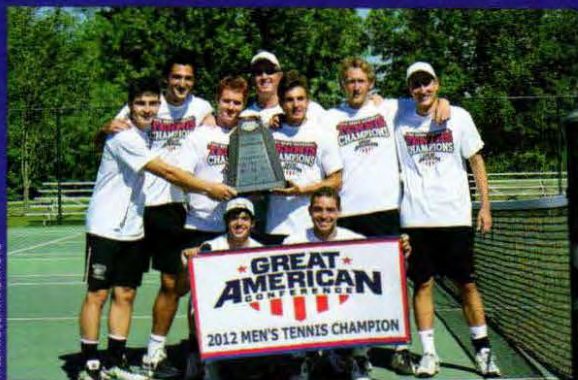
HEATHER ELIUS PHOTO

▼ RAMON VAZQUEZ



HEATHER ELIUS PHOTO

**MEN'S TENNIS//** Front Row: Ramon Maria Abaitua Vazques, Kenny Brasil; Back Row: Teodor Anghel, Ernesto Alejandro Laborda Martinez, James Ingrahm, Coach Craig Ward, Marko Boskovic, Marvin Muller, Helge Knuth.



TYLER ROSENTHAL PHOTO

JASON PULLANO PHOTO

**READY//** Freshman Kenny Brasil gets ready to receive from the opposing team. An Apucarano, Brazil native, Kenny was one of two freshmen to receive All-GAC honors.



HEATHER ELLIS PHOTO

# finishing strong



HEATHER ELLIS PHOTO

**SWING//** Freshman Marko Boskovic, from Belgrade, Serbia, serves during a home match. Boskovic was chosen as the No. 2 player in the region and was given All-GAC honors.

**W**hat do three All-GAC Selections, one coach of the year, Great American Conference champions, and a nationally ranked team all have in common? They all describe the men's tennis team of Ouachita Baptist University.

The team's hard work certainly didn't go unnoticed this year. With the pressure of a No. 1 pre-season ranking and losses in only three sets, the team came out undefeated in conference and were ultimately named the inaugural GAC champions. "We were very excited to win the GAC Championship. It took a lot of practice and hard work," said sophomore Teodor Anghel.

Ouachita's men's tennis team also had the highest number of All-GAC Selections within the conference: sophomore Helge Knuth from Mandelbochtal, Germany; freshman Marko Boskovic from Belgrade, Serbia; and freshman Kenny Brasil from Apucarano, Brazil.

After conference, the team hosted the NCAA Regional in match. In the

first round, Ouachita defeated St. Edwards by a score of 5-3.

The next stop was the NCAA Round of 16 held in Louisville, Kentucky. The Tiger team faced Bluefield State, taking a 5-0 win after weather postponed a number of matches. In doubles play, three doubles teams claimed victory, along with two singles players. The victories secured a spot in the quarter-finals match against West Florida.

The No. 2 West Florida Argonauts came into the match with a 26-2 record. They proved their talent once again, defeating the Tigers 1-6. The lone win came in doubles play with Ramon Vasques and Marco Boskovic.

The team ended the season with a 15-7 record.

Not only did the team win player recognition throughout the year, but also coach recognition. Head Coach Craig Ward was named GAC Coach of the Year shortly after being named the Jim Verdieck College Coach of the Year by the Professional Tennis Registry. In a release Ward said, "Verdieck was a man of impeccable character and professionalism. I am very flattered to receive this award. It is a reflection of the friends, family and players I have learned from over the years."

Ward has been coaching at Ouachita since 1990 and is Ouachita's most successful tennis coach with more than 200 victories to his coaching credit.

The tennis team was young, with the exception of senior James Ingrahm, and under the coaching of Craig Ward, the Ouachita men's tennis team will continue to build on its successful year.

// BY KRISTEN BARNARD

- DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY: 7-0
- SOUTHWEST BAPTIST: 5-4
- OKLAHOMA CHRISTIAN: 1-8
- SOUTHWEST BAPTIST: 8-1
- SE OKLAHOMA: 7-2
- ST. MARY'S: 8-1
- ST. EDWARDS: 5-2
- ROLLINS U: 2-5
- S. FLORIDA: 5-3
- BARRY UNI.: 3-6
- LYNN UNI.: 0-9
- HAWAII PACIFIC: 1-5
- VALDOSTA STATE: 8-1
- GRAND CANYON U: 3-6
- HARDING: 8-1
- NW MISSOURI: 5-1
- EAST CENTRAL: 9-0
- HARDING: 5-0
- EAST CENTRAL: 5-1
- ST. EDWARDS: 5-3
- BLUEFIELD STATE: 5-0
- WEST FLORIDA: 1-6

**season record: 15-7**



WESLEY KLUCK PHOTO

**VICTORY//** Coach Craig Ward visits with Tiger tennis fans between matches. Ward received both conference and national honors, with more than 200 victories to his credit.

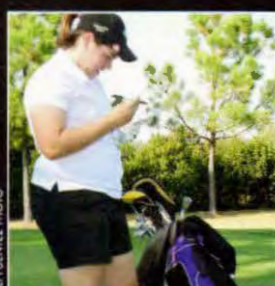




EU FUENTEZ PHOTO



EU FUENTEZ PHOTO



EU FUENTEZ PHOTO

**TOP//** Ashley Jackson fishes for a tee in her golf bag. Jackson was from El Dorado, Arkansas.

**MIDDLE//** Freshman Emily Sinclair, crouches to get the lay of the green. Sinclair finished 13th in the GAC Championships in Hot Springs.

**BOTTOM//** Caitlin Jones keeps track of her strokes at the UAM classic. Jones was named Most Valuable Golfer for her dedication to the program as a whole over the past two years.



EU FUENTEZ PHOTO

**SALUTE//** Freshman Emily Sinclair prepares to tee off at a tournament. The women's golf team traveled to Texas for several tournaments this year.

DEVELOPING

# Success

# RECAPPING HISTORY

## recapping history



**W**e have learned so much but we are still learning so much." Eli Fuentez, coach of the women's golf team, had these words to say concerning the completion of a second season for the team. The women's golf team was started by Fuentez in 2010 and entered the school year with one year experience under their belt and lots of hope for the future.

The women's golf team had seven members competing: Amber Beacham, Allie Brown, Collie Horner, Caitlin Jones, Victoria Mantoath, Morgan Morehead, and Emily Sinclair. Though the golf season is technically in the spring, the girls had the opportunity to compete in two tournaments in the fall semester. Once the season started in February the girls competed in six tournaments, going through April. For each tournament five girls would attend and compete.

With the program still in the developing stage, the girls were kept on an honorary system for their practice schedule. Fuentez expected them to go to the golf course at least three times a week to practice and play at least one round of golf once a week. Practices were held at the DeGray State Park Golf Course.

After competing in the conference tournament in April, the team placed sixth in the conference. Emily Sinclair, a freshman dietetics and kinesiology major from El Doroda, was the number one golfer for the team throughout the season. She placed 13th in the conference out of 38 golfers. At the annual Athletic Awards Banquet Sinclair was awarded the "Most Outstanding Golfer" honor while Caitlin Jones, a junior early childhood education major from Benton, was awarded the "Most Valuable Golfer" honor.

As the women's golf program continues to develop, Fuentez is continuing to learn and grow as a coach, as is the rest of the team. "Really my



CAITLIN JONES



AMBER BEACHAM



ASHLEY JACKSON

ELI FUENTEZ PHOTO



ELI FUENTEZ PHOTO

HARDING FALL CLASSIC:	4TH
UAM FALL CLASSIC:	5TH
HSU REDDIE INV.:	4TH
TEXAS A&M COMMERCE INV.:	20TH
S. ARKANSAS TOURNAMENT:	4TH
GAC CHAMPIONSHIPS:	6TH

**SCORES//** Allie Brown records strokes at the Harding's Natural State Golf Classic. The early April tournament had the Lady Tigers finish in four place

knowledge as a coach has increased so much that it made it more possible for us to have access to more events and tournaments," said Fuentez. "We have learned so much, but we are still learning so much."

Caitlin Jones agreed with Fuentez that the team grew in knowledge and skill in its second year. "We held our own in tournaments, sticking towards the middle of the pack," said Jones. "As a new program it takes time to get solid, consistent golfers. Once we have a sound program, we'll be able to get golfers who consistently shoot low to help build a strong program."

A general consensus within the golf team was an appreciation for

relationships within the teams in their conference. "I enjoyed going to the tournaments and seeing friends from other schools as well as being with my team," said Sinclair.

Fuentez acknowledged that being a student golfer is not an easy task. "Golf is a sport where your everyday stresses of life can affect your performance. It's more of a mental game than most other sports."

For the women of the golf team, though, there was a deep love and passion for the game. "Being a college athlete playing golf is great and something not a lot of people get to experience and enjoy," said Jones.

// BY DEVAN MALONE



PHOTO COURTESY OF ELI FUENTEZ

**WOMEN'S GOLF//** Front Row: Callie Horner, Amber Beacham, Emily Sinclair, Allie Brown; Back Row: Coach Eli Fuentez, Caitlin Jones, Morgan Morehead, Victoria Mantaath.



BUCK SCHROEDER PHOTO

**RANGE//** Freshman Will Hegi practices on the driving range at DeGray State Park Golf Course. Golfers were required to practice on their own time at the course.

# season season

## SWINGING



- BISON FALL CLASSIC: 4TH PLACE
- UAM CLASSIC: 3RD PLACE
- BOOMTOWN CLASSIC: 4TH PLACE
- TEXAS A&M COMM.: 8TH PLACE
- DAVE FALCONER INVITE: 9TH PLACE
- GAC CHAMPIONSHIP: 9TH PLACE

**T**he Tiger golf team began their season with a fourth place finish at Harding's Bison Fall Classic an Sept. 19. Sophomore Bruce Brockinton and Will Hegi led the team with two-day scores of 148.

The University of Arkansas-Monticello hosted the Community Bank & Trust UAM Classic Oct. 17-18. Ouachita sent two teams to the event, finishing in third and seventh place. The third place team was led by Evan Greenwood with a two-day total of 153. He was followed by Bruce Brockinton (158) and Jamie Barker (158). The seventh place team was led by Logon Byrd (160).

Southwestern Oklahoma State University won the tournament with a score of 598, followed by East Central Oklahoma (629) and Ouachita (633).

At the Boomtown Classic in February, the team finished fourth, led by junior Bryce Skinner with a two-day score of 156.

At the Texas A&M Commerce Classic in February, Hegi led with a three-round score of 229, followed by Skinner with a 234. The team finished in eighth place.

In March, the Tigers competed in the Dave Falconer Invitational, finishing in ninth place. Hegi led the team with a two-round total of 152, followed by Skinner with a 153.

Winding down the end of the season, the Ouachita Tiger golf team traveled to Hot Springs for the inaugural Great American Conference Golf Championships. The tournament was held at the Hot Springs Country Club.

The Tigers had a 13th place finisher in Hegi, but it wasn't enough to lift them to the top of the leaderboards as they ended up finishing ninth.



ELI FUENTEZ PHOTO

**SWING//** Junior Bruce Brockinton prepares to swing during the March 27 Dave Falconer Invitational. Brockinton led the team to a ninth place finish by shooting a two-round total of 152.

Hegi finished the three-day event with an overall score of 230, finishing 13th in the field of 45 golfers. During his first day of competition, Hegi finished with a 73 and over the three day event, he never shot over a 79. Skinner placed 37th for the Tigers, posting an overall score of 245, including a 79 on the third day of competition. Barker was third among the Tiger golfers, placing 41st with an overall score of 249. He shot an impressive 76 on the last day of play. Austin Sarabia and Brockinton rounded out the field for the Tigers, finishing with overall scores of 259 and 262 respectively. Sarabia finished day two with an 82, while Brockinton finished day two with an 85.

Southwestern Oklahoma State was the eventual champion, finishing the competition with an overall team score of 898.

// BY ALY SMITH



ELI FUENTEZ PHOTO

**DIRECTION//** Freshman Jamie Barker drives a ball from the rough at the UAM Invitational. Barker shot 80 and 78 during the two rounds of play.

▼ DRIVING AT LAKE DEGRAY



ELI FUENTEZ PHOTO

▼ EVAN GREENWOOD



BUCK SCHROEDER PHOTO

VIEW// Sophomore Austin Sarabia looks across the course as he walks to his next hole. A top five golfer, Sarabia was from Houston, Texas.



ELI FUENTEZ PHOTO

# 2011-2012 TIGER GOLF TEAM

- JAMIE BARKER
- BRUCE BROCKINTON
- LOGAN BYRD
- MATT DAY
- EVAN GREENWOOD
- WILL HEGI
- JOHN MURRY
- AUSTIN SARABIA
- TANNER SIMON
- TYLER SIMON
- BRYCE SKINNER



HEATHER ELLIS PHOTO



KRISTEN BARNARD PHOTO



HEATHER ELLIS PHOTO

**TOP//** Junior and third baseman Bailey Sanders warms up on the field. Sanders, along with junior Megan Askew, led the team with runs batted in with 25 for the season.

**MIDDLE//** Sophomore Abbi Frakes winds up her pitch. Frakes, one of three rotating pitchers for the Lady Tigers, boasted the lowest earned run average for the season with 3.51.

**BOTTOM//** Freshman Jocelyn Jones throws the ball to one of her teammates. An Inez, Texas native, Jones was the only freshman starter for the Lady Tigers.



HEATHER ELLIS PHOTO

**SALUTE//** Sophomore Rayna House pitches the ball at Sully Anderson Field. House earned ten pitching wins for the season.

# A LEARNING Season

# RECAPPING HISTORY

## recapping history



The Ouachita Lady Tigers finished well this year in the new GAC conference with an 18-31 overall season record. Though they had some disappointments along the way, the women learned a lot and have some great season memories.

The season began with a double header against Midwestern State. In the second inning of the first game, outfielder Megan Askew hit a grand slam on which four runs were scored. Ouachita wrapped up with a 9-3 win over Midwestern State. Though this victory was immediately followed by disappointment – a loss of 1-9 to Midwestern State – the Lady Tigers just practiced harder.

Perhaps the most exciting part of the season for many women on the team was the four game series against Henderson State in late February. When asked her favorite memory from the season, first-baseman Alexis Johns replied, "Beating Henderson State University 3 out of 4 in the series!"

The series was a great one for Ouachita, which started with beating Henderson 7-1. The Lady Tigers continued to perform with excellence heading into the second game. Abbi Frakes threw seven innings, giving up only four hits and three runs in the 4-3 game. Ouachita also scored a 2-0 victory in the third game. Though the series was not a complete sweep, because of a close 4-3 loss to Henderson in the fourth game, the Lady Tigers performed admirably in the softball Battle of the Rovine.

On March 14, the Lady Tigers swept the Dustdevils of Texas A&M-International, not only marking a midweek series victory, but also head coach Mike McGhee's 200th victory.

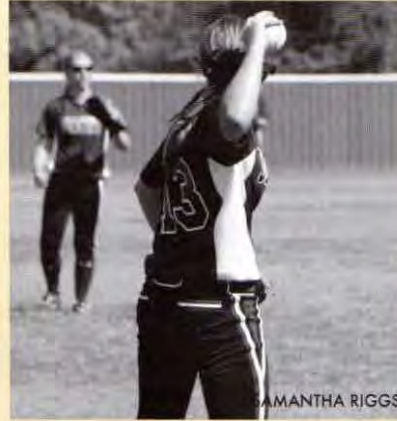
"I am very happy for Coach McGhee in achieving his 200th victory," said Athletic Director David Sharp. "I know he would be the first to say that he has had a lot of good student

18-31  
season record

ANNIESE CLARK PHOTO



HANNAH BISHOP PHOTO



AMANTHA RIGGS



TANNER RUFFMAN PHOTO

MIDWESTERN STATE: 1-9, 9-3  
 DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY: 3-4  
 MISSOURI WESTERN: 6-0  
 MISSOURI S&T: 7-3, 13-2  
 CENTRAL OKLAHOMA: 3-9  
 EMPORIA STATE: 2-6  
 NORTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA: 0-9  
 HENDERSON: 7-1, 4-3, 3-4, 2-0  
 NEWMAN: 4-2, 4-3, 5-4, 6-5  
 U of A - PINE BLUFF: 12-13, 2-6  
 ARKANSAS TECH: 5-2, 0-2  
 TEXAS A&M: 8-7, 3-2  
 DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY: 6-3, 1-4  
 SE OKLAHOMA: 0-7, 0-7, 1-2, 0-6  
 SW OKLAHOMA: 0-6, 1-7, 1-4, 0-1  
 U of A - MONTICELLO: 2-3, 0-1  
 U of A - MONTICELLO: 1-8, 1-8  
 U of A - PINE BLUFF: 6-3, 3-0  
 EC OKLAHOMA: 3-2, 13-1, 1-12, 5-0  
 S ARKANSAS: 0-1, 2-3, 0-2, 0-2  
 U of A - MONTICELLO: 1-9  
 HENDERSON STATE: 0-12

**SWING//** Senior Alexis Johns awaits the pitch from the East Central Oklahoma pitcher. The four-game, April 14-15 weekend series ended in a 2-2 tie for the Lady Tigers.

athletes play for him. We are also very proud of his team's academic accomplishments at Ouachita."

The hard work of the Lady Tigers continued to pay off – the women made it to the GAC Softball Championship Tournament. Though they lost to Arkansas-Monticello and Henderson State early in the tournament, three Lady Tigers received All-GAC Selection awards. First-baseman Alexis Johns, outfielder Megan Askew, and pitcher Rayne House were first-listed on the Honorable Mention ballot for All-GAC Selections.

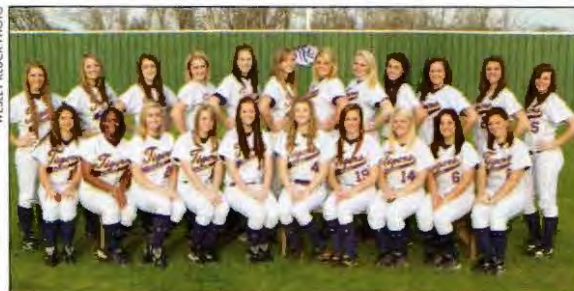
Junior Bailey Sanders commented on what she learned and where she improved this season: "Whether we

won or lost, we knew what we had to work on and we supported each other the whole way...This season I have improved by becoming more of a leader and stepping up in the areas that I needed to. On the field or off the field, I made sure my teammates knew I was there for them and believed in them 100 percent."

Johns reflected on her experience as a Ouachita athlete, "I learned that being a college athlete is something that goes by faster than you could ever imagine. The time that often seems like it drags on, ends before you know it. I was blessed to have had this opportunity."

// BY RACHEL GILMER

WESLEY MUCK PHOTO



### TIGER SOFTBALL//

Front Row: Samatha Riggs, Monica Smith, Oliva Guin, Sarah Watson, Kayley Willingham, Jacelyn Jones, Bailey Sanders, Teresa Mursuli, Nicole Wiganawski; Back Row: Hannah Brawn, Brianna Bailey, Parish Reed, Rayne House, Abbi Frakes, Rebekah Dindak, Shelby McWharter, Megan Askew, Alexis Johns, Jaci Wulfgen, Sarah Strassmeyer, Lauren Bundy.

**STRIKE//** The Tiger defense pitches to the Henderson Reddies. The Tigers went 3-1 against the Reddies for the season.

KEEGAN GHIDOTTI ▼



HEATHER ELLIS PHOTO

TIGER DEFENSE ▼



YANNAKI BISHOP PHOTO



**TIGER BASEBALL//** Front Row: Craig Daniel, Clayton Brandt, McCrae Jones, Landon Flax, Matt Balough, Jace Melby, Duncan Collins, Parker Norris, Seth Childers, Tyler Faught, Danny Aday; Second Row: Grad. Assistant Justin Hall, Coach Jeremy Haworth, Keegan Ghidotti, Beau Martin, Davis Ward, Paul Ward, Lucas Castleberry, Nick Crump, Landon Moore, Tom Ward, C.J. Jacoby, Assistant Coach Issac Dulaney, Grad. Assistant Cass Via; Back Row: Sean Noland, Zac Treece, Kurt Peppenhorst, Ryan Westover, Ben Gielow, Josh Everett, Brock Green.



WESLEY KLUICK PHOTO

HEATHER ELLIS PHOTO

**WINDUP//** Sophomore Davis Ward winds up for a pitch early in the season. Ward came to OBU from Little Rock, Arkansas.



KATRINA KELLY PHOTO

# close to victory



HEATHER ELLIS PHOTO

**LEADING//** Sophomore McCray Jones swings for the fence against the Reddies at home. The Tigers beat Henderson in the GAC tournament.

**A**fter losing Chris Moddelmog as head coach of the past three seasons, Tiger baseball welcomed Jeremy Haworth, a former standout baseball player for OBU, as the new head coach of the program.

After a runner-up finish in the NCAA Division II Championship in 2008, Coach Haworth was confident that his team could compete for national titles.

"I know the school can win," he said. "I have seen it win and I know what it takes to win and do it with integrity and character."

The season started slow with the Tigers losing six of their first seven games. However, the team regained footing in their first home match, sweeping St. Joseph's in a three game series. In game one, senior Ryan Westover led offensively for the Tigers, throwing the entire game while recording 13 strikeouts.

To open conference play, the team went 2-1 in a three game series against Arkansas Tech. Offense was strong in game one, with the team scoring 10 runs and winning by run

rule in eight innings. The Tigers took game two by a score of 5-4 on a walk-off single by sophomore Keegan Ghidotti, scoring freshman Parker Norris.

"Gaining our first wins the first time we played at home gave us confidence for the remainder of the season," Ghidotti said.

Another conference win came after sweeping Arkansas Monticello. Junior Josh Everett captured the victory in game three with his seven inning performance, holding the Ball Weevils to four runs on five hits in the game.

The Tigers ended regular season with a 2-1 series win over Henderson State, giving them an overall record of 30-26, 12-12 in conference.

In GAC tournament play, the Tigers defeated HSU, Arkansas Tech and SE Oklahoma to secure a spot in the conference championship versus Southern Arkansas. After splitting the first two games, the Muleriders captured the conference victory after 11 innings of play. Seniors Tom Ward, Ryan Westover and Zac Treece, junior Duncan Collins and sophomore Keegan Ghidotti were named to the All-Tournament team for their efforts.

Ghidotti was also selected to the All-Arkansas Collegiate Baseball Team, while Treece and senior Brock Green received honorable mention selections.

Treece went on to sign a contract with the Gateway Grizzlies, a professional baseball team and a member of the Frontier League.

"This is a great opportunity for Zac," said Haworth. "This is another step closer to where he wants to be and I know that his talent and competitiveness will allow him to be successful at the next level of competition."

// BY TANNER HUFFMAN

ANGELO STATE: L/L/L/L  
 N. ALABAMA: L/L/W  
 ST. JOSEPH'S: W/W/W  
 CENTRAL MISSOURI: L  
 KY. WESLEYAN: W/W/W/L  
 QUINCY: L/W/W/L  
 HENDERSON: W  
 ARKANSAS TECH: W/W/L  
 RICKENDREE: W/W  
 SE OKLAHOMA: L/L/L  
 DELTA STATE: L  
 SW OKLAHOMA: W/L/L  
 MONTICELLO: W/W/W  
 HARGING: W/L/L  
 MONTICELLO: W  
 EAST CENTRAL: W/W/L  
 ARKANSAS TECH: W  
 S. ARKANSAS: L/W/L/L  
 HENDERSON: W/W/L

**GAC TOURNAMENT**  
 SE OKLAHOMA: L 0-1  
 HENDERSON: W 5-3  
 ARKANSAS TECH: W 13-7  
 SE OKLAHOMA: W 5-4  
 S. ARKANSAS: W 4-3  
 S. ARKANSAS: L 3-4

**season record: 30-26**



KRISTEN BARNARD PHOTO

**SLIDE//** Senior Brock Green stands up from a slide into third base against Arkansas-Monticello. Green was named on All-Arkansas honorable mention selection.





HEATHER ELLIS PHOTO



HANNAH BISHOP PHOTO



HEATHER ELLIS PHOTO

**TOP//** Senior Zack Nottingham practices serving to warm up for a volleyball match. Volleyball and basketball matches were played in the indoor practice facility of SPEC.

**MIDDLE//** Senior Jesse Pruett pitches in an intramural softball game. Over 750 students participated in the intramural league, making it the most participated rec sport of the year.

**BOTTOM//** Freshman Rebekah Taylor and sophomore Hunter Threadgill fight for control of the ball to warm up for a match. Intramurals encouraged working together and fostering friendship.



**SPEED//** Senior Daniel Smith, playing for Kappa Phi, runs for a first down against the Thundercats. The game ended in a victory for the Thundercats.

HEATHER ELLIS PHOTO

FINDING TIME TO

# compete

# RECAPPING HISTORY



**W**ith over half the student population participating, intramurals had an extreme impact on student life. Almost daily, students would be in the gym or on the field taking a break from classes by competing against their classmates.

The fall season started with flag football. Over 400 students combined to make 38 teams. Beta Black and En Fuego captured the coveted upper division titles while Silent Treatment and the Terradactyls won the lower league championships. "Intramural sports has been one of the most fun activities to take part in during college," said Jessica Winstead, a senior member of En Fuego. "It allows for all of us "has-been" athletes to feel like we have still maintained those abilities we once worked years to achieve. That is until we wake up and can barely walk the next morning after the first game of every season."

The later fall semester previously consisted of volleyball and dodgeball, but dodgeball was cut after a public opinion poll to make room for a longer softball season in the Spring. "Although I was sad to see one of my favorite sports go, I was pleased with the extended softball season," said Michael Curtis, a junior music performance major from Wylie, Texas. Soccer was the smallest turnout of the year with only 260 participants. Volleyball, however, saw an increase to 360 participants.

With spring came basketball season, which also underwent changes. In addition to the men's upper and lower divisions, a globetrotter league was created to give teams a chance to dress up, bend the rules, and have fun. "It was a great opportunity for us less inclined athletes to have fun," said David Syult, a business major from Fayetteville.

To end the year, more than 750 students signed up for softball season,



<b>FOOTBALL//</b>	400 PARTICIPANTS 38 TEAMS
<b>VOLLEYBALL//</b>	360 PARTICIPANTS 36 TEAMS
<b>SOCCER//</b>	260 PARTICIPANTS 26 TEAMS
<b>BASKETBALL//</b>	600 PARTICIPANTS 63 TEAMS
<b>SOFTBALL//</b>	750 PARTICIPANTS 50 TEAMS

**SUPPORT//** EEE members attend a soccer match to support their sisters. In addition to providing a physical competition outlet, intramurals became an enjoyable past-time for relaxing and socializing.

making it the largest season of the year. Fifty teams were divided into coed or men's league. "My softball team was made up of mainly senior guys," said Jacob Lively, a senior biology major from Hooks, Texas. "Playing softball was a great way to relax in my last semester. Even though we didn't win a lot of games, I loved our memories."

Blood, Bath and Beyond won the men's lower division while Beta Black took home the upper title. It Could Happen snagged the coed lower, and The Purkaples fought hard for the upper championship. Men could play on both a coed a lower team.

The Rec Sports office had their

hands full in planning the schedules for the number of students participating. "It was difficult with the increase of teams to create schedules," said Demarcus Thorton, a junior business major from Plano, Texas, and assistant director to Rec Sports. "Students have lots of conflicts, but Jeff did a very good job of making a schedule that worked for everyone."

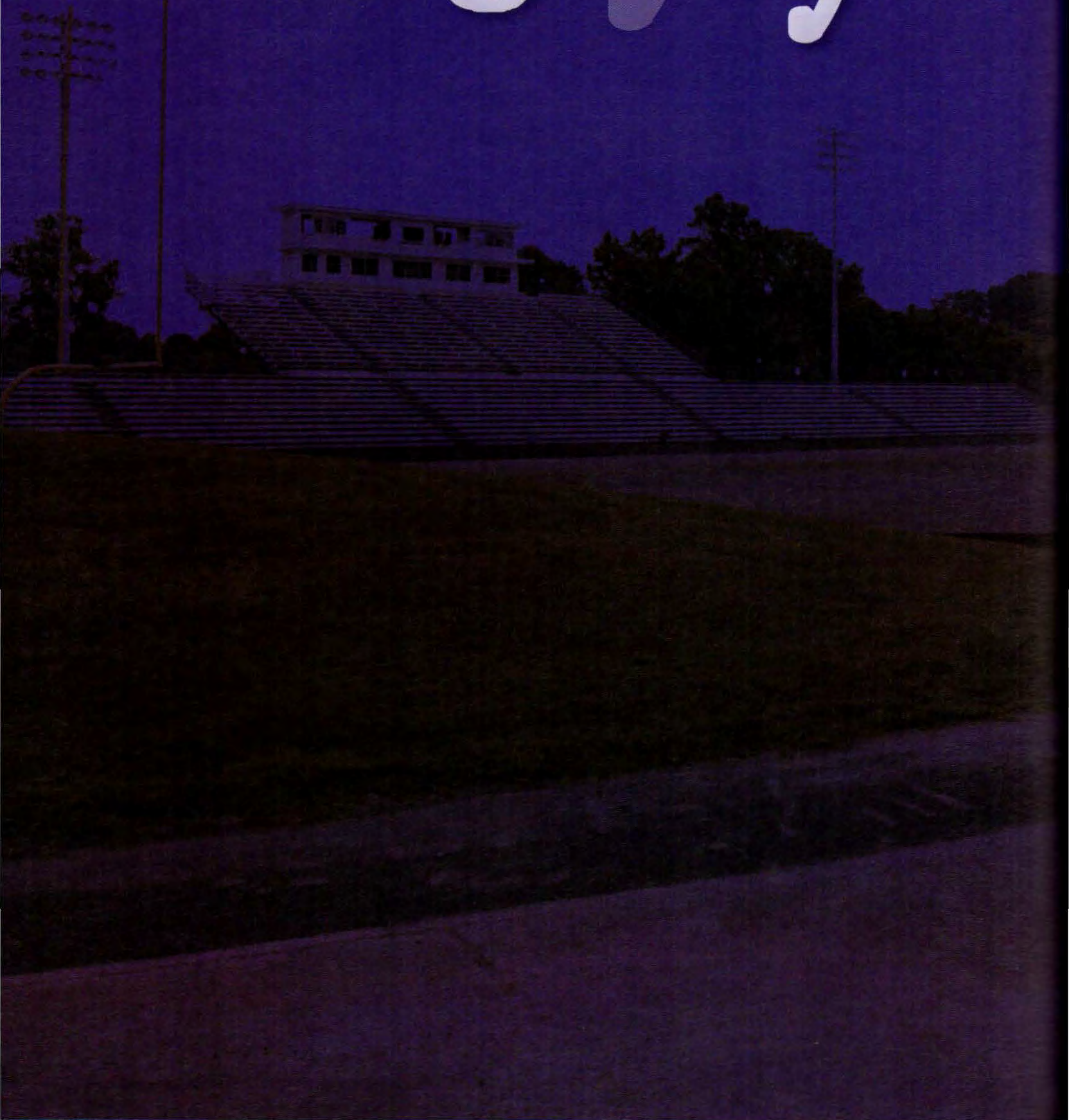
No matter the season, weather, or event, Rec Sports brought excitement to student life. "Everyone wants a coveted championship t-shirt to fuel their athletic pride," said Winstead. "In case you need to know, I am retiring with 7."

// BY AUSTIN KING



**FLAG PULL//** Senior Emily Vinson, playing for EEE Hardcore, takes down freshman Hailee Bezet with an aggressive flag pull. EEE Hardcore placed second in the upper-league women's division, falling to El Fuego in the final seconds of the championship match.

# FIELD OF Legacy



**W**hether you're there from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, whether you spent your childhood sneaking under the fence to play, or whether you sat in the stands every Saturday during the fall semester, A.U. Williams Field provokes memories from every person who has walked through the gates.

The history of A.U. Williams Field is a colorful one, with various locations across Ouachita's campus. Each coach, athletic director, player and donor has left his or her mark on the legacy of the field.

Ouachita first began playing football on a collegiate level in 1895. The sport was still relatively new, so the area where athletes played was the first type of football field in the city of Arkadelphia.

"Sports teams resembled sandlot pick-up games with a little more structure imposed by officials and internal discipline provided by a coach, not a coaching staff," said Ray Granade, director of library services and professor of history. "So things were much simpler and less structured then. The hierarchy of sports under which we operate didn't exist."

A.U. Williams Field is named after Arthur Upton Williams, a physician from Hot Springs, Ark., after a generous donation in 1912. The first field was where Conger and Earnest Bailey dorms once stood and where Gosser dorms and its parking lot currently stand. Early in its history A.U. Williams Field hosted Ouachita's baseball team in the warm months and the football team in the cold months. In 1960, the name transferred to a new football field that was being built in its current location.

President Henry Simms Hartzog transformed the football team and field in 1905 by making a daring decision to remove the responsibility of the team from faculty and students. Hartzog hired professional coaches and organized intercollegiate athletic competition by Ouachita teams, according to Granade. Another step forward came when President Robert Bowers hired Coach Morley Jennings in 1912, and it was during his term that the first field was constructed and mascot of Tigers was introduced.

"Former student Cleve Turner remarked the next year that the team "fought like tigers" and soon other players, then the whole campus, latched onto the phrase to nickname the team," Granade said.

The football program was highly successful in its early years but lacked membership in any kind of regulating body, such as the Arkansas Athletic Association. As a result, many state schools chose to not compete with Ouachita as a result of player eligibility issues.

President Charles Dicken attempted to correct this overdue issue by having Ouachita become a charter member and serving as the first president of the Arkansas Intercollegiate Athletic Association. Even though this participation was a significant change for the football program, students and players still struggled with the level of brutality involved in the sport, but not in the way you would expect.

"No-holds-barred sports were essential to produce 'fearless, sturdy men,' Granade said. "[Ouachita] boasted that athletes' on-field conduct was 'free from all immoral

practices and profane language' and that students under twenty-one produced parental permission to participate."

The original stadium consisted of one set of wooden stands with a field house right next to the field. Only known as the "field house," it was a red brick structure that housed the football players in the top floors and the training room on the first floor.

"The football field didn't have painted lines and boundaries like they all do today; they used powdered chalk to draw the lines," said Billy Jeff Campbell, a 1957 Ouachita graduate. "It worked well until it got wet. The field goal was wooden, not stable and in the shape of a 'H.' It looked kind of primitive."

In 1960 the football field moved to its current location and the original location was developed for dorms. A.U. Williams Field featured lights that consisted of telephone poles with lights hoisted on them, wooden bleachers and small matching stands on either side of the field.

"One of the first things I remember that we did was improve the lighting of the field," said Dr. Jeff Root, dean of the school of humanities and a 1983 graduate. "They were not bright enough to light up the field properly and they were also kind of on eye sore. So we replaced those lights and that made it much easier to have night games, which is important in September because it's still hot."

Over the next few decades, A.U. Williams Field stayed in the same location and slowly continued to improve. The goal post upgraded from a wooden 'H' structure to a metal one, then to the classic 'Y' shape that it is today. The home side stands expanded and aluminum replaced the metal seats. A second level was added onto the press box in the 1980s. The grounds also introduced paint to A.U. Williams field instead of the traditional chalk yard lines.

Most recently, the football field has adopted Sand Based Bermuda grass as opposed to the previous Johnson grass. A brick wall surrounding the field was also added along with hillsides behind the end zones and the brick scoreboard spectators see today.

"We hope to make some upgrades which can include artificial turf, a new stadium and parking areas," said David Sharp, director of athletics and 1979 graduate. "All of these upgrades are dependent on private donations."

Along the things most commonly loved about A.U. Williams Field's current location and is its proximity to the university. The recent surge in tailgating and game day activities has increased the interest in the atmosphere.

"I think all those things make up part of Saturdays in the fall on a college campus," Raot said. "It has been a good opportunity for spirit groups, band, social clubs and other groups of people to enjoy the college atmosphere together at football games. It's a gathering place for people to perform and for fellow students to appreciate their work."

While the look of A.U. Williams field is changing, the feeling people receive from the field has not. From 1895 to 2012, A.U. Williams Field embraces the college atmosphere and continues to regenerate and create memories for those who have walked through the stadium.

// BY JORDAN CAMPBELL



NICOLE MCPHATE PHOTO



NICOLE MCPHATE PHOTO

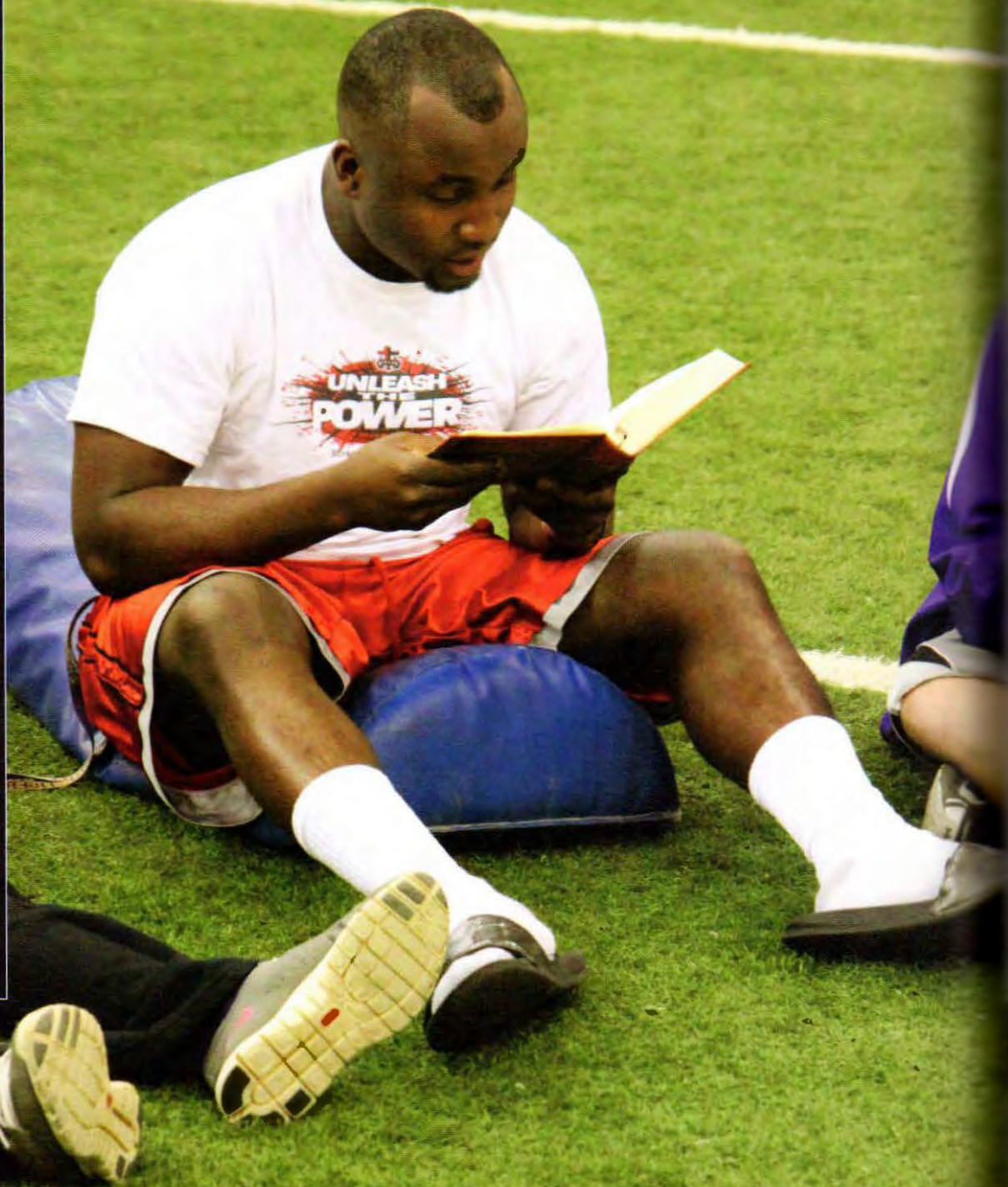


NICOLE MCPHATE PHOTO

**TOP//** Junior Bailey Sanders runs through an obstacle course at the indoor practice facility.

**MIDDLE//** An FCA member runs through an obstacle course. FCA members enjoyed some physical activities before Bible study.

**BOTTOM//** Senior Beulah Osueke gives her opinion at an FCA meeting. Osueke played basketball for the Lady Tigers and was a leader on and off the court.



**DEVOTION//** Augustine Ume-Ezeoke leads a Bible study at one of the Wednesday night devotionals. Ume-Ezeoke played linebacker for the Tiger football team.

NICOLE MCPHATE PHOTO

# CHAMPIONS FOR eternity

# RECAPPING HISTORY

## recapping history



**F**ellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) is a club designed around the concept of athletes joining together to study in the Bible and spread God's word. FCA at Ouachita is popular with both varsity athletes and non-athletes in the community.

"FCA provides students who already have a common interest with the opportunity to fellowship with one another," said Beulah Osueke, senior psychology major and president of the FCA. "Through both a love for sports and God, great relationships can be built and nurtured through membership and consistent attendance at FCA meetings."

With a steady fellowship, FCA leaders organized an FCA Spring Retreat and also participated in the FCA National Convention in the summer. The goal was to learn new ways to approach spreading God's message and to worship.

"During the conventions there were numerous speakers who ministered to the athletes ranging from well-known Division I student-athletes to former professional college coaches and players," Osueke said. "The speakers had great experience and knowledge in the practice of balancing a commitment to Christianity, a love for their respective sport and all of the other trials and tribulations that come with life."

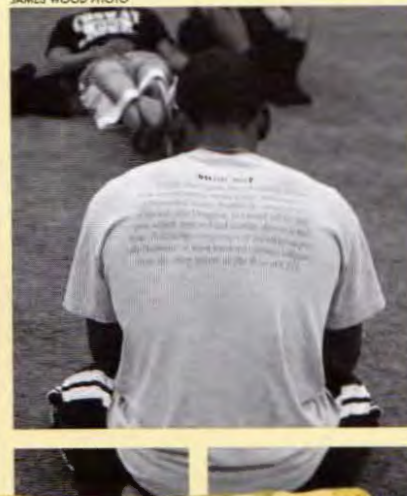
FCA members joined for weekly fellowship on Wednesdays, where speakers came and participants learned and discussed how to put God's word into practice in their lives.

"Many faculty members, such as the Mats, have come and spoken during the FCA meetings," said Bailey Sanders, junior education major and a leader of FCA. "They talk about many relatable topics for college students



NICOLE MCPHATE PHOTO

JAMES WOOD PHOTO



JAMES WOOD PHOTO



JACOB PULLANO PHOTO

**CIRCLED UP//** The FCA group meets in the indoor practice facility for a devotional. FCA members enjoyed weekly fellowships on Wednesdays.

and explain how to make it through college and all of its obstacles by living for God."

FCA also allowed students to take leadership positions within the club. The leaders met on Mandoy nights to plan the devotional that would be discussed on Wednesdays with the rest of the group.

"Being a leader was a great opportunity because I was able to commit to something other than my sport and it allowed me to meet amazing people," Osueke said. "Knowing that my actions affected others, especially in their spiritual growth, was a responsibility that no other position on

campus would have provided me."

While being involved on any team builds bonds and increases patience, engaging in a weekly fellowship built around the idea of a team was a unique characteristic that FCA organization fostered.

"There is nothing more important than preparing our fellow classmates and teammates to be successful in the game of life," Sanders said. "All students strive for success and it's great to hear about playing on God's team and how being a Christian is like being on an eternal championship team."

// BY JORDAN CAMPBELL



NICOLE MCPHATE PHOTO