



Baseball Team- 1907

# SPORTS

With a loud **BOOM-A-LACKA** the fans and **CHEERLEADERS** showed their support. The **BAND** joined in with the Alma Mater and the team came out onto the field.

In the fall the **SOCCER** team came alive under new Head Coach Alex Denning. The **FOOTBALL** team witnessed the best season since 1985; and the **VOLLEYBALL** and **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL** teams provided opportunities for newcomers to shine.

In the spring the **SWIM** teams refocused and regrouped as Coach Ryan Killackey took on new leadership roles as the head coach. The **MEN'S TENNIS** team reigned victorious as they made it all the way to the NCAA regional match up while earning numerous other GSC awards.

From the stands to the court or field, Tiger spirit was just as alive **TODAY** as it was **YESTERDAY**.





**Supporters** With pom pons in hand, fans and band members cheer on the Tigers. At football games the student section was full of students decked out in purple.  
*photo by: Danny Brown*

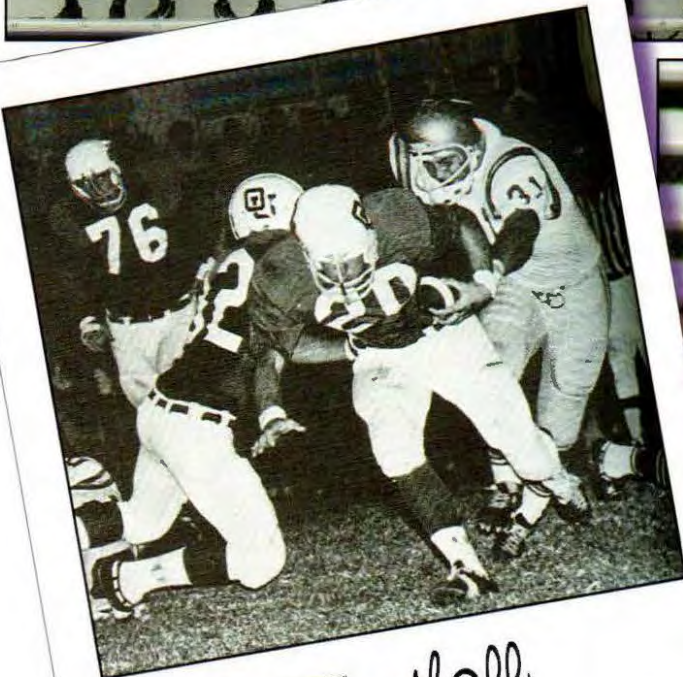
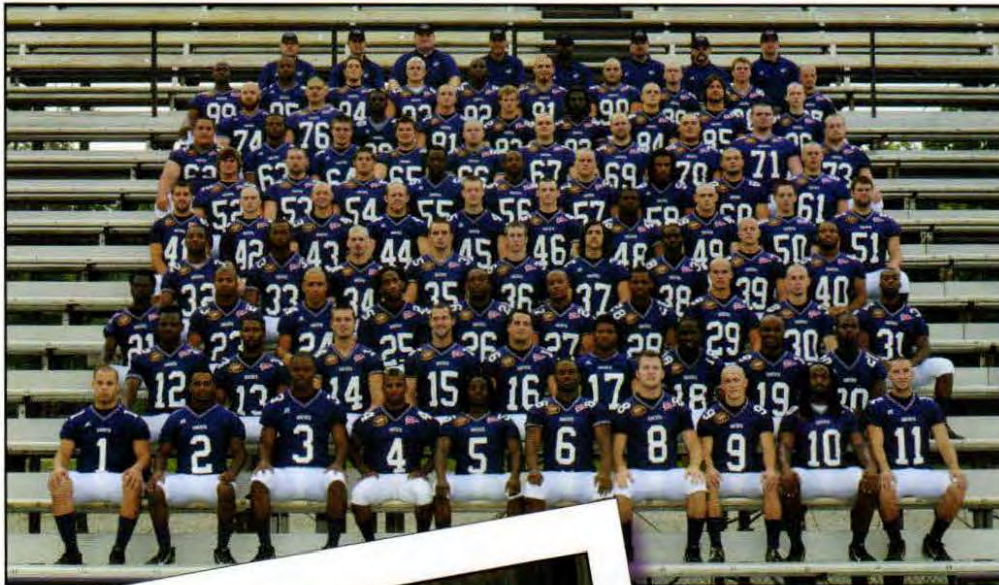




**Long Hours** Inside linemen practice drills during practice. A major key to the team's success was the stability of the offensive and defensive lines.  
photo by Carmen Merrick

**Celebrate** Tiger receivers celebrate after a touchdown at A.U. Williams Field. The team was 4-1 at home.  
photo by Danny Brown

**Football Team** members are **Front Row:** Jeremy Young, Nico Hobbs, Julius Pruitt, Kendall Council, Keldrick Johnson, Mikhail Lindsey, Eli Cranor, Mark Cain, Antwon Thompson, Jerrad Nutt. **Second Row:** Travis Anderson, Desmond Smoot, Lance Parker, Josh Langley, Blake Burkett, Alden Loche, Terrence Garrett, Denszell Brown, Jonathan Browning. **Third Row:** Jamerson Tolbert, Tyler George, Tyler Thompson, Terrence Baker, Chris McAlpine, Patrick Dukes, Clinton Dewitt, Tyler Weddle, Germaine Gilbert. **Fourth Row:** Jimmy Pinkney, John Johnson, Nathan Wright, Joshua Ramer, Chad Emmons, Thomas Hollenbeck, A.J. Williams, Jordan Gay, Robert McKee. **Fifth Row:** Zach Wright, Kelsey Salmon, Travis Yarbrough, Tim Erwin, Ryan Gorman, Kyle Sineath, Frank Espy, Chad Bowman, Quint Ashburn, Jacob Harris. **Sixth Row:** Graham Cole, Matt Sawyer, Michael Happel, Eric Butler, Tron Ross, Tucker Gilbert, Jerry McNeil, Austin Evans, James Hamilton. **Seventh Row:** David Lopez, Cory Godbolt, Tyler Butler, Kyle Barnard, Andrew Myers, Kyle Smith, David DeYoung, Jacob Raine, Anthony Hamm, Kyle Watkins. **Eighth Row:** David Hollis, Michael Green, Michael Iheanacho, Chase Gardner, Adam Cooper, Johnathan Smith, Phillip Supernaw, Bob Ruffing, David Landers. **Ninth Row:** Roy Richard, Danny Gray, Brady King, Josh Mills, Taurus Williams, Bryan Church, Daniel Crellin, Ian Delaplaine, Kyle Garner, Stoney Patton. **Back Row:** Coaches Jay Derby, Landon Keopple, Brett Shockley, Head Coach Todd Knight, Osita Alaribe, Tim Baker, J.R. Eldridge, Patrick Turner.



## Football

The 1970 football team won the Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference championship.



**Break** Junior KJ Johnson breaks a tackle at the line. Johnson finished second in the GSC in rushing with 996 yards and 10 touchdowns.  
photo by Danny Brown





# Tradition Restored

BY: ALAN GREENWOOD

The difference came in the form of red zone efficiency. The Tigers made clutch plays when it mattered the most. The result was a 7-3 season, which the university hadn't witnessed since 1985. The process it took to get there was a roller-coaster ride of a story written with dramatic finish.

A hard fought 30-27 victory at Harding University changed the course of the season, and quite possibly the end of the program for years to come. The victory gave the Tigers a shot at finishing strong in its final four games. Against Southern Arkansas on Homecoming, the Tigers led on both sides of the ball, winning 30-14.

What happened in the course of the final three games is what fans and the program will never forget. Starting with a shootout at non-conference Southwest Baptist, the Tigers won 47-45 and the next week beat West Alabama in another offensive onslaught, 45-43. Going into week 10 against cross-town rival Henderson State, the Tigers were assured of their first winning season since 1985. However, the team and specifically Head Coach Todd Knight, looking strong against Henderson State meant everything to the program.

"It came down to execution down the stretch," Head Coach Todd Knight said. "Now we believe we can play with anybody in the country."

Not even Hollywood could have scripted a better ending to the 2008 season. It was a roller coaster night for both teams, going back and forth in the fourth quarter, but a 30-yard pass from senior quarterback Lance Parker to senior wide receiver Julius Pruitt tied the game at 36-36. Then Parker ran for a two-yard score with 3 minutes,

13 seconds left and that would be enough, as the Tigers scored 27 points in the fourth quarter alone, winning 43-36. Pruitt, who finished with 10 receptions for a school record 250 yards and four touchdowns. Pruitt's final touchdown to tie the game at 36-36 was featured on ESPN's Sportscenter, as the number five play of the day in all of sports.

The squad finished the regular season at 7-3, and 5-3 in Gulf South Conference play. It was the best finish since 1985, a team that Knight was a senior player on. The difference in 2008 came in the caliber of efficiency in Red Zone offense and defense. The Tigers were second in the GSC in red zone offense and fourth in defense. The team also finished second in league play in both allowed sacks (9) and turnover margin with a plus-11 ratio.

Leading the attack offensively was senior quarterback Lance Parker, who finished the season with 2,475 yards passing and 20 touchdowns. Parker was second in the GSC in passing efficiency. Pruitt finished a stellar career with 1,116 yards receiving and 11 touchdowns, good enough for second all-time in school history.

Defensively, sophomore Terrance Garret had a banner season with 91 tackles and a second team GSC selection. Junior defensive lineman Jerry McNeil led the defense with 10 sacks, as sophomore Jamerson Tolbert grabbed four interceptions to lead the secondary unit.

The 2008 season will remain in the minds of fans and players alike for the resiliency the team displayed throughout the season. It was the season that was in the works for years, and it all played out brilliantly with a final touchdown that forever cemented the legacy of the team that restored gridiron history.

## 7-3 overall scoreboard

FORT LEWIS COLLEGE  
58-7

WEST GEORGIA  
41-17

VALDOSTA STATE  
6-29

DELTA STATE  
17-35

ARKANSAS-MONTICELLO  
22-44

HARDING  
30-27

SOUTHERN ARKANSAS  
30-14

SOUTH-WEST BAPTIST  
47-45

WEST ALABAMA  
45-43

HENDERSON STATE  
43-36



# A New Standard

BY: ANNA BEESON & TANNER HUFFMAN



**Stunt** The squad forms a pyramid during the Battle of the Ravine football game. Sophomore Molly Johnson, freshman Savannah Pendergrass and senior Stephanie Glenn were the fliers for the squad.

photo by Laura Cox

A new coach and a new squad with seven freshmen brought new possibilities for the Tiger cheerleading squad.

Brian Bridges, owner of B Squared Cheer & Dance in Hot Springs, had high expectations for the year. "I wanted my cheerleaders to be strong in the areas of stunting and tumbling. My goal was for each one of the members to improve in each area," Bridges said.

This squad was especially unique because, thanks to them, the university was recognized on a national level. For the first time ever, the team competed in the UCA College Nationals held at Walt Disneyworld in Orlando, Florida.

Additional members were added to the squad in order to have the best competition squad possible. These included freshmen Jordan Gay, Bronson Smith and Julianna Ragsdale, sophomore Kati Baldwin and junior Blair Phelps. The group practiced and perfected a performance to use for the competition.

The group placed eighth in the Division II Small Co-Ed category of the competition. "Although every minute of practice was intense, it was all worth it and I would do it again in a heartbeat," said captain Stephanie Glenn, a senior from Little Rock.

While the outcome was positive, the journey proved to be testing for the cheerleaders themselves. They had to learn to push themselves in ways they never had before.

"It meant a lot to be able to prove that I could learn new things on top of what we already had to know for game performances," said sophomore Melissa Collier from Longview, Texas.

The preparation for competition also helped instill a good work ethic and teamwork in the squad. "Not many people get to have an experience like I had. Preparing and competing nationally opened my eyes to the true sport of cheerleading. I realized how serious and difficult it was," said freshman Jordan Gay of Hot Springs.

With all of the hard work also came fun. While in Florida, the squad was able to actually enjoy the theme park, along with other local attractions. "Going to Florida was so fun. It was the first time I had been to Disneyworld and actually experienced the magic of every single park," said freshman Lauren Dewitt from Arkadelphia.

While they had the opportunity to do something totally new for the Ouachita cheer program, the squad still had to fulfill their initial responsibilities. They still made it to all home games, cheered on fans and learned difficult and crowd-pleasing performances.

"I am so pleased as I look back upon this year because not only did the squad achieve the goals I had in mind, but they went above and beyond. This squad has set the standard for cheerleading at Ouachita—all squads from here on out will be compared to the great accomplishments of this year," Bridges said.



**Cheerleading Squad** members are **Front Row:** Molly Johnson, Stephanie Glenn, Amber Lee, Kelsey Kearney, Lauren Dewitt, Melissa Collier, Savannah Pendergrass **Back Row:** Abby Turner, Clayton Chapuis, Abby Williams, Chelsy Lewis, Leah Harrington, Andrea Eaves, Tyler King, Alan Greenwood. photo by: Dr. Wesley Kluck



**Rally** Freshman Lauren Dewitt led the squad in a stunt. The squad performs pep rallies in the amphitheatre. photo by: Sarah Glenn



**Halftime** Senior Stephanie Glenn and freshman Kelsey Kearney cheer in Bill Vining Arena. The squad used halftime to perfect performances for competition. *photo by: Danny Brown*



## scoreboard

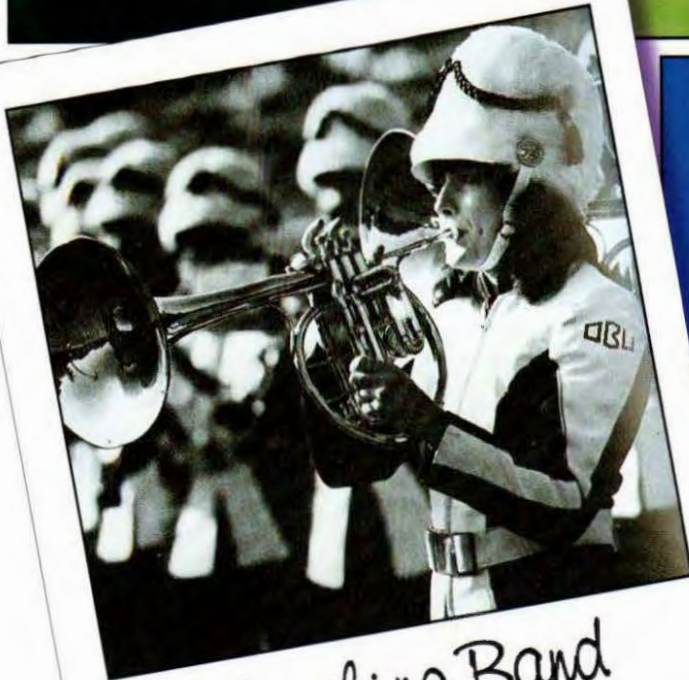
UCA COLLEGE NATIONALS  
DIVISION II SMALL CO-ED  
8TH



**Clang Clang** The cymbal section performs during the halftime show. Cymbals added an extra element to the overall sound.  
*photo by Danny Brown*

**Blow Out** Joe Anderson plays the trombone during a home football game. Anderson was a two-year member of the band.  
*photo by Danny Brown*

**Precision** The brass section lines up in pre-game formation. Band members performed before and after every home game, as well as halftime.  
*photo by Danny Brown*



## Marching Band

French horn player Kimberly Wright won the state and regional MTNA Collegiate Brass competition in 1984.



**Horns Up** Laura Stolje conducts the band as fans cheer. Stolje was the drum major for the marching band.  
*photo by Sarah Glenn*





# Best Band in Tigerland

BY: KATIE LANEY

"Now presenting the most exciting band in Tigerland." With this announcement, the stands full of family, friends, and alumni enthusiastically cheer for the band as they take the field to begin marching their show. Having rehearsed for hours for this moment, the instrumentalists, colorguard, soloists, and twirler take the field and present the product of all their hard work and dedication.

Under the direction of Mr. Robert Hesse, the Tiger marching band put in hours of practice and preparation before each show. With plans for the show being made as early as last December, Mr. Hesse initially decided on two different shows and a pre-game to be the performances of the band. Due to the weather in the fall, plans changed, and the two shows merged and became one show that can be dubbed, "Three tunes Hesse likes!" This show featured "Lucretia Mac Evil" and "Spinning Wheel"—both made popular by the rock group Blood, Sweat, and Tears, and "Thriller"—as made popular by the Michael Jackson, including the choreographed dance.

Hesse said, "I have always been a great fan of this 70s group [Blood Sweat and Tears] and knew for years that this would be a show that would have some great production power and fun to do. What intrigued me the most was that many of their selections were known for different style changes and various rhythmic developments within the musical charts. I looked upon this as a challenge and of course something fun for our group to take on."

With such an upbeat exciting show, Hesse said, "My favorite that about this year's show is the same about all of my shows: The ability to see young musicians coming together for one cause and thoroughly enjoying putting on a performance that the majority of the audience really understands, feels, relates to, enjoys and has just as much fun as we are performing it." Hesse added, "The crowd response has been a true highlight of the year!"

Hesse's main goal for the marching band was for the members of the band to have fun together. This was communicated through the performances of the band during their pre-game and half time shows, as well as whenever they play to energize the crowd be it at pep rallies or during the games while in the stands.

Laura Stoltje, senior music education major from Bedford, Texas, served as the field commander this marching season. Stoltje said, "I'd say the best part of our season was receiving the first EVER standing ovation for a half-time show at OBU after our Homecoming Game debut of Thriller (including the "thriller dance"). A handful of hurricanes and tropical storms set the band back a little bit at the beginning of the year, but everybody worked hard to get back on track and we ended with an outstanding and rewarding season."

The band of Tigerland succeeded once again in providing Tiger football fans with a fun and entertaining show.



# Developing Talent

BY: RICHARD ATKINSON



**Return** Sophomore Anna Ryan returns a serve. Ryan played in 20 games and recorded 62 kills.  
photo by Wesley Kluck

A young but talented volleyball team was forced to mature quickly this year for the Lady Tigers as multiple freshmen and sophomores helped lead the team to a 10-25 record.

The team started out slowly going 0-12 to start the year, but as the season progressed so did the team, which finished the second half of the year at 10-13. They managed to beat rival Henderson State in both matches with a combined score of 6-1. The Lady Tigers had 14 freshmen or sophomores on the squad where many played a big role.

"The hardest part is teaching them to finish," said Head Coach Danny Prescott of the youth. "When you lose so many seniors, you lose your killer instinct."

It was not all bad for the Lady Tigers though because many of them really enjoyed the year, especially the freshmen who made an impact. "It was a learning experience for everyone, but so much fun. I couldn't imagine this year any different," said senior Raichel Settle from Garland, Texas.

Settle, along with senior Meredith Henry and Lindsey Pry, were the only upperclassmen on the squad. Henry was named to the Gulf South Conference West Division first team. She finished the year with 278 kills, 70 blocks,

68 digs and 30 service aces.

Henry was counted on for leadership. Settle led the team with 473 digs followed closely by sophomore libero Lauren Stuart who had 439. Merritt led the team in kills with 354 and fellow freshman Lexie Hegi led the team in sets with 1,065 and services aces with 42. Henry's 70 blocks also led the team.

With such a young team improvements were expected as the season wore on, and the improvements were evident with the Lady Tigers' strong second half of the season. "I definitely believed we improved on becoming a unit. We struggled at the beginning of the year but as the year went on, we became stronger on and off the court, which definitely made the difference. We came to trust each other more and a bond was formed that I think will definitely carry on to next year," said Settle.

After losing so many seniors last year everyone knew this would be a tough year, but that did not discourage this year's version of the Lady Tigers. After a slow start they began learning and hit a mid-season groove that was powered mostly by underclassmen. This boded well for the future. Returners led the team in all major statistical categories, except blocking, where Merritt was three behind the lead.



**Volleyball Team** members are **Front Row:** Kaitlyn Mitcham, Raichel Settle, Lauren Stuart, Anna Ryan, Stephanie Carrell, Lizzy Bauman. **Second Row:** Misty Gouge, Meredith Henry, Lindsey Pry, Libby Merritt, Chloe Lawrence, Kristyn Howk. **Back Row:** Kate Strom, Ryleigh Lay, Sara Wilcox, Kristyn Townsend, Lexie Hegi.



**Set** Freshman Lexie Hegi sets a Lady Tiger up for a chance at a kill. Hegi finished with 1,065 assists.  
photo by Wesley Kluck





**Block** Senior Raichel Settle provides a kill during a home match. Settle finished the season with 186 kills. *photo by Wesley Kluck*

# scoreboard 10-25 overall

WEST FLORIDA TOURNAMENT  
0-3, 0-3, 0-3, 2-3

TEXAS WOMANS TOURNAMENT  
0-3, 2-3, 2-3, 2-3

HARDING TOURNAMENT  
0-3, 1-3, 0-3

NORTH ALABAMA  
1-3

ALABAMA-HUNTSVILLE  
3-0

ARKANSAS TECH  
0-3

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS  
1-3

CHAMPIONS BAPTIST  
3-0

HENDRIX  
3-0

ARKANSAS-MONTICELLO  
0-3

HENDERSON STATE  
3-1

TEXAS A&M-COMMERCE  
1-3

SOUTHWESTERN OKLA STATE  
3-1

SOUTHERN ARKANSAS  
0-3

ST. LEO  
0-3

HARDING  
0-3

ARKANSAS TECH  
0-3

ROLLINS  
3-1

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS  
3-1

ARKANSAS-MONTICELLO  
0-3

AUSTIN COLLEGE TOURNAMENT  
1-3, 3-0, 2-3, 3-1

HENDERSON STATE  
3-0

SOUTHERN ARKANSAS  
2-3

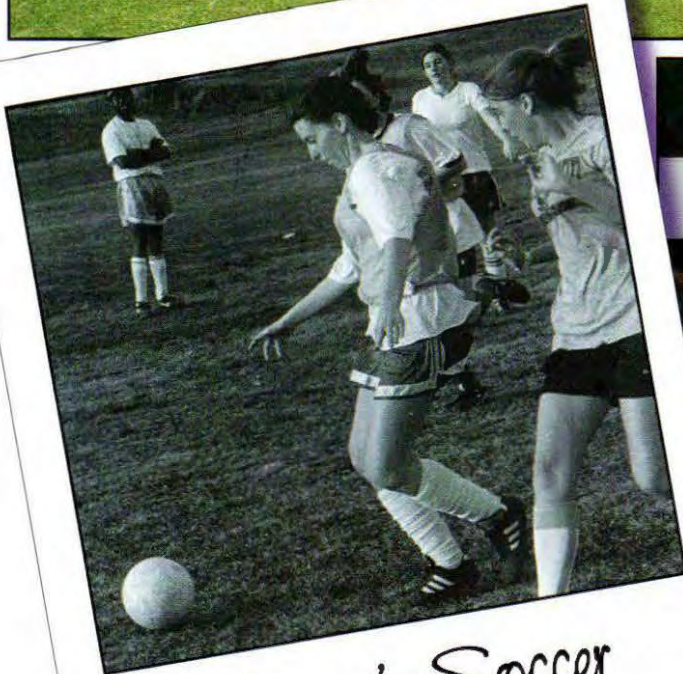
HARDING  
0-3



**Charge** Junior Brittany Vick fights off a defender for the ball. Vick played in all 10 games for the Lady Tigers.  
photo by Sarah Glenn

**Foot work** Sophomore Amanda Baxter advances the ball upfield. Baxter recorded two assists in eight starts.  
photo by Jessica Bowling

**Soccer Team** members are **Front Row:** Katie Osment, Nicci Fillinger, Emily Jackson, Sarah Glenn, Lauren Pierce, Beth Wendl, Miranda Lytle, Brittany Vick, Mariela Hernandez. **Back Row:** Head Coach Alex Denning, Ashley Davis, Jody Persson, Felicia Arnold, Sarah Glenn, Amanda Baxter, Allison Cornell, Haley Whisenhunt, Haley Barron, Lyndsay Romano, Laura Cox.



## Women's Soccer

Maggie Davenport practices with the first women's soccer team. The team was formed in the spring of 1999.



**Steal** Senior Lyndsay Romano defends for the Lady Tigers. Romano scored one goal and had two assists.  
photo by Sarah Glenn





# Learning To Compete

BY: ALAN GREENWOOD

Adversity wasn't only present on the field for the women's soccer squad. It came in the form of having only 165 days to prepare for the first game. The program was reinstated on April 1, after a decision was made by the university to keep the program alive. Alex Denning was named interim head coach.

It would be only the beginning of an uphill battle for a program that lost the majority of upperclassmen through the transition period.

In the first match of the season, the Lady Tigers went into the break with a 2-0 lead, courtesy of goals by junior Emily Jackson and senior Lauren Pierce. In the second half it was the same story, as Pierce and junior Brittany Wick gave the squad a 4-0 win over Louisiana College. The next seven match-ups proved to be a daunting task, as the Gulf South Conference schedule took a toll on an improved Lady Tiger team.

Against North Alabama, the team fought to overtime, as senior Laura Cox broke past a defender for the team's only goal in regulation. An overtime goal by UNA gave the team a 2-1 defeat in the GSC opener.

"Obviously the GSC is a talented soccer conference," Denning said. "The girls worked very hard and we figured out what we needed to do to compete."

After 54 minutes of play, Christian Brothers led 4-0, looking as if the game were largely going to be out of reach. Freshman Beth Wendl put the Lady Tigers on the board first at the 61st minute, starting a furious second half rally for the team. Three minutes later Wendl had the assist on a goal by Pierce, then Wendl scored her

second goal of the match, giving the Lady Tigers three goals in just six minutes. Christian Brothers stretched the deficit to 5-3, before Pierce added her second goal with 11 minutes left, as the team came up just short, losing 5-4.

Against Central Baptist, the squad exploded with a 6-1 victory, as senior Lyndsay Romano started off the offensive onslaught with a penalty kick goal. Pierce then scored two straight goals for the squad, giving the team a 3-1 lead. Sophomore Allison Cornell and Cox stretched the lead to 5-1, followed by freshman Miranda Lytle's goal that put the finishing touches on a final home victory for team.

For the season, the squad finished at 2-8 overall, and a 0-8 GSC record. Leading the way offensively was senior midfielder Lauren Pierce who led the team with six goals, three assists and 15 points. Pierce was named to the All-Gulf South Conference second team for her efforts. Freshman Beth Wendle finished the season with seven points, including two goals and three assists. Senior Laura Cox also had a solid season with two goals and one assist.

The squad used five different goalkeepers throughout the season. Freshman Sarah Glenn played in seven games, starting in four, while recording 30 saves. Sophomore Megan Ruggles started twice, recording 20 saves.

"The season went very well, much better than expected in so many ways," Denning said. "We were blessed to have an amazing group of girls step up and work hard to build a team from scratch. The girls learned to play together and for each other quickly which is what contributed to them learning so quickly and giving us a good foundation to rebuild on."

## scoreboard <sup>2-8 overall</sup>

LOUISIANA COLLEGE  
4-0

NORTH ALABAMA  
1-2

ALABAMA-HUNTSVILLE  
0-4

WEST FLORIDA  
0-7

MONTEVALLO  
0-6

WEST GEORGIA  
0-6

DELTA STATE  
0-2

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS  
4-5

CENTRAL BAPTIST  
6-1

HARDING  
0-3



# Competitive Mindset

BY: BECCA WATTS



**Coordination** Junior David Armstrong works upfield. Armstrong had one assist in six starts.  
photo by Danny Brown

Transition and building season were two ways to describe this season for the Tigers. With a small recruiting class, most of the freshmen being walk-ons, a new head coach and the reinstatement of soccer, the Tigers did not have high hopes at the start of the season.

In their first two games of the season the Tigers started strong with a win both home and away. The first was a 4-0 win against Williams Baptist on the road. They continued their pre-conference winning streak as Andreas Krause scored two goals that led the Tigers to a 4-1 home win over Louisiana College. The Tigers then stumbled in their third game of the season with 2-0 loss against Hendrix on the road.

The Tigers opened conference play with a 1-1 tie against the University of Alabama at Huntsville. UAH scored within the first six minutes of the game. The Tigers then held off the Chargers until the 65th minute when senior captain Jarod Townsend made a penalty shot after the shot was originally blocked by the goalie. "Being a man down for almost 50 minutes, we still dominated," said Interim Head Coach Alex Denning.

In their second game of conference play, the Tigers could not hold off the West Florida Argonauts. Late in the game, the Tigers scored their only goal of the game in

an unassisted goal by junior Alex Tonrey. During another home game, the Tigers fell to Montevallo, 3-0 after a hard attempt to guard the goal by goalie Neal Ozmun, who had eight saves during the game.

With a goal early in the game, the Tigers still struggled with a 4-1 fall to Delta State and then finished their two-game road trip at Belhaven College. This non-conference game ended with Belhaven taking a 6-0 win.

During their next home game the Tigers could not recover after giving up two penalty kicks to Christian Brothers ending in a 2-1 loss. This is another example of a "frustrating loss," said Townsend. "There were close games that we should have won but in the end we lost," said Townsend. Then on Senior Day things turned around for the Tigers as they won 3-1 against Central Baptist College in the 78th minute of the game.

The Tigers ended their season on the road in a 1-0 loss against Harding University. The Tiger men's soccer team finished 3-7-1 over all and junior defender Alex Tonrey was selected to the All-Gulf South Conference second team. Although it was not the season that the team was hoping for, the team was successful in certain aspects. "The guys did so much with so little," said Denning. "They did so much to even be able to compete on that level."



**Soccer Team** members are **Front Row:** Barry McCaskill, John Lee, Andres Hernandez, Drew McCorkindale, David Armstrong, Kyle Smith, Kyle Sun, and Luiz Dos Santos. **Back Row:** Head Coach Alex Denning, Blake Mercer, Marcus Thomas, Alex Tonrey, Luisinho Nguimbi, Reid Adkins, Andreas Krause, Jarrett Davis, Victor Romero, Neal Ozmun, Jarod Townsend, James Rogers, Harris Corley, John Mark Tohlen, Cliff Hobbs, Austin Horton.



**Defend** Sophomore Andres Hernandez makes a defensive stop. Hernandez made 10 starts.  
photo by Danny Brown



**Quick Reflexes** Senior Jarod Townsend attempts to shake a defender. Townsend started all 11 games. photo by Danny Brown



## scoreboard 3-7-1 overall

- WILLIAMS BAPTIST  
4-0
- LOUISIANA COLLEGE  
4-1
- HENDRIX COLLEGE  
0-2
- ALABAMA-HUNTSVILLE  
1-1
- WEST FLORIDA  
1-4
- MONTEVALLO  
0-3
- DELTA STATE  
1-4
- BELHAVEN  
0-6
- CHRISTIAN BROTHERS  
1-2
- CENTRAL BAPTIST  
3-1
- HARDING UNIVERSITY  
0-1



# Just Keep Running

BY: REBECCA RAMBIN



**Endurance** Sophomore Avery Begley runs hard for the Lady Tigers. Begley finished with a best of 22:44. photo by: Jared Tohlen

They run to stay in shape or because they get addicted to the runner's high after a challenge. Some run for the discipline and the energy it gives them for classes or to be part of a team. No matter the reason, they run. "It's something you can do for your whole life and all you need is a pair of good shoes," said team member Logan Lyles, a senior Christian studies major from Bentonville.

This season, the cross country team ran hard to complete well throughout their seven-meet schedule. In the middle of the schedule, they competed in the Lyon College Invitational. A favorite meet for the runners this season, they took first place as a team and Hannah Howard, a junior dietetics major from Nacogdoches, Texas, led the group with a time of 19:30 for her first individual win. Several other team members also got personal best times at the meet.

At both the Southern Arkansas Mulerider Invitational and the Bob Gravett Invitational, the team came in second place. Howard and Lyles won second and third place at the Mulerider's race with times of 20:34 and 21:59. At the Gulf South Conference Meet, the team came in eighth with Lyles leading them in 15th place with a time of 20:07. "The Gulf South Conference Meet didn't reflect our best times," Lyles said.

The team came in 16th in the NCAA Division II South Region Meet, where Lyles was the first of the team

to cross the finish line with a time of 24:52, which put her in 40th place.

"Being a young team, and having a few setbacks, we still had a productive season," McGhee said. The team began practice the first week of school, starting at 6 a.m. every day. Devin Lyles, the new assistant coach and husband of Logan Lyles, concentrated the practices on running more miles to increase the endurance of the runners as well as on speed exercises. They were determined to improve times from last year.

A big change from last year's team was that they gained a new runner and lost one. This team had a wider range of abilities once the old and new were combined. "We have all really grown together this year and we constantly push each other and encourage each other," said Amanda Boyce, a junior dietetics major from Fulton.

"When one was down if they had a poor race time," McGhee said, "there would be two there telling them they would perform better next time and keep their head up."

When they finished the season some of the girls continued running together during the offseason. Even though they all run for different reasons, they did it together as a team. "I run because it releases stress and helps me clear my thoughts. I view it as a form of worship," Howard said. "I run because I love to compete," Boyce said.

No matter the reason, they run.



**Ready, Go** Cross Country team members line up at the Bob Gravett Invitational held on campus. The original meet was cancelled due to a flood that covered the course.



**Huddle** The team has a meeting before the Bob Gravett Invitational. Eleven runners competed all season for the Lady Tigers. photo by: Jared Tohlen



**Long Distance** Junior Hannah Howard starts strong during a meet. Howard won the Lyon Invitational with a time of 19:30. photo by Jared Tohlen



## scoreboard

BROOKS MEMPHIS TWILIGHT  
27th

SOUTHERN ARK. INVITATIONAL  
2nd

BOB GRAVETT INVITATIONAL  
2nd

LYON COLLEGE INVITATIONAL  
1st

BISON STAMPEDE  
5th

GULF SOUTH CONFERENCE MEET  
8th

NCAA D-II SOUTH REGION MEET  
16th



# Cinderella Story

BY: JON NEAL



**Press it** Junior Angela Colliver pushes against the Southern Arkansas defense in Bill Vining Arena. The ladies defeated the Muleriders 84-69.

photo by: Wesley Kluck

After winning only five games last season, expectations were low for the Lady Tigers. They were hoping for just a moderate improvement, but with a strong freshman class and great senior leadership, they exceeded all expectations, ending the season at 23-10.

"I knew we were going to be underestimated because of our outcome last year, but I knew we would be a good team," said Gabby Coleman, a sophomore from North Little Rock.

The Lady Tigers started out ranked seventh in the Gulf South Conference Coaches Poll. They would be fighting an uphill battle from the beginning.

Ouachita broke into the season with an exhibition loss to Northwestern St. that threw them into an average 3-3 start. That is where the Cinderella story began.

The ladies went on an incredible 14-4 run that included a number of impressive wins against quality opponents. In the Harding game, the Lady Tigers set a new school record for 3 pointers in a game with 18.

The win against Delta State, ranked 25th in the nation, was a big confidence boost, as the Lady Tigers avenged an earlier loss to the Lady Statesmen. This night also marked a coaching milestone for Garry Crowder as he tied Carolyn Moffat as the all-time OBU wins leader with 213 career victories.

Their impressive regular season play earned them a number four seed in the GSC conference tournament. After falling in the quarterfinals of the GSC conference

tournament to West Georgia, the Lady Tigers were selected to play in the NCAA Division II National Tournament as a 7 seed against number 2 seed Fort Valley State.

"I was a bit nervous knowing it was an elimination game and it was my first game in a NCAA tournament," Coleman said.

The Lady Tigers shocked the tournament world with their first ever victory in the NCAA tournament as they were carried by Adam's game high 26 points and Griffin's double-double performance.

Once in the semifinals, the Lady Tigers finished off the Tampa Spartans. Ouachita's Cinderella story came to an end as Delta State barely edged them out of the tournament with a 50-49 victory in the Sweet Sixteen.

Miller enjoyed her chance to play in the Sweet Sixteen. "Making it to the Sweet Sixteen was a blessing. We worked hard to get there and deserved every bit of it. It was amazing to play for."

Even though the season ended with a heartbreaking loss, nothing could take away the pride that the Lady Tigers had obtained from their incredible season. With only two seniors leaving, it is guaranteed that they will have a fire inside them at the beginning of next year.

"We still have a lot of weapons that will prove to be deadly next season," said Parker. "I truly believe that we can win it all if we keep it all together."

No more Cinderella stories for the Lady Tigers. They have proved themselves.



**Women's Basketball Team** members are Domino Miller, A'Laeshia Adams, Kim Beverly, Maranda Parker, Kayla Hulsey, Tamara Robinson, Haley Griffin, Lauren Kollmorgen, Angela Colliver, Alyssa Pickett, Melissa Richardson, Beulah Osueke, Sarah Pugh, Gabby Coleman, Ashley Daniel.



**Shooting** In the January 31 home game, sophomore Gabby Coleman goes for a shot. The home game was the annual "Take a Kid to the Game" day.

photo by: Wesley Kluck



**Taking Control** Freshman Domino Miller takes the ball down the court. Miller was one of nine freshmen on the team.  
photo by: Wesley Kluck



## 23-10 overall scoreboard

NORTHWESTERN STATE(EXH.)  
56-67

CENTRAL BAPTIST  
111-51

MONTEVALLO  
68-71

WEST FLORIDA  
70-46

MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS  
94-65

INCARNATE WORD  
69-78

SOUTHWEST BAPTIST  
90-76

UAH  
72-54

NORTH ALABAMA  
76-68

TEXAS A&M  
98-85

ST. MARY'S  
77-69

MONTEVALLO  
82-68

RHEMA  
80-42

DELTA STATE  
50-66

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS  
78-57

ARKANSAS-MONTICELLO  
71-72

ARKANSAS TECH  
51-65

SOUTHERN ARKANSAS  
84-69

HENDERSON STATE  
79-93

HARDING  
108-104

DELTA STATE  
64-58

ECCLESIA  
94-61

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS  
66-59

ARKANSAS-MONTICELLO  
85-81

ARKANSAS TECH  
66-75

SOUTHERN ARKANSAS  
66-54

HENDERSON STATE  
94-75

HARDING  
72-66

MONTEVALLO  
62-52

WEST GEORGIA  
64-67

FORT VALLEY STATE  
69-55

TAMPA  
77-74

DELTA STATE  
49-50



14-15 overall  
**scoreboard**

KENTUCKY  
72-94

MCNEESE  
65-61

TEXAS A&M-INTERNATIONAL  
63-74

ST. EDWARDS  
81-74

LETOURNEAU  
83-70

TEXAS A&M-COMMERCE  
66-59

CENTRAL BAPTIST  
69-51

SE OKLAHOMA STATE  
64-63

DRURY  
66-56

TEXAS A&M-COMMERCE  
67-63

NE OKLAHOMA STATE  
59-54

BARRY  
65-45

CENTRAL OKLAHOMA  
71-79

MIDWESTERN STATE  
72-77

RHEMA  
67-39

DELTA STATE  
73-84

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS  
42-51

ARKANSAS-MONTICELLO  
49-58

ARKANSAS TECH  
61-71

SOUTHERN ARKANSAS  
72-60

HENDERSON STATE  
76-68

HARDING  
67-69

DELTA STATE  
70-77

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS  
72-60

ARKANSAS-MONTICELLO  
64-54

ARKANSAS TECH  
59-85

SOUTHERN ARKANSAS  
58-64

HENDERSON STATE  
57-68

HARDING  
64-72

**Lay-Up** Senior Antonio "Okie" Benjamin shoots a lay-up against Kentucky. Benjamin was one of six seniors on the team.  
*photo by: Wesley Kluck*





# A Strong Season

BY: MEGAN RUGGLES

Tiger Basketball started the season with a bang, winning the chance to travel to Kentucky for an exhibition game. "I was definitely excited about kicking off the season with Kentucky. They are a respectable and very well-known school," said senior Daniel Maddox from Pinckneyville, Ill.

Trailing by only eight at the half, the Tigers fell to the Division 1 Wildcats 94-72. "The Kentucky game was a confidence builder and a great experience for our team," said Head Coach Charlie Schaeff, "It's something we will remember for a lifetime."

During the same weekend the Tigers played the Wildcats, they went on to beat Division 1 McNeese 65-42. "I think the Kentucky game prepared us for what was to come with McNeese. We played like we knew we had the order to win," said Schaeff.

The Tigers started out selected to win the Gulf South Conference West Division in pre-season coaches' poll. They received six first place votes. By the end of the first semester the Tigers were 9-1.

The Tigers ranked as high as 16th in the nation. But the remainder of the season they went 4-13. "We had injuries," said Schaeff, "It was a test of character and we emerged as a team."

It was a rocky road after the first semester, but did not come without highlights. On January 29 the Tigers defeated their rival Henderson State University. "We were sick of it, sick of losing," said senior Antonio Benjamin,

a physical education major from Marksville, La. "They (the Reddies) were in the wrong place at the wrong time." The game went into overtime after Benjamin sunk a three-pointer to tie the score at 65. "I just shot my usual shot and it went in," said Benjamin. The Tigers went on to win the game with a final score of 76-68. "The Henderson game tested our toughness and character as a team," said Schaeff.

The Tigers concluded their season with an overall record of 13-14 and a conference record of 3-11. Statistics included the highest field goal percentage reached by senior Ed Keyes.

Freshman Quintin Smith had the highest 3-point percentage. Senior Rowen Ledbetter, an All-GSC West Division 2nd Team member, led the Tigers in free throw percentage with 79 percent. Daniel Maddox led the team offensively, averaging 12.3 points a game, while Keyes led the team in rebounding with 7.6 per game, including 77 offensive rebounds.

"The season was disappointing because everyone's expectations were high," said business management major Rowen Ledbetter, a senior from Little Rock. "But I would have never wanted to do it all without the teammates I had."

It was the final season for Head Coach Charlie Schaeff, who left for a head coaching position at Southwestern Oklahoma State. Mark Price was announced as the new men's basketball head coach during the offseason.



**He Scores** In Bill Vining Arena, senior Daniel Maddox scores against Drury. Maddox led the team in scoring, totaling 320 points for the season. photo by: Wesley Kluck



**Leading** Senior Rowen Ledbetter leads the offense in the season opener. Ledbetter was known for his consistent free-throw shot. photo by: Wesley Kluck



**Men's Basketball Team** members are Assistant Coach Damon Francis, Assistant coach Daniel Munday, Rowen Ledbetter, Okie Benjamin, Austin Mitchell, Belford Williams, Zane Thigpen, Roger Eiland, Daniel Maddox, Josh Raine, Ed Keyes, Anthony Henry, Emmanuel Engulu, Quintin Smith, Brandon Rose, Jaranimo Marks and Head Coach Charlie Schaeff.



**Ready, Set** Swimmers prepare for a freestyle swim against Henderson. The Lady Tiger Sharks defeated the Reddies in one of two meets.  
*photo by: Danny Brown*

**Good Finish** Freshman Kelli Caldwell exits the pool after a dive. Caldwell was one of two divers on the team.  
*photo by: Danny Brown*

**Women's Swim Team** members are **Front Row:** Megan Rishel Kelli Caldwell, Megan Young, Sarah Davis, Brittany Norton, Caitlin Boren, Summer Morris, Jenny Christensen, Greta James, **Back Row:** Ruth Megli, Kelly Johnson, Heidi Siner Aimee Ragan, Trina May, Sarah Watson, Katie Patterson



**Conference Champions**  
 The 2000 Lady Tiger Sharks won the New South Independent Swim League Conference title.



**Kickoff** Senior Sarah Watson prepares for a backstroke swim. Watson was the only senior who participated in backstroke races.  
*photo by: Danny Brown*





# Rebuilding Year

BY: JON NEAL

The year looked to be a rebuilding year for the Lady Tiger Sharks, as they had a new coaching staff and lost some team members from the previous year. However, the ladies proved otherwise.

The Lady Tiger Sharks began the season with a loss at the hands of rival Henderson State. This loss only pushed them harder and brought them closer together as they moved on to their first home meet, which would prove to be positive. "Overall I was very pleased with our performance against Henderson State," Ouachita Head Coach Ryan Killackey said.

The ladies won a meet against Delta State 127-112. They relied heavily on a complete team performance in this victory, as they needed help from both their swimmers and their divers.

"Killackey has emphasized how we have to train as a team, work as a team and in return, we will succeed as a team," said sophomore Sarah Davis from Newark, Texas. "That happened this year. We have really come together to see that everybody succeeds in their events and in return, we win as a team."

After struggling from November through the beginning of January, the Lady Tiger Sharks got revenge against Henderson State on senior night at Waggoner Pool with a 136-94 victory. Not only did the victory feel great, it also proved how much they had improved over the course of the season. Once again, the Lady Tigers showed a team effort as they finished first in 11 events on the night.

The girls rode this wave into conference championships, where they were determined to finish higher in rankings than the past year.

The Lady Sharks came up short as they finished fourth, but were happy with their results. This finish fueled their fire for Nationals and would prove to be enough.

The ladies started off their Nationals run with a strong opening day. In the IM finals, senior Sarah Watson finished fifth while Ksenia Gromova finished eighth. They ended the day with a third place finish in the 200 medley relay.

The Ouachita women continued their success on the second day as they had two more top ten finishes. Gromova was one of these, as she came in ninth in the 100 butterfly. The Lady Tiger Sharks also took second place in the 400 medley relay.

The Lady Tigers had their best day of the meet in the third round of finals. They finished in the top ten in four of five events, highlighted by Sarah Watson's fifth place finish in the 100 backstroke finals.

The Lady Tiger Sharks finished off the last day of Nationals with a fifth place finish in the 400 freestyle relay.

When all was said and done, the women's swim team placed sixth in nationals, which was an improvement over last year's ninth place. "Our team finished much higher than expected," said junior Summer Morris from Flint, Texas.

All the hard work throughout the year paid off and the team could finally sit back and dwell on what they had accomplished.

## scoreboard

HENDERSON  
L 97-131

DELTA STATE  
W 127-112

HENDERSON INVITATIONAL  
2nd PLACE

UALR CHRISTMAS INVITATIONAL  
3rd PLACE

DELTA STATE  
L 98-141

HENDERSON  
W 136-94

DRURY  
L 39-91

UALR  
W 92-31

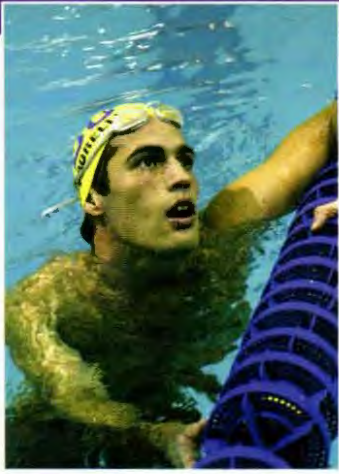
NEW SOUTH  
4th PLACE

NCAA II NATIONALS  
6th PLACE



# New Leadership

BY: JON NEAL



**Finish Line** Vicente Condorelli rests after a freestyle race. A Brazilian native, Condorelli was one of five international students on the squad. Photo by: Danny Brown

Last year's season ended successfully with a finish in the top five in the NCAAs, but it was bittersweet as the team watched their coach retire.

This season was a new beginning under former assistant coach Ryan Killackey, who was ready to prove himself as the head coach.

The first meet was against rival Henderson State. They won the meet with a complete team effort 134 - 101, but the team was not satisfied with the result. They knew they were capable of a better performance.

"We made a clear statement that we are one of the top teams in the nation," Head Coach Ryan Killackey said.

The second meet of the year turned out to be the first loss of the season. The team was anchored by strong performances from junior Nelson Silva, Junior Radu Badalac, and senior Hal Eubanks, but it proved not to be enough.

The Tiger Sharks dominated in their next meet against Delta State as they swam to a final of 137-100. They took that win into the Henderson State and UALR Christmas Invitationals and finished a strong second place with one of the most complete team efforts of the year. The UALR meet was special for freshman Daniel Karkoska.

"Our relay at this meet made the A cut for Nationals which meant one of the guys on the relay, who did not have an A cut yet, could go to Nationals," Karkoska said.

The last two meets of the season were split as they suffered a loss against Delta State, but rebounded with

a victory over Henderson State on Senior Night at Waggoner Pool.

The Tiger Sharks continued the momentum of victory as they headed to the New Intercollegiate Swim Conference Championships. They had their sights set on a good season finish, and their expectations came true.

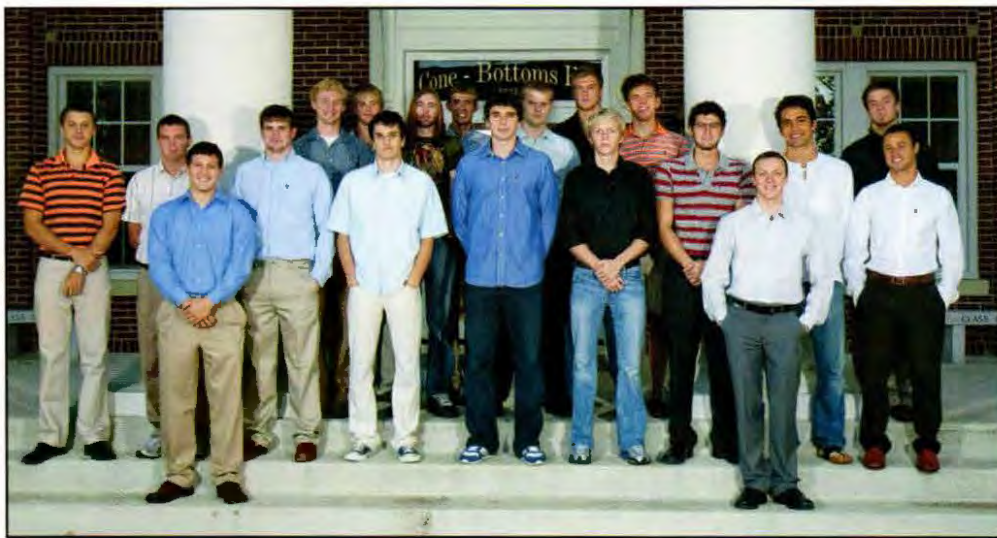
The Tiger Sharks finished third in the meet. The team was once again anchored by Badalac and Silva, who both qualified for Nationals with their times in the 100 freestyle and the 200 backstroke.

The team ended the season successfully and went on to the NCAA DII National Championships. The Tiger Sharks had high hopes going into the championships and they were rewarded with great performances from many of the team members. They were top five finishers and broke school records by the end of the week.

Silva, Eubanks, Badalac, and freshman Max Heinze finished second place in the 400 medley relay on the first day of finals. The next day ended in individual success by Radu Badalac, as he captured his first national victory with a first place finish in the 100 backstroke finals. The success continued with a strong third place finish for Hal Eubanks in the 100 breaststroke.

These performances helped wrap up a successful season as the Tiger Sharks placed fifth in Nationals.

"We ended the season as strong as possible," said Badalac. "I am very pleased with how we swam, and am excited to see how we will perform next year."




**Men's Swimming Team** members are **Front Row:** Daniel Karkoska, Nathan Bercaw **Second Row:** Kristian Krc, Travis Ball, Kyle Bartlett, Razvan Goga, Radu Badalac, Harrison Tomlinson, Kyle Tilley, Vicente Condorelli, Nelson Silva, **Back Row:** John Ragland, Hal Eubanks, Chris Hull, Steven Harvell, Nicholas Bass, Maximillian Heinze and Austin Teague.



**In Motion** Senior Vicente Condorelli swims during a freestyle event. Condorelli finished his career in 2008.





**Junior Chris Hull** dives into Waggoner Pool during a meet for the TigerSharks. Hull dove both the 1-meter and 3-meter.

## scoreboard

HENDERSON  
W 134-101

MISSOURI S&T  
L 103-120

DELTA STATE  
W 137-100

HENDERSON INVITATIONAL  
2nd PLACE

UALR CHRISTMAS INVITATIONAL  
2nd PLACE

DELTA STATE  
L 102-129

HENDERSON  
W 158-79

DRURY  
L 106-185

NEW SOUTH  
3rd PLACE

NCAA II NATIONALS  
5th PLACE



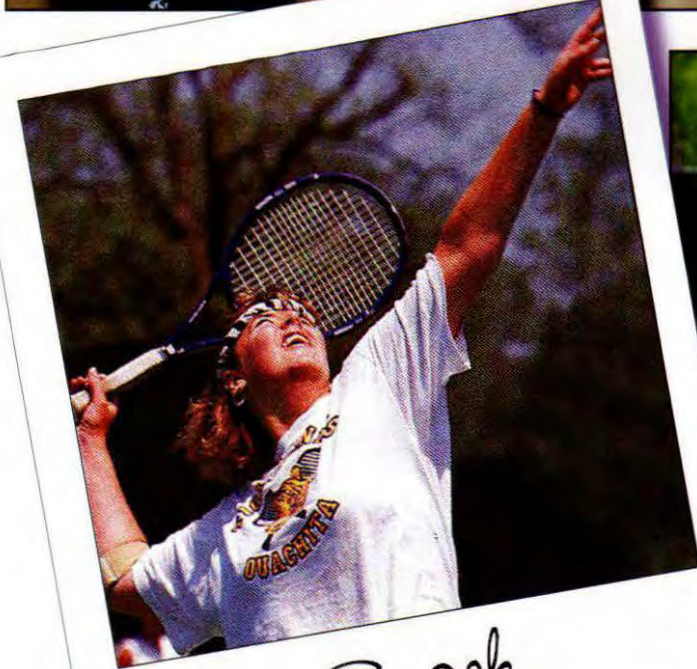
**Back Hand** Junior Thokozile Zulu demonstrates the proper back hand return as an opponent makes the serve.

photo by: Danny Brown

**Nice Return** Junior Katie Potts returns a serve during a home match for the Lady Tigers.

photo by: Danny Brown

**Women's Tennis** members are **Front Row:** Tavu Fa, Katie Potts, Mariana Divardin. **Back Row:** Megan Ruggles, Natalia Drada, and Thokozile Zulu.



**Smack**

In thier final year with the AIC the 1994 team finished the season fifth in the conference.



**Congrats** Teammates Tavu Fa and Natalia Drada congratulate one another after a match.

photo by: Danny Brown





# Hard Times for Tigers

BY: ALAN GREENWOOD

It was a tough season for the Lady Tigers tennis squad. The squad finished the season at 2-13 overall and a 0-6 record in Gulf South conference play.

The Lady Tigers opened the season with a promising victory over Christian Brothers, but then came a tough schedule against GSC opponents and junior college teams that overwhelmed a team that struggled to find enough healthy teammates to be able to compete in matches down the stretch.

A stretch of 14-straight losses for the squad put the team in a tough position to ever put together enough momentum to make it to the GSC tournament, much less NCAA postseason play. Among the losses were five 0-2 and four 8-1 losses.

"We had many struggles this season with injuries and being short in number, but we fought through it and came out a stronger and closer team," said junior Katie Kennett, Mo.

Team matches against Southwest Baptist (5-2) and Henderson State (6-2) provided open opportunities for the Lady Tigers to seize mid season victories, but the team couldn't capitalize.

Senior Natalia Drada from Lexington, Ky. and junior Katie Fa from Suva, Fiji had mixed success during the season. Both players teamed up for doubles play and recorded a 4-7 record. Among the victories were wins over Tyler Junior College, Southwest Baptist, University of Arkansas-Fort Smith and Southern Arkansas University.

Drada finished the season at 2-8 in singles play

with wins over Christian Brothers to begin the season and Southern Arkansas to end her final season as a Lady Tiger.

Fa recorded the most singles win on the season, putting together an 8-7 singles record. Fa recorded impressive wins over No. 26 Drury and No. 25 Delta State. The junior played the No. 2 and 3 position in singles throughout the season, narrowly missing victories over No. 5 West Florida and Arkansas Tech.

"We really grew together as a team even with the tough competition and schedule. At different points, players stepped up in singles and doubles, but we could never put those individual performances together as a team," said Potts. "We have a great group of girls that have become much closer together as a core."

The team finished strong with a 4-3 victory over Southern Arkansas University to end the season. Drada and Fa recorded singles victories after winning their doubles match 8-0 to provide a 3-0 lead. Sophomore Mariana Divardin from Ponta Grossa, Brazil, finished the match with a default win, as the Lady Tigers finished the 2009 on a strong note.

One of the women was honored at the close of the season. Junior Thokozile Zulu, an accounting major from Zimbabwe, was among eight OBU athletes to be named to the GSC Spring All-Academic Team.

Other teammates, Divardin, Drada, Potts and sophomore Megan Ruggles were named to the GSC Academic Honor Roll.

## scoreboard <sup>2-13 overall</sup>

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS  
9-0

UNIV. OF TEXAS-TYLER  
0-9

NORTHEASTERN STATE  
0-9

DRURY  
2-7

SOUTHWEST BAPTIST  
2-5

WEST FLORIDA  
0-9

DELTA STATE  
1-6

HENDERSON STATE  
2-6

SOUTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA ST.  
2-7

ARKANSAS TECH  
1-8

UNIV. OF ARK.-FORT SMITH  
1-8

HENDERSON STATE  
0-9

ARKANSAS TECH  
1-8

HARDING  
0-9

SOUTHERN ARKANSAS  
4-3



# Victorious

BY: ALAN GREENWOOD



**Strong Return** Senior Vasek Stverka makes contact with the ball for a strong return. Stverka played doubles with freshman Szymon Judek. photo by: Danny Brown

Momentum could be a strong component for a team. Just ask the opponents of the men's tennis team. The team, who had a 18 match streak, swept regular season play and headed to the Gulf South Conference Tournament.

After a 5-0 victory over Alabama-Huntsville to open up GSC tournament play, the Tigers took down No. 10 West Florida, 5-3, to advance to the GSC finals to face Valdosta State for a second-straight season. Unfortunately, the result was the same, as No. 4 Valdosta swept doubles play, leading to a 5-0 victory over the Tigers.

After the GSC tournament, the Tigers prepared for a tough NCAA regional match up against No. 10 West Florida. After a 2-1 deficit in doubles play, West Florida won three singles matches to win a 5-2 match and end a disappointing postseason run for the Tigers.

In the midst of the season's success was a team that in its core was only as strong as its weakest link. "The key to our team, is that everybody is willing to play any position to help us be successful," said Head Coach Craig Ward. "We have eight guys that completely trust their teammates to give 100 percent day in and day out. That's been the difference in this season and in seasons past."

The success of the team could be judged by the caliber of its opponents. Of the competition, 11 of the 18 overall wins came against top 30 ranked teams. Of those 11 wins, five were against top 11 teams in the nation.

National powerhouses West Florida, Cameron, and Drury were all in the path of the Tigers' success. With

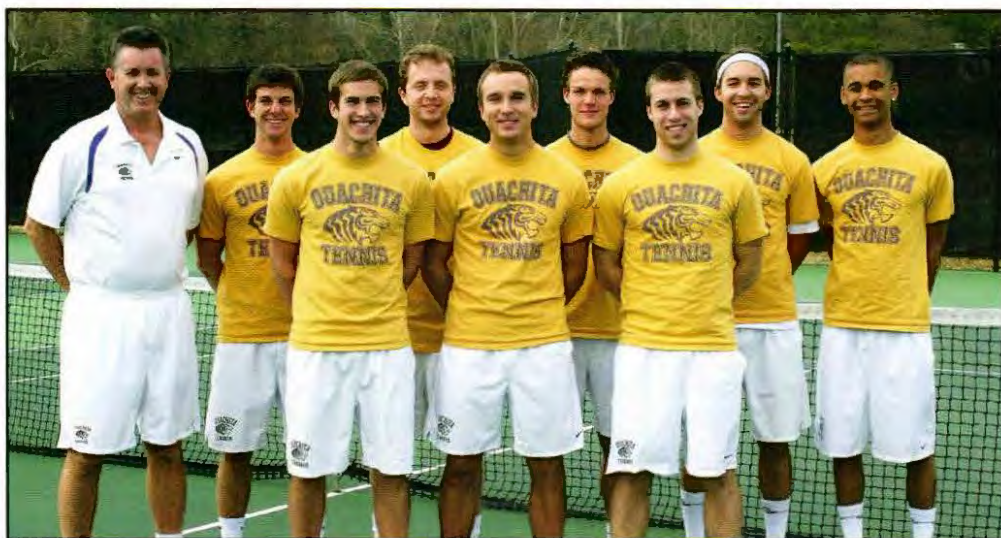
two wins each over Cameron and Drury, the nation began to notice differences in the this team compared to past teams.

The secret? It could be found in the work ethic the Tigers implemented in day-to-day preparation. "It's the time away from the court that's most crucial for us," Ward said. "When it comes down to the match itself, it's all about focusing on the moment. You always have to be ready the day of the match, but once you step onto the court, it's about your preparation and playing within your self."

Since the team was widely successful, individual accolades tended to follow closely behind. The team swept the GSC Men's Tennis All-Conference awards, including GSC West Player of the Year and GSC West Freshman of the Year. For the first time in his career, Head Coach Craig Ward won GSC Coach of the Year honors.

For the fourth consecutive season, Ouachita swept individual awards for the West Division. Sophomore Jean Plewinski garnered Player of the Year honors a season after receiving Freshman of the Year. Plewinski was ranked No. 13 in the nation in singles play, and No. 14 in doubles play with sophomore Till Heilshorn.

Freshman Jean Charles Diame was tabbed the GSC top newcomer, gaining Freshman of the Year accolades. Diame had an undefeated record at 20-0. Heilshorn and Tafelski also received honors, making the All-GSC West Division Team, giving the Tigers four players on the top player team.



**Men's Tennis Team** members are Front Row: Mike Basler, Szymon Judek, Pierre Tafelski, Back Row: Coach Craig Ward, Daniel Moser, Vasek Stverka, Till Heilshorn, Jan Plewinski, Jean Charles Diame.



**Gripping** Pierre Tafelski grips the racket to return the ball. Tafelski made the All-GSC West Division Team.

photo by: Danny Brown





**Waiting** Sophomore Jan Plewinski waits on the right time to swing. Plewinski was ranked No. 13 in the nation in singles play. *photo by: Danny Brown*

## 20-2 overall scoreboard

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS  
9-0

UNIVERSITY OF PINE BLUFF  
9-0

TYLER JC  
7-2

SOUTHWEST BAPTIST  
8-1

OKLAHOMA CHRISTIAN  
9-0

UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA  
7-2

CAMERON  
8-1

DRURY  
5-4

DRURY  
8-1

UNIVERSITY OF ARK-FORT SMITH  
9-0

DELTA STATE  
9-0

FLORIDA TECH  
8-1

FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE  
8-1

ROLLINS COLLEGE  
8-1

HARDING  
9-0

ST. EDWARD'S  
6-1

UNIV. OF INCARNATE WORD  
5-0

CAMERON UNIVERSITY  
6-3

UNIV. OF ALABAMA-HUNTSVILLE  
5-0

UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA  
5-3

VALDOSTA STATE  
0-5

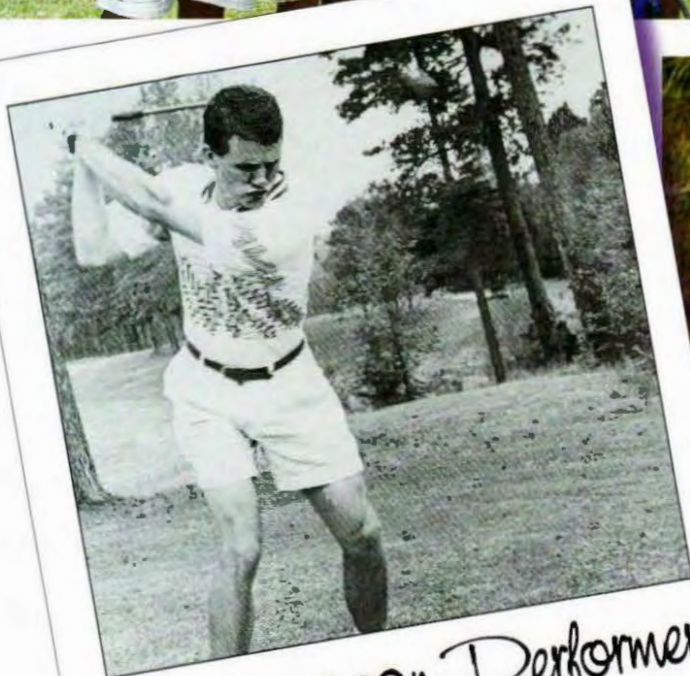
UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA  
2-5



**Waiting** Senior Blake Sisson completes a tee off during a golf match. Sisson was one of the top finishers at many of the matches.  
photo by: Danny Brown

**Lining Up** Senior Klayton Seyler lines up the ball at the sixth hole. Sisson played on the "A" team.  
photo by: Danny Brown

**Golf Team** members are Cole Fisher, Rob Greer, Klayton Seyler, Blake Sisson, and Dax Demaree.  
photo by: Megan Tucker



## All American Performer

Bentley Blackmon, who played for the Tigers in 1994, was the only player in the state that year to be named NAIA Golf All-American Scholar Athlete.

**Senior** Bobby Allen drives the ball. Allen was one of three seniors who led the team.  
photo by: Danny Brown







# A Swinging Season

BY: TANNER HUFFMAN

With three seniors to help lead the team, Tiger golf had to start their season strong. "The strength of the team was definitely the senior leadership. Being a freshman, I was able to feed off of what they did. I was able to see how they acted and carried themselves at tournaments. It was a scary thing jumping from high school to college golf, but having all the seniors just take care of me made the transition much easier," freshman Tanner Huffmann said.

On September 15, the Tigers showed that they could compete among the best. In their first tournament, the Bison Fall Classic held at Harding University, the team placed third after two rounds with a combined score of 645. Senior Rob Greer led the team with two scores of 71, and senior Klayton Seyler's scores of 75 and 72.

The B-team also competed in the tournament, placing fourth with a combined score of 645. Freshman Tyler Sisson scored 79 and 76 in his two rounds, leading the B-team in scoring. "The first tournament was an experience I will not ever forget. Stepping up to the first tee and seeing those butterflies in my stomach was something I have never felt. It felt good to think, 'I can really do this,'" Sisson said.

The team then traveled to Northeastern State University for the 10th Annual NSU Golf Classic. They placed 13th after three rounds with a combined score of 645. Sophomore Cole Fisher helped lead the team to 13th with scores of 88, 74 and 70.

The Tigers placed 13th once again in their next tournament, the Derrall Foreman Invitational, to end

their fall season. Greer led with scores of 76 and 75, with Fisher adding scores of 78 and 76.

Between seasons the team worked on skill, endurance and teamwork. Members traveled to DeGray Country Club as often as possible to work on their game. "We had to practice together and encourage each other to keep unity in the game. I had a lot going on with it being my senior year, but I still made time to go to the course and practice," senior Klayton Seyler said.

The first tournament of the spring season was the Doyle Wallace Classic held at Henderson State University, in which the Tigers placed fourth after two rounds with a combined score of 635. Senior Blake Sisson led with scores of 78 and 77. Greer contributed scores of 74 and 83.

Sisson also led the team in the next tournament, the Crawford-Wade Invitational at East Central University, with scores of 80 and 75. The team placed 13th overall with a combined score of 638 after two rounds.

In the final tournament of the year, the Mulerider Invitational at Southern Arkansas University in Magnolia, the Tigers placed second overall with a combined score of 607 after two rounds, falling only two points behind Henderson State University's score of 605. The team had three members place individually in the Mulerider Invitational. Fisher placed third overall with two scores of 75. Greer tied for seventh with a combined score of 152, and Seyler placed 10th with a combined score of 154.

The Tigers had much to be proud of. Seniors Seyler, Sission and Bobby Allen aided in a successful season. The team finished 8th at the GSC championships.

## scoreboard

BISON FALL GOLF CLASSIC  
3RD PLACE

NORTHEASTERN STATE CLASSIC  
13TH PLACE

DERRALL FOREMAN INVITATIONAL  
13TH PLACE

DOYLE WALLACE CLASSIC  
4TH PLACE

CRAWFORD WADE INVITATIONAL  
13TH PLACE

MULERIDER INVITATIONAL  
2ND PLACE

GSC CHAMPIONSHIPS  
8TH PLACE



# Reaching A Milestone

BY: ALAN GREENWOOD



**Sophomore** Kristen Rigsbee collects one of many base hits during the season. Rigsbee made the All-GSC team.  
photo by: Danny Brown

The ability to put together a clutch run and achieve success while reaching milestone goals are what teams are remembered for. Count the 2009 Lady Tiger softball squad as a memorable team.

For the first time in school history, the Lady Tiger softball team advanced to the Gulf South Conference tournament, fueled by a 12-18 finish in GSC play and a 23-29 overall record.

After finishing as the No. 4 seed from the GSC West Division, the team had the daunting task of taking on the No. 3 nationally ranked Valdosta State Lady Blazers.

After 3-1 and 2-1 losses to VSU during the regular season at Sully Anderson Field, the Lady Tigers were confident with the match-up against one of the nation's premier programs. "Making the conference tournament for the first time in school history was big," Head Coach Mike McGhee said. "It's been our goal for the last two seasons. I think it was the first big step we had to take to build our program."

After a pair of base hits in the top of the first inning, the Lady Tigers jumped to a 1-0 lead. A double by VSU in the bottom of the fifth inning tied the game at 1-1, then the Lady Blazers ended the game in grand fashion with a walk-off home run in the bottom of the seventh inning, putting the Lady Tigers in the loser's bracket with a 2-1 loss. Rain shortened the tournament, ending in a conference title for Valdosta and ending the postseason run for the Lady Tigers. Despite the loss, OBU sophomore pitcher Kristen Rigsbee held the No. 3 Lady Blazers to

just three hits on the afternoon.

"Kristen pitched a quality game, struck out eight at that time they had moved up to number three in the country," McGhee said. "We scored one in the top of first and should have scored another run."

For the second-straight season, Rigsbee was named to the GSC West Division First Team after leading the team with a .372 average and hitting seven home runs and 10 RBI. Her 1.99 ERA on the mound was just as impressive while her 14-13 record didn't fully indicate her dominant efforts. The sophomore struck out 160 batters in 100 innings of work, while only giving up 49 earned runs.

"Without Kristen we are in trouble. She is our number one pitcher, led us in number three hole in the order. She is a great leader by example," McGhee said.

Just as impressive as reaching the program milestone was the path that the team took to get there. True freshmen filled the starting lineup at four different positions.

"Our freshmen have made me excited about the program and where it is going," McGhee said. Among them were freshman Taylor Austin who received All-GSC Western Division second team honors. The Canton, Texas product hit .348 with 54 hits and 29 RBI.

Other standouts at the plate included freshmen Monica Davis who hit .364 with 33 runs, and Jana Deen with a .286 average and 40 hits on the season.

On the mound, sophomore Sara Hanson was second on the team with a 4.06 ERA, 7-8 overall record, and 10 strikeouts in 110 innings.



**Softball Team** members are **Front Row:** Aspen Grams, Jana Deen, Kelli Beth Bratton, Nikki Bain, Whitney Hays, Jessica Hill, Abby Eason. **Second Row:** Assistant Coach Ben Thomas, Sara Hanson, Alexis Johns, Sarah Bell, Haley Chambers, Taylor Austin, Monica Davis, Korrine Cook, and Head Coach Mike McGhee. **Back Row:** Whitley Hoppe, Emily Matthews, Crystal Robinson, Randi Wilson, Kristen Rigsbee, and Assistant Coach Warren Robertson.



**Freshman** Taylor Austin made a move to home plate after reaching third base. Austin led the team with 16.  
photo by: Danny Brown





**Senior** Crystal Robinson extends for the wind up at Sully Anderson Field. Robinson was one of five pitchers on the team.  
*photo by: Danny Brown*

# scoreboard 23-29 overall

LINCOLN  
7-5

MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS  
8-5

LINCOLN  
7-0

MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS  
7-0

SOUTHWEST BAPTIST  
6-4

NORTHEASTERN STATE  
4-1

QUINCY  
3-2

DRURY  
9-0

QUINCY  
4-3

SOUTHERN INDIANA  
4-3

SOUTHERN INDIANA  
4-3

MISSOURI SOUTHERN ST.  
6-2

ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF  
3-1, 3-11

CENTRAL BAPTIST  
4-2, 1-2, 0-9, 3-5

ARKANSAS PINE BLUFF  
3-7, 7-4

HENDERSON STATE  
1-6, 4-5, 8-6, 2-3

ARKANSAS TECH  
1-0, 0-7, 0-1, 1-6

SE OKLAHOMA STATE  
1-3

DELTA STATE  
2-0, 6-5, 1-2, 1-3

WEST FLORIDA  
1-7

WEST ALABAMA  
4-5

WEST GEORGIA  
0-9

ALABAMA-HUNTSVILLE  
1-16

VALDOSTA STATE  
5-15

NORTH ALABAMA  
3-2

SOUTHERN ARKANSAS  
2-1, 10-1, 6-0, 1-2

ARKANSAS-MONTICELLO  
2-6, 3-2, 3-1, 4-6

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS  
6-0, 4-5, 12-1, 3-8

VALDOSTA STATE  
1-2

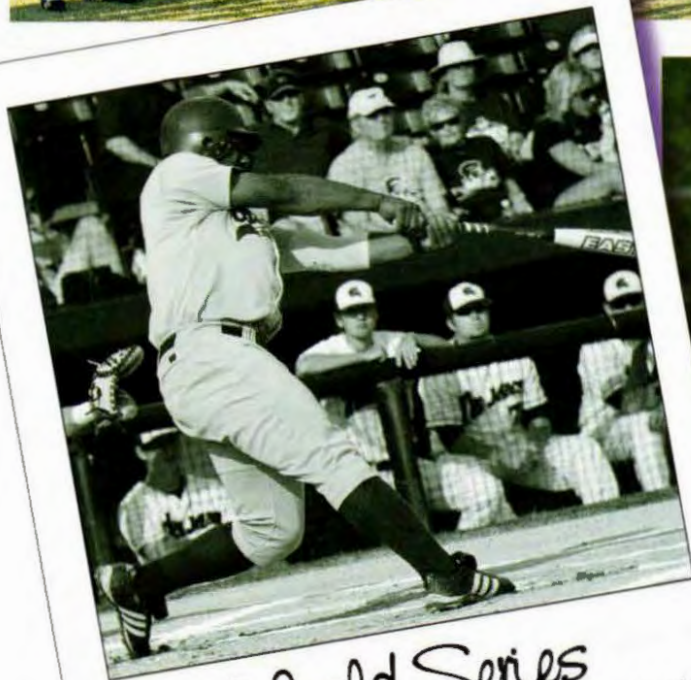
*Softball '01*



**Senior** JoeDan Poulter takes a turn at the plate. Poulter hit .289 with 50 RBI while playing second base.  
photo by:

**Senior** Rudy Jovanovski makes turn at second base. Jovanovski hit .305 with 50 RBI on the season.  
photo by:

**Baseball Seniors** members were Blake Lockwood, Patrick Lemmond, Derek Dibbens, Sean O'Rourke, Drew Wurzelbacher, Chase Baran, JoeDan Poulter, Drew Maus, Jarod Hershberger, Rudy Jovanovski, Jerry Helferich, Chris Gordon.



## World Series

Justin Pennell was named Regional MVP and All-World Series. Pennell was just one of the members of the 2008 baseball team who placed runner-up at the College World Series.



**Senior** Jarod Hershberger delivers the pitch in a GSC match up. Hershberger was 7-1 on the season.  
photo by: Danny Brown





## scoreboard 37-20 overall

ANGELO STATE  
8-4, 7-8, 7-4

MISSOURI WESTERN ST.  
7-6, 6-5, 3-5, 14-1

TRUMAN STATE  
12-5

DRURY  
11-5, 12-10, 12-3

EAST CENTRAL  
6-7, 14-3

WEST ALABAMA  
5-3, 7-3

ST. JOSEPH  
7-9, 3-16

WISCONSIN-PARKSIDE  
11-5, 12-3

STILLMAN  
12-5, 6-4, 13-4

TARLETON STATE  
5-8

MONTEVALLO  
13-5, 1-4, 12-7

EAST CENTRAL  
5-3, 12-3

DELTA STATE  
10-16, 0-11, 2-7

HARDING  
2-4, 6-3, 2-3

NORTH ALABAMA  
7-5

HENDERSON  
6-1, 8-7, 10-0

HENDRIX  
10-3

ARKANSAS-MONTICELLO  
7-10, 2-0, 17-4

ARKANSAS TECH  
15-14, 12-2, 7-6

NORTH ALABAMA  
8-1, 4-3

SOUTHERN ARKANSAS  
5-7, 5-15, 1-4

SOUTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA  
6-9, 19-2

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS  
12-2, 7-1, 17-2

WEST ALABAMA  
5-10

VALDOSTA STATE  
1-16

# High Expectations

BY: ALAN GREENWOOD

With expectations at an all-time high to start the season, the Tigers started the 2009 campaign with a 21-7 record and early season confidence. Then came a tough South conference West Division schedule that not only changed the midseason momentum, but also the tone of the season.

After being swept by Delta State in the GSC opening series and losing two-of-three to Harding, the Tigers fell to themselves at 1-5 in GSC play and in need of a series break to get back in the hunt for postseason play.

After series victories over Henderson State, Arkansas Monticello, and a series sweep over Arkansas Tech, the Tigers moved to 8-7 in conference play. Losing a series at the hands of No. 1 Southern Arkansas put the Tigers in a must-win situation heading into the final series of the season against Christian Brothers. After winning two games, the Tigers clinched the No. 4 seed in the GSC West Division for the GSC tournament, finishing the conference season at 11-10 overall.

The first game of the GSC tournament matched the Tigers against GSC East Division winner West Alabama. Falling behind 8-0 through six innings, the Tigers overcame with runs in the seventh and eighth, but it was not enough, losing 10-5 in the GSC tournament opener.

Game two of the tournament put the Tigers against Valdosta State in an elimination game, needing a game to extend postseason hopes of making the NCAA South Central Regional tournament for a third-straight season.

It became clear early on that it wasn't going to happen, as the Blazers collected 20 hits in the game, rolling to a 10-0 victory over the Tigers and ending the season in

disappointing fashion.

The Tigers finished the season at 37-20 overall, 11-10 in GSC play. Fueled by a 23-5 record at home, the Tigers were able to compete with some of the nation's best, but ultimately couldn't find a way to finish games down the stretch. "We really were pretty steady all year, we just could never get on that run to put us over the top," Head Coach Chris Modellmog said.

Junior Will Gowdy became only the second player in GSC history to be named the GSC West Player of the Year and be named to the All-GSC First team as a pitcher and position player. The junior college transfer became the third-straight Tiger to win player of the year, after having a stellar debut season for the team, hitting .429, which was good for third in the GSC. The 29 doubles he collected were second in Division II baseball.

"Will really was a force on the mound and at the plate," Modellmog said. "He worked hard each day and that helped him have the season he had. We're excited to have him back as a cornerstone for next year."

For the first time in school history, the men took home the GSC West Freshman of the Year honor, sweeping the major awards in the division. First baseman Brock Green of Hot Springs, helped lead the Tigers to their fourth straight GSC Tournament. Green finished in the top three on the team in batting average (.359), slugging percentage (.523), on-base percentage (.464), hits (55) and doubles (16) while leading the team with two other players in hit by pitch (12). Senior Jared Hershberger joined Green on the All-GSC second team after a 7-1 finish on the mound with a 5.13 ERA and 51 strikeouts.



# Fun and Fellowship

BY: TANNER HUFFMAN



**Thunder** Freshman Nolan West makes an interception for the Thundercats. The Thundercats, an all-freshman team, captured the lower division title.  
photo by: Danny Brown

With a new group of freshmen joining the student body, intramural athletics grew both in numbers and competitive spirit. "I had heard a lot about intramural athletics before I came to Ouachita and was excited to participate once I got here," said freshman Daniel Smith, a Christian studies major from Lonoke.

Smith was a member of the competitive freshman flag football team, the "Thundercats," which took first place in the men's lower division. "Team Rex Horne" once again captured the title for upper division. In women's flag football, "Powerhouse" won the upper division championship and "Infuego" the lower.

In October, the intramural athletic program hosted a Halloween 5k run. Around 65 students and faculty participated, and each received a shirt for their involvement. "It was fun to see everyone dressed in their Halloween attire having a good time. The event was a good way to celebrate Halloween," said freshman Katelyn Smith, a dietetics major from Longview, Texas.

"Staff Infection" captured the title in the open volleyball division, with the "Blockbusters" taking the co-ed division.

With intramural basketball season came a group of freshman girls determined to do in basketball what "Team Rex Horne" did in flag football: Win. Uniformed in purple jerseys with ribbon-elaborated bull horns, "Team Becky Horne" captured the upper division

women's championship title. The "Pink Ladies" won the lower women's division. "Our team was an awesome experience. We were nervous about being an all freshman team, but we love the game and walked away with the championship. Dr. and Mrs. Horne gave us so much love and support and we thank them for it. Team Becky Horne is here to stay," said freshman Allison Grigsby, a mass communications major from Cabot.

"Superbad" won the men's upper division basketball while "Duh-nuh-nuh" won the middle and "Red Shorts" the lower.

Intramural softball consisted of a men's division and a co-ed division. The men's division championship title was captured by "Wreckin' Crew" and the co-ed division by "Rabid."

The "Heartbreakers" took the upper men's division title in soccer and the women of EEE won the women's division. For the first time ever, the men of Kappa Chi captured a soccer championship title, winning the men's lower division. "My first thought was, 'we're going to Disneyworld.' I was really excited," said sophomore Kappa Chi member Justin Hodges, a Christian studies major from Stuttgart.

Although teams were competitive, intramural athletics allowed students an opportunity to be active in the Ouachita community, as well as a way to meet new people and have Christian fellowship with other students.



**Struggling** Senior Rowan Ledbetter fights off junior Seth Northcutt as he makes his way down the field. The men played in the upper soccer division.  
photo by: Danny Brown



**He Swings** Sophomore Beau... bats in a Kappa softball game. The Kappas made it to the championship game in every intramural sport.  
photo by: Danny Brown



**Reaching High** Freshman Elizabeth Burke of the Pink Ladies wins a tip-off against senior Amanda Meares of Contagious. The Pink Ladies defeated Contagious in the lower division championship.  
*photo by: Danny Brown*

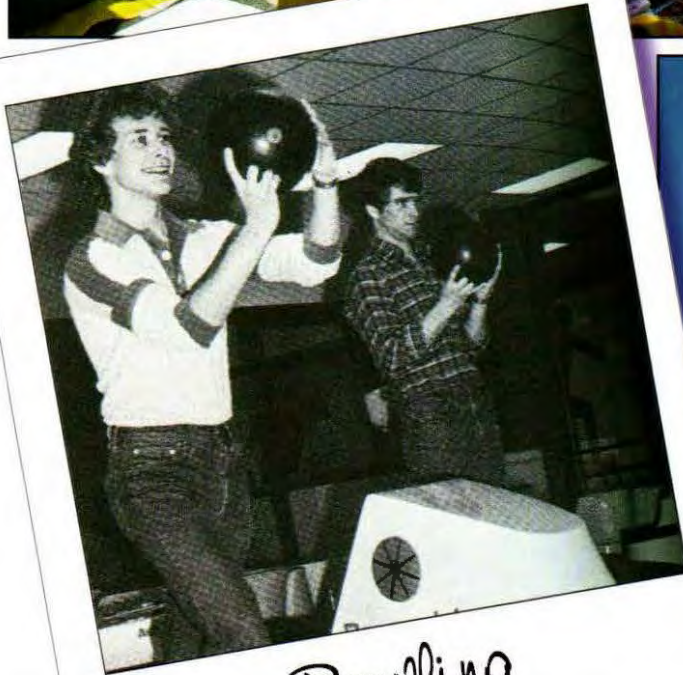




**18 Holes** Students prepare for a day of frisbee golf. Signs posted at each tee listed par and the hole number  
*photo by: Danny Brown*

**Contact** Senior Bob Ruffing throws the disc into the pole hole. The book store provided Innova discs for students  
*photo by: Danny Brown*

**Setting Up** Members of Tau Beta Sigma prepare for the frisbee golf competition by setting up a registration table. The women hosted the competition as a fund-raiser in conjunction with Spring Fling.  
*photo by: Danny Brown*



## Bowling

In 1982 a bowling alley was available in the student center and was a popular recreation activity.

**Eye on the Goal** Senior Ryan Rundle prepares to throw a disc. Rundle used a mid range disc to better control his throw.  
*photo by: Danny Brown*







# OUTDOOR ATTRACTION

BY: RICHARD ATKINSON

Spring came to Ouachita and with that came the itch to be outside. The bipolar, but mostly beautiful Arkansas weather provided everyone with an excellent opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors.

A new outdoor attraction was the Disc Golf Course, or Frisbee Golf Course, that was completed late in the semester. The course was located at the intramural fields and along the cross country trail on campus. It featured 18 holes, baskets actually, spread all around the area. The course was designed by Tom Pitchford of Fort Smith, along with the Campus Activities office.

Nathan Shelburne, director of Campus Activities, said he played the course several times, and enjoyed it. "It's a great opportunity to hang out with friends and do something relaxing, but that is still active," said Shelburne. He added that it could, of course, get pretty competitive at times.

Junior Eli Cranor also played the course frequently. Cranor was involved in football and could not play during football season, but said he played two or three times a week during the offseason. "I like to throw things, and I like the mental aspect of the game, like deciding what disc to use or what shot to make," said Cranor.

"This is one of the longest courses I have played," said Cranor, but the length did not discourage beginners because people could choose between two different courses, one of which was shorter than the other.

Disc golf was a growing phenomenon that offered the possibility for people to compete in tournaments and

win money. Ouachita did not host any major tournaments, but the possibility was there with tournaments being hosted in other places in the state. During the weekend of Spring Fling members of Tau Beta Sigma National Honorary Band Sorority hosted a small competition on the course.

Competition was not the only reason to play however. Many people played for the enjoyment of it, and as Shelburne said, the social aspect. "I have seen several other groups playing, within those you see a very diverse group of people," said Shelburne.

Cranor has also noticed the diversity in groups. "I have noticed it is not all Ouachita students. Lots of people from the community and Henderson come out and play, which gives Ouachita an opportunity to help out the community," said Cranor.

It may not be well known, but disc golf enthusiasts used a special set of discs. Your average everyday Frisbee would work, but was not the choice of most. Discs came in a wide array of varieties, just like golf clubs. There were drivers, mid range discs, discs that hooked left or sliced right, and of course discs for the short game, the putters. Most players could easily get by with a driver, mid range disc and putter.

Ouachita students looking to take up the hobby of playing frisbee golf were considered lucky because the discs were always readily available for use as well as for sale. The bookstore sold disc sets that included the three needed discs along with score cards for those who wanted to get competitive.