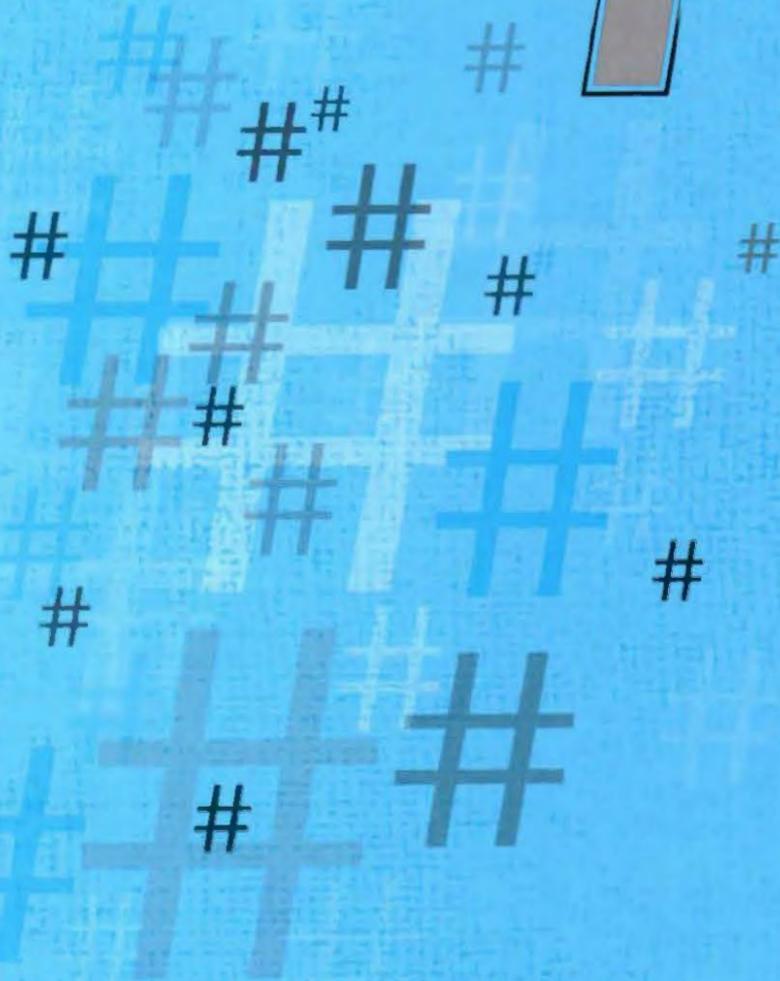


Speak
NOW



2013
Ouachitonian

#6

Student Life

#48

Sports

#94

Academics

#speaknow

#122

People

#170

Organizations

#218

Community

Volume 104

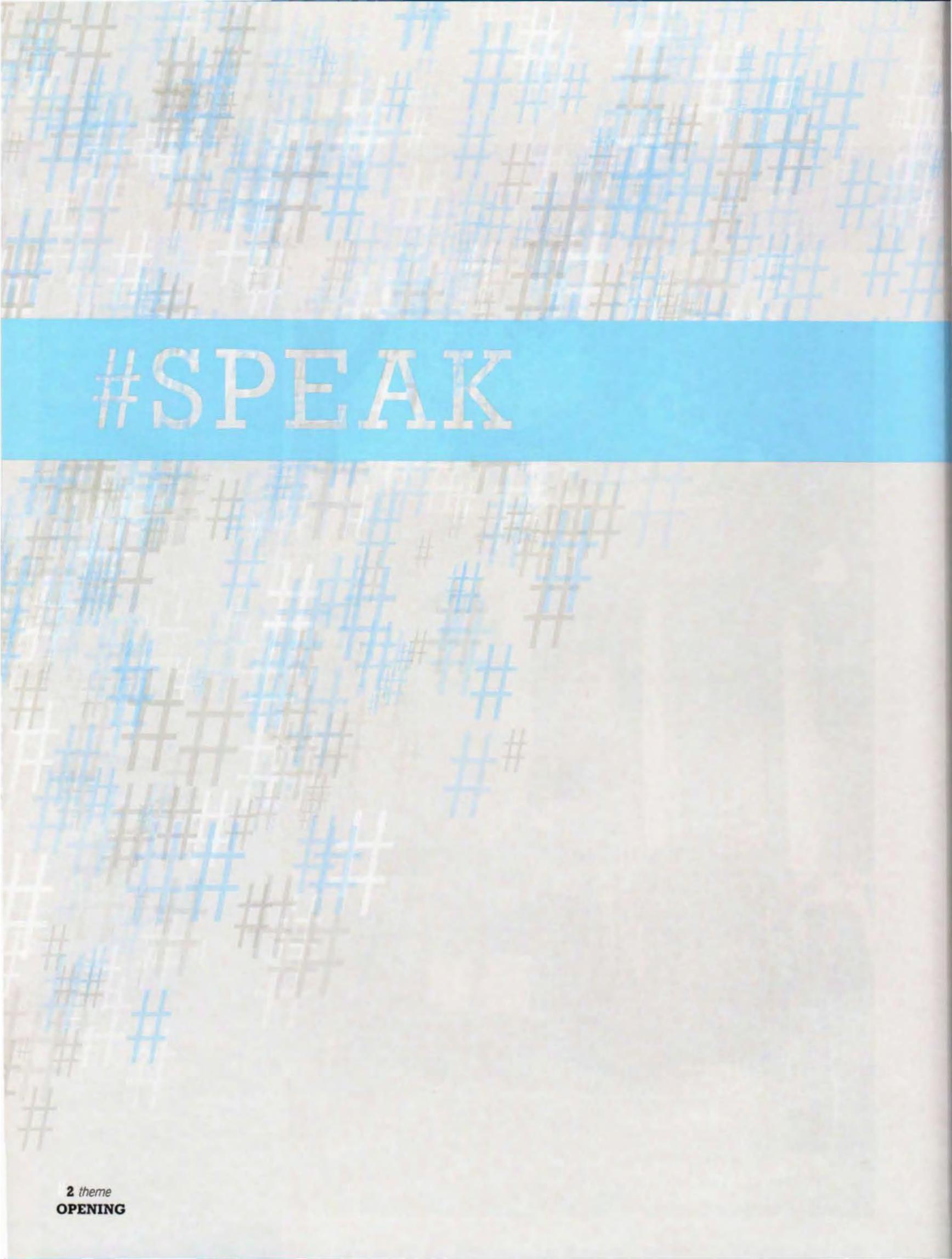
2013 OUACHITONIAN

#speaknow



photo by: Kristen Barnard

Ouachita Baptist University
Enrollment: 1532
OBU Box 3761
410 Ouachita Street
Arkadelphia, AR 71998
870-245-5210
ouachitonian@obu.edu



#SPEAK

Free speech is protected by the First Amendment in the United States Constitution. It is no wonder that speaking is a foundational act of the human being. This is true all over the world and especially at Ouachita Baptist University. Students at Ouachita are young people who strive in every way possible to speak, whether that be through word or deed. Through words, students voted for a presidential candidate and let their voice be heard through a ballot. For many students, this was their first experience voting. Students were also challenged to use their words to convey the gospel, something deep in their roots and foundational for this Christian institution. Through deeds, students spoke through actions by participating in volunteer projects such as Tiger Serve Day, Meals on Wheels, HeadStart, America Counts, Group Living, ElderServe and many more. Expressing oneself was evident in all facets of Ouachita life from the athletic field to the classroom and beyond. Service, one of the three pillars on the Ouachita seal, was one of the many ways students were able to speak about Christ's love.

Immediate. Instantaneous. Present. The word “now” doesn’t bring up memories of the past or thrust us into the world of the unknown that is the future. Now is simply the present time. But it isn’t simple, is it? The present can be stressful, especially with the busyness of school and social life. Students at Ouachita know the present time is important, and we have to make an impact in the lives of others before it’s too late. Whether teaching business skills in third world countries or spreading the Gospel at home and abroad, we were reminded of the importance of now. From national tragedies to personal losses, we learned that we have to make a change for the better and we cannot wait for someone else to pick up the slack in the future. We were challenged to live in the present by serving the community and reaching out to unknown cultures. Students decided now was the time to go outside their comfort zones, because they might not get another chance like this again. One way was by studying abroad in other countries, including France, Austria, United Kingdom, Scotland and many more. Students who took a semester to go to an unfamiliar country knew the importance of experience and knew they had to do it now. Whether through academics, sports, the year-round events held on campus and off, whatever we did with our time here, we chose to live our lives for the here and now.



#NOW



Students on campus were able to use a newly renovated student center to converse with friends, hear live music, sip coffee from Dr. Jacks or eat at the new flatbread store, Sandellas. The remodeled Evans gave students a chance to show off their talents from the stage near the new coffee shop. But social life on campus was more than just hanging out with friends. From participation in Tiger Serve Day and mission outreach to Los Angeles, from voting for a president to voting for Homecoming Queen, students expressed themselves through a multitude of events and activities. They lived out what it meant to

#speaknow



Tiger Tunes hosts and hostesses sing on the new stage in Dr. Jacks, across from Chick-fil-a, Sandellas and Tiger Grill, in the newly remodeled Evans Student Center. The new stage displayed a tiger backdrop and was available for students to perform live music on Fridays during lunch.

photo by: Joe Ochterbeck

STUDENT LIFE

Speak NOW



“ I really felt led to work at a camp, and Kanakuk is where God called me. I love kids, I love summer camp and I love sharing about Jesus, so it seemed perfect. Some of the best parts of camp were early mornings where we were cold, the long days full of laughter and the even longer nights filled with dancing. I met so many awesome, godly people and built friendships that will last a lifetime. Also, dancing with your kids at midnight to the 'Tangled' soundtrack is pretty great, too.”

Micale Kocke, a sophomore biology major from Cabot



Senior Meredith Reeves and sophomore Emily Reeves test out the new underwater lifeproof case for the iPhone.

Senior Taylor Stanford stands beside a poster in the lab where she worked this summer. Stanford did microbiology research for Dr. Hart at the National Center for Toxicological Research.

8 summer events
STUDENT LIFE



Sophomore Kaley Thompson plays with a little girl in a Belize village. Thompson spent two weeks of her summer in Belize on a mission trip with her church group.

photo courtesy of:
Kaley Thompson

Junior Rachel Williams tutors a girl in Jarabacoa, Dominican Republic.

Williams worked with the Kids Alive ministry.

photo courtesy of:
Rachel Williams



EXPLORE

photo courtesy of: Samantha Street



photo courtesy of: Morgan Morehead

Sophomore Morgan Morehead skydives at Sky Ranch in Dallas, Texas. Several Ouachita students chose to work at Sky Ranch camps.

Junior Kathleen Post spends a night in Hong Kong with some of her students. Post spent her summer teaching English to students in Hong Kong, China.



photo courtesy of: Kathleen Post

Summer Schedules

#Aly Smith

After the last final was turned in and the car was packed, students raced to the interstate to head home for summer break. While some students spent their coveted break relaxing and enjoying the much needed rest, others found their summer filled with new opportunities, exciting adventures, and sometimes an even busier schedule than during the school semester.

Kathleen Post, a junior speech communications major from Grand Prairie, Texas, was one these students. Post spent a month of her summer in Hong Kong, China, teaching English to middle school students. Post made this trip with the English Institute of China, and was very thankful for the support she received from her fellow teachers. "I was on an awesome team of teachers and we spent all our time together. They were an amazing source of encouragement for me," said Post. While working with the institute, Post was able to teach conversational

English to children ranging 12-15 years of age. Post did not know the language coming in, but was able to learn from her students. Even though it was very strange not being able to understand those around her, it was well worth it. "I loved being able to spend time with my students and getting to talk about what was going on in their lives," said Post.

Another OBU student who found her summer break a little full was Taylor Stanford. Stanford, a senior chemistry major from While Hall, Ark., spent her summer conducting microbiology research at the National Center for Toxicological Research (NCTR) in Jefferson, Ark. Stanford did her research under Dr. Mark Hart, an OBU alumnus and her NCTR mentor.

While Stanford had conducted plenty of lab work at Ouachita, which helped her prepare for this research, this experience was like a whole new world to her. "I was no longer in an OBU lab, which seemed foreign to me. Also, I was not very familiar with microbiology research. So this past summer I was definitely stretched and challenged, but learned so much from my experience," said Stanford.

Not only did her time this summer make her grateful for the experience she gained, but it also made her thankful for Ouachita. **"My research made me appreciate Ouachita even more, because not only am I being prepared for my career, but also how to live my life outside of the Ouachita bubble.**" This summer, I

got to work for a Ouachita difference maker, and I am so thankful for that," said Stanford.

Kaley Thompson, a sophomore accounting major from Hensley, Ark., also got to spend her break making a difference. Thompson spent two weeks in June in Belmopan, Belize, serving through missions with her home church. Thompson said she had felt called to serve in missions, but this experience definitely exceeded her expectations.

According to Thompson, being in Belize was a huge culture shock. "The kids we got to work with did not care about the things kids in America tend to spend their time investing in. They really just wanted to climb all over us and hug us constantly," said Thompson.

The diversity of the country was also an adjustment for the group. "If there ever was a country the Bible School song 'Red & Yellow, Black & White' was written about, it was Belize for sure. One day we got to do ministries with some of the Hispanics in the area, while other times we were with the people in Belmopan who spoke Creole," said Thompson. This created a language barrier for the group, but the Lord provided and they were able to share the gospel with both villages.

These students are just a few examples of the many who spent their break gaining skills, going on adventures and spreading the word. Students like these continue to show that Ouachita is definitely a home for difference makers.

A group of freshmen huddle during Mini Traks at NSR. Mini Traks gave new students a taste of Arkansas' Most Exciting College Weekend, Tiger Traks.



photo courtesy of Wesley Kluck

New Faces

#Faith Ledbetter

After prospective students apply to Ouachita, gain acceptance, find a roommate, and pack up everything they own into just a few boxes, a troubling idea may start to overcome them: What if I don't make any friends?

New Student Retreat, or more commonly known as "NSR," was an opportunity for new students to visit and become familiar with the campus, possibly meet their roommate for the first time, and participate in many social events that allow them to bond with their future classmates. At NSR, students participated in group-building activities such as a mini "tiger-traks," an amazing race around Arkadelphia, painted spirit banners, and attended the Purple and Gold Party where they got dressed up in their craziest purple and gold outfits to show their tiger spirit.

By attending these events, students branched out of their comfort zones in order to meet other people they may not otherwise have the opportunity to interact with. Many upperclassmen and alumni agreed that NSR had a huge effect on them. Amy Wentz, an admissions counselor for South Arkansas, Tennessee, and the Memphis area, said, "When I went to NSR before my freshman year, I made so many friends that I'm still friends with to this day." Wentz mentioned how it made the first week of school less awkward by saying, "It also gave me the opportunity to know people before actually starting up classes, so I wouldn't walk around campus friendless or lost."

Since NSR was such a huge and important event for new students, it took an extensive amount of planning. Ashlee Giles, an admissions counselor for South Arkansas, East Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi, said that the key to making NSR a success was to "plan, plan, plan, because it was a university-wide effort." The planning committee had to schedule many meetings in order to plan the events that took place over the weekend. Giles said that they relied on many different parts of the campus, such as current students who volunteered as group leaders, Student Services and Campus Activities who reserved space for events and sorted out housing

for the incoming students, and Sodexo which coordinated the meals on campus. Even though the admissions counselors are in charge of the individual events at NSR, Giles said, "We could not do it without the cooperation of the entire university."

Current students agreed that NSR had a huge impact on solidifying their decision to attend Ouachita. Anna Pounders, a freshman early childhood education major from Arkadelphia, Ark., said "I was nervous at first about meeting my new classmates, but attending NSR eliminated that fear by providing me with an easy and fun way to get to know people."

Since many students unknowingly had the same fears coming into their college experience, it was easier for them to find a common ground while trying to communicate with new-found friends. Pounders also said, "I had no idea that the friends I met that weekend would become some of my closest friends over the school year." Many students, especially freshmen, agreed that some of their strongest relationships were formed while bonding over the events at NSR. The planning committee and other faculty members definitely accomplished their goal of bringing students closer throughout the unforgettable weekend of New Student Retreat.



photo courtesy of Wesley Kluck

Freshman Sam Beary races the trike during Mini Traks. The trike races were a long standing Ouachita tradition during Tiger Traks.

ANSR group spells out OBU during the Amazing Race. At each stop in the Amazing Race students met a staff member and had to perform a task.



photo courtesy of Wesley Kluck



photo courtesy of Wesley Kluck



photo courtesy of Wesley Kluck



photo courtesy of Wesley Kluck

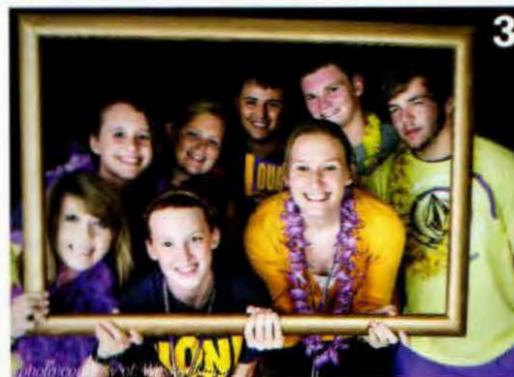


photo courtesy of Wesley Kluck

#1 NSR leaders, juniors Buck Schroeder and Connor Goad and freshman Drew Farris, take a break from the festivities at the purple and gold party.

#2 Sophomore Barkley Legens and freshman Jordan Sharp perform kareoke at the purple and gold party.

#3 A group of incoming freshmen enjoy the photo booth at the purple and gold party.

Speak NOW



“My experience at NSR was so amazing. I truly enjoyed everything. I loved my leaders, my group, and all the wonderful activities. My group, Yellow Three, even placed second in the Amazing Race. I enjoyed meeting so many wonderful new friends. I am so grateful for that wonderful experience at NSR.”

Brooke Murray, a freshman early childhood education major from El Dorado



photo courtesy of Wesley Kluck



photo courtesy of Wesley Kluck

Dr. Kevin Motl leads the closing ceremony of NSR. During this session, incoming freshmen received their tiger tail and learned about Tiger Nation.

The admission staff checks in incoming freshmen for NSR. Students stayed in Gosser Hall and East Village over during the retreat.

Speak NOW



“WOW was a really great experience. It gave me an opportunity to meet older students who otherwise I would have never known. Also, it kind of gave me an idea for what campus life was like. I really enjoyed the nice meal at the professor’s house. A great meal is always a treasure, and it was neat to get to talk with a professor! It also gave us a week to do all the stupid things before school started! All in all, it was a great week meeting all the new freshmen.”

Connor Van Hemert, a freshman business administration and management major from Little Rock



photo by: Nicole McPhate



The Class of 2016 listens during the Tigers and Torches ceremony. Students received their beanies during this session of WOW.

WOW leaders perform a skit for the incoming freshmen. The WOW skit told the story of the different stages of adjusting to college life.

12 welcome to ouachita’s world
STUDENT LIFE

A group of upperclassmen serving as WOW leaders takes a break from moving in the new freshmen. The relationships WOW leaders formed with freshmen allowed leaders to mentor the new student throughout their first year.



photo by: Nicole McPhate

Left Top: Andy Davis performs a concert for WOW students. The concert took place in JPAC and closed out the WOW weekend.
photo by: Kristen Barnard

Left Middle: Seniors Hollyn McCarty and Lacey McCarty unload a car during move-in. Freshman cars were unloaded by WOW leaders at move-in.
photo by: Nicole McPhate

Left Bottom: Freshmen sign up for the Big Brother program at the CM Mixer.
photo by: Nicole McPhate

Right: Students mill about Heflin Plaza during Spotlight on Arkadelphia. This event gave local business owners an opportunity to interact with students.
photo by: Nicole McPhate



FRRIENDS

photo by: Nicole McPhate



photo by: Nicole McPhate



Freshman Daniel Williams signs up for one of the various programs CM and other organizations offer at the CM Mixer. The CM Mixer gave students a chance to learn about the many ways they could get involved on campus.

Freshmen stand with their newly lit candles during the Tigers and Torches ceremony. At the ceremony, incoming freshmen were officially inducted into Tiger Nation.



photo by: Nicole McPhate

Goodbye, Hello

#Ben Cline

As August came around, incoming freshmen couldn't wait to begin their lives as OBU tigers. They had been waiting all summer to start their college career. With their bags packed, they anxiously waited for the days of August to tick by. Finally, move-in day arrived, and students from all over rushed to Arkadelphia to start their new lives as Ouachitians. The new students were welcomed with open arms by volunteer upperclassmen, arms that were quickly filled with boxes to be carried off to dorm rooms. The new freshmen were quickly absorbed into the Ouachita "bubble," and WOW - Welcome to Ouachita's World - had begun.

WOW kicked off with volunteer upperclassmen helping the freshmen move into their dorms. These upperclassmen completely unpacked the fresh-

men's cars and carried all their belongings up to their new rooms. However, move-in day proved to be difficult as inclement weather plagued the move-in process. "We were drenched; the rain was really coming down," said Blaine Surber, a sophomore musical theatre major from Sulphur Springs, Texas. "I was helping move freshmen into Francis Crawford, and as I went to pick up a box to carry it inside, what seemed like a waterfall came crashing down on me. **Even though it rained, it was a blessing to be able to help the freshmen move in, just like I was helped when I first came to Ouachita.**"

After the freshmen got settled in, they attended New Beginnings, a ceremony where they shared their final farewells with their parents. The new tigers then went to their first WOW session while the parents went to an orientation of their own. The first day ended with a Campus Ministries mixer and a special viewing of "The Dark Knight" by Campus Activities.

Sunday brought another day of exciting activities with a second WOW session, a "getting settled" meeting followed by dinner and then a third session. Later that night, the freshmen participated in the timeless tradition of "Tigers and Torches." Tigers and Torches is a ceremony where the upperclassmen "pass on the torch" to the new generation of

freshmen. "The Tigers and Torches ceremony was my favorite part of WOW week," said Noah Myers, a freshman music ministry major from Nashville, Tenn. "It was a very cool way to be formally accepted into Ouachita's world," Myers said. The freshmen also received their iconic OBU beanies at this ceremony, as they were welcomed to their new lives at OBU.

The rest of the week was filled with events like Ice Cream with Dr. Rex Horne and an Andy Davis concert sponsored by Campus Activities. WOW wrapped up with Spotlight on Arkadelphia, an event where businesses in the community set up booths to show students all that Arkadelphia has to offer. "It was great getting in on all the deals that the restaurants had to offer," said Zach Dobbins, a freshman biology major Coweta, Okla. "The free t-shirts weren't bad either," Dobbins added.

WOW week offered students a fun and exciting transition into life at Ouachita. "I loved WOW. Having current students come along side me to offer support and encouragement made my transition into the college world so much easier," said Anna Hurst, a freshman mass communications major from North Little Rock. WOW isn't your ordinary freshman orientation, it's a celebration of students starting their new journey as tigers.

Sophomore Jeremy Dixon, senior Ben Thomas and Dr. Deborah Root work the control room during a taping of the "Ouachita" show in the new television studio in Lile Hall. The studio enabled students to gain hands-on experience while working with the latest technology.

photo by Nicole McPhate

New Spaces

#Faith Ledbetter

There are always important changes happening on campus in order to improve aspects of daily student life. Whether it's changes in the cafeteria, such as a new meal choice, or changes in class schedules allowing students to get one step closer to graduation, students are always adjusting to new things on campus. This summer, Evans Student Center and Lile Hall went through a dramatic change after being remodeled in order to benefit students and aid them in their studies.

The Evans Student Center went through drastic renovations in order to become a more open and inviting area for students. These changes included the removal of many walls, an upgrade in furniture style and comfort, and the addition of the Sandella's Flatbread Café. By removing various walls in the student center, the main floor was now more

open and inviting for students. It also made room for much more seating and dining areas, so that more students were able to use the student center.

The new addition of Sandella's provided students with a new, healthy dining alternative. Chick-Fil-A and the Tiger Grill were completely updated in order to appeal to a wider variety of students and faculty members.

Previously located by the Commons, the old coffee shop was moved to the student center and renamed Dr. Jack's Coffeehouse. With its new location and expanded menu, it became a very busy place in the mornings and between classes. Dr. Jack's also hosted live music weekly along with various campus events.

"Before the renovations, students mainly hung out in random spots on campus and weren't together as a huge group, but **now, on any given day, I can walk into the student center and it's almost guaranteed that I'll see my friends,**" said Faith Alexander, a sophomore communication sciences and disorders major from Hot Springs.

Lile Hall, now home to the School of Humanities, including the new Rogers Department of Communications, had drastic updates in classroom décor and environment. "It is with great pleasure and excitement that we come together today to dedicate this renovation of Lile Hall for the betterment of

Ouachita Baptist University and to the glory of God," said Dr. Jeff Root, dean of the School of Humanities, in a university press release. "Just as the facility has been renewed and equipped to achieve its purpose in teaching and learning, we can see a new enthusiasm among our students and colleagues."

Perhaps the most important change that took place in Lile was the addition of advanced technology in this area. Two computer labs were added, as well as an updated video production studio, which was very beneficial to the students who work in this area. These new workplaces were fairly close in location, making it easier for students to use all of these new facilities if needed.

Another exciting addition was the Publications Newsroom. This area combined the Ouachitonian, The Signal and the photo lab offices into one large room. The new space gave students a feel for work in a real life newsroom. Inside the newsroom each staff had its own "office area," but the open layout of the room allowed them to feed off each other's energy.

Dr. Brett Powell, vice president for administrative services, supervised the renovation project. He said, "Primarily, the objective of each project was to transform existing space to make them more student-friendly and to meet the expectations for academic and student life facilities in today's environment."



photo by: Nicole McPhate

Seniors Abbey Jamieson and Michael Curtis, CM assistant director Kendall Calvert and junior Kristen Barnard enjoy the university's new coffee shop, Dr. Jack's Coffeeshop, in the remodeled Evans Student Center. Dr. Jack's hosted live music by students every Friday at noon.



photo by: Nicole McPhate

Dr. Jeff Root lectures in his Issue in Mass Communications class in a remodeled Lile Hall classroom. The room was specifically designed to promote group work and class discussion.



photo by: Nicole McPhate



photo by: Nicole McPhate



photo courtesy of Wesley Kluck



photo by: Nicole McPhate

- #1 Publication Design students work on a project in one of the two new Mac Labs in Lile Hall.
- #2 Dr. Jeff Root speaks at the Lile Hall dedication. The dedication took place in the fall and gave the school a chance to show the renovations to the public.
- #3 Freshman Jake Briggs and sophomore Abby Lindsey prepare to sing in Dr. Jack's at lunch one Friday afternoon.

Speak NOW



“The renovations to Lile have given us more space and new technology so the students can learn in a better environment. The larger newsroom and publication facilities have helped me personally get work for the Signal done more efficiently and have brought all of the publication staffs closer so we can work better together.”

Tanner Ward, a senior finance, business management and mass communications major from Bryant



photo by: Tyler Rosenthal



photo courtesy of Wesley Kluck

Alumni and friends gather at the Lile Hall dedication ceremony. The dedication gave people a chance to tour the new facilities.

Evans Student Center stands empty amid renovations. Changes were made during the summer to prepare for students' return in the fall.

CHANGE

Speak NOW



“I only got to go to two of the TWIRP nights this year, but I still had a great time! I went to Nerd Prom and a little bit of 50s night. Nerd Prom was really fun! It's great because you can dress and act really silly! We decided to go as a group of just girls this year and we had a great time. We all acted crazy and got a kick out of everyone else, too. For 50s night we only got to come for the end. But we were able to watch the EEE PC' 12 do their show. It was too cute!”

Katie Theriot, a sophomore communication sciences and disorders major from Alexandria, La.



photo by: Grace Finley



photo courtesy of: Aaryn Elliot

Students at Barn Bash snap photos before the square dancing begins. In addition to square dancing, students also two-stepped and line danced.

Sophomores Aaryn Elliot and Shelby Seabaugh take a break from dancing at 50s night to enjoy the photo booth.

16 the woman is required to pay
STUDENT LIFE

photo by: Tyler Rosenthal



Complete with pigtails and taped glasses, freshmen Sammie Mack and Ragan Ledbetter dance the night away at Nerd Prom. Nerd Prom was hosted by the Women of Chi Rho Phi and had Mario Kart, a graffiti wall and a nerdiest couple competition.

Left Top: Junior Connor Goad and freshman Katie Carroll take a break from square dancing. Barn Bash was moved inside Walker due to weather.

photo by: Grace Finley

Left Middle: Sophomores Anna Sikes, Kriti-Page Danielson, Hailee Bezet and Laura Grace Shaddox show some roommate love at 80s night.

photo by: Hannah Bishop

Left Bottom: Students get BBQ buffet for dinner at Barn Bash. Students ate on blankets to get in the Barn Bash spirit.

photo by: Grace Finley

Right: Junior Megan Scarbrough and senior Mary Castleman compete for Nerd Prom Queen.

photo by: Tyler Rosenthal



photo by: Grace Finley

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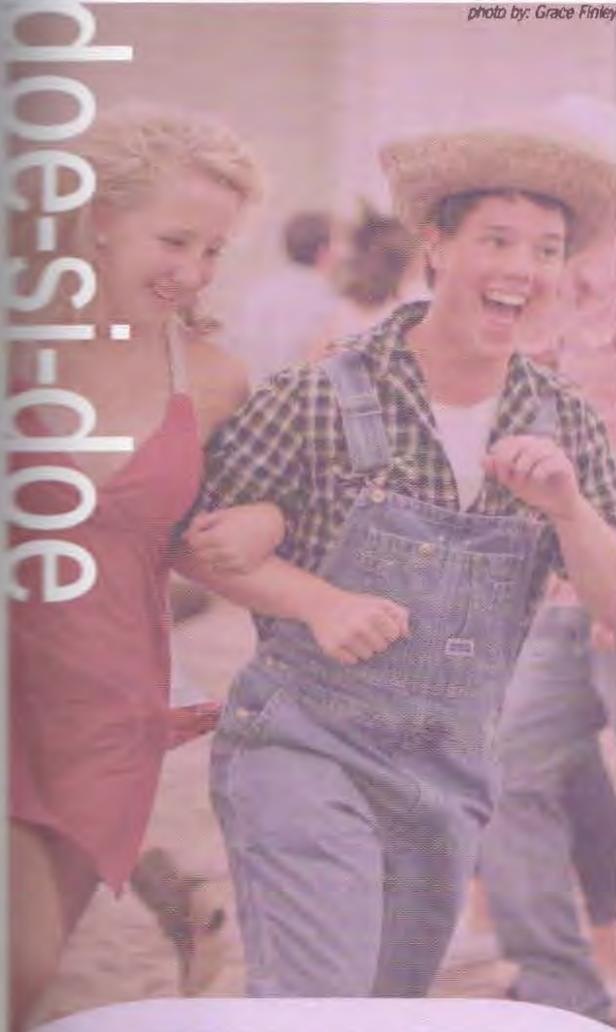


photo courtesy of: Samantha Street

Seniors Callie Chancey, Catie Bennett, Karis Crosby, Krystal Qualls, Samantha Street, Rebecca Atkinson and Taylor Stanford enjoy the photo booth at 50s night. 50s night was hosted by the women of EEE.

Sophomores Kristi-Paige Danielson, Katy Wood, Kelley Ballard and Heather Ellis perform with their pledge sisters during 80s night of TWIRP week. The Women of Tri Chi hosted this event, which consisted of Rubik's cube and dance competitions



photo by: Jason Pullar

TWIRP Time

#Hannah Shull

Suspenders and clip-on ties, neon leotards and teased hair, Grandma's pearls and leather jackets, cowboy boots and plaid shirts. Students raided thrift shops and parents' closets to get ready for TWIRP week.

Sunday night girls brought their dates to Walker Conference Center to see "The Avengers." CAB hosted the movie night and served popcorn. In traditional CAB movie viewing style, moviegoers brought pillows and blankets and propped up against overturned chairs. Some even wore their pajamas.

Monday night the Women of Chi Rho Phi helped everyone find their nerdy side at Nerd Prom. The night was complete with video games and a balloon arch for awkward prom posing. Ladies also competed for Nerd Prom Queen.

Tuesday night the Tiger Den was filled with neon as The Women of Tri Chi hosted 80s night. Tri Chi pledge class of 2012 entertained the audience with

a dance to a 80s music medley. Kristi-Paige Danielson, a sophomore Chritain studies major from Cabot, Ark., made up the dance. "It took me like three hours to come up with it," Danielson said. "We broke up into groups for the different songs, and I would teach a dance and they would go practice in the hall while I taught another one." There was also a dance off to see who could whip out the best 80s dance moves.

Wednesday night the Women of EEE hosted 50s night, and with that came a lot of rain. Hurricane Isaac blew through and caused the scheduled football game to be moved, so 50s night was pushed back an hour. "We were slightly worried about attendance and some of our sisters were involved in the game. We did not want anyone to miss out on such a fun night," said PC '12 president Gracie Lundstrum, a sophomore mass communication and speech communications major from Springdale, Ark. "The night went great! Anytime there is a group of people wanting to have fun, no matter how many, it is sure to be a fun night."

EEE pledge class of 2012 also put on a show for the audience complete with singing and dancing to 50s music. "The best part about putting on an event with your sisters, after all the hard work is done, is sitting back and enjoying the evening with them, or in this case dancing to 50s music in your

poodle skirts," Lundstrum said.

Thursday night, students got dressed up and joined the ladies of Chi Delta at Dino's Main Street Café for Harvest Moon. "Harvest Moon was such a blast," Sydney Gibson, a sophomore business major from Hot Springs, Ark., said. "Not only the event itself, but getting to work with my Chi Delta sisters was what made it so special to me." The semi-formal dance took place from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Friday night, Campus Ministries hosted Barn Bash. Barn Bash was originally planned to take place outside, but because of all the rain, it was moved to Walker Conference Center. "Barn Bash is such a popular event, that we could never cancel it, so we just had to find the best indoor location possible," James Taylor, director of Campus Ministries, said. "Walker was a great spot because it was big enough for a big group, but also air conditioned."

Moving Barn Bash indoors was a big hit because of the air conditioning. "I had a lot of people come up to me and say they actually preferred doing it indoors. I hated losing the atmosphere of the barn and the farm, but it sure was nice to say cool this year," Taylor said.

Students ate barbeque and square danced with their partners. The Campus Ministries student leadership team also created a photo booth with props where students captured the memories of Barn Bash with their friends and dates.

Tiger Tunes COMPETING *for a* CAUSE

by: Jake Coffman

The houselights in Jones Performing Arts Center finally dimmed. An intake of breath followed by loud cheering could be heard from the 1,500 students, faculty, alumni and friends who filled the auditorium. Backstage, a group of eight students held hands and said a prayer before taking their places on stage as the 2012 Tiger Tunes hosts and hostesses. The annual event that brought in almost 10,000 spectators and online viewers, thousands of dollars for student scholarships and included participation from over half of campus had finally arrived.

The annual Tiger Tunes musical production was hosted by the Ouachita Student Foundation in the fall semester during Homecoming. The show was set up to raise money for student scholarships. It also serves as a competition among organizations and social clubs on campus for cash prizes and bragging rights.

The groups that competed in Tiger Tunes included: the women of EEE as lawn gnomes; the men of Beta Beta as exterminators; the women of Tri Chi's "Circus;" the men of Eta Alpha Omega as lumberjacks; the women of Chi Rho Phi as roommates; the men of Kappa Chi as police officers; the women of Chi Delta's "Shipwrecked;" the men of Rho Sigma as themselves; the men and women of Campus Ministries' "Camp Ouachita;" and the men and women of Campus Activities in gym class. Tiger Blast also participated with their show "Men in Black," but did not compete.

"The coolest part about being in Tiger Tunes was that I was able to get immersed in the Ouachita culture early on as a freshman," said Connor van Hemert, a freshman business major from Little Rock. "It gave me a chance to connect with other freshmen as well as many older

students. It gave me a feeling of purpose to be here besides just going to class."

Between the competing shows, the hosts and hostesses kept the audience entertained with musical sets from different musical eras, as well as introducing each group with a clever one-liner. Hosts and hostesses auditioned in March, began planning their show in the spring, and started practice before school began in August, with practice running straight through until opening night.

This year's hosts and hostesses included: Carli Sasser, a junior music education major from Crossett; Nicole Mattson, a junior musical theater major from Rowlett, Texas; Kate Cody, a junior mass communications major from Sulphur Springs, Texas; Rachel Shrader, a senior speech communications major from Litchfield, Ill.; Stephen Curry, a sophomore church music major from Little Rock; Garet West, a junior mass communications major from Bolivar, Mo.; Kyle Fischer, a junior Christian studies major from Texarkana, Texas; and Jake Coffman, a junior music major from Tyrone.

"Being a Tunes host is going to go down as one of my top memories at Ouachita," said Curry. "It was many late nights, a lot of white chocolate mochas from Dr. Jack's, a lot of skinny jeans, a lot of laughs, and the most incredible bonding experience I could have ever asked for with some truly great friends! It was such a blessing getting to take part in this huge tradition at OBU, and I'll never forget it."

The overall winner of Tiger Tunes 2012 was the women of EEE, with the men and women of Campus Ministries in second, the men of Eta Alpha Omega in third, and the men and women

of Campus Activities in fourth. The Congeniality Award, given by the members of OSF, was presented to the men and women of Campus Ministries, and the People's Choice Award went to the women of Tri Chi.

"MaryLacey Thomson and I went into directing with big shoes to fill and not knowing what to expect," said Molly Anne Turner, a junior graphic design major from Sherwood and co-director of the EEE Tiger Tunes show. "Our goal was to lead to the best of our abilities and make sure that everyone was having a blast singing and dancing together. Directing over 100 girls definitely had its challenges, but was the most rewarding experience I have ever had. Winning was icing on the cake. I couldn't have asked for a better group of young women to lead to victory!"

Awards for each of the five categories (costume, choreography, musicality, entertainment value, and theme and lyric) were announced after each of the first three performances. Thursday night's winners were Campus Ministries for theme and lyric, choreography, and entertainment value; Eta Alpha Omega for musicality; and EEE for costume.

Friday night's winners were EEE for musicality, costume, and choreography and Eta Alpha Omega for theme and lyric and entertainment value. Saturday's 5 p.m. show winners were Eta Alpha Omega for theme and lyric and entertainment value, Campus Activities for choreography, a tie between Kappa Chi and EEE for musicality, and another tie between Kappa Chi and Eta Alpha Omega for costume.

Tiger Tunes 2012 was the event of the semester and had students and faculty alike shouting "It's always a good time!"



@llyssalynette "Campus Ministries raided @H_Threadgill's closet for their Tunes costumes. #tigertunes2012"



@BenRayThomas "I chuckle a little bit on the inside when people say that Tiger Tunes isn't that time consuming. #tigertunes2012"



@kavyfern "Tiger Tunes: A Time when everyone's Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram count increases exponentially. #tunesprobs"



#1 Juniors MaryLacye Thompson and Katie Vaughn and the rest of the EEE lawn gnomes harmonized their kazoos to the tune of "Deck the Gnome" on their way to victory. The Women of EEE won first place overall for the second year in a row, marking a first for the club.

photo by: Nicole McPhate

#2 Freshman Griffin Peoples and sophomore Katie Theriot, along with the rest of the campers and counselors of CM, serenade the audience with their witty song lyrics. The CM show grabbed second place with their high energy and clever theme.

photo by: Nicole McPhate

#3 Junior Brent Nessler and the other lumberjacks of Eta Alpha Omega perform their rendition of "I'm a Tree." The Eta show had impressive props, sweet solos and lots of humor, earning them third place overall.

photo by: Nicole McPhate

#4 Seniors Daniel Johnson and Gillis Jones show off their gym class moves during the Campus Activities Tunes show. This show, new to Tiger Tunes this year, received fourth place overall.

photo by: Nicole McPhate

The 2012 Homecoming Court stands with their escorts at the crowning ceremony. This year's court consisted of senior MyLisa Speer, Devan Malone, Hannah Pilcher, junior Hannah Bushey and senior Karis Crosby.



Photo courtesy of Wesley Kluck

Coming Home

#Hannah Shull

The all-student email from Campus Activities included more events than you've ever seen listed in one message: root beer floats on the lawn with the men of Eta Alpha Omega, Karaoke with the men of Sigma Alpha Sigma, poster painting with the women of Tri Chi, Tiger Tunes dress rehearsal, tie-dyeing shirts with the women of Chi Delta. You kept scrolling as the events kept coming. All of this could only mean one thing. It was Homecoming week at Ouachita.

The Homecoming festivities started on Monday with the Homecoming court nominees being introduced at Lunch on the Lawn. The men of Beta Beta and the men of Rho Sigma were also set up on the lawn with games. That afternoon the women of EEE helped rally school spirit by painting car windows in the lower SPEC parking lot.

On Tuesday, the center of campus was filled with the sounds of Karaoke hosted by the men of

Sigma Alpha Sigma. Students also joined the women of Chi Delta at their cakewalk.

After grabbing a chili dog from the men of Eta Alpha Omega on Wednesday, students could make a spirit poster with the help of the women of Tri Chi and dress up in hats and over-sized glasses to get their picture taken at the women of Chi Rho Phi's photo booth. Wednesday was also the dress rehearsal for Tiger Tunes. Tickets to sit in the balcony to watch the show were sold for \$5 at the door.

Thursday afternoon rolled around and campus was full of high school juniors and seniors visiting for GROW. Students, faculty, family, and GROW students gathered in JPAC for the opening night of Tiger Tunes. After Tiger Tunes, "GROWers" joined their hosts in the Village circle for Refuge. "I loved watching my growers fall in love with Ouachita like I did the previous year," Sammie Mack, a freshman biology major from Little Rock, Ark., said. "I loved going to Refuge with them and watching them meet people and experience everything Ouachita has to offer."

Friday, the men of Eta Alpha Omega served Frito chili pie on the lawn for lunch. After the second show of Tiger Tunes, students celebrated at Speer Pavilion at the Kappa Chi cookout.

On Saturday morning, social clubs and other organizations set up parties all across the center of campus for OctTiger Fest to welcome alumni back

to campus for the Homecoming game and Tiger Tunes. At 11 a.m. tailgating for the football game against Southwestern Oklahoma State began.

At the game, Hannah Pilcher, a senior Spanish major from Maumelle, Ark., was crowned Homecoming Queen. "When they announced my name it was definitely one of those surreal moments in life when you are thinking, 'Oh my gosh, is this really happening? Are you sure they counted right?'" Pilcher said. "That is just one side of it. The other side is just this overwhelming feeling of how blessed I am, how much the Lord has given me and blessed me with such wonderful friendships here at Ouachita."

After the early show of Tiger Tunes, visitors could attend the Homecoming Street Festival set up between Jones Science Center and JPAC. "The Street Festival was an idea that came about with the help of Keisha Pittman," said Jon Merryman, director of Ouachita Alumni and the Ouachita Student Foundation. "[It was] a way to keep alumni and guests from having to try to pack into local restaurants and wait in long lines between the Saturday afternoon and night Tunes' shows."

Once the final show of Tiger Tunes was over, students ended Homecoming week with Muggin' hosted by the Men of Eta Alpha Omega on the lawn. Students listened to live music, danced and drank bottles of IBC root beer.



photo by: Tyler Rosenthal

Junior Brandon Sanders passes out popcorn at this year's OcTigerfest. OcTigerfest gave alumni a change to see campus and interact with clubs and groups from every facet of Ouachita life.

Seniors Noah James and Christian Ichter lead worship with the Refuge band during the Homecoming Refuge. The event was held in the Village circle so prospective students attending GROW could experience Refuge.



photo by: Nathan Dickard

Speak NOW



“My favorite thing about Homecoming every year is always the football game, especially this year when we beat SW Oklahoma, winning the game. I was so proud of our guys this season. We had so many injuries on the team, but they persevered and overcame and still had a great season with so many guys out. I was so proud of the coaching staff and the leaders on our football team.”

Casey Knight, a senior communication sciences and disorders major from Arkadelphia



photo by: Grace Finley



photo by: Kristen Barnard



photo by: Kristen Barnard

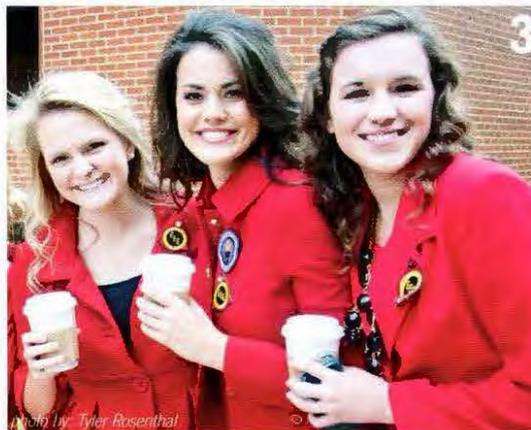


photo by: Tyler Rosenthal

- #1 Senior Hannah Pilcher was crowned the 2012 Homecoming Queen prior to the game.
- #2 Homecoming maid, junior Hannah Bushey, is escorted at the game by her father, Steve Bushey.
- #3 Sophomore Hannah Pinkerton, junior Sara Liz Carter and sophomore Hailee Bezet try to stay warm at the chilly OcTigerfest with some coffee from Dr. Jack's.



photo by: Tyler Rosenthal



Sophomore cheerleaders Kaylee Barnett and Lauren Dunklin lead the crowd in a cheer. The band and cheer squad held a pep rally at OcTigerfest.

The Men of Eta Alpha Omega serve over 2,000 bottles of root beer at Muggin' each year. Muggin' is one of the largest events held on campus.

Speak NOW



“During BOTR, I was out guarding the Tiger. It was probably 2 or 3 in the morning; nobody was super lively. Just as I started to fall asleep, bam! Water balloons started hitting the Tiger from every way possible. It took a minute for everyone to realize what was going on since we were half asleep, but we got right on protecting our favorite feline! Those Reddies were chased off campus by some of Ouachita's finest, and we had battle scars, aka soaked sweatshirts, to show for it. Just another great memory at Ouachita!”

Meg Hart, a junior accounting major from Little Rock



Freshmen Haylee Garland, Lauren Scarbrough, Megan Kelley and Sydney Bratton and sophomore Ramsey Vaughn enjoy the gameday festivities.

Seniors Patrick Krauss, Jordan Howard, junior Blake Leisenring and senior Adam Wood show their pride with “war paint” during the football game.

22 *battle of the ravine*
STUDENT LIFE

A sea of flames crosses Heflin Plaza as students carry torches representing their tiger spirit. The torches were used to light the traditional BOTR bonfire hosted by the Men of Rho Sigma.



Left Top: Mr. Ricky shows off his tiger pride with the tiger mascot at Rally on the Ravine. Mr. Ricky's tiger shirt was a favorite at tailgates.

photo by: Tyler Rosenthal

Left Middle: Students ride the ferris wheel at Rally on the Ravine. This was a new addition to this year's festivities.

photo by: Tyler Rosenthal

Left Bottom: A student records the BOTR bon fire on her iPhone. This year's bon fire was lit with a flaming arrow.

photo by: Tyler Rosenthal

Right: Students gather to watch the fireworks display. The Men of Rho Sigma sponsored the BOTR fireworks.

photo by: Joe Ochterbeck



BATTLE

Photo by: Grace Finley

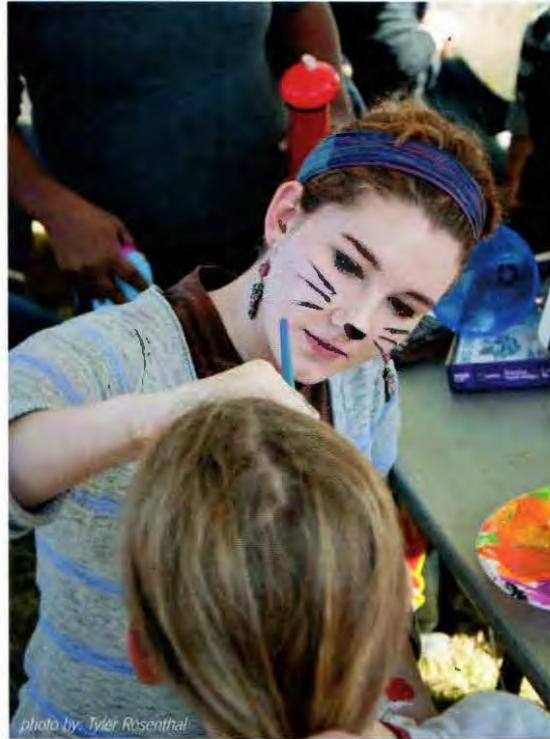


photo by: Tyler Rosenthal

Freshman Sara Williams paints a child's face at Rally on the Ravine on gameday. The OBU Art Club had a face paint tent at the rally to help kids show their tiger pride.

Seniors Lara Overnan, Hannah Bishop, Caitlin Jones and MyLisa Speer share a laugh while guarding the tiger. The seniors guarded the tiger from dusk until dawn on Thursday night.



photo by: Abbey Janis Solt

Battle Lines

#Ben Cline

The Battle of the Ravine is one of the Arkadelphia's best traditions. It allows the entire community to come alive with school spirit, and revitalizes the age-old rivalry between OBU and the Reddies that spans across the street. However, thanks to the efforts of Dr. Kevin Motl, the week leading up to the game has become almost as intense as the game itself. With class-designated "guard" nights and social club sponsored activities, the Battle of the Ravine has grown into a week of festivities and fun. Ouachita's Tiger statue, now in its second battle since the 2011 renovation, was well defended from the Reddies by OBU's students. What used to be a tradition held only by the men of Rho Sigma,

guarding the Tiger has been expanded to include all the students, with a different graduating class taking up defensive positions each night. Motl, the mastermind behind "Tiger Nation," explained why the new traditions were established. "We initiated the class-based Tiger Guard last year, in part out of a desire to see the students bond with their academic class. Our hope was that the experience of guarding the Tiger together would let the students bond with their fellow freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors, and after four years of guarding, they would have strong and fond memories of the fun they had as a class."

Along with each class taking a night to guard the tiger, the social clubs took turns sponsoring events on campus to keep the watchful students busy. Whether it was "Monday Night Football," a car bash, or free food, there was always something going on in the middle of OBU's campus. "The Battle of the Ravine just seems to get better every year," said Blaine Surber, a sophomore musical theatre major from Sulpher Springs, Texas. "Now that the class-based tiger guarding is in its second year, the student turnout seems to just keep

getting better."

When Saturday finally arrived, the excitement had grown into a campus-wide epidemic. A ferris wheel and other rides were set up on Henderson's intramural fields, and Sodexo brought its finest food for the tailgate. A cash prize was given to the social club with the best tailgate, and this year's winner was the men of Beta Beta. Senior Michale Curtis, a music major from Wiley, Texas, thought the tailgate competition was another way the atmosphere was improved on gameday. "I love the friendly, yet competitive edge the tailgate competition adds each Saturday, and BOTR was no different," she said. The Rally on the Ravine activities, bringing Ouachita and Henderson fans together to celebrate the historic game, was sponsored by Southern Bancorp.

Highway 7 was lined bumper to bumper with fans eagerly awaiting kickoff. Although the Reddies outscored the Tigers on the scoreboard, Tiger Nation was overflowing with school spirit, and the students enjoyed a week filled with activities, both new and old. Arkadelphia was alive with traditions, some in their infancy and others that were old favorites- but the memories made this week would last a lifetime.

photo courtesy of...



Students gather in the Village for the last scene of the Lip Dub. Students performed the Mega Mix dance from Tiger Tunes for this closing scene.

Good Time

#Elise Holman

Home to an eclectic group of students, diversity ranges far and wide on our campus. Nine social clubs, seven academic schools, bands, choirs, athletic teams, various extra-curricular organizations, hammock enthusiasts, Waldo, and a dancing banana all come together to form the crazy community in which we live, and now the world is able to see inside the bubble with the debut of Ouachita's very first Lip Dub.

The idea for the Lip Dub originated with Andy Dean, a Ouachita alumnus who filmed the promotional video that Ouachita is currently using. "[Dean] volunteered to come back to campus and shoot a Lip Dub for us for free if we would organize it and schedule it. So he was the initial impetus for us and it just grew from there," said Trennis Henderson, vice president of communications at Ouachita.

Henderson, along with Brooke Zimny, assistant director of communications, Lori Motl, Amy Wentz, and Kate Davis from the Admissions Office, and Hillary Hill in Campus Activities, were the members of the core group that was responsible for the actual organization and successful completion of the Lip Dub.

"We really used social clubs, campus organiza-

tions, athletic teams, academic schools, and musical groups to be as representative as possible of campus," said Henderson.

Even the faculty took part in the experience. Tiffany Eurich, an instructor in mass communications, choreographed a dance for the charismatic professors who joined in the fun. "The best part for me may have been seeing Dr. Jeff Root and Dr. Deborah Root putting their groove on in their doctoral robes," said Dean.

There were between 200-300 people who came out to participate in the event. "It really did take on a life of its own as the campus embraced it. One of our goals for it was to just be a fun campus event for students and faculty," said Henderson.

The Office of Communications mapped out the route that the videographer would be taking and had to get special clearance for the choir to be on the roof of Mabee and for ROTC to rappel off of McClellan. And no one could miss the giant, Technicolor hot air balloon that could be seen from the center of campus, filling the Village circle.

"One of the things we wanted to do was have original lyrics," Henderson said. "With that idea, we recruited both the Ouachita Sounds and the hosts and hostesses to record the lyrics for us."

In all, it was united effort of the Ouachita community that brought the Lip Dub together. "Even with all of the little details we were running through, ultimately it just came down to we had to put it out there and cross our fingers and trust the students to come out and do it," said Zimny.

On Dec. 4, it was standing room only in Dr. Jack's

Coffee House as students and faculty gathered to watch the world debut of the Lip Dub. Those who arrived just in time for the premier had to stand on chairs in order to see over the crowd.

The screen dropped from the ceiling and cheers rang out as Henderson placed the DVD copy into the player. Silence then fell over the crowd as the video started, but that did not last long. As soon as students saw their friends on screen they whooped, cheered and laughed as the little nuances of Ouachita life sprung up throughout the video. As the video culminated and the shot panned out, cheers and clapping filled the room. The video proved to be a success.

The overall reaction to the Lip Dub has been extremely positive. "We are extremely pleased with the finished product. Between the professionalism of Andy Dean...and the creativity and energy of Ouachita's students and faculty, it's a really fun peek into Ouachita's tight-knit community," said Zimny.

The video was posted to Vimeo and YouTube as "Ouachita Lip Dub 2012: Tunes Unleashed" and spread through reposts on various social media forums like Twitter and Facebook. After one month online the video received more than 15,000 views, a number that grew daily.

Though Ouachitonians may not sing and dance on their way to class (at least most Ouachitonians) the video captured the essence of our lively campus. No matter your interests, there is a club, team, organization, or simply a group of friends at Ouachita perfectly suited for you. Despite the diversity, as the video shows the entire campus comes together as a community to embody the true spirit of Ouachita.



photo by: Nicole McPhate

Students from the W.H. Sutton School of Social Sciences hold posters to stand out during the Lip Dub. Every school on campus was represented during the Lip Dub.

The Women of EEE represent every facet of their club life, including TWIRP, Tiger Tunes, letter days and more. Every social club on campus had a special spot in the Lip Dub.



photo by: Nicole McPhate



photo by: Nicole McPhate



photo courtesy of Wesley Kluck



- #1 Making their way through campus, Andy Dean and his crew film a take of the Lip Dub.
- #2 Junior Justin Young carries around a cutout of Dr. Rex Horne during the Lip Dub.
- #3 Students sit in the amphitheater while receiving directions from Lip Dub coordinators Amy Wentz and Kate Davis.

Speak NOW



“The Lip Dub has to be one of my favorite experiences while here at Ouachita. It was really neat to see the whole campus come together for this one production. At first I was skeptical about doing the Lip Dub. I cannot dance or sing and definitely not both at the same time in a coordinated matter, so I needed to find another way to participate in the Lip Dub. I thought about dressing up in a wide variety of costumes, but something else came to me in a dream. I heard the words, ‘Be Waldo, Leith, be a legend.’ The rest is history. My number one goal as Waldo was to sneak into as many scenes as possible. I think in doing so I literally had every group on campus mad at me. I managed to sneak into so many scenes, it was awesome.”

Leith Hobbs, a junior biology major from Crown Point, Ind.



photo courtesy of Wesley Kluck

Friday afternoon, students prepare for the Lip Dub by practicing lyrics in the amphitheater. The lyrics for the Lip Dub were written by the Ouachita Sounds and the hosts and hostesses.

Students gather in Evans Student Center for a portion of the Lip Dub that helped to feature the newly renovated space.

CELEBRATE

photo by: Jason Pillana



photo by: Heather Ellis

Movers and shakers sophomore Tyler Rosenthal and junior Nicole Mattson perform with a special guest during Festival of Christmas. The dancers performed multiple times throughout the show.

Freshmen Bonnie Magee, Maci Lewis, Morgan Brothers and Sydney Heslep pack boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Campus Ministries held a packing party for Operation Christmas Child on the bridge of the student center.



photo by: Lacey Brooks

enthusiasts, that they may push for more lights around campus during future Christmas seasons."

Extra lights were not the only new decorations added to campus. When students returned to campus after Thanksgiving break, the Student Center was in full Christmas swing. Large wreaths covered the walls, garland hung from archways and railings and two tall Christmas trees stood completely decorated for all to see. The decorations were by alumnus David Goodman of Mary and Martha's Florist and Gifts.

After all the decorations were put up before students returned to school, there was one tree that remained unlit. The Speechies hosted their annual Speechie tree lighting ceremony. Students gathered on the lawn by the International Flag Plaza with hot chocolate and counted down the seconds until the massive tree was illuminated. Students also had the opportunity to bring a children's book to the tree lighting to be donated.

With campus fully decorated several Christmas activities began, the first being Lessons and Carols, a church service that began in the rural Anglican churches of England. The service included nine scripture readings, carols sung by the Ouachita Singers and Women's Chorus and a performance by the Handbell Ringers.

"Ouachita's annual service of Lessons and Car-

ols is a wonderful celebration of the incarnation of God in Christ," Dr. Rob Hewell, associate professor of music and director of the Worship Studies Program, said in a press release. "The carefully selected scripture readings join with glorious carols to connect us with Christians around the world who participate in the Lessons and Carols tradition. It's a powerful thing, really, when you think about it."

The Campus Activities Board held its annual Christmas party in the fully-decorated student center. The free party for students included cookie decorating, a snowman ornament craft, live music and a photo opportunity with Santa Clause. At the party, students and faculty crowded around the projector screen to view the campus-wide Lip Dub for the first time.

Campus Ministries held an Operation Christmas Child shoebox packing party on the bridge of the student center. Students brought small toys, school supplies and hygiene items to fill the shoeboxes. Seventy-five shoeboxes were packed up and shipped out to children.

Christmas time around campus was filled with lights, garland, music and good spirits. As student body president Justin Young, a senior business administration and management major from Springdale, said, "Christmas season is always better when it's spent at Ouachita."

Light Bright
#Hannah Shull

According to several students, you can never have too many Christmas lights. Jake Edwards, a senior business administration and finance major from Little Rock, was one of those students and he proposed the idea to add more lights to campus for the holiday season to the Student Senate. Student Senate then created a Christmas light committee including Edwards; Connor Goad, a sophomore music major from Hot Springs; and Shelby McAdoo, an early childhood education major from Copper Canyon, Texas. Plans to string lights across the bridge over the river were approved by the administration.

"We went to Atwoods and bought about 500 feet of lights, gave them to maintenance to hang up and turned on history," Edwards said. "I felt like it was a definite win for this campus. It is my duty to pass on the torch to other Christmas

Senior Daniel Aylett, a member of the Tiger Serve Day Leadership Team, directs a group of students about its assigned location. Every group had a different project in the community.

photo by: Tyler Rosenthal

Continuous Service

#Tori Abellera

Tiger Serve Day was a reflection of the Ouachita community. When the fliers were hung on windows and emails were sent out to inform anyone who would be interested in the opportunity, the students of Ouachita generously marked their calendars and formed their groups.

The tradition remained that Tiger Serve Day was an opportunity for OBU students, faculty, and staff to give back to the community through serving in whatever ways they could.

"Tiger Serve Day is a vessel that connects students with the citizens of Arkadelphia and an opportunity for students to become involved by serving our neighbors," said Treslyn Shipley, a freshman studio art major from Arlington, Texas, who was able to help with the planning of Tiger Serve Day.

In order to execute the regular operations, about 25 students were selected to be a part of the Tiger

Serve Day Leadership Team. Tasks included organizing and planning, registration and promotion.

With such an important biannual event, the Tiger Serve Day Leadership Team was given the task to be as efficient as possible. It was easy to assume that with 16 successful years of operation, the repetitiveness would have made Tiger Serve Day a fairly simple task to lead. However, the organization behind the event was what made it increasingly impactful.

"The real magic of Tiger Serve Day is its consistency, the fact that we've actually worked really hard at having a template that works. Over the years we've also developed our own software," said Mr. Ian Cosh, vice president for community and international engagement, who played a major role in the organization of both Tiger Serve Day events.

Over the years, staff members at the Elrod Center recognized the need to continue improving the system of how Tiger Serve Day operates.

"Efficiency is absolutely a team effort. Every semester we try to tweak things to make the day run smoother," said Rachel Williams, a junior accounting major from Sherwood, who was a part of the Tiger Serve Day Leadership Team.

Dawson Pritchard, a junior kinesiology major from Denton, Texas, who was also on the leadership team, worked with Mrs. Judy Duvall, assistant director of the Elrod Center, and IT Services to help

update the Tiger Serve Day database. The database was used for sorting the information about each team's project, such as how many people would be sufficient for the job and all of the details about the project.

"This helps us match projects and teams together, so we can efficiently use our resources - both tools and people," Williams said.

Since many people of Arkadelphia's community accepted the invitation to be served by students and faculty, there was also a lot of risk of possible errors. Using their database system, the leaders were able to strategically decipher the tools and people needed in order to complete specific tasks.

"Great service involves great operational knowledge," said Cosh. Thanks to the hard work of the Elrod Center, the Tiger Serve Day Leadership Team, students and faculty and food donations from Southern Bancorp, the Elrod Center experienced a consistent turnout between the two Tiger Serve Day events. In the fall semester, 91 teams were sent out to serve the community. In the spring semester, 90 teams were formed and sent out.

Over 50 percent of the student body chose to participate at each event. With the efficient operation behind it, Tiger Serve Day was more than just an opportunity to volunteer. More importantly, it was a representation of a faculty and student body who strove for vision, integrity and service.

Speak NOW



“ Tiger Serve Day may only happen once a semester, but those four hours or so are always enough time to make some of the best memories with my friends, build relationships with people outside of ‘the bubble,’ and glorify the Lord through serving the community. OBU students line the street in their TSD shirts for breakfast and I can always count on Paul Spann to show up in his jumpsuit. We get so excited because it is not about raking leaves, painting, water fights while washing cars, dusting, and mowing yards. It’s about serving the community we live in with the people we live life with. The memories are created because it’s a solid block of time where love is being poured out everywhere.”

Shelby Davis, a sophomore biology major from White Oak, Texas



Junior Pete Brunson helps plant a garden at the fall TSD. The theme on Sept. 22 was “Arkadelphia: It’s a great place to serve.”

A few guys from the Men of Beta Beta pose for a picture with the house owner at their project. Many different groups helped with TSD, including clubs, athletic teams and even classmates.



Senior Daniel Lee carries rakes to his team. Students met at 9 a.m. in front of the Elrod Center to get a start to their day with breakfast catered by Sodexo.

Sophomore Scott Bohning power washes the siding on a house. There were many manual labor projects such as mowing and house repairs.



photo by: Tyler Rosenthal



- #1 Senior Hunter Soper puts leaves into a trashbag. Many projects included raking neighborhood yards.
- #2 Sophomore Caleb Cunningham carries wood in a wheelbarrow for a wood pile.
- #3 Senior Jake Edwards smiles while signing teams in on the morning of the spring TSD, April 6. The theme was “One body. Many hands.”

COMMUNITY

Speak NOW



“ Christian Focus Week was super fun this year because I was able to volunteer. Through volunteering at Coffee House and Cinnamon Roll night, I was able to meet new people and serve my peers. I think my favorite thing about Christian Focus Week this past year was praying over Refuge on Thursday night. I had no idea when I showed up to pray for Refuge that I'd be praying and reading Psalm 100 during the service. I was nervous, but God definitely moved. I am humbled by the way He used me. I can't wait to see what God has in store for next year!”

Sophie DeMuth, a sophomore Christian studies major from Rockwall, Texas



Junior Connor Goad speaks during a Noontday session. Throughout the week, numerous students gave short devotionals at Noontday.

A CFW panel speaks to students. This panel was one of the breakout sessions for the week.

All Sons and Daughters performs a concert for students in JPAC. Several campus organizations worked together to bring the band for a concert on Tuesday night during CFW.



photo by: Kristen Barnard

Left Top: Senior Noah Mitchell leads worship during a CFW session.

photo by: Nicole McPhate

Left Middle: Freshman Kathleen Suit and sophomore Zach DeYoung perform a skit at Noontday. Noontday was held at noon on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

photo by: Nici Starkey

Left Bottom: Michael Curtis plays guitar during a Christian Focus Week worship session.

photo by: Nicole McPhate

Right: Junior Hannah Bushey attends a breakout session during CFW. Several breakout sessions were conducted throughout the week, covering a variety of topics.

photo by: Kristen Barnard



photo by: Nicole McPhate

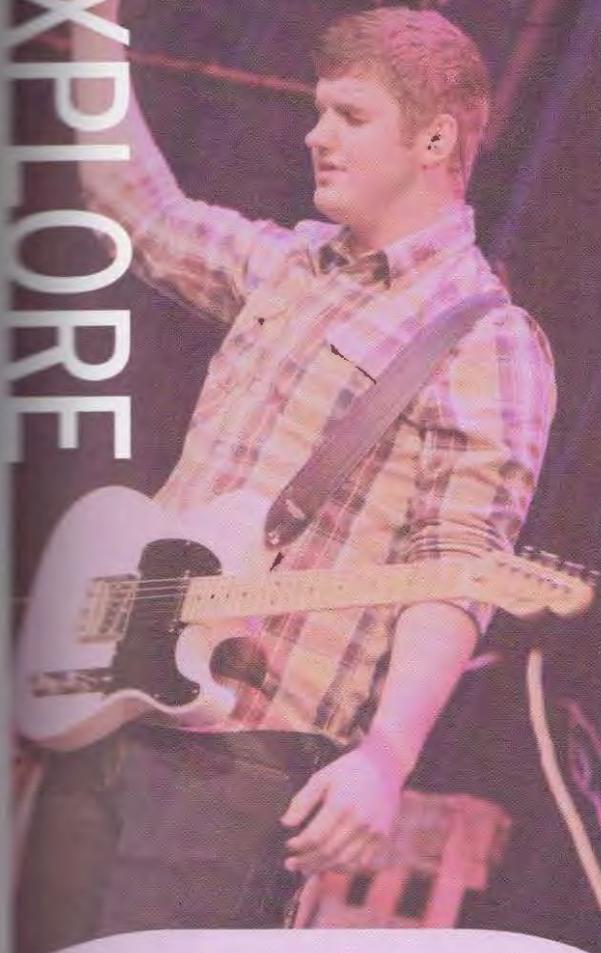


photo by: Nicole McPhate

Nathan James preaches during CFW Refuge on Thursday. Shawn Barnard, from Epoc Church in Little Rock, Ark., also spoke at several breakout sessions earlier that week.

Stephen Ray plays piano and sings during CFW chapel. Ray was an alum of Ouachita and came back to lead worship.



photo by: Nathan Dickard

Seasons

#Jake Coffman

"Everything beautiful in its own time." This sentence and biblical truth became the slogan for the 2013 Christian Focus Week, based on Ecclesiastes 3:1. The week had many opportunities for the student body to be involved in growing in Christ, including worship, breakout sessions and fellowship opportunities.

The week began on Sunday with Pancakes and Prayer, where students could fellowship with fellow students and have a time of prayer to pray about the week or whatever needed prayer. The week continued with various events, including morning worship services, afternoon breakout sessions, and nightly events that varied throughout the week. Stephen Ray and Noah Mitchell led worship during the morning sessions, with speakers Shawn Barnard and Nathan

James. With the help of Campus Activities and Student Senate, Campus Ministries brought in All Sons & Daughters for a night of worship on Tuesday.

New to the week was a combination of the Coffeehouse and Art and Worship sessions, creating an artistic, worshipful environment for the attendees.

"The reason we combined the two events was because we felt like both events separate weren't as well attended as they could be," said Abbey Jamieson, a senior Christian studies major from Sasche, Texas. "Art and Worship was at an inconvenient time, but Coffeehouse was at a great time. We thought combining the events would bring in more students and we also thought Art and Worship was a great thing to have during Coffeehouse. It gave people something to do while they enjoyed the music and brought out the creative energy we were going for."

The theme did not come easily, nor was it simply chosen - it was a process.

"Choosing a theme took a lot of time and prayer," said Kate Cody, a junior mass communications major from Sulphur Springs, Texas. "'Seasons' really hit home to me. We really wanted students to grasp that no matter what season of life you are going through, whether that is a good or bad one, God is going to use that to morph you into the man or woman of God you are called to be."

"We knew we wanted something that was broad

spectrum that could be very applicable to everyone," said Connor Goad, a sophomore Christian studies major from Hot Springs. "We prayed a lot and felt that Seasons was true for everyone. Everyone has trials and good times, and God shows us in His word how to make our lives shine for him regardless of the season."

When it came to attendance, the leadership team wasn't necessarily concerned with numbers, but more with impact. Yes, more numbers are always welcomed and encouraged, but the impact of the week was the main focus.

"Each year is different and has different events," said James Taylor, director of Campus Ministries. "Some events are aimed at the entire campus, like the All Sons and Daughters night of worship, and others were intended for small groups, like the breakout sessions. We were really encouraged by the attendance at each event, but would always like more students to be a part of CFW."

The focus and point of the week was to lead students back to Christ.

"My hope for CFW is that the students who need encouragement would be encouraged and the ones who need to be challenged will be challenged," Taylor said. "Our prayer was that CFW would connect with all students no matter what season of life they're in at the moment."

photo by: Nicole McPhate



Vicious and Delicious team members, junior Kristen Barnard, senior Jake Edwards, junior Leah Whitlow and senior Lauren Jackson, help bring their team to victory in mud tug-of-war. Played on Saturday, mud tug-of-war was a Tiger Traks favorite.

Making Traks

#Heather Francis

Mud. Sweat. Victory. These words describe the springtime event on campus known as "Arkansas' most exciting college weekend." That's right, Tiger Traks.

Tiger Traks is hosted every spring by the Ouachita Student Foundation, commonly referred to as OSF. There were over 70 OSF members who worked to make Tiger Traks possible.

"I think OSF members and participants alike will agree that Tiger Traks was an amazing weekend," said Mary Castleman, a senior Christian media communications major from Batesville. **"I was so impressed by the work done by OSF members, the enthusiasm of the teams and the help of Ouachita faculty and staff in making the weekend a big success. It really highlights the Ouachita community."**

There truly is nothing like it!

"My favorite part of Traks, as far as working it goes, was seeing all the mass chaos fall into place so smoothly," said Nick Burt, a sophomore mass communications and Christian studies major from Texarkana, Texas. "It had the potential to be a mess, but it was very organized this year. Our directors did a great job. I enjoyed seeing all of my classmates come out for a fun day in which they can help their fellow students."

"My favorite part of Traks is just the craziness," said Kelsey Frink, a junior early childhood education major from Boston, Mass. "Everyone has so much fun and it's just the wildest time!"

Tiger Traks was a weekend competition where students formed teams of eight to compete in different events such as the Egg Toss, Game Center, Basketball Relay, Ultimate Dodgeball, Tiger Trek, Raft Races, Trike Races, Mega Relay, Mud Volleyball and Tug-o-war. It was sweaty, muddy, and a whole lot of fun for the participants.

"I love the mud games," Frink said. "This year was so fun because the mud didn't smell as snailly as usual and it was a perfect day. The mud games always bring me back to the sweetest time in life, my tomboy childhood."

Castleman said the new game this year was Ultimate Dodgeball and "it was a big hit."

These teams competed for cash prizes as well. The winning team received \$100 per member. This year's winning team was the "Him Tarrels." The second place prize was \$50 per person, which went to "The Careers." The third place prize went to "Do or Diabetes" and was \$25 per team member.

"OSF members had many different jobs as far as over-seeing the games, explaining the rules to the groups and making sure everyone followed the rules," Burt said. "Others would set up games or prepare for the next event. Some kept scores and calculated the final winners."

OSF's motto was, "Students helping students." OSF members were students who worked to raise money for student scholarships. Traks was just one of these events that they sponsor to raise money. This event was also one way the community showed its support for Ouachita by becoming corporate sponsors for Tiger Traks.

Arkansas' most exciting college weekend was more than just mud, sweat, and cash prizes. It was an opportunity to build community, both student-to-student and student-to-Arkadelphia. It allowed students to get dirty and have fun together, a chance to blow off some steam as the semester came to a close – all while OSF and community sponsors helped to raise funds for scholarships to allow more students to stay at Ouachita.



photo by: Nicole McPhate



Freshman R.J. Quilao tries to find his way to a bucket during the super relay on Saturday. Teams competed for points by playing their way through a long series of relay games.

Splashing in the pool, senior Kelsie Wilson races her way down the lane during the raft races. These races took place Saturday afternoon and drew a large crowd.



photo by: Nicole McPhate



photo by: Nicole McPhate



photo by: Nicole McPhate



photo by: Nicole McPhate

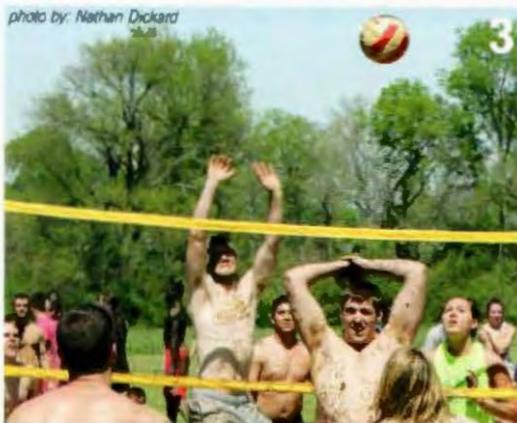


photo by: Nathan Dickard

- #1 Freshman Haley Wheeler passes an orange under her neck to a teammate during Mega Relay.
- #2 Freshman Abbey Ogier spins around a bat 10 times as part of a relay game on Friday night.
- #3 Pickle Rolls go head to head with Raging Rippers during Oozeball. Mud volleyball was the final event of Tiger Traks where all teams fought for the final points of the weekend.

Speak NOW



“Tiger Traks is probably the most fun event on campus besides Tunes. It’s a time where students can have fun and compete in different challenges. The great thing about Traks is that there is truly something for everyone to be good at, whether it’s tug of war or whistling songs. It’s the most unique weekend at Ouachita because no other school in Arkansas does any kind of weekend like this that also raises money for student scholarships. My favorite memory from Traks was when I was playing mud volleyball, I dove for the ball and came up with a mouth full of mud. That’s called dedication.”

Jim Hampton, a sophomore Christian studies major from Hope



photo by: Nicole McPhate



Onlookers gather to watch super dodgeball games played in the Village Circle. Super dodgeball was a new addition to Tiger Traks.

Senior Taylor Lamb sorts Skittles by color without using his hands. The Skittle Sort was a part of the super relay played Saturday morning.

TEAMWORK

Speak NOW



“Rec Life is a fantastic opportunity to expand your love of the great outdoor adventures! Honestly, it was one of the aspects of the school that convinced me to attend Ouachita. I wanted opportunities to expand my love and experience in camping, backpacking and just outdoor activities in general. I love that the program provides everyone a safe, really inexpensive and encouraging opportunity to try any kind of outdoor activity regardless of their experience level. No matter how many times I have fallen on my face (figuratively speaking, of course) there has been someone there to get me back up and tell me to try again. Regardless of where one is in their experience of the great outdoors, it is a great outlet to get away from school, really develop as an individual, meet awesome people and have some incredible adventures!

Ally Huffman, a junior early childhood education major from Aubrey, Texas



photo courtesy of: Rachel Jones

Assistant Director Rachel Jones, Campus Activities Assistant Director Hillary Hill and junior Ally Huffman enjoy a waterfall in Ocoee, Tenn.

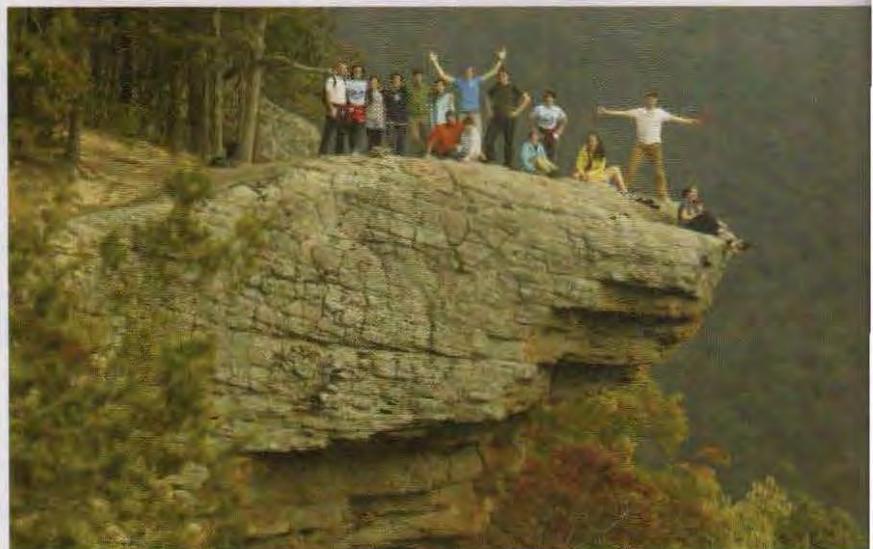
photo courtesy of: Jason Bean



Rec Life staff, junior Derek Campbell, Assistant Director Rachel Jones and Director Jason Bean, stand in the middle of a waterfall in Ocoee, Tenn. A new freshman orientation group outing was scheduled for the same site the following summer.

During a camping trip on the Buffalo River, students spend some time on Hawk's Bill Crag.

photo courtesy of:
Jason Bean



EXPLORE

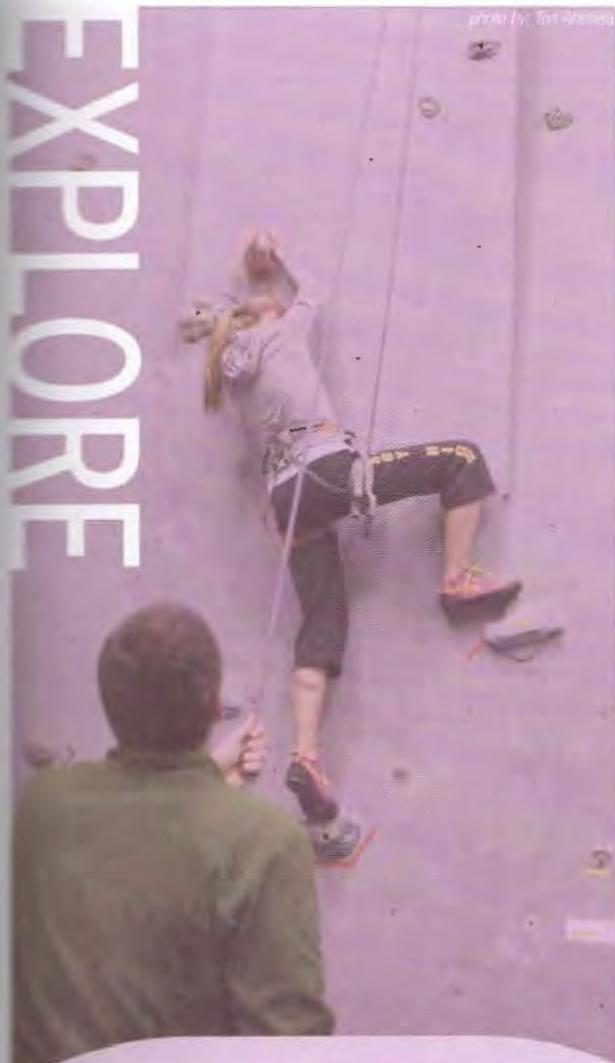


photo by: Tim Atwood



photo courtesy of: Rachel Jones

Juniors Ally Huffman and Emily Sanders rent some equipment from the Rec Life office to go kayaking. Being able to rent equipment from the Rec Life office was a new addition to the program.

Students take a backpacking camping trip to the Buffalo River over fall break with the Rec Life program.



photo courtesy of: Rachel Jones

Endless Possibilities

#Aly Smith

From flag football on the intramural fields to hiking at the buffalo river, the Recreational Life office had you covered.

The main goal of the Rec Life program was to provide students with a variety of recreational opportunities on and off campus. Jason Bean, the Rec Life director, first became involved with outdoor recreation seven years ago when he and his wife began working at an outdoor camp facility. The assistant director for Rec Life, Rachel Jones, was recruited by Bean to serve in the office and now works alongside Bean. Derek Campbell served as the recreation student worker. Campbell spent time creating and planning the trips Rec Life sponsored, with the help of Bean and Jones. Campbell also served as a leader on the

trips, and worked to ensure each student had a safe and enjoyable time on their outdoor adventures.

The Rec Life office was comprised of two departments, intramural sports and outdoor recreation. According to Bean, the outdoor recreation department was broken down even further.

"Within our Outdoor Rec program we have three main facets, trip and event management, outdoor education, and outdoor outfitting," Bean said.

Trip and event management was pretty true to its name. This subdivision was responsible for planning and executing all the events and trips the Rec Life office sponsored. Rec Life took trips for mountain biking, rock climbing, canoeing and camping, as well as other outdoor treks as well. The outdoor education subdivision hosted a certification course for Wilderness First Aid as well as a stewardship program run by Leave No Trace. The outdoor outfitters section of Rec Life allowed students to rent equipment for camping, backpacking, canoeing and more. The program planned to expand this area next year.

"Our outdoor adventures are second to none," Campbell said. "From climbing a 75 foot of natural rock face to hammocking on the Buffalo River, we have an adventure to satisfy every craving for the great outdoors."

In the past Rec Life has taken students to Winter Park, Colo., for downhill skiing, as well as to enjoy

the beauty of the Colorado landscape. Each fall, the program also hosted a trip that enticed students with the "camp life" and allowed them a time of rest and relaxation.

Bean created a new event for the Rec Life Program this year, an extreme sport he called "Mountain Disc'en." "Mountain Disc'en" was a challenging feat that combined mountain biking with disc golf.

Another new addition to Rec Life was a New Student Retreat for incoming students that was planned for Tennessee. This retreat would not only be a first for the new students, but would have many first time activities for Rec Life, such as white water rafting, ziplining and swimming in waterfalls. Even with these new activities, the traditional Rec Life favorites like rock climbing, repelling, hiking and camping would still be a staple in this new retreat.

Rec Life reached students through various media, including direct marketing, student email and posted flyers. Students could get in contact with Rec Life by stopping by the office or visiting their website.

"Rec Life is vital to OBU in that it serves to give students needed time to relax and enjoy themselves with friends," Campbell said. "Relationship growth provides the student with an all around better experience at Ouachita. Out on the competition field or aboard the van to Horseshoe Canyon Ranch, community is built and lasting friendships established."

The Elrod Center hosts the Elrod Service Banquet every year to honor students who have given back to the community and abroad throughout the school year.



Photo by: Peter Resenthal

Joy of Service

#Aly Smith

Just off the cuff of Ouachita's main campus, behind the Maddox parking lot, was a charming little house full of southern grace and loving hearts. This house was home of The Ben M. Elrod Center for Family and Community, more commonly known as The Elrod Center.

The Elrod Center served as the hub of service on campus. Its goal was to get as many students as possible involved in service, not only on campus but throughout the community.

"The purpose of The Elrod Center is to sit in the gap between the community and the university," said Ian Cosh, vice president for community and international engagement.

The Elrod Center's goal is to understand the community and its needs and then use the university's resources, such as students' talents, time and

abilities, to link the two together.

The Elrod Center began in 1997 when the current university president, Dr. Ben Elrod, charged Cosh with chairing a task force focused on studying service at the university. The task force received a grant from the Kellogg Foundation, which allowed them to complete service projects across campus. After seeing students' reactions to the service opportunities, the task force recommended permanent structure on campus. Originally named The Center for Family and Community, the center held its first Tiger Serve Day in 1997. After Dr. Elrod retired, the Board of Trustees honored Dr. Elrod by renaming the center The Ben M. Elrod Center for Family and Community.

"Tiger Serve Day has a special place in my heart," said Cosh. "It is the biggest and largest attempt to involve as many students in service as we can."

Tiger Serve Day was by far the largest ministry the Elrod Center was involved with, hosting close to 1,000 students and staff each semester. But the Elrod Center has many different ministries for which students could get involved.

The America Reads Challenge and America Counts Challenge were both partnerships between The Elrod Center and the public school system. This program allowed college students who were gifted

in math or reading to tutor students from various schools in Arkadelphia.

"My favorite Elrod Center ministry is America Counts," said Kelley Cortez, a sophomore biology major from McKinney, Texas. "I love tutoring the kids at Central because they are so funny and brighten my day."

ElderServe was a program which allowed students to connect with people on the opposite end of the age scale. "ElderServe in a sense is a program where we adopt a grandparent at the local nursing home," said Allie Smith, a sophomore biology major from Little Rock. "My elder is Dr. George Peeples. I get to go and visit him once a week for a couple hours and read, play games, look at pictures on my phone and listen to him tell stories about being a Red Shirt at OBU. **This is a ministry that not only benefits the elders by giving them someone to love, but they're also getting loved on and feel a sense of purpose.**"

The Elrod Center was always open for students to come by and find service opportunities to get involved in. If students had an idea that the Elrod Center did not currently offer, they would help students find connections to serve in that capacity. The Elrod Center was always looking for new ways to help students experience, as Cosh put it, "The joy of service."



photo by: Heather Ellis

Freshman Anjelica Cheek helps to clean up an Arkadelphia resident's yard during the spring Tiger Serve Day event.

Dr. Rex Horne and Elrod Center Director Ian Cosh present Rex Nelson with the Elrod Center Community Service Excellence Award.



photo by: Tyler Rosenthal



photo by: Tyler Rosenthal

SERVICE



photo by: Tyler Rosenthal



photo by: Tyler Rosenthal



photo by: Tyler Rosenthal

- #1 Junior Carrington Tillery is recognized for her work with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Clark County.
- #2 Tiger Serve Day leader Daniel Aylett is given a "Tiger Serve Day Community" award.
- #3 Students who were involved with Elrod Center service projects attend the banquet.

Speak NOW



"I'm thankful for the Elrod Center because they see the needs of the community and help connect and equip students to meet those needs. Without the encouragement, support and aid from the Elrod Center many of our dreams wouldn't be possible, including the ones funded through grants from the center. Serving the community is a great way to give back to the town we live in, and we also begin to break the boundaries of the Ouachita 'bubble.' Because of the commitment of the Elrod Center and its staff, students are able to grow spiritually and mentally by being transformed through giving back and seeing others do the same. I'm thankful for the experiences the Elrod Center has given me. I have gained a much better appreciation for the blessings in my life as well as an appreciation for the opportunities we are given here at Ouachita."

Nicole McPhate, a senior mass communications and graphic design major from Conway



photo by: Tyler Rosenthal



photo by: Tyler Rosenthal

A Tiger Serve Day group takes a picture with the Arkadelphia woman whose yard they cleaned up.

Senior Jessica Lamb was recognized by Dr. and Mrs. Kluck for the work she was able to accomplish due to the Kluck Student Enrichment Grant she received.

Speak
NOW



“Being in the musical was one of the highlights of this year. I got to work with some of Ouachita’s finest performers on this show and made friendships that I know will carry on the rest of my life. Ouachita allows their students to really grow in what they do and the musical helped me become a better performer.”

Chad Burris, a sophomore musical theatre major from Van Buren



Hansel and Gretel are reunited with their family after the witch is vanquished. Cast members included seniors John Tneoh, Hannah Garner, junior Victoria Mantooth and senior Bekah Anthony.

Senior Bethany Swiontek is carried by several chefs during the musical’s theme song, “Hello Dolly.”

38 musical productions
STUDENT LIFE

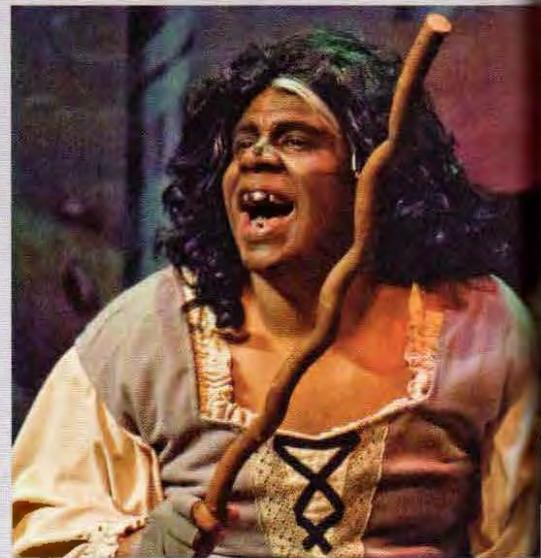
Seniors Bethany Swiontek and Jacob Sturgeon play the lead roles in “Hello Dolly.” In the musical, Swiontek and Sturgeon’s characters fall in love after a series of failed marriage set-ups.



Left Top: Senior Hannah Garner, Gretel, sings to Hansel to play and dance with her instead of doing their chores. There were two different sets of primary cast members for the different performances throughout the week.
photo by: Tyler Rosenthal

Left Bottom: Junior MaryLacey Thomson sings a song in the spring musical “Hello Dolly.”
photo by: Tyler Rosenthal

Right: Junior DeCarl Jones sings the witch’s aria after capturing Hansel and Gretel. Costumes for the opera were rented from a professional company in Schenectady, N.Y.
photo by: Tyler Rosenthal



SING

photo by: Tyler Rosenthal



photo by: Tyler Rosenthal



Junior MaryLacey Thomson and Sophomore Chad Burris take the stage in "Hello Dolly" as a lonely widow and a naive shop keeper.

Movers and Shakers sing on stage with Ouachita Singers at Festival of Christmas. The annual Christmas concert brought together many groups from both the music and theater departments.



photo by: Heather Ellis

Show Time

#Jake Coffman

Among all of the classes, rehearsals, individual practice sessions and social life of the average performance major, musical productions came through the chaos, giving these talented students a chance to showcase their abilities and put them into practice.

In the fall, the School of Fine Arts presented the opera "Hansel and Gretel" based on the familiar fairy-tale. The opera was presented in English, a difference from the school's usual productions of operas, which are often presented in the native language of the opera. The production was held in

high esteem, featuring many talented students in the School of Fine Arts Music. The opera was co-directed by Drs. Jon and Glenda Secrest.

"Being in the opera was a great experience," said Meredith Martin, a junior choral education major from Garland, Texas. "It taught me how to work with many different personalities and come together to achieve a common goal. It was also a really cool experience to have a double cast because we could see and learn from how the other cast performed and made their own character choices. Being Hansel was so much fun, and it's an experience I will remember forever."

Also in the fall, the division of music and members of the theater department came together for the biggest Holiday event on campus, Festival of Christmas. This included Concert Choir, members of the Theater department, Ouachita Singers and Ouachita Sounds. Dr. Gary Gerber served as musical director.

"I really enjoyed my opportunity to perform in Festival of Christmas. It provided me a chance to conglomerate my God-given gifts to sing and my 'Buddy the

Elf love for Christmas," said Gareth West, a junior mass communications major from Bolivar, Mo. "Probably my favorite part of Festival of Christmas is the quality of talent that so accurately depicts both the fun side of Christmas, but the importance of Christmas for what it really means, a celebration of the birth of Jesus."

In the spring, the School of Fine Arts presented the musical "Hello, Dolly!" which marked the 25th anniversary of the musical theater degree program. In 1988, the theatre and music programs presented "Hello, Dolly," and the partnership led to the creation of the musical theatre program.

"It was certainly a lot of hard work, but it was such an amazing experience," said Bethany Swiontek, a senior musical theater major from Colorado Springs, Colo., and the lead in the musical. "I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to not only play such an iconic role, but to have also performed with such an amazing cast and crew." Mary Handboe directed the musical, and Dr. Jon Secrest served as musical director.

Musical productions showcased Ouachita's talent and provided a rich cultural experience.

Sophomore Kaylee Nebe speaks to customers in the play "Harrison, TX." The production consisted of three plays which looked at humor, darkness and romance.



photo by: Tyler Rosenthal

Curtain Call

#Jake Coffman
& Morgan Morehead

Along with required classes, theater majors, along with non-majors, put in hours and hours of behind the scenes work to provide the campus and community with theatrical productions. In addition to classes such as directing, playwriting, theatre history and stagecraft, students gained experience on stage and off stage to learn all aspects of theatre production.

Nicole Mattson, a junior musical theatre major from Rowlett, Texas, said, "The time commitment is definitely the most difficult thing about theater. It's difficult, but it's worth it because it's what we love to do."

MaryLacey Thomson, a junior musical theatre major from Plano, Texas, said, "Apart from our required core classes, we do tons of singing, acting and dancing. We get to have so much fun doing what we love."

Theater majors performed three large produc-

tions in the fall: the children's play "The Crane Wife," "Machinal," and the student directed one-act plays. Two large productions were held in the spring semester, which were "Harrison, TX," a collection of one-act plays, and the annual "All-Night Theater" event. Students who received scholarships only had to audition for the fall performances but they could be in as many as they wanted.

"The Crane Wife" was the department's annual children's play, and told the tale of a man who finds an injured crane at his doorstep and, after nursing it to health, releases it into the wild only to find it has turned into a beautiful woman. The play was performed for local elementary school students.

"Machinal" was the department's annual fall theater production aside from the children's play. Through the main character Helen, or as she was referred to in the production "Young Woman," the audience was given a look into the mental health of Helen as she is proposed to by her boss whom she does not love, but marries anyway after society makes her believe he is the best shot she will ever have. It also explored the de-humanizing effect society often has.

The student directed one-acts were directed by students in Daniel Inouye's directing class, and allowed students to dive into the world of directing and gain some firsthand experience.

"Harrison, TX" was a collection of three one-acts by Pulitzer-Prize winning playwright Horton

Footo, which included "Blind Date," "The Dancers," and "Spring Dance" all set in the fictional town of Harrison, Texas.

The All-Night Theater event was an annual event held every year in March and allowed students to submit their own original work, produce it, cast it, and direct it and show it on stage. Auditions were held March 7, rehearsals began March 8 and ran past midnight, followed by a performance on March 9. This was another way the department allowed students to apply what they learned in their classes and stage experience.

Time spent outside of class for those in the theatre productions started weeks prior to opening night. Lines had to be memorized, sets built, and costumes created.

"A few weeks before a show opened we are constantly in the theater for dress rehearsals, working on crews and making sure every aspect of the show is running smoothly," Thomson said.

In addition to teaching their courses, the professors in the theater department directed the main stage productions. Classes in the department were interactive and provided the foundation needed for stage experience.

"The most difficult part about being a theater major would be what is also the most rewarding," Thomson said. "For the majority of the rehearsal process, you fall in love with the show, then hate it, then fall in love with it all over again."

Speak NOW



“As a freshman, coming into the OBU theatre was scary but we are like a family. My experience in the department was interesting. It was hard to be in a power position as the co-choreographer and dance captain for the musical, but I was blessed with the support of the amazing upperclassmen and other freshmen and it made my experience even better. The OBU theatre faculty puts on amazing work and I have grown so much this year being in their classes and getting to have one-on-one time to grow as a student. I am blessed to be a part of this great program and had an amazing freshman experience.”

Stacy Hawking, a freshman musical theatre major from Sherwood



Senior Bethany Swiontek performs a scene during “The Crane Wife.” The play featured several scenes that included choreographed fabric movement.

A group of actors gather to listen during “The Crane Wife.” This production took place during September.



During a heartfelt scene, junior Timothy Drennan and senior Alexis Nichols capture the audience in “Harrison, TX.”

Sophomores Bethany Gere and Robby Taylor and freshman Walter Dodd perform a play during the 10-minute play festival. The festival was all-night theater of student-composed plays.



ACTION



- # 1 Huddling in a corner, senior Jacob Sturgeon performs in “The Crane Wife.”
- # 2 Juniors Nicole Mattson and Caitlin Secrest perform in a 10-minute play where the girls hide from a murderer, but the entire time it’s actually a game of hide and seek with their older brother.
- # 3 Junior Jillian Kariss sings in a 10-minute play about fighting serious problems while in love.

Speak NOW



“Chapel is a great time of learning. I sometimes think of it as a melting pot of education. Whether you’re learning about an athletic team’s accomplishments, or you’re learning about spiritual growth from James Taylor, there’s always something new. I enjoy hearing messages brought to us by theologians from all over the country. This year in Chapel, I learned more than I have any other semester. Not only does Chapel spiritually encourage students, but also through chapel time, we get to see the talents of OBU students as they lead us in worship. For example, I would have never known that Kelsey Frink had the voice of an angel if I had decided to skip Chapel that day!

Hannah Pinkerton, a sophomore communication sciences and disorders major from Benton

James Taylor, Campus Ministries director, delivers a message to students during one of the various Chapels throughout the year.



photo by: Jason Pullano

Left Top: Senior Rachel Shrader sings a song for special music at the start of Chapel in March.

photo by: Kristen Barnard

Left Bottom: In November, Dr. Amy Sonheim gives a speech titled, “The Unbearable Lightness of Childhood: George MacDonald on Bearing the Yoke of Christ.”

photo by: Kristen Barnard

Right: Senior Daniel Aylett and junior Jake Fauber help lead worship with the “Ouachita Bluegrass Band.” The group also played at the International Food Festival.

photo by: Heather Ellis



REFLECT



photo by: Jason Pullano

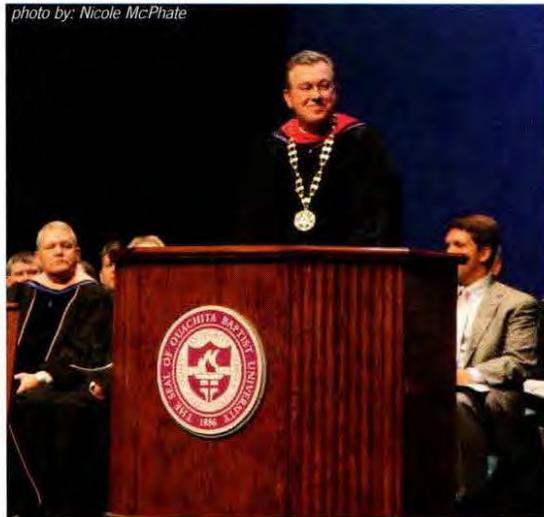


photo by: Nicole McPhate

Dr. Rex Horne speaks during the Convocation Chapel. The Convocation Chapel was the first Chapel of every school year and featured all the professors in their academic regalia.

Joining together in hymns, professors and students sing together at the first Chapel of the year.



photo by: Nicole McPhate

A Common Bond

#Emily Grigsby

Chapel at Ouachita was something that had been a tradition since the opening of its doors in 1886, and something that still happened at Ouachita today.

This year's Chapel speakers included everyone from President Rex Horne and Campus Ministries Director James Taylor to pastor and alum Shawn Barnett, theologian Marva J. Dawn and interpretive actor Wesley Branard.

Ian Cosh, vice president for community and international engagement, presided in Chapel, a duty he has carried on for almost 25 years. "I was assigned the oversight of Chapel when I first started working on campus when I arrived on December 1, 1988," Cosh said.

"Chapel has always been an important part of the education here at Ouachita and a part of the Ouachita experience," Cosh added.

Hearing mostly positive responses about Chapel over the past 25 years encouraged Cosh. "Students

understand the diverse nature of the Chapel program and the balancing that is required to accommodate interests and preferences of the study body," he said.

Chapel speakers came from diverse backgrounds, as did the student body, but it was Chapel that brought everyone together every Tuesday at 10 a.m. Cosh expressed how he found the speakers that engaged students every week.

"Speakers are recommended from every area of campus and come from faculty, students, staff and the administration," he said.

Students not only participated in Chapel by being part of the overall experience, but many students were able to perform, pray or read scripture. The worship music was led by Dr. Rob Hewell, associate professor of music and worship studies program director. Hewell was assisted by student vocalists and instrumentalists.

Victoria Mantooth, a junior vocal performance major from Sherwood, led worship with Hewell in the fall semester. "When Dr. Hewell told me the music we were going to sing in Chapel, I was very excited. I really enjoy helping lead worship because I get very involved with the depth and spirituality of the music. God has blessed the Earth with the gift of beautiful music, and worshiping the Lord by doing something I truly love is such a blessing. Dr. Hewell's prayer before worship during Chapel gets the musicians motivated to help students praise our Savior in song."

Often times students had the chance to lead worship together on stage. Carli Sasser, a junior music education major from Hamburg, was able to help lead worship with Noah James, a senior Christian studies and philosophy major from Cabot.

"Leading worship in Chapel is a slightly frightening but very rewarding experience," Sasser said. "It's very different than leading worship in an actual worship service, but it's still cool to stand in front of your peers and experience them worshipping with you."

The Chapel at Ouachita was something that can't be matched at other bigger universities. It was a time for community worship with a majority of the student body, along with faculty and staff.

Cosh wanted people to know there was a difference in these weekly experiences. "Chapel at Ouachita provides a unique opportunity that is impossible to achieve at a large university, and that is the chance to enjoy the company of others through a common experience on a regular basis. Consider that a student at OBU receives seven chapel credits to graduate. Those seven credits represent a massive amount of commonly shared experience that is of great value in forming the OBU experience. Chapel really is a difference making experience."

Coming together to love God and show that love to others could be gained every week from a variety of speakers and musicians who revealed part of their spiritual journey to students on campus.

photo by: Kristen Bernard



President Rex Horne speaks in front of the graduating class at the commencement ceremony in May. There were 296 diplomas awarded.

Only the Beginning

#Devan Malone

It takes about 10 steps, one handshake and a smile for the camera. In that walk across the steps of Cone-Bottoms, years of hard work and dedication come together in a single moment where students receive their diploma. It is a moment many have dreamed about for years. It is a moment where one phase of life ends and the page turns to a new chapter. Most of all, it is a celebration of accomplishments and success that were hard earned.

On May 11, on the front lawn of Cone-Bottoms Hall, 296 students were awarded their diplomas. These students made up the class of 2013. During

their four years at Ouachita they witnessed many changes on campus. The Village, Westside 1 and 2 and Heflin Plaza were completed during their time, as well as the renovation of Lile Hall and Evans Student Center. As they watched these changes being made on campus they too were growing and changing. Graduation was a symbol of this growth and change as they had become difference makers, ready to go out into the world. Giving his thoughts on the class of 2013, Dr. Horne said his "hope and prayer for our 2013 graduates is that these individuals will commit to being difference makers for life. Each one can do this in their chosen fields of service and the communities or countries in which they will reside."

During the ceremony, 240 Bachelor of Arts degrees were awarded, 39 Bachelor of Science degrees, 10 Bachelor of Music degrees and seven Bachelor of Music Education degrees. Among these were 122 honors graduates including 23 who graduated summa cum laude with a grade point average of 3.95 or higher, 49 who graduated magna cum laude and 50 who graduated cum laude. Eight students graduated from the Carl Goodson Honors

program, and 31 Alpha Chi National Honor Society members graduated.

For many students, graduation was a time of mixed emotions. "I think the key to embracing graduation was realizing that we weren't being kicked out, but sent out," said Mary Castleman, a Christian media major from Batesville. "As Dr. Terry Carter told me, 'That's been our purpose in teaching you the whole time.'"

Dr. Horne also felt that the class of 2013 was ready to be sent out into the world to make a difference. **"My firm conviction is that our students educated in the liberal arts tradition will make the best leaders and workers,"** Horne said. "Our professors lead our students in knowing how to think, speak and write. When you add this component to the material and methods learned, our graduates have the opportunity for continued success over their lives."

No matter what challenges or obstacles they may face, the class of 2013 has the foundation of a strong liberal arts education and an equally strong Ouachita community always there to support them. For them, the journey had just begun.

Speak NOW



Senior Class President Jake Edwards leads the prayer at Commencement. Senior Anthony Emerson read the Scripture as the top scholar in the Pruet School of Christian Studies.

Senior Hannah Ramsey stands with her parents and grandparents after the ceremony. Ramsey was a fifth-generation Ouachitonian; her great-great-grandfather attended Ouachita in 1891 and her great-grandmother graduated in 1920.



“As I sat on the lawn of Cone-Bottoms with my classmates, my mind was flooded with many memories, from silly moments with friends to the many lessons in leadership to relationships, and in my studies! Graduation was bitter-sweet. I will miss my friends and professors, but I feel confident and prepared to face the challenges before me.”

Catie Bennett, a senior early childhood education major from Kingwood, Texas



MEMORIES



photo by: Kristen Barnard



photo by: Kristen Barnard



photo by: Kristen Barnard

- #1 Junior Ashley Briggs hands out commencement programs with other OSF members to seniors in the procession.
- #2 Senior Travis Anderson accepts his Bachelor of Arts degree from Dr. Horne.
- #3 Students get ready for the processional near the amphitheater just minutes before commencement.



photo by: Kristen Barnard

Dr. Stan Poole calls out the name of a student as she walks across the stage to receive her diploma.

The graduate class of 2013 poses for a picture outside the Commons before the Commencement ceremony.



@Ouachita Today is the day! Welcome to your @ouachita story, Class of 2016! #WOW2012 (Aug. 18)

#July



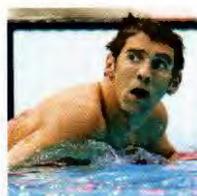
7/27/12 The 2012 Summer Olympic Games open in London, U.K. The ceremony is titled *Isles of Wonder*.

photo courtesy of: washingtonpost.com

7/30/12 Missy Franklin, 17, wins her first Olympic Gold Medal in the 100 m backstroke with a time of 58.33. Franklin won five medals, four of which were gold.

7/20/12 A gunman kills 12 and injures 70 at a midnight premiere of *The Dark Knight Rises* in Aurora, Colo.

#August



8/4/12 Michael Phelps wins his 18th Olympic gold medal in the men's 4x100 medley relay final in London, double any other in Olympic history, and ends his career with 22 medals.

photo courtesy of: ibtimes.com

8/18/12 Upperclassmen move in 364 new students at Welcome to Ouachita's World.

#September



9/12/12 Apple introduces the new iPhone 5 to come out on Sept. 21. Pre-orders topped 2 million in the first 24 hours and sales for the first weekend topped 5 million.

photo courtesy of: apple.com

9/11/12 Rho Sigma leads students to commemorate the 11th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in New York City.



@obusignal We're LIVE!!! Tunescast 2012 on obusignal.com. #Tunes2012 #TigerTunes2012 (Oct. 6)

#October



10/6/12 Senior Hannah Pilcher is named 2012 Homecoming Queen. At Tiger Tunes, the women of EEE win first, followed by Campus Ministries the men of Eta Alpha Omega and Campus Activities.

photo by: Kristen Barnard

10/23/12 Apple introduces the new iPad Mini to be available on the shelves on Nov. 2.

10/28/12 The San Francisco Giants beat the Detroit Tigers in a four-game sweep at the MLB World Series.

#November



11/6/12 The 44th United States President, Barack Obama, wins the 57th presidential election for a second term in office. He wins the race with 332 electoral votes against Mitt Romney's 206.

photo courtesy of: whitehouse.gov

11/4/12 CAB presents "The Dark Knight Rises" to students in Walker before the movie is available on DVD.

#December



12/14/12 A 20-year-old gunman fatally shoots 20 children and six adult staff at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., after first killing his mother in their home.

photo courtesy of: flicker.com

12/2/12 Senior LJ Brooks, 21, passes away at Baptist Health Medical Center in Little Rock.

[@Arkayiddmusic](#) Our last night in Arkansas and we are in Arkadelphia at Jones PAC at Ouachita Baptist University! 7.30pm, free night of worship!! (Feb. 12)



[@OBUAthletics](#) Abbi Frakes was named the GAC Softball Pitcher of the Week after a 3-win weekend against SAU! (Apr. 23)



#January

1/20/13 The OBU cheerleading squad places seventh nationally at the UCA/UDA national cheer competition in Orlando, Fla.

photo by: Nicole McPhate



1/25/13 Pec Life takes a group of students to Winter Park, Colo., for a Christmas Break Ski Trip.

1/20/13 President Obama's Inauguration brings over 100,000 people to the U.S. Capitol Building.

#April

4/15/13 Two bombs explode near the finish line at the annual Boston Marathon, killing 3 spectators and injuring 264 other onlookers and participants.

photo courtesy of: csmonitor.com



4/20/13 Men's tennis wins their second consecutive GAC Championship over East Central.

4/26/13 OBU hosts the 2013 Arkansas College Media Association annual conference. The 2012 *Ouachitonian* won 36 awards, *The Signal* received 24, the Photo Lab earned 12 and *The Ouachita Show* earned four.

#February

2/12/13 Student Senate and Campus Activities bring All Sons & Daughters to campus for Campus Ministries' Christian Focus Week.

photo by: Nathan Dickard



2/3/13 The Baltimore Ravens defeat the San Francisco 49ers 34-31 at Super Bowl XLVII. A partial power outage in the third quarter postponed play for over 30 minutes. A dance performance was performed at the halftime show.

#May

5/20/13 An EF5 tornado strikes Moore, Okla., killing 23 and injuring 377. This was the fourth tornado over EF4 in the city of Moore since 1999.

photo courtesy of: poynter.org



5/4/13 Junior Davis Ward is named GAC Pitcher of the Year and selected for All-GAC First Team.

5/11/13 Ouachita graduates 296 at the annual spring commencement exercises.

#March

3/2/13 Senior Kiley Wright wins Miss OBU. Junior Kris Wright was first runner-up, with second runner-up senior Alison Johnson, third runner-up junior Caitlin Secrest, and fourth runner-up freshman Sarah Gaskin.

photo by: Nicole McPhate



3/7/13 Senior Marcus Schlesinger wins the NCAA Championship in the 100 Butterfly with a time of 47.54.

3/18/13 The men's basketball team wins the Great American Conference Tournament. The Tigers won against Arkansas Tech with a score of 59-54.

#June

6/8/13 Serena Williams wins the French Open against the previous year's winner, Maria Sharapova. This was Williams' first French Open Championship since 2002.

photo courtesy of: trueexclusives.com



6/20/13 The Miami Heat beats the San Antonio Spurs in the 2013 NBA Finals with a series win of 4-3 and a final game score of 95-88.

6/22/13 Ouachita welcomes JV and SH students to campus for ABSC Super Summer.