

Guest artist Jonathan Brilliant constructs his art exhibit titled "Have Sticks Will Travel" in Hammons Gallery. The exhibit was a collaborative effort of the Department of Visual Arts and the Art Department at HSU and was open for public viewing.
photo by: Callie Stephens

Community



C

ommunity was a word that described life on campus. But Arkadelphia was affected by Ouachita's involvement in projects, businesses and efforts in improving the lives of the citizens in Clark County.

More than 673 volunteers connected with the community through Tiger Serve Day. The annual Community Service Awards banquet rewarded students and community leaders for their service to others. Art exhibits like J. Brill's coffee stick sculpture were displayed for the public to enjoy.

A new sense of community was found through "group living" arrangements in plans for new dorms. Dino's Cafe provided a gathering place for both students and faculty to interact off campus, and the Clark County Strategic Plan provided a focus on the future of our community.

One thing was for certain; a **facelift** extended beyond the boundaries of campus.

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K NITTING FOR OTHERS *by Ananda Boardman*

When you open the door of Knit Unto Others, a shop full of all things knitting, you'd never guess that the yarn you see in owner Claire Gehrki's hands is directly tying her into the lives of women in Third World Countries. To understand how Gehrki is tied to Third World women, you need to understand how she started Knit Unto Others. Gehrki taught English as an adjunct professor at Henderson State University in Arkadelphia for 18 years before she opened Knit Unto Others in August of 2007. "I've knitted a little bit all my life, but it wasn't until I decided Arkadelphia needed a yarn shop that I began to improve my skills and learn things that I had never known before," Gehrki said. Prior to opening the shop, Gehrki knew nothing about opening a shop or what running it entailed. "I knew nothing about any of that," Gehrki said. She first thought about a shop of this type when in Little Rock one afternoon with some friends. They visited a yarn shop there and Gehrki noticed an "inter-generational group of knitters making hats for Children's Hospital," Gehrki said. "It was such a friendly atmosphere that I come home telling everyone that Arkadelphia needed something like that."

Her friends and family began to tell her that if she saw the need maybe she should be the one to open it. "Doors began to open and I began to feel that yes, this is really what I was supposed to do," Gehrki said. She began to research and plot her store about when Arkadelphia launched its strategic planning to boost the downtown economy. A close friend purchased the house at 323 Main Street with the intent to make it into Gehrki's knitting store. Gehrki began to do research and look into what it was to be a retailer. "From the beginning I intended to include a lot of charitable activities along with the retail portion of the shop," Gehrki said. She found the name "Knit Unto Others" while researching charitable knitting and yarns online. It was a blog used by several women to recruit others into charitable knitting. "I emailed them and they gave me permission to use the name for my store," Gehrki said.

The shop currently has multiple charitable knitting projects, and Gehrki tries to "sponsor a new one every couple of months," Gehrki said. "I try to vary among local, statewide and even international projects. So we do a little bit from all areas of the world." Two examples are "Knitting for Naggins" which provides knit caps to Arkansas Children's Hospital for the children and their families, and "Warm Woolies," which sends sweaters, socks and other warm items of clothing to orphanages in Eastern European countries. "Knitting for Naggins," which takes place in the fall and is the most popular project, donated about 300 caps last year. Gehrki also knits toys for local foster children and several of her knitters have made woolen helmet liners for soldiers serving in colder countries like Afghanistan. The Internet is a good source for charitable project ideas and many organizations will accept knitted donations.

"I somewhat go by what appeals to me, but I try to choose the things where I feel that the need is greatest. [Also] what I feel my customers will be inspired by and want to knit," Gehrki said. Once she had a name and a building, it took about nine months—late fall of 2006 to August of 2007—to open Knit Unto Others. They have been open two full years and are starting their third. Gehrki stocks various types and gauges of yarn, including Fair Trade Yarns. "It was something I had learned about that very first visit to the shop in Little Rock," Gehrki said. Fair Trade Yarns are spun by women's cooperatives in Third World countries and the profits from the sale of the yarn provide a fair living to the women (some men) and their families. It is hand-produced and you are guaranteed that the people who produce it receive a fair wage and are treated well.

Beginning knitters should just "jump in and do it," Gehrki said. One of her favorite knitters writes in her books that you are not "defusing a bomb." Gehrki offers lessons for beginners that are free with the purchase of yarn and says it is an activity to "just relax and have fun." Karen Brown, a junior English and History double major, started knitting this semester and said that knitting is a "great study break." Brown began with scarves and has since moved on to hats, fingerless gloves and socks over a series of Thursday afternoon hours with Gehrki. "It's a fun and relaxing place to knit in," Brown said of the shop.

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MINISTRY ON MAIN STREET *by Jeffrey Harmon*

Live music, delicious sandwiches, and an adrenalized Dr. Kevin Mott singing the Isley Brothers to the top of his lungs. These are just a few of the positive images that come to mind when thinking about Dino's Main Street Café. These memorable experiences have become common for college students from both universities in town, but very few people realize the enormous amount of faith that went into making this restaurant a hit. Owners Dino and Jackie Ochello are a couple that, through starting this small restaurant, have allowed their faith in God's provision to take control of their lives in a huge way.

Dino Ochello has always been fascinated by the restaurant business. As a kid, he remembered showing interest in how the local coffee shop brought people together. From these childhood memories, God inspired Dino to create an atmosphere of great food and fellowship. Despite this inspiration, Dino felt that he was too young to make a real impact in the restaurant industry. "I was young and single," Dino said, "I didn't think I could do it."

After graduating with a marketing degree from Mississippi State University, Dino took a job in Hot Springs as a golf pro for seven years. He then got married and held several marketing jobs for major corporations in Little Rock. "I was making good money - enough to where Jackie was able to stay at home."

Even after having such great success in the business world, Dino still felt that opening a restaurant was something he was supposed to do. This vision became a reality after sharing it with his wife. They did research and decided that Arkadelphia, a town with two universities, would be a great place to start a restaurant. "We want to build relationships with students," they emphatically stated. These relationships, more than preparing great food, are what they feel the Lord calling them to pursue.

After working out the details for the restaurant, the Ochellos experienced some difficulties with their plans, resulting in them nearly giving up on their dream. Three years passed, however, and God opened doors that rekindled their passion once again. Dino made a trip to Arkadelphia and found out that a vacant building was available downtown that was the perfect size for a restaurant. "We wanted it to have a stage so students could display their musical talents," Dino said. "We also really liked the loft feel."

After all of the necessary steps were taken, Dino's Main Street Café finally opened in 2007. Although there were obvious setbacks, the Ochellos have found great reward since starting this ministry. "The relationships we've built have been awesome," Dino said. "Students just like to come in and talk to us. We're almost like their parents away from home," Dino said with a grin. Austin Walker, a junior Christian studies major from Benton, is one of the many students who have come to love Dino's. "It's definitely cool how they're so relational. Every time you walk in there, they not only greet you with a smile but they also know your name," Walker said.

Not only has Dino's been a place for individuals, but the Ochellos have also opened their restaurant up to other groups to use - at no charge. Jimmy Darby, student minister at First Baptist Church, has used Dino's several times for various youth events. "It gives us a place to go in town where our students can see Christians living out their faith," Darby said. "Most places are just about making the buck or turning a profit, but Jackie and Dino really want to see something come about for the Kingdom."

Faith. It's something that many people claim to possess, but is seldom ever seen. Faith requires action, and is often followed by periods of uncertainty and waiting. The Ochello family has endured a lot to remain faithful to God. They've sacrificed their time, money and security to get out of their comfort zone to make a difference in the community. No matter what happens, Dino and his family will continue to live their lives in complete obedience and faithfulness to the Lord. "I'm relying on the Lord to show me what's next," Dino said. "People say you have to have this or that. I don't have that mentality. As for the future, we're just going to do what God wants."

the women of
Tri Chi
Togetherness in Christ
est. 1989



Pledge class
2007

Pledge class
2008



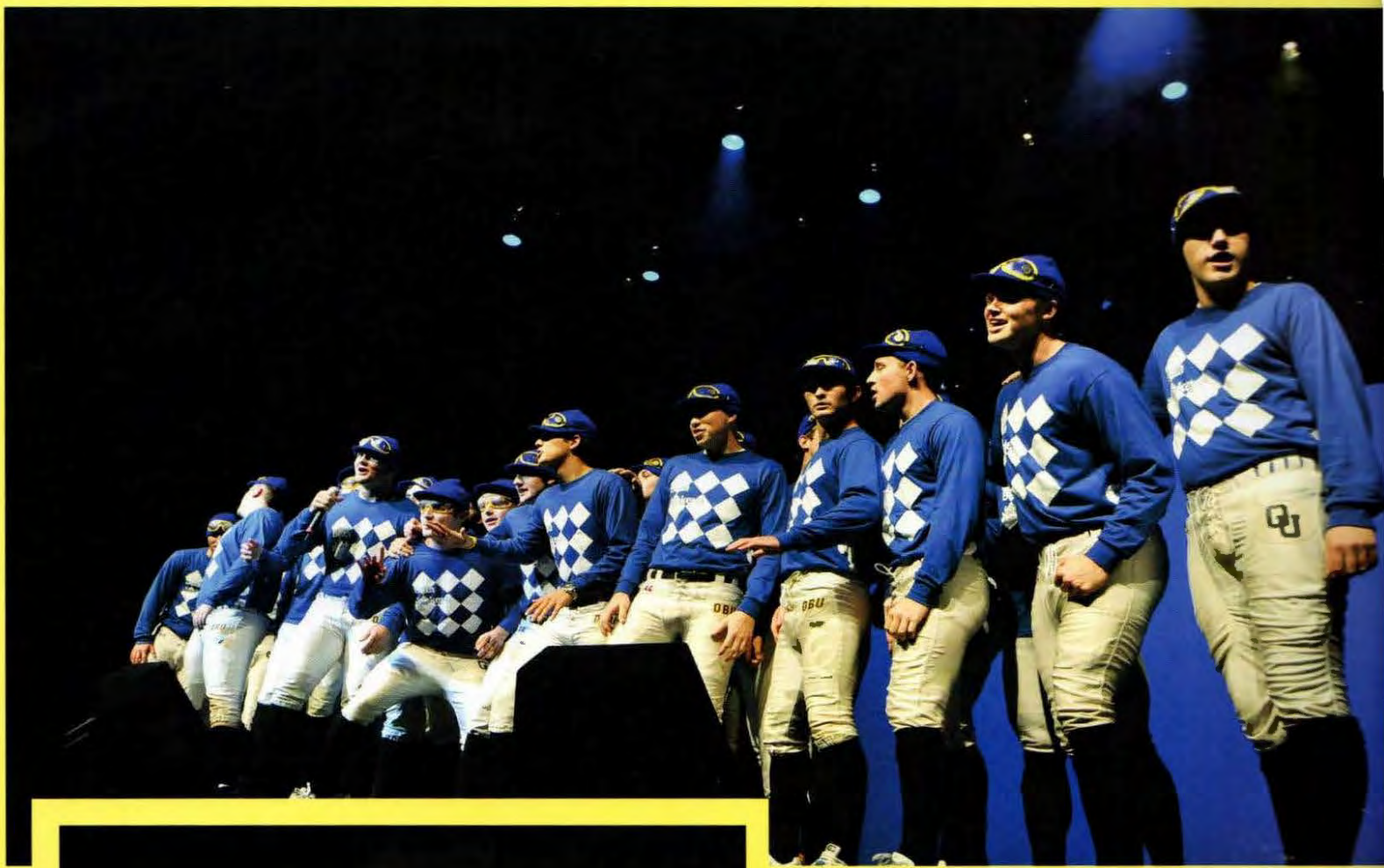
Pledge class
2009

Pledge class
2010



THE MEN OF BETA BETA EST. 1941





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'07

The Women of **III**
est. 1925

'09





'08
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'10

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SPREADING CHRISTMAS CHEER by Molly Magee

Service has always been at the heart of students. As we celebrated the birth of our Savior, students during Christmas time seemed to take on an even different meaning of giving back to the community, at home and around the world.

Operation Christmas Child was a ministry through Samaritan's Purse. Through the project, students loaded shoe boxes full of things for children including school supplies, hygiene products and toys. The boxes were then wrapped in Christmas paper and were delivered to needy children all over the world. As they receive the boxes, the children are presented with the gospel and are also given the chance to participate in a discipleship ministry.

Mason Hayes, a sophomore business major from Cabot, Ark., and Caitlyn Wamble, a Christian studies and missions major from Pine Bluff, Ark., hosted a collection of the boxes on campus this year with the help of Campus Ministries. They were responsible for spreading student awareness of the project and hosting a party to pack the boxes.

Students responded with 35 boxes. Some students took the time to buy the items for the boxes themselves, while others did the project with their friends. Social clubs and Freshman family groups jumped on board with a chance to serve internationally and also helped contribute to the project.

"I think it's important that we sometimes realize how blessed we are and then take that to the next level by giving to those who are less fortunate than us," said Hayes, "whether that be serving internationally or locally."

The Angel Tree project was common in many communities during the holidays. This year, more families were in need of help during this time so their children would have some presents and some necessities under the Christmas tree.

The Angel Tree project was hosted by the Junior Auxiliary of Arkadelphia. Families in the community filled out paperwork and their children were anonymously placed on a Christmas tree at Wal Mart in town for families, students, and other members of the communities to have a chance to serve them. The Christmas tree was covered in cardstock paper with a wish list of items the child needs such as shoes and jackets and a wish list of items the child wants for Christmas.

Megan Gentry, a senior English and mass communications double major from Alexander, Ark., said, "I particularly like the Angel Tree program because it's such a narrow scope. I know that I'm helping provide one specific little girl with a Christmas morning she might not otherwise have."

Gentry saw a need in lending a hand in the efforts now more than ever. "It seems like I've always known about Angel Tree, but it became more real to me this year when my professor and mentor Dr. Mary Beth Long told me that there were 500 Angels in Clark County that wouldn't have Christmas if someone didn't sponsor them."

Gentry joined with three other friends and chose a four year old girl from the Angel Tree. They went shopping together and "were all very excited to browse through Barbies and princesses," said Gentry. The experience was fun for her and her friends, but more than that, it made them look around their community and see that there are needs that need to be met.

Gentry said of needs in the community around her, "I'm living here for just a short time, but this town is so welcoming of college students. The churches are so eager to welcome students, and there are tons of small businesses and individuals that take a real interest in the thousands of students that come and go through this city. For all that Arkadelphia has done for me, it'd be a shame for me to not leave at least one small mark of service behind."

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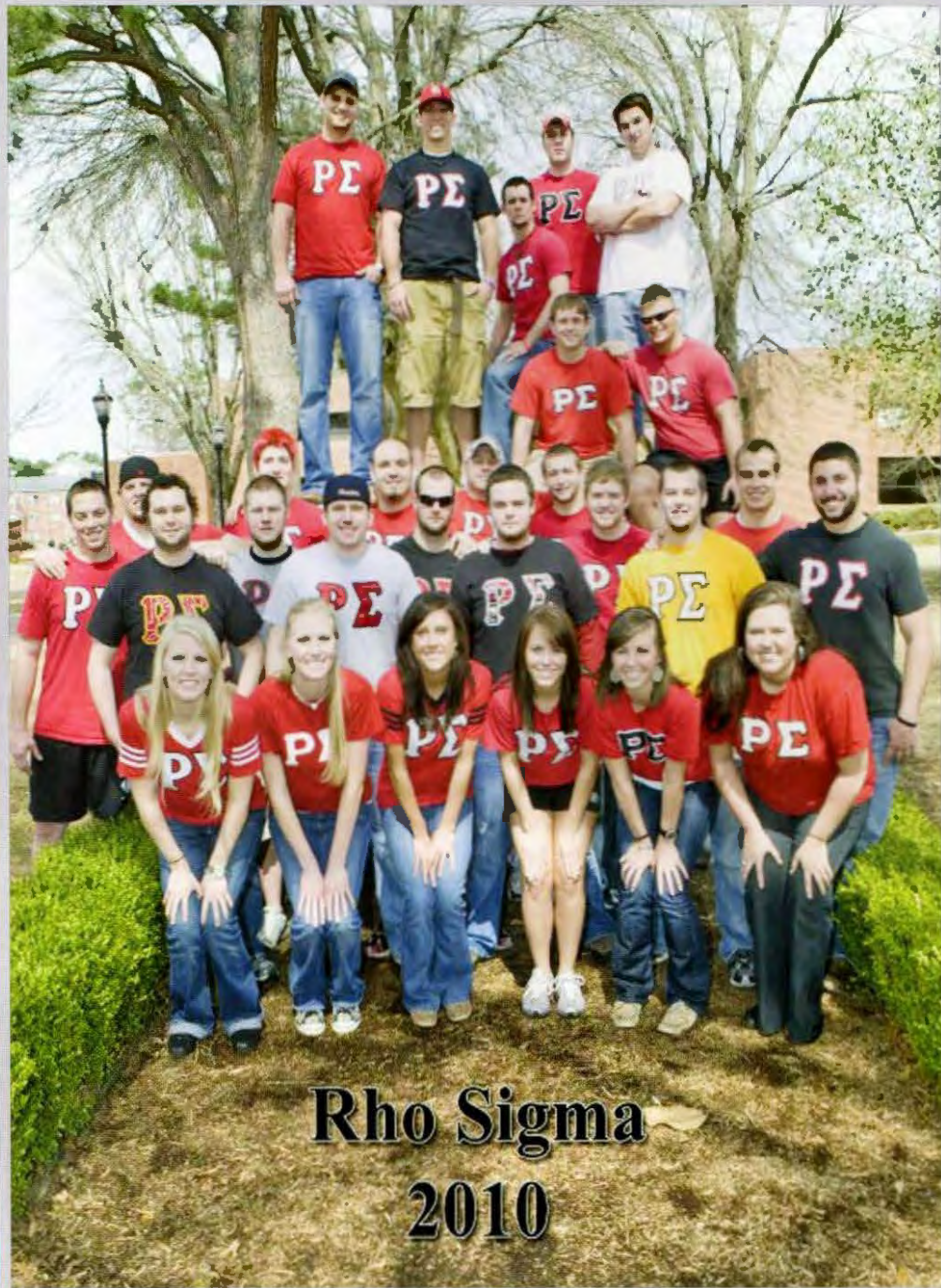
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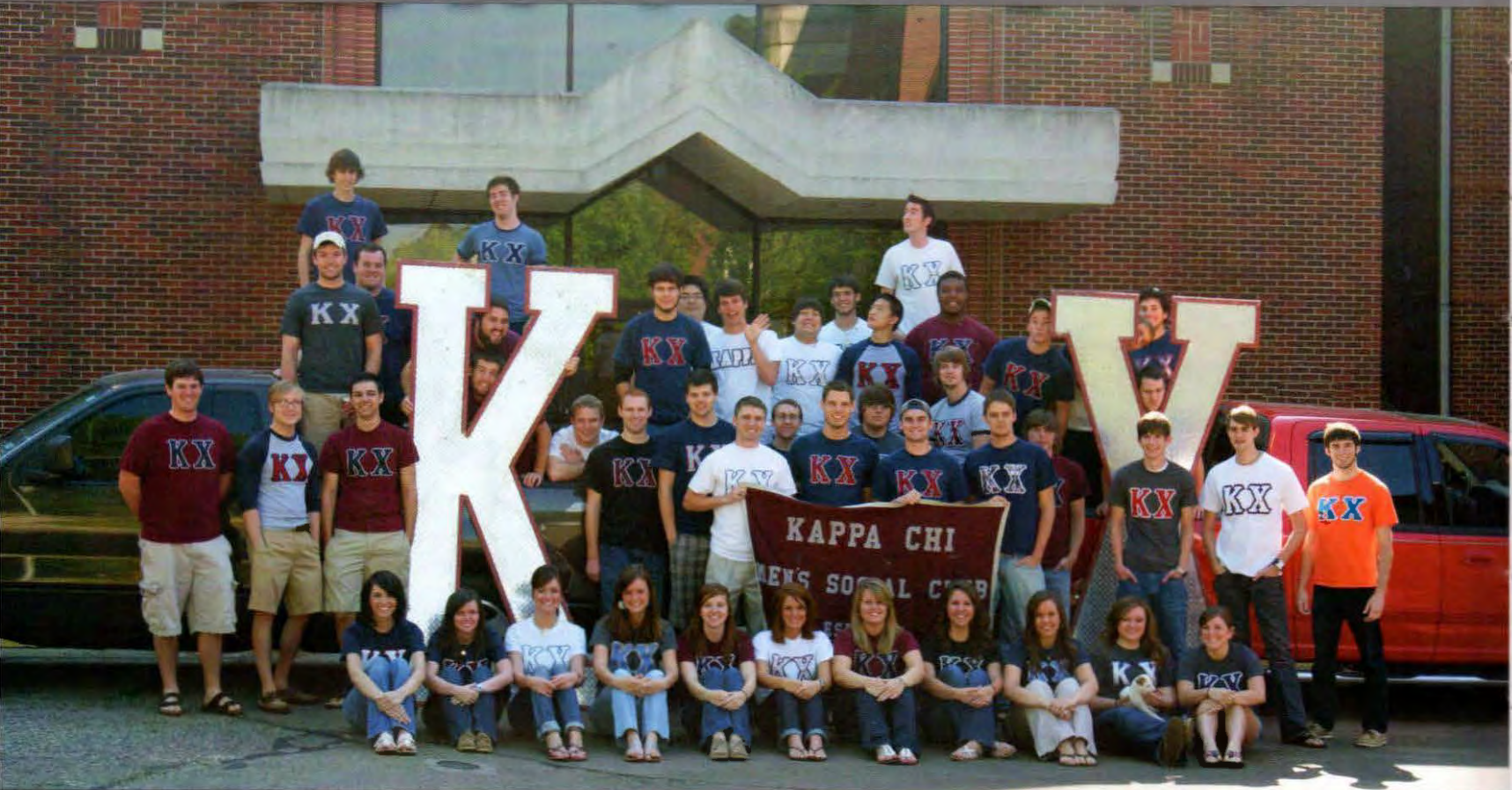


Rho Sigma
2010

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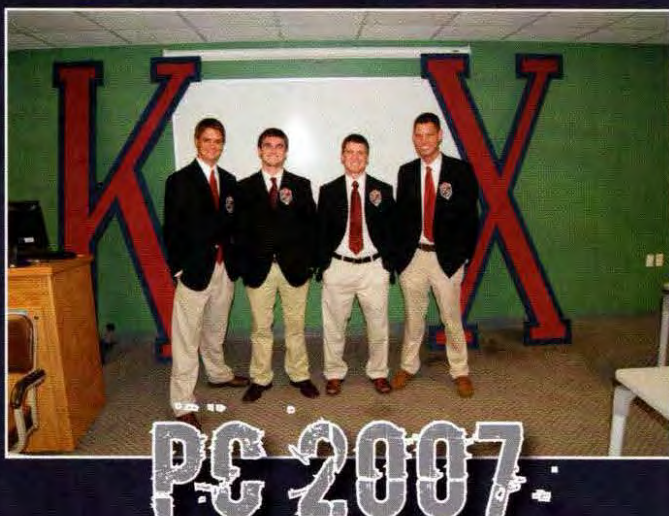
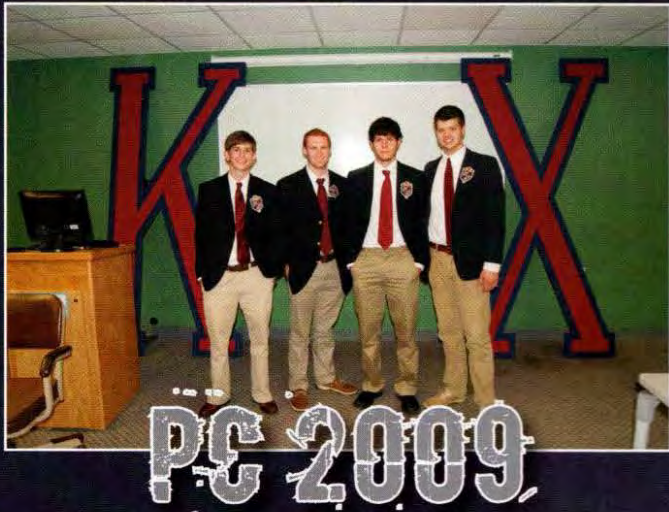
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loves at all
times, and a
BROTHER is
born for
adversity.”**

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CHI RHO PHI



Christ the Lord
my Love
Est. 1999



Miss Arkansas 2010

Alyse Eady



photo by: Wesley Kluck

Alyse Eady, a 2010 graduate of Ouachita Baptist University, was crowned Miss Arkansas 2010 on Saturday, July 17, at Summit Arena in Hot Springs. "It was such a surreal moment. I've seen the crowning video, and it doesn't feel like it's me," Eady said in an interview with KTHV-11. "I'm still so excited about it, and I'm honored to be Miss Arkansas 2010."

Eady, who majored in mass communications and speech communication at Ouachita, works as the fundraising and event coordinator for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. She is the daughter of Lewis and Lady Eady of Fort Smith; her father is a member of the Ouachita Board of Trustees. "We join so many others in congratulating Alyse for being named Miss Arkansas 2010," said Ouachita President Rex Horne. "I have observed Alyse during her years here and have deep appreciation for Alyse and her fine family."

Eady, 22, competed as Miss South Central Arkansas with the platform issue of "Developing Leaders: Boys and Girls Club of America." She was awarded a \$20,000 Miss Arkansas scholarship as well as \$50,000 in additional awards, wardrobe, transportation and gifts. She also was the Coleman Dairy Overall Talent Award winner with her musical ventriloquist act, "I Want to Be a Cowboy's Sweetheart." Eady, who also reigned as the 2004 Miss Teen Arkansas, will compete in the 2011 Miss America pageant in January.

Eady was one of six contestants with Ouachita ties who competed in this year's Miss Arkansas pageant. Other contestants included Bethany Briscoe, a 2010 Ouachita graduate with a double major in graphic design and mass communications from Plano, Texas; Kristen Glaver a senior chemistry major from Stuttgart; Molly Johnson, a senior biology major from Gillett; Abby Turner, a senior business administration major from Sherwood; and Bethany Whitfield, a senior history major from Bryant.

Glaver, who was named 3rd runner-up, also was named the Miss Arkansas Pageant Executive Directors Crowd Favorite. She also won a Preliminary Artistic Expression in Talent Award and the Eco-Tool Green and Gorgeous Award. Briscoe, who competed as Miss Ouachita Baptist University, was a Top 10 finalist, and Johnson won the Shannon Albright Miss Congeniality Award. Whitfield, a former Miss OBU, was awarded the Miss America Community Service Award and the Brad Hudgens/Morgan Stanley Finance and Investment in Leadership Award. She also won a Lifestyle and Fitness in Swimsuit Preliminary Award.

"We are proud of our six young ladies from Ouachita who represented us so well in the Miss Arkansas pageant," President Horne noted. "They all did extremely well." -by Treennis Henderson



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